

## Memo from the President

# ● TSU and Peabody Clarified

Recently, the leadership of Tennessee State University, the State Board of Regents, and George Peabody College for Teachers have been discussing a proposal that would consolidate academic programs of the two institutions. The proposal essentially entailed the creation of a college of education within Tennessee State University's academic units. The consolidation will avail a wide variety of programs in education leading to a doctorate degree. As a result of these discussions, the Board staff will submit to the State Board of Regents for their March 9th meeting a proposal to consolidate George Peabody College for Teachers into our School of Education. This proposal presents some enormous benefits for both institutions, while allowing Tennessee State University to continue its long standing mission and acquire the capacity to offer doctoral degrees and provide broader services to the State of Tennessee.

As many of you know, George Peabody College for Teachers has had, and continues to have, a fine record of achievements in education. They have trained many of the nations teachers, public school officials and higher education administrators. Their reputation for quality in teacher education, we believe, is unsurpassed in this country. On the other hand, our School of Education has achieved a similar statue in education by providing access to education for many blacks and other minorities. Missions of both institutions are similar and by consolidating the two programs Tennessee State University will be able to provide a full range of educational programs in teacher education including terminal degree offerings.

For more than a year we have been researching and looking into ways in which we could offer a Ph.D. degree in education to residents of Middle Tennessee. This was culminated last year when a proposal, which was earlier approved by the State Board of Regents, was submitted to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) for their approval. As many of you know we did not receive approval for the program from THEC because Peabody College already offered the terminal degree. Discussion about a consolidation with Peabody evolved out of our discus-

sions for a Tennessee State University doctorate degree.

Six areas of the proposal which are very important and highlight our rational for supporting the idea, are as follows:

1. By consolidating the Ph.D. at George Peabody College for Teachers, Tennessee State University will have access to Ph.D. programs which will allow us to offer low cost public education at levels which have been denied black and other minorities. Cost has been a serious factor for blacks and other minorities entering Ph.D. programs and, should George Peabody College become a part of Tennessee State University

this will free up cost as a factor. Moreover, the consolidation will allow Tennessee State University to serve better the total Nashville and Middle Tennessee communities.

2. The acquisition of George Peabody College for Teachers will certainly change the decision makers' perspective of the future role of Tennessee State University.

3. The acquisition of Ph.D. programs clears the way for Tennessee State University to grant the terminal degree as well as provide the springboard for development of professional schools.

4. The acquisition will provide for

*(Continued on Page 4)*



FEBRUARY 21, 1979



The Nashville Symphony will be presented in concert, Sunday, February 25, at 3:00 p.m. in the Administration Building Auditorium. Featured in the program will be Charlene Harb McDonald, Pianist and University faculty member in the Music department (shown above)—Admission is free.

## Bobby Jones

# Music Is His Business! Movies Too!

The setting is Sunday in the South in the 1950's. The scene is a black church in Montgomery, Alabama. The voice heard belongs to TSU's instructor of reading, Bobby Jones, as he leads the gospel group, "New Life," in the spiritual, "Great Getting up Morning."

Viewers throughout the nation will witness this scene in May when NBC broadcasts the movie, "Sisters." The film was written and directed by Maya Angelou.

An appearance on national television marks a new plateau for Jones and New Life, a group that also has close ties to TSU. Three members are currently affiliated with the University. Percussionist Tommy Davis is an instructor of music education here; singer Robert Douglas is employed in Tutorial Services and singer Diane Doss is a student. A fourth New Life member, Harold Finch, is a TSU graduate.

The movie appearance by Jones and New Life grew out of the Basic Skills Conference sponsored by TSU last Spring.

"The Department of Reading brought Maya Angelou here for the conference," Jones said. "We had used her books in teaching reading."

While here, Miss Angelou heard Jones and New Life. "It was almost like an instant admiration," he said.

Two months later, the singers appeared in concert in Los Angeles. Maya Angelou did some readings during the concert, as did Abbey Lincoln, Raymond St. Jacques and several other actors and actresses.

