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A COMPARISON OF MALE AND FEMALE UNIVERSITY  
FACULTY MEMBERS' PERCEPTIONS OF DECISIONS  
MADE BY THEIR IMMEDIATE SUPERIORS.

The University of Oklahoma, Ph.D., 1975  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA  
GRADUATE COLLEGE

A COMPARISON OF MALE AND FEMALE UNIVERSITY FACULTY  
MEMBERS' PERCEPTIONS OF DECISIONS MADE  
BY THEIR IMMEDIATE SUPERIORS

A DISSERTATION  
SUBMITTED TO THE GRADUATE FACULTY  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the  
degree of  
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

BY  
SAMUEL CLAUDE FLUCK  
Norman, Oklahoma  
1975

A COMPARISON OF MALE AND FEMALE UNIVERSITY FACULTY  
MEMBERS' PERCEPTIONS OF DECISIONS MADE  
BY THEIR IMMEDIATE SUPERIORS

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION AND STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

College and university administrators have been pressured by faculty women, both individually and collectively, to equalize or establish a more suitable proportion of female faculty members. Their collective pressure has led to recently adopted federal guidelines which require colleges and universities receiving federal monies to be able to demonstrate that their employment policies afford equal opportunities to women (Logan, 1970). University women are also challenging the equity of salaries, department rank, and advancement opportunities. A recent study (Astin & Bayer, 1972) of 60,028 college and university faculty members revealed that men occupied the highest ranks (25% of the men were professors while only 9% of the women held the same rank). When other variables were controlled, sex accounted for most of the differential in rank and salary. However, Astin and Bayer mentioned nothing about women in power positions.

There is little or no mention of women in campus power positions in any of the research literature. Therefore, the focus of this study was to compare male and female faculty members in administrative positions. Specifically, this study investigated one area which may be related to the

absence of the women in university administrative positions.

Are women absent from these positions because they lack certain qualifications or characteristics desired in educational administrators, or are they denied administrative power positions simply because of their sex? What characteristics and/or qualifications are most desirable in educational administrators in power positions? Is there a difference between the characteristics and qualifications educators list as "most important" and the characteristics and qualifications actually regarded as "most important" in real life situations. What role (if any) does the administrators' sex identity play in establishing the credibility of their decisions among subordinates. Do subordinates regard male administrators' decisions as being more credible than female administrators' decisions? On the other hand, what role does the subordinates' sex identity play in establishing the credibility of their superordinates' decisions? Is there a difference in the way male and female subordinates regard administrative decisions?

#### Statement of the Problem

This study compared male and female faculty members' (professors') perceptions of decisions made by superordinate male and female administrators within the university power structure. Specifically, the study compared male university faculty members' agreement/disagreement ratings of administrative decisions with female university faculty members'

agreement/disagreement ratings of these same administrative decisions. The decision situations were presented to the respondents as scenarios and the sex of the superordinate decision maker was described as male or female in alternate decision story form. Therefore, the researcher was able to explore the extent to which the decision maker's own sex identity appeared to be affecting the faculty's ratings of their decisions. The effects of all other independent variables were held constant by random selection of participants and the structure of the research design.

#### Hypotheses Tested in the Study

In order to accomplish the stated purposes of the study, the following null hypotheses were tested for significance at the .05 level:

- Ho<sub>1</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.
- Ho<sub>2</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the female faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios.
- Ho<sub>3</sub> There will be no statistically significant difference between the ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions and the ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios.
- Ho<sub>4</sub> There will be no statistically significant difference between the ratings the female

faculty members will make of the male decisions and the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.

Ho<sub>5</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the male decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly higher than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios.

Ho<sub>6</sub> The ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.

#### Definition of Terms

In conducting the present study, it was necessary to use terms which might be interpreted differently than the researcher intended. For this reason, several definitions were offered. It should be noted, however, that terms were defined ONLY as they were used in the present study.

- (1) Faculty Member/Faculty Participant: The University of Oklahoma faculty members who were randomly selected to participate in the present study.
- (2) Scenario/Decision Situation: The fictitious (but realistic) situations which were developed for the data collection instrument and which were rated by the faculty participants.
- (3) Decision Rating/Rating: The faculty members'

ratings made of the administrative decision made with each scenario.

- (4) Administrative Decision: The administrator's decision made with each scenario which is presented as part of the data collection instrument (See Appendix B).
- (5) Administrative Areas: Those areas of educational administration reflected in the scenarios (decision situations) contained on the data collection instrument.
- (6) Scenarios: The six decision situations presented with the instruments shown in Appendices B and C.
- (7) Female Decisions: The decisions made by the female administrators in the scenarios of Appendix C.
- (8) Male Decisions: The decisions made by the male administrators in the scenarios of Appendix B.
- (9) Power Position: Those administrative positions within the educational hierarchy of the University of Oklahoma which are superordinate to the rank of Professor. In particular, those administrative positions being referred to in the present study were the departmental chairman and

academic dean.

### Assumptions Made in the Study

Certain assumptions were made about the faculty participants and the data collection instrument. The most important of these assumptions were as follows:

- (1) It was assumed that the faculty participants constituted a true representation of the entire faculty population at the University of Oklahoma.
- (2) It was assumed that the data collection instrument possessed the validity and reliability needed to illicit accurate and comprehensive responses from the faculty participants.

### Limitations of the Study

It was necessary to place certain limitations on the study. Without these limitations the parameters of the data collection could not be properly established and the validity of the results would be negated. The following limitations were established for the study:

- (1) The faculty population was limited to those University of Oklahoma faculty members listed in the 1974-75 Faculty Handbook and teaching at least one (1) class during the 1974-75 academic year and not assigned in an administrative



position.

- (2) The areas of educational administration were limited to those areas represented by the scenarios contained on the data collection instruments shown in Appendices B and C.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter of the dissertation contains a general review of the methods and theories commonly used to explain the absence of women in administrative power positions and a general explanation of the dynamics of person perception. The chapter is concluded with a summary of the literature.

A perusal of almost any university or college faculty handbook will reveal a paucity of female administrators in power positions. Women are found in such non-power positions as instructor, lecturer, assistant professor or associate professor, and professor, but there is a scarcity of females in such power positions as departmental chairpersons, assistant dean, dean, female vice-presidents and presidents are a rare species indeed. Percentages of males and females in various positions at 24 colleges and universities are presented in Table 1.

	% Females	% Males
Lecturers and Instructors	44%	56%
Assistant and Full Prof.	21%	79%
Chairpersons	11%	89%
Deans	4%	96%
Vice-Presidents	2%	98%
Presidents	0%	100%

The male/female ratio of the twenty-one thousand eight-hundred seventy-four faculty participants was as

follows: males; sixty-nine percent (69%) (N=15,093) and females; thirty-one percent (31%) (N=6,781).

Why are females not found in the decision-making administrative power positions on the university campus? There are several ways of approaching this question. In the broadest sense, historically speaking, the answer lies in the Holy Bible (1948) where man is told that he was not created for the woman, but she was created for him. This biblical statement has been interpreted by many to mean that women are basically inferior. Although this interpretation might seem ridiculous and inapplicable today, Ashley Montagu (1956) relates the following description of early 20th century women:

Women, it was alleged, had smaller brains than men, and less intelligence; they were more emotional and unstable; in a crisis you could always rely on them to swoon or become otherwise helpless; they were weak and sickly creatures; they had little judgment and less sense; they could not be entrusted with the handling of money; and as for the world outside, there they could be employed only at the most menial and routine of tasks. (p. 21)

Another approach to answering the question of women in power positions is biological. An early 20th century encyclopedist, P. Moebius (1907), gave the following description of the presumed inferiority of women:

The extraordinarily important parts of the brain necessary for spiritual life, the frontal convolutions and the temporal lobes, are less well developed in women, and this difference is inborn. . . That in the sciences, in the strictest sense, have received no enrichment from women and never shall is therefore understandable. (p. 134)

Another approach to the question concerning the absence of females in administrative power positions was taken by Broverman (1972) who studied the sex-role stereotypes of both males and females. The results indicated that masculine characteristics are more positively valued than feminine characteristics. Also, positively-valued masculine traits form a cluster entailing competence while positively-valued feminine traits reflect warmth. Consequently, Broverman concluded that males are seen as more competent than females.

Hall (1973) took a different approach to answering the question when he studied the sex differences in the initiation and influence of decisions in four-person teacher groups. The results supported the hypotheses that men are more influential group members and, in a decision-making situation, men direct their efforts more to "performance tasks" while women direct their energies more toward "positive reactions." In other words, men are perceived as initiators or actors and women are perceived as reactors.

