[The Washington Post]

## Style

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Academic<sup>17</sup> quizmaster Mac McGarry, right, officially hosts the world's longest-running TV quiz show; among its participants are Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton and ABC's George Stephanopoulos.

## It's No Longer Academic—It's a Fact

It's official. The high school quiz show "It's Academic" has been certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as the longest-running TV quiz show in the world, with a whopping 42 years (and counting) on the air.

"We received an e-mail telling us that a British show had started a year after we did, so we had beaten them out," said an ecstatic Sophie Altman, the executive producer and founder of the show. "The fact that we're getting old also went through my head—but

overall this is fantastic!"

And you can bet that throughout its reign,
"It's Academic" has tested the minds of
many, including New York Sens. Chuck
Schumer and Hillary Rodham Clinton—"She
was part of the show as an alternate in
1964-5," says Altman—ABC's George

Stephanopoulos, former Maine governor Angus King, CNN anchor Leon Harris and The Post's own Donald Graham. "All of our people are good people," she assures.

We wonder when Mac McGarry,

quizmaster since the show's 1961 inception will get his own Guinness recognition (him hint).