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GAO chief says deficit distortions portend worsening reality

by Bill Rupp

It takes a look beyond the official distorted numbers to see the real story of the U.S. deficit crisis, says America's chief accountant. And the reality is a future of debilitating debt and economic insecurity if the country continues to live beyond its means.

Charles A. Bowsher '84H, comptroller general of the U.S. and head of the General Accounting Office, repeated his sobering assessment of the deficit crisis at Bryant's annual fall Convocation. The true ramifications of the deficit begin with the official numbers, he said, which are badly distorted by a combination of rosy economic forecasts, accounting sleight-of-hand, the merging of federal trust funds with expenditures for the rest of the government, and ignoring the multi-billion dollar costs of programs like rebuilding the nation's infrastructure.

"Gimmicks" such as using Social Security trust fund surpluses to pay for day-to-day operating expenses mask the true size of the deficit, which is about what it was three years ago despite the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings process, Bowsher said.

There was a nice ceremony at the White House last spring, Bowsher said, at which everyone congratulated each other on the agreement that the deficit for fiscal year 1990 would only be \$100 million, which would meet the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings targets.

"The only problem with that ceremony," Bowsher said, "was that the numbers weren't real."

The official figures have the deficit falling from \$155 billion to \$100 billion, he said. The reality is that it will actually rise to more than \$280 billion.

Looking beyond the numbers, Bowsher said, the deficit is taking away much of the flexibility from those who govern the nation because the available resources are shrinking. Responding to catastrophes like the Alaska oil spill or maintaining our competitiveness worldwide requires this flexibility.

The deficit also prevents us from facing up to unmet needs such as improving the air traffic control system and the nation's infrastructure, Bowsher said. When money goes toward interest payments, right off the top of the budget, you can't put it toward programs, such as the war on drugs or education.

Bowsher, who began his 15-year term as the nation's chief accountant as a Reagan appointee in October, 1981, has been criticized from time to time for his views, he said after his address at an impromptu news conference. But his views are gaining credibility, said the man who was one of



Despite his sober message, GAO head Bowsher found the fall Convocation to his liking.

the predictors of the savings and loan crisis a couple of years ago.

The public, especially through the news media, is beginning to see the true ramifications of the deficit crisis, Bowsher said. It will mean some tough decisions will have to be made, such as cutting certain programs or raising taxes.

"We are going to see one of the great debates on the fiscal future of this country," Bowsher said, and it will begin with facing up to the fact that the deficit is much larger than what the official numbers indicate.

The Convocation also included the faculty's annual recognition of a colleague. Economics professor Joe Ilacqua, who has been teaching at Bryant for 21 years, was honored this year with the Distinguished Faculty Award.



Professor Joe Ilacqua accepts faculty award from professor Leo Mahoney, Federation president.

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(GAO Chief - continued from pg. 1)

Ilacqua, one of the most respected members of the faculty, is the former president of the Faculty Federation, a post he held for more than eight years. He has served also on numerous College committees and has been involved with a variety of state and local organizations. He is team-teaching a course this semester with President Trueheart and Rhode Island Congressman Ronald Machtley.

The annual ceremony included music by Ocean State Brass; an invocation by Bryant's new Protestant chaplain, the Rev. Gail Helgeson; opening remarks by President Trueheart, who presided; greetings from the Trustees by Charles B. Healy, president and CEO of Bank of New England/Old Colony and from the Student Senate by president Harry Franks; the presentation of Ilacqua by professor Leo Mahoney, Faculty Federation president; the presentation of Bowsher by professor Robert Hehre, Convocation committee chair; and closing remarks by Jim Robinson, vice president of academic affairs.

An estimated 1,100 persons filled the Gym for the 11 a.m. ceremony. It was followed by a special luncheon for Bowsher and a question-and-answer session in the Papitto Dining Room.

CENTER leads national conference

The Center for Management Development is again developing the program for a national conference that provides visibility nationwide for Bryant and significant professional development for CENTER staff.