The idea that women are inferior physically, spiritually, mentally, psychologically, and vocational is still being propounded and accepted today. Harris (1972) surveyed a number of college presidents and male faculty members. He asked them to comment about the women on their college campuses. The statements made by the respondents are typified by the following passage:

Any woman who got this far has got to be a

kook. . . . The girls here get good grades because they study hard, not because they are more intelligent than men. . . . We expect women who come here to be competent, good students, but we don't expect them to be brilliant or original. . . . Women are intrinsically inferior. . . . Our general admissions policy has been, if the body is warm and male, take it; if it is female, make sure it is at least an A minus from Bryn Mawr. (p. 587)

Continuing in the same vein, Norton (1972) reported that employers were "naturally" reluctant to hire and promote women who "naturally" take time out or resign because of family obligations. However, Norton concluded that women resign or are absent less often (including time off for child care and pregnancy) than men.

All the proposed reasons why females are conspicuous by their absence in decision-making or administrative positions relate, either directly or indirectly, to the hypothetical construct of person perception. People tend to make judgments and form opinions about others by using social, psychological, physical, economic, aesthetic, etc. cues (Secord and Backman, 1964). In some situations the opinion formed and the judgment rendered are based on a minimum amount of "objective" information. In the present study, the sex of the decision maker was considered as one of the independent variables. The study investigated the degree to which the sex of the decision maker influenced the perception of the faculty rater as to the quality of the decision made.

## Person Perception

The specific thrust of this study was to investigate "person perception" or "social perception" as it influences the placement or lack of placement of females in administrative power positions within educational institutions.

Tagiuri and Petrullo (1958) have defined "person perception" in behavioral science as follows:

We propose using the term person perception whenever the perceiver regards the object as having the potential of representation and intentionality. What do we mean by this? As a physical stimulus a person is, of course, not different from other stimuli. In the sense that, through information gained via perception, we infer properties and potentialities of the object that are not immediately given, persons are doubtless special objects, for persons have psychological properties. Indeed, when we speak of person perception or knowledge of persons, we refer mostly to the observations we make about intentions, attitudes, emotions, ideas, abilities, purposes, traits---events that are, so to speak, inside the person . . . Underlying this mode of comprehending human action is the capacity we have to note that the person whose actions we are following has within him a representation of his environment, that his actions are mediated by the representations he forms . . . There is one more point we wish to make about persons as objects of knowledge. Person perception is special also in that the similarity between the perceiver and the perceived is greater than in any other instance. (pp.x-xi)

Closely allied to person perception, and certainly a part of it, are the impressions formed in human interaction. Secord and Backman (1964) cite the logic behind the study of person perception in the following excerpt:

Social psychologists are interested in person perception mainly because of its relevance

for understanding human interaction. Since interaction is mediated by the feelings, thoughts, and perceptions that individuals have about each other, these subjective processes must be taken into account. In particular, person perception is important to understanding the interaction processes of communication, influence, and change. (pp. 49-50)

It is generally agreed (Tagiuri & Petrullo, 1958; Secord & Backman, 1964) that three sets of factors interact to produce person perception: (1) the attributes of the perceiver, (2) the attributes of the stimulus person, and (3) the nature of the interaction situation which provides the context or background in which the stimulus person is perceived. Figure 1 is a simplified design of the factors involved in forming impressions of another's personality.

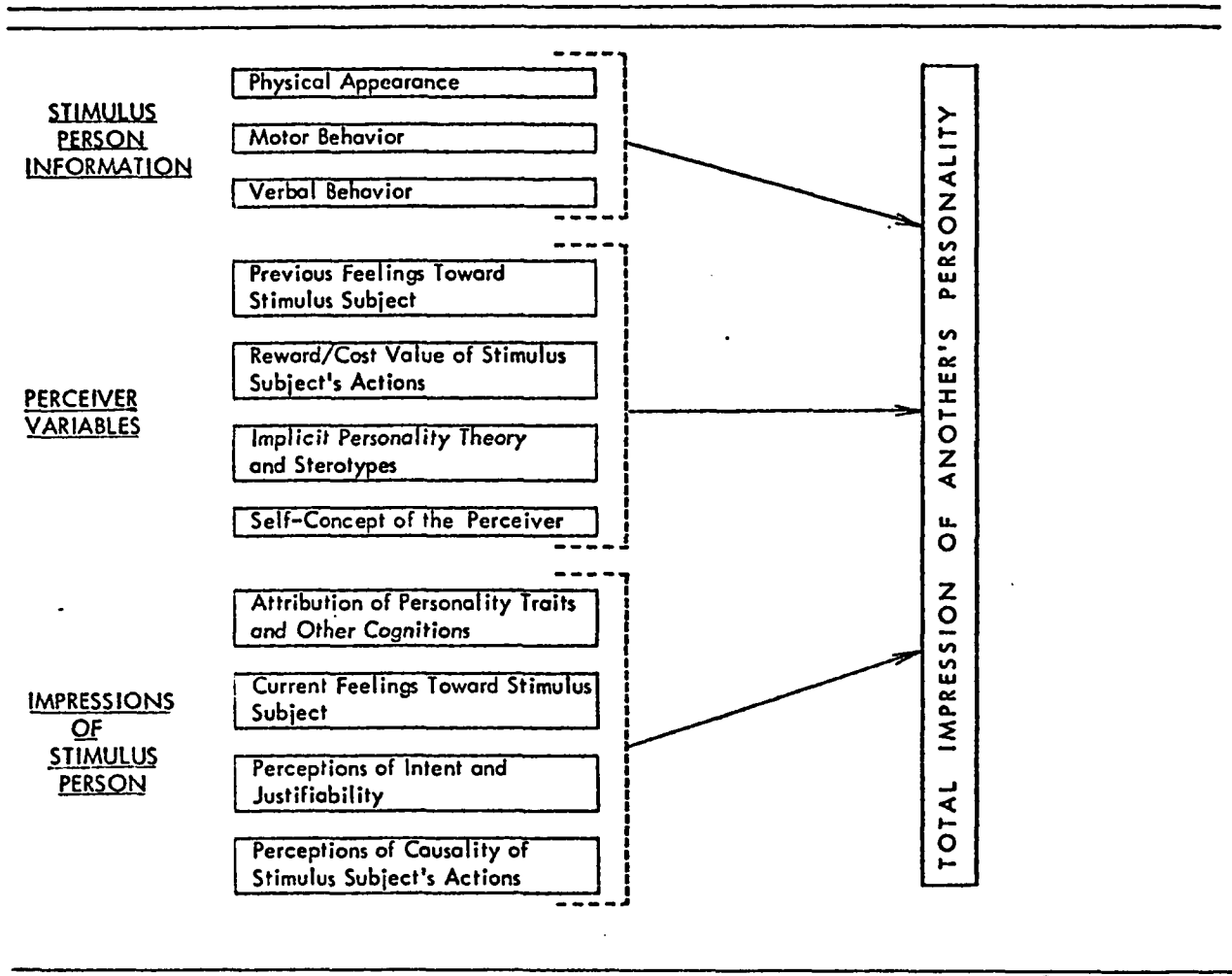
The present study was concerned with the interaction, relationship, and influence of these three sets of factors. Therefore, it was useful to present a brief description of the literature pertaining to each of these factors. Following these brief descriptions, the researcher examined those studies which were more closely related to the hypotheses investigated in the present study.

#### Attributes of the Perceiver

Studies concerning the influence of perceiver attributes on person perception have been summarized by Bruner and Tagiuri (1954), Taft(1955), Shrauger & Altrocchi (1964), and Secord & Backman (1964). Emphases in earlier studies was towards determining the accuracy of perception of another's

Figure 1

SOURCES OF VARIABLES USED IN FORMING AN IMPRESSION OF  
ANOTHER'S PERSONALITY (Secord & Backman, 1964)



personality, on the one hand, and towards investigation of the hypothetical concept of assumed similarity between the judge and the stimulus person, on the other. The methodological problems inherent in both approaches are enormous.

When trying to determine the accuracy of a certain perception of another's personality, the major problem is one of establishing a satisfactory criterion.



On the other hand, trying to establish the similarity between the judge (perceiver) and the stimulus person results in the assumption that such a similarity can be established. The methodological problems in both approaches have been described by Cronbach (1955, 1958) and Gage (1955).

Numerous studies have related person perception to specific traits residing in the perceiver. Among these are studies showing the influence of: age (Chowdry & Newcomb, 1952; Dymond et al., 1952; Gates, 1923; Kohn & Fiedler, 1961; Taft, 1950; Kimmel & Stein, 1973); family background and sibling rank, intelligence, training in psychology, aesthetic ability and sensitivity, emotional stability and character integration, self-insight, social class, social skill and popularity, attitude toward social relations (review by Campbell and Yarrow, 1961; Gollin, 1958; Taft, 1955); sex (Dymond, 1949; Kohn & Fiedler, 1961; Taft, 1950; Gitter et al., 1972; Olesker & Balter, 1972; Miller & Pyke, 1973; Bennett et al., 1973; Kimmel & Stein, 1973; Cvetkovich, 1972).

