#### THE BATTALION College Station, Texas Page 2 **CADET SLOUCH**



"I started this 'letter to the editor' and the more I wrote, the more I realized that I could make my point better in person!"

## **Batt Commentary Committee Problems**

The most overworked and ill-established system of communications at TAMU is the committee structuring for the various deans, vice presidents and president. clearly chaotic and needs swift overhauling, some of which has already begun.

To understand the system, one must first comprehend how committees are appointed. The group members are now committees are appointed. The group members are nominated to President Jack Williams by those directly concerned with the committees, such as Randy Ross, Stu-dent Government president; T. Getterman, Residence Hall Association president; and by college deans, University vice presidents and other department heads.

Williams then reviews all nominations and replaces student and faculty members he deems unnecessary. Although most committees do not report to him (only six do), the vice presidents, etc., responsible for committee actions never have the final okay. This is wrong because these top officials may and frequently do have to work with individuals they don't want on the committees.

The most evident problem in this setup is the delay involved with final committee membership approval. The delay (a lengthy one this year) means that committee effectiveness is impaired since most are unable to get going until the beginning of October.

Membership should be determined solely by the individuals the committees are responsible to for several reasons, the foremost being that the task of running the TAMU System and the campus at College Station is too much for one man to handle. This is borne out by the fact that the Board of Directors appoints a separate individual to manage each other part of the system, such as

# Wednesday, November 7, 1973 Listen Up by Jim Earle Bonfire Aids in Ecology Destruction

Editor:

In response to Griff Lasley's comments in the Battalion (Oct. 31) about the bonfire: The size of the bonfire is proportional to the number of trees you have pointlessly cremated, the amount of land you have raped, the number of organisms you have displaced or destroyed, and inversely proportional to your wisdom. This is the third year that I

Lease Line—

Question: My roommate and I

have been living in a duplex for

about a year. We don't have a

written lease, just an oral agree-

ment. Recently, the owner decided

that he wanted a \$100 deposit,

even though he has never required

one before. How can we be sure

that we will get our deposit re-

Answer: First, you should de-

mand a written lease. If the land-

lord needs security concerning

your renting, then you do, too.

Without a written lease, he can

make you move out of the apart-

ment with only a month's notice.

It is unfair for him to require you

to pay a security deposit without

giving you in return some secur-

ity in the form of a lease that

guarantees you can rent the du-

plex for a certain amount of time.

force your landlord to give you a

However, there is no way to

By BARB SEARS

funded?

have listened and objected to this bonfire B.S. and still the ridiculously destructive practice goes on. I can recall past letters in support of and against the bonfire and remember how little people realize the significance of this atrocity against our environment. Here at a land grant college where wildlife management techniques, animal and plant ecology, and other biosciences are taught one would

lease. You should be warned that

if you do give him a security de-

posit without having a written

lease, you may very likely never

There are a few safeguards

that might be able to help you

in that situation. First, be sure

to obtain a receipt for your de-

posit, properly dated and signed.

apartment that lists the condition

of everything, from the floor to

the furniture. Insist the landlord

initial it to validate it. This may

mean that he has to look over

your apartment, but it is very im-

portant that you insist upon this

An oral agreement is binding

before you give him the deposit.

to the landlord, but it is harder

to enforce. So if you have his veri-

fication on the condition of the

apartment, then his claims

against your security deposit if

you ever move out will have to

Second, make a checklist for your

get your deposit back.

**Oral Agreements Bad Security Risk** 

things.

think that people would look upon 1971) which you cut down are this with a somewhat more enlightened view. How can we condone destroying these trees for such a trivial activity when already our supply of naturally functioning ecosystems is being severely depleted by housing developments, farms, and Millican Dam(n)s.

Please understand that the "useless scrub oaks" (Batt- Nov.

be accurate. If he has initialed

the checklist and it says that

your apartment has a hole in the

wall or the carpet already has

cigarette burns in it, there is no

way he can charge you for those

A checklist is a security meas-

ure for each tenant. It is valuable

evidence if you must ever go to

oral leases are rarely helpful to

the tenant. Unless the tenant is

uncertain about how long he

wants the apartment, he should

try to get a written lease. If the

landlord gives the excuse of not

having the proper forms, there is

a model lease in the back of the

Fair Housing Commission's Legal

Guide for tenants which can be

used. You just need to fill in the

blanks