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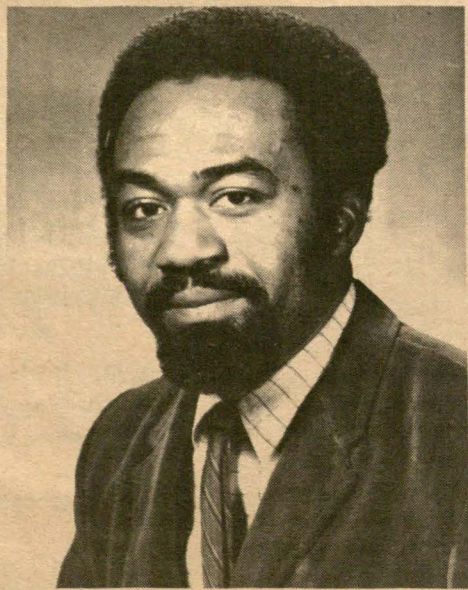
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Boston University



BUSM Appoints First Black Dean

by John Polk
BUSM III

Dr. Edgar E. Smith, Associate professor of Biochemistry, has recently been appointed to the position of Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the School of Medicine. This is the first time a Black has been appointed to such an administrative position in the history of the school.

Dr. Smith's principle concerns will be the recruitment and retention of Black and other minority students. This is the second such appointment at BUSM with a principal concern related to the minority student problem. In the fall issue of *Centerscope* (Vol. 4, No. 6) it was announced that Dr. Jacob Schwartz had been appointed to the position of Associate Dean for Admissions with a principal concern of "furthering the admission of qualified applicants from minority segments of the population."

Dr. Smith's appointment is an indication of the magnitude of the problems that still exist in the areas of recruitment and retention of Black and other minority students at BUSM. BUSM has stated that it will accept a minimum number of minority students for each class reflecting the percentage of that minority in the population of the U.S.

Dr. Smith is a graduate of Tougaloo College (Mississippi) and received both his M.A. and Ph.D. in Biochemistry from

Purdue University. He did his post-doctoral work at the Beth Israel Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston. Following this work Dr. Smith received a faculty appointment at Harvard Medical School in the Department of Surgery as a Cancer Researcher.

Prior to assuming his new position, Dr. Smith was a member of the Admissions Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on Black Graduate Education in the Arts and Sciences, the BUSM Minority Recruitment Committee, the BUSM Boston Area Recruitment Committee, the editorial board of *Centerscope*, and the Department of Surgery. Most importantly, Dr. Smith was in the vanguard of those who sought change in the attitudes and practices of BUSM concerning Black and other minorities.

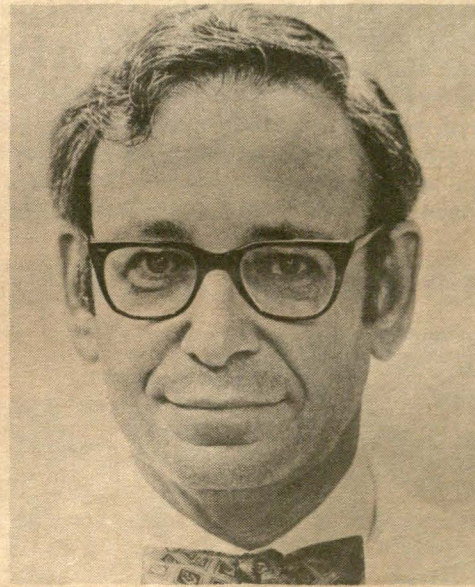
This appointment is received with cautious optimism by the Black students at the Medical School. They are aware that Dr. Smith alone cannot solve the problems of recruitment and particularly of retention of Black and other minority students. To solve such a problem it will take the entire medical school family, both administrative and instructional. Then and only then will BUSM fulfill its commitment of producing physicians who will deliver quality medical services to all segments of the population.

Alan Cohen Returns to BCH

A well known physician, who believes his profession can no longer ignore follow-up care and the social and community aspects of medicine, has been named director of the Boston University Medical Services at Boston City Hospital.

Dr. Alan S. Cohen, a graduate of the BU School of Medicine, who had four years of his early training at Boston City Hospital, succeeds Dr. Norman G. Levinsky, the recently appointed physician-in-chief at University Hospital.

Dr. Cohen is currently professor of medicine at BU and head of the Arthritis and Connective Tissue Disease Section at University Hospital. He has built one of the finest sections of rheumatology in the nation and his personal investigations of amyloidosis have gained him an international reputation as an outstanding medical scientist and a leader in the field. Over the past decade he and his associates have rendered clinical care in his



specialty to patients treated at Boston City Hospital.

These were a few of Dr. Cohen's thoughts on accepting the assignment as Director of the Service and Conrad Wesselhoef Professor of Medicine.