A recent trend in the study of person perception is to analyze the processes involved in knowing others, in comparison to the earlier trend and emphasis on veridicality or accuracy of the individual in judging personality. In the current analyses of this process of impression formation, there are various findings and conceptual formulations regarding the perceiver's modes of perception. One group of

studies deals with cognitive structures and processes, stressing the manner in which individuals vary in the extent to which they have differentiated their conceptualizations of their social environment. Differentiation is defined as the tendency to make fine distinctions among people and to perceive them as different from one another. "Concreteness-abstractness" of thought processes and "cognitive complexity" have been proposed as factors which underlie differences in ability to attribute contradictory or incongruous traits to another person, and to make use of a large number of trait dimensions or concepts in describing others (Altrocchi, 1961; Bieri, 1961; Gardner & Schoen, 1962; Gollin & Rosenberg, 1956; Harvey et al., 1961; Holzman & Gardner, 1959; Mayo & Crockett, 1964; Rabin, 1962; Sarbin, 1954; Tripodi & Bieri, 1963; Wolin, 1956).

Another group of studies has investigated the idea of "implicit personality theory." This is a concept introduced by Bruner and Tagiuri (1954), named and expanded by Cronbach (1955), and organized by Kelly (1955) into a theory of personality. It refers to a postulated tendency or bias in a perceiver to have, without realizing it, a "theory" about what other people are like. Cronbach (1955) detailed the differences among perceivers in their inclinations to rate others constantly higher (or lower) on particular traits, to make more extreme (or more central) ratings on certain traits, and to associate particular traits with each other.

Gross (1961) has directly tested this notion. She concluded that the concept of a unitary attitude toward the generalized other is too nonspecific to be useful. Gross based this conclusion on the results of a study which showed that variations in stimulus materials have a greater influence on the judges' ratings than do response biases of the perceivers. She recommended that we examine the influence of factors residing in the perceiver together with influence of specific situations and stimulus persons. Koltuv's (1962) study dealt, similarly, with patterns of consistency revealed by trait intercorrelations among judges' personality ratings of other people. She concluded that perceiver predispositions influenced perception, when traits relevant to each judge were analyzed, and when stimulus persons were unfamiliar to the perceiver.

A study conducted by Secord and Berscheid (1963) also showed that relations among traits are a significant element in the perception of others, and that these relations are relatively fixed and general for different stimulus persons.

Another important element in evaluating differences in the way people judge others is permitting the judge to use his own voluntarily chosen categories vs. providing him with preselected traits on which he is to evaluate others. There are extensive demands for research to determine the salient dimensions used typically and in everyday life by perceivers in judging other people (Bruner & Tagiuri, 1954); Cronbach,

1958; Hastorf, Richardson, & Dornbusch, 1958; Jackson & Messick, 1963; Rommetveit, 1960; Tagiuri, 1958; Tahfel & Wilkes, 1964).

#### Attributes of the Stimulus Person

Literature focusing on the stimulus person has included studies dealing with the role of the following factors: physical appearance and body build (Kretchmer, 1925; Sheldon, Stevens, & Tucker, 1940); verbal cue traits presented as stimuli (Asch, 1946, 1952; Haire & Grunes, 1950; Kastenbaum, 1951; Luchins, 1948; Wishner, 1960); stereotyping through racial, role, or group membership information (Beilin, 1963; Pepitone & Hayden, 1955; Secord, 1959; Secord, Bevan, & Katz, 1956; Veness & Brierly, 1963); sex (Cvetkovich, 1972; Bennett et al., 1973; Olesker & Balter, 1972; Gitter et al., 1972). The present study was concerned particularly with the influence of the sex of the stimulus person.

#### The Nature of the Interaction Situation

The interaction situation is defined as the context or background in which the stimulus person is being judged. This context varies from situations where the perceiver has minimal information about the familiarity with the stimulus person to on-going interactions with highly structured and well-defined role relationships between the perceiver and the perceived.

There is a number of theoretical constructs considered as cognitive-perceptual processes which underlie person

perception in situations where the information about the stimulus person is limited. Among these constructs is "temporal extension," a process in which a momentary characteristic of the stimulus person is regarded as a lasting attribute (Heider, 1958a; Secord, 1958, 1964). "Resemblances to familiar persons" in the life of the perceiver has been identified by others (Secord and Backman, 1964) to account for person perception when the stimulus person is unknown. "metaphorical generalization," a process of reasoning by making analogies, has been proposed by Secord, Stritch, and Johnson (1960) and Secord and Muthard (1955). Other constructs proposed to explain the inference process are "categorization" of people in certain classes associated with certain personality characteristics (Kogan & Shelton, 1960) and "stereotyping" of persons because of their membership in a certain social stratum (Secord, 1959; Secord, Bevan, & Katz, 1956).

In situations where the interactional context between the perceiver and the stimulus person is well established, research has shown that it is an oversimplification to assume a simple one-to-one relation between the traits of the perceiver and those of the stimulus person. It is important to take into consideration the effects of such factors as role-relationships between the perceiver and the perceived (Jones & deCharms, 1957; Sarbin, 1954); affect or liking relationships between the perceiver and the perceived

(Backman & Secord, 1959; Heider, 1958b; Newcomb, 1961; Pastore, 1960a, 1960b; Tagiuri, 1958); status and power relationships between the two (Horwitz, 1958; Pepitone, 1958).

#### Summary of Related Literature

Person perception has application in many areas of life. One of the important areas is in the field of education. A general education is mandatory for most American children. Therefore, it is necessary to view how person perception works at all levels of education. Rosenthal (1968) was one of the first researchers to study the effects of perception as it influenced the quality and product of education. In developing his "self-fulfilling prophecy" theory, he demonstrated how the perceptions teachers had of their students influenced the academic achievement the students made in those classes.

Most of the educational research done concerning person perception has been related to the teacher's perceptions of his/her students, himself, his supervisor, or his colleagues, and was conducted in the public schools (Finn, 1972; Freese & West, 1972; Johnson, 1971; Balmer, 1972; Griffin, 1972; Hansen, Borgatta, & Lambert, 1971).

Some research has also been conducted at the college and university level. Lohman (1972) tried to determine who the "ideal colleague" was for a sample of university faculty. Using the Adjective Check List (ACL), he found that male

faculty were not perceived as more dominant, achievement oriented, orderly, and change oriented than female faculty. Female faculty were not perceived in a significantly different way than males in any category, but equalled males in self-control, personal adjustment, autonomy, and deference.

Siever, Loomis, and Neidt (1972) studied the role perceptions of departmental chairmen in two land grant Universities. They found that effective departmental chairmen had the following characteristics: supported good teaching, reputation for achieving goals, ability to recruit promising faculty, good organization of faculty duties, a personal reputation for scholarship, and a capacity for decisive thinking and action.

Gubasta (1972) attempted to identify perceptions of leader behavior and planning behavior held by college and university chief executives and selected subordinates. Using the Leader Behavior Description Questionnaire (Form XII), he found significant relationships between the two referent groups on both planning and leadership behavior variables. Chief executives who were seen as good leaders also scored high as good planners.

The last three studies are presented as most germane to the present study. The characteristics of university decision makers and the perceptions of university faculty toward male and female colleagues was the basis for the

present study. Does the sex of the decision maker make a difference in the perceptions of subordinates in a university power structure?



## CHAPTER III

### METHODS AND PROCEDURES

Two-hundred (N=200) full time faculty members from the University of Oklahoma acted as subjects in the present study. These participants were asked to determine the differences between male and female faculty members' ratings of decisions made by their immediate superiors. A significant focal point of the study was to explore the extent to which the sex identity of the immediate superior appeared to be a significant factor in the professors' agreement/disagreement ratings of decisions made from selected scenarios.

The study was conducted in two phases. In the first phase, faculty members were asked to list and rate the importance of characteristics most germane to making administrative decisions.

In the second phase of the study, the researcher presented scenarios of decision-making situations and the decision was made by the dean in each case. The selected professors indicated their agreement or disagreement with each decision. Further analysis of the data explored the effect of the decision-maker's (dean's) sex identity on the participants' agreement/disagreement ratings.

The methods used in the study were divided into the three areas: (1) Pre-Experimental Procedures, (2) the

Experimental or Data Collection Procedures, and (3) Data Analysis Procedures.

#### PRE-EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

The pre-experimental procedures consisted of all those tasks which had to be performed prior to the data collection procedures. The more important of these procedures are discussed in the following sections.

##### Choice of Research Design

The first pre-experimental procedure was to choose the proper research design for the conduct of the study. The words "research design" are intended to mean the plan, structure, and strategy of investigation conceived to obtain answers to research questions and to control external sources of variation. The Plan was the overall scheme or program of the evaluation problem; the Structure was the more specific structure or paradigm of the actual manipulation of the independent variables being controlled; and the Strategy as used here was even more specific than the structure--it was the actual methods used in the gathering and analysis of the data.

A research design serves two basic purposes: (1) it provides answers to research questions posed by the investigator; and (2) it controls external sources (independent variables) of variation. In other words, it is through the design of a study that research is made effective and interpretable. Kerlinger (1973) makes the following statement in

regard to research and evaluation designs:

. . . How does design accomplish this? Research designs set up the framework for 'adequate' tests of the relations among variables. The design tells us, in a sense, what observations (measurements) to make, how to make them, and how to analyze the quantitative representations (data) of the observations. Strictly speaking, design does not 'tell' us precisely what to do, but rather suggests the directions of observations-making and analysis, how many observations should be made, and which variables (independent variables) are active variables and which are assigned. We can then act to manipulate (control) the active variables and to dichotomize or trichotomize or otherwise categorize the assigned variables. A design tells us what type of statistical analysis to use. Finally, an adequate (proper for the particular situation) design outlines possible analysis (Parentheses material added).

