

Winter 1991

Columbia College Chicago

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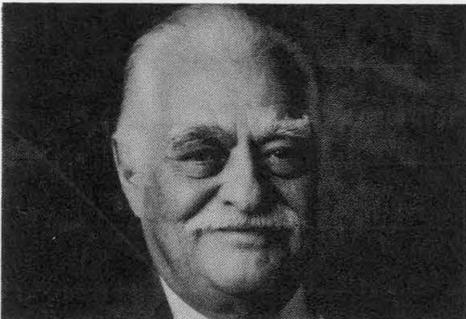


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Mike Alexandroff

Columbia President Mike Alexandroff to Retire Next Year

Mike Alexandroff, president of Columbia College, will retire as of August 1992. Alexandroff, during whose 30-year presidency the college has acquired a national reputation for innovative education and has grown from under 200 to nearly 7,000 students, will continue to play an active advisory role in retirement.

"The Columbia we know -- unique and remarkable institution that it is -- would not exist were it not for the vision and energy Mike has provided," said board of trustees chairman Alton B. Harris in announcing Alexandroff's decision. A national search for a successor will be conducted by a committee which will include representatives of the college's board of trustees, administration and faculty, he said.

Arguably the fastest growing college in America, Columbia has enjoyed a 3,900 percent enrollment increase since 1964. Enrollment grew nearly 5 percent in 1990, compared to a national average gain of 1-3 percent. The college is the fifth largest among Illinois private colleges and universities and third in numbers of Illinois residents.

"With the retirement of Mike Alexandroff, higher education in Illinois is losing one of its most respected leaders," said DePaul University president Rev. John T. Richardson. "The development of Columbia College into a major educational force in the Chicago area can be attributed directly to its retiring president."

Richard P. Rosser, president of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, praised Alexandroff as "one of the most innovative college presidents in the country" and Illinois College president Donald C. Munding called him "a college president's president...a pioneer of the urban college."

"Mike's vision and energy have fueled the development of a unique institution. His leadership in Illinois higher education will be deeply missed," said Dick Wagner, executive director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

"In the early 1960s I couldn't have imagined Columbia's present scale," said Alexandroff. "I can claim only some early inspirations which enlisted the energies and talents of many others. Columbia is, in fact, a shared possession which enjoys the renewing vitality of students."

Columbia Awarded \$2.5 Million Grant

Columbia College has been awarded a \$2.5 million Title III Grant by the U.S. Department of Education which will help the college continue its expansion into the 1990s. The five-year grant, which breaks down to almost \$500,000 a year, will help pay for growth in a number of key areas including institutional research, development of academic programs, a library slide index system and an alumni information system.

"This is a very exciting day for Columbia College," said Dr. Lya Dym Rosenblum, vice president of academic affairs. "By supplementing other college resources with these funds, we can lay the foundations for our development over the next decade."

The grant will enable Columbia to develop a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program which will stress the development of the college's distinctive pedagogical methods. In addition, the college plans to make substantial improvements in its innovative computer graphics and sound engineering programs.



The Center for Black Music Research is one of the beneficiaries of the Title III Grant. Shown here: The Black Music Repertory Ensemble.

Faculty and Administrative Changes

The college relations and development department had two major changes in late 1990: **Nicholaas Van Hevelingen** was appointed the department's vice president. Formerly a member of Columbia's Board of Trustees, he began his new post in September.

The department also appointed a new director of college relations: **Carol Bryant**, previously senior vice president of Porter/Novelli Public Relations, came to Columbia in November. The college was a client of the agency in 1990.

Susan Padveen joined Columbia's theater/music department as the new director of audience development. Padveen was previously director of education and community programs at the International Theater Festival of Chicago.



Susan Padveen

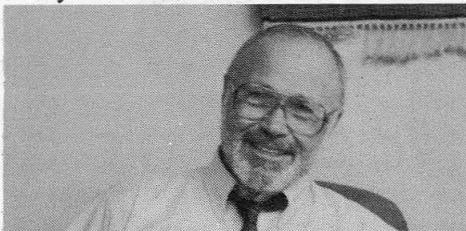
Ron Boyd became a full-time faculty member of the television department this semester. Boyd, who formerly taught part-time, was creative service manager for Hysan Corporation of Illinois.

