



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 10, 1965

To Members of the Faculty:

Five members of the faculty and administration will retire at the close of the current academic year. They are Pietro Belluschi, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning; Richard F. Frazier, Professor of Electromechanics; Wolcott A. Hokanson, Bursar; Otto C. Koppen, Professor of Flight Vehicle Engineering; and Paul Pigors, Professor of Industrial Relations.

Dean Belluschi, one of the most distinguished architects of our time has been an inspiration to faculty members and students alike during the fourteen years he has been head of the School of Architecture and Planning. His taste and judgment, which have helped shape the Institute's own building plans, are permanently reflected in the recent development of this campus.

A native of Italy, Dean Belluschi received the degree of Doctor of Civil Engineering from the University of Rome in 1922 and then came to the United States for study at Cornell University. During a period when contemporary architecture was dominated by a spirit of impersonal functionalism, he sought to combine elegance and beauty with usefulness and he achieved a style which led to a brilliant career as an architect in the Northwest.

Here at M.I.T. his creative spirit has been a dominant factor in the development of the School of Architecture and Planning since he came as Dean in 1951. He has been a staunch advocate of our evolving program in the visual arts. He has brought to the Institute a number of outstanding new members of the faculty, increasing the staff of the Department of Architecture by two-thirds. He has supported with vigor and imagination the extension and strengthening of the graduate program in the Department of City and Regional Planning. Outstanding among the developments in planning during his tenure as Dean were the establishment in 1958 of the Ph.D. degree in planning and the founding, with Harvard, in 1959 of the Joint Center for Urban Studies.

Professor Frazier is distinguished particularly by the great thoroughness of his teaching and research. A leading authority on torque motors and other electromechanical devices, he has worked for four decades at the advancing forefront of this sophisticated technology. In recent years he has made especially important contributions to the development of control elements for applications in space guidance.

An alumnus of the Institute, Professor Frazier received his bachelor of science degree here in 1923 and his master's in 1932. He joined the staff in 1925 and over the past forty years has been most effective in infusing his teaching with the spirit and results of his research. He was in charge of the former "Honors Group" program in Course VI throughout its existence and was a leading participant in the revision of the curriculum that was undertaken by the Electrical Engineering Department in the late 1930s. During World War II he helped organize and teach the Army Specialized Training Program and the Navy V-12 Program in Course VI.

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Professor Frazier's current professional interests are focused primarily on electromechanical control components and associated circuitry, analogs, and models in dimensional analysis. He is the author or co-author of some 70 papers and has two books in preparation, one on principles of electrical engineering, being written with Professors Kingsley, Eager, and T. F. Jones, Jr., and one on electro-mechanical control components with Philip J. Gilinson, Jr., of the Instrumentation Laboratory.

Mr. Hokanson came to M.I.T. in July of 1915 when the Institute was still situated on Boylston Street in Boston. Upon his retirement, therefore, he will have completed in essence 50 years of continuous and highly effective service to this institution. In 1916, when M.I.T. moved to Cambridge, Mr. Hokanson joined the staff of the Bursar's Office and then advanced steadily through all the branches of its accounting activities until he became chief accountant. He was named Assistant Bursar in 1934 and Bursar in 1954.

Mr. Hokanson has come to know well over the years hundreds of members of the successive classes of students, and he is an Honorary Member of the Class of 1923 and of the M.I.T. Alumni Association. He has been active since 1926 in the Richard C. Maclaurin ("The Tech") Lodge of the Masons. He was an organizer also of the M.I.T. Chapter of the DeMolay, and he has helped over the years numerous student activities and fraternities with their accounting practices and procedures.

Mr. Hokanson has been Secretary of the Maclaurin Lodge since 1933 and Assistant Treasurer of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences since 1937. A Corporator of the Charlestown Savings Bank, he has throughout his association with M.I.T. also served unstintingly in a variety of ways the Cambridge and Boston communities.

Professor Koppen, an authority on stability and control in aircraft, was graduated from M.I.T. in 1924 and has been associated with one or another of the basic aeronautical fields throughout his professional career. Following his graduation he spent five years in various aspects of aeronautics with the National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics, with the Aviation Branch of the Army Signal Corps, and in private industry.

Professor Koppen returned to the Institute as a member of the faculty, with the rank of Associate Professor, in 1929 and was named Professor in 1939. During World War II he contributed to the development of military aircraft and was on leave for a period to serve as a chief aeronautical engineer in industry.

Throughout his years on the staff Professor Koppen has been a particularly effective teacher, and some of the nation's leading airplane designers received, in his classes, their first introduction to the real demands of systems engineering. He has always stressed in his teaching the engineering point of view and has placed particular emphasis on student initiative. Professor Koppen has also been an active designer and inventor in his own right and has been a pioneer especially in the development of aircraft for short take-off and landings.

Professor Pigors joined the staff of the Industrial Relations Section of the Department of Economics and Social Science in 1940, after having taught for some years at Tufts University and at Harvard, where he received his academic degrees. At the time of his coming to M.I.T. he had already done outstanding work in the field of personnel administration and human relations, and this has been the major field of his teaching, writing, and research during his 25 years at the Institute.

Professor Pigors taught the first large undergraduate course in Personnel Administration in Course XV. This was a most successful venture, and out of this course grew the textbook Personnel Administration, which he wrote with Professor Charles A. Myers and which has now appeared in its fifth edition. He is also well known for his development - in collaboration with his wife, Faith - of a method of executive training called "the incident process," which is a variation of the case method and is now widely used in executive training programs both in private industry and in government.

Among his publications, in addition to the textbook and manuals on the Incident Process, is a book of readings, Management of Human Resources, which he edited with Professor Myers and F. T. Malm of the University of California; an earlier book, Leadership or Domination?; two monographs dealing with communication and with human aspects of multiple shift operations; and numerous articles in professional journals.

I know that I speak for all the Faculty when I extend to each of these colleagues our heartfelt appreciation and our warmest best wishes for the future.

J. A. STRATTON