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Bulletin 11/18/65

Keeney to Head New U.S. Board On Humanities

Journal-Bulletin Washington Bureau

Washington—President Johnson announced today the appointment of Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney, president of Brown University, as chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Council on the Humanities.

The White House announcement said the appointment will be effective about July 1, 1966. Dr. Keeney had announced that he would step down as university president at the end of the academic year.

The national council and the national endowment are part of the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities created by Congress this year under legislation sponsored by Sen. Claiborne Pell.

The National Endowment on the Humanities will administer a program of fellowships, grants-in-aid, and loans to develop study, research, training, publications, conferences, seminars, and workshops in the humanities. The humanities cover a broad range of studies outside the sciences including lan-



Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney

guages, literature, history, law, philosophy, and the social sciences.

The appointment to the chairmanship of the National Endowment is for a four-year term at an annual salary of \$28,500.

The National Council on the

Humanities, which Dr. Keeney also will head, is an advisory board to the foundation. The chairmanship does not carry a salary. The White House said the President will announce appointment of the 26 members of the council in the near future.

Dr. Henry Allen Moe, president emeritus of the Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation in New York, will act as chairman of the endowment until Dr. Keeney assumes his duties, the White House said.

President Johnson also announced the appointment of S. Dillon Ripley, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, as chairman of the Federal Council on the Arts and Humanities. The federal council is made up of the chairmen, of the endowments for the arts and humanities, and heads of other agencies with programs involving the arts and humanities. The council is a coordinating group.

With the appointment of Dr.

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Keeney**

Keeney to Head Board

Keeney

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Keeney and Mr. Ripley, the administration has completed the roster of top administrators for the new arts and humanities program.

Roger L. Stevens was previously appointed chairman of the National Endowment on the Arts and the National Council on the Arts.

Dr. Keeney was one of the early leaders in the movement that led to creation of the humanities endowment. He served as chairman of the Commission on the Humanities. The commission, established by the American Council of Learned Societies, the Council of Graduate Schools, and the United Chapters of Phi Beta Kappa, made a comprehensive study of the need for federal government assistance in the humanities.

The study was partly an outgrowth of concern that federal government programs were emphasizing the development of the natural sciences and neglecting parallel development of the humanistic studies.

Dr. Keeney has always championed the humanities.

Two years ago he served as chairman of the National Commission on the Humanities, which explored the need of government money in improving teaching, scholarship and creativity in that field.

The idea was to provide aid to struggling artists, performers, scholars and cultural groups. Dr. Keeney as chairman of the group of distinguished educators investigating the possibilities strongly favored a new deal for the arts.

Dr. Keeney strongly favored action finally taken by Congress after considerable debate. He had argued that great minds must not all be diverted to science because attention must be paid to "justice, freedom, virtue,

beauty and truth—which elevate the nation's goals."

Under terms of the new agencies, philosophy, languages, archaeology, history, history of art, musicology, law, cultural anthropology and some aspects of economics, geography, political science, psychology and sociology would benefit.

The thought was that an institution similar to the National Science Foundation would help humanists present their case in troubled times that threaten destruction of the human race.

Dr. Keeney, a historian by background, has always showed interest in these problems.

He announced last June that he was stepping down as president of the university because he felt "most college presidents get their best work done in 10 years" and then tend to become complacent.

The 50-year-old onetime professor of medieval history made the announcement at commencement exercises and its bursting upon the public suddenly was characteristic of him.

During his decade at Brown, the university underwent much growth. One of the most dramatic events during his tenure was the offering of a five-million-dollar challenge grant to the university by the Ford Foundation. The gift is contingent upon Brown raising 10 million by 1967.

In Dr. Keeney's 10 years, endowment of the university doubled to 55 million dollars. The physical plant also doubled in value, to 40 million. The operating budget trebled to about 25 million.

Dr. Keeney was born in Halfway, Ore. He was educated in the East. His father was an engineer who traveled a good deal. Dr. Keeney is married to the former Mary E. Critchfield of Hartford. They have three children.

He grew up in Connecticut and later received his A.B. from

the University of North Carolina. He obtained his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard University and won a number of graduate fellowships.

During World War II, Dr. Keeney was in charge of a military intelligence team in the European theater. He participated in the battles of Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. He was decorated with the Purple Heart, Bronze Star medal, and Silver Star.

Dr. Keeney started his career in education as a history instructor at Harvard University. He became assistant professor of history at Brown in 1946 and full professor in 1951.

He served as dean of the graduate school and then as dean of the college before being named to the presidency. Dr. Keeney has contributed to many learned publications and is the author of a book dealing with early English history.