

# THE CAMPUS

undergraduate newspaper of the city college since 1907

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232

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## GALLAGHER WILL RESIGN OVER SLASHES IN BUDGET

### College is 'Shocked'

By June Wyman  
and George Murrell

Reaction to President Gallagher's resignation was swift in coming. Shock and dismay by members of the College community was reinforced by a general feeling that his action was for real and not a publicity stunt.

According to Dean of Students Nicholas Paster, "He's not about to consider coming back if the City and the State don't come up with more funds. He means it, he means it completely and he won't operate a school under the conditions imposed on him by this budget."

"He's put his future on the line. It's more than just a gimmick, it's the real McCoy . . . It's a terrible thing that a man with his history has to do this," he said.

Dean Paster's words were echoed by Dean Bernard Sohmer (Curricular Guidance), who said that he had learned of Dr. Gallagher's impending resignation yesterday morning and had been "very depressed" ever since.

"My own impression is he means it," the Dean said, "and I just hope they believe it."

Dean Oscar Zeichner (Graduate Studies) said he "believes it's genuine" and said that "it is a shocking and catastrophic experience. The President means it, I'm sure he does. You don't make a letter of resignation public if you don't mean it."

Other members of the College community expressed similar reaction to Dr. Gallagher's letter of resignation.

Professor Samuel Hendel (Political Science), the College's Ombudsman, said that he was



There were few light moments at the College for President Gallagher. News that he felt forced to resign over budget cuts shocked and angered faculty and students.

angry that the President had found himself forced to resign.

"I think Buell Gallagher has acted out of deep conviction and with courage," he said. "I hope his act of despair will save us from impending disaster."

Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences Sherburne Barber, to whom Dr. Gallagher had confided his intentions of resigning yesterday morning, said: "I'm sick about it. It's just what he was saying all along [the effects of the budget cuts] and nobody believed him. No one believed it would really happen."

Added presidential assistant Robert Taylor: "The future of the college looks dim."

Reaction from student leaders also showed the effects of the unexpected announcement.

"No matter what anybody says about his politics, he's a damn good administrator, and he's doing a good job of running the school," said Barry Helprin, Student Senate Treasurer. Helprin charged that the Board or Higher Education might, in fact, be happy to get rid of President Gallagher.

"I'm shocked," he added. "When a man runs a school for so long you can't see anyone else doing it."

Student Senate Campus Affairs Vice President Bernard Weichsel said that the move is "a shocker attempt by him to save the City University and I hope he is doing it for all of us; and if so I hope he succeeds."

Dr. Seymour Weisman, Executive Vice President of the College's Alumni Association, said "the Alumni will be shocked and disturbed and upset, and it will be difficult to replace him because in the opinion of the alumni he was the best president the College has ever had."

Members of the Board of Higher Education, to whom Dr. Gallagher's letter of resignation was directed, seemed to have become unavailable following publication of the news.

Every member of both the BHE and the City University, whom The Campus attempted to contact last night for comment and reaction was either out of town or not at home.

### Foresees 'Coup de Grace' For University

By Louis J. Lumenick

President Gallagher submitted his resignation to the Board of Higher Education Monday, in a letter claiming that planned cuts in the City and State budgets will be the "coup de grace" for the City University.

The 65-year old educator, who has headed the College for 16 of the last 17 years, repeated charges that the cuts would prevent the University from providing any freshman admissions in the Fall; cause the discontinuation of evening and summer session programs; force the termination of all Graduate work in the University; and necessitate abandoning plans for a program of black and Puerto Rican studies at the College.

"The gains of fifty years would be wiped out," he wrote. "Twenty thousand embittered high school students would be shut out."

A College spokesman last night quoted Dr. Gallagher as saying:

"The letter speaks for itself . . . it is to be taken at face value . . . whatever happens hereafter is speculative." Dr. Gallagher could not be reached for comment.

The spokesman said that the BHE would take up Dr. Gallagher's resignation at their next regular meeting on April 28. The President did not include in his letter a date on which the resignation will become effective, touching off speculation that Dr. Gallagher might withdraw his resignation if an adequate budget allocation is received.