In Columbia's placement office, **Jan Grekoff** was promoted to assistant director of placement. She was formerly the college's placement coordinator for journalism, writing, management and marketing communication students.

Faculty and Administrative Updates

Dr. Samuel Floyd, academic dean of student affairs, was listed in the Chicago Tribune's 1990 "annual honor roll of artists who brightened the year." The Tribune picked 20 Chicagoland persons "all of whom fulfilled the requirements of having enjoyed unusual advances and recognition in their respective fields during the past year." Floyd was chosen for his devotion to and success with Columbia's Center for Black

Music Research and the Black Music Repertory Ensemble.



Phil Klukoff

Philip Klukoff, chairperson of Columbia's English department, will present his proposal "Institutionalizing Outreach: The Urban University of the 1990s" at the 9th International Conference on New Concepts in Higher Education in Budapest this June. In the paper's opening remarks, Klukoff states that "the urban university of the 1990s must define itself as a service university in the largest and best sense of the word, as an urban center whose constituency is the metropolitan area it serves."

Anthony Loeb, chairperson for the department of film and video, returned to Moscow in February to begin co-production on a documentary focusing on the culture and personality of the USSR from the perspective of Soviet women. He will be working in collaboration with VGIK, the Soviet National Film School. The collaboration is part of an exchange in which the Soviets will come to Chicago in the fall to produce a film with corresponding themes and viewpoints.

John Mulvany, chairperson of the photography and art department, recently received substantial funding from the Eastman Kodak Company for the traveling exhibition "Irving Penn: Master Images." Kodak contributed \$10,000 to the exhibit which will be at Columbia's Museum of Contemporary Photography March 30 thru May 25.

Mary M. Badger, producing director of the theater/music department, became the producing director of the American Blues Theatre in September. Badger was also elected president of the League of Chicago Theaters.

Bill Linehan, director of computer graphic arts, was a participant in Prix Ars Electronica, an annual international computer art show in Linz, Austria. He submitted two pieces which combined 2D and 3D imaging with photography.

Last February and August **Michael Rabiger**, director of the Documentary Center, went to Norway to give seminars for documentarians and film educators. He has been invited to teach at the Australian

National Film and TV School this year. In 1992 the second edition of Rabiger's text Directing the Documentary is due out. This book, considered the leading text in its field, will also appear in Spanish and German.

In a feature article in The Black Collegian (Nov./Dec. 90 issue) titled "The African-American Press Challenge to Young People," **Les Brownlee**, professor in Columbia's journalism department, is cited as a model for young people aspiring to journalism careers: "With such a rich background, Brownlee brings views on journalism or communications as a career for young African-Americans that command respect."

Dan Dinello, a film and video department teacher and independent filmmaker, recently released his video titled "Chicago Beat." The video is a compilation of two of Dinello's earlier films, "Rock Lobster" and "Radioactive Love."

Two Columbia faculty members are recipients of the 1991 Illinois Arts Council Artists Fellowship Awards: **Jan Erkert**, faculty member of the Dance Center, received a \$10,000 grant for her outstanding contributions to the field of choreography, and **William Frederking**, instructor in Columbia's photography and art department, received a \$5,000 grant for excellence in the field of photography.

Carol Loverde, artist-in-residence in the music department, is working on a compact disc of 19th and 20th century French and Italian art songs with accompanist John Wustman.



Jan Erkert and Dancers

Departmental Update

The academic advising department has been selected as the Outstanding Private Institutional Advising Program for 1990 by the American College Testing/National Academic Advising Association (ACT/NACADA). The award is given in recognition of innovative and/or exemplary practices that have resulted in the improvement of academic advising services, according to Wesley R. Habley, the director of the ACT assessment program.



The annual Class Bash sponsored by the academic advising department.

