

Barnard Bulletin

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Search Committee Vote Unanimous

by Sarah Gold

After approximately four months of deliberation, the Presidential Search Committee recommended Jacquelyn Mattfeld as the new president of Barnard College. Approval of the Board of Trustees of Barnard and that of William McGill, president of Columbia University, were then needed as the final steps in the choice of a president.

The committee consisted of five members of the Board of Trustees, appointed by Eleanor Elliott, chairman of the board. The members were: Richard M. Furlaud, Elizabeth Janeway, Samuel R. Milbank; and William T. Golden and Helene L. Kaplan, the two co-chairpeople of the committee. The co-chairpeople were also selected by Elliott.

There were five faculty representatives: Bernard Barber, Brigitte Bradley, Bernice Segal, Ann Sheffield and David A. Robertson. The faculty members were originally selected by the Faculty Executive Committee. In the fall, a faculty vote resulted in Robertson and Bradley replacing Mary Mothersill and Leonard Zobler.

The student representatives, Gwyneth Murphy, president of Undergrad, and Michele Evans,

were also appointed and their selection was later approved in a student referendum. The two alumnae representatives were Helen Pond McIntyre, president of the Associate Alumnae of Barnard College, and Marilyn Karmason Spritzer. Henry Graff was the Columbia representative. Ex-officio members included LeRoy C. Breunig, interim president of Barnard; Eleanor Elliott, chairman of the Board of Trustees and Remington Patterson, dean of the faculty.

By the October 15 deadline set by the committee, over 300 applications had been received. The candidates either applied directly or were recommended to the committee by qualified people in academe. The candidates were divided into three categories on the basis of the qualifications they possessed. The three categories were for those highly qualified, unqualified and of a middling qualification.

According to McIntyre, the main qualifications being sought were: first-rate scholarship, extensive administrative experience and warmth as a human being. Other significant considerations were dedication to liberal arts education and

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Wed. Night Trustee Vote Unanimous

Trustees Vote Mattfeld New Barnard President

by Beth Falk

In a special meeting yesterday afternoon the Board of Trustees approved the Presidential Search Committee's unanimous recommendation of Jacquelyn Anderson Mattfeld as the next president of Barnard.

Mattfeld, who is currently dean of faculty and academic affairs at Brown University, will take office on July 1, 1975. Enthusiastic about coming to Barnard, she said, "I am tremendously excited about being the president of a college that has been educating women to lead strong and interesting lives since the turn of the century."

In an exclusive hour-long interview with *Bulletin*, Mattfeld discussed her educational experiences and ideas, her thoughts on Barnard and her personal life. When asked if she felt conflicts about leaving Brown, Mattfeld replied, "It's always a hard decision to decide to leave a job if you've put a great deal of your person into it. I feel somewhat like a tree that's been repotted several times."

The newly appointed president expressed the opinion that Barnard should remain an



Jacquelyn Anderson Mattfeld

institution for women. "The women of Barnard have a good thing. The school has an identity of its own, its traditions and education. It's an important tradition to keep." She felt that the relationship between Barnard and Columbia should

"minimize the problems and maximize the advantages of both institutions," and added, "It is a particular plus that Barnard is part of the cluster that makes up the University."

Concerning the vocation of
(Continued on page 2)

Committee Criteria Demanding

by Janet Blair

"Jacquelyn Mattfeld is the only reason in the world I would want to be at Barnard next year." This statement from Gwyneth Murphy, '76, one of the two students on the Search Committee, is indicative of the comments the Committee makes about her. Not a negative word was received by *Bulletin* from the Search Committee on Mattfeld. "She's marvelous with students," trustee Helene Kaplan, head of the Committee, said. "She's open, warm, articulate and intelligent." Ann

Sheffield, a faculty member, called her "remarkably honest," and Henry Graff, the Columbia representative on the Committee, spoke of her possessing "a special grace of manner and warmth."

"I think she's a terrific gal. I liked her instantly — it was love at first sight," said Eleanor Elliott, the Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees. According to Elliott, Mattfeld was recommended to them by a number of people in higher education. The Search Committee's final choice was based on an evaluation of

her scholarship, administrative ability and personality—"her combination of high intellectual ability and invaluable administrative ability," as David Robertson, another faculty member, phrased it.

Characterized by Brigitte Bradley, professor of German, as a "solid scholar in musicology," Mattfeld has had teaching and administrative experience at numerous musical conservatories and colleges, including Brown, Sarah Lawrence, Harvard and Yale. Part of her appeal to the Search Committee was her experience, not only in education, but in women's education. She holds what Bernice Segal, faculty member of the Committee, called a "serious interest in the education of women." The search for a president with a strong concern for women's education seemed to necessitate a woman president, although Elliott says "men were carefully reviewed."

