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CITY

New Job for Temporary CUNY Chancellor

Man Who Held the Fort Is Named President of Brooklyn College

By KAREN W. ARENSEN

The trustees of the City University of New York waived their normal search process yesterday and voted unanimously to appoint Christoph M. Kimmich, CUNY's interim Chancellor for nearly two years, as the next president of Brooklyn College.

He will succeed Vernon E. Lattin, who has resigned effective Jan. 31, 2000, and will become a university professor at CUNY's Graduate School and University Center, officials announced yesterday.

Dr. Kimmich, 60, will step down as CUNY's interim chancellor next week when Matthew Goldstein, the president of Adelphi University and the former president of CUNY's Baruch College, becomes Chancellor.

Acting at a special meeting yesterday afternoon, CUNY's board also named acting presidents for 3 of its 17 undergraduate campuses: City College, Baruch College and LaGuardia Community College.

Dr. Stanford A. Roman Jr., dean of CUNY's Sophie Davis School of Biomedical Education since 1990, will become acting president of City College. He will continue to be dean of Sophie Davis, which is based at City College. He will replace Yolanda T.

Moses, who resigned under pressure from CUNY's trustees last month.

Dr. Goldstein said that CUNY would spend the next year conducting a study to consider the college's direction, bringing together "the best thinking" from consultants, faculty members and others "to discern

Applause for a choice, but criticism of how it was made.

the possibilities and capabilities for City College." After that, he said, the search for a new president of City College would begin.

The board also appointed Sidney I. Lirtzman, dean of Baruch College's Zicklin School of Business and a professor of management, as Baruch's acting president. He will be the college's second acting president since Dr. Goldstein, Baruch's last president, left for Adelphi last year. Lois S. Cronholm, who has been acting

president, recently resigned to take a job outside the university.

Roberta S. Matthews, an English professor and former associate dean at LaGuardia, was named acting president of that community college. Since 1996, she has been at Marymount College in Tarrytown, N.Y., as acting provost, vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty. Before that, she was LaGuardia's associate dean for academic affairs for seven years. She succeeds Raymond C. Bowen, who retired after serving as president for 10 years.

CUNY's chairman, Herman Badillo, said that a search would begin for a permanent president of LaGuardia, and that the search for a president at Baruch would continue, along with searches for new presidents of Queensborough and Kingsborough Community Colleges, which now have acting presidents.

Some faculty members said that they were pleased by Dr. Kimmich's appointment, but unhappy about the way he was chosen.

"Kimmich might well have been the choice of a legitimate search process," said Steven London, a political science professor at Brooklyn College and chairman of the col-



Marilynn K. Yee/The New York Times



Pach Brothers



Tobi Seftel

CUNY trustees named Christoph M. Kimmich, left, president of Brooklyn College; Stanford A. Roman Jr., center, acting president of City College, and Sidney I. Lirtzman acting president of Baruch College.

lege's faculty and staff union chapter. "But this shows little or no respect for the faculty or for the normal search procedure, which involves faculty consultation."

He and other professors noted that the board had also recently waived the search process in appointing a new president for Hostos Community College.

In anticipation of such criticism, several trustees defended the process yesterday.

Jeffrey Wiesenfeld, a new trustee who is also an aide to Gov. George E. Pataki, said that "rigorous adherence to process" was not always warranted. "Here we have a person who can immediately fill a position," he said. "He is really a gift to the city. In this respect, the process is working quite well."

In his 21 months as interim chancellor during one of the most tumultuous periods in CUNY's history, Dr. Kimmich steered a careful path

through a political minefield. As he put in place some of the changes the trustees sought, he also tried to work with the faculty, earning him the respect of CUNY's trustees, local politicians and many faculty members.

Dr. Kimmich, who was Brooklyn College's provost for nearly 10 years, said he planned to use the next few months on sabbatical "to catch up with friends, correspondence and sleep."