



April 16, 1964

To Members of the Faculty:

I am pleased to report to you an important development in the School of Humanities and Social Science.

Dr. Robert L. Bishop, Head of the Department of Economics and Social Science, has agreed to serve as Acting Dean of the School pending the appointment of a permanent dean to succeed Dean John E. Burchard, who retires this June. Professor Bishop has accepted this appointment at the sacrifice of his own central interests in economics to which he wishes to return as soon as convenient. We are most grateful to him.

Professor Bishop came to M.I.T. in 1942. He was appointed Assistant Professor of Economics in 1946, Associate Professor in 1950, and Professor in 1957. He has been Head of the Department of Economics since 1958, and will continue to head the department while serving as Acting Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science.

Professor Bishop has published widely on economic theory in professional journals and is co-editor, with P. A. Samuelson and J. R. Coleman, of Readings in Economics, now in its third edition. He has in progress a basic graduate level text on economic analysis. Most recently, his work has been in the area of game theory, particularly as applied to problems of economic bargaining and oligopoly. He has also been consultant to industrial concerns in the textile, glass, and automotive industries.

After graduation summa cum laude from Harvard University in 1937, Dr. Bishop was awarded a Sheldon Traveling Fellowship for a year in Europe. This was followed by further study and service as instructor and tutor in economics at Harvard. He received the A.M. and Ph.D. degrees there in 1942 and 1949.

Since joining the faculty at M.I.T., Dr. Bishop has been Visiting Professor at both Harvard and Brandeis Universities. During 1961-1962, he was a Ford Foundation Faculty Research Fellow.

Professor Bishop has been extraordinarily effective in administration of the Department of Economics and Social Science, and we can be confident that he will sustain the marked progress the School has achieved under Dean Burchard.

Dean Burchard became first Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Science on its establishment as the Institute's fourth school in 1950. He had previously served as Dean of the Division of Humanities, the precursor of the School. During the nearly fifteen years of the School's existence, Professor Burchard has provided superb leadership in establishing or advancing the various fields which are now represented in the School and which have played an important part in transforming in recent years the very character of M.I.T.

During Dean Burchard's administration, the School has initiated a variety of outstanding programs of teaching and research, has added a large number of distinguished faculty, and has broadened considerably its aims and the scope of its intellectual interests. Its first major undertaking was the development of the revised general education program recommended by the Faculty Committee on Educational Survey in 1949. This program has been continually strengthened, particularly in the

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upper-class electives which have been expanded year by year with the growth of the School. Perhaps the most notable of the developments in undergraduate teaching was the establishment in 1955 of Course XXI, which this year has nearly one hundred undergraduate majors.

There has been also an extraordinary development in the programs of graduate teaching and research. The Center for International Studies was founded in 1951, and to the already well-established doctorate in economics have been added new doctoral programs in political science (1958), in psychology (1960), in linguistics (1961), and in philosophy (1963). In addition, this period has seen, under Dean Burchard's leadership, a rapid and vigorous growth of non-academic activities in exhibitions, music, and the theater.

Professor Burchard, prior to his appointment as first Dean of the School, served as Dean of Humanities (1948-50), Director of Libraries (1944-48), and Director of the Albert Farwell Bemis Foundation (1938-48). He received his bachelor's degree in architectural engineering from M.I.T. in 1923 and his master's degree in 1925. He then joined the staff of Bemis Industries, Inc., where he became successively Director of Research, Vice President, and a member of the Board of Directors of that corporation and of its subsidiary, the Housing Company.

From 1940 to 1945, Dean Burchard was on leave of absence from M.I.T. and occupied with war work, including service as chairman of one of the eighteen divisions of the National Defense Research Committee and later as Deputy Chief of the Office of Field Service. He was awarded the Medal for Merit, the nation's highest civilian award, in 1948.

Dean Burchard has written extensively, both in books and for domestic and foreign periodicals, on housing, library planning, architecture, and educational and cultural subjects. His latest book, The Architecture of America, a Social and Cultural History, is a comprehensive history of American architecture written jointly with Professor Albert Bush-Brown. He is consulting editor on architecture of the Encyclopedia Britannica, member of the editorial board of Daedalus, and was formerly consulting editor of The Architectural Record. Dean Burchard was also editor of the volume, Mid-Century: the Social Implications of Scientific Progress, resulting from the Convocation on Social Implications of Scientific Progress at the Institute in 1949, of which he was general chairman. Most recently he was general chairman of the M.I.T. Centennial observances. He has lectured or given principal addresses at many major universities in the United States and abroad, and he has served twice as Visiting Professor at the University of California in Berkeley.

Dean Burchard has been a member of advisory committees to a large number of American universities and cultural institutions and trustee of several, including Mount Holyoke College and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts. He has also served abroad as an advisor to UNESCO and to the governments of Australia, France, and Norway. He was formerly a member-at-large of the American Council of Learned Societies and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences which he served as Vice President in 1953 and as President from 1954 to 1956.

CHARLES H. TOWNES
Provost