

## A&M receives \$75,000 from Exxon

By Ted W. Venker  
The Battalion

The Exxon Education Foundation has chosen Texas A&M as the recipient of a \$75,000 grant to support the development and expansion of the "accelerated school" model through Texas elementary schools.

Dr. Jane Stallings, dean of A&M's College of Education, said the University is one of four satellite centers around the nation which provide training for school personnel who want to become a part of the accelerated school net-

## Grant supports development of school for 'at risk' students

The aim of an accelerated school is to bring "at risk" students into the mainstream socially, economically and educationally. Stallings said an at risk student is one who, for various reasons, is in danger of failing out of school.

"Accelerated schools build on the strengths of all students to accelerate their growth," she said. "Building on strengths proves far

more productive than pointing out weaknesses."

The program to promote these schools involves several other universities around the country.

Universities form partnerships with elementary schools in their area to provide professional assistance and training during implementation of the program and afterward.

Last summer 40 universities and schools attended a training program on the A&M campus and the money from the Exxon grant will provide for more facilities to follow up and assist more schools in the future, Stallings said.

Donna Wiseman, associate dean of the College of Education, said the University received the grant partly because it is a leader in the field of education but also because Stallings is a nationally known education researcher. Stallings is also recognized for her leadership in developing partnerships between schools and colleges of education.

## Computer system allows faster opening of accounts

By Gina Howard  
The Battalion

Opening a new computer account has been made easier for students and faculty with the creation of ACCESS, a new automated computer system.

ACCESS will be used on most campus computing systems by the time classes start this spring, said Mari Ward, senior systems analyst with the Computing Services Center.

The system will allow students and faculty to open a new computer account faster and give a single logon-ID to each user that will access all computer systems on campus. The set-up aspects of ACCESS will have the greatest effect on new users setting up accounts, Ward said.

"Before there was often a one hour wait for users to set up," she said. "Now at least some of the systems will be almost instantaneous."

Ward said eventually all computer systems on campus will be instantaneous.

Students and faculty members already set up on the University's computer system will not be required to go through

any additional steps to use the systems, but according to the campus magazine "Computing News," users will be encouraged to switch to the new-style of single logon-ID.

Presently, many students using several of the different computer systems on campus are forced to use two separate IDs, but with ACCESS students will be able to use their VAX-style ID on the IBM systems. IDs from the old system will still be allowed after the new system is in use.

The amount of access to computer accounts has also changed, Ward said.

Previously, undergraduate students were allowed \$10 in computer time each week for their accounts. Now account holders will receive \$300 worth of computing access for the entire semester.

Ward said users with specific questions about switching ID styles and any alterations this will cause in user files should talk to the help desk for the computing system they are using.

To receive more information about ACCESS, call 845-8447.

## Attorney general calls for equal funds

AUSTIN (AP) — The governor and Legislature need to do more to equalize funding for all state colleges and universities, the attorney general said Tuesday.

"We have a system of public higher education in Texas that is inequitable, that is unfair... Clearly, our state must do more," Attorney General Dan Morales said.

"The governor, the Legislature, the higher education system, must do more to ensure equity — particularly with regard to the opportunities that we provide to minorities," Morales said.

A Brownsville judge ruled on Monday that the higher education system discriminates

against Mexican Americans. State District Judge Ben Euresti Jr. ordered lawmakers to bridge the gap by May 1, 1993.

The ruling came in a lawsuit by Hispanic groups that claimed the state discriminates against Hispanics by systematically underfunding schools in 41 counties stretching from Brownsville to El Paso.

Morales declined to say whether the state will appeal. He said he wants to meet with Gov. Ann Richards, legislative leaders and university officials before deciding how to proceed.

The attorney general said he hopes the lawsuit can be settled rather than dragged through

appellate courts for years as was the Edgewood vs. Kirby public school finance lawsuit. That case is pending before the Texas Supreme

**"We have a system of public higher education in Texas that is inequitable, that is unfair..."**

—Attorney General Dan Morales

Court for a third time.

"We do not need to see another Edgewood vs. Kirby with regard to our higher education system. It's not going to be a lawsuit, ultimately, that gets us where we need to be," Morales said.

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