Miss Angelou then selected Jones and New Life to act as the choir in her movie, "Sisters." The film is the story of three black sisters who follow different paths to middle-class living. It stars Diahann Carroll, Rosalind Cash and Irene Chunn, who also appears in "Roots II." Dick Anthony Williams, Paul Winfield, Alvin Childress and Florence Williams also appear. Childress played "Amos" in the television show "Amos 'n' Andy." The movie is directed by John Berry and John Berry, Jr.

Jones and the other singers filmed their part in January. Shooting was in historic Old Ship A.M.E. Church in Montgomery. The singers will be seen during the first part of the movie.

While the movie appearance is a plateau, it is no resting place for Jones and New Life.

"Tentative plans are for us to appear on some of the NBC talk shows to promote the movie," Jones said.

"We are also scheduled for concerts in Liberia in July and Paris in August."

They will continue to star in the "Nashville Gospel" show, which is broadcast at 9 a.m. Sundays on WS M-TV.

As Jones becomes more widely known as a musician, he has not neglected his educational development. He is on leave from the University this year to work on his doctorate in education at Peabody College. His dissertation is entitled "The Need for Multi-Cultural Education in Teacher Training Institutions." Jones said he believes gospel music is a unique part of black culture that must be preserved. He envisions New Life as an institution that contributes to the

preservation and popularization of gospel music.

In addition to his major commitments to New Life and to education, Jones is the host and producer of "Symposia" which is shown at 7 p.m. Tuesdays and 1:30 p.m. Sundays on WDCN. He is president of Black Expo which will be the third week in April, a member of the National Board of Directors of In-Roads, Inc., a committee member of Nashville's Century III, director of the Ebony Gospel Awards and a member of Temple Baptist Church.

When Bobby Jones was a boy in Paris, Tenn., he thought of being a singer or a teacher. As he approaches age 41, he has been teaching for 20 years, including six years at TSU. His stars as a singer and as a teacher appear to be rising.



## New Features

Beginning with the February 26th edition, ACCENT will start two new features.

The first can be seen on the front page and feature questions posed to the president by friends, faculty, staff and students. We are asking if you have any questions you would

like to ask the president, to answer, call or write the office of Public Relations. Your answer will appear in subsequent ACCENTS.

The second feature will highlight employees of the University who will be retiring this semester. Each story will profile the person retiring. This series will begin March 5.

# Merger Update

JAMES E. HANEY, Coordinator of Merger

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The *Plan For The Merger* of TSU and UTN gives the Sub-Committee on Academic Personnel Policies the responsibility of reviewing, among other things, the tenure policies at Tennessee State University and The University of Tennessee at Nashville. In fulfilling this charge the sub-committee undertook an investigation of the tenure policies of the two institutions. The purpose was to provide sub-committee members with a data base to use in their final Report to the Executive Review Committee and the Chancellor.

The sub-committee found that procedures affecting the tenure policies of both institutions were spelled out in their respective faculty handbooks. This served as a basis for the tenure procedures which the sub-committee proposed as part of the Faculty Handbook for the expanded TSU.

In general, the University of Tennessee at Nashville followed the tenure guidelines adopted by the UT Board of Trustees in June, 1971. "Tenure shall be granted only through positive action. No person shall attain or be granted tenure at the time of initial appointment or thereafter except on the approval of the appropriate department Chairman, Dean, Academic Vice-Chancellor, Chancellor, or the President of the University, and the Board of Trustees. Tenure, after approval by the Board of Trustees, shall become effective when confirmed in writing by the Chancellor. Tenure normally is "not granted until the individual has completed at least one academic year at UTN, regardless of prior service or academic rank;" but previous full-time service with faculty status at other colleges or universities may be considered part of the probationary period, the "first several years of service" to the University.