In 1961, Dr. Gallagher threatened to resign over lack of funding for the University's graduate programs. A few weeks later, he actually resigned, leaving to become Chancellor of the California state education system, a post which he held for nine months until returning here. Some months later, the President admitted at a City College Fund dinner that he made the resignation threat in hopes of fright-

ening the legislature into action. Dr. Gallagher's resignation comes on the heels of the passage of a meager state budget for the University.

Governor Rockefeller last week signed next year's CUNY budget, retaining virtually all of the 18 per cent spending cutbacks for the University which he originally proposed.

The complete text of Dr. Gallagher's letter appears on Page 3; details on the University budget cuts appear on Page 4.

Dr. Gallagher contended that the city plans further reductions in University allocations, that have already been reduced by the state, giving the University a total of \$180 million for the coming fiscal year.

The University currently has a budget of \$205.6 million and claims it faces mandated salary raises amounting to \$15.4 million. A spokesman for the City's Budget Office retorted that "the city has not set any final budget figure for the City University — and Mr. Gallagher should know that."

"Despite the Draconian budget slashes enacted this weekend in Albany, the city is working on every possibility to find the resources to fund the University at the necessary level to handle enrollment increases expected next fall," he added.

City University Chancellor Albert H. Bowker said that "neither the University nor the city can afford the loss of a lead-  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Resignation: A Familiar Theme

By Noah David Gurock

In his 16 years as president of the College Dr. Buell Gordon Gallagher has resigned, or threatened to resign, at least three times. Only once, however, has his resignation gone through.

That was in 1961, when Dr. Gallagher left his post at the College to accept the chancellorship of the California State College system, a position which he retained for only eight months before he returned to the College.

However, three weeks before the announcement in which he said that he was leaving the College with "deep regret," the President, in a speech to a City College Fund dinner, cited altogether different reasons.

"I state without equivocation and without hesitation that if City College is not enabled to go ahead with graduate work, she can look  
(Continued on Page 2)



# THE CAMPUS

Vol. 124 — No. 10 338 Finley  
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## Rankin's Man of Controversy

By Andy Soltis

Buell Gordon Gallagher, a professor of ethics who lived his curriculum, a Congregationalist minister who spoke his thoughts and a civil rights and liberties advocate when Jim Crow and Joe McCarthy reigned, submitted his resignation yesterday.

For most of his 65 years Dr. Gallagher has been an anomaly to the frenzied world in which he always found himself, as he said, "on the firing line."

The man who would become the seventh president of the largest college of the largest city in the country was born in Rankin, Illinois (pop. 250).

He lived in small towns throughout the Midwest during his youth and often remarked that he had never lived in a city

with a population over 10,000 until his college years.

The Gallagher home was rooted in the deep principles of his father, the Rev. Elmer Gallagher. Of the five Gallagher children four went into education or religion.

After graduation from Carleton College and marriage to his childhood sweetheart, June Simpson, the tall Lincoln-esque 27-year old began his ministerial career in Passaic, New Jersey, in 1931.

Three years later he began a successful ten-year presidency of Talladega College, one of the South's five leading Negro colleges.

The Gallagher career passed to another new position and another new part of the country when he assumed a post of professor of ethics at the Pacific School of

Religion.

It was on the West Coast that Dr. Gallagher (having received his doctorate of philosophy from Columbia in addition to degrees from the Union Theological Seminary and the London School of Economics) entered the political arena. He ran for a California congressional seat in the 1948 elections and lost narrowly.

Returning to the East and his educational career, Dr. Gallagher was appointed Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education by the Truman Administration.

Finally in 1952, with the College demeaned and demoralized by the basketball scandals, the Board of Higher Education turned to the man from Rankin and voted his appointment unanimously.

## A Familiar Theme . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

for someone else other than myself to preside over her decline," he said on March 15, 1961, in emphasizing his demands for State Legislative passage of five measures relating to the College.

These demands, most of which were passed by the Legislature soon after his threat, were for the establishment of a City University, the preservation of free tuition for undergraduates, the authority to grant doctoral degrees, funds for a doctoral program and "fiscal independence" from the State University.

Dr. Gallagher's threat became academic once these demands were granted. However, when the president announced that he was leaving for California, he was again asked whether he had really intended to quit had the Legislature not responded affirmatively to his demands.