Michele Evans, '77, the other student on the Committee, said the men "didn't express a strong desire to maintain a women's liberal arts education. They weren't nearly as qualified as the leading woman."

As an administrator, Sheffield described Mattfeld as "practical and creative. She has the ability to help others bring their ideas to fruition and to foster growth and development in students and faculty."

One question is how Mattfeld will cope with Barnard's financial
(Continued on page 2)



Search committee members Helene Kaplan (left) and Gwyneth Murphy (right)

Mattfeld: "Sensitive and Dedicated"

by Lisa Lerman and Beth Falk

One way of finding out about a prospective college president is to talk with her friends. *Bulletin* obtained a list of people in Providence and elsewhere who have known Jacquelyn Mattfeld as a teacher, an administrator, and a companion. They invariably describe her in superlatives ranging from "a very giving person" and "tremendously open and personal," to "the most brilliant person I have ever met" and "a person of sensitivity and dedication."

Karen Romer, associate dean at Brown, became a close friend of Mattfeld in 1962 when the two were working at Radcliffe. She commented, "She has a vision about education and a talent for making people be honest about themselves." According to

Romer, Mattfeld likes poetry, music, travel, flea markets and "the stories of people's lives." "She loves folk music," Romer continued. "You will often find her in her house with friends crowded around her piano while she is playing."

Mattfeld's work with minority students at Brown has elicited admiration from many people. Dr. Stewart, professor of physiology at Brown, asserted, "I think she has certainly established herself as someone the Blacks and other students would believe. She wouldn't say anything she couldn't stand behind." Thomas Banchoff, professor of mathematics at Brown, called her "a spokesman for minorities and women."

Andrea Levere, a Brown junior, was one of four students who lived with Mattfeld last

summer. Levere and the other students got to know her through work on the Educational Policy Committee. The students planned a GISP (Group Independent Study Project) whose purpose was to evaluate the "whole new educational philosophy and the structures designed to implement it." Levere explained that the students, who received a grant for \$5100, were "invited to live at her house for the summer for free. She helped us a great deal in understanding Brown."

Of Mattfeld's professional abilities, Levere stated, "She has the ability to look at problems and see them from professional, academic and personal points of view. That's how I define brilliance."

"She couldn't have realized her capabilities here," Levere added.

"Her abilities were not used as they should have been. Because she is a woman, a lot of people impeded her progress."

All students, faculty and administrators interviewed noted Jacquelyn Mattfeld's unusual warmth and personableness. "She likes collaboration among equals. She is not authoritative; she does not force her ideas on other people," said Romer. "She thrives on personal friendships," exclaimed Levere. "We would have dinner with her and she would hold us spellbound."

Mattfeld's friends are all happy about the opportunities offered her by the presidency of Barnard, but seem to mourn her departure from Providence. Romer summed up this sentiment, saying, "You are very lucky to have wooed her away."

Feedback from Brown on Mattfeld

It's hard to gauge opinion accurately between New York and Providence, but a few comments from Brown students concerning Dean Mattfeld might help in assembling a picture of Barnard's new president.

"Those who come in contact with her like her," commented Bruce Sherman, class of '77, and this seems to be the case. Not everyone, needless to say, comes in contact with her, and several Brown students surveyed by *Bulletin* had not talked with her, but whether this is due to Mattfeld, the students, or a difference in interests has not been determined.

"I think she's a fine woman—contrary to popular opinion," remarked Maggie Wenig, '78. "A lot of people are unhappy with her because she had to make some faculty cuts."

Those faculty cuts, according to Michele Evans, Barnard '77, one of the students on the Presidential Search Committee, were made necessary by a Brown budget cut. She described Mattfeld as "put in the position of being the fall guy. She's had to see her way clear to make future changes she saw as necessary."

"She did her best to keep below a 15% faculty cut," said Jane Baglini, Brown '77. "It ended up 10% or so. She had sole responsibility in that area."

Portia Pinkney, '77, a former member of Brown's Advisory Committee on University Planning, said Mattfeld tried to "keep faculty cuts as minimal as possible. She was more concerned than the Provost—or the President."

While a recent *Brown Daily Herald* editorial described Mattfeld as an "articulate, talented and sensitive ad-

ministrators" and regarded her possible departure to Barnard as "Brown's loss," the editorial attacked Mattfeld for not following up on goals she had set for herself. She "failed to create dynamic new educational programs or bolster Brown's potentially great educational machine," the article asserted, according to Michael Silverstein, editor. The editorial continued, "She has not effectively organized her staff, remains personally inaccessible and continues to communicate inconsistent and late information to department heads."

Several Brown students *Bulletin* spoke with, however, praised Mattfeld's approach to students.

Judy Owens, '77, called her "open and friendly" in dealing with students. "I think she's fantastic," Owens said. "She's one of the hardest working people I know. The general consensus is that we'll be very sorry to lose her."

