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Lynne V. Cheney, the endowment's chairman: Critics' complaints are an example of "restricted thinking."



John Hammer, of National Humanities Alliance: He sees a downward trend in number of scholars on the council.

2 Scholarly Organizations Say Humanities Endowment's Council Hasn't Enough Academics; Chairman Calls Complaints 'Elitist'

By CHRISTOPHER MYERS

WASHINGTON

Scholars are clashing with the chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities over who should be on the endowment's advisory council.

The leaders of two major scholarly organizations are opposing a new nominee to

the council, saying she does not have a distinguished record as a scholar or administrator.

They say the number of academics on the 26-member council has been declining, making it imperative that the scholars who are appointed have strong records in academe. Critics of the endowment say that if

the decline continues, the council may become less effective at judging the merit of grant proposals for scholarly projects.

Lynne V. Cheney, the endowment's chairman, says the groups' complaints are "elitist," politically motivated, and an example of "restricted thinking." She says the groups' assessment that the representation of humanities scholars on the council has declined is erroneous.

The National Council on the Humanities provides advice to the endowment's chairman on policies and procedures, and also makes recommendations on grants. The White House nominates the council members, usually on the recommendation of the agency's chairman, and nominees must be confirmed by the Senate.

The controversy came to a head over the recent nomination of Carol Iannone, an administrator and English instructor in New York University's Gallatin Division. That

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U.S. and Dozens of Colleges Tangle Over Loans for Students Preparing for Health-Services Jobs

By SCOTT JASCHIK

WASHINGTON

The federal government and dozens of colleges and universities are fighting over the management of federal loan programs for students who are preparing for careers in health-related professions.

The government, charging that the colleges have violated federal regulations, is demanding that millions of dollars be repaid to it. Officials are threatening to bar institutions that do not repay from the loan programs.

Many of the institutions, however, maintain that the government is applying rules retroactively and unfairly. Some universities are considering suing the government or asking Congress to put an end to the repayment campaign.

Based on Enrollment Formulas

The controversy involves the Health Professions Student Loan Program, in which the Department of Health and Human Services provides money to colleges and universities, which in turn establish loan pools from which students can borrow.

The money is distributed to colleges based on enrollment formulas, and the institutions must match one-ninth of the

amount they receive each year from Health and Human Services for the program.

Health and Human Services officials say many colleges failed to put back into their loan pools the interest they earned on pool funds while they were not being used. A department audit has projected that about \$42-million was not reinvested. Colleges

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Supercollider Scientists Are Embroiled in Dispute; Outcome Could Raise Project's \$8-Billion Cost

By KIM A. McDONALD

Scientists working on the Superconducting Supercollider are embroiled in a dispute over the design of the collider's magnets—a debate that could lead to another increase in the project's \$8.25-billion price tag.

Scientists at the s.s.c. Laboratory in Dallas and at the Department of Energy who are familiar with the discussion said last week that the design change, if it were approved, could lead to "substantial" increases in the cost of the subatomic-particle collider and to delays in its construction. Some scientists estimate that the cost of implementing the changes suggested for

the magnets could range from \$50-million to \$100-million.

The continuing debate and the possibility of a cost increase contradict assurances from officials at the s.s.c. Laboratory and the Energy Department that the technical questions surrounding the supercollider's magnets have been resolved and that further increases in the project's cost are not in the offing. The Energy Department is overseeing construction of the project, 25 miles south of Dallas.

Only two months ago, Deputy Secretary of Energy W. Henson Moore assured reporters that the department's final esti-

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Scholars Say NEH Panel Hasn't Enough Academic.

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division offers flexible class schedules, self-designed majors, and a core reading list of 24 books to its students, many of whom hold full-time jobs. Both the Modern Language Association and the American Council of Learned Societies have lodged formal objections to Ms. Iannone's nomination.

The groups say Ms. Iannone does not have enough experience as a scholar or as an academic administrator to be qualified to advise the N.E.H. chairman on grant and policy decisions.

Ms. Iannone has been at New York University for the past three years. She is a vice-president of the National Association of Scholars and has written numerous magazine articles, most of them for *Commentary*, a conservative journal. She did not return repeated phone calls.

