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Notre Dame began its 127th academic year with a record enrollment of 7,827, an increase of 104 over a year ago. The overall figure reflects a Graduate School increase of 140 despite predictions of graduate enrollment decline nationally because of Selective Service requirements. Of the University's freshman class of 1,550, more than 20% ranked in the top five of their high school classes, and more than half were among the first ten. The Class of '72 includes 163 senior class or student body presidents, 99 editors of high school publications and 295 captains or co-captains of athletic teams.

Entering its second year, Notre Dame's SUMMA Program has generated 19,678 gifts and pledges totaling \$37,477,855 or 72% of the \$52 million goal. The funds have been earmarked for a variety of University projects and programs including two residence halls currently under construction and seventeen endowed professorships. The development program will be inaugurated in fifteen additional cities in February. Retired alumni secretary James E. Armstrong replaces the late Archbishop Paul Hallinan of Atlanta as national alumni chairman.

Presidential candidates Hubert Humphrey and Richard Nixon have been invited by Notre Dame's president to address faculty-student convocations. Humphrey visited the campus last year and in 1964. Nixon spoke at campus assemblies in 1952, 1956 and 1960.

Major University appointments not noted previously in this newsletter: Roland D. Grimm, president of Endowment Management and Research Corp., Boston, to the Board of Trustees; Rev. Ferdinand Brown, C.S.C., associate vice president for academic affairs; Rev. Lawrence Broestl, C.S.C., assistant vice president for student affairs; Dr. Thomas Stewart, assistant to the president for planning and analysis; Dr. Frederick Crosson, dean, College of Arts and Letters; Dr. Edward W. Jerger, associate dean, College of Engineering; Dr. Robert E. Gordon, associate dean, College of Science; John Thurin, director of publications; and John Rash, manager of The Morris Inn. New chairmen of academic departments include Rev. Ernest Bartell, C.S.C., economics; Dr. James Robinson, English; Dr. Michael J. Crowe, General Program; Dr. Kwang-Tzu Yang, mechanical engineering; and Dr. Timothy O'Meara, mathematics.

Notre Dame's Laetare Medal for 1968 was conferred on American Ambassador R. Sargent Shriver at a ceremony in Paris September 21st. Among the University's guests were members of the French Cabinet and Foreign Ministry, ambassadors of eighteen nations, educational and religious leaders, and Notre Dame alumni and friends in France.

The University's Athletic and Convocation Center will be formally dedicated with a series of events December 1-8. The week's schedule includes an "open house," a high school music festival, shows starring Andy Williams and Bill Cosby, the Notre Dame Football Banquet, the UCLA basketball game, a panorama of business and industrial exhibits, and a dedication Mass and Eucharistic Hour.

Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., Notre Dame president, was re-elected president of the 58-member International Federation of Catholic Universities at its triennial congress at Lovanium University, Kinshasa, Congo, Sept. 10-17. The IFCU has subsequently issued a position paper on "The Catholic University in the Modern World."

Notre Dame has joined officials of three commercial television stations and community leaders to form a non-profit corporation, Michiana Public Broadcasting Corp., for the operation of an educational TV channel. Dr. John W. Meaney is secretary and executive director of the organization.

During the year ending June 30th Notre Dame received, principally from government agencies, \$5,794,433 for research, \$525,783 for facilities and equipment, \$699,850 for educational programs; and \$80,607 for service programs. Major sources of support were the Atomic Energy Commission, National Science Foundation, Department of the Navy, National Institutes of Health and the Office of Education.

Miss Emily Schossberger, director of the University of Notre Dame Press, recently became the first woman to receive the Republic of Austria's Cross of Merit. She received the decoration from Theodore Piffl-Percevic, Austrian minister of education, at a ceremony in Vienna.

Prof. Stephen Kertesz has been named head of a newly created Institute for International Studies which will coordinate Notre Dame's growing international involvement in education, research and service.

Paralleling a complete study of the University curriculum launched earlier, a comprehensive study of all facets of University operations is now underway under the direction of a Steering Committee headed by the Executive Vice President, Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C. The management consultant firm of Cresap, McCormick and Paget is serving in an advisory capacity.

Notre Dame's two principal magazines, THE NOTRE DAME ALUMNUS and INSIGHT, received six awards at the annual convention of The American Alumni Council at Miami Beach in July. Their editor is John P. Thurin.

In a program inaugurated by Dean William B. Lawless, thirty Notre Dame law students are studying this year at University College, University of London. Prof. Conrad Kellenberg is faculty advisor to the second year students who will be schooled in British and international law as well as in subjects regularly offered on the Notre Dame campus.

Prof. James A. McCarthy of the civil engineering department has been honored by the National Council of Engineering Examiners meeting in Denver for "outstanding and faithful service to the engineering profession, to his State Board and to the National Council."

The Distinguished Alumni Award of New York University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences has been given to Prof. Milton Burton, director of the Radiation Laboratory.

Notre Dame's Center for Continuing Education has received The Creativity Award "for imaginative and innovative programming" of the National University Extension Association. Dean Thomas Bergin has been appointed regional NUEA chairman.

In the number of National Science Foundation predoctoral fellowships won by its graduates, Notre Dame ranked 18th among the nation's schools last year and 13th over the 1961-68 period.