The art department's publication design class received a rare honor last semester when Lake Forest Graduate School of Management asked the class to design the cover of its 1991 catalog/viewbook. "We contacted a number of schools and Columbia was by far the most cooperative," said Faith Hasler, director of communications at Lake Forest. "They also have the best reputation for graphic arts of any college in the area." The art students created 18 different designs for the grad school to choose from. "It took forever for us to decide on a winner," said Hasler. "We were definitely overwhelmed by the quality of the entries."

The Dance Center is sponsoring a Choreographers' Mentor Project during the spring semester. Columbia faculty members Shirley Mordine, Jan Erkert and Nana Shineflug, along with other Chicago choreographers, will work with local choreographers challenging them to expand talents. The culmination of the project are concerts on June 6, 7 and 8.

Fiction writing department faculty John Schultz (chair), Betty Shiflett and Randall Albers took part in the 80th annual convention of the National Council of Teachers of English in Atlanta last November. They presented "Voicing the Image," a videotape of speaking-writing relationships in a Story Workshop composition class.

The Museum Of Contemporary Photography broke new ground last September when it hosted The Chicago Photographic Print Fair. It was the first exposition of its kind in the Midwest, featuring seventeen national dealers and galleries as well as seminars on photographic collection. The three-day fair brought to Columbia approximately 600 photo buffs.

In December, The Myron Hokin Student Center was the site of the third annual Celebracion/Karamu, a year-end, multicultural arts festival featuring local and national African-American and Hispanic-American folk singers, dancers, story tellers and theatrical groups. The crowds that turned out for the eight-day event made it a smashing success.

Last fall the placement office (with the special help of art and photography placement coordinator Tim Long) rewrote and produced A Guide To Writing a Resume and Cover Letter. The new and improved 20-page handbook, full of illustrations and examples, is available to all Columbia students.

Beginning February 1, the television department's student-produced soap opera, "Behind The Screen," was syndicated by U-NET, a national network of 128 college and university television stations. U-NET has a total potential audience of over 7 million.



An episode from "Behind the Screen" starring Norman Mark.

The Albert P. Weisman Center for the Study of Chicago Journalism opened in the college library last October, dedicated to the memory of the well-known Chicago publicitor and newsman who devoted much of his time to aspiring young communicators. The center houses print, broadcast and photographic works of Chicago journalists. Columbia students are encouraged to examine its collections.

Student Update

Documentary Center student Tom Almada won best documentary award in the Illinois Film Festival last June with "Chicago House: A Community Together." The piece was about a hospice for men with AIDS.

Television department major Valerie Battiest was chosen by Columbia as a Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate. Every year, an outstanding senior from each four-year, degree-granting institution of higher learning in Illinois is awarded a Lincoln Academy certificate. She and the other Student Laureates were chosen and honored for their overall excellence in curricular and extracurricular endeavors. Among her many activities, Battiest is the producer of "Kicking It," a music video rap show which recently aired on WMAQ-TV.

Documentary Center student Jon Letchinger's documentary "Cisco Kids" aired on Cable TV and on Channel 11's "The Nineties." The piece was based on interviews Jon had done with San Francisco earthquake survivors.

Another Documentary student, Diane Weyermann, had her documentary portrait "Eddie's Chaconne" recently aired on Channel 11's "Image Union." The piece about a Spanish Civil War veteran who was also a pianist, artist and poet won Weyermann a regional Emmy award.

Journalism student Muriel Whetstone was selected to receive the first Playboy Fellowship Award in magazine journalism. "Muriel's personality and character are right up there with her GPA," said Nat Lehrman, chair of the journalism department. The Playboy Fellowship in magazine journalism provides stipends to encourage minority students to pursue careers in journalism.

Special Events

Brent Musburger of ABC Sports key-noted the Chicago Communications luncheon last November benefitting Columbia's Albert P. Weisman Scholarship Fund. Twenty-four Columbia students were honored as recipients of the scholarship given for excellence in communications-related projects. Print, media and advertising professionals filled the Marriott ballroom where Musburger conducted a question-and-answer speech that had even the sports enthusiasts captivated. Nearly 400 guests attended.



Musburger kidding with "Kup" at the Chicago Communications Luncheon.

