

Nelson to quit, sources say

President reportedly plans return to faculty next year

By DARRIN HOSTETLER
State Press

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J. Russell Nelson, suffering from emotional stress and hounded by minority groups to resign, will announce at the fall faculty breakfast today that he is stepping down as ASU president, well-connected University sources said this week.

When he was asked to comment, Nelson, 59, said: "There are a lot of interesting rumors floating around this time of year, and the only thing I can suggest is that you attend the breakfast and test the accuracy of that one."

Nelson, a professor of finance, will tell the faculty that he will leave the presidency on July 1, 1989, and return to the faculty, giving him one more year to achieve his objectives for the University, the sources said. His timeframe also will give ASU months to find a replacement.

The faculty breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. in the MU Arizona Room. Nelson is scheduled to speak at about 8:15 a.m. An outline of his speech, issued earlier in the week, made no references to his resignation.

The outline said Nelson would welcome faculty back to campus and discuss his "Action Now" minority recruitment and retention plan, the University budget and his commitment to undergraduate education. George Cathcart, ASU News Bureau director, said there was no prepared speech for Nelson's address to the faculty.

Nelson suffered from valley fever in February — an illness that led to speculation in the University community that he might resign to convalesce. Nelson has told those near him that he has felt overextended in his job. In recent months he has attempted to reduce his workload.

Nelson, whose 1987-88 salary was \$117,233, held meetings with his vice presidents Thursday, apparently to inform them of his intentions and ask them not to discuss his plans.

None of the vice presidents would confirm that Nelson was resigning. Brent Brown, vice president for University relations, said, "There are a lot of rumors floating around. I wouldn't be surprised at anything that happens at this University. I just suggest that you be there (at the breakfast) Friday morning and find out if the rumors are true."

Henry Reeves, vice president for research, said, "I would be very sad if he left the University. He has done a lot for this University, and I admire him greatly."

Associated Students President John Fees expressed surprise at Nelson's plans.

"He's really seen this University through a growth period, and we're better for his term in office. We're going to miss his

leadership to deal with the problems and challenges we face," Fees said.

Nelson, ASU's 13th president, has held the post since 1981 when he succeeded John Schwada, who resigned unexpectedly amid controversy in ASU's athletic department.

Nelson's problems stemmed from minority recruitment and retention at ASU, and in the last year, he has faced growing criticism about his ability to manage the University.

The Arizona Hispanic Forum in June called on Nelson to step down for failing to appoint Hispanics to high-level positions at the University.

Shortly after the forum issued its demand, Nelson introduced "Action Now," a 21-point plan for improving University minority recruitment and retention efforts.

Then in August, Hispanic leaders publicly complained that Nelson was stonewalling on releasing a report that was critical of the administration in the School of Social Work.

Two social work professors, Paul Wong and John Michael Daley, had filed suit with ASU's Affirmative Action Office in 1987 on behalf of the school's faculty, alleging that some minorities were being discriminated against.

A report compiled by investigator William Makahilahila cited a distinct "chilling effect" in the school and recommended action. The Affirmative Action Office's then-director, Jackie Weatherby, bypassed Makahilahila's report, and issued a "whitewashed" report, the two professors claimed.

Nelson ordered an investigation of the entire affair amid charges of a cover-up. A report from the investigation, which is being conducted by ASU law adjunct Roxana C. Bacon, is due Sept. 15.

