KALAMAZOO, Mich. -- Ten faculty and staff members from Kalamazoo College including President George N. Rainsford, will participate in Outward Bound-Wilderness Programs during this summer, exploring the possibilities of the wilderness experiences and their future inclusion in the curriculum, it was announced by College officials today.

Dr. Rainsford, a trustee for the Colorado Outward Bound School and a member of the Great Lakes College Association Steering Committee for Wilderness Programs, will be joined by Provost John Satterfield, Business Manager Stuart Simpson, and faculty members Charles Cummings of the sociology department, Conrad Hilberry of the English department, and David Scarrow of the philosophy department, on a five-day trip down the Green River in Colorado.

David Evans of the biology department will attend the Outward Bound School at the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota while Edward Baker, a physical education professor, David Winch of the physics department, and coordinator of campus activities Robert Doud will participate at the Colorado Outward Bound School in Marble, Colorado. These latter two schools, featuring 23-day educational field experiences, are designed primarily for those interested in initiating Outward Bound-type programs in their schools and communities, and offer training on both the instructional and personal development levels.

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Outward Bound is an educational organization which works in a supportive and cooperative relationship with schools, colleges, universities, social agencies, and businesses that wish to integrate some aspect of the Outward Bound concept into their own educational programs. There are six Outward Bound Schools operating in the United States.

Traditionally, Outward Bound has been concerned with cooperation in decision-making and problem-solving within a wilderness setting as the participants go about the process of learning about themselves and responding to the environment.

The encounters that take place because of the stress of the environment and the activities designed to explore that environment, such as rockclimbing, peak ascents, and wilderness camping, help a person to develop a method of functioning with others.

Through the shared awareness and the interdependence such experiences foster, individuals become more sensitive and responsive to other's feelings and ideas, and more willing to share tasks, danger and mutual responsibility for the success of the group endeavor.

This process is seen as cutting across both disciplines and techniques in terms of utilizing whatever resources are available within the total environment, whether it be within the school, in an urban setting, or in the wilderness.
The Kalamazoo College involvement has come about as a reflection of the interest and concern of both faculty and student body in innovative techniques which will further strengthen its programs both on and off campus. The first-hand experience of the ten summer participants coupled with the experiences that some Kalamazoo College students have already had in the activities of Outward Bound hopefully will serve as a catalyst for the College's future wilderness activities.

Possible future involvements for the coeducational programs at Kalamazoo will range from curriculum integration and training for dormitory counselors to providing a vehicle for modifying campus life and originating unique experientially-oriented degree programs.

Funding for the development of GLCA Wilderness Programs, announced last week, will be provided by $50,000 grants from the DeWitt Wallace Foundation and the Lily Foundation. A $100,000 grant has also been given by the Lily Foundation to support the program's faculty fellowships.