

ntid FOCUS

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Diploma student
Woodford Gross at
work in Mechanical
Drafting class.



Vestibule student Kenneth Castellano
confers with physics laboratory
instructor Warren Goldmann (right),
while David Narkans works (at rear).

Vestibule and Diploma *new programs in action*



Architectural drafting student
Michael Rojas, (right), gets
assistance from Leroy Duning,
instructor for diploma program.



Vestibule students
Thomas Freeman and
Daniel Isaacs (left
to right) at work in
art class.

Dr. Miller Assumes R.I.T. Presidency

Dr. Paul A. Miller became president of Rochester Institute of Technology on Wednesday, Oct. 1, a day that began with a welcome rally by over 1,000 students, staff and faculty members, and friends.

The naming of Dr. Miller to the presidential post was announced by the R.I.T. Board of Trustees on June 25, 1969. His selection was based upon a lengthy search by a committee which was initiated following former President Mark Ellingson's Dec., 1968 announcement of his retirement plans. Ellingson, R.I.T. president since 1936, held one of the longest tenures as chief executive officer of a major U.S. college in modern times.



Dr. Paul A. Miller prepares for his first day in office.

Miller, a native of East Liverpool, Ohio, holds a B.S. degree from West Virginia University and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University. He began his academic career at the latter institution in 1947, serving in various posts until 1959, when he was named provost of the 28,000-student East Lansing campus.

From 1962 to 1966 he served as president of West Virginia University, where he initiated such programs as a Center for Regional Economics, a College of Human Resources, a Creative Arts Center, and an Appalachian Center for research and teaching.

In 1966 Miller was appointed assistant secretary for education in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, and served as educational advisor to then Secretary John Gardner. As chairman of the Federal Inter-Agency Committee on Education, he coordinated the numerous educational programs of all federal departments. He also played a major role in the organization and establishment of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at R.I.T. under Public Law 89-36.

His most recent post was at the University of North Carolina, where he served as distinguished professor of education and director of planning studies.

Miller is a fellow of the American Sociological Association and is a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Adult Education Association of the U.S., Rural Sociological Society, American Association of School Administrators, and Phi Kappa Phi. He is the author of *Community Health Action: A Study of Community Contrasts*, published in 1953.

Mrs. Miller, the former Francena Lounsbery of Ithaca, N. Y., holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Cornell University and a Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. She has served as dean of the School of Home Economics at the University of Connecticut, and is currently associate director of the American Association of University Women.

focal point

Dr. D. Robert Frisina R.I.T. Vice President for NTID

This is the first in a series of articles by contributing professionals dealing with current issues and topics of interest in the field of education of the deaf. Readers' comments and suggestions are invited.

NTID is moving steadily from the "drawing board" into reality as the enrollment approaches 275 this academic year. Ninety-one percent of last year's charter group of NTID students returned for a second year and were on hand to welcome the new students. The total student body now represents 37 states, which suggests that people in all parts of the U.S. are becoming aware of and taking advantage of the new opportunities resulting from the establishment of NTID at Rochester Institute of Technology.

In accord with the guidelines set down by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the academic attainments of the students, upon enrollment, range from those at the eighth

grade level and beyond to those who are ready for admission to institutions of higher education. With appropriate fundamental instruction offered in NTID's vestibule programs, individuals at the lower range of this distribution will be capable of pursuing technical education available in the diploma programs of NTID. Those at the upper end of the range can move into diploma programs or, with NTID support services, may even take advantage of what Rochester Institute of Technology has to offer hearing students. These possibilities will tend to raise the aspiration levels of deaf students, generally. Medical, audiological, and psychological services of sufficient quantity and quality to contribute to the objectives of NTID are being developed concurrently with the growing student body. In addition, careful consideration is being given to the distinctive characteristics of the students to be served. Among the most compelling characteristics are their modes of communication and their educational attainments. Accordingly, the communication barrier is being taken into consideration in all institutional activities.

Admission to NTID is based on a comprehensive evaluation of each student's potential for successfully completing a program of study that will provide

an employable skill. The cooperation by so many of you is appreciated in providing us with medical, psychological, and audiological records, academic and school progress reports, and recommendations. This information has contributed tremendously to working out programs that are in the best interest of deaf students.

