

MISSOURI ALUMNUS

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LATE NEWS SECTION

Ratchford Is Interim President

Dr. C. Brice Ratchford, vice president for extension, has been named interim president of the University, replacing Dr. John C. Weaver.

In announcing the appointment, the Board of Curators was careful to point out the difference between "acting" and "interim." Ratchford is not to be a caretaker president in any sense of the word, the Board explained, but would be expected to keep the University moving ahead during the complex process to select a permanent president.

"The selection of the president of a major university is of utmost importance," Curator President Pleasant Smith said, "and must be approached in a most objective manner. We want suggestions from the faculty, administration, alumni, and any other group or individual."

Ratchford came to the University in 1959 as director of the extension service. He became dean of the extension division in 1960 and vice president in 1965. Ratchford received bachelor's and master's degrees from North Carolina State and his doctorate from Duke.



Brice Ratchford, left, confers with John Weaver.

Memo to Alumni:

As you now know, the Board of Curators has asked me to serve as interim President of the University until a successor to Dr. John C. Weaver is selected.

It is my sincere hope that an outstanding person soon will be found to lead your University on a permanent basis, and I was pleased that the Curators have recognized the need for advice from many sources.

In the meantime, however, the business of the University must go forward. Young men and women must be educated and the people of Missouri must be served. I want to take this opportunity, therefore, on behalf of the entire University community, to ask the alumni for their continued cooperation and support for their alma mater and its mission.

Sincerely,

C. Brice Ratchford
C. BRICE RATCHFORD
Interim President

Weaver Leaving For Wisconsin U.

Dr. John C. Weaver, who came to the University in September 1966 as the 14th person to serve as its president, has resigned to become president of the University of Wisconsin.

Weaver grew up in Madison, Wisconsin, and received his bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees from the University there. His father taught at Wisconsin for 43 years.

"It is difficult, indeed, for me to contemplate leaving the University of Missouri family," he said in a statement, "and my many friends throughout this state. . . . I have, however, found the wholly unanticipated invitation to go home to alma mater completely compelling."

Enrollment Rises

The University of Missouri-Columbia has 21,681 students enrolled, an increase of 599 over the fall term a year ago.

Enrollment on other campuses of the University include Kansas City, 9515, a decrease of 159; Rolla 6089, a gain of one; and St. Louis 9681, an increase of 83.

The total University enrollment of 46,966 is a record high, amounting to an increase of 524 over the 1969 figure.