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Alumni News

Southern Illinois University Alumni Office

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President Derge Resigns, Law Dean Named

Alumni News
Southern Illinois University
Vol. 35, No. 8, April, 1974

SIU is looking for a new permanent president after the sudden resignation Mar. 14 of David R. Derge.

Derge, 46-year-old president of SIU since February, 1972, was relieved at his request and reassigned to the department of government as a teaching professor. He was also granted a three and one-half month leave of absence now in effect.

At the same time, the SIU Board of Trustees, meeting in Carbondale, named the University's School of Law Dean, Hiram Lesar, as acting president and appointed former executive vice-president Willis Malone to head a committee to search for a permanent replacement.

Malone told Board Chairman Ivan Elliott, Jr., he hoped to have a list of nominees by Sept. 1. Elliott said he thought the date was optimistic but that the board wanted a "top notch candidate as soon as possible after a thorough search."

Derge's reassignment came after the board had approved a similar change for Danilo Orescanin, SIU executive vice-president and treasurer, which followed a two-week investigation of "irregularities" in the use of SIU funds.

According to Elliott, the investigation showed that 18 University vouchers totaling nearly $5,000 were processed calling for payments to the Holiday Inn in Carbondale for catering services, luncheons, dinners or receptions. None of these services were performed, according to the board's investigation.

Instead, said Elliott, the Holiday Inn bought alcoholic beverages for SIU, usually in case lots, then sold them to the University with a 10 per cent mark-up over the wholesale price paid by the Holiday Inn.

Elliott said the liquor was used for official entertainment at University House over a period of some 19 months.

The investigation further revealed, said Elliott, purchasing liquor for the University in what appears to be a similar manner was a practice of long standing—perhaps some 9 or 10 years.

"The liquor purchase scheme worked like this: An order was placed with the Holiday Inn. When the order arrived, an invoice was issued on Holiday Inn stationery or restaurant checks for restaurant services totaling the same amount as the liquor purchased; vouchers were drawn to pay for the restaurant service, signed by Orescanin using Derge's name; and the vouchers were processed in the regular manner."

Elliott said it appeared that Derge did not know how the liquor was being bought. Derge, Elliott said, had told Orescanin to find a way to buy liquor without using state appropriations. He said the fund that was used for payment was made up of monies paid SIU for the administration of federal programs, trust fund interest, etc.

LESAR

DERGE

Elliott said the board's legal counsel advised that buying liquor from University funds was not illegal and that the state Purchasing Act, which requires bids on goods and services of $1,500, apparently was not violated. The board's main concern, he said, was the fact that University vouchers were drawn for services which were not rendered.

"The board feels a deep responsibility to see that all financial transactions of the University are handled within the law and according to established accounting practices."

In his new position, Derge will teach on a 9-month basis at a salary of $34,500. His monthly salary of $3,833.33 is now in effect. As president, he was paid $50,000 for 12 months. Orescanin will take a similar salary cut from $40,000 to $27,000.

In his request to the board, Derge said "I believe this reassignment will be in the best interest of the University." Elliott told reporters at a press conference later that he agreed with Derge's request but stressed that it was "not altogether linked to the fund irregularities."

Derge will officially begin his teaching and research duties in the fall semester.

Lesar, 61, became dean of the new School of Law in 1972 after having served 12 years as dean of the Washington University Law School in St. Louis. He has degrees from the University of Illinois and Yale University.

Lesar said he is not a candidate for the permanent presidency. Elliott asked Malone to have recommendations for membership on the presidential search committee ready for the trustees' meeting this month in Edwardsville.

Alumni are encouraged to send their suggestions for president to: Willis Malone, Chairman Presidential Search Committee, The President's Office, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.
SIU Playing Cards
Handsome SIU playing cards feature the finest patented Redi Slip plasticized finish which resists wear and can be wiped clean with a damp cloth. One deck backed in white and gold, the other in maroon, white and gold—both with the SIU seal in gold. With an extra joker for canasta in each deck, they're packed in a twin-tuck gold carton and mailing case. The perfect gift and only $3 a set. Illinois residents add 5% sales tax.

