



Mizzou's Chancellor

DURING COMMENCEMENT at the University of Texas at El Paso, new graduates are invited to stand if neither of their parents attended college. More than three-fourths of the group stands along with the university's president, Haskell Monroe, who was the first member of his family to finish high school.

Monroe, who went on to earn three college degrees, will become Mizzou's chancellor July 1. "I'm grateful for the opportunity to come back to a land-grant institution," says Monroe, who spent 21 years at Texas A&M, a land-grant university, before joining UTEP in 1980.

At Mizzou, he says, "I found people saying what I thought to be true already—that this is a great University but people are not satisfied. They want it to be better."

Alumni Association President Joe Moseley, AB '71, JD '76, of Columbia served on the chancellor search committee. "Haskell told me that we need to convince ourselves how good this University is and take that message outside," he says. Monroe is equipped for the task, Moseley says. "He is a man of high integrity, a strong and fair administrator and, above all else, an educator."

Monroe already has volunteered to teach a 7-40 a.m. history class to Mizzou freshmen, a tradition he will continue from the University of Texas, where he also serves as a professor of history. "The public expects us to be teachers first," he says. In addition, "We must demonstrate how important research and public service are to the state and the nation."

The 56-year-old Monroe describes himself as diligent and thoughtful. "I worry and fret over things but also take the time to give a smile or send a note to a family that has had a tragedy or a triumph. I hope you would say I care and am accessible."

Monroe pledged to work with other members of the University community to improve Mizzou. "This is not an 'I' job, but a 'we' job," he said. Among his goals, Monroe

listed recruiting top students, attracting more black and women faculty members, and securing endowed chairs and professorships.

In particular, he noted concern about Mizzou's low minority enrollment. In contrast, more than half of the El Paso student body is Hispanic, and the community is about 65 percent Hispanic. The school's guest speakers have included San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros, whom Monroe recruited to attend Texas A&M.

At Mizzou, "I am concerned that we demonstrate that we are seeking black students of high talent. Those students are going to be the leaders of the future, and we want to make sure that they wear black-and-gold uniforms in their hearts." The new chancellor also vowed to pursue all of the state's National Merit Scholars. He plans to step up student-recruitment efforts in Kansas City and St. Louis, and hopes to offer more scholarships.

Monroe plans to spend the summer traveling throughout Missouri. "I particularly want to ensure that we serve the entire state," he says. A member of the board of directors of Southwestern Bell Corp., Monroe already has a working relationship with several Missouri business leaders, including Henry Bloch, Zane Barnes, Charles F. "Chuck" Knight, Clarence Barksdale and August A. Busch III. Knight was chair of a committee that in 1986 suggested ways to improve the University's structure.

While at the University of Texas, Monroe developed strong ties with the community and with legislators, says UM President C. Peter Magrath. "By every account, he has done an excellent job of both leading and managing at El Paso." During his seven-year tenure, Monroe successfully led a campaign for a \$28 million library; research support tripled and private giving increased fivefold.

Monroe has a bachelor's degree in history and English, and a master's degree in history from Austin College. He holds a PhD in history from Rice University. He's been married to Jo Phillips for 30 years but still refers to her as his bride. The couple have four grown children: Stephen, Melanie, Mark and John.

Monroe will earn \$95,000 a year. He succeeds Barbara S. Uehling, who resigned effective Dec. 31. Uehling now is chancellor at the University of California-Santa Barbara.

Interim Chancellor Duane Stucky is expected to return to his former position as vice chancellor for Administrative Services. In the interim, Stucky served "with high dedication and effectiveness," Magrath says. Adds Moseley, "This University is a better place than it was six months ago."

—Carol Hunter



Larry Boehm

Chancellor Haskell Monroe is introduced at a May 2 news conference in the new Ellis Library addition.