In the short period of NTID's existence hundreds of visitors have come to RIT's expansive new campus; several committees of national organizations have held meetings here. It has become evident that RIT is a warm and congenial atmosphere for the NTID students. This is sensed immediately by visitors as they mix freely among hearing and deaf students, and as they engage themselves in discussion with RIT and NTID personnel.

The students have been impressive as people, and thereby have given us reasons for optimism regarding NTID's efforts to provide quality services to those at NTID now, and its relationships to the education of the deaf generally through programmatic research and training activities.

Whenever the opportunity presents itself we would enjoy having you view the program first-hand and meet some of the people who are involved in the day-to-day activities.

focus on people

*My ears are deaf, and yet I seem to hear
Sweet nature's music and the songs of man
For I have learned from Fancy's artisan
How written words can thrill the inner ear
Just as they move the heart, and so for me
They also seem to ring out loud and free.*

*In silent study, I have learned to tell
Each secret shade of meaning and to hear
A magic harmony, at once sincere,
That somehow notes the tinkle of a bell,
The cooing of a dove, the swish of leaves,
The raindrop's pitter-patter on the eaves,
The lover's sigh, and thrumming of guitar,
And, if I choose, the rustle of a star!*

On *His Deafness* is but one example of the many written works of Robert F. Panara, a man whose poetry, prose, and dramatic adaptations have reached many assorted audiences, spanned many years, and dealt with a multitude of topics, in a manner that is naturally sensitive and thoroughly sincere.

Today his highly-respected influence reaches many people . . . students, fellow faculty members . . . within the R.I.T. campus and far beyond it, as well.

As chairman of NTID's vestibule English program, Panara guides the literary experiences of many young men and women on campus. Their reactions? . . . "Fantastic! His classes are so great! I really enjoy learning from him!", said one of his students. Another, a hearing student who took a course from him last spring, comments: "He really teaches you to understand and appreciate literature . . . his classes are very exciting!"

Panara came to NTID in the summer of 1967 from Gallaudet College, where he taught English, language, and literature. A native of New York City, he attended public schools, then entered Gallaudet College. After earning his B.A. degree, he taught at the New York School for the Deaf and studied at New York University, where he was awarded his M.A. degree in English. He is presently completing the requirements for his doctorate with a dissertation entitled: "Deaf Characters in Literature and Drama."

NTID Staffer Attends California Sign Institute

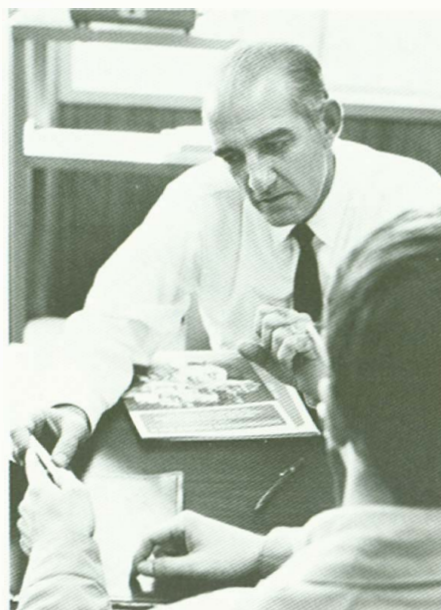
NTID Interpreter Richard Fendrich participated in a six-week sign institute at San Fernando Valley State College, Northridge, Calif., this past summer.

The Summer Sign Institute was hosted by the college's Special and Rehabilitation Education Department, and was funded by the Bureau of Adult Vocational and Library Programs, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

The program was designed to train participants, already skilled in fingerspelling and sign language, to teach these skills to other people. Also, through a heavy concentration on visual media, teaching techniques, and philosophy and psychology of education, the institute was designed to prepare participants for the teaching of deaf adults.

Fendrich, a native of Vancouver, Wash., was one of 40 participants, representing some 25 states and a wide variety of backgrounds and occupations.

