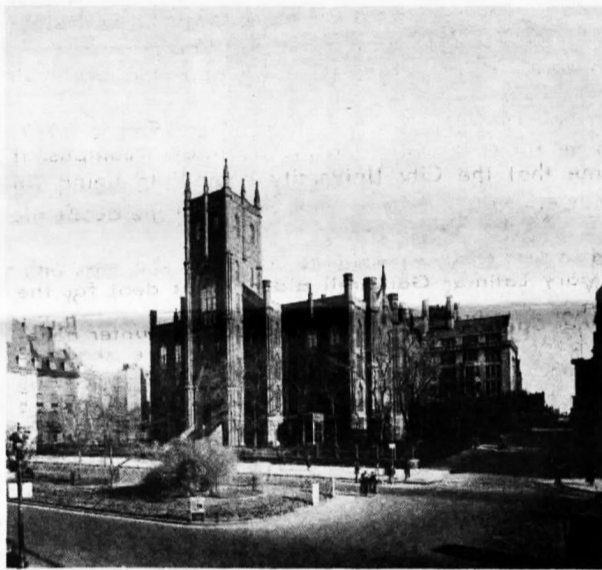


Great Moments of HUNTER COLLEGE

One Hundred And Three Years Of Existence



upper left. Seated at the center is Thomas Hunter founder of Normal College in 1893 with his staff. Upper right, FDR at dedication of new building in 1940. Center, Hunter Building facing Park Avenue burned in 1936. Same site present building is in. Lower left, President George Shuster receiving the Gold Medal of Honor from the Foreign Minister of Austria on Sept. 27, 1957. Lower right, John Meng with U Thant former secretary general of the U.N. and Dean Hopwood in March of 1962 celebrating 19th birthday of Roosevelt House.



Presidents Past & Present

By Charles J. Marticorena

On Wednesday February 14th, 1973, Hunter College celebrated its one hundred and third anniversary.

Believing that the direction of a college is chartered by its president herewith is contained a brief analysis into the lives and the accomplishments of the nine presidents that Hunter has had during its 103 year history.

It goes to Thomas Hunter's credit that he was one of the earliest educators to perceive the need for well educated women in society.

Born in Ireland of scotish descent he was a brilliant organizer who refused to be a follower. As director of his female Normal school (teachers' college) he tried to surround himself with equally capable personell. His first faculty, however, only included two professors. Vice president Dundon who was with Hunter during most of his battles also taught as a professor of English. It was Dundon who devised the college motto mihi cura futuri, mine is the care of the future.

The second president was George Davis. Little is known about this man but that he was the direct opposite of his predecessor. Where Mr. Hunter was a dynamic educator, Mr. Davis was quiet and aloff. It was during his administration that Normal College had its name changed to that of its founder. George Davis also worked hard in gaining much needed accreditation for the fledging school. He was followed by James Kiernan who believed in the traditions of Thomas Hunter. He particularly involved himself with the physical expansion of the college. Under him, construction of the Bronx campus became more of a reality. In 1933 began the administration of President Eugene Colligan whose main task became the reorganization of curriculum.

In 1940, George Shuster entered the office of president. There had been a fire in 1936 that destroyed the Hunter College building on the Park Ave. site. The new building had been constructed on the same site and was ready in 1940. His presidency was by far the longest in the colleges history. He served for twenty years. Although many things were accomplished during his administration by far stand the structural gains that were made. Roosevelt House on East 65th Street was given to Hunter and he established the Hunter College School of Social Work.

A gifted speaker, he held a doctorate in English and Music as well as a law degree.

The sixth president was John Meng who served from 1960 to 1967. He was a strong supporter for coeducation at the downtown campus. It was also during his time that the City University came into being an outspoken critic of catholic education, he was well known in the academic world.

In 1967 Hunter had ist first female president. Although she was only to serve for one year, Mary Latimar Gambrell did a great deal for the university. It was during her administration that we acquired Hunter Bellevue. We had a nursing dept. before her time but had never acquired quarters for the nurses. She also made the early preparations for the splitting of the two campuses of Hunter into two separate colleges, Hunter and Lehman.

In 1968 Dr. Robert Cross became the eighth president of Hunter. His years saw the complete split of Hunter and its former uptown campus now called Lehman. He also created the Institute of Health Sciences and it was through his support that a Department of Black and Puerto Rican Studies became a reality. Seek department was also launched during this time.