The annual event is the National Conference on Management and Professional Development Programs for Business and Industry, to be held in November in Florida. This is Bryant's fifth year of involvement, said Tim Sullivan, dean of executive and professional continuing education, who is serving for the fourth year as chair of the conference advisory board.

The conference is the only one of its type in the country, and draws 150 senior-level executives and professional development-program deans and directors from four-year colleges across the country. In return for Bryant's annual commitment, CENTER personnel who attend the conference do so at no cost, and the CENTER is reimbursed for all expenditures and receives 10 percent of the gross revenues of the conference.

Sullivan and CENTER director Rosemary D'Arcy, an advisory board member who will succeed Sullivan as board chair in November, also serve on the conference faculty. Sullivan is stepping down to assume an ex-officio position for three years.

Vance Packard speaks Tuesday

Vance Packard, one of America's most renowned authors and social critics, speaks at Bryant tomorrow at the first Leadership Forum of the fall semester. His address begins at 7 p.m. in the Papitto Dining Room.

The author of 10 books, Packard will open the series by talking about his most recent one, "The Ultra Rich: How Much Is Too Much?". Before his address, he will meet with students and dine on campus.

Packard, 75, is best known, perhaps, for his books "The Hidden Persuaders" and "The Status Seekers." His books have been translated into 15 languages, and demonstrate a lifelong commitment to social commentary.

All Leadership forums are free and open to the public as presentations of the Learning for Leadership Program at Bryant.



Bryant pockets energy savings

Ed Richard (r), plant engineer, pockets a check for \$16,905 from David Prairie of Narragansett Electric. The savings resulted from the installation of 96 energy-efficient motors by Bryant last year. The motors are designed to provide minimal electrical and rotational losses while still providing the desired horsepower.

Try TAPping into fall

TAP into an active and healthier life at Bryant again this fall. Try dancing, yoga, aerobics or life-saving, or enjoy a new hobby of basket weaving, piano lessons or mixology.

These are only a few of the TAP (The Alternative Program) non-credit classes being offered this fall. Classes run up to eight weeks, beginning October 2.

If you're interested in getting into shape, learning to update your image, or just enjoying yourself for a few hours a day, TAP offers 21 courses to choose from. Register at the Bryant Center Information Desk until Thursday.

Cooperative campus campaign gets underway

No muss! No fuss! No competition this year! The word to remember for the 1989 Bryant Fund Campus Campaign is "cooperation." And if the results so far are any indication, it will be another banner giving year.

Unlike last year's "Challenge of the Black and Gold," with campaign co-chairs Rosemary D'Arcy and Pat Keeley leading separate Black and Gold teams of employees, Bryant is all one big team this year. The co-chairs have joined forces and are urging everyone to join together in the spirit of campus cooperation and teamwork to reach the goal of 100 percent participation.

"No single factor will more dramatically strengthen our case for support in approaching potential donors" than substantial employee participation, said President Trueheart. "I have, therefore, established 100 percent employee participation as an objective for the 1989-90 campus campaign."

A strong commitment from employees will help to solidify Bryant's base of support, increase support from past donors, and expand funding sources at all levels—the focus of the fund-raising effort, the President added.

Money pledged will provide for scholarships and financial aid; research projects; library resources, and faculty and program development. The amount pledged is important, but not as important as participation.

"The Campus Campaign is off to an incredible start," said Nancy Haverstock, annual giving director. "The pledges started coming in the day after the official start of the campaign. More than \$8,000 was pledged in the first 48 hours."

Employees can contribute through payroll deduction or directly to the development office.

Campus crime watch in effect

With crime on the climb everywhere, Bryant has stepped in to "take a bite out of crime" on campus.

The Campus Crime Watch Committee invites members of the Bryant community to join them in making the campus a safer place. Formed last winter, the 50-member committee has been busy developing the crime watch program. Among their activities: attending Rhode Island's first crime prevention conference, distributing leaflets and information as part of the 1989 orientation program, and representing Bryant at the Neighborhood Crime Prevention Fair at the Lincoln Mall. Future plans include a crime watch fair and country-wide networking.

