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Gallaudet University

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## Garretson appointed by NAD board as temporary executive director

Mervin Garretson, former special assistant to the president at Gallaudet and chairman of The Deaf Way, has been named as temporary executive director of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD), the largest and oldest (110 years) consumer organization of deaf people in the United States.

Garretson's appointment by the NAD's board of directors late last month followed the resignation of

former director Gary Olson. Olson, who has served the NAD for the past 30 years, cited a desire to return to his home state of Indiana as his reason for stepping down from the post that he has held for the past five years. He said that he will remain active in NAD's Indianapolis office.

Garretson is no stranger to the operations of the NAD. He first became involved with the group in 1956 as a member of the original Fulton, Mo., NAD reorganizational team. Garretson served on the NAD's board of directors for 15 years and as its president from 1976-78.

According to NAD spokeswoman Judith Costello, a search committee is being formed to name a permanent executive director. In the meantime, Garretson has taken over the duties of executive director and has moved into an office at the NAD's headquarters in Silver Spring, Md.

"I'm excited to have the opportunity to become directly involved with the NAD once again," Garretson said in an NAD press release. "As we approach the 1990s, it's more important than ever that the NAD seek a solid financial base which will enable it to expand its services to deaf and hard of hearing people everywhere."



Merv Garretson

## MSSD junior to be featured on Mickey Mouse Club

Someone will be slipping a mickey to MSSD junior Alex Jones in front of a national television audience sometime in April.

The "mickey" in this instance is a bronze statue of that mouse of film and comic strip stardom, Mickey Mouse, and it will be given by the cast of the enduring television series, "The Mickey Mouse Club."

The Disney Channel's "The New Mickey Mouse Club," as it is now called, gives "The Mickey" award once a week to an interesting person and features a segment about that person's life.

Jones is being featured for his mime, acting, and dance talents in MSSD's Performing Arts productions.

Why was Jones selected? Perhaps one reason is that "Alex is one of the best performers we've ever had," said Performing Arts Artistic Director Tim McCarty. He explained that Walt Disney Pictures has had an interest in MSSD's talent ever since Gretchen Rennel, vice president of casting for Disney, became acquainted with MSSD through her work as casting director for "Children of a Lesser God."

McCarty said that last spring Rennel sent Matt Casella, casting director for

"The New Mickey Mouse Club," to MSSD to see the production "Reluctant Heroes," and after the performance Casella talked to McCarty about the possibility of having Jones make an appearance on the television show. It was later decided that he would get "The Mickey."

Last Wednesday a film crew from the show followed Jones through a



Campus community members gather in one of the rooms of the President's Residence at the holiday open house on Dec. 12.

## Open letter proposes new language policy of teaching students in ASL

In an open letter recently distributed to the campus community, several faculty members with the Department of Linguistics and Interpreting issued a call for a new language policy at Gallaudet, one in which students would be taught American Sign Language.

The authors of the letter—Dr. Robert E. Johnson, Dr. Scott Liddell, Dr. Ceil

Lucas, and Clayton Valli of Linguistics and Interpreting, and Carlene Thumann-Prezioso, a research associate with the Culture and Communication Studies Program—are also in the process of developing an official proposal for consideration by the University faculty, which they hope to have ready early next semester.

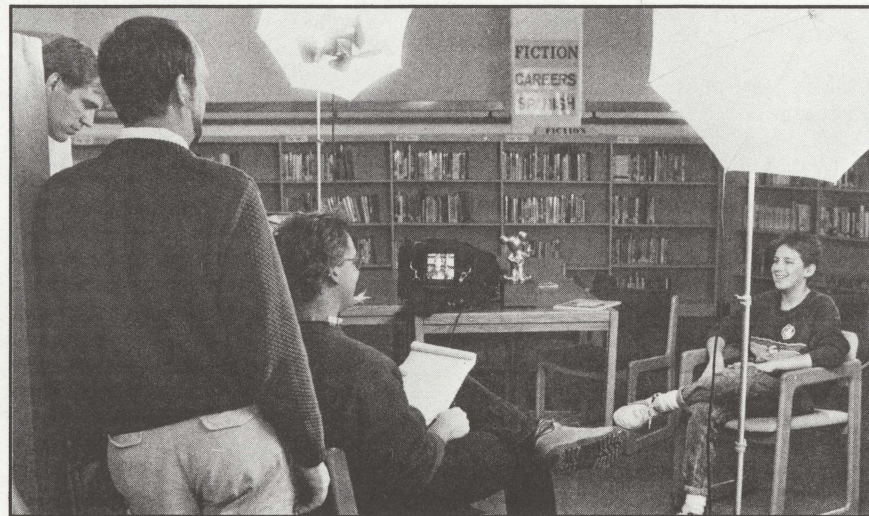
The authors of the letter proposed the following guiding principle toward establishing a Gallaudet language policy:

