

Women's group documents lack of female professors

by Sandra Fleishman

More than one fourth of 52 University departments have no female faculty members, according to research by the University's Women's Caucus.

In a report they submitted to Chancellor Charles E. Bishop earlier this week, the caucus outlined what they claimed is underrepresentation of campus female faculty members above the rank of instructor.

The caucus reported that 75% of the 52 departments have no female full professors.

They also compared the number of women faculty in each department with the number of female Ph.D. recipients from

1960 to 1969.

With this data, they told the chancellor that over half the departments have less than the national average for female Ph.D. recipients, or have no female faculty at all.

"We asked Dr. Bishop to consider requiring departments show good faith in hiring minority women before white men are hired," member Nancy Anderson explained.

"The figures we found demonstrated to us that there are too many departments who have less women than the national average or have no women at all," the psychology professor said.

"I think their information was impressive," Bishop said. "I think there were some departments that I would have thought had a number of women faculty members and didn't have any."

Bishop said the University "has to take a look at its recruitment program and make sure that all qualified persons are considered."

While the chancellor said he has been given data on women in the faculty before, he said the University data on salaries are already out of date and will be analyzed again this year.

Women's Caucus also offered

to help any department that doesn't know "how to find women to hire" at the meeting with the chancellor.

"We will provide them with lists of professional organizations that have names of qualified women who could at least be interviewed for jobs," Anderson said.

"It's not that we want to force departments to hire women," she said, "but at least they would be interviewed. Generally one excuse departments give for not having female faculty is that they can't find any to hire."

"At least now we can make our services known and help show departments where to look," Anderson said.

She added that the caucus was also concerned that the number of women faculty members may not have changed in the last four years.

"It's not terribly clear that there has been much emphasis on hiring women in the department," Anderson said. "But we didn't expect there would be that many departments without female faculty."

"And it's not just in engineering," she explained, "there are many departments in arts and sciences" without female faculty.

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