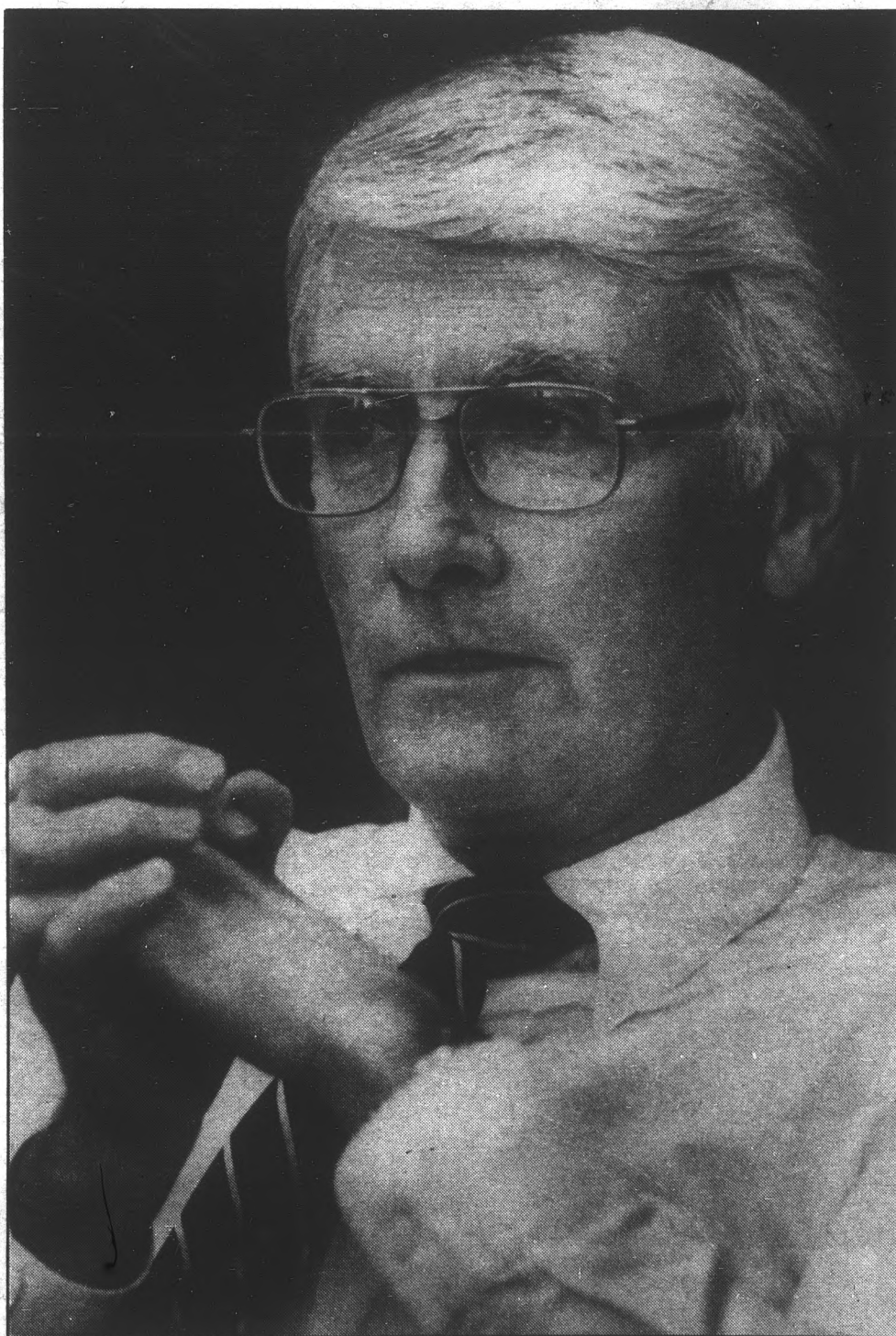
Weatherby asked in early summer to be transferred, and she now is director of personnel at ASU West.

Nelson also was criticized during the fall 1987 semester when he issued a new policy giving the University authority to discipline students for off-campus activities.

The "emergency measure" was introduced on Sept. 9, 1987, and was criticized by student leaders for its vague wording and apparent broad scope. The ASASU Senate labeled the policy as "dangerous" in November 1987, and urged Nelson to get student input and reconsider the measure.

In December 1987, Nelson issued a clarified version of the policy, which focused on "unauthorized use, possession or distribution of any controlled substance or illegal drug."

Nelson traveled to China and the Far East



State Press photo

ASU President J. Russell Nelson, who is expected to announce his resignation today, contemplates a question during a 1987 interview. Nelson, the University's 13th president, is 59.

in September 1987 after several Chinese university officials visited ASU, but some faculty members criticized the trip, saying it was an unnecessary expense during a time of severe budget cutbacks.