Two weeks later, the tenth John Fischetti Scholarship Dinner was held, honoring Columbia's 21 John Fischetti Scholarship recipients who were recognized for their outstanding achievement as journalism students. Also that evening the Fischetti Editorial Cartoon Competition winners were announced. The eight finalists and first- and second-place winners selected from across the nation were presented during the dinner in a video produced by Columbia's own: the piece was shot and directed by Ed Morris and his TV dept. and scripted by Nick Shuman, journalism dept. faculty member, with voice-over by Al Parker, radio dept. chair. After dining and awards, Mort Sahl, social critic and comedian, entertained the 400-plus crowd.



Warm hellos among Mike Alexandroff, Nat Lehrman, journalism dept. chair, and Mort Sahl at the John Fischetti Scholarship Dinner.

New Trustees

Three new trustees joined Columbia's board this year: **Martin R. Binder**, director of the Regional Transportation Authority, **Camille C. Hatzembuehler**, past president of the Chicago Public Library Board, and **Joe Silverberg**, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Bigsby & Kruthers, Inc. As trustees, they will participate in college budgeting, fundraising, long-term capital planning, and development and implementation of institutional programs.

In Memoriam

Columbia will fondly remember three of its faculty members who died in 1990:

Harry Bouras, 59, taught in Columbia's art department for 25 years. He was also a well-known artist and hosted WFMT's "Art and Artists." Bouras' paintings and sculptures are in permanent collections in Chicago's Art Institute.

Former Columbia professor **Robert Edmonds**, 76, was a scholar and documentary filmmaker of international reputation. He wrote such textbooks as Writing It Right, Script Writing for Audio Visual Media, Sights and Sounds and Cinema and Anthropology on Film. Edmonds came to the college in the 1950s.

Michael R. Cuttie, vice president of the design firm Janet Schirn Associates, Inc., was an interior design instructor at Columbia. Cuttie, 38, had his work featured in Chicago newspapers and design magazines. He was noted for his social concerns as well as his talents.

GRANTS, GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

Columbia College continues to receive contributions from a variety of sources. Following is a description of grants, gifts and bequests of \$1,000 and above received from September 1, 1990 through December 31, 1990.

Estate of Florence M. Barnes, \$30,000 "Florence M. Barnes Endowment Fund," the interest to be used by the College where needed, including student support.

Dayton Hudson Foundation on behalf of Marshall Field's, **\$15,000** "Career Beginnings," a program for at-risk high school students.

Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, \$2,000 Theater/Music general operating support.

Eastman Kodak Co., Professional Photography Div., \$10,000 Museum of Contemporary Photography "Irving Penn" exhibit.

Ernst & Young, \$1,000 General operating support.

Dwight W. Follett, \$5,000 General operating support.

Ford Foundation, \$50,000 Center for Black Music Research to process the archival works of three individuals.

GATX, \$2,500 Institutional internship program.

Greyhound Dial Corporation, \$2,000 Greyhound Dial Corporation Scholarship.

Celia Hammerman, \$1,000 Sol and Celia Hammerman Endowed Scholarship in broadcasting.

Harris Associates, LP, \$2,500 General operating support.

Illinois Bell, \$6,000 General operating support.

Illinois Humanities Council, \$4,140 Museum of Contemporary Photography "Open Spain/Espana Abierta Project."

The Joyce Foundation, \$20,201 Center for Black Music Research promotion and marketing of the center's services.

Links Foundation, \$20,000 Center for Black Music Research performance ensemble.

Enid and John Long, \$1,000 Sol and Celia Hammerman Endowed Scholarship in broadcasting.

Hope McCormick, \$1,000 General operating support.

Northern Trust Company, \$5,000 "Career Beginnings," a program for at-risk high school students.

Nutrasweet, Inc., \$2,000 "Career Beginnings," a program for at-risk high school students.

Dempsey J. Travis, \$1,000 Center for Black Music Research general operating support.

Lenore Wexler, \$10,000 Lurie Fine Arts Library.

