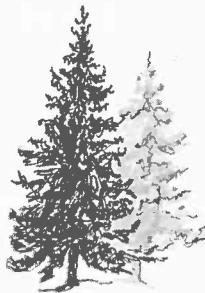


The Sterling Newsletter

FOR OUR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS



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Steve Wright Returns to Sterling

Steve E. Wright, Vermont's Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife, has been elected by the Board of Trustees to be the sixth President of Sterling College.

Steve Wright's association with Sterling spans twenty-one years. May marked the anniversary of his first 1968 interview for a teaching position at the school. Wright has held numerous administrative posts at the College, including Dean of Students and Director of Admissions. In the midst of service to Sterling he has been an Extension Agent in his native Georgia, a wilderness manager with the U.S. Forest Service in Idaho, and, most recently, Commissioner of Fish and Wildlife under Governor Madeleine M. Kunin.



At a press conference in May, Steve told reporters, "Sterling is an unusual place. Some of you have told me you've never heard of it 'til the last few days. That's going to change!" Indeed, one of the challenges he looks forward to is improving Sterling's Vermont and national identity. "Sterling is of Vermont, not that we couldn't run the program in Arizona or Georgia, but so much of what we do is because of our location here in Vermont. It's only appropriate that we are well known here," he said. He added, "Nationally we are known in certain areas, such as the resource agencies in the west; we need to broaden that base."

At his home in Craftsbury, I asked Steve how best to describe Sterling, what makes it special—all with the requirement of keeping it in a paragraph. He chuckled and replied, "Sterling is a small institution which is based on working with the qualities of the in-

dividual human being and not necessarily on the subject matter. It is a combination of traditional academics, with field experience, with an outdoor challenge program. That is the manner in which you accomplish the enhancement of the individual's skills and abilities. We

will work *with you*, the student, through the process. We will not sit you down and stuff the material down your throat. We are going to go with you, and hold hands with you if need be, through the process." Steve also mentioned that he would like to involve the student's family more in the process.

Steve's agenda includes improving our Vermont and national identity, improving faculty salaries, gaining wide acceptance and approval, and upgrading our physical plant. Steve says, "I want to bring an aggressive *can do* and *will do* attitude to the presidency of Sterling. I want to bring a stronger-than-ever spirit of teamwork to the institution."

Steve replaces Robert E. Cowen, who is retiring from college administration. He will take office on July 1st.

Tom Taylor, editor



Sterling Gets Energy Grant

When we ask alumni which facilities need changing the most, the overwhelming response is a call for ENERGY EFFICIENCY. The Sterling Business Office and the Board of Trustees echo that response, especially as they seek ways to shift money from heating buildings to delivering Sterling programs to students.

A \$45,000 grant over two years from the Gildea Foundation will catapult the college's energy conservation plan forward. The grant was confirmed in April, and conservation measures begin immediately.

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