

EXTRA

Presidential
Number

FIAT LUX

ALFRED UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER • SINCE 1913

Vol. 54, No. 17

ALFRED, NEW YORK, MARCH 9, 1967

Phone 587-5402

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AU elects President; names Dean Leland Miles

Dr. Leland Miles, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Bridgeport, in Connecticut, has been elected as the tenth president of Alfred University, it was announced today by Dr. Finla G. Crawford, chairman of the board of trustees.

He will take office August 1, following the retirement of Dr. M. Ellis Drake who has served for 19 years as president of the 110 year old institution.

Dr. Miles, a scholar, author and educator, was chosen as Alfred University's next president at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees held here recently. He was recommended for the position by a special 12-member selection committee composed of trustees and faculty members which began work last June.

Was college teacher

A college teacher for 18 years, Dr. Miles was appointed to the faculty of Hanover College in Indiana in 1949 as associate professor of English. The following year he was named professor of English and chairman of the department, positions which he held for 10 years.

He went to the University of Cincinnati in 1960 as associate professor of English and assistant to the department head and in 1963 was promoted to the rank of professor. Dr. Miles was appointed to his present position at Bridgeport in 1964.

Fulbright Scholar

During his teaching years, Dr. Miles has received a number of honors and awards. He was named a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar in 1964 and studied at King's College of the University of London. He was elected a member of the Royal Society of Literature that year.

He was an American Council of Learned Societies Fellow at Harvard University during 1963-64. He was awarded the Rosa and Samuel Sachs Prize of the Cincinnati Institute of Fine Arts in 1961 for his outstanding contribution to arts and sciences.

He was a Danforth Scholar at Union Theological Seminary during the summer of 1956 and a Lilly Fellow at the Indiana University School of Letters during the summer of 1959.

Dr. Miles has been active as a writer and lecturer and producer and moderator of a television series. He is the author of *John Colet and the Platonic Tradition*, a book published in America in 1961 and in England in 1962.

He edited a volume of Sir

Thomas More's *Dialogue of Comfort Against Tribulation*, containing a 120-page Critical Introduction and Notes. The book was published by Indiana University Press last year in paperback and cloth-bound editions.

Dr. Miles was producer and moderator of a television program "Casing the Classics", a series of 156 consecutive weekly programs on great books, which was telecast by WHAS-TV in Louisville and WCET-TV in Cincinnati from 1958-61.

He has served as a lecturer on traditional and modern literature and the American scene for Keedick Lecture Bureau in New York City since 1956.

Shakespeare Institute founder

He was a guest lecturer at the Shakespeare Institute of the University of Birmingham, England, in 1964. He was a founder of the American Shakespeare Institute jointly sponsored in 1965 by the by the American Shakespeare Festival Theater and the University of Bridgeport.

Dr. Miles was born in Baltimore, Md. He interrupted his undergraduate studies at Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pa., to join the Air Force.

Following the war he return-

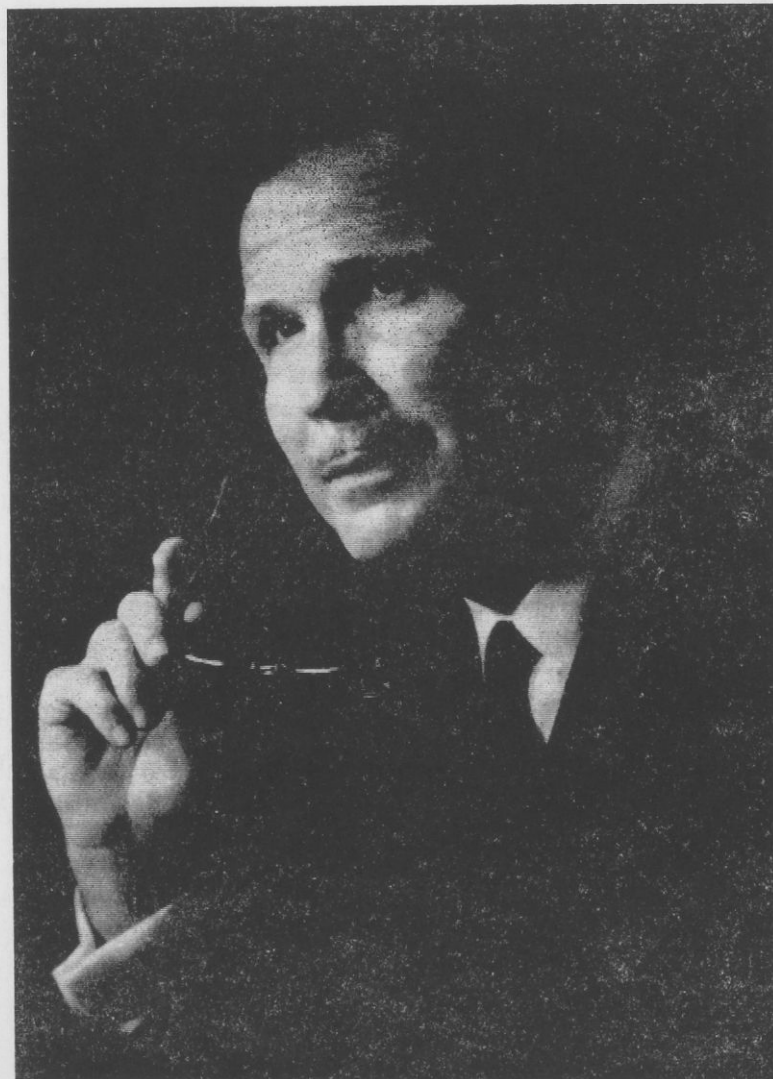
ed to Juniata where he completed work for the A.B. degree with majors in English and history, graduating Cum Laude in 1946.

