

to sell search continues an stock for new president

it will be at least another month and perhaps longer before a new MSU president is named, John B. Bruff, vice chairman of the MSU Board of Trustees reported in December. Bruff, a Mt. Clemens attorney, said the trustees currently were interviewing a list of candidates forwarded to the university search and selection advisory committee. Additional names may be given to the board by the committee or be received from other sources.

Local newspapers reported that former MSU football star and Rhodes Scholar John D. Wilson, provost of Virginia Polytechnic Institute in Blacksburg, was a favorite of the committee. However, Wilson, a defensive halfback on MSU's 1952 championship football team and a

Sawyer, Lick win trustee election

Democrats Barbara Sawyer and Carole Lick, 64, won seats on the MSU Board of Trustees in November in what was, finally, a typical election. Winners in the trustee election usually ride into office on the coattails of candidates at the top of their tickets. In recent years, Republican candidates for nonpaying posts have won only in the Kennedy and Nixon landslide years of 1966 and 1972.

Yet this year's campaign had a slightly different tenor from the usual low profile, most ho-hum contests. This year's candidates — at least more than usual — were seen and heard.

Republican candidate Paul V. Gadola, a conservative candidate who lost the 1976 trustee election by fewer than one percent of the vote, began canvassing the state a year ago, charging the Board of Trustees with neglecting serious academic problems while frittering away time on "fringe" social issues: The university's ties to firms doing business in South Africa and states that haven't ratified the Equal Rights Amendment.

Republican Mary Sharp, former East Lansing City Councilwoman, former associate director of the MSU Department of Human Relations and an honorary alumna of MSU, picked up on Gadola's case. She, at one point, considered initiating a citizen's law suit against the Board of Trustees for their decision to divest, calling it "irresponsible" to the people of Michigan who support MSU with taxes.

Democrats Lick and Sawyer, on the other hand, supported the Trustees deci-

Rhodes Scholar, declined the nomination saying that he isn't ready to leave his current job or uproot his family.

While the search and selection procedure continues, the university will continue to be headed by Edgar L. Harden. "I have discussed our progress with Dr. Harden," says Bruff, "and he has agreed to remain as president until next June, if necessary. This will assure continuity in the conduct of MSU's business, particularly as it moves into another appropriations cycle with the State Legislature and as it seeks to complete the current capital fund-raising program for a new performing arts center."

Bruff notes that even after a choice is made, some time may be required before a new president can take office. But, he says, "We're trying to set June of 1979 as a firm date for a new president to be sitting in the office." ■



Lick



Sawyer

sion to divest the South African stock if it could be done without jeopardizing the university's financial stability — a stance which appealed to the student community.

Lick, age 38, was an unsuccessful contestant for one of the Democratic trustee nominations in 1976, losing narrowly to Michael Smydra who went on to win a seat in the general election. A special education teacher in the Portage school system, she earned a bachelor's degree in special education from MSU in 1964 and a master's in speech pathology and audiology from Western Michigan in 1972. She has been a member of the Kalamazoo area MSU Alumni Club Executive Board since 1973.

Sawyer, age 29, is the treasurer of Menominee County in the Upper Peninsula. A 1971 political science/pre-law graduate of Alma College, she also studied pre-medicine at MSU for two terms.

Lick received 1,147,227 votes; Sawyer, 1,225,388; Gadola, 1,100,030; and Sharpe, 1,102,548.

Lick and Sawyer assumed their seats January 1 on the retirement of Patricia Carrigan-Strickland and Don Stevens. ■

1978 Enrollment: More freshmen, fewer minorities

The golden age of higher education may be over, as some education experts say. Overcrowded job markets and the end of the draft have made higher education look less attractive than in the past. And the resulting national decline in college enrollments has sent administrators, especially in liberal arts colleges, worrying and scurrying to attract their share of students.

It is a little surprising, then, that MSU enrolled 7,087 first-time freshmen this fall, one of the largest first-time freshman classes in history. The only years in which the entering class was larger were in 1965 when 7,853 first-time freshmen were enrolled and in 1966 when 7,159 were enrolled.

However, total enrollment of 43,744 on campus this fall is 467 fewer than in the fall of 1977. The principal decreases occurred in the number of undergraduate transfers and graduate students.

Of particular concern to MSU administrators is the drop in minority enrollment. Fall term 1978 census showed that 2,983 minority students were enrolled, constituting 6.28 per cent of the student body. In Fall 1977, minority enrollment was 3,206 or 7.25 per cent of the student population.

Provost Clarence Winder has announced a review of recruitment and admission procedures to determine whether the problem is particular to MSU or a national trend, whether recruitment activities are failing to reach prospective minority students, whether financial assistance is inadequate or too few high school grads can meet MSU admission standards.

Contrasting with the overall minority enrollment picture, the MSU College of Engineering has shown a marked increase in minority enrollment in recent years. In 1970-71, there were 56 minority students in the college. This year there are 200.

General enrollments continue to increase in the colleges of business, engineering, communication arts and sciences, and James Madison. On the other hand, there continue to be declines in the enrollments of the colleges of education, arts and letters and social science.

The College of Business, with 6,560 students, remains the largest of MSU's 16 degree-granting colleges. Business is followed by social science, 4,822; natural science, 4,601; agriculture and natural resources, 4,530; education, 3,978 and engineering, 3,618. ■