Wisner Named President

Wiesner Named President

MIT Provost Jerome Bert Wiesner will be named the thirteenth president of MIT today, according to highly reliable sources.

His name will be recommended to the Corporation at its quarterly meeting, scheduled for 10:00 this morning. Wiesner was the unanimous choice of both the faculty committee on the presidency and the Corporation Joint Advisory Committee, and was approved by the Corporation Committee on the Presidency, chaired by James Fisk, a Corporation director.

His name was cleared through Administration and Corporation channels last week.

Wiesner will take office when current President Howard Johnson officially resigns in June of this year.

A special faculty meeting is being called at the request of the President, and will be held in Kresge Auditorium at 12:30 today. The Faculty Council will meet briefly prior or after the full faculty meeting. They are set for an 11:35 meeting in the Emery Brides Room.

The Corporation meeting will be rescheduled for the afternoon at 2:00 pm and the Alumni Association Board of Directors will meet at 5:30 at the Faculty Club.

Dr. Wiesner became Provost on July 1, 1969, and his current duties are as the senior academic officer reporting to the President. He also has responsibility for the interdisciplinary activities of the Institute's five schools.

Dr. Wiesner returned to MIT in 1964, after having been Special Assistant for Science and Technology to the President of the United States for three years. On his return, he became Dean of the School of Science and was responsible for seven academic departments - Biology, Chemistry, Geology and Geophysics, Mathematics, Meteorology, Nutrition and Food Science and Physics.

Prior to his appointment by President Kennedy, Wiesner was Director of the Research Laboratory of Electronics, one of the largest interdisciplinary laboratories at MIT. Wiesner is fifty-five years old, and hails from Detroit, Michigan.

Secretaries have answered Wiesner's name for the last week, and no students were told of the Faculty Committee's decision. A press conference to announce both his selection and the official appointment of Paul Gray is tentatively set for 1:30 this afternoon in room 37-252. A conference for student campus press has also been read- set for 4:00 this afternoon.

Both Johnson and Wiesner are expected to address the faculty this noontime, but it is not known whether or not the candidates will be permitted to attend the meeting. Presumably, the intent was to keep the faculty first, and then hold the news conference an hour later, so the meeting may be closed.

Reportedly, Wiesner will answer questions at the faculty meeting and the press conference, and will outline at that time what he sees as the real educational challenges on which he would like to work.

Gray selected chancellor

Jerome Wiesner, new MIT President

George Paul Edward Gray has been named Chancellor of MIT, a newly designated position.

Professor Gray's duties will include fund-raising, working on innovative ways to improve undergraduate education and student-faculty contact, especially during the student's final two undergraduate years. Additionally, he will be responsible for expanding educational opportunities for blacks and other disadvantaged minority groups.

Gray has been considered a leader in educational reform and curriculum development. Gray is presently Dean of the School of Engineering, a post he assumed in January of this year. His predecessor, Professor Raymond Bumpilhoff, resigned to become the Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation.

Prior to becoming Dean of Engineering, Gray was Associate Provost under president-elect Jerome Wiesner. In this capacity, he served as Wiesner's assistant and as administration spokesman during the occupation of the President's office.

A great deal of speculation surrounds Paul Gray during these early days of the search for Howard Johnson's successor.

Many felt that Gray was removed from consideration for further promotion for some time when he assumed the post of Engineering Dean. His appointment as Chancellor strikes some observers as an expression of the Corporation's confidence in the Wiesner-Grey administrative team.

Gray is an authority on communication electronics and circuit theory. He is also the author of a widely used textbook on the subject. He received his S.B. in 1954, M.S. in 1955, and his Sc.D. in 1960, all from MIT.