He earned the M.A. degree in English literature in 1947 and the Ph.D. degree in English and American Literature in 1949 at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He undertook post-doctoral study at Duke University in 1949 in philosophy and religion.

At the University of Bridgeport during the past two years Dr. Miles initiated graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts and Master of Science degrees which now have an enrollment of more than 200.

He established departments of philosophy and theater arts and a university theater. He also inaugurated a student advisory committee to the dean and initiated joint meetings of an alumni advisory committee and department chairmen.

Dr. Miles was married in 1947 to Mary Virginia Geyer, who earned her B.S. degree in music at Juniata as a pianist and cellist. Dr. and Mrs. Miles have two children: Christine Marie, 16, and Gregory Lynn, 13.



Dr. Leland Miles

Process of selection began 16 months ago

"The most important function of the board of trustees is the selection of the president of the University, and we are approaching the responsibility in that spirit."

That statement was made at a faculty meeting last April by Dr. Finla G. Crawford, chairman of the board of trustees and chairman of the selection committee which has just successfully concluded its vital task.

The search for Alfred University's new president officially began 16 months ago. It has involved careful organization and planning carried out through methodical and detailed procedures.

The names of more than 60 persons were submitted initially to the committee and the field of proposed candidates was systematically rated and narrowed to those with the most outstanding qualifications.

The nominees met with members of the faculties, students, and administrators whose opinions were considered by the committee in finally recommending the successful candidate.

Drake's resignation

It was at the regular fall meeting of the board of trustees in October 1965 that Dr. M. Ellis Drake submitted a letter announcing his intention to retire at the end of the academic year.

The board reacted by adopting unanimously two resolutions. The first requested Dr. Drake to serve one year beyond the normal retirement date—and he agreed. The second empowered Dr. Crawford to name a committee to nominate a successor to take office July 1, 1967.

Dr. Crawford enlisted the

aid of Mr. Howard Gunlocke of Wayland, chairman of the executive committee of the board of trustees, forming the committee. He told the faculties at a meeting on April 21 that Mr. Gunlocke "joined in the responsibilities and was a full partner in the selection process as well as in the decision to ask the faculty to elect additional committee members."

Dr. Crawford said that the nine trustees appointed to the committee had been advised that the task would be time-consuming and had indicated their willingness to serve.

One member of the committee already had been put to work checking a list of alumni who had earned the Ph.D. degree. The list was being compiled, Dr. Crawford explained, to make sure that appropriate consideration would be given to any Alfred graduate who should be considered or wished to be considered.

Invited to nominate

All members of the faculties and administrative staff were invited to send in the names of any persons they regarded as promising prospects.

Those proposing a candidate were urged to furnish full data on educational background, academic experience, writing, professional affiliations and activities and pertinent personal information.

Organization of the committee was completed in early May after the election of Dr. Ernest B. Finch, professor of English and chairman of that department; Dr. Van Derck Frechette, professor of ceramic science; and Dr. David M. Leach, professor of history and political science and department chairman.

(Continued next Tuesday)



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ALFRED UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER
ALFRED, NEW YORK 14802

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF—JOHN LUCADAMO

Published every Tuesday of the school year by a student staff. Entered as second class matter Oct. 9, 1913, at the Post Office in Alfred, New York, under Act of March 8, 1879.