Large SIU Glasses
Here's a conversation piece with practicality that's exclusively ours! A 12 1/2 oz. set of eight glasses with chip resistant rims, weighted bottoms and baked on crest and lettering. Safe for use in automatic dishwashers. Packed for safe shipping in cartons of eight. The price of only $6 includes handling charges, packaging, postage and tax.

License Plate Frames
All new, custom-made license plate frames are now available for you. These sturdy frames are beautifully styled, tool and die cast, triple chrome plated and finished in brilliant SIU colors. Now instead of carrying a free plug for some auto dealer, you can show you're an SIU constituent and Saluki backer and promote Southern Illinois as well! The price of only $5 a pair includes handling charges, packaging, postage and tax.

Small SIU Glasses
Here's a new item also available only through the Alumni Association—small drinking glasses. A 7 1/4 oz. set of eight glasses with chip resistant rims, weighted bottoms and baked on crest and lettering. Safe for use in automatic dishwashers. Packed for safe shipping in cartons of eight. The price of only $6 again includes handling charges, packaging, postage and tax.

SIU Merchandise Center

SIU T-Shirts
Adults and children alike will love these easy-going cotton knits in the SIU colors with SIU imprint—and you'll love the price. Available in children’s (C) sizes S, M, L and adult’s (A) sizes S, M, L, X-L.
Maroon with white letters @ $2.75
White with maroon letters @ $2.75
Maroon with white letters, edging @ $2.95
White with maroon letters, edging @ $2.95
Price includes tax, postage and handling.

SIU Sweatshirts
Now you can also purchase sweatshirts with SIU imprint and colors through your Alumni Association. These long-sleeved easy-to-care-for cotton and polyester sweatshirts may be machine washed and tumble dried. Available in children’s (C) sizes S, M, L ($4.95) and adult’s (A) S, M, L, X-L ($5.50). Be sure to state maroon with white letters or white with maroon letters. Price includes handling charges, packaging, postage and tax.

SIU Mugs
Another new item available through the Association—a 17 oz. set of four glass mugs. These too have the chip resistant rims, weighted bottoms and baked on crest and lettering. Safe for use in automatic dishwashers. Packed for safe shipping in cartons of four. The price of only $6.95 includes handling charges, packaging, postage and tax.

Watch future Alumnus magazines for more merchandise offerings.

Send to:
SIU Alumni Office
Southern Illinois University
Carbondale, Ill. 62901

SIU

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TOTAL
Looking over the first run of computerized labels for alumni are, from left, Ed McDevitt, supervisor of alumni records; Bob Odaniell, director of Alumni Services; Tom Purcell, director of Information Processing; and T. Richard Mager, vice-president of Development and Services. Conversion of alumni records to the computer has been going on for ten months and completion of the first phase is scheduled for this month.

SIU Alumni Biographical Data

Class of _______________ (today's date)

Name ________________________________

Home Address __________________________

Social Security Number __________ Birth Date ________ Sex ________

If married, name of spouse __________________________________________

Date and Place of Marriage _______________________________

Children (Names, Birth Dates) __________________________

Employer, School or Firm and Position __________________________

Spouse's Current Occupation __________________________

SIU Grad Year(s) and Degree(s) __________________________ Major(s) __________________________

Spouse's SIU Attendance Dates __________________________ Class(es) and Degree(s) __________________________

Other Colleges You Attended, Degree Received & Year __________________________

Please fill out and mail to SIU Alumni Association, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.
We are in the process of computerizing our records. If there is an error in your address, please return mailing label and let us know immediately.

Alumni Activities

SATURDAY, April 20
Washington D.C. Club Meeting—contact Pat Hardy Davis at (301) 460-1856.

TUESDAY, April 23
Wayne-White Counties Club Meeting—contact Kenneth Gray at 895-2359.

APRIL 23-25
St. Louis Area Telefund Campaign—contact Bob Hardcastle at 469-3395.