Class Notes

Kim Acoff, '85, has started her own company, Acoff Avenue Films and would like to hear from other film alumni...**Jack Ardell, '86**, would like to hear from fellow alums interested in putting together an American Folk Art Gallery...**Darryl E. Bellis, '86**, is the sales account executive for WYHY-TV, the #1 contemporary hit radio station in Nashville, TN...**C. Mitchell Bible, '78**, opened Lightworks Ltd., a full service commercial and portrait studio in Portsmouth, NH...**Magic Bottari, '89**, is performing in Steppenwolf's production of "Romeo & Juliet"...**Danelle Browe, '90**, is working at

Pioneer's office in Barrington, IL...**Catura Burnett, '83**, has formed her own real estate company, Burnett Corp. Group...**Philip Caldwell, '88**, recently completed the studio recording of his latest songwriting/performance work entitled "Blackbird"...**Joe Cassady, '81**, has been promoted to music director and programming assistant at "The New Mix 102"...**John Ciszek, '76**, has been promoted to editorial coordinator of McDonald's creative services television...**Margaret Cole, '90**, has joined the Atlanta-based Phoenix Dance Company and also teaches modern dance at the Southeastern Dance Studio...**Karen Cooper-Conorqui, '74**, is vice president and ac-

count supervisor at E. Morris Ltd., a recently formed advertising, sales promotion and special events marketing agency...**Angelique Creer, '90**, is a reporter for the Metropolitan Times in TN...**Kurt Dressel, '74**, recently left the Dupont Co. to become vice president of sales for Dainippon Screen Co. He will

also be relocating to the Chicago area...**Eric Fuller, '89**, received an award for a poem that appeared in Great Poems of the Western World...**Joe Friedman's, '83**, 20-year novel is in its 10th year and he would like to hear from old English/Poetry classmates...**Irene Goldstein Gordon, '20**, recently received an A.B. degree from the community college in Petoskey, MI. She's now studying speech and contemporary literature...**William A.J. Golomski, '87**, has been elected to the Board of Overseers for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award...**Lorraine Harrell, '84**, received the '89 McDonald's National Literary award in poetry and has written spec scripts for "Twilight Zone" and "Married with Children." She is currently working on her first novel and freelances for the Chicago Tribune...**Mary Hogan Camp, '82**, is living in Vancouver, teaching photography and exhibiting her work regularly...**Peggy Imig, '89**, is the series coordinator/operations manager at Columbia's Dance Center...**Rita Jelionis, '80**, is a studio manager for David Puffer Photo, Inc...**Stacey Jensen, '90**, is the resource librarian for Perkins & Will...**Jeff Justman, '75**, was recently published in "Popular Folk Music Today"...**Beth Kathan, '89**, hosts "The Pulse", a local cable music show on channel 50...**Betsy Kennedy, '86**, won the 1990 Zonta Club of Kankakee Leadership Award in IN...**Richard Lange, '85**, received one of ten \$5,000 NEA Arts Midwest Fellowships for painting...**Adam Langer's, '90**, one-act melodrama "Backstage Pass" opened in January at Playwrights' Center...**Lynette Law, '88**, has relocated to Anaheim, CA to do movement, drama and video projects with mentally retarded persons at Hope University...**Dan Liss, '71**, is editor of The Village Writer Magazine, which features unpublished poetry, fiction, non-fiction and novel excerpts...**Jay McFadden, '90**, is a photojournalist for WREX-TV, an ABC affiliate in Rockford, IL...**Paul M. Martinez, '87**, is the media coordinator for LaGrange Memorial Hospital...**Melody Miller, '88**, has January exhibits at Outtakes and the Blue Island Library...**Kirby Mittelmeier, '84**, is pursuing an MA in

English to teach English as a second language. She is also an artist-in-residence with Arizona Commission on the Arts...**Tracy Moore, '79**, is an acquiring editor for The Oryx Press, a Phoenix-based reference information publisher...**R.W. Munchkin, '77**, is producing a feature film entitled "Diva Las Vegas", which just began on-site production in December...**Allyn Nehls, '65**, is currently the 4 PM Eyewitness News director for WLS-TV, Chicago...**Jimmy Nge, '82**, left broadcasting and advertising to work with Harcourt Brace Jovanovich Publishing...



Rockford, IL alums. Left to right, front row: Lora Whisenant, '88, Marcella Raymond, '87, Jennifer Tragas, '88. Back row: Fred Speer, '57, Jay McFadden, '90.

