

mining who gets hired at Hoover as well as some influence over the institution's research agenda. "What touched it off this time," Professor Manley says, "was when the Hoover director pointed out in print that [House of Representatives GOP leader] Dick Armey was wearing a Hoover Institution tie.

"It was an obvious attempt to woo money from conservative donors," Manley charges. "He was clearly trying to take credit for Newt Gingrich and the Contract on America. They really came out of the closet again," Manley contends, "and exposed themselves as a politically active institution."

What Manley objects to is the autonomy of the Hoover Institution from the university which houses it and from which it derives much of its prestige. Both personnel hiring decisions and research objectives, for example, are controlled entirely by Hoover's director, John Raisian, 46, who in some instances must receive a pro forma

approval for certain appointments from Stanford's president, currently Gerhard Casper. "No, President Casper has never rejected an appointment at Hoover," Raisian reports. "That doesn't mean he can't or won't," he says, but like Casper's predecessor, Donald Kennedy, "he never has."

However, with the Cold War now in permafrost, the once secretive Hoover Institution appears to be practicing something like its own form of glasnost, opening up at least some of its internal procedures to outside scrutiny and even inviting METRO to observe the first 90 minutes of the recent Overseers meeting, a quarterly session that has traditionally been closed to the press and other outsiders.

At the meeting, donors, administrators and scholars spoke privately and off the record about the overall political situation. They also helped chart the course for a series of new programs initiated by Hoover's current director, Raisian, who took the helm from his bombastic predecessor, current UC regent Glenn Campbell, back in 1989 after a much publicized and very bitter battle. "Glenn did not willingly pass the torch to a new generation of leadership," one prominent Hoover scholar notes wryly, "John had to rip it out of his tight little fist."

Meanwhile, former director Campbell, originally named by Herbert Hoover himself, still