The research design chosen for the present experiment was a multiple-sample true experimental design proceeded by the random sampling of participants from four (4) finite populations. A paradigm of this research design is presented in Figure 2.

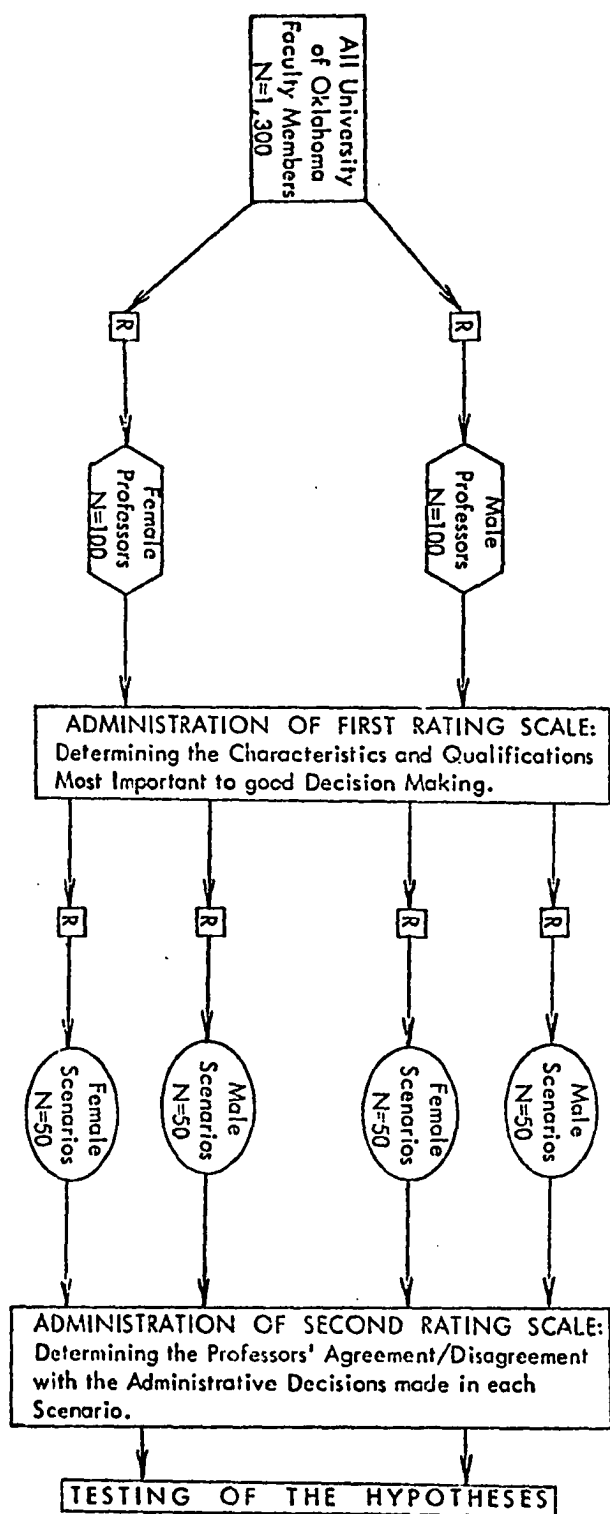
#### Selection of Participants

The final step of the pre-experimental procedure was the selection of professors. The population of possible participants included all full time faculty members who were listed in the University of Oklahoma Faculty Handbook (1974-75 academic year). Two samples of one-hundred each (Males N=100; Females N=100) were drawn from the total population of approximately one-thousand three-hundred (N=1300) faculty members.

These groups were used to determine the characteristics

Figure 2

RESEARCH DESIGN USED IN CONDUCTING THE STUDY



[R] = Random selection procedures used

and qualifications most important to decision making (see Appendix A) and to determine the amount of agreement/disagreement ratings of each scenario (see Appendices B and C).

#### Development of a Data Collection Instrument

The next step in the pre-experimental procedures was the development of a data collection instrument. This required the development and statement of several scenarios which were relevant to administrative decisions made by educators in power positions. In developing these scenarios, two criteria were considered; (1) all general areas of administrative responsibility were considered and (2) the stated scenarios were valid and reliable indicators of the administrative areas considered.

A randomly-selected panel (N=5) of educational administrators assisted the researcher in determining the general areas of responsibility under the purview of educational administrators. This panel of administrators, the Doctoral Committee, and the researcher arrived at the following taxonomy (classification scheme) for administrators:

1. General Duties
2. Budgeting
3. Staffing
4. Planning
5. Reporting
6. Directing Research

A scenario was written for each of the areas listed. In each hypothetical situation, the reader was informed of the decision made by the Dean. Professors chosen to participate

in the proposed study were asked to indicate their agreement/disagreement with the decision made in each situation (scenario). Participants were then asked to mark one of the choice-points on the continuum following each scenario. The format of the final data collection instruments is shown in Appendices B and C.

#### EXPERIMENTAL/DATA COLLECTION PROCEDURES

The second phase of the methods and procedures was the collection of the data from the participants.

Data were collected from the male (N=100) and female (N=100) faculty to determine the characteristics and qualifications which they felt were most important to the decision maker. Each participant was asked to complete one of the questionnaires shown in Appendix A.

The second part of the data collection procedures was to determine the professors' agreement/disagreement with the decisions made in the scenarios of Appendix B and C. Again, the randomly chosen professors served as the data collection group. The groups of male and female faculty members were further divided into the following groups: (1) female faculty members who rated female decisions, (2) female faculty members who rated the male decisions, (3) male faculty members who rated female decisions, and (4) male faculty members who rated male decisions. Each professor in these four groups was asked to complete one of the Faculty Reaction Questionnaires shown in Appendix B (male scenarios)

Appendix C (female scenarios). The altering of the decision maker's sex on half of the scenarios formed four different combinations of sex between the professors and the decision makers in the scenarios. These group combinations were as follows:

- (1) Male professors who rated females' decisions
- (2) Male professors who rated males' decisions
- (3) Female professors who rated females' decisions
- (4) Female professors who rated males' decisions

The data collected from these four groups were used to test the hypotheses stated in Chapter I.

#### Determining the Important Characteristics and Qualifications of a Decision Maker

The next step in the pre-experimental procedures was to determine the characteristics and/or qualifications the participating professors believed were most germane to the decision making process in education and the importance of the characteristics and/or qualifications listed. A questionnaire such as that shown in Appendix A was distributed to the professors selected for participation in the study. Each professor was asked to select the most important characteristics or qualifications from the list provided, or list the characteristics and qualifications they believed were most important in the spaces provided. Participants were then asked to rate the importance of several characteristics and qualifications of a decision maker on a continuum

rating scale. Data taken from these ratings were used to determine those qualifications and characteristics which the participants felt were most important in educational decision makers.

The ratings from the preliminary questionnaires were coded according to the format shown in Figure 3. The coded values assigned to participants' ratings of characteristics and qualifications were averaged as a method of deriving a single numerical index. These indexes were used in explaining some of the results derived from testing the hypotheses.

#### DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURES

The final phase of the methods and procedures was the data analysis procedures. These procedures were conducted after the data had been collected. The data analysis procedures consisted of the preliminary coding of the data and the statistical analysis of the data.

##### Preliminary Coding of the Data

It was necessary to code the data taken from Faculty Reaction Questionnaires to facilitate its analysis. The data were entered on IBM cards according to the format shown in Figure 4. These IBM cards were used to further analyze the results of the study.