"The goal of ideal patient care in the present medical era can be met only by coordination between inpatient and

ambulatory care. We will be most successful when our hospital beds are less important due to better provision of family and community care and preventive medicine. No longer can the physician provide for the acute illness of the individual and ignore followup care and the social and community aspects of
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New Head of Pediatrics

BUMC Office of Communications

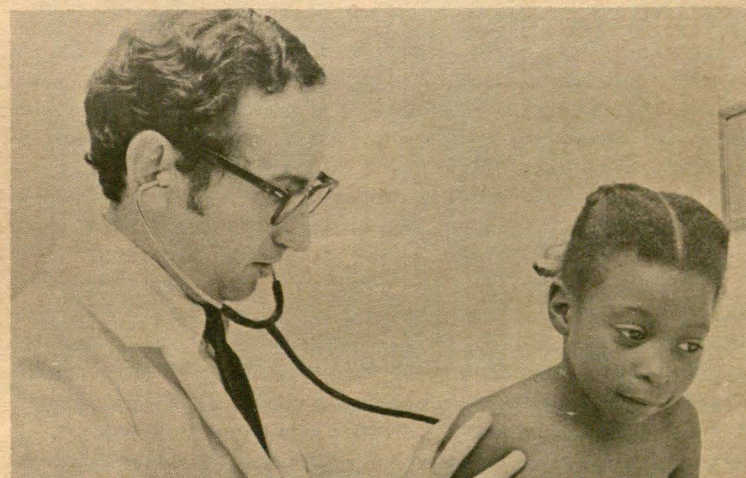
Dr. Joel J. Alpert has been named director of the Boston University-Boston City Hospital Pediatric Unit. He also assumes the posts of professor of Pediatrics and chairman of the Pediatric Department at Boston University School of Medicine.

The announcement was made jointly by Dr. Lewis H. Rohrbaugh, director of BU Medical Center, Mayor Kevin H. White, Francis Guiney, director of City Hospital and Dr. Ephraim Friedman, dean of BU Medical School.

Dr. Alpert succeeds Dr. Paul Rosman, who has been serving as acting director of the Pediatric Unit. The last permanent Pediatric Chief was Dr. Horace Gezon, who resigned because of ill health.

Dr. Alpert, formerly associate professor of Pediatrics and medical director of the Family and Child Health Division at Harvard Medical School, plans to intensify the Unit's emphasis on health care delivery both within and outside of the hospital setting. He also stresses the need for medical schools to more adequately educate pediatricians to meet family needs.

The new chief of Pediatrics termed the Children's Building, which has been completely renovated within the last three years at a cost of \$1,000,000, "one of the finest facilities in which a child could receive



care." The nine-story building now has 86 beds, a comprehensive outpatient department, a 24-hour emergency service, operating rooms, research facilities and a complete radiology department. He also praised the Unit's "one-class" system of care and its outstanding staff.

Dr. Alpert said he hopes that the Pediatric Department is invited to provide medical services, involving medical students and pediatric residents, in community health clinics. "Physicians' education must take place in the community, as well as in the hospital, if our doctors are going to learn how to meet the needs of patients," he said. "Programs in lead screening, those for detecting learning disabilities and dealing with common pediatric illnesses, rightfully belong in the

community where they are most accessible and effective."

A graduate of Yale University, Dr. Alpert received his M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School. He did his internship and residency at The Children's Hospital Medical Center in Boston, and was also an exchange registrar at St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London. From 1959-1961 Dr. Alpert was a captain in the United States Air Force where he served as a pediatrician. In 1961 he was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. Dr. Alpert is a member of numerous medical organizations including the Ambulatory Pediatric Association, of which he is a past president, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the for Research in Child Development, as well as the Massachusetts Medical Society.

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by Dan Dress BUSM III

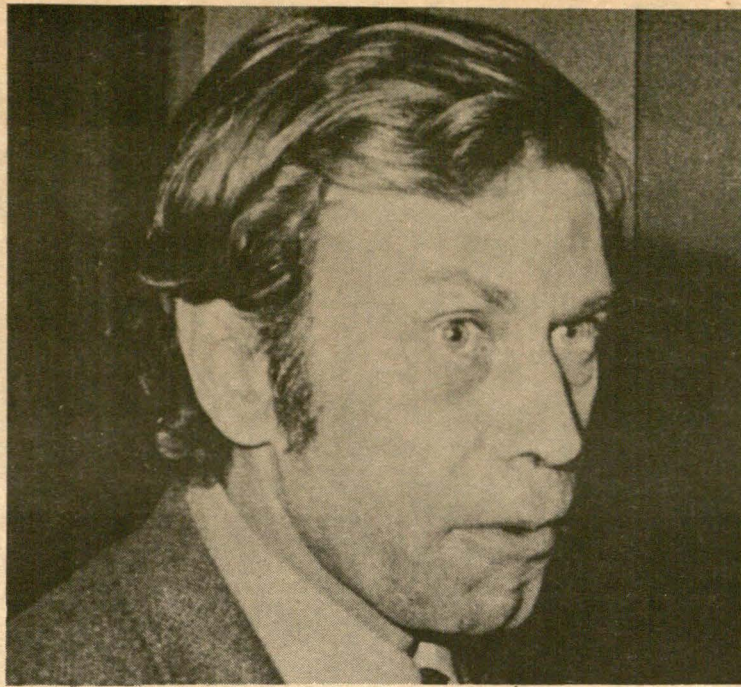
It is now more than twenty-three years since William McNary entered BUSM as a Graduate Student in Anatomy.