After the 18-day trip, during which he toured the country and revised exchange agreements with two Chinese universities, Nelson said it was "hard to say" if the trip was what he expected.

During Nelson's presidency, ASU's growth has been explosive. His seven-year tenure has seen the groundbreaking of ASU West and more than \$100 million in planned Tempe campus construction. Student

enrollment also increased, topping the 42,000 mark in 1987. ASU is the nation's sixth-largest university in student headcount.

Construction under Nelson has included the \$11.5 million Hayden Library expansion, the \$15 million Fine Arts Complex, the enclosure of Sun Devil Stadium's end zone and three parking garages. Work also has started on the University Club, a members-only faculty and staff dining and drinking facility.

State Press staffer Ben McConnell contributed to this report.

Nelson's 7-year term marked by growth of ASU campus, touched by controversy

By BEN McCONNELL and MARTY SAUERZOPF
State Press

Jack Russell Nelson, 59, came to ASU July 1, 1981, from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he was chancellor.

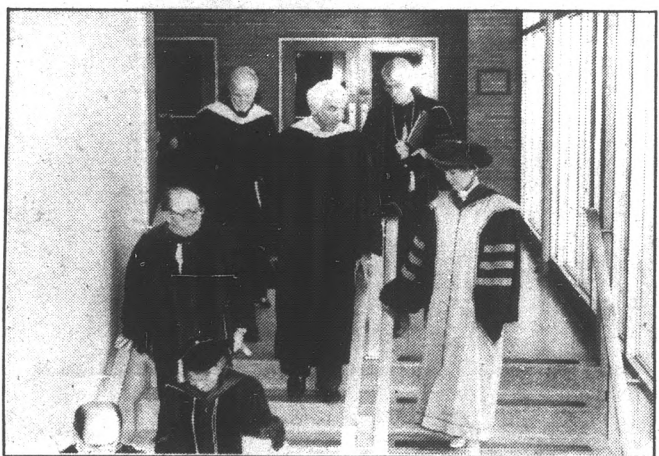
When he arrived, ASU's population was nearly 35,000 students. It has grown to nearly 43,000 in the seven years Nelson has been president.

Nelson earned a bachelor's degree in business and economics from Pacific Union College and a master's of business administration degree and a doctorate in finance from UCLA.

He taught finance part-time at UCLA from 1955 to 1959 while working toward his graduate degrees. From there, Nelson went to Andrews University in Berrean, Mich. for two years and was head of the school's business administration department.

In 1961 Nelson moved to the University of Minnesota, the most populous college in the United States, to teach finance.

He went to Boulder from Minnesota in 1970 as a vice provost and finance professor. He moved up through the school's hierarchy, capturing posts as associate provost, vice president for budgets and planning and vice president for administration. He was appointed Boulder's chancellor in February 1978.



State Press photo

During his tenure at ASU, President J. Russell Nelson, shown here on his way to the spring 1987 commencement, has presided over 22 graduation ceremonies.

In July 1981 Nelson became ASU's 13th president. He replaced John Schwada, who had been enveloped in controversy surrounding former ASU football coach Frank Kush. A former player of Kush's charged that the coach punched him during a game.

In Arizona, Nelson has served on the board of directors of a number of institutions: Tempe St. Luke's Hospital, the Heard Museum, the Del Webb Corporation and the Arizona Academy.

During a 1984 breakfast he held with students, Nelson said teaching at the 60,000-student University of Minnesota tempered his concern for increasing enrollment figures.

"It is difficult to have a feeling of intimacy at a university of this size, but I am not personally turned off by the size," he said.

Nelson's starting salary at ASU in 1981 was \$78,000. In 1986, he received an 8 percent salary increase, from \$106,900 to \$115,500. His 1987-88 salary was \$117,233.

Like any leader of a large institution, Nelson has seen his share of controversy and accomplishment. Here are a few highlights of his seven-year administration.

ASU CONSTRUCTION:

Nelson has overseen the most ambitious construction program in ASU history. More than \$100 million in new construction, due to be completed by 1990, has been changing the face of the University since 1987.

