

YALE GOING COED NEXT SEPTEMBER

500 Undergraduate Girls to Be Admitted as a Start

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Special to The New York Times

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 14—For the first time in its 207-year history Yale University will admit undergraduate women next fall to "enhance its contribution to the generations ahead."

Announcing the move today, Kingman Brewster Jr., the president of Yale, said that 500 girls would be enrolled next September, and that their experience would "determine the pattern" for full coeducation.

The girls will be Yale students in every sense, eligible for all the same courses as men, and treated no differently by the administration.

The university's ultimate goal, Mr. Brewster said, is to have at least 1,500 women undergraduates, without reducing the male undergraduate enrollment, which is 4,000. He estimated the cost of the program at \$55-million.

The decision, made one year after Vassar College rejected an invitation from Yale to consider the "possibilities of cooperation," reflects a recent trend toward coeducation among some

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Yale Going Coed in '69 by Admitting 500 Girls

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of the nation's most prestigious colleges.

As the news swept across the campus late today, it drew the enthusiastic approval of most students and teachers.

Although enrolling women at Yale has been discussed and debated here for years, the specific plan spelled out today was drawn together hastily to capitalize on what Mr. Brewster called "the very high motivation and energetic responsibility of present Yale students."

As an illustration of that motivation, he praised the student-sponsored Coeducation Week, an experiment in which women from 22 colleges spent six days at Yale as undergraduates early this month.

Delay Ruled Out

Pleading his case before the Yale college faculty this afternoon, Mr. Brewster conceded that the decision had been "somewhat precipitate." But he contended that quick action was preferable to "further abstract study."

"Delay will leave us up in the air just that much longer, on the question of a long-run strategy," he explained.

The Yale Corporation quietly approved the plan last weekend, but it still needed faculty approval, which came unanimously at a closed meeting today.

Although the university has always been exclusively male at the undergraduate level, it began admitting women into graduate programs at the turn of the century. There are now 900 women among its 4,700 graduate students.

The first coeds will be 250 freshmen, selected through



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Kingman Brewster Jr.

Yale's usual admissions apparatus, and 250 women transfers from other colleges, under a plan yet to be disclosed.

The transfer students will be housed off campus, many of them in commercial apartment buildings owned by Yale. To accommodate the freshmen, the university plans to vacate one of the 12 residential colleges now occupied by men undergraduates.

Calling the plan an "interim arrangement," Mr. Brewster said putting all the resident women together in one building "seemed the only practical way" for next year, although it would probably not be part of the permanent coeducation plan.

The men students called upon to move out of their college to make room for the girls were expected to be among the few severe critics of the plan. Trying to forestall opposition from them and from professors who might be wary of women students, Mr. Brewster said:

"This course will work only if students, faculty and administration voluntarily assume its risks, burdens and responsibilities."

Yale took its first step toward coeducation in 1966, when it agreed, with Vassar College, to study "the possibilities of cooperation." But after a year of study, the Vassar trustees decided to remain "the mistress in our own house" and seek men students on their own instead.

As a step toward becoming coeducational, Vassar will admit male students from Williams, Trinity and Colgate Colleges on an exchange basis beginning next semester.

When Vassar turned down Yale's offer last November, Mr. Brewster announced a new study of coordinate education, including the possibility of establishing an affiliated women's college in New Haven.

Although that was not specifically ruled out in his plan today, which was keyed to "flexibility for the future," Mr. Brewster said that Yale's immediate move would be, instead, to full coeducation.

In coordinate education, the relationship such as that between Pembroke College and Brown University, the students have classes and activities, to varying degrees, but each school retains its own identity, with a separate administration and usually a separate faculty.

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