Only a short period prior to that time Dr. McNary was still planning upon a career in medicine. However, as an undergraduate at Tufts, he became acquainted with a Biologist whom he came to regard very highly. This teacher suggested to the young student to apply to the post-graduate program at B.U.'s Department of Anatomy. That was in 1949. After receiving his Ph.D., Dr. McNary stayed on in the department as Instructor, and is currently Associate Professor.

Married, with two children, Dr. McNary rises at 6:30 to make the daily forty mile trip from his home in Attleboro and to be at school by 8:30. His workday ends at about 8 P.M. with another hour and a half of paper-work ahead of him at home. Most of Saturday is involved in writing letters, doing research, or keeping up with the literature. Dr. McNary tries to set aside at least half of Sunday for his family. He used the time this past winter to build a canoe with his son.

Dr. McNary's extensive involvement in medical school affairs dates back to 1965, when he was appointed Vice-Chairman of the Building committee, involved at that time in planning the new Instructional Building. At the request of Dean Ebaugh, he travelled throughout the country, studying how the newer laboratories were being put together and run. During this time, Dr. McNary argued for the purchase of teaching equipment in the new building, a grant for which was approved.

Dr. McNary is quoted as saying, "I sort of ended up like the general handyman. I knew more about the building, and I knew more about the grants, and I knew more about the general functions of the building. So I



ended up being what you might call director for the opening of the Instructional Building." Dr. McNary spent about a year ordering the furniture and equipment and managing the building as it opened. He states that, "Even now, if somebody gets stuck in an elevator, they call me. I don't know why, but they do."

About two years ago, students at BUSM expressed the desire for a new position within the administration, that of Dean of Students. Dean Bakst relayed this request to Medical Center officials, who gave their stamp of approval. After interviewing a number of candidates, the student search committee recommended Dr. William McNary for the position of Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

As Dean of Students, Dr. McNary functions as follows: a kind of psychiatrist-in-house in his advisory role to students for both domestic and academic problems; a liaison between students, faculty, and administration; chairman of the Financial Aid Committee; writing letters for students seeking electives and internships, as well as for alumni seeking new hospital appointments; helping to organize student activities; and chief troubleshooter during crises.

Dr. McNary states that in his position, "There is a certain amount of confidence you must earn, and if you earn the confidence, then the job works. If you don't earn the confidence, it doesn't work. As long as I can continue to earn the confidence of the students in my ability to do something for them and with them, then I think that I should stay in this position. But if that stops, I'm going to leave, because then I'm not doing my job."

Apparently the students believe he has been doing his job. For example, the recently published Attitude survey conducted by Dr. Labovitz of CBA pointed out that Dr. McNary received a greater amount of positive comments than any other member of either the faculty or the administration. Many students felt he was a faculty member who was "in their corner."

In his role as Dean of Students, Dr. McNary believes that there are some faculty who look upon him with suspicion, not being quite sure of what position he will take in a certain issue. Some might feel he is in one and then another "camp". Dr. McNary states, however, that, "what I try to do is what I feel is the best for the school, and that includes the students

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Cohen

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and the faculty. As long as you do that, no one, really, is going to suffer."

Dr. McNary pointed out three areas in which he as Dean of Students must strive to work more effectively. First, there must be more rapid communication to the student body. Secondly, student records must be reorganized so that they can be kept up-to-date as students go through clinical rotations. "I don't get enough input (early in the course of a rotation) as to how a student is doing. It has happened that a student who is doing poorly is not talked to so that we do not find out what is happening until the end of the program, when it's too late." Thirdly, Dr. McNary points out that there should be better communication between the three major teaching hospitals and the Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs.

Besides his teaching and research responsibilities, and his positions as Dean of Students and Director of Student Laboratories, Dr. McNary also serves on a number of committees, and is now the Director of the new Department of Biocommunications. He confesses to sometimes having a problem saying "no". "When someone comes and asks me to do something, I'm usually kind of pleased that they've asked me. I hate to say no, so I usually end up doing it if I can. However, I sometimes find myself in a position where you can't do as good a job as you'd like because of time."