Tennessee State University defines tenure in much the same way as UTN, noting that "Tenure is awarded only by positive actions by the State Board of Regents . . ." The award of tenure "is a recognition of the merit of a faculty member, and is only awarded those members of the faculty who have exhibited professional excellence and outstanding abilities sufficient to demonstrate that their future service and performances justify the degree of permanence afforded by academic tenure."

While both universities asserted the positive nature of the tenure process, by stating that it is an award for academic excellence, both also made provisions for the university to *reconsider tenure appointments*. At TSU this is done through "cause," "unavoidable termination on account of financial exigency," or "change in institutional program or curricula," while UTN provides for the termination of a tenured contract through "cause after the opportunity for a hearing in accordance with the procedures for termination of tenured personnel," "bona fide financial exigencies affecting

the University which require termination of one or more faculty members," and "retirement."

The University of Tennessee at Nashville listed several items which influenced its tenured decisions. These included: Teaching effectiveness, evidence of scholarship (written work and teaching), service to the community and state, staffing needs of the university, professional degree, promise of professional growth, advisory service to students, direction of graduate student research, membership in professional organization, participation in university activities, service to the university and demonstrated ability to relate effectively to students and colleagues.

Tennessee State University, on the other hand, summarized this list in a category designated as "minimum requirements for academic tenure." An applicant must: "(1) hold academic rank as instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, Professor and meet the minimum requirements for the rank held, (2) have been employed pursuant to tenure-track appointments and have completed not less than the minimum probationary period of service; and (3) have been determined by the institution to meet the criteria for recommendation for tenure and have so recommended pursuant to this policy."

Finally, both universities provide for the *termination of tenured and nontenured contracts*. The common elements included "Adequate Cause," "Extraordinary Circumstances," and "retirement." At UTN another area, which might be designated as "Extraordinary Circumstances," (although the phrase was not used) was described. This included "Conviction of a felony or crime involving moral turpitude, etc."

The tenure policy that will govern the expanded Tennessee State University and which is part of the preliminary draft of the faculty handbook is the policy of the State Board of Regents, as stipulated in the *Plan for the Merger*. This policy defines academic tenure as:

"A status pursuant to which faculty appointments for the academic year at an institution are continued until retirement for age or physical or mental disability, subject to dismissal for adequate cause or unavoidable termination on account of financial exigency or change in institutional programs or curricula. Tenure is awarded only by positive action by the Board, pursuant to the requirements and procedures of this policy, at a specific institution. The award of tenure is a recognition of the merit of a faculty member, and is only awarded to those members of the faculty who have exhibited professional excellence and outstanding abilities sufficient to demonstrate that their future services and performances justify the degree of permanence afforded by academic tenure."

# News Briefs

Several students and faculty persons in the department of Biological Sciences and the Minority Biomedical Schools (MBS) Program, attended the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), held at the Shamrock Hilton in Houston, Texas, on January 3-6.

The conference focused on the current topics of interest in the Natural Sciences. While in Houston, the students visited the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the University of Texas, Medical Center.

The following students attended the AAAS meeting; Jacqueline Wheeler, Rita Finley, Edwan Essein, Tyrone McKinnie, Sharon Williams, Carol Duncan, Marva Ayers, Vickie Jones, and Edward Matheny. Other faculty members with the group were Dr. Rother Johnson, Dr. James A. Campbell and Dr. Richard Hogg.

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Prem S. Kahlon, of the Biology Department, has been appointed Chairman of the Research Committee of the Tennessee Academy of Science as of January, 1979.

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## Oops!!

ACCENT would like to apologize to Dr. Bobby Lovett, for the errors in his report in the February 6, issue.

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The School of Arts and Sciences invites all members of the University Community and others interested in "Progress through Research," to attend the first annual Research Day, Friday, April 20.

All faculty, professional staff and

students are invited to submit papers in their fields of specialization. Twelve minutes will be allowed for each presentation and discussion. Presentations and other activities will take place in the auditorium of the Physics and Mathematics side of the Science Center. The deadline for submission of the title or paper of presentation is March 1.