Pinkney called Mattfeld "a little too 'liberal' for me. I don't believe in white liberals. She's trying to be the liberated woman." She qualified, saying, "But although she has her own bureaucratic tendencies, she doesn't operate as a tool of the bureaucracy."

Dean Mattfeld was "instrumental in obtaining a women's center at Brown," according to Beverly Edwards, the coordinator of Brown's new Sarah Doyle Center. Mattfeld handles the academic aspects of running the Center, while Edwards handles counseling, the library and other practical matters.

"I'm glad she's going to Barnard—for her sake," Edwards said. "Everyone feels she was kind of meshed in here. You're getting a great president." —Janet Blair

New Barnard President ★★★★★

(Continued from page 1)

college president, Mattfeld asserted her belief that an administrator should be "a worthy representative of both students and faculty."

"An administrator is someone who exists to create an environment under which the best learning is possible. I will function according to what the students and faculty want of their president."

Mattfeld vocalized a particular interest in the education of minority groups. She was described by Brown's Associate Dean Karen Romer as "sensitive to the concerns of excluded and oppressed groups." Mattfeld explained, "I've always been interested in making quality institutions available to the handicapped, older people, minority students and women. I really care about that. It's easy to forget that all of these groups have a lot to give. It is their right to have access to the very highest institutions."

While at Brown Mattfeld has been instrumental in balancing the racial and sexual distribution of the administration. There are presently four Black deans at the college and five women. In last year's student strike, Mattfeld emerged as one of two Brown administrators whose credibility was trusted by Black students.

Born in Baltimore, Md., in

1925, Mattfeld has extensive experience in teaching and administrative work. In 1947 she received a diploma from Peabody Conservatory of Music. Her B.A. was taken at Goucher College; in 1959 she received a Ph.D. from Yale.

She has taught in the music departments of Brown, Sarah Lawrence, Harvard and the New England Conservatory of Music. She would like to teach a course in music history at Barnard "if the music department will accept me as faculty. I have no illusions," she added, "that one can be both a president and still do exciting research or full-time teaching."

A specialist in early music, Mattfeld came to Brown in 1971 after working for six years at Sarah Lawrence as provost and dean of faculty. At Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she was associate dean of student affairs from 1963 to 1965. Before that she worked as associate dean of instruction and dean of East House at Harvard.

Jacquelyn Mattfeld's numerous publications include an article in *Daedalus* (fall 1974) titled "Liberal Education in Contemporary American Society." Also published was a scholarly work in the *Journal of the American Musicological Society*, "Some Relationships

Between Texts and Cantus Firmi in the Liturgical Motets of Josquin Des Prez."

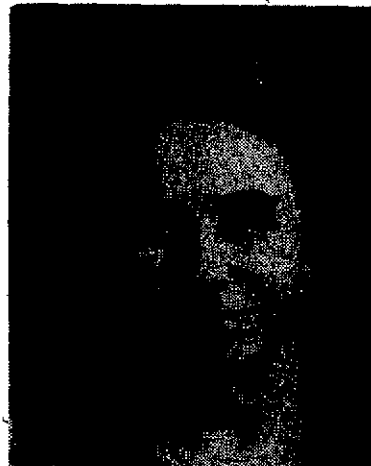
In addition to her position at Brown, Mattfeld serves as a trustee to Goucher College, and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of McGraw-Hill, Inc. She is on the Policy Board for Change in Undergraduate Education of the Association of American Colleges, and has been chairwoman of the Yale University Council Committee on the Education of Women since 1973.

Mattfeld, who is divorced, has two daughters; Stefanie, aged twenty-three, "doesn't like me to interpret her," and Felicity, twenty-one, lives and works in Cambridge, Mass. She described both as "nifty people," adding, "I am very close to both of them, although they maintain their own identities."

When asked how she spends her free time, Mattfeld exclaimed, "Friends! And I love good conversation, theater, reading, taking walks." According to a reliable source, she is an excellent cook. One of her classic phrases is "Double the best ingredients."

Mattfeld seems happy at the prospect of living in New York. "I love the human variety in New York," she remarked. "I like being in a place that is artistically active."

Search Committee Vote Unanimous



Elizabeth Janeway



David Robertson

praised the committee for its smooth operation, particularly in view of its unwieldy size, consisting of eighteen members. There were recurring references to the unanimity of the committee's selection of Mattfeld. Graff called the committee "harmonious" and Breunig said it was "a beautiful committee to work with."

This efficient functioning may reflect the fact that all the groups felt their interests had been truly represented. In Sheffield's words, they felt "their views were heard and respected." Murphy was pleased that she and Evans had a large input in spite of their relative lack of experience in the field of academe. They saw their job as representing student interests and, Murphy noted, the others "listened to us carefully."