The most ambitious project ASU has undertaken under Nelson's leadership is the \$11.5 million Hayden Library underground expansion, due to be completed in February 1989.

The additional building, underneath Cady Mall, will be a two-level structure that will provide shelf space for about 375,000 books and room for about 1,500 students and faculty.

The 90,000 square-foot, \$15 million Fine Arts Complex and Paul V. Galvin Playhouse was Nelson's project to bolster space for the arts at ASU.

The complex also will provide classroom and office space.

An \$11.5 million addition to the College of Architecture has been taking shape on University Drive. The \$12.7 million project has been delayed several times, with a projected completion date of fall 1989.

The \$8 million that has been spent on beefing up ASU's Sun Devil Stadium has gone to add 1,700 loge seats and add offices for the athletic department.

Begun at the beginning of 1988, the project is expected to be completed next month.

Nelson came under fire from student leaders in the spring of 1988 for promoting a plan to further expand Hayden Library by razing adjacent West Hall, deemed by some to be a historic building. Students are currently battling to obtain open hearings on library expansion.

WEAPONS RESEARCH:

In January 1987, Nelson rejected a 3-year-old resolution drawn up by the Faculty Senate prohibiting research directed toward the development of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons at ASU.

Nelson told the senate that the resolution would inhibit research inherently or remotely connected to the types of arms research the resolution sought to ban, thereby "limiting academic freedom."

A week later, Nelson met with nearly three dozen antinuclear protesters who asked him to reverse his decision on the resolution.

Nelson, who was only expecting about three protestors, said he was surprised at the size of the group, which included both faculty and students.

In March of that same year, the Associated Students Senate narrowly defeated a resolution supporting Nelson's decision on the matter. The ASASU resolution stated that the senate "firmly supports President Nelson's decision to maintain academic freedom by not banning potential weapons research at Arizona State University."

STACY HARVEY INCIDENT:

Nelson came into conflict with former Faculty Athletic Representative Marianne Jennings during the fall of 1987 when he overturned Jennings' decision to declare ASU linebacker Stacy Harvey ineligible to compete in that year's football season.

Jennings based her decision on Harvey's apparent shortage of class credits. Athletes are required to complete a minimum of 24 credit hours per year.

Harvey asked that credit for a correspondence course be counted, but University policy dictates that such courses can only apply toward academic, not athletic, eligibility.

Nelson said Harvey received poor advising from the Intercollegiate Athletic Board and based his overruling of Jennings on that fact.

Turn to Nelson, page 3.



With enrollment expected to reach 60,000 by the turn of the century, ASU President Nelson oversees \$100 million in new campus construction. Nelson and ASU Sun Angel Mal Stra...

Regents led search that brought...

When John Schwada resigned as ASU president in 1980, the Arizona Board of Regents formed a 12-member search committee of regents, faculty, students and alumni to name a replacement.

J. Russell Nelson beat out about 150 other applicants for the job, according to 1980 newspaper accounts.

The newspaper stories said the search committee looked for someone who could meet minimum qualifications that included honesty, good health, demonstrated ability in research,

academic and teaching experience, doctorate or comparable experience, demonstrated commitment to Affirmative Action and an ability to relate well with University constituencies.

After the application deadline, the search committee broke up into teams and reviewed the applications to eliminate unqualified applicants.

The search committee interviewed approximately 10 to 15 applicants and presented five names to the fu...

12 other men have preceded serving in chief executive...

By JOAN McKENNA
State Press

Twelve men have preceded J. Russell Nelson as president of ASU. They were:

HIRAM BRADFORD FARMER (1886-1888)

Farmer served both as principal and teacher to Arizona Territorial Normal School's first class of 33 students.

During the New York native's administration, there was one classroom building, and his adobe residence served as a boarding house to female students.

The principal's beginning annual salary of \$2,300 was trimmed to \$2,000 his second year due to poor tax collections.

ROBERT LINDLEY LONG (1886-1888)
Long became principal of Territorial Normal during a time of funds and attendance were critical. His salary was \$1,600 a year.