##### Statistical Analysis of the Data

The final part of the data analysis procedures was the actual statistical analysis of the data and the testing of the hypotheses. A Student's  $t$  test was used to compare the



Figure 3

CARD FORMAT USED IN CODING DATA FROM THE  
ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTIONNAIRE INFORMATION	CARD COLUMNS	RANGE OF VALUES
1. Respondent's Sex	1	1-2
2. Questionnaire Number	2-3	01-99
3. Rating of "Age"	4	1-7
4. Rating of "Race or Ethnic Origin"	5	1-7
5. Rating of "Sex"	6	1-7
6. Rating of "Marital Status"	7	1-7
7. Rating of "Religion"	8	1-7
8. Rating of "Type of Previous Administrative Experiences"	9	1-7
9. Rating of "Number of Years of Administrative Experience"	10	1-7
10. Rating of "Previous Work Experience"	11	1-7
11. Rating of "Past Record as a Decision Maker"	12	1-7
12. Rating of "Number of Years in Major Field of Interest"	13	1-7
13. Rating of "Number of Memberships in Professional Organizations"	14	1-7
14. Rating of "Number of Service Clubs Affiliated With"	15	1-7
15. Rating of "College or University where Individual Received Doctorate"	16	1-7
16. Rating of "Overall GPA in Graduate School"	17	1-7
17. Rating of "Academic Area of Doctoral Study"	18	1-7
18. Rating of "Graduate Courses Included in Doctoral Program"	19	1-7
19. Rating of "Number of Publications"	20	1-7
20. Rating of "Recency and Type of Publications"	21	1-7
21. Category and Rating of First Option	22-23	1-7
22. Category and Rating of Second Option	24-25	1-7
23. Category and Rating of Third Option	26-27	1-7
24. Category and Rating of Fourth Option	28-29	1-7
25. Category and Rating of Fifth Option	30-31	1-7
26. Category and Rating of Sixth Option	32-33	1-7
27. Category and Rating of Seventh Option	34-35	1-7
28. Category and Rating of Eighth Option	36-37	1-7

Figure 4

IBM CARD FORMAT USED IN CODING DATA FROM THE  
FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire Information	Card Columns	Range of Values
1. Data Group	1	1-4
2. Questionnaire Number	2-3	01-50
3. Rating of First Scenario	4	1-5
4. Rating of Second Scenario	5	1-5
5. Rating of Third Scenario	6	1-5
6. Rating of Fourth Scenario	7	1-5
7. Rating of Fifth Scenario	8	1-5
8. Rating of Sixth Scenario	9	1-5

mean ratings made by the four different groups of male and female professors. The t test for two independent group means was the testing statistic which the researcher found to be most appropriate for making the comparisons in each hypothesis (Downie & Heath, 1970).

Summary of Methods and Procedures

The study was conducted in two stages. During the first stage of the study the 100 faculty members were asked to rate the importance of the characteristics/qualifications which they believed to be most important in making administrative

decisions. These data were used to determine the importance given to sex in the decision process.

In the second part of the study the researcher presented six (N=6) scenarios related to different areas of decision making in administration such as faculty hiring policies, tenure, budget, faculty dismissal, promotions and salaries to each male and female faculty member who had been randomly chosen from the University of Oklahoma faculty to participate in the study. The faculty participants were aware of the problem faced by the administrator and the decision made in each case. The only other information the faculty members had concerning the administrator's decision on the seven-point continuum was the sex of the decision maker. Through the random selection of professors and alternating the sex of the scenario decision makers, the researcher was able to explore the effects of the decision maker's sex on the faculty participants' agreement/disagreement ratings. The amount of importance placed on the decision maker's sex by the faculty respondents was then compared to the amount of importance these same faculty members placed on the decision maker's sex identity in the first stage of the study.

A Student's t test was used to compare the mean ratings made by the various faculty groups. Six hypotheses were tested for significance at the .05 level.

## CHAPTER IV

### RESULTS OF DATA ANALYSIS

Agreement/Disagreement ratings made by one-hundred fifty-three female (N=77) and male (N=76) professors from the University of Oklahoma were used to determine whether the sex of an immediate superior was a significant factor in the participants' agreement/disagreement with decisions made from six selected decision scenarios. Their ratings were made on the Faculty Reaction Questionnaires (Appendices B and C), and were used to test six null hypotheses comparing the male and female faculty members' ratings of male and female decisions. These same professors had earlier completed an Administrative Selection Questionnaire (Appendix A). In completing this questionnaire, they had indicated the amount of importance they would place on sex identity when selecting an educational administrator. Finally, a comparison was made between the amount of importance which should be placed on sex (as determined by the preliminary survey) and the amount of importance actually given to sex (as determined by testing the six hypotheses).

This Chapter of the dissertation contains a summary of the information reported on the Administrative Selection Questionnaire, the results of testing the six null hypotheses

stated in Chapter I, several ancillary findings, and a summary of all statistical analysis.

#### Results of the Preliminary Survey

The Administrative Selection Questionnaire was sent to two-hundred (N=200) randomly selected professors at the University of Oklahoma during the Fall term of the 1974-75 academic year. One-hundred (N=100) were sent to female professors and one-hundred (N=100) were sent to male professors. A final count of the returns showed that eighty three percent (83%) of the male professors returned the instruments and eighty-one percent (81%) were usable responses. Ninety-one percent (91%) of the female professors returned the questionnaires, and eighty-eight percent (88%) of the responses were usable.

The results of the faculty members' responses to the Administrative Selection Questionnaire are presented in Table 2. The data presented in this Table show the rank order of the questionnaire items as determined by the male and female professors and the rank order of the two groups' ratings combined. The "write-in" qualifications and characteristics are denoted by an asterisk (\*) with the number of times each was written in by the respondents.

The data presented in Table 2 show that the qualifications and characteristics which were written in by the professors received much higher ratings than those already listed on the questionnaire. Part of this was due to the

TABLE 2

RATINGS OF QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS FROM THE  
ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE BY MALES,  
FEMALES, AND TOTAL RESPONDENTS

Questionnaire Items	Average Male Rating	Average Female Rating	Average Total Rating
1. Leadership Ability*	7.000 (N=3)	7.000 (N=2)	7.000 (N=5)**
2. Intelligence*	7.000 (N=3)	7.000 (N=1)	7.000 (N=4)**
3. Leadership/Managerial Style*	7.000 (N=3)	6.800 (N=5)	6.875 (N=8)**
4. Desirable Personality Traits*	6.786 (N=14)	6.765 (N=17)	6.774 (N=31)**
5. Personal Integrity*	6.571 (N=7)	7.000 (N=4)	6.727 (N=11)**
6. Ability to Communicate with and work with Others*	6.818 (N=11)	6.500 (N=14)	6.640 (N=25)**
7. Administrative Skills (Specific)*	6.375 (N=8)	6.667 (N=15)	6.565 (N=23)**
8. Past Record as a Decision Maker	6.444	6.375	6.408
9. Physical Health*	0.000 (N=0)	6.000 (N=3)	6.000 (N=3)**
10. Previous Work Experience	5.617	5.852	5.739
11. Type of Previous Administrative Experience	5.457	5.818	5.645
12. Personal Appearance*	4.500 (N=2)	5.000 (N=3)	4.800 (N=5)**
13. Number of Years of Administrative Experience	4.593	4.920	4.763
14. Number of Years of Experience in Major Field of Interest	4.222	4.841	4.544
15. Recency and Type of Publications	4.222	3.989	4.101
16. Academic Areas of Doctoral Study	3.741	4.352	4.059
17. College or University where Individual Received Doctorate	3.741	3.852	3.799
18. Graduate Courses Included in the Doctoral Program	3.296	4.068	3.698
19. Overall Grade-Point Average in Graduate School	3.148	4.045	3.615
20. Number of Publications	3.630	3.386	3.503
21. Participant's Age	3.321	3.261	3.290
22. Number of Memberships in Professional Organizations	2.926	3.466	3.207
23. Number of Service Clubs Affiliated With	1.827	2.386	2.118
24. The Applicant's SEX	1.778	1.886	1.834
25. The Applicant's RACE	1.691	1.795	1.745
26. Marital Status	1.840	1.364	1.592
27. Religious Beliefs	1.420	1.455	1.438

\*Written in by the responding professors

\*\*Total number of professors listing the characteristic

small number of professors who listed the characteristics and made the ratings of each. A complete listing of the write-in responses is presented in the appendices. However, most of the suggestions which were written in were very meaningful and will be used in developing a revised form of the Administrative Selection Questionnaire. The most important rating for the purpose of the present study was on the variable of sex. The professors rated this variable 24th among a total of 27 qualifications and characteristics. These results indicate that the variable of sex was regarded as a very unimportant consideration when selecting an educational administrator.

#### Results of the Faculty Ratings of Decision Scenarios.

Faculty Reaction Questionnaires were mailed to two-hundred randomly-selected male (N=100) and female (N=100) professors. Half of each sex received the Male Version (Appendix B) while the other half of each sex group received the Female Version (Appendix C) of the scenarios. The numbers of Faculty Reaction Questionnaires sent to each group of professors and the number of instruments returned are presented in Figure 5.

The data presented in Figure 5 show that seventy-nine percent (79%) of all questionnaires were returned with a total of over seventy-six percent (76.5%) usable responses. Responses from the Faculty Reaction Questionnaires were used to test the hypotheses stated in Chapter I.

Figure 5

PROFESSORS' RESPONSE PATTERNS TO THE FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Faculty Group	Number of Questionnaires Sent	Number of Responses Received	Percent of Return	Number of Usable Responses	Percent of Usable Responses
Female Professors Rating Female Decisions	50	39	78	38	76
Female Professors Rating Male Decisions	50	39	78	39	78
Male Professors Rating Female Decisions	50	41	82	38	76
Male Professors Rating Male Decisions	50	39	78	38	76
TOTALS . . .	200	158	79	153	76.5



### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number One

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number one was as follows:

Ho<sub>1</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.