Ron Noble, '79, is district health sales manager for American Service Life Insurance Co...**James Nonneman, '86**, opened a commercial photography studio in Chicago specializing in people and fashion...**Cary Odes, '78**, in addition to doing stand-up comedy, has written the short science-fiction, award-winning film "The Follower" which appeared at the Chicago Film Festival...**Linda Olson, '78**, went to Washburne Trade School for a 2-year chef training program and is currently the pastry chef at the Rust Belt Cafe...**Christine Packard-Manory, '85**, does freelance P.R. for Highland Park Hospital...**Tom Phillips, '81**, is an ENG photographer and videotape editor for NBC affiliate WCSH-TV in Portland, ME...**Marcella Raymond, '87**, is a producer and newswriter at WTVO-TV, an NBC affiliate in Rockford, IL...**H. Scott Robinson, '90**, has a photo exhibit in February at Outtakes...**Mukul Roy, '81**, exhibited her work entitled "Asian Indians in Chicago" at the East Gallery of the Chicago Public Library Cultural Center...**Suzanne Schei, '89**, is the marketing manager for a manufacturer of industrial maintenance equipment...**Tamara Sellman, '90**, is publisher/editor of Cornucopia, a free recipe exchange newsletter...**Kevin Shine's, '90**, production company created "Pulling The Lever Is Clever," a rap encouraging citizens to get out and vote...**Charlotte Shure,**

'86, works for the Chicago Music Alliance...**Dave Silbar, '90**, assistant sports editor for the Suburban Times, has been chosen Media Writer of the Year by the East Suburban Catholic Conference's soccer teams...**Miriam Solon, '75 & '83**, is a member of a Ko-Kyo Taiko (Japanese drum) troupe and is also finishing a book of essays and poems, "I Am Descended From Bears"...**Pamela Solon-Boyer, '87**, is the United Nations representative for Women for International Peace & Arbitration. She attended the first Sino-American conference on women's issues in Beijing

this summer, and is currently applying to law school...**Fred Speer, '57**, is celebrating 31 years as a newsman for WROK-AM and WZOK-FM in Rockford, IL...**Nancy Rae Stone, '79**, is an independent producer and recently completed a feature film entitled "Femme Fatale" starring Colin Firth...**Nancy Teinowitz, '81**, did the choreography for "Carousel" (Chicago Opera Theatre) and "Annie" (Drury Lane)...**Dave Tipton, '80**, has returned to Chicago after three years as general sales manager of KMGT-TV in Hawaii, to join Sportschannel as an account executive...**Lydia Tomkiw, '86**, member of Algebra Suicide, recently released "Alpha Cue," their seventh recorded collection of a blend of poetry and electronic music...**Jennifer Tragas, '88**, is a production assistant at WREX-TV...**David Weil, '75**, is the manager of media services for Northwestern Memorial Hospital...**Michelle Weinberg, '85**, is in her 2nd year of law school at IIT-Chicago Kent. She is also producing a video for Chicago Volunteer Legal Services...**Lora Whisenant, '88**, is the producer of "23 in the Morning" at WIFR-TV, a CBS affiliate in Rockford, IL...**Marylene Whitehead's, '85**, play "A House Divided" had a successful run at Chicago's ETA Theater...**Darnell Williams, '87**, is a digital designer for Symbolics Inc...

What's News with You?

Everyone wants to know, so drop us a line today! Black and white photos suitable for reproduction are welcome. Use the coupon below for change of address, too. Deadline for next issue is May 1, 1991. Check box if this is a change of address.

The Columbia College Alumni Association is pleased to announce the Columbia College Alumni Association Memorial Fund Book Awards. The fund will provide \$100 grants to at least one freshman, sophomore, junior and senior each year to help defray the cost of books and supplies. The annual awards will be based on merit, need, student motivation and record of academic achievement at Columbia College.

Funding for the awards will come from a challenge gift of \$1,500 pledged by the Columbia College Alumni Association board members.

Gifts can be sent to: Alumni Memorial Fund, 600 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60605-1996.

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