

141 applicants seek WPCC job

The deadline is past and 141 persons have applied for the president's job at Western Piedmont Community College.

Candidates for the job come from across the country, according to W. Stanley Moore, a member of the college's board of trustees and chairman of the presidential search committee. Most of the candidates seem to be between 30 and 60 years of age, and blacks and women are among the number.

In fact, Moore said, "some outstanding women educators have put their names in the pot."

No discrimination will be allowed, Moore added, in the selection of the president, who will replace Dr. Gordon C. Blank. Blank resigned during the summer to take a similar position in New York state. Dean H.D. Moretz is acting president.

Members of the search committee are independently reviewing the applications and making notes. Soon they will meet together, according to Moore, and begin narrowing the choices.

The committee tentatively plans to pass along the names of about 20 prospects to a presidential search advisory committee consisting of faculty, staff and student representation from the college. That committee, Moore said, would be asked to reach a consensus on about five names to be given "preferred consideration" by the search committee.

This doesn't guarantee that the final pick of the committee will come from the group of five. "We haven't said we would or we wouldn't" choose one of the five, Moore added.

Five or more finalists will be personally interviewed by the committee, and that is the snag preventing the committee from setting an exact target date for choosing the new president. The date will depend on how difficult it

is to arrange interviews for the candidates, but Moore thinks there is a chance the president could be selected by the first of the year.

Final approval of the appointment rests with the State Board of Education.

The new president won't be required to have either a doctorate or community college experience, though both factors will be given consideration.