

NEWS

The Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington 98505 866-6128

for immediate release

April 17, 1974

An eleven-person evaluation team representing the Commission on Higher Schools of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools will visit The Evergreen State College April 29, 30 and May 1 to complete consideration of the institution's application for full accreditation.

Following the three-day visit, the evaluation team will draft a report about Evergreen and then forward its recommendations regarding accreditation to a June 18-20 meeting of the Association. A final decision on full accreditation is expected during that meeting, according to Dr. James F. Bemis, Executive Director of the Commission on Higher Schools.

Evergreen in 1971 received its Candidacy for Accreditation, making college credits transferable and recognized by various educational and governmental agencies associated with higher education. The process now under way, if successful, will lead to technical, formal accreditation.

Normally, new institutions don't receive formal accreditation until their fourth full year of operation or until they have graduated a class of students who have been enrolled since the college or university opened. In Evergreen's case, the accrediting association--which covers institutions of higher learning in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Alaska--advanced the process a full year.

The Reverend Paul E. Waldschmidt, President of the University of Portland, will

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Dick Nichols, Director
Information Services

serve as chairman of the accreditation team visiting Evergreen and will also evaluate the college's administrative organization and operations. Other team members and their areas of evaluation include:

Dr. Joseph Axelrod, Professor of Humanities and Comparative Literature at San Francisco State University (social and natural sciences); Dr. Aldon D. Bell, Director of the Office of Undergraduate Studies at the University of Washington (general liberal arts and sciences); Dr. A. Carter Broad, Professor of Biology at Western Washington State College (biological and physical sciences); Dr. Virginia P. Frobos, Professor of Psychology at the University of Utah (student personnel services); Dr. Clarence Gorchels, Director of the Library at Oregon College of Education (library).

Robert Jarecke, Director of Instructional Materials at California State University at Sacramento (communications and media); Dr. Arthur Kreisman, Dean of Arts and Sciences at Southern Oregon College (humanities and natural sciences); Dr. Terry F. Lunsford, Academic Director of the Field Studies Program at the University of California at Berkeley (humanities and social sciences); Dr. Arnold D. Pickar, Professor of Physics at Portland State University (biological, physical, social and natural sciences); and Dr. Bemis, ex-officio member.

Evergreen staff, faculty, and students have spent the last four months preparing a detailed institutional self-study in accordance with guidelines established by the accrediting association. The 255-page study, covering all aspects of the college's academic, business, and service operations, provides the primary document from which the evaluation team will work.

In addition to reading, evaluating, and discussing the self-study, team members also will conduct thorough personal investigations of Evergreen's entire operation during the three-day visit. That process will involve personal interviews with faculty, students, and staff; visitations to academic program activities; and observation of all other institutional functions.