The first null hypothesis was tested by comparing the male and female professors' ratings of the female scenario decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances was made with an F-Maximum Test for Homogeneity of Sample Variances (Bruning & Kintz, 1970). Results of this test showed the two variances to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.074$ ,  $df=37/37$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances were statistically equal, the two group means were compared with a Student's t test for two independent sample means. Results of these calculations are presented in Table 3 along with the means and standard deviations of the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 3 indicate that there was a significant difference between the male and female faculty members' ratings of the female scenario decisions ( $t = 2.547$ ,  $df=74$ ;  $p < .01$ ). These results allowed the researcher to reject the first null hypothesis.

Table 3 shows that the male professors made significantly lower ratings of females' decisions than female professors made of female decisions.

TABLE 3

A COMPARISON OF THE FEMALE AND MALE PROFESSORS'  
RATINGS OF THE FEMALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Females' Ratings of Female Decisions	2.829	1.354		
			t = 2.547	<.01
Males' Ratings of Female Decisions	2.500	1.403		

### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number Two

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number two was as follows:

Ho<sub>2</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the female faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios.

The second null hypothesis was tested by comparing the female professors' ratings of the male and female scenario decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances showed them to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.08$ ,  $df=37/38$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances were statistically equal, the two groups' means were compared with a Student's  $t$  test for two independent sample means. The results of these calculations are presented in Table 4. This Table also contains the means and standard deviations computed for the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 4 indicate that there was not a significant difference between the female faculty members' ratings of the female and male scenario decisions ( $t = 1.200$ ,  $df=75$ ;  $p > .05$ ). These results would not allow the researcher to reject the second null hypothesis.

An inspection of the means presented in Table 4 will show that the female professors made higher ratings of the female decisions than the male decisions, but the differences were not significant.

TABLE 4

A COMPARISON OF THE FEMALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS  
OF THE FEMALE AND MALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Females' Ratings of Female Decisions	2.829	1.354		
			t = 1.2000	> .05
Females' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.675	1.404		

### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number Three

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number three was as follows:

Ho<sub>3</sub> There will be no statistically significant difference between the ratings the female faculty members will make of the female decisions and the ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios

The third null hypothesis was tested by comparing the females' ratings of the female decisions with the males' ratings of the male decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances showed them to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.094$ ,  $df=37/37$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances of the two groups were statistically equal, the means were compared with a Student's  $t$  test for two independent sample means. The results of these calculations are presented in Table 5. This Table also contains the means and standard deviations computed for the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 5 indicate that there was not a significant difference between the female faculty members' ratings of the female decisions and the male faculty members' ratings of the male decisions ( $t = 0.809$ ,  $df=74$ ;  $p > .05$ ). These results would not allow the researcher to reject the third null hypothesis.

The data presented in Table 5 show that the females' ratings of female decisions were higher than the males' ratings of male decisions, but they were not significant.

TABLE 5

A COMPARISON OF THE FEMALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF FEMALE DECISIONS  
AND THE MALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF MALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Females' Ratings of Female Decisions	2.829	1.354		
			t = 0.809	> .05
Males' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.724	1.417		

#### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number Four

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number four was as follows:

Ho<sub>4</sub> There will be no statistically significant difference between the ratings the female faculty members will make of the male decisions and the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.

The fourth null hypothesis was tested by comparing the female professors' ratings of the male decisions with the male professors' ratings of the female decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances showed them to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.001$ ,  $df=38/37$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances of the two groups were statistically equal, the means were compared with a Student's  $t$  test for two independent sample means. The results of these calculations are presented in Table 6. This Table also contains the means and standard deviations computed for the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 6 indicate that there was not a significant difference between the female faculty members' ratings of the male decisions and the male faculty members' ratings of the female decisions ( $t = 1.331$ ,  $df=75$ ;  $p > .05$ ). These results would not allow the researcher to reject the fourth null hypothesis.

The data presented in Table 6 show that the females' ratings of the males' decisions were slightly higher than the males' ratings of the females' decisions.

TABLE 6

A COMPARISON OF THE FEMALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF MALE DECISIONS  
AND MALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF FEMALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Females' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.675	1.404		
			$t = 1.331$	$> .05$
Males' Ratings of Females Decisions	2.500	1.403		



### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number Five

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number five was as follows:

- Ho<sub>5</sub> The ratings the female faculty members will make of the male decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly higher than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the same scenarios.

The fifth null hypothesis was tested by comparing the male and female professors' ratings of the male scenario decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances showed them to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.018$ ,  $df=38/37$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances were statistically equal, the two groups' means were compared with a Student's  $t$  test for two independent sample means. The results of these comparisons are presented in Table 7. This Table also contains the means and standard deviations computed for the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 7 indicate that there was not a significant difference between the female and male faculty members' ratings of the male scenario decisions ( $t = 0.373$ ,  $df=75$ ;  $p > .05$ ). These results would not allow the researcher to reject the fifth null hypothesis.

The data presented in Table 7 show that the female faculty members made slightly lower ratings of the male decisions than those made by the male faculty members, but the difference was not significant.

TABLE 7

A COMPARISON OF THE FEMALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF MALE DECISIONS  
AND THE MALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS OF MALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Females' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.675	1.404		
			$t = 0.373$	$> .05$
Males' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.724	1.417		

### Results of Testing Hypothesis Number Six

The exact form of the null proposition tested in hypothesis number six was as follows:

Ho<sub>6</sub> The ratings the male faculty members will make of the male decisions on the six scenarios will be significantly lower than the ratings the male faculty members will make of the female decisions on the same scenarios.

The sixth null hypothesis was tested by comparing the ratings made by the male faculty members on the male and female scenario decisions. A preliminary comparison of the two groups' variances showed them to be homogeneous ( $F = 1.019$ ,  $df=37/37$ ;  $p > .05$ ). Since the variances were statistically equal, the two groups' means were compared with a Student's  $t$  test for two independent sample means. The results of these calculations are presented in Table 8. This Table also contains the means and standard deviations of the two groups' ratings.

The results presented in Table 8 indicate that there was a significant difference between the male faculty members' ratings of the male and female scenario decisions ( $t = 1.696$ ,  $df=74$ ;  $p < .05$ ). These results allowed the researcher to reject the sixth null hypothesis.

The descriptive statistics presented in Table 8 show that the mean ratings the male faculty members made of the females' decisions were significantly lower than the mean ratings they made of the males' decisions.

TABLE 8  
A COMPARISON OF THE MALE PROFESSORS' RATINGS  
OF THE MALE AND FEMALE DECISIONS

Data Source	Mean	Standard Deviation	Calculated t-Value	Significance Level
Males' Ratings of Female Decisions	2.500	1.403		
			t = 1.696	<.05
Males' Ratings of Male Decisions	2.724	1.417		

### Summary of Statistical Analysis

In the preliminary survey, questionnaire responses of one-hundred sixty-nine (N=169) male and female professors indicated that sex identity was not an important factor to be considered when selecting educational leaders. The personal characteristics of sex was ranked 24th among a total of 27 qualifications and characteristics listed and rated by the respondents. However, these same professors' ratings of male and female scenario decisions indicated that the sex of the decision maker revealed to a great extent the amount of agreement/disagreement they felt with decisions made in six scenarios. In one instance, the results of hypothesis number one, the female professors made significantly higher ratings of female decisions than they made of male decisions on the same scenarios. In a second instance, the results of hypothesis number six, the male professors reciprocated and made significantly higher ratings of male decisions than they made of female decisions on the same scenarios. Further comparisons between the male and female professors' ratings, hypotheses two through five, showed no significant differences, although each group tended to rate the decisions made by members of their own sex higher than decisions made by members of the opposite sex. However, there were no significant differences between the following faculty members' ratings of scenario decisions:

- Ho<sub>2</sub> Females' ratings of Female decisions  
vs.  
Females' ratings of Male decisions
- Ho<sub>3</sub> Females' ratings of Female decisions  
vs.  
Males' ratings of male decisions
- Ho<sub>4</sub> Females' ratings of Male decisions  
vs.  
Males' ratings of Female decisions
- Ho<sub>5</sub> Females' ratings of Male decisions  
vs.  
Males' ratings of Male decisions

In summarizing the results of testing the hypotheses it may be said that in general both the male and female professors felt that the scenario decisions made by members of their particular sex were better and received higher ratings than decisions made by members of the opposite sex. Further conclusions drawn from these results are presented in Chapter V. The final Chapter also contains a summary of the study, a brief discussion of the results, and implications for further research.

CHAPTER V  
SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND IMPLICATIONS  
FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The purpose of the present study was to compare male and female faculty (university level) members' perceptions of decisions made by superordinate male and female administrators within the university power structure. Stated more specifically, the study compared male university faculty members' agreement/disagreement ratings of administrative decisions with female university faculty members' agreement/disagreement ratings of these same administrative decisions. The decision situations were presented to the respondents as scenarios and the sex of the superordinate decision maker was presented in the scenario. Using this format, the researcher was able to explore the extent to which the decision maker's sex identity was affecting the faculty members' ratings of the decisions. The effects of all other independent variables were held constant by random selection of participants and the structure of the research design.