Dr. Gallagher said at that time that he had made the threat "in the hope of prodding the Legislature," indicating that his threat had been merely that.

And he added, at the news conference announcing his resignation, that there were "no negative reasons" why he was leaving the College and that "I did not seek the (California) job; it sought me."

When Dr. Gallagher returned to the College eight months later, he cited "purely personal reasons," including loss of pension rights and the fact that he had not been provided with expected housing in California.

However, sources close to the president at that time indicated that Dr. Gallagher, long known as an advocate of free speech on the campus, had been pressured, and even physically threatened by right-wing groups who had protested his permitting left-wing speakers on the California system's campuses.

## Gallagher to Quit over Cuts

(Continued from Page 1)

er of Buell Gallagher's stature and capability. His resignation demonstrates the gravity of the fiscal crisis confronting the City University." Dr. Bowker, and other principal City University and BHE officials could not be reached last night.

The President had given no prior indication that he was planning to resign. A college official who saw him Friday said last night that he was "despondent" over the Legislature's impending action.

Dr. Gallagher noted then that "he couldn't see how the College would be able to go on," and feared that "the crisis was still to come," when student reaction to the austerity moves built up, the source said.

A personal reason may also have contributed to his decision. The President's wife has been ill for a prolonged period.

Today's lead editorial in the New York Times called the President's resignation "an extreme personal sacrifice to awaken city and state officials to the cuts' lethal effects on the educational aspirations of able youths from needy families."

"It is now a matter of high priority for the elected officials of whose wisdom Dr. Gallagher despaired to prove him wrong and, by underwriting the cause he champions so uncompromisingly, to call him back to his important station of academic and public service," the editorial declared.

By resigning the President would give up a \$35,000 yearly salary, plus rent-free residence in the official home just inside South Campus gate. He might also be sacrificing undetermined pension allowances.

## New English Course Planned

A twelve-credit course titled tentatively "Symposium in Literature and Writing" has been organized by the English Majors Caucus for introduction next semester.

The course, according to a flyer distributed by the Caucus, "will involve approximately seventy students and ten faculty members [with] no fixed hours but instead a series of seminars meeting throughout the week.

"Each seminar group," the flyer continues, "[will] determine its particular topic and approach."

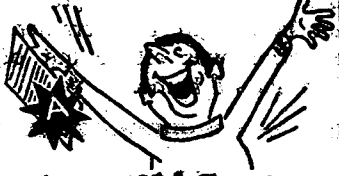
Students could participate in any of the ten seminars to produce an individual project, such as a critical or creative paper, film or recording. This work would be done under the guidance of a mentor.

Specific structure and admission requirements have yet to be decided.

Professor Edmund Volpe (Chairman, English) said yesterday that he had not yet decided whether to approve the course or not and added that his decision is final. Regarding the twelve credits assigned to the course he said that as a "kind of gimmick" the course would be divided into three separate courses "for purposes of registration" although it is really "one unified course."



The spring recess begins Thursday. Or does it? Taking advantage of a day off Monday a portion of the College's population has apparently decided to extend their week-long recess into a ten-day absence from the dear Lavender by cutting classes yesterday and today.



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## Text of Gallagher's Letter to BHE

Following is the text of President Gallagher's letter to the Board of Higher Education submitting his resignation as president of the College:

In concert with the Board of Higher Education and the Chancellor of the City University of New York, I have taken every honorable step—but one—within my power, as an effort to avert the threatened mutilation of the university. That threat has come both from the state and from the city of New York.

The State Legislature has now recessed after adopting a sharply reduced budget for the City University. Even after 17,000 students stood on the Capitol lawn and supported our pleas for relief, the legislature and the Governor remained adamant.

The city says it is now ready to administer the coup de grace by fixing our final budget at about \$10- to \$15-million below the amount required merely to stand still. All our hopes for advancement are dashed. All our former fears of regression are fully warranted.

Among the measures necessary if we were to attempt to open our doors under such a budget next September would be these: 1. admit no freshman class; 2. admit

no entrants to the SEEK program; 3. close the evening and summer sessions; 4. scrap our plans for black and Puerto Rican studies and 5. terminate graduate work. The gains of 50 years would be wiped out. Twenty thousand embittered high school graduates would be shut out.