The M.L.A. protested Ms. Iannone's nomination in a letter last month to members of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, which has jurisdiction over the humanities endowment. The A.C.L.S. followed with a similar letter last week.

Stanley N. Katz, the president of the A.C.L.S., said in his letter: "It seems to us that if Dr. Iannone is confirmed, it will set a disturbing precedent and may lead to a diminution of the council's prestige and influence, especially within the national academic community."

Confirmation of nominees to the N.E.H. council is usually routine,

but Ms. Iannone's nomination has been stalled since it was sent to Congress in January. A staff member of the Senate committee said several Senators were "interested" in the nomination. She would not elaborate.

Mrs. Cheney has defended Ms. Iannone's qualifications to serve on the council. Mrs. Cheney said in a letter to the Modern Language Association that the endowment

administrators. Of those but one are from large comprehensive universities.

'Ludicrously Low'

Humanities advocates say hope nominations will be with an eye toward at least taining the current representation of humanities scholars from universities. Mr. Katz of the can Council of Learned Societies said humanities scholars constitute a "ludicrously low portion of the council's membership. He said at least 50 per cent council's members should be humanities scholars.

Added Mr. Katz: "The council does has to do with professional values and standards in the humanities, and in most cases academics are going to be the most fully qualified to judge those matters."

The scholarly groups and Mrs. Cheney have disagreed about many scholars are now on the council. The disagreement appeared to center on different methods of counting.

The National Humanities Alliance, a coalition of humanities groups, conducted a survey last year and concluded that representation of humanities scholars from colleges and universities had declined over the last 15 years. Mrs. Cheney took issue with the study and offered her own accounting of the council's membership.

John Hammer, director of the National Humanities Alliance, said that even after he had adjusted counting to conform to Mrs. Cheney's method, he still found a general downward trend in the representation of scholars on the council.

Mrs. Cheney, as well as current and past members of the council, say the concerns of scholarly groups are misplaced. Leon R. Kass, who was a member of the council for seven years before leaving the panel last month, said the interests of colleges and universities were "well represented" on the panel. Several of the people recently appointed to the council were strong scholars, he said, adding that nearly two-thirds of the present members hold doctoral degrees, most of them in the humanities. The makeup of the panel, he said, is not "a cause for worry or embarrassment."

Kass is a professor in the University of Chicago's Committee on Social Thought. Mrs. Cheney said that in selecting council members next year, the Administration would give special consideration to prospects from the faculties of research universities. She added, however, that she would refuse to get involved in what she called "the quota game."

A Rapid-Fire Exchange

The Modern Language Association's original letter protesting Ms. Iannone's nomination triggered a rapid-fire exchange of correspondence between the association's executive director, Phyllis Fraulini, and Mrs. Cheney.

Mrs. Cheney wrote: "How sad it makes me to see the Modern Language Association's Executive

"The core of almost everything that the N.E.H. does has to do with professional values and standards in the humanities."

supported a broad range of activities besides research and that the agency therefore "should be advised by a council characterized by a diversity of scholars—and public members as well."

She wrote that Ms. Iannone was "a well-published writer on contemporary cultural matters" and was "well-positioned to advise the endowment."

Ms. Iannone's nomination came at a time when many of the scholars on the N.E.H. council were nearing the end of their terms.

Of the nine council members whose six-year terms expire next year, eight are faculty members or

Members of the National Council on the Humanities

The following are the members of the National Council on the Humanities. There are three openings on the panel. One person whose term has expired—Mary J. C. Cremons, the founding chairman of the Raleigh (N.C.) Arts Commission—is continuing to serve until she is replaced.