A native of Lancaster County, Long had a diverse past, in education, background in education, administration and experience as a prospector in the West and a miner in South Africa.

DAYTON ALONZO REED (1886-1888)
Reed served as both principal and teacher for Territorial Normal. He instructed students in mathematics and pedagogy and earned \$200 a month for 10-month...



Stephen Mounteer/State Press

ASU professor Marianne Jennings in 1987, as faculty representative in the athletic department, benched Sun Devil football star Stacy Harvey for not having enough academic credits to play. President Nelson overruled her, and she resigned. The resulting flap spurred a cartoon from former *New Times* artist Bob Boze Bell.



Susan Schuman/State Press

...century, ASU President J. Russell Nelson implemented and oversaw more than 100 projects. Angel Mal Straus broke ground in 1987 for the University's golf course.

...t brought Nelson to ASU post

...nd teaching experience, a comparable experience, a stated commitment to action and an ability to work with University constituency

...application deadline passed, the committee broke up into three groups to review the applications to qualified applicants.

...ch committee interviewed approximately 10 to 15 applicants and recommended names to the full Board of

Regents for consideration.

The finalists Nelson beat out for the job were:

Paul Pearson, an executive vice president of Rutgers University in New Jersey;

Gene Budig, president of West Virginia University;

W. Ann Reynolds, provost at Ohio State University;

Albert Barber, vice president for research at UCLA.

— BEN MCCONNELL and JOAN MCKENNA

...e preceded J.R. Nelson ...ecutive's office at ASU

WINDLEY LONG (1888-1890)
...me principal of Arizona Normal during a time when attendance were critically low. Salary \$1,600 a year.

...f Lancaster County, Pa., diverse past, including a background in educational administration and experience as a principal in the West and a diamond miner in Africa.

LONZO REED (1890-1892)
...ed as both principal and Territorial Normal, and students in language, science and pedagogy. Reed served for 10-month for 10-month tenure.

The Ohio-native made the first efforts to improve the appearance of the school, painting building woodwork, installing plumbing and providing trees, shrubs and some fencing.

His background included farming, teaching for 12 years in Los Angeles public schools and serving as principal of a school in Phoenix.

Reed retired because of poor health. He died in Phoenix in 1894 of consumption (tuberculosis).

EDGAR L. STORMENT (1892-1895)
Storment was hired at age 25 as an assistant to Reed, giving the school its first two-member faculty. Storment also

Turn to Presidents, page 4.

Nelson

Continued from page 2.

Jennings resigned her post shortly following Nelson's decision.

A report by Chicago attorney Mike Slive in early November determined that Nelson's decision to allow Harvey to play in the 1987 season was made without sufficient information for a "one-time" exception to University policy. The report also stated that there was evidence to support Jennings' original ruling.

Slive cited several factual errors in a Nelson statement as evidence that the president was not aware of all the pertinent information when he made his decision.

The report also concluded that the president's office "should not be the forum where athletic eligibility disputes are resolved."

Nelson agreed that eligibility disputes should be resolved by a "decision-making body comprised of and representing both academic and athletic interests."

UNIVERSITY CLUB:

One of the projects Nelson supported the most was the University Club, a members-only dining and drinking facility for faculty and staff.

The club has failed to meet expected deadlines for membership goals, and Nelson granted the club's planners several reprieves.



State Press photo

President Nelson ambitiously pursued the establishment of the University Club, a private, members-only dining and drinking facility for faculty and staff. The club, which is to be located in the Fine Arts Annex, actively sought donations from the general public.

Plans for club, to be located in the historical Fine Arts Annex, have gone on despite the lagging membership. State Press staffer Shawn Dahl contributed to this report.

Nelson became finalist for presidency at University of Wisconsin during 1985

Withdrew from race for position to stay in ASU 'campus setting'

By MIKE BURGESS

State Press

In September 1985, ASU President J. Russell Nelson was a top candidate for the presidency of the University of Wisconsin system.

Nelson, one of three finalists for the post, withdrew from the selection process, saying that he "would rather work in a campus setting than in a central office."