The study was conducted in three phases. In the first phase, male (N=81) and female (N=88) faculty members responded to the Administrative Selection Questionnaire (Appendix A) on which they rated the importance of

characteristics most germane to administrative decision makers.

In the second phase of the study, agreement/disagreement ratings were made on the Faculty Reaction Questionnaires (Appendices B and C) by male (N=76) and female (N=77) professors. The results were used to determine whether the sex of an immediate superior was a significant factor in the participants' agreement/disagreement with the decisions made from the six selected decision scenarios.

In the third phase a comparison was made between the amount of importance which should be placed on sex (as determined by the preliminary survey) and the amount of importance actually given to sex (as determined by testing the six hypotheses).

Results of the first phase of the study showed that the ten most important qualifications and characteristics to be considered when choosing an educational administrator were as follows:

1. Leadership ability
2. Intelligence
3. Leadership/Managerial style
4. Desirable personality traits
5. Personal integrity
6. Ability to communicate with and work with others
7. Administrative skills (specific)
8. Past record as a decision maker



9. Physical health

10. Previous work experience

Further analysis of the results of phase one showed that the variable of sex was considered to be relatively unimportant. It was ranked 24th among the 27 characteristics considered. However, the same professors who had indicated that sex was not an important factor when selecting an administrator made significantly higher ratings of male decisions than female decisions on the same scenarios. In one instance, the results of hypothesis number one, the female professors made significantly higher ratings of female decisions than the male professors made of the same decisions on the scenarios. In a second instance, the results of hypothesis number six, the male professors made significantly higher ratings of male decisions than they made of female decisions on the same scenarios.

Comparisons of other hypotheses failed to show any significant differences, although the professors tended to rate decisions made by same sex deans higher than decisions made by opposite sex deans. However, differences among the ratings were not significant. The conclusions drawn from these results are presented in the following sections.

CONCLUSIONS

From the results obtained from the Administrative Selection Questionnaire, it was concluded that the faculty

members reported sex as an unimportant factor to be considered when selecting an educational administrator. It was further concluded that the factors listed (written in) by the respondents were actually more meaningful in most cases than those listed on the Questionnaire.

The results of testing the hypotheses led to the conclusion that the professors tended to make higher ratings of scenario decisions when they were made by members of their own sex than when the decisions were made by members of the opposite sex. It was further concluded that there was no apparent reason for the male and female professors to make higher ratings of certain decisions other than the fact that the decision was being made by a member of their own sex.

A comparison of the results obtained from the Administrative Selection Questionnaire and the Faculty Reaction Questionnaires led to the conclusion that there was a wide discrepancy between the amount of importance the professors felt SHOULD be placed on the variable of sex identity, and the ACTUAL importance placed on that variable in everyday life situations. The professors indicated sex identity relatively unimportant when considering applications for an administrative position, but they tended to degrade administrative decisions made by members of the opposite sex. This was true of both male and female professors.

These conclusions may be worthwhile to other researchers if they intend to conduct further studies in this particular area. It should also be mentioned that these conclusions should not be generalized beyond the parent population of faculty members at the University of Oklahoma during the 1974-75 academic year.

### Discussion

The Administrative Selection Questionnaire (Appendix A) was developed through the combined efforts of several faculty members and administrators at the University of Oklahoma. It was not designed, at that point, as a final version of the instrument. The researcher left spaces at the bottom of the instrument for the professors to write in any qualifications they felt were more applicable. A new version of the Administrative Selection Questionnaire was then assembled.

The Faculty Reaction Questionnaires (Appendices B and C) were developed through the joint efforts of four deans, the university provost, and chairperson of the researcher's committee. The six subsequent scenarios were not meant to be all inclusive but represent areas of decision making encountered by deans. Several male professors commented as to the "stupidity" and "inappropriateness" of the decisions. The researcher did not see this as a weakness of design. In actuality, this was seen as a strength. If the decision situations were "stupid," they would be stupid

regardless of the sex identity of the decision maker.

The researcher felt that the results of the study were representative of the entire faculty because of the number of professors completing and returning the questionnaires. The professors returned 169 usable copies of the first instrument and 153 usable copies of the second instrument. These numbers represent an excellent return in questionnaire research.

#### Implications for Further Research

Several research possibilities became apparent as the present study unfolded. They are discussed in the following section.

The present study could be conducted on other campuses both in Oklahoma and in other states. Also, a comparison of different types of educational institutions would be interesting (a university, a 4-year liberal arts college, a 4-year private or parochial college, a 2-year junior or community college, a predominantly Black college, a women's college).

The present study could be conducted in three stages. As a preliminary step, a measurement of faculty ratings of open-or-closed mindedness could be taken. Then have the professors complete the Administrative Selection Questionnaire and the Faculty Reaction Questionnaire. It would be interesting to see the relationship between open-or-closed mindedness and perceptions of decisions made by same-and

opposite sex superordinates.

This study was conducted to initiate a move toward more objective research in the area of women's rights, professional women, and women in power positions. In the past, most of the research done on women was post hoc. Also, most of the writing done concerning the prejudice of women in power positions was impassioned and too often lacked research support. If the present study leads the way to objectifying subsequent studies in this area, this researcher will feel gratified.

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**APPENDIX A**

**ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE**

## Appendix A

### ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

**Directions:** The following list contains some of the characteristics and qualifications which are considered to be important factors when choosing educational decision makers such as Deans, Departmental Chairpersons, etc. Please rate each of the qualifications and characteristics listed by marking one of the choice points on the seven-point continuum following each. You may also write in (and rate) additional characteristics or qualifications which are not included in the list. Be sure to rate EACH of the qualifications and characteristics listed or written in.

(7) Extremely Important

(1) Not Important at All

- |  |           |     |
|--|-----------|-----|
| (1) Age . . . . .  | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (2) Race or Ethnic Origin . . . . .                            | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (3) Sex . . . . .  | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (4) Marital Status   | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (5) Religion . . . . .   | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (6) Type of Previous Administrative Experiences . . .          | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (7) Number of Years of Administrative Experience . . .         | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (8) Previous Work Experience . . . . .                         | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (9) Past Record as a Decision Maker . . . . .                  | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (10) Number of Years in Major Field of Interest . . . .        | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (11) Number of Memberships in Professional Organizations       | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (12) Number of Service Clubs Affiliated With . . . .           | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (13) College or University where Individual Received Doctorate | _____     | (1) |
| (14) Overall Grade-Point-Average (GPA) in Graduate School      | _____     | (1) |
| (15) Academic Area of Doctoral Study . . . . .                 | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (16) Graduate Courses Included in the Doctoral Program .       | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (17) Number of Publications . . . . .                          | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (18) Recency and Type of Publications . . . . .                | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (19) _____   | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (20) _____   | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (21) _____   | (7) _____ | (1) |
| (22) _____   | (7) _____ | (1) |

**APPENDIX B**

**FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE**  
**(MALE VERSION)**



## Appendix B

### FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

We are trying to determine faculty reactions to certain administrative decisions and/or actions taken by educational administrators. Several scenarios are presented for your consideration. While the names are fictitious, the situations are factual reports taken from Departmental records of well known colleges and universities. If the Dean in each scenario were your immediate superior, what would be your reaction to the decision made?

Directions: Please indicate your opinion of the action taken in each of the scenarios presented below. Circle the point on the continuum which most accurately reflects your opinion of the administrator's actions.

Strongly Agree	= SA
Agree	= A
Undecided	= U
Disagree	= D
Strongly Disagree	= SD

- |  |    | (Circle One) |   |   |    |
|--|----|--------------|---|---|----|
| 1. At the last departmental meeting, Dean John White, openly criticized the lack of innovative teaching techniques on the part of many faculty members . . . . .   | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 2. At the last departmental meeting, Dean David Smith, openly criticized faculty members for not being in their offices during their posted "office hours." . . . .  | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 3. Dean James Groff, implemented an accounting procedure requiring each faculty member to submit monthly records of the financial transactions of their office . . . . .   | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 4. At the most recent meeting of the AAUP, Dean Howard Hackett, secretly invited a nationally known professor to interview for a vacant chairperson's position within the Department . . . . .                     | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 5. Dean Phillip Spanniger, recently informed two faculty members that they would have to make their course offerings and content more current and applicable before they could be recommended for tenure . . . . . | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 6. Due to budgetary cutbacks, Dean Charles Brown, decided to eliminate one of the six existing divisions of the department based on his personal observations of each . . . . .                                    | SA | A            | U | D | SD |

APPENDIX C

FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE  
(FEMALE VERSION)

# Appendix C

## FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

We are trying to determine faculty reactions to certain administrative decisions and/or actions taken by educational administrators. Several scenarios are presented for your consideration. While the names are fictitious, the situations are factual reports taken from Departmental records of well known colleges and universities. If the Dean in each scenario were your immediate superior, what would be your reaction to the decision made?

Directions: Please indicate your opinion of the action taken in each of the scenarios presented below. Circle the point on the continuum which most accurately reflects your opinion of the administrator's actions.

