

WPCC board to interview 5

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The call goes out today from Western Piedmont Community College to five candidates for the college presidency. Following interviews in the next five to 10 days, a selection may be made by college trustees.

The five to be interviewed are:

- James Richardson, acting WPCC president.
- Ralph Hall, chairman of the Department of Administration, Supervision and Higher Education at Appalachian State University.
- Kenneth Shibata, executive vice president of Waubesa Junior College in Sugar Grove, Ill.
- Wilfred Howsmon, provost of the Manassas campus of Northern Virginia Community College.
- William Ramsey, chancellor-district director of the Milwaukee Area Technical College district.

College trustees held a special breakfast meeting this morning at the college to review the eight finalists and two alternates picked by a trustee presidential search committee Aug. 1.

Trustees strongly hinted after their meeting that the new college president will come from the five. "These are the ones that we will interview first," said Trustee Robert Byrd. Although Byrd and Trustee Chairman Robert Carr would not rule out the other candidates, they did say the trustees will convene after the interviews with the five are completed. The trustees may decide on a new president then.

Carr said the interviews will be conducted as soon as possible. Mrs. Edward Phifer Jr., the trustee who headed the search committee, will contact the five by telephone today. Because three are from out of state, and air travel is uncertain because of the air traffic controllers' strike, prompt interviews are uncertain. But Carr said he hoped the interviews will be conducted within 10 days.

College officials have said they wanted a new president by Sept. 1 for the beginning of the fall quarter. Registration for the quarter begins Sept. 3.

Four of the top five choices are community college or two-year college administrators. The search committee said previously that it preferred someone with experience in a "comprehensive community college concept."

Most notable among the candidates passed over by the trustees are the heads of larger, four-year institutions. They are the veteran president of High Point College, Wendell Patton, and the acting chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Charles Temple.

Also not chosen for an interview is Roland Tuttle Jr., an administrative intern with the University of North Carolina system.

Patton, Temple and Tuttle may enter the picture if one of the top five bows out of consideration, or if trustees wish additional interviews, college trustees said this morning.

The new college president will replace Wilmon R. Droze, who resigned June 30 under pressure from faculty and students. He was chosen for the post in 1979. Formerly, Droze was provost of Texas Woman's University in Denton, Tex.