He also said "significant support in the (ASU) community" played a role in his decision to stay at ASU.

While a candidate for the Wisconsin position Nelson said, "The University of Wisconsin at Madison is one of the greatest land-grant universities in the country. It's a leading campus by anyone's standards."

Kenneth Shaw, chancellor of the Southern Illinois University system, was eventually selected for the position. Jack Freeman, executive vice president of the University of Pittsburgh, was the third candidate.

After Shaw was selected, Nelson told the ASU Faculty Senate, "I think there is a lot of work to be done here, and I want to be a part of doing it."

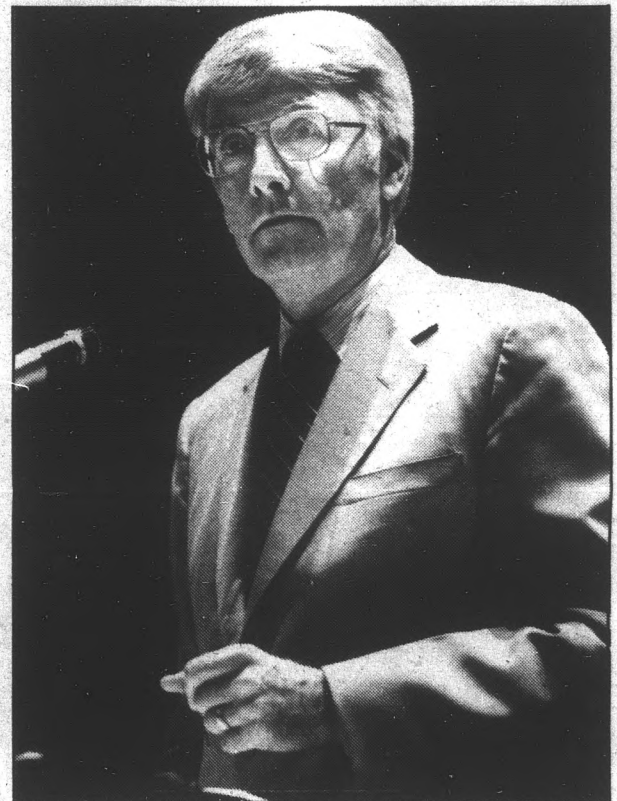
The Wisconsin position would have paid more than \$100,000 annually. At ASU, Nelson is paid \$117,283 a year and has use of a house and a car.

The Wisconsin University system Nelson would have led consists of 28 separate campuses, including two doctorate schools and 13 universities.

More 160,000 students are enrolled in the Wisconsin system. Enrollment at ASU is estimated at about 43,000.

The position became vacant when former Wisconsin President Robert O'Neil resigned to assume the presidency of the University of Virginia.

Nelson said the Wisconsin position was "a job of very



State Press photo

Nelson was a finalist for the directorship of the University of Wisconsin system in 1985. He later withdrew his name and the chancellor of the Southern Illinois University system eventually took the position.

significant scope" and denied that controversies in ASU's athletic department at the time influenced his decision to seek the job.



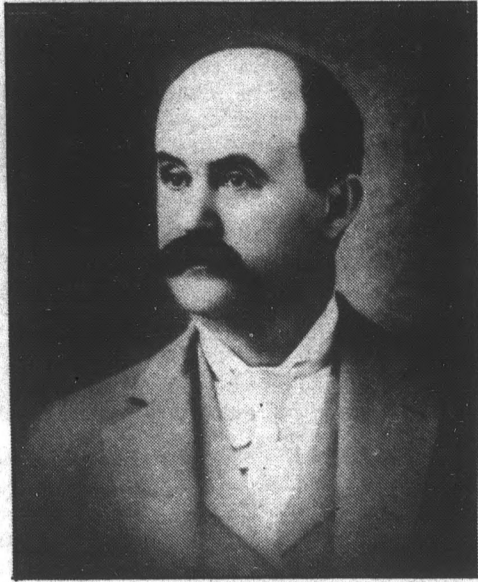
State Press photo

As governor, one of Evan Mecham's jobs was to serve as a regent. Mecham, a republican, who later was impeached from office, said in 1987 of Nelson, a democrat: "I wouldn't have him run my company." Nelson, left, is pictured with Arizona Board of Regents Executive Director Molly Corbet Broad and Mecham.

