

AC

232

BOX

FOLDER

Folder on Rowe appt 1973

Perhaps there could
be several folders
on early 1973
including Wymna
Letter.

They would follow ^{my} folder
from 1972 - earliest
Women's Forum papers

From the News Office
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
Telephone: (617) 253-2701

FOR A.M. NEWSPAPERS OF
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1973

Dr. Mary Potter Rowe has been appointed to the new position of Special Assistant to the President and the Chancellor for Women and Work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

As assistant to President Jerome B. Wiesner and Chancellor Paul E. Gray, Dr. Rowe will be involved in the Institute's efforts to move through affirmative action toward equality of opportunity in employment and education for women, and to improve the quality of life for women associated with M. I. T.

Dr. Rowe will work closely with the provost, the vice presidents, deans, department and laboratory heads, and others whose activity affects women.

She will be associated closely with Mr. James C. Allison, the Assistant to the President and Chancellor for Minority Affairs, in planning, implementation and reporting related to the Institute's Affirmative Action plans and efforts. Mr. Allison will continue to have primary responsibility for liaison with federal and local agencies and to serve as the Institute's Equal Opportunity Officer.

Dr. Rowe will be a member, ex officio, of the M. I. T. Personnel Policy Committee and the M. I. T. Equal Opportunity Committee and will be involved in the work of other committees and councils as they affect the status of women here.

In announcing this appointment Chancellor Gray said, "We expect that Dr. Rowe will be concerned with the needs and views of all M. I. T. women, the basic premise being that equal opportunity for women must occur in all student and job categories if it is to obtain in any such category.

"The establishment of this position underscores the Institute's long-term goal of achieving a community in which men and women will be represented in every job and student category in proportions determined only by personal choice and merit."

This appointment brings to an end an intensive search which began in August, 1972. During the last six months a search committee comprised of Paul E. Gray, John M. Wynne, Vice President for Administration and Personnel; Emily L. Wick, Professor of Nutrition and Food Science; Sally Hansen, Professional Personnel Representative and Margaret Sand, Child-Care Coordinator; examined the credentials of more than 50 candidates and interviewed 10 applicants.

---more---

The final selection, Dr. Gray said, was made by the search committee "with enthusiastic unanimity."

In this regard he said, "Dr. Rowe has had an impressive record of accomplishment in the economics of child care and of discrimination. She brings to M.I.T. attributes of interest and experience that bear directly on the Institute's needs.

"She believes that some of the problems confronting women in the search for equality of opportunity in education and employment are not intrinsic to women, but arise from the way in which work is structured. This belief, and her deep interest in the problems of discrimination and minority concerns, seemed to us to match exceptionally well the Institute's goals and the aims for which the position was created.

A native of Chicago, Dr. Rowe received the B.A. degree in history from Swarthmore College in 1957 and the Ph.D. in economics from Columbia University in 1971.

Dr. Rowe has most recently been a research affiliate at the Radcliffe Institute, directing a Carnegie Corporation grant to design a program to help senior women faculty and women students in New England institutions and to design the evaluation of the program.

Dr. Rowe has also been economic consultant to Abt Associates, to various agencies of the Federal Government, to Harvard, Radcliffe and Brown Universities, to the City of Cambridge, to the Governor's Advisory Committee on Child Development, to the Massachusetts Rate Setting Commission, to the Massachusetts Early Education Project and to many community groups on child care systems. In 1972 she was technical director for two child care projects: design and testing of a model day care demand questionnaire for the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, and development of a sliding fee scale computer model for day care for the U.S. Office of Child Development.

From 1962-63 she worked on population and labor force data for the Planning Board of the U.S. Virgin Islands and in 1963-66 did industrial development field work in Nigeria, including a computer-analyzed, in-depth survey of 300 Nigerian business people. While in Nigeria she helped establish an American International School in Lagos. After returning to the U.S., Dr. Rowe became a consultant on black business ownership. Among her consulting projects were Center City, a study of business opportunity in central Boston, and the Harvard University Project on Technology and Society.

Dr. Rowe--3

Dr. Rowe is the author of numerous professional publications. She is a member of the American Economics Association, the National Planning Association and the African Studies Association. She is a trustee of Cambridge Friends School and is also on the boards of several local and national child care programs and councils.

Dr. Rowe is married to Richard R. Rowe, director of the Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology and Public Practice at Harvard University. The Rowes have three children, Kathy, 10, Polly, 8 and Tim, 5, and reside in Cambridge.

---END---

13 January 73

Before
I came
to
MIT on 3/2/73
MR

John Wynne
Vice President
Administration and Personnel
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge

Dear John Wynne:

Thank you so much for your warm welcome. I very much look forward to working at an Institute which I am coming to regard very highly.

I would like to talk further about offices. I am personally uncomfortable with status and grandeur and/but recognize that women need a symbol. (For this reason I am really grateful at the thought of beginning near Paul Gray's office.) I like plants so I'd love a window but I can always bring a Gro-lamp. I think by the time I move from the Conference Room I'll need a research assistant in addition to a secretary. Within these constraints I'll gratefully accept your advice on space.

As to staff assistance. Paul Gray suggested we might find a temporary someone (while we look for the following improbably scarce skills and characteristics)?

Since I am new to MIT I would naturally benefit from the advice of someone who has experience here. I feel very strongly that a 50:50 ratio in all job categories in the year 3000 requires integrating occupations wherever possible, so I would prefer to hire a male secretary (and a female research assistant?) He needs to be able to type and look up Library references, listen quietly and encourage questioners, make appointments and find out how the civil rights offices in Washington have been switched around over the weekend.

My erstwhile (male) secretary ^{at Abt Associates} has a college degree, reads widely in newspapers and journals for me, sends for materials, manages a tiny budget and tells me of day care events in his hometown. On occasion he

John Wynne
13 January 73

2.

figures percentages and produces simple graphs from tables. Again I feel I need your advice on this as well.

My present plan is to start work on the first, or in early February, as soon as I finish the Carnegie grant work. Please feel free to call my anytime (868-4120 or 354-3928) to come talk, interview secretaries, and discuss offices.

With thanks again for your note, I am

Very truly yours,

Mary P. Rowe