It is unconscionable—indeed, it is unbelievably stupid—for allegedly responsible elected officials of government to mandate this staggering blow upon New York.

Having taken every step, but one, in an effort to avert this catastrophe, I now take that final step. For 16 years, I have bent my back to the effort of holding wide the door of opportunity to the youth of this city and state who are so rich in everything but money. I am now asked by officers of government to change my position, to stand in the door and keep students out. I shall not accede. I will not do it. I will not turn my back on the poor of all races. I will not close my ears to the demands for justice for the Puerto Rican, the Jew, the Catholic, the Protestant. I will be un-

faithful to none of my brothers, black or white.

My departure from the presidency of the City College, a fellowship I have come to love and which I leave with profound regret, may not correct the stupidity of political decisions already made and still in the making. After all, what is the life career of one man in the balance of such decisions? My hope, however, is that my departure may serve to symbolize the public outrage which echoes from the brutal and insulting slamming of the college entrance door. Is this to be the final word from the richest city in the richest state in the richest country in the world?

Let my departure from the presidency of C.C.N.Y. express my disbelief, my total unavailability to acquiesce. I take the final step. I ask the Board of Higher Education to relieve me of my responsibilities and position. Instead of serving as the lackey of political expediency and fiscal timidity, I want to be free to fight the battles for educational excellence and for freedom and justice and brotherhood.

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# Rockefeller Finalizes Cuts; University Crisis Nearing

By Tom Ackerman

Governor Rockefeller has signed a 1969-70 State budget that retains virtually all the 18 per cent spending cutbacks for the City University which he originally proposed.

The State Legislature, in a hurry-up vote before adjourning for the Easter-Passover holiday, passed the Governor's bill Saturday night. In it the University receives \$90.1 million, most of it subject to matching by the City.

The University's Vice-Chancellor, Robert Birnbaum, said yesterday that "as it stands now the maximum City University budget would be \$225 million." He declared that it would definitely mean "a twenty per cent cut" in any freshman admission increases, or 3500 fewer students than expected.

But the likelihood of an even

smaller freshman class looms large. "The City has told us its share to the University would be closer to \$83 million," Dr. Birnbaum said. This figure, announced in advance, was based on cuts in expected State aid to the City which also were passed by the Legislature.

The State's appropriation for the SEEK program remained at \$5.8 million in the enacted budget, plus a commitment to match any additional sum the City might put up. Mayor Lindsay said prior to the action that the City would not provide any money for SEEK, thus eliminating the possibility of any new

admissions to the program next year.

University and City budget officials are expected to meet before the Legislature reconvenes to pass their supplemental budget. This provides for as yet undetermined matching sums. The hope is to enlarge the City's share before the total State budget is put through.

Vice Chancellor Edward T. Hollander yesterday denied knowledge of a rumored arrangement in the State appropriation that would have allowed more money for SEEK within the overall \$90.1 million sum. "I haven't seen or heard of anything like that yet," he said.

The sole concession, he said, was new legislation requiring the Mayor to submit his budget requests directly to the Governor rather than the Legislature on December 1 of each year. This, he said, would force the Mayor to make a firm spending commitment for the University, something he did not do this year.

## Body Asks Pershing Riflemen To Refuse Anti-Leftist Spying

The national headquarters of Pershing Rifles in a letter to the College chapter has asked the chapter to disregard directives asking them to gather information on "subversive groups" at the College.

The College unit refused last week to comply with the national directive. Colonel Allen F. Leung, Commander of the Eighth Regiment which has headquarters here, said in a reply to the directive that, "this headquarters feels that Pershing Rifles has never been, and should not be, an intelligence arm of any headquarters, whether internal or external."

Michael Eglhof, Vice-President of Eighth Regiment Headquarters, felt that the directive was rescinded because it probably received a great deal of "static" from other headquarters. Eglhof speculated that the directive was "sent out by one of the Junior Staff Officers, who I think was playing spy. When the national commander learned of the incident he squashed the whole thing."

—Brandys

## Davis Chosen Head Of Discipline Group

Prof. Morton Davis (Mathematics) has been appointed acting head of the Student Faculty Disciplinary Committee until a permanent chairman can be chosen to replace Prof. Herbert Nechin (Psychology). Professor Nechin resigned recently after several chaotic meetings of the committee failed to resolve several cases involving students.