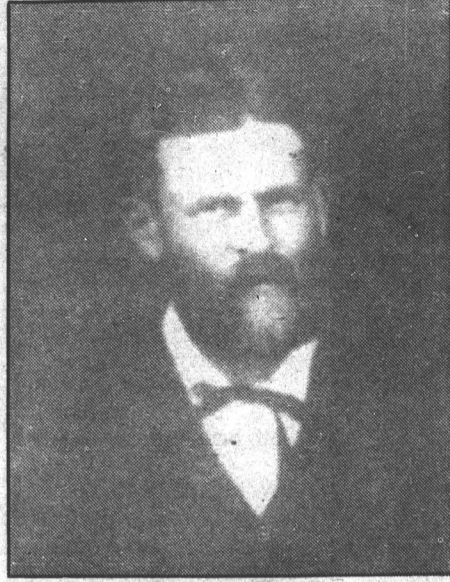
Nelson preceded by 12 men as ASU president



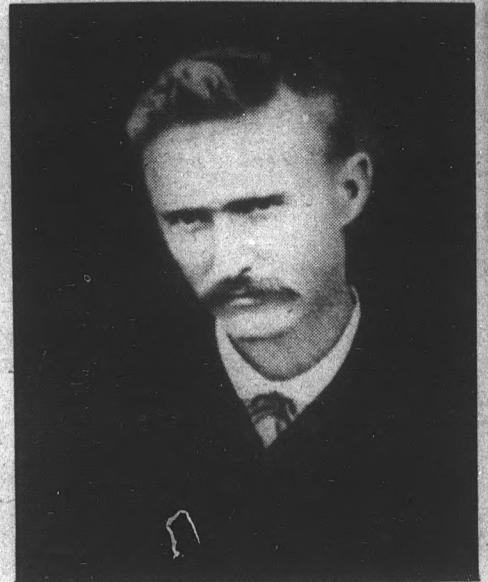
Hiram Bradford Farmer



Robert Lindley Long



Dayton Alonzo Reed



Edgar L. Storment

Continued from page 3.

taught languages and liberal arts classes. During his three-years as principal, Storment hired ASU's first two women teachers, initiated student activities and journalism, began the athletic program and intramural sports, founded the school's alumni association and drew up initial plans for Old Main. The salary remained \$200 a month.

Storment, who was born in Illinois, began teaching in Arizona after he failed in farming along the Gila River.

JAMES A. McNAUGHTON (1895-1899)

McNaughton, the second principal from New York, spent his term expanding the school, beginning with the faculty. That number increased from four to seven.

Old Main was completed, the first football game was played and student government, literary societies and the first Boarding Club formed.

At the end of McNaughton's term, the curriculum was extended from two to three years and entrance requirements were raised.

McNaughton held a doctorate from Allegheny College in Pennsylvania.

JOSEPH WARREN SMITH (1899-1900)

Smith, the last of Territorial Normal's principals, introduced music and reorganized the entire curriculum during his tenure.



Arthur John Matthews



James A. McNaughton

Smith received his master's degree from the University of Michigan in 1880. He left the teaching profession in 1900 and entered the business world.

ARTHUR JOHN MATTHEWS (1900-1930)

Matthews, the first administrative head titled "president," also filled the roles of registrar, business manager and instructor of law, education and mathematics. He expanded faculty, enrollment, acreage and buildings.

The school was renamed twice under Matthews. It became Tempe Normal School in 1901 and Arizona State Teachers College in 1929.

Matthews wanted to turn the campus into a landscaped semitropical garden. He supervised plantings of trees, flowers and shrubs.

Matthews attended Syracuse University, where he later received an honorary doctor of laws degree in 1916. In 1925, the University of Arizona granted him an honorary degree of doctor of pedagogy.

After his presidency, Matthews continued to serve as president emeritus.