Commenting on the quality of the program, he said, "This Summer Sign Institute gave me a much deeper insight into communication with the deaf. Lecturers were brought in from all over the country to help provide this insight; and the quality of the instruction was always very high."



Bob Panara confers with one of many NTID students who value his advice.

Among his many accomplishments is a book entitled, *The Silent Muse*, of which he was co-editor. The book, published in 1960, is an anthology of written works by deaf authors and includes several of Panara's poems.

The name Robert Panara can also be found in the programs of the National Theatre of the Deaf. Described as, "a valuable mainstay of the theatre since its inception," Panara is a faculty member and devotes most of his energies to the writing of adaptations of dramatic works for use by the theatre company.

Panara was named chairman of the vestibule English program in mid-summer 1969, following two years of NTID service as educational specialist for the College of General Studies. His actual involvement with the NTID concept, however, goes back to the early planning stages. "I really became interested in NTID four or five years ago," he says, "I was among the first to become involved with the concept and I helped to 'prepare the climate' for its establishment."

"I look upon NTID as an enterprise which has comprehensive services and values for all deaf persons; not only will it provide technical education and placement for deaf persons, but we are also experimenting with innovative approaches to learning which, I believe, will be of value to hearing students and to the entire field of education of the deaf."

Robert Panara . . . a devoted educator . . . a sensitive artist . . . a man whose daily endeavors reflect an untiring sense of dedication and a seemingly limitless imagination . . .

"And, if I choose, the rustle of a star!"



Among recent guests at NTID were Mr. and Mrs. Ed McKeown of California, shown here talking with NTID Dean William E. Castle. They also visited diploma student Dean Katzanos and Warren Goldmann, of the vestibule faculty.

of interest

Mr. Douglas Burke, former coordinator of the student planning and services office, has been awarded an assistantship and is studying full-time for his doctorate at the University of Rochester.

Mr. Larry Stewart, who served as NTID coordinator of counseling services, is presently director of the deaf project at the Arkansas Rehabilitation, Research and Training Center, in Hot Springs.

Miss Janice Abbott recently became an interpreter and clerical assistant for the staff. She is a June graduate of Rochester's Mercy High School.

Mr. Joseph C. Avery, originally of Little Rock, Ark., has joined the staff as a counseling specialist. He recently was awarded his M.S.E. degree at the State College of Arkansas.

Mr. James Capparell is a newly-appointed scientific programmer for CAI (Computer-Assisted Instruction). The Rochester native is a June graduate of the University of Rochester.

Dr. James Collins recently became the associate director of the Division of Student Development. He was previously a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh and his home is Evansville, Ind.

Miss Suzanne Doe, a Rochester native, has joined the Division of Student Development as coordinator of vocational rehabilitation affairs. She earned her M.S. degree at the State University of New York at Albany this past spring.

Miss Jane Hollar is a new instructional programmer for CAI. The Hazleton, Pa. native comes to NTID from Rochester Telephone Corp., where she was a training supervisor.

Miss Jean McKernan, formerly a speech therapist for the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of Genesee County, is now a speech pathologist for NTID. She is a native of Batavia, N. Y.

Mr. Lawrence Reiner, a doctoral candidate of Syracuse University, is a newly-appointed research associate in the Division of Research and Training. He is a Syracuse native.

Mr. William Rose, a 1966 graduate of Notre Dame, was recently named chairman of the business technology diploma program. The Cedar Falls, Iowa native was previously an advanced programs management analyst with Lockheed Aircraft Corp.

Mr. Frank Zieziula has joined the Division of Student Development as a cocurricular education specialist. He is a native of Buffalo, N. Y. and earned his master's degree in June at the State University of New York at Albany.

NTID Focus is published monthly at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf, Rochester Institute of Technology. Editorial Office is located in the RIT Public Relations Office. Editor: John'W. Cox. Phone: (716) 464-2332.

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Diploma students (left to right) Crescent Cilibretto, Jeanne Kaffin, Michael Rojas (partially hidden), and Forrest Brown are pictured in Architectural Drafting class, one of four new diploma programs at NTID. See page one.