

Neal discusses 5-point strategy

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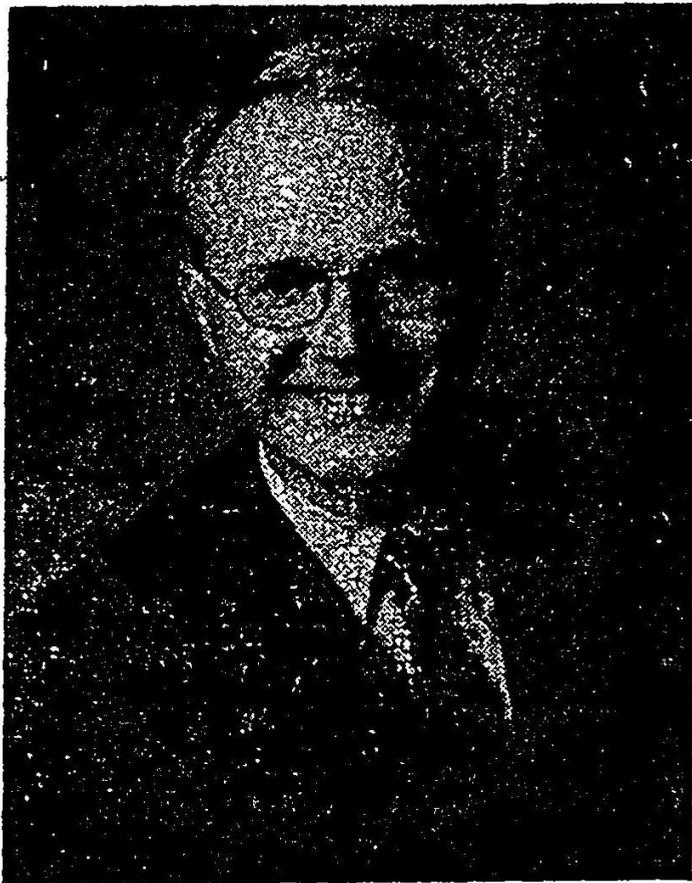
On a daily basis, President John Neal thinks about goals for Ottawa University. Among those goals are five short term priorities that represent critical issues that need to move from planning and discussion to successful completion.

In no particular order, Neal addressed a new Mission Statement, the Comprehensive Campaign, the hiring of a College Provost, building and "enrollment community" at the college, and entry into a new Adult and Professional Studies program. These issues seem to be of the utmost importance to Neal during the next few months as the President's Council strives to fulfill the strategic plan.

The first issue discussed was

the clarification and implementation of a new mission statement. The board approved for new mission statement

planning which will be conducted this winter. This will include detailed conversations with a variety of groups across the



country. Neal says that the mission statement should match up with the image that the university displays. The university, in turn, should live up to the goals or values the mission statement entails.

The second issue deals with the successful completion of the comprehensive campaign. When looking to complete the

Continued on pg. 8

Neal discusses strategy

(cont'd from pg. 1)

campaign, Neal wants to keep the progress from stalling. The goal is \$18.5 million of which \$10 million has been raised.

"We have to keep looking ahead and ask, 'What does phase two look like,'" said Neal

Finding someone to fill the Provost position is also an issue to be dealt with. As most of you know, the search for a Provost is still going on. The campus has had two candidates visit so far, but neither was found to be the best fit for OU. The search has been extended and advertised in publications again. Neal wishes that the college community would be more understanding during the search period and realize that it is going to take some time to find someone to fill the crucial position here at Ottawa.

Neal has hired provosts for the KC and Phoenix Centers, which have both been successful employments. He hopes that the previous track record will hold true for the college.

Another issue on Neal's agenda is to build an "enrollment environment" at the College. This simply means to create an environment that holds everyone involved with OU to take responsibility for attracting and retaining quality students.

"It is too easy for people to become departmentalized, but that shouldn't be the end of it," Neal said.

Neal commented that all should be a part of the enrollment team and present the university to others in a positive light.

The final issue is the entry of a new adult center in Louisville, KY.

"Adult centers are wonderful examples of educational entrepreneurship. They do a whole lot with only a little," Neal said.

Neal says that the new center is in the early stages of discussion.

In an attempt to fulfill the strategic plan, Neal hopes that the transitions of Ottawa's growth and development will be received with support and patience. Neal was quick to add, "These aren't my goals. They are things that we as an institution can achieve together. We can only be successful as a university, not as a collection of individuals."

Symphonette, choir perform

(cont'd from pg. 6)

well as the audience."

The last half of the concert featured the OU Symphonette in a "Tribute to Aaron Copland." Copland, whose 100th birthday would have been Nov. 14, visited OU twice in the 1970s according to Jensen and Tarrant.

Copland was one of America's foremost composers whose work is familiar to anyone who watches television. If you've ever seen one of those "Beef -