



Goodbye gavel for Mayor

ZOOK TERM OVER

Education professor Fred Zook, Ottawa's mayor for the past year, laid down his gavel in April with a mixture of relief and sadness.

The first mayor to come from OU, Zook says he got involved in city government as a commissioner in 1971, not from overwhelming political ambition but for the opportunity to work for community betterment.

His wish for work was more than filled by the mayoral post, which pays \$100 yearly and involves each month two public meetings, several study sessions, ribbon cuttings, and countless impromptu gripe sessions with the man-on-the-street or on-the-campus.

Of his job Fred says that "there were frustrations, sure, but the joys far outweighed the sorrows."

Joys: "Broadened horizons, the encouragement from the University, opportunities for travel (including testifying before Senate and House sub-committees and the National League of Cities Conference in Puerto Rico), and the better relations I feel have come about between the city and the campus."

Sorrows: "Not having funds to do what you **know** ought to be done; learning that the wheels of government do turn slowly; having coffee in the faculty lounge while you're mayor."

His term over, coffee breaks more peaceful, Zook looks back proudly on street improvement and planning projects, a new fire station, better communication with citizens and other governmental units.

"It was a great experience," Zook says, "but I'm not planning to run for governor."