Professor Davis will function as chairman only until September 1969, when Nechin's tour of duty ends. He has been a member of the committee for one year.

Professor Davis said that the selection of a permanent chairman for the post would be delayed until the transition from General Faculty to Faculty Senate is complete.

The Faculty Senate, voted into existence by the College faculty last semester as part of Proposal B for campus governance, must still be approved by the Board of Higher Education. He added that he had "been told that there would be no pressure on me" to take the job permanently in September.

Professor Nechin resigned in protest against the Administration's handling of recent discipline cases, according to an article in the February 28 issue of Observation Post. The article said that he "decried actions of the Administration in repeatedly bypassing the committee."

Professor Davis commented that "I don't think it's the most desirable job on campus or the happiest job in the world," but felt that it was "not terribly

time-consuming." He said that of the three faculty members on the committee—Prof. James McDermott (Industrial Arts) and Prof. Paul Karmel (Engineering)—he thought he had been chosen as temporary chairman because "they wanted somebody from liberal arts."

The probable alternative is expulsion of the two Commune members. President Gallagher said at a press conference last week that some action would definitely be taken, but he would not be more specific. He referred the matter to Dean of Students Nicholas Paster, who could not be reached this week.

Steve Schlesinger, president of the Young Republican Club, said that he had met several times with members of the Administration last week and that "the Administration has led us to understand that they are going to take firm action against Steinberg and McGuire for coming back on campus." He said he believed that the students would be rearrested on criminal trespass charges.

Associate Dean of Students

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Over 13,000 students descended on Albany last month to protest cuts in the CUNY budget—apparently to no avail.

## Hofstra Hits Batmen, 4-2

**BULLETIN**  
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y., April 1—The Beaver Nine absorbed its first loss of the season today as fielding miscues and poor clutch hitting led to a 4-2 Hofstra victory.

Starter Barry Poris was the victim of some hard luck as only two of the four Hof-

stra runs were earned. The Beavers left 13 runners stranded on the bases. Team Captain Bobby Nanes and Poris, hitting in the third and fourth spots, failed to hit in four combined trips to the plate in the seventh and ninth innings, each time with runners on base.

## Klein and ROTC Protesters Face Discipline and Criminal Charges

By George Murrell

Criminal trespass charges may be filed by the Administration against suspended students Jeff Steinberg and Ron McGuire for repeatedly appearing on campus during their suspensions, The Campus learned yesterday.



DEAN JAMES S. PEACE

James S. Peace said Friday that the Student Faculty Disciplinary Committee was a "lame duck body" until the Faculty Senate is elected and appoints four new members to the committee, including a chairman.

The Young Republicans appealed to the Administration to expel Steinberg and McGuire for disrupting registration and for breaking into Dean Peace's office, spilling ox blood on his desk.

This week Schlesinger accused Dean Paster of "stalling" attempts to take action against radical students.

"It's known that Paster has been bending over backwards to appease the radicals, and his credibility has declined among the student body. The more conservative students don't trust him," remarked Schlesinger.

Schlesinger charged that Dean Paster tried to blackmail the Young Republicans into canceling the visit of an Air Force recruiter scheduled to visit the College in February.

He said that after Dean Paster found out the recruiters were

coming he was called to the Dean's office. Dean Paster there told him, alleged Schlesinger, that unless the Young Republicans canceled the invitation all recruitment would be stopped at the College.

The invitation was not canceled but shortly after his meeting with Dean Paster Schlesinger received a letter from the Air Force suggesting that interviews be rescheduled for early March.

Student Senator Bill Anderman said he took three dozen snapshots of McGuire and Steinberg on campus last week and had submitted them to Dean Peace. He also said that he had approached a number of students who were willing to testify that McGuire and Steinberg were on campus.

He also expressed distrust of Dean Paster: "I don't trust Dean Paster. I really don't think he'd take any action."

Anderman, who is also Vice President of the Young Republicans, said yesterday that representatives of the Navy and the Air Force would be invited to the campus this semester but that few people would know about it because "we don't know who to trust."



BILL ANDERMAN