In August, the Governor's Justice Commission awarded the Campus Crime Watch Committee for its efforts on successfully launching the program on campus. For more information or an application, stop by the public safety office.



New faculty contract signed

President Trueheart signed the new faculty union contract earlier this month. The contract was negotiated over the summer and ratified in late August. The signing was witnessed by Jim Robinson, vice president for academic affairs; Joe Ilacqua, past president of the Faculty Federation, and new Federation president Leo Mahoney.

Appointments announced

Four old faces at Bryant have received new appointments in two departments: student affairs and continuing education.

Chuck Merrihew is the new director of Bryant Center operations. His new post comes after serving as assistant director of student activities for four years.

Bernie Blumenthal, former director of residence life, has rejoined Bryant as assistant director of admissions. Blumenthal has been associated with Bryant for more than eight years.

Bill Dean '56 is the new associate director of the RISBDC. He served previously as program manager for the RISBDC, after working as controller and treasurer for several Rhode Island companies.

Carl Anderson '87MBA is the new information management specialist in the Rhode Island Export Assistance Center. He has been a management information system consultant in the RISBDC and a systems analyst/manager consultant for the RIEAC for several years, and will continue to support both centers. He also will serve as data base manager for World Trade Center Rhode Island.

QUICKLY

... Professor **Burt Fischman** was the keynote speaker at the spring meeting of the Massachusetts Glass Dealers Association, talking about conflict resolution. He also spoke in late May for the seventh straight year at the Touche Ross and Company alumni training and development program on conflict management...

... Academic computing director **Joe Guay** has been re-elected to a second three-year term as a trustee to the New England Regional Computer Program (NERComp). He also is serving as NERComp treasurer and chair of the conference planning committee...

... RISBDC director **Doug Jobling** has been appointed to the certification committee of the national Association of SBDCs. He also participated in August in on-site reviews of SBDCs in Wisconsin and New Jersey...

... **Karl Ericson '58**, a long-time member and former chair of the Board of Trustees, was named an Honorary Trustee by the Board at its spring meeting. At that same meeting, former professor **Frank Ferguson** was named professor emeritus...

... **Margie Edwards** of the SBDC and **Rosemary D'Arcy** of The CENTER participate in a panel discussion of business start-up and planning at the first Working Woman's Expo on Wednesday in Cranston. The day-long event is sponsored by the SBDC and Johnson & Wales at the college's hospitality center...

... Professor **John Jolley** spoke at a pre-retirement seminar for postal employees in Massachusetts yesterday. His topic: "Retirement and the Cycles of Aging"...

... Space limitations require that anyone interested in visiting this fall's EC362 course, "Government and Business," being team-taught by **President Trueheart**, professor **Joe Ilacqua**, and Congressman Ron Machtley, must contact Ilacqua in advance at ext. 6098...

... Professor **Ken Fougere** spent a month last summer attending the Information Systems Faculty Development Institute run by the AACSB at the University of Minnesota...

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Soviet economist Andrei Anikin



Gorbachev advisor to speak in October

A chief advisor to Mikhail Gorbachev on economic restructuring in the Soviet Union speaks at Bryant on October 17.

Professor Andrei Anikin, one of Russia's most influential economists and the leading Soviet expert on U.S. and international financial

markets, will discuss the major changes taking place in Soviet society and its meaning for the West. He heads a group of advisors to Presi-

dent Gorbachev on the restructuring of the U.S.S.R. The findings of their study, "Financial Structures in the West and Their Relation to

Soviet Economic Problems," are expected to have an immediate impact on perestroika.

