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Rev. George B. Barrett, S.M. Devotes His Efforts to the University of Dayton

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DAYTON, Ohio, April 10, 1970 --- Rev. George B. Barrett, S.M., Vice President of the University of Dayton who has divided his responsibilities for the past three years between the University and its Bergamo, Christian Center for Renewal, will devote his entire efforts to the University starting May 1.

Rev. Raymond A. Roesch, S.M., University President, announced this today at the Educational Convocation being conducted in the UD Fieldhouse. Speaking before students, faculty, and administrators of the College of Arts & Sciences, Father Roesch said that he was placing Father Barrett in charge of a task force to devise a Plan for the Seventies for the University of Dayton. Mr. Wilbur Showalter, Administrative Assistant to the President; and Dr. Wilfred Steiner, Director of Institutional Studies, will be part of the task force.

In announcing this task force he said "No viable university today can live on its laurels of the past, nor on its educational program. Emphasis on people is right and a university must reflect this emphasis preeminently... "...the University of Dayton will have a Plan for the Seventies." It will present a remote aspect looking ten years into the future, an explicit aspect looking five years ahead, and a detailed aspect looking for the next year, thus permitting adaptation each year as necessary."

He asked that all members of the UD community, and he included alumni in this community, to take part in "formulating our Plan for the Seventies. Your input is vitally necessary and will determine to a large extent what this University will become in the seventies..."

He stated that the four-day convocation, which is broken into the schools and college of the university, was the start of the Plan for the Seventies. He said that immediately following the convocation the task force would start its work.

The in-depth study, he said, would initially include: (1) preparation of historical information; (2) to discover exactly where we are and (3) to trace the trends which brought us here. The report will touch on enrollment, the sociological survey of the student body, the faculty strength, the quality of the majors, budget trends, statement of purposes and other items pertinent to the growth and improvement of the university. This basic document, he said, would serve as a guide for faculty and students "who can enter upon in-depth studies for the educational future of UD."

"The report," he said, "will define parameters which are flexible; explain basic assumptions emerging from the character of the University; and point out the various constraints which must be considered--resources, real estate, clientele, space, etc. This group will also set deadlines for periodic progress reports so that the planning will not lag."

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He continued that there would be groups at work in each of the 42 academic departments who will concern themselves with academic programs, classroom procedures, interdisciplinary opportunities and interaction with the business and social community. He said there would be groups concentrating in the support areas, such as admissions, student living facilities, library, publications, recreation, speakers program, health service, size of faculty, conditions of faculty service, non-academic personnel, physical plant and university governance.

And then he concluded: "I think the key to success in formulating this plan is that we can say everything is negotiable. We are open to EVERYTHING that will help us to fulfill the purpose for which we exist."