Dr. McNary agrees that, in a way, he probably possesses too many jobs. However, he is currently working to release himself from some of his lesser duties, to allow him to devote more time to the tasks he considers more important and enjoyable. Fortunately, he confesses, the position he enjoys most is that of Dean of Students.

illness. My major aim will be to develop these areas (inpatient and ambulatory) in the BU Service of Boston City Hospital to provide the local community that we serve with the best that modern medicine can offer."

Dean Friedman offered these remarks.

"As the Boston City Hospital continues to be one of the most important clinical affiliations of the Boston University School of Medicine, I am pleased that we have been able to attract to the Chairmanship of the Fifth and Sixth BU Medical Services at the Boston City Hospital one of our most illustrious and outstanding faculty members."

"Dr. Alan Cohen's skill as a teacher, investigator, physician and administrator represents the best that BUSM can offer to students, trainees and patients at the Boston City Hospital. It is an appointment of which we are proud."

Dr. Cohen is a native of Boston and graduated from Boston Latin School with honors. He did his undergraduate work at Harvard where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude. He repeated Magna Cum Laude when he graduated with the 1952 class at Boston University School of Medicine. In addition, he was valedictorian, president of Alpha Omega Alpha, vice-president of Begg Honor Society and winner of the Maimonides Award of the Greater Boston Medical Society.

He served his internship and residency in the Harvard Medical Service at Boston City Hospital, was a senior assistant surgeon in the Public Health Service and later an exchange registrar in medicine at St. Andrews University Medical School in Scotland. After two years as a research and clinical fellow at Massachusetts General Hospital, he taught in the Department of Anatomy and the Arthritis Unit of Harvard Medical School. Dr. Cohen returned to BUSM in 1960 as head of the Arthritis and Connective Tissue Disease Section and subsequently was named professor of medicine.

Dr. Cohen is heavily involved in a number of organizations. He is past president of the New England Rheumatism Society and on the governing boards of the National Arthritis Foundation and the American Rheumatism Association. He is consultant to the National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration, Veteran's Administration and other organizations.

Dr. Cohen also holds membership in the American Society for Clinical Investigation, Association of American Physicians, American Federation for Clinical Research, Electron Microscope Society of America, Society of Experimental Biology and Medicine, American Society for Experimental Pathology, American Society for Cell Biology, New York Academy of Science, Massachusetts Medical Society, American Medical Association, and is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

Women's Committee

by Serena Mailloux BUSM II

A Committee on Women at BUSM, headed by Dr. Leah Lowenstein, was formed last semester at the request of the dean, and has been investigating the status and treatment of women in the admissions process, during medical school training, during internships and residencies, and as faculty members. A preliminary report was submitted to the Executive Committee at its last meeting. Further data is being gathered on salaries and ranks of women faculty members and will be presented in September.

The committee found the ratio of women to men in the total applicant pool similar to that in the class selected from the pool. It was suggested that BU institute a program of soliciting women applicants, abolish the age limit (this has already been done), and preferentially select women from the waiting list. Detailed questions on plans for marriage and children during an interview were not deemed appropriate, as they place women applicants in

a more stressful situation than men.

One of the most serious problems of women students was found to be the lack of contact with women faculty members. Department chairmen were asked to utilize their women faculty as instructors, particularly in the second year physical diagnosis course. It was felt that a questionnaire should be sent to women students to evaluate preclinical and clinical instructors. It was felt that all committees for faculty promotions and appointments should contain at least one woman, in order to increase the number of women on the faculty. A recommendation was made for a part- or full-time woman physician to be designated as ombudswoman, to provide advice for women students and faculty and to insure that the specific needs of women be met.

Other recommendations included the appointment of a part-time gynecologist to the Student Health Service, the gathering of information on

internships, flexible training programs, and career choices favorable to women, and finally a survey of the number of women and men applicants for internships and residencies at the BU teaching hospitals.

The Executive Committee acted favorably on the

recommendation to appoint an ombudswoman. The Committee on Women will submit a list of nominations at the September meeting, along with an outline of the responsibilities of this position. Other recommendations were discussed and are being considered.

Neurophysiologist to Join Department

By Robert Marcantonio BUSM II

This September, Boston University School of Medicine will welcome Dr. Anthony Gorman into the Department of Physiology as a new faculty member. Dr. Gorman, an outstanding neurophysiologist, will help develop the 1st year neurophysiology course as well as continuing on with his own research. Dr. Gorman received his Ph.D. from the University of Rochester in 1963. He has done

work for several years at the Lab of Neurophysiology at the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington, D.C., and has worked with the noted Neurophysiologist Dr. H. Jasper at McGill. This summer he is doing research at the Institute of Neurobiology at Woods Hole. His chief fields of interest include (1) membrane properties of the neuron, (2) conversion of light into visual information, and (3) relationships of the cerebral cortex and pyramidal system.