RALPH W. SWETMAN (1930-1933)

Swetman created the self-supporting summer session during his tenure. Under Swetman, the institution joined both the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges and the Border Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Swetman's degrees included a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Hamilton College in New York, a master's from Columbia and a doctorate from Stanford.

Swetman resigned in 1933 to become principal of Oswego State Normal School in New York.

GRADY GAMMAGE (1933-1959)

Arizona State Teachers College became Arizona State University in 1958, one of Gammage's final years as president.

During World War II, Gammage served as chairman of both the United War Fund Campaign Committee and United China Relief. He was adviser to the Allied Military Government in Germany and was awarded the Legion of Merit.

Gammage, a native of Prescott, Ark., earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Arizona and a doctor of education degree from New York University.

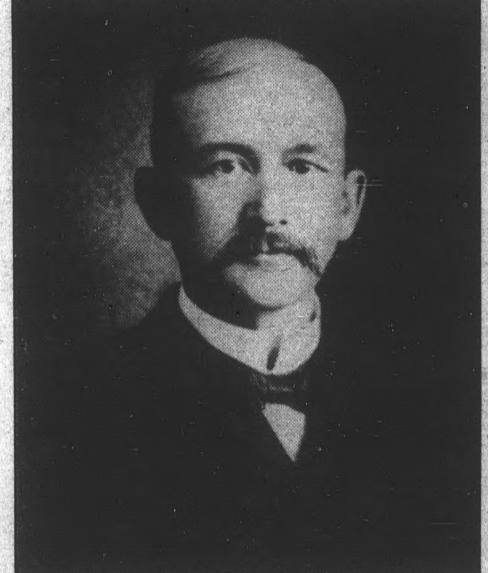
G. HOMER DURHAM (1960-1969)

Durham, an author, editor, political scientist, college professor and administrator, brought rapid growth to ASU.

Enrollment increased from 10,640 to 23,341; faculty nearly doubled; the budget jumped from \$11 million to \$29 million; more than a dozen buildings were constructed; and the university gained



Ralph W. Swetman



Joseph Warren Smith

accreditation for professional programs in architecture, engineering and nursing.

Durham received a doctorate in political science from UCLA.

HARRY K. NEWBURN (1969-1971)

Newburn, an educational consultant across the nation as well as in Brazil, Venezuela and Europe, was elevated from his position as dean of the ASU College of Education to the presidency.

Newburn also had served as president of the University of Oregon and the University of Montana, Missoula. He earned his master's degree and doctorate from Iowa State University.

JOHN W. SCHWADA (1971-1981)

Schwada was credited with expanding curricula and helping ASU become a prestigious university. He resigned amidst a wave of turmoil in 1980.

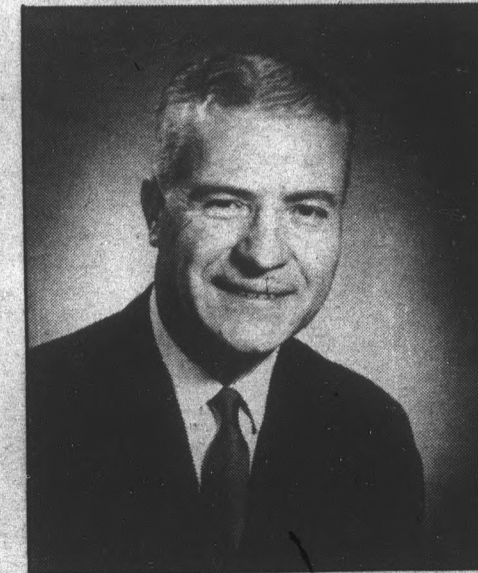
Problems included athletic scandals, internal bickering and inaccessibility on Schwada's part. After stepping down, he continued to serve as professor emeritus of political science.

Schwada received a doctorate from the University of Texas in international law and American government and administration. He held the position of chancellor at the University of Missouri, Columbia, prior to joining ASU.

ASU Department of Archives and Manuscripts



Grady Gammage



G. Homer Durham



Harry K. Newburn



John W. Schwada