According to Sheffield and Bradley, the faculty interests were in finding a president who would promote academic excellence, who would support the liberal arts and develop a good relationship with the faculty. Sheffield felt the future president must be "realistic as well as visionary," and exhibit strength in negotiating with Columbia, without being "abrasive."

Graff, too, as the Columbia representative, spoke of the need for "someone who could work comfortably with the Columbia administration." But he expressed his personal interest in Barnard, as the father of an alumna and a teacher at Columbia for over thirty years.

In spite of the fact that the committee completed its work in only four months, Murphy and others made it clear that a careful job had been done. The committee met often over the four-month period and close and serious attention was given to each dossier. The result of the intense work of the committee was the recommendation of Mattfeld, as the candidate who best filled the academic and administrative qualifications sought by the committee as a whole, and meeting the interests of the various parts of the Barnard community.

Committee Criteria Demanding

(Continued from page 1)

problems. Kaplan emphasized her competence, financial innovation and fund-raising ability rather than her financial connections.

The Search Committee was impressed with Mattfeld when she appeared before them. "She has no illusions about the power of a presidency," said Murphy. "She's absolutely committed to women's education and fully aware of the potential problems of Barnard and Columbia and will be able to compromise with Columbia without selling Barnard down the drain." Mattfeld asked the Search Committee what Mary Mothersill, a former faculty member of the Committee, called "searching questions." Evans remembered her "very incisive, intelligent questions about the Barnard/Columbia relationship—things that I hadn't thought of."

During the interview, Murphy said, "Mattfeld was very interested in hearing what the students wanted in a president. She asked us the relation of the

students and administration and was just as interested in hearing from me as from the chairman of the Board."

Concerning the student racial strikes at Brown in the spring of 1974, Evans said she held a "unique point of view. But she didn't overexaggerate like Grayson and Kirk did. She knew the leader of the strike on a first name basis—she spoke very warmly of him. These were individuals she had dealt with, not just students. They treated her with respect, as an equal."

Mattfeld and President McGill have held apparently successful meetings. The members of the Search Committee foresee a good relationship between the two presidents. The Committee, however, was concerned with locating someone interested in preserving Barnard's autonomy. "She's too valuable to let herself become a mere cog in some great metropolitan machine like Columbia," Robertson asserted. Evans characterized Mattfeld as "conniving, but conniving in a good way. She could really bust McGill's chops."

According to Elizabeth Janeway, a trustee member, the main focus of the trustees is financial, while the president's is academic. Janeway hopes to see "a great deal of talking back and forth." She quoted Jill Conway, Smith College's new president: "I think we all realize with the financial pressures of the time

the board must be brought into policy decisions."

It is not clear what Mattfeld's stance will be on the less structured aspects of Barnard, such as the Program in the Arts or the Experimental College, although in her *Bulletin* interview she expressed interest in learning more about the EC. According to Judy Owens, a junior at Brown, "As far as I know, she was one of the main supporters of the New Curriculum," which is Brown's very flexible requirement system. "This seems to be the sort of thing she's interested in," remarked Janeway.

"If I were leading a strike against the College tomorrow morning at 8:00," Murphy continued, "I feel I could walk into Jacquelyn Mattfeld's office at 7:45 and tell her and she would be able to deal with it."

The comments of the Search Committee indicate that Mattfeld passed their test with flying colors. Their respect for her scholarship and administrative abilities is exceeded only by their appreciation for Mattfeld herself. "Her head is so together," Murphy said. "People are her first priority. She said, 'You know, I could give this all up and be a vice president. Or I could always go back to being a professor, because people are what's most important.'"

The vote of the Search Committee was unanimous.

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women's education and commitment to Barnard's continued existence as an autonomous institution. While the majority of candidates were female, serious consideration was given to the male applicants. However, Murphy expressed a feeling of pleasant surprise at the large number of highly qualified women in higher education.

All those candidates who were deemed most highly qualified were interviewed by the committee. For each interview, a panel was appointed, consisting of one member from each group represented on the committee—trustees, administration, faculty and students. The panel reported to the full committee on the interview. However, the interviews were open to all members of the committee who wished to come, and most interviews were well-attended by committee members. According to Murphy, it was also helpful that many of the candidates were known personally by committee members who have been in higher education for a long time.

In addition, according to Kaplan, the committee went up to Brown University on Nov. 8 to meet with administrators about Mattfeld, who is presently dean of faculty and academic affairs there. The committee members also met Mattfeld at her home for lunch. Mattfeld was under serious consideration at the time.

Almost all the committee members who were contacted

Barnard Bulletin

CO-EDITORS

Beth Falk

Lisa Lerman

NEWS EDITOR

Sarah Gold

FEATURES EDITOR

Janet Blair