"Teaching, learning, and administrative activities at Gallaudet will take place by means of language accessible to the deaf students it was established to serve."

The authors noted that although Gallaudet President I. King Jordan has called for members of the community to respect diversity in communication modes, Gallaudet does not have an official policy governing classes or administrative activities. A SimCom policy is outlined in the faculty handbook and faculty are evaluated on their SimCom skills, but Simultaneous Communication, called Sign Supported Speech by the authors of the letter, is not a language, they said.

"The undeniable fact is that under oral only or so called 'combined' methods (i.e., Sign Supported Speech), deaf students have been unable to achieve at levels equivalent to hearing students," the letter stated.

It added, "The blame for the failure to achieve at levels equivalent to hearing students must lie with the way they are being educated. Specifically the blame must lie with the way information is passed between teacher and student in the classroom. In current practice, many teachers address students by speaking English and produc-



MSSD student Alex Jones (right) is interviewed by a crew from the Mickey Mouse Club in the MSSD library area on Dec. 13. Jones will appear on the program in April.

continued on page 2.



President I. King Jordan visits with children from Gallaudet's Child Development Center as they decorate a tree in the Edward Miner Gallaudet Building.

## Authors say new faculty should learn ASL

*continued from page 1*  
ing signs at the same time."

Research has shown that Sign Supported Speech does not provide access to native language development of either English or ASL, said the letter. "There is no evidence that using Sign Supported Speech contributes to the academic success of deaf students," said the authors. "It is absolutely clear that its use has not resulted in raising the achievement level of deaf students to those of their hearing peers. In fact, the achievement level of deaf students has hardly increased during the past decade."

The authors said that Gallaudet students often interpret for each other in class or watch the interpreter for a deaf-blind student because they cannot understand the teacher.

The authors suggested that new faculty who do not know how to sign should receive at least two years of ASL instruction, and while they are learning, they should lecture in spoken English with an ASL interpreter. More qualified deaf teachers should be hired, they said. And incoming students who are not competent in sign language should be required to spend a "prep" year learning how to sign.

"Over the past several years, a large number of people have been fighting for the ideas that deaf children need to be able to communicate in a real language with their parents and teachers," the letter said, "and that only through such an approach will deaf students

have access to the content of the curriculum, including access to English."

An ASL videotape of the letter is available through Cable TV. People desiring more information can contact Clayton Valli or Carlene Thumann-Prezioso.



Joe Martin, Physical Plant service center coordinator who has worked at Gallaudet since 1960, talks with President Jordan at Martin's Dec. 12 retirement reception.

## Announcements

Deaf and hearing people ages 18-40 who are good lipreaders are being sought by the University's Center for Sighted and Speech Services to participate in an experiment that will involve about six hours a week for 11 weeks. Participants will be paid. For more information call Sarah Lawrence, x7072 (V), or Lynne Bernstein, x6461 (V), or come to the Mary Thornberry Building, Room B-3 or B-7A.

Gallaudet's 1990 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) exceeded its goal of \$33,000 by more than \$1,500 on Dec. 11. With 313 employees contributing to the campaign, Gallaudet raised \$34,585 for local and foreign charities. Twenty-six employees will receive CFC's Eagle Award pin for donating 1 percent of their salaries.