APRIL 29, 30, MAY 1
Franklin County Telefund Campaign—contact Paulette Ashbrook at 932-2291.

APRIL 30, MAY 1, 2
Williamson County Telefund Campaign—contact Herman Graves at 993-4520.

SATURDAY, May 4
Jackson County Club Meeting—contact Gerold Eaglin at 426-3533.

SUNDAY, May 5
Chicago Area Club Meeting—contact Gerald Nordberg at (312) 485-8692.

MONDAY, May 6
Union County Club Meeting—contact Charles Roberts at 833-5161. Chairman of SIU's Board of Trustees, Ivan Elliott, Jr., will be the featured speaker.

MAY 7-9
Randolph County Telefund Campaign—contact Glen Misselhorn at 826-2512.

SATURDAY, May 11
Bond-Clinton Counties Club Meeting—contact Elmer Schrage at 526-7110.

MAY 13-16
Chicago Area Telefund Campaign—contact Gerald Nordberg at number above.

SATURDAY, June 8
SIU Alumni Day featuring reunions for all classes ending in “4” and “9” as well as the class of ’73.

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Southern Sketches

SIU alumni and their families are among constituents of Southern Illinois University who may take advantage of a new “Vacation and Learn” program sponsored by the Division of Continuing Education. The innovative program enables participants to couple educational presentations by SIU faculty members with a vacation. Dates scheduled for the week-long program are the weeks of July 1-6, 8-13 and 15-20. Participants will arrive on Monday and depart after lunch on Saturday. Cost of the instruction and vacation is $98/person per weekly session. This includes lodging, meals, instructional costs and other related expenses. Campus facilities will also be available to guests. About 20 various instructional programs are already planned for “Vacation and Learn.” To obtain a listing of them and more information on the sessions, write Vacation and Learn, Division of Continuing Education, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. 62901.

Academic Excellence Fund Grants Made

A specialized small-business-oriented computer and a new book security system for Morris Library head the list of projects to be funded during the latest round of grants from the President's Academic Excellence Program Fund. Thirteen projects totaling more than $155,000 were selected from about 60 proposals submitted to the excellence fund screening committee. Academic excellence fund grants are made from a fund established from the sale of the University's $350,000 share in the University House to the SIU Foundation . . . SIU's Manpower Skill Center exceeded all national guidelines in piling up a 91.7 per cent placement record for its 1973 graduates. The Center, operated under federal Manpower Development and Training Act contracts by the School of Technical Careers, had 100 per cent placement for three programs, according to Director John Sutton. Altogether, 215 of the 237 persons trained in ten programs last year were employed after training, he said. Short-term vocational training programs for the un- and under-employed are conducted at the Center. Students are referred through the Illinois State Employment Service . . . New and improved blackberry and strawberry varieties have been released to nurserymen for plant propagation by SIU and the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Two new thornless blackberry varieties have been developed at Carbondale. They are called the Dirksen Thornless and the Black Satin blackberries. An improved late strawberry called Delite has also been introduced.

Women's Day Planned on Campus

A Women's Day and Career Fair on the campus of SIU has been scheduled for April 26. Designed to motivate women to begin pursuing educational and vocational goals, the program will feature speakers and panel discussions throughout the day. More information and a schedule of events may be obtained by writing Continuing Education for Women, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Ill. 62901 . . . Special Collections and the University Archives are searching for missing volumes of the Daily Egyptian. Specifically, they are looking for volume 6 (June 17, 1925 until June 14, 1926) and volumes 7-11 (June 8, 1927 until Sept. 8, 1931). If you have access to these issues, please contact Juergen Stein in Special Collections at Morris Library. Also, they are collecting all printed material on Southern Illinois and would welcome any additional holdings . . . An appreciation coffee for Dr. Dorothy Davies has been scheduled for Friday, May 31 from 3-5 P.M. Any alumni who would like to stop by the Recreation Room in the Women's Gymnasium are welcome. Dr. Davies is a previous recipient of the Alumni Association's Great Teacher Award.