

Philosophy Starts Second Semester

A&M University's newest department, the Department of Philosophy, is now in its second semester. According to its head, and so far its only staff member—Dr. John B. Orr—it is progressing "better than expected in its first year."

Orr said that the big question during the summer was "Would this department really go at A&M?" The answer came with fall registration. "Registration was excellent," said Orr, "and this trend has continued into the spring semester." Enrollment each semester was around 100.

He said he felt the courses were well received by students enrolled and by other departments. He said he was pleasantly surprised at the high plane of serious discus-

sion and the overall high scholarship level of the students.

In the fall the department offered "Introduction to Philosophy" and "Philosophy of Religion." This spring "Modern Philosophy" and "Ethical Theory" have been added. "Philosophy of Religion" is not offered in the spring semester. Courses are to be added each semester with the eventual goal being the offering of a minor. No plans for a major are being considered at present.

In the fall of 1965 "Ancient and Medieval Philosophy" and "Major Issues of Philosophy" are to be introduced. The issues course is a graduate-level introductory course. "Offering an introductory course at the graduate level is something new here," Dr. Orr said.

Orr, the driving force behind the present department, was graduated from the University of New Mexico. He received his Master's Degree from Yale in 1963 and will receive his PhD from Yale in Philosophy this June. His doctorate research was in economic ethics and the title of his thesis is "Justice and National Income Stability."

60 High School Counselors Visit Campus Saturday

Information to help counselors charged with vocational guidance of area high school students will be given Saturday as an expected 60 counselors meet on the campus.

The group convenes at 9:15 a.m. in the Academic Building and at noon moves to the Memorial Student Center for a luncheon and panel discussions.

Speaking Saturday will be Texas Education Agency consultants, a Texas Employment Commission representative, and A&M faculty members. Also included among the panel members is a Bryan schoolman, Wesley Summers.

The state education agency sponsors the session and two A&M faculty members are local co-ordinators. They are Dr. Paul Hensarling, head of the Department of Education and Psychology, and S. A. Kerley, director of the Counseling and Testing Center.

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THE BATTALION

Coeds Don't Mind Reptiles

Slithery snakes, slimy frogs and speedy salamanders hold no special fears for two coeds at A&M.

Misses Nan Brown and Judith Davis, the first women ever to enroll for a course in herpetology, are beginning to feel like veterans in wildlife management after two weeks of instruction by Dr. Richard Baldauf, professor of wildlife management.

Women are generally thought to be about as afraid of snakes as they are of mice.

Miss Brown, a post graduate student from Dunmore, Pa., put it like this: "I'm not afraid of snakes. They feel better than earthworms."

And Miss Davis, a graduate student from Scotch Plains, N. J., said: "I don't like em, but I've held them before—during my un-

dergraduate days in invertebrate zoology at Cornell and while I was a nature counselor at a summer camp."

A friendly bull snake appeared to enjoy special attention and wrapped itself around her left arm as she posed for a picture.

Miss Brown, a high school science for 12 years, holds a masters degree in secondary education and psychology from Seton Hall and a bachelors degree in science and French from Marywood College.

She is attending A&M on the Academic Year Institute plan sponsored by the National Science Foundation.

"I decided a change would do me good and that I would be able to go back to teaching with renewed vigor. Besides, it never

hurts to have more education. I studied a NSF brochure telling about A&M and looked no further," Miss Brown explained.

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Doctorate Offered Now In Forestry

The College of Agriculture, which has operated a two-year undergraduate program in forestry for many years, is now offering a doctorate degree in forestry science.

The new program stems from recent approval by the Texas Commission on Higher Education. Also approved was a School of Natural Bio-Sciences composed of the Departments of Recreation and Parks, Range Science and Wildlife Science.

Dr. R. E. Patterson, dean of the College of Agriculture, said courses leading to a PhD in forestry science include engineering, economics, forestry genetics, plant pathology, plant physiology, soil physics, soil chemistry, soil mineralogy, ecology and taxonomy.

Supporting courses are in range science, wildlife science, soil science and genetics.

The dean said the PhD program will be supported by fast-growing forestry research in the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station. The station is the certified institution in Texas to receive research funds in the Federal Forestry Research Program.

Dr. R. C. Potts, assistant director of agricultural instruction, said the whole program will enable A&M to better utilize supporting course work in forestry than has been possible in the past.

"On an undergraduate level, the student can obtain a BS degree in one of the plant science options with a minor in forestry, then move through the PhD program in forestry science," Potts said.

He said opportunities for doctoral degree holders in forestry science include research with the U. S. Forest Service, research with industry, and research and teaching positions at colleges and universities.

The Texas Forest Service, with headquarters at A&M, will lend strength to the new doctoral program, Dr. A. D. Folweiler, Forest Service director, believes. TFS field personnel will be able to help and work with the graduate students.

"And I think the Texas Forest Service and the East Texas forest business will benefit," Folweiler added.

Potts said the forestry science doctoral program will begin operation this fall.

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