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Ms. Eva B. Landers, instructor in Biology and advisor to Pre-medical Students at the University, attended the Third Annual Southern region Conference of the National Association of Minority Educators, Inc., February 8-10, in Atlanta, Georgia.

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On January 19 and 20, Dr. Frederick Smith attended a conference on Minority Institutions Curriculum Exchange sponsored by the National Science Foundation, in Washington, D.C.

## Gifts

The General Motors Corporation of Detroit, Mi., donated \$4,372.00 to the School of Engineering.

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Career Counseling and Placement Bureau received \$350.00 from the Caterpillar Tractor Company, of Peoria, Ill.

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The School of Engineering was given \$1,650.00 by the Caterpillar Tractor Company.

and in fact, it offers an expanded role for our traditional clientele.

Since the consolidation of Peabody College into our School of Education comes at a time when we are involved in a monumental task of merging the University of Tennessee and Tennessee State University, it is important that constituents of the University are informed about this consolidation and its implications for the future of Tennessee State University. The consolidation in no way impinges on the merger process currently underway and in fact, it enhances our potential to attract and train Black and White public educational professionals. It was our understanding when we entered the discussion that Tennessee State University's faculty and staff would be unaffected by the consolidation.

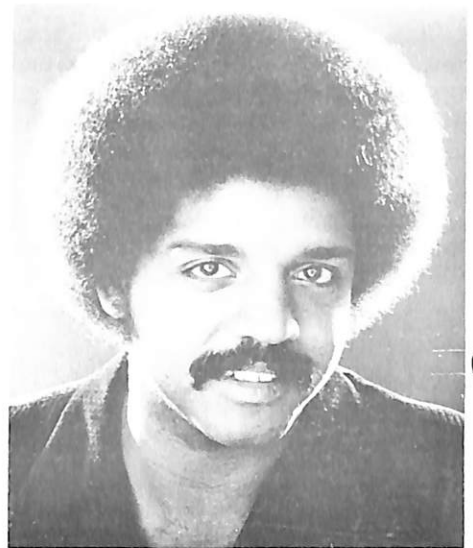
If you have any questions please let me know by writing or calling my office.

## Dexter Wansel to Perform

Dexter Wansel, musical artist and producer, will be presented in concert, Thursday, February 22, at Kean Hall.

Wansel, rooted in Philadelphia, began his musical career at the age of twelve and pursued it through high school. After joining the Army, he discovered he had a lot of time on his hands, so he spent a lot of it developing jazz piano technique.

After separation from the service, he returned to Philadelphia, where he played in local area clubs. At this time he met two brothers, Karl and Roland Chambers, and later formed



DEXTER WANSEL

the group, Yellow Sunshine. Developing a keen interest in electronic music, Wansel began dealing with concepts for radio and TV commercials, and was very successful.

Combining his musical genius, talent and know how, Dexter Wansel, wrote scores for movies, theatre and dance. He produced, wrote, and arranged music for such people as the O'Jays, Billy Paul, The Jacksons, Lou Rawls, Teddy Pendergrass and many others.

Dexter's music is much like his philosophy, "You are what you think. If people would sit back and realize that they are what they think . . . that thoughts must be dealt with before any physical thing is attained . . . they could achieve any desire."

The concert, presented by the Office of Student Activities, will begin at 8:00 p.m. General Admission is \$3.00 and \$1.00 for students with their ID cards.

## TSU and Peabody Clarafied

(Continued from Page 1)

Tennessee State University vitally needed dormitory space and married student housing which the University desperately needs for its future growth and expansion.

5. The facilities at George Peabody College will provide space for our expanded need for academic facilities when the merger of the University of Tennessee at Nashville and Tennessee State University is fully implemented, should Tennessee State University not get to use the University of Tennessee at Nashville facilities. In addition, this will also solve some of our problems with regard to parking and office space to accommodate the faculties of the expanded Tennessee State University.

6. We believe the consolidation represents no threat to teacher education programs of both institutions