

Meet The New Faculty

by Katherine Grasso

As we promised in the last edition of *Small Talk*, we will continue to introduce new members of the Methodist College faculty. You've probably seen the faces of new instructors in the hallways and couldn't attach names to them (I know I have!). Well, in this edition, we will clear up the mystery of the nameless professors by introducing two more faculty members--Dr. Tryon D. Lancaster and Dr. Kunio Mitsuma.

Dr. Tryon D. Lancaster, a native of Fayetteville, joined the Department of Education this semester. Dr. Lancaster received his associate's degree from Louisburg Jr. College and then went to East Carolina University where he received his bachelor's of science degree in Elementary Education and then his master's degree in Elementary Education and in School Administration and Supervision.

After receiving his master's degree, Dr. Lancaster taught the sixth and seventh grades in the Cumberland County School system. He became a teaching principal at Cedar Creek Elementary School and after three years moved on to become principal at Mary McArthur. Dr. Lancaster then decided to get his doctoral degree and was accepted at Duke University for his graduate work. Because he was advised to gain secondary school experience in addition to his elementary experience, he became principal at Massey Hill. He resigned from Massey Hill after about two years to complete his residency and doctoral dissertation at Duke, from which he received an Ed.D. in School Administration.

Eventually Dr. Lancaster moved into the Central Office of the Cumberland County School System as Director of Instructions. Over the next 20 years, he served as Assistant Superintendent and then Associate Superintendent. During this time, he was an evening instructor at FTCC and a part-time professor at FSU and also at ECU. Because Dr. Lancaster has always wanted to work with beginning teachers, he decided last summer to accept a recently opened position at Methodist College.

Dr. Lancaster says he loves the atmosphere here at Methodist and enjoys the close instructor-student interactions. He says that most students work very hard, and he wants to assist those who may have some difficulties. He has already begun to implement a mastery-learning model which is designed to help

all students succeed. Ultimately he hopes to see his influence on his students in their work as future teachers.

Dr. Kunio Mitsuma is a Mathematics instructor who also joined the Methodist College faculty this fall. Dr. Mitsuma is originally from Tokyo, Japan. He obtained his bachelor's of science degree in Pure Mathematics from Nihon University in Tokyo and then came to the States for his graduate work. Because he had previously been an exchange student in Pennsylvania, he applied to and was accepted at Penn State University. However, he decided to complete his master's degree in Pure Mathematics at the University of West Virginia in Morgantown because the smaller setting appealed to him. He eventually moved on to Penn State for his doctoral work, and he recently received his Ph.D. in Mathematics.

Methodist College is Dr. Mitsuma's first teaching position, and he sees it as a challenge. He says that he gets up every morning and is anxious about coming to work and giving his best when teaching the students. He is not looking to become a millionaire, he says, but he wants to become better tomorrow than he is today. He says he is very satisfied with things now but there is always a little more he can do. When he is not teaching, Dr. Mitsuma spends much of his free time with operating his HAM radio. He is a member of the Cape Fear Amateur Radio Club, and he often talks to many persons all over the world. Radio operations, he says, are not just for fun; they can be a very important tool in times of emergency.

Dr. Mitsuma thinks very positively about his students at Methodist. He says that they are always honest about not having understood some material. In larger universities there is much more apathy, he says, and students are discouraged from asking questions. He compares teaching at large universities to work on an assembly line--you only work on one small part but you never see the final product. On the other hand, he says, in small schools like Methodist you will see a student from day one until he or she graduates.

Dr. Mitsuma is in the process of writing a grant proposal to obtain several Macintosh computers for the Department. "The 'IBM-only' environment at Methodist College will change," he says, and he hopes to make the new computers, once they are received, available to students from other departments as well.



Dr. Lancaster



Dr. Mitsuma

Internships Available

by Dwayne Smith

Turn the tides this summer; let the government pay you. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Institute of Government has announced that applications are being accepted until January 24, 1992 for paid internships. Interested sophomores, juniors, and seniors currently enrolled in a North Carolina College or North Carolina residents attending an out-of-state college should secure a brochure and application form from their college or university career development or placement office.

The thirty chosen students will participate in a living-learning internship. They will live together in Raleigh on the campus of Meredith College. The interns will work 40 hours each week from May 28 to August 7, 1992. They will be

paid \$200 dollars per week.

Interns will be assigned responsible positions in state departments or in local governments. Interns will also attend weekly evening seminars with leaders from all areas of North Carolina government and with private leaders interested in public policy issues.

Descriptions of the 1992 internships will be available in your college career development offices in mid-November. Interested students should send a completed application to: Summer Intern Program, Institute of Government, CB# 3330 Knapp Building, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3330. Applications must be postmarked by January 24 or hand delivered to the Institute of Government by January 27, 1992.

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