

Two popular profs denied tenure

By DAVID LIGHTMAN
senior reporter

Contracts of two University philosophy professors have not been renewed after a department "assessment of each individual's talents re-

lative to the needs of this department."

One of the dismissed teachers, C. Richard Roelofs, assistant professor of philosophy, received an excellence in teaching award in

November.

The other, Peter Goldstone, assistant professor, has been noted for his liberal political views.

According to W.E. Schlaretzki, chairman of the department, the decision was reached by a faculty group after considering recommendations of a student-faculty advisory group.

Data used to evaluate the professors included letters from undergraduate majors and graduate majors, Schlaretzki said.

He called the letters "perceptive and discriminating. . .and based on close acquaintance with the persons being considered."

Roelofs said he would not comment on the department's action.

When Roelofs received his award, presented by the Association of American Colleges, he was noted as "a dedicated teacher of moral integrity and exacting care.

"(He) convinces his students that clarity, precision, and rationality are as relevant to the commonplace as they are to obtuse philosophical issues."

The appointments of both men will be terminated after the 1970-71 school year.

A memo issued by Schlaretzki in February outlined factors used in awarding assistant professors new contracts.

The statement pointed out that appointments are made unless it "clearly would be to the advantage of the institution.

"It means only that for that institution, at that time, the person was regarded as being not clearly the right person for a virtually lifetime commitment."

Two major factors were listed as being essential for re-appointment. One was that the candidate possess a "reasonably high degree of knowledge of his subject."

The other is "the motivation of students, some people are very good at exciting interest in a philosophical subject in students who are not initially interested..."

Another factor in the termination may have been "lack of independent work.

"It seems to me that a good teacher of philosophy naturally and regularly does a certain amount of independent work in connection with his teaching," Schlaretzki said.

"This should be one of the criteria of a good teacher," he added. "The alleged dichotomy between teaching and research is illusory."

Later in the memo, however, Schlaretzki noted that published material constitutes "valuable confirmation by independent experts of evaluations made by the department of the work of its own faculty."

Roelofs and Goldstone have both been lauded in recent Course

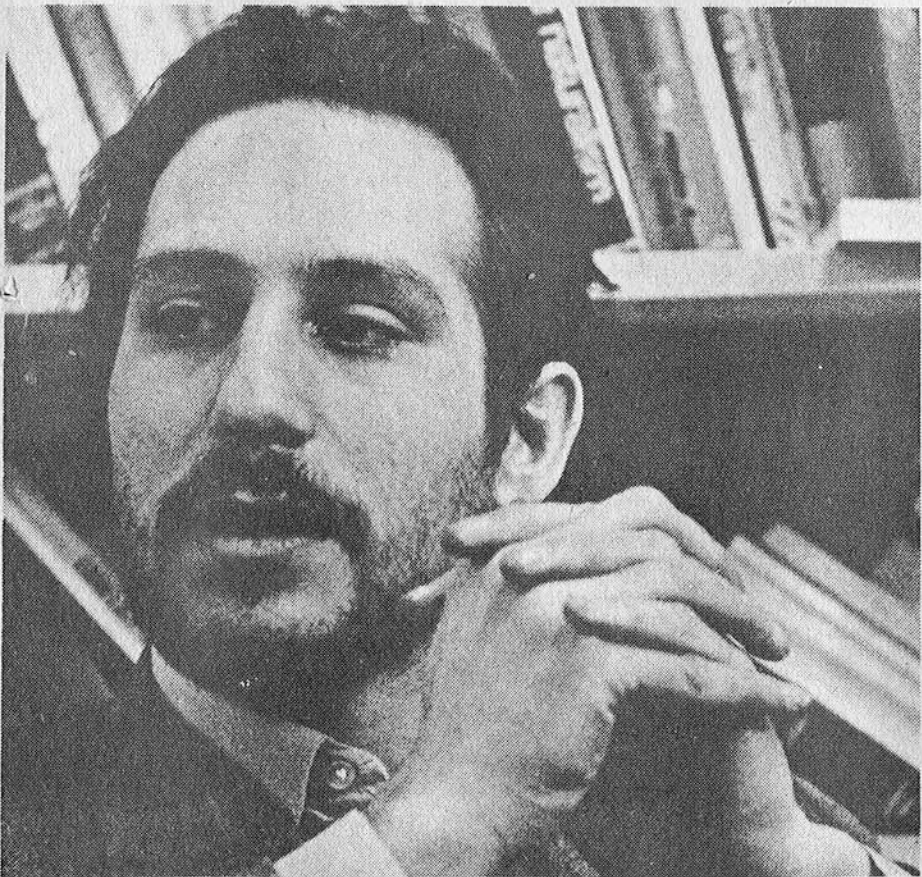


ROELOFS

Guides.

The January, 1969 guide called Roelofs "a profound yet outstanding lecturer...the course made students really think." Goldstone's "enthusiasm is great and thus he motivates his audience... He is both a friend and an instructor."

Both men have taught at the University for five years.



GOLDSTONE

photo by John Humble