

New Dean comments on Chowan role

MURFREESBORO, N. C.—Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., became dean of the college at Chowan at the recent February meeting of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Lowe has been serving as acting dean and director of the summer school for the college for the past 18 months. He has also been a professor in the college's department of religion, arriving on the campus in 1964.

Dr. Lowe received the B. A. degree from Furman University, the B. D. degree from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, and the Ph.D. from Emory University. The following is a recent interview with Dr. Lowe concerning the academic program at Chowan.

Question: Dr. Lowe, what do you believe to be the present role of Chowan College?

Dr. Lowe: Chowan College is, and shall continue to be, a college which is primarily concerned with helping the average student develop his potentialities. This in no way means that the college will not seek to recruit those

students who are above average or who are below average. Such students will be actively sought and special programs will be designed for them, such as honors programs for the above average student. However, our major emphasis will remain on the average student.

Question: How will this affect the standards of the college?

Dr. Lowe: This does not mean that the educational standards of the college will be lowered. Indeed, we cannot allow that to occur. Rather, while appealing to the average and the low average student, and giving these every advantage and encouragement, educational standards must constantly be raised. This is an absolute necessity in view of man's rapidly expanding body of knowledge.

Question: What will be the future of the Chowan student in the educational world?

Dr. Lowe: We must strive to see that any student who is granted a degree from this institution will be as well prepared as any student who has completed two years of study at any other institution in this country. Excellence in education involves taking a student where he is and inspiring him to achieve at his highest level.

Question: What about research programs at Chowan, Dr. Lowe?

Dr. Lowe: Chowan shall remain primarily a teaching college, rather than one dedicated to research. Faculty members will, to be sure, be encouraged to contribute to scholarly research, but the primary thrust will continue to be that of excellent teaching. For this there is no substitute. In other words, Chowan will remain student oriented, rather than research oriented.

Question: Dr. Lowe, there is an indication that the faculty ratio is now one faculty member to 19.5 students. What is the future expectation of the faculty-student ratio?

Dr. Lowe: The college will continue to make a conscious attempt to reduce its faculty-student ratio, in order that increased attention may be given to the individual student. The college has for some time been making gradual progress in this area. In 1965-66 it was 1:20.9, in 1966-67, 1:20.27; in 1967-68, 1:19.81; and 1968-69, 1:19.5. The goal of the college is to gradually reduce this ratio to 1:15.

Question: What is Chowan's role on the broader scene of higher education?

Dr. Lowe: Chowan College is, and shall remain, an institution of Christian higher education. It is my belief that church-related colleges have a vital part to play in the education of this nation's youth. As a church-related college, Chowan makes an unapologetic Christian commitment which it attempts to translate into its total program and policies. I would by no means advocate a narrow sectarianism nor denominational exclusivism. On the other hand, unless a church-related college can provide a religious dimension of education not available in public colleges, it cannot justify its appeal for support from a church body.



Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, dean of the college at Chowan, recently named by the Board of Trustees in their February meeting. Dr. Lowe has served as acting dean and director of summer school since the summer of 1968.

Classes of '29, '54 reunion

Special recognition will be accorded Chowan College alumni who graduated fifteen and forty years ago when class reunions are held on campus during Spring Festival on April 26.

Mrs. Bela Udvarnoki is chairman of the 1929 class reunion and Reverend Gene Williams, who was the 1954 Class President, is serving as chairman of his class.

CLASS OF 1929 AND 1954 REUNION SCHEDULE

10:00 A. M., Class of 1929—Coffee Hour, Home of Mrs. Bela Udvarnoki, 609 Woodridge Drive, Murfreesboro, N. C.

10:30 A. M., Class of 1954, Coke Party Alumni Office, Ground Floor, Whitaker Library.

11:00 A. M., All Visitors — CAMPUS TOUR.

12:00 noon, Class of 1929 and Class of 1954, Buffet Luncheon, President's Room, Thomas Cafeteria.

1:30 P. M., All Alumni, Alumni President's Reception, Lounge, McDowell Columns Building.

3:00 P. M., All Alumni, Spring Festival Pageant, featuring the crowning of the Queen of Spring.

Suffolk alumni to hold meeting

The Suffolk-Nansemond County Alumni have scheduled a "Dutch Treat" supper meeting to be held April 14, 1969, at 7:00 p.m. at Travelers Rest. The Suffolk Chapter is headed by Bobby Ralph, Executive Director of the Suffolk-Nansemond County Chamber of Commerce.

Dates for scholarship tests announced by Dean Lowe

Chowan College is now receiving applications for competitive examinations to be administered in the college's Competitive Honor Scholarship Program on two Saturday mornings, April 19 and 26.

Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Dean of the College, has announced that several applications have already been received for the tests which will be given at 10:00 a. m., on these mornings in Marks Hall classroom building, room 124. According to Dr. Lowe, the students will compete for 25 academic scholarships ranging from \$300.00 to \$1,000.00 each. Students are eligible for these examinations upon applying and being accepted as a regular student at Chowan for the forthcoming fall semester. The applicant must also present the scholarship application

blank to the college's Competitive Honor Scholarship Committee. Students living too far from the campus to make the trip in one day will be given lodging and meals for the equivalent of one 24-hour period.

The Scholarship Program, designed to encourage and reward students, is based primarily on scholastic ability although need is considered.

Other scholarships are available at Chowan which are based primarily on financial need, as well as scholarships in special disciplines such as music, graphic arts and athletics. James Cooke, Director of Student Financial Aid at Chowan, administers these programs and will provide information for prospective Chowan students upon request.