

Dotty Bove
was colleague
to Emily Wick
and Mayor
Ague in
Boomer's Forum

Dotty Bove

Experience of Mrs. Dorothy Bowe

Came to MIT in May 1950 as a secretary in the Metallurgy Department for Professor John T. Norton. My duties in the department involved budget work, administration of government research projects, preparation of reports and some personnel work. I also prepared class notes, laboratory experiments, quizzes, etc. for several undergraduate courses in Metallurgy.

In 1951 Professor Norton became Chairman of the Departmental Graduate Committee. I was secretary to this committee responsible for admission procedure, financial aide, examination processes and acted as a central office to help graduate students with their concerns from a disagreement with their thesis advisor to personal problems. I also performed hostess duties for the department, setting up social functions, special visitor affairs and even preparing the meals for visiting committee meetings.

In June 1964 Professor Norton retired from his Departmental duties and came to the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs as Foreign Study Advisor on a part time basis. I was offered the opportunity to continue to work with him setting up this new program. I was pleased to accept this chance to become involved with another area of the Institute. Since this was to be a part time position it was arranged that I would also work on development of the "Woman's Program at MIT" under the newly appointed Associate Dean Jacquelyn Mattfeld.

Both of these programs grew rapidly. Since 1964 I have been involved in the planning and building of McCormick Hall, and with development of policies and procedures for essentially all aspects of the lives of women students at MIT, including their participation in student government, development of womens' athletics, establishment of each of the coed living groups and personal counseling.

In 1965 when Dean Emily Wick replaced Dean Mattfeld who became Dean at Sarah Lawrence College, I continued to assist in this area.

Professor Norton left MIT in 1976 and the Foreign Study Program was placed under the direction of Dean Harold Hazen. It was an appropriate time for me to break away from that project. Not only had the number of women students increased greatly but also Dean Wick and I were asked to expand the Pre Medical Advisory Program. This had previously been the responsibility of Dr. Harriet Hardy.

Because Dean Wick's responsibilities as Professor of Food Chemistry in the Department of Nutrition and Food Science make it necessary for her to spend half time in the department and only half time in the Dean's Office I have necessarily shared all phases of the work in both areas of our responsibilities - the Premed Program and the MIT Women Students.

To give an idea of the magnitude of the increase in demands on our energies, minds and office space, when I came to the Dean's Office in 1964, there were only about 200 women students at MIT. There are now over 500. In 1967 when the premed program came under our direction there were 47 applicants to Medical School. In 1970-71 there were over 100. Although work with them continues we have already talked with more than 60 applicants in the incoming 1971-72 group.

My goal is to use my office and position, no matter what the program or area, as an open, friendly, cheerful place where those students, employees and any members of the MIT community can come who have questions, concerns, or bits of interesting information they would like to share. I believe this is a healthy and appropriate way we can help each other and make MIT the human place I believe it to be.

References

Dean Emily L. Wick
Professor John T. Norton
Vice President Kenneth R. Wadleigh
Professor Thomas B. King
June 3, 1971

September 7, 1983

Ms. Dorothy L. Bowe
Room 5-119

Dean Jeanne E. Richard
Room 3-136

*File
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Dear Dotty and Jeanne,

I write, quite belatedly, in response to your letter of July 15th concerning the Women's Forum and its activities for 1982-83.

I am grateful to you for this brief report on the Forum and for your observations concerning budgets and expenses. I am most grateful to you for the significant saving which you accomplished by underexpending your 1982-83 budget without sacrificing your program objectives. You set a fine example in a time of considerable financial stringency, and your careful management of these funds is much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Paul E. Gray

PEG/mmd
bxc: M. P. Rowe

MARY P. ROWE
Special Assistant to the President

SEP 8 1983

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