

*CU Record*



Two Sloan Fellowship recipients: assistant professors Susan DeRiemer of biological sciences and David

## Commission Begins Review Of College Core

Undertaking the first full-scale review in 50 years of Columbia College's core curriculum, a new commission will begin the first phase of its work next week.

The Commission on the Core Curriculum, headed by Wm. Theodore deBary, the John Mitchell Mason Professor of the University, will hold six weekly meetings at the Heyman Center for the Humanities, which has recently sponsored discussions on the state of the humanities, to determine the state of general education in undergraduate institutions today, identify any problems in Columbia's core and hear from several groups concerned with the issue.

Members of the commission are: Robert Belknap, professor of Slavic languages; Myron L. Cohen, professor of anthropology; Arnold Coltery, professor of economics; James A. Coulter, professor of classics; Ainslie T. Embree, professor of history and chairman of the staff of Contemporary Civilization; Gerald Feinberg, professor of physics; Barbara J. Fields, professor of history; Flynn; Carol Glück, professor of East Asian languages and cultures; Charles V. Hamilton, Wallace Sayre Professor of Political Science; Carl Hovde, professor of English and comparative literature; Richard F. Kuhns Jr., professor of philosophy; Frank J. Macchiarola, professor of business; Steven Marcus, George Delacorte Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Leeman L. Perkins, professor of music; Wayne L. Proudfoot, professor of religion; David Rosand, professor of art history and archaeology; Malvin A. Ruderman, Centennial Professor of Physics, and Jacob W. Smit, Queen Wilhelmina Professor of History.

The formation of a commission was announced at the February College

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## Faculty Win Sloans

They are among 90 winners from 43 institutions around the country who were honored for outstanding achievement and promise in physics, chemistry, neuroscience, economics, and pure and applied mathematics.

The prestigious fellowships were established in 1955 to encourage basic research by scholars at a stage in their careers when teaching duties can be most pressing and other support is difficult to obtain. This year's fellows were identified as showing the greatest promise of doing original work in their fields. Thirteen Sloan Fellows have gone on to win Nobel Prizes, 11 have won the Fields Medal for mathematics, and hundreds have received other major awards.

"This program continues to identify exceptionally able young scientists and to provide them with flexible funding

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## Swordsmen Win National Crown

The Columbia men's varsity fencing team captured its second straight National Collegiate Athletic Association championships last weekend at Princeton. Lion fencers won top honors in all three weapons, the first time any team has accomplished the feat since 1961.

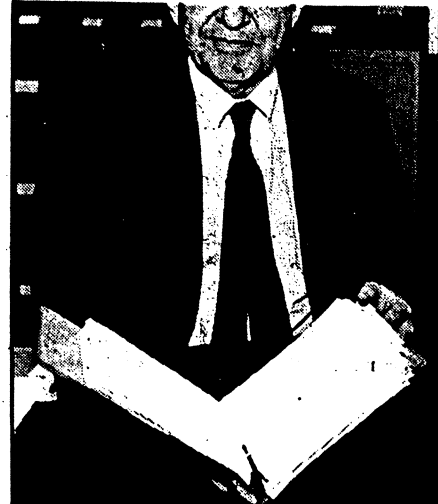
waiting to clinch the national title," he said.

Bob Cottingham won the sabre title with an 18-3 record, with Chris Reoht second with 18-2. Marc Kent captured the foil crown with an 18-3 mark, while Bill Mindel was third at

and Columbia's St. Paul's Chapel. The Guastavinos also constructed bridge approaches, like those for the Queensborough Bridge, and overpasses for New York's West Side Highway.

The elder Guastavino was a forerunner of the Catalan architect Antonio Gaudi, whose works Columbia's Catalan Archive of Art and Architecture was originally organized to study.

Collins, who was honored in 1986 with a day-long symposium at Columbia in celebration of his achievements, has written more than 26 books and articles, including two books on Gaudi, and was technical advisor to an award-winning film on Gaudi. During more than 40 years of scholarship and teaching, he has edited a number of books on city planning and architecture, organized a number of influential exhibitions and received a Guggenheim Fellowship and grants from the American Council of



Eileen Llaneza

George Collins

Learned Societies to further his research on Spanish architecture and city planning.

## CC Core . . .

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faculty meeting, when the faculty voted to replace the College's remoteness requirement, obliging students to take six points outside their primary area of study, with a requirement that all undergraduates take six points dealing with a major world culture not represented in Contemporary Civilization or Humanities A. That requirement will begin to come into effect next year; the College Committee on Instruction will determine which courses now taught in the College will meet the requirement.

The meetings of the commission scheduled between Apr. 6 and May 3 will hear various opinions on the current state of the core; representatives of the Undergraduate Academic Affairs Committee, Student Council and the staffs of Humanities A and Contemporary Civilization will speak. Other meetings will consider alumni views of their experience with the core; the second-year course in Contemporary Civilization required before 1969, and University administrators' perceptions of problems with the core.

In establishing the commission dean Robert E. Pollack asked that it discuss the validity of the notion of a core curriculum, what such a core should include

and how texts should be chosen, the role of science in the core, the place of junior and senior faculty in teaching core courses and the role of the core in shaping faculty hiring practices.

"This is a time of lively ferment for higher education, and I think we are obliged to respond with a serious evaluation of Columbia College's priorities and academic values," said Pollack.

"Theoretical and methodological problems will have to come into the discussion," said deBary. "We are working from an established base. We are not assuming that everything will remain the same, but we are working from something we think works fairly well, not starting from scratch."

A committee headed by George W. Flynn, professor of chemistry, will examine the role of science in general education. After the scheduled meetings to define the state of the core, the commission will identify areas that merit additional study, such as the place of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences in general education, in the summer and early fall.

"We will, I'm sure, want to consider whether included under the core might be problems not necessarily concerned with a particular culture, such as ecology or environmental problems," said deBary. "We want to leave ourselves free to address problems and issues regardless of disciplinary boundaries."

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