<p>Terms expiring in 1992:</p> <p>Aram Bakshian, Jr., independent writer in Washington.</p> <p>Alan K. Barnstein, director of the Institute for National Strategic Studies of the National Defense University.</p> <p>Robert E. Hollander, Jr., professor of European literature at Princeton University.</p> <p>David Lowenthal, professor of political science at Boston College.</p> <p>Paul J. O'Rourke, president of Bowling Green State U.</p> <p>Arne Paolucci, professor of English at Saint John's U. (New York).</p> <p>John Shelton Reed, Jr., professor of sociology at U. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.</p> <p>Carolyn Reid-Wallace, vice-chancellor for academic affairs at City U. of New York.</p> <p>Robert Stevens, chancellor of U. of California at Santa Cruz.</p> <p>Terms expiring in 1994:</p> <p>Michael T. Bass, president of the Bass Group (Pensacola, Fla.), a management consulting company.</p> <p>Patrick Butler, vice-president of Newswatch (Washington).</p> <p>Edwin J. Canabro, scholar in residence, Boston U.</p>	<p>Missel Fradette, vice-president for programs, Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation (Milwaukee).</p> <p>Billie Davis Gaines, independent scholar and writer, director of the mayor's office of education, Atlanta.</p> <p>Donald Fagan, dean of Yale College and professor of history and classics, Yale U.</p> <p>William Wright, board chairman and owner, Western Marketing, Inc. (Abilene, Tex.).</p> <p>Terms expiring in 1996:</p> <p>Bruce Benson, president of the Benson Mineral Group (Golden, Colo.).</p> <p>Walter Gray Crawford, vice-president of Crawford and Associates (New Orleans), an investment and petroleum consulting company.</p> <p>Margaret P. Duckett, a volunteer in Philadelphia cultural organizations.</p> <p>Miklos Hane, professor of history, Knox College.</p> <p>Henry M. Higgins, tutor, St. John's College (Maryland).</p> <p>Jan N. Mullins, vice-president and dean of the college, St. Clair College.</p> <p>Peter Shaw, professor of humanities, St. Peter's College.</p>
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The M.L.A.'s Phyllis Franklin: Council members should have "records of distinguished service and scholarship or creativity."

Council fall once again into the old elitist pattern."

The M.L.A.'s letter, Mrs. Cheney wrote, assumed "that only one kind of academic is suited to be on the council: someone from a research university who publishes in journals like *Publications of the Modern Language Association*."

Political Motivation Seen

Mrs. Cheney's letter went on to say that the N.E.H.'s governing legislation called for council members who would "provide a comprehensive representation of the views of scholars and professional practitioners in the humanities."

Ms. Franklin then wrote again to Mrs. Cheney, pointing out that the N.E.H.'s legislation called for council members who have "records of

distinguished service and scholarship or creativity." Ms. Franklin argued that Ms. Iannone did not have such a record.

In an interview, Mrs. Cheney charged that the objections to Ms. Iannone were politically motivated. Although both Ms. Franklin and Mr. Katz said in their letters that their complaints were not motivated by politics, Mrs. Cheney said they "doth protest too much."

One scholar, who asked not to be identified, said that in making recommendations for council members Mrs. Cheney was herself motivated by politics and was practicing "conservative populism."

Mrs. Cheney responded: "I love it. Call me a conservative populist anytime, rather than the opposite, which is a liberal elitist." ■

Washington Almanac

Congressional Hearings

WASHINGTON

The following hearings of interest to educators and scientists are scheduled for the coming weeks. Since changes frequently occur with little advance notice, it is advisable to check with committees on or near the hearing dates.

SENATE

Computing. April 11. Hearing on S 343, a bill to improve federal policies on high-performance computing. Contact: Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; (202) 224-4971.

Education Department and NIH. April 16-18, 23-25. Hearings on appropriations for the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Departments. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education; (202) 224-7288.

NASA. May 8. Hearing on appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 224-7231.

National Science Foundation. April 24. Hearing on appropriations for the National Science Foundation and the Office of Science and Technology Policy. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 224-7231.

National service. May 15. Hearing on budget proposals for fiscal year 1992 for

the Commission on National Service and the Points of Light Foundation. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 224-7231.

Science education. April 23. Hearing on appropriations to examine the science-education programs of various federal agencies. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 224-7231.

Superconducting Supercollider. April 16. Hearing on the Energy Department's Superconducting Supercollider program. Contact: Senate Subcommittee on Energy Research and Development; (202) 224-4971.

Veterans' benefits. April 17. Hearing on budget proposals for fiscal 1992 for the Veterans Affairs Department. Contact: Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 224-7231.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NASA. April 10-11. Hearings on appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Contact: House Appropriations Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies; (202) 225-3241.

National Institutes of Health. April 15-16. Hearings on HR 1532, a bill that would reauthorize parts of the National Institutes of Health, make permanent the N.I.H. Office of Women's Health Research, and make changes in some agency policies. Contact: House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health and the Environment; (202) 226-7620.