Anikin has been a member of Moscow's prestigious Institute of World Economics and International Relations for over 30 years, and an economics professor at Moscow University for almost 20 years. Since 1970, he has headed

the institute's North American department. Internationally recognized for his studies, writings, and lectures, Anikin is the holder of

the honorary title Distinguished Scientist of The Russian Republic. He has received the highest prize awarded by the Soviet Academy of Sciences for his research. His books and

articles have been translated into many languages. Fluent in English, Anikin has lectured at American and Canadian universities. A work

in progress, tentatively titled "Americans and We - Observations and Reflections," is scheduled for worldwide publication in 1991.

Language Lab opening

Bryant's new Language Laboratory will be opened officially Thursday at a 2:30 p.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony. President Trueheart and Trustee Monica Laurans, chair of the Board's academic affairs committee, will speak. Lab director and professor William Graves will demonstrate the lab's new A-V equipment.

New faces

Paul A. Dion **Assistant Professor, Marketing**

Paul Dion comes to Bryant from the University of Minnesota at Duluth, where he was assistant professor of marketing for four years. He has also taught marketing management at the University of Toronto and a variety of business courses at Saint Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia.

Dion holds a Ph.D. in marketing from Toronto, an M.B.A. in marketing from McMaster University in Ontario, and a B.A. in experimental psychology, biological and medical sciences from Toronto. He has been a consultant for Minnesota Power and the University of Minnesota, and has published a variety of papers. Dion was given two teaching awards while at Duluth.

Joseph R. Urgo **Assistant Professor, English**

Joseph Urgo comes to Bryant from Vanderbilt University, where he taught in the English department for three years and was the Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in American Studies. He has taught also at Syracuse and Brown Universities.

Urgo holds a Ph.D. and an M.A. from Brown, a master of arts in liberal studies from Wesleyan University, and a B.A. in political science from Haverford College. He has published a variety of papers. The University Press of Mississippi is publishing his book, "Faulkner's Apocrypha: Snopes, a Fable, and the Spirit of Human Rebellion," this fall.

Judith McDonnell **Assistant Professor, Sociology**

Judith McDonnell comes to Bryant from Brown University, where she has been working on a Ph.D. in sociology and serving as a research and teaching assistant. She holds an A.M. in sociology from Brown and an A.B. in human development and family studies from Cornell University.

McDonnell also has had two teaching fellowships at Brown. Her areas of specialization include urban sociology and housing policy.



Dion



Urgo



McDonnell



Graves

By the way . . .

by Gloria Yahn

- Paula Iacono, alumni office, tells me her daughter, Lauren, participated in and won a few titles in the Miss Rhode Island Pre-Teen Pageant. A seventh-grader at St. Rocco's School, Lauren was second runner-up in the competition, won the title of Miss Pre-Teen Personality, was second runner-up in the talent competition, and was voted by her peers as Miss Rhode Island Personality. I'd say with accomplishments like that at age 11, Miss America, look out!

- Bob Birt of the English department will return to campus next semester after a one-semester medical leave. On behalf of the Bryant staff, I wish him good luck and good health.

- Friends of Janice DiPietro, accounting department, will be pleased to know that she successfully defended her dissertation last month at Boston University. Congratulations, Dr. DiPietro!

- House hunting for the Export Assistance Center is over. Home Sweet Home for them is in Faculty Suite D. Good luck, Ray Fogarty and company!

Thanks

Rosemary D'Arcy and her husband, Herb, thank the Bryant community for their expressions of sympathy after the death of his father.

William Graves III **Assistant Professor, Humanities**

William Graves is teaching Bryant's new Mandarin Chinese language course. He comes to Bryant from Brown University, where he was employed most recently as a researcher in the education, culture and technology program of the anthropology department. He has taught also at Brown, Rhode Island College, Connecticut College and in Taipei, Taiwan, where he taught Russian to the Chinese.

Graves holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Indiana University, an M.A. in linguistics and anthropology from Indiana, and a B.A. in Russian language and literature from the University of Maryland. He has been a Russian interpreter at the American Embassy in Moscow. Graves also speaks Pima and reads Japanese, Spanish, and Swedish.