Strongly Agree	= SA
Agree	= A
Undecided	= U
Disagree	= D
Strongly Disagree	= SD

- |  |    | (Circle One) |   |   |    |
|--|----|--------------|---|---|----|
| 1. At the last departmental meeting, Dean Sara White, openly criticized the lack of innovative teaching techniques on the part of many faculty members . . . . .   | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 2. At the last departmental meeting, Dean Joan Smith, openly criticized faculty members for not being in their offices during their posted "office hours." . . . .   | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 3. Dean Jane Groff, implemented an accounting procedure requiring each faculty member to submit monthly records of the financial transactions of their office . . . . .  | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 4. At the most recent meeting of the AAUP, Dean Janet Hackett, secretly invited a nationally known professor to interview for a vacant chairperson's position within the Department . . . . .                    | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 5. Dean Karen Spanniger, recently informed two faculty members that they would have to make their course offerings and content more current and applicable before they could be recommended for tenure . . . . . | SA | A            | U | D | SD |
| 6. Due to budgetary cutbacks, Dean Joyce Brown, decided to eliminate one of the six existing divisions of the department based on her personal observations of each . . . . .                                    | SA | A            | U | D | SD |

APPENDIX D

IBM CARD FORMAT AND 80-80 LISTING OF DATA CARDS FROM  
THE ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

# Appendix D

## CARD FORMAT USED IN CODING DATA FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

QUESTIONNAIRE INFORMATION	CARD COLUMNS	RANGE OF VALUES
1. Respondent's Sex	1	1-2
2. Questionnaire Number	2-3	01-99
3. Rating of "Age"	4	1-7
4. Rating of "Race or Ethnic Origin"	5	1-7
5. Rating of "Sex"	6	1-7
6. Rating of "Marital Status"	7	1-7
7. Rating of "Religion"	8	1-7
8. Rating of "Type of Previous Administrative Experiences"	9	1-7
9. Rating of "Number of Years of Administrative Experience"	10	1-7
10. Rating of "Previous Work Experience"	11	1-7
11. Rating of "Past Record as a Decision Maker"	12	1-7
12. Rating of "Number of Years in Major Field of Interest"	13	1-7
13. Rating of "Number of Memberships in Professional Organizations"	14	1-7
14. Rating of "Number of Service Clubs Affiliated With"	15	1-7
15. Rating of "College or University where Individual Received Doctorate"	16	1-7
16. Rating of "Overall GPA in Graduate School"	17	1-7
17. Rating of "Academic Area of Doctoral Study"	18	1-7
18. Rating of "Graduate Courses Included in Doctoral Program"	19	1-7
19. Rating of "Number of Publications"	20	1-7
20. Category and Rating of First Option	21	1-7
21. Category and Rating of Second Option	22-23	1-7
22. Category and Rating of Third Option	24-25	1-7
23. Category and Rating of Fourth Option	26-27	1-7
24. Category and Rating of Fifth Option	28-29	1-7
25. Category and Rating of Sixth Option	30-31	1-7
26. Category and Rating of Seventh Option	32-33	1-7
27. Category and Rating of Eighth Option	34-35	1-7

Appendix D (Cont'd)

THE 80-80 LISTING OF THE IBM DATA CARDS FROM THE  
ADMINISTRATIVE SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

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1012111144565444232317  
1024444454757550233315  
103411114777511765411  
104111117577521455522  
1053341133455215550223747457  
106511115555354234422  
107411417347412344432541494  
108422227447422223235  
10911111777431444447  
110434116667532433311  
11151111535754134433307  
11245555177775507747  
11341123477455656655  
11441111777766556566  
115511116477564655546147  
116211117757555644224717  
117211115477454550312  
118211117577331231146  
11932111657664142312216  
120411117577542212222  
121657245442362730577  
12211111546754345114445  
1235444477667544555335717665  
124214447777454224144  
1252111147547462325444  
126211117577522333424  
127111112237111111115757576767  
128511117677665666756  
129277111157111225511  
130511116377232222111  
1313111164675225555251757  
132522112167311333321  
133611117567662455535  
134111714205422122211  
135211115466641662554  
13621113317434434341217  
137111115444411643344  
138111113354731677766  
13921111447712144223417574767  
140566115245511112344  
141211116447443466656  
142322125374512144234  
143221115445431333333  
144211115445411113133475767

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Appendix D (Cont'd)

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1452211154672212121334127  
146311117777752246617  
147222226466643566645  
148211117567221142211  
149111117677541467756  
150611116667511554477  
151222226444554667734  
152332225554452224244  
153511115555511344233  
154755515567555115211  
155311117667562362314757  
1567222266776654466726  
157511117454621455411  
158551117777777753657  
15941111565752233452267  
160477227477521644523  
161411116666644466566  
162515147567551456457  
163512217666621556666765727  
1642111176676522434445  
165211147677554466446575417  
166211115435322340524  
167322115454322145524  
16844444555534355554516666  
169211117577741557744  
17021111655762145122517578727  
17136611755552244544547  
17211111776733141452247  
173612117557554466534  
174755117777756567757  
175411117757654466666  
176222143447441343244  
177422117777644544544  
178411116457442447647  
179411117667521555411  
18011111444733125333357  
181425116567431543335  
182311127777752466544  
183111117777753667756  
184411117777552551456  
18541111757778445662446  
186211116567544555533  
18751111777754143533557275717577746  
188111115477411333347

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Appendix D (Cont'd)

201111114044231522234  
202411216677321600000  
203533545477654540055-01/17  
2045113177775216005-7  
20523111777753055555  
20661111447462145116675767  
207311115217421214122275737  
208547117557322573343  
209515116000521501105  
210222227407432225446  
211400045557522422233  
212311115555711545511  
213022336507545444344  
214111111177111111111  
215511116567652004255  
216611117777221400223  
217511117567521655656  
2181111177775250054417574717  
219511117665521635555  
220111114177111117500515757  
221322120567522514043  
222211115555621600025  
223411117777351114000  
2247111417777777777777  
225211114357553453404  
226311115567632003405  
227677225553251575106  
22831111333523122225007  
229411114356451502555  
230111112245111222255  
231522213357521323355  
232111117777544345506  
233511116677544552200  
23430333555553455555  
23541511434443163412627  
236411316567652500045  
237211115447421111111  
238211226377562524257  
23921111544543343443317  
240512117557033540014  
2413111162671111511167575757





APPENDIX E

IBM CARD FORMAT AND 80-80 LISTING OF DATA CARDS FROM  
THE FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRES

## Appendix E

### IBM CARD FORMAT USED IN CODING DATA FROM THE FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire Information	Card Columns	Range of Values
1. Data Group	1	1-4
2. Questionnaire Number	2-3	01-50
3. Rating of First Scenario	4	1-5
4. Rating of Second Scenario	5	1-5
5. Rating of Third Scenario	6	1-5
6. Rating of Fourth Scenario	7	1-5
7. Rating of Fifth Scenario	8	1-5
8. Rating of Sixth Scenario	9	1-5

Appendix E (Cont'd)

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101555241  
102443343  
103423342  
104123251  
105341353  
106532142  
107111111  
108452111  
109215151  
110122141  
111424132  
112244451  
113113151  
114341232  
115243241  
116554141  
117223141  
118554151  
119444141  
120442242  
121455445  
122343232  
123333333  
124244121  
125245344  
126423331  
127423243  
128254242  
129234242  
130443521  
131444241  
132144141  
133243342  
134554254  
135113131  
136124141  
137332242  
138244141

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Appendix E (Cont'd)

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201413111  
202343241  
203442142  
204411221  
205441331  
206222141  
206522142  
206424142  
209454132  
210241141  
211451151  
212511142  
213114133  
214544241  
215334111  
216445141  
217224143  
218121432  
219533451  
220443241  
221444331  
222123131  
223353144  
224344241  
225444121  
226454141  
227353151  
228354141  
229111141  
230222343  
231421141  
232223141  
233544141  
234443141  
235243142  
236124141  
237343141  
238555252  
239452142

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Appendix E (Cont'd)

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301555111  
302244133  
303224122  
304543241  
305443221  
306332121  
307251141  
308432231  
309441141  
310551111  
311343143  
312443151  
313453241  
314453153  
315243243  
316441451  
317543433  
318241151  
319121121  
320244242  
321443141  
322555451  
323144242  
324444232  
325242122  
326111121  
327111111  
328121211  
329121111  
330111111  
331244244  
332331143  
333123131  
334521141  
335441142  
336224242  
337453151  
338111111

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Appendix E (Cont'd)

THE 80-80 LISTING OF THE IBM DATA CARDS FROM THE  
FACULTY REACTION QUESTIONNAIRES

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401244152  
402141541  
403111111  
404441113  
405551154  
406121143  
407331431  
408331251  
409451111  
410333213  
411343124  
412323131  
413462142  
414433141  
415441142  
416244242  
417111135  
418141331  
419441142  
420221141  
421222222  
422452243  
423344354  
424211142  
425231111  
426254111  
427144413  
428453131  
429222141  
431555551  
431444142  
432242111  
433444444  
434451341  
435532111  
436554352  
437503133  
438555453

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