Dr. Cross was instrumental in the organization of the structure of the college into basically four divisions; science, humanities, social sciences and programs in education.

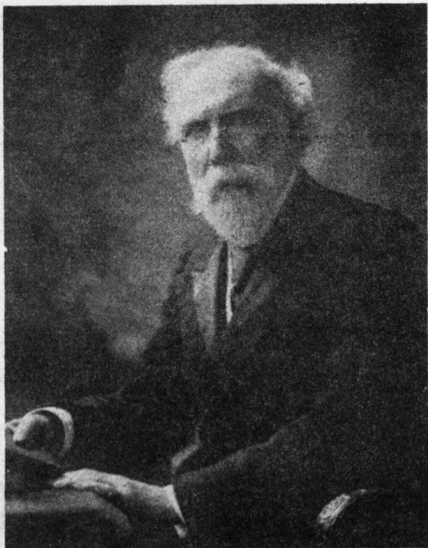
President Jacqueline Wexler came into office on February 11, 1970, surrounded by the aura of an intelligent woman in the middle of controversy.

Her name had become well known nationally from her days at Webster College in St. Louis where she was president. The college was strictly catholic and had an all girl population. It was through Jacqueline Wexler's support, that the college is now secular. The sisters that were in charge of the school decided to leave the order and remain as secular instructors.

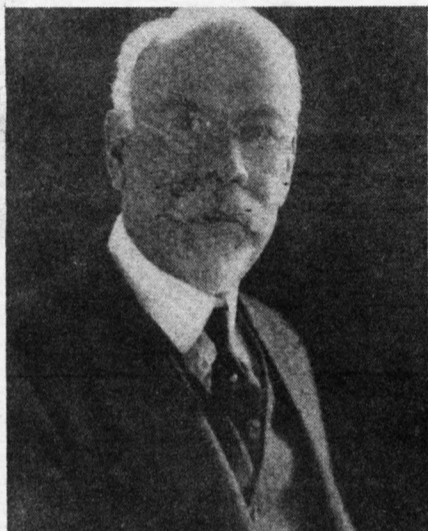
Her ability to handle crisis situations was quickly tested for only a month after taking office the demonstrations at Hunter began. Again through her support the demonstrators succeeded in getting a stronger voice for students through the creation of a college senate.

Always a strong supporter of open admissions and the maintenance of free tuition at the college, she continues to strive to maintain the academic standards of the college high.

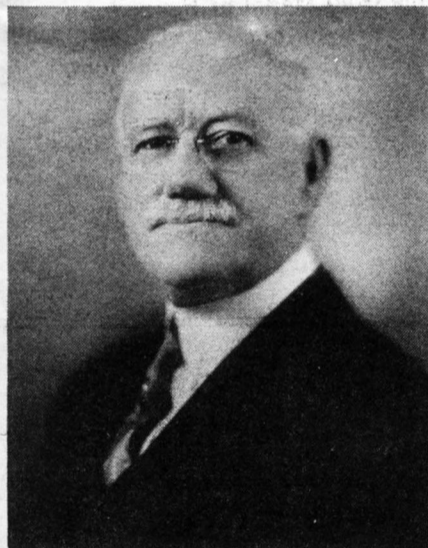
So there you have it in a nutshell. Nine presidents and 103 years of existance.



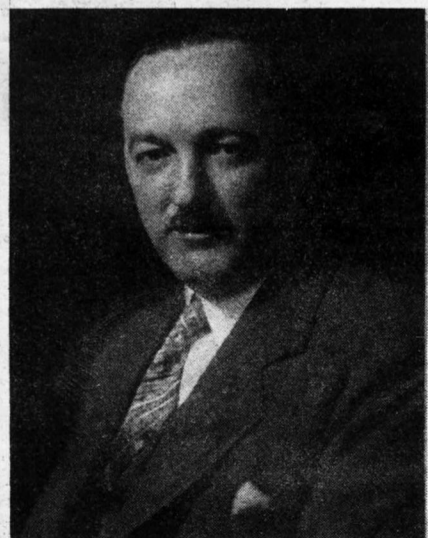
THOMAS HUNTER
1870 - 1908



GEORGE DAVIS
1908 - 1929



JAMES KIERAN
1929 - 1933



EUGENE COLLIGAN
1933 - 1940



GEORGE SHUSTER
1940 - 1960



JOHN MENG
1960 - 1967



MARY GAMBRELL
1967 - 1968



JACQUELINE WEXLER
1970 -



ROBERT CROSS
1968 - 1970