The Mormon Choir of Washington, D.C., will give a concert with signed interpretation at 7:30 p.m. this Friday, Dec. 22, at Washington Stake Center, 10000 Stoneybrook Dr., Kensington, Md. The performance features selections from Handel's "Messiah," and works by Haydn, Rutter, Martin, and

## Among Ourselves

Dr. Barbara Hardaway, an assistant professor of English at the School of Preparatory Studies, spoke to Dr. Valerie Janesick's Multicultural Foundations of Education class on Nov. 8 and 13. Hardaway lectured on ways to improve communication between physically impaired and physically nonimpaired people, nomenclature issues, and problems inherent in simulation activities with physically nonimpaired people. Janesick is an associate professor and chairwoman of Educational Foundations and Research.

Dr. Deborah Sonnenstrahl, an associate professor in the Art Department, spoke to a group of 50 Gallaudet alumni and friends at the Bay State Chapter in Boston, Mass., on Dec. 3. During her talk, "Deaf Artists from the Heart of New England," Sonnenstrahl showed the artwork of deaf artists who have contributed significantly to today's art styles.

## Correction

The Dec. 11 issue of *On the Green* stated that Gallaudet received an appropriation of \$67,643 from the federal government for Fiscal Year 1990. The correct figure is \$67,643,000.

## Classified Ads

**CLASSIFIED ADS** are printed free as a service to Gallaudet faculty and staff. They must be submitted in writing only to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37. Ads may be run for a maximum of two weeks, if requested and if space permits. The deadline for submitting advertisements is Friday, 10 days before the desired publication. However, because of the Winter Break, *On the Green* will not be published Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Ads received by Thursday, Dec. 21, will appear in the Jan. 8 issue.

**WANTED:** Host family for male MSSD AFS exchange student from New Zealand who needs home for weekends and holidays Jan. '90-Jan. '91. Call Judy Shore or Will Verbits, x5375 days, or Verbits, 537-3050 (V/TDD) eves.

**FOR RENT:** 2-BR house on corner lot in Mt. Rainier, Md., 10-min. drive from Kendall Green, living room, large kitchen, first-floor bath, basement, garage, finished attic, avail. now, \$700/mo. plus util. Call 654-3238 (TDD) eves.

**FOR RENT:** 5-BR house across the street from Kendall Green, spacious rms., W/D, will rent by the room at \$285/mo. plus util. or the entire house at \$1,425/mo. plus util. Call 547-7079 (TDD) or 298-1171 (V).

**WANTED:** Nonsmoking roommate to share townhouse in Bowie, Md., 20-25 min. drive to Kendall Green, must like pet ferret, \$250/mo. inc. util. Call 344-2389 (TDD).

**WANTED:** Loving home for 6-mo.-old female kitten, orange/taupe, prefers indoors, very affectionate, cannot keep third cat. Call Beverly, 277-3462 (TDD).

**FOR SALE:** '86 Ford Mustang LX w/red exterior/interior; 4 speed; 4 cylinder; cruise control; power steering, brakes, locks; AM/FM stereo; new tires, clutch, carburetor, muffler, brakes; will pass safety and emissions inspections in Md./Va./D.C.; \$3,900/neg. Call Chuck, x5415 or 5416, 1-9 p.m. M-F, or 474-4320 (V/TDD).

**WANTED:** Responsible nonsmoking female to share 4-BR house in Silver Spring, Md., private BR, must have own trans., avail. immediately, \$225/mo. inc. util. Call 236-4736 (TDD) after 5 p.m.

**WANTED:** 2 nonsmoking professionals or grad. students to share contemporary townhouse in Silver Spring, Md., free shuttle to Metro, excellent and very convenient location, avail. Jan. Call Murray, x5165 (TDD) or 547-5081 (TDD) eves.

**WANTED:** Nonsmoking female professional or grad. student to share apt. in Georgetown, avail. Jan. Call BBB, x5096 (TDD) or Anjali, 337-5998 (TDD) eves.

## Job Openings

**Some of the advertised positions may already be filled.** The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

PRINCIPAL: KDES

INSTRUCTOR, FRENCH AND SPANISH: Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

INSTRUCTOR, SIGNING EXACT ENGLISH: Department of Sign Communication

FACULTY POSITION: English Department  
**December 18, 1989**

on the  
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