

heartily support the American Council on Education's request for a system of random selection. Such pooling of sources can provide the required manpower while drawing properly but not unduly from the limited ranks of those we have educated. Let me urge you to examine the National Security Council's decision.

R. W. FLEMING,
President.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY,
Evanston, Ill., February 23, 1968.

HON. EDITH GREEN,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MRS. GREEN: The recent change in selective service practices falls heavily on those universities that justify their existence in great measure by their post-baccalaureate efforts. Those forty-odd universities that bear the major responsibility for training at the highest level, the doctorate, stand to sink back to their level of operation of a decade ago, and another sixty or so that had responded to the challenge to play a more important role in the production of badly needed doctorates will be frustrated in their purpose, crippled for lack of students and finances to the point of doubting societies' will and wishes for an elite of highly educated and creative people.

The educational community, neither through the presidents of universities nor the graduate deans, has asked for deferments for graduate students as a class. Rather, they have repeatedly asked that graduate students stand as ready as laborers, artisans, and others to bear their part of the military effort. We had expected to lose in this way possibly one of five of our students, but we counted not upon the loss of four out of five that the accident of "oldest go first" imposes upon us. We thought we could nearly fulfill our mission under the minor loss but we know we must fall with the major one.

We here, like other major universities, have launched heroic plans, plans that tax our utmost efforts, to increase our stake in graduate education. We had responded to the understood needs to raise the population of Ph.D.'s above the one-in-a-thousand of our people. We are proud to have been a part in the increase of annual production from 10,000 in 1960 to the 17,500 mark in 1966. We had expected to play our role in helping to reach 25,000 by 1972, but if the draft of potential Ph.D.'s runs unabated we and our sister institutions will surly drop down to the 1960 mark by 1971. This first class of 10,000 will be composed largely of women, students of foreign origin, and those physically unfit for military duty. Such a situation must obtain until some of the draftees return to the halls of learning, but the losses will not be recouped immediately and certainly we stand to miss our national goals by 45,000 during the slack time.

The loss of such a large group from the very top of the educational system is incalculable. It will, at the least, move us backward toward the simple agrarian society from which we sprung and at the same time it denies us the benefits of the modern counterpart of the pioneers. It will dismay our friends in the world and cheer our enemies. I hope to have your support in helping us to avoid this backward step.

With kind regards, I am
Cordially,

J. ROSCOE MILLER,
President.

RUTGERS UNIVERSITY,
New Brunswick, N.J., February 26, 1968.

Representative EDITH GREEN,
Chairman, Special Subcommittee on Education, House of Representatives, Wash-
ington, D.C.:

I agree with the general position taken by the American Council on Education and the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges. We have not opposed the abolition of deferments for graduate students so long as it is not combined with the ruling calling for drafting older people first. Since this would mean the sudden disappearance of approximately 40 percent of our graduate students it would have a very serious effect upon our teaching and research activities and would definitely not be in the national interest. Hope very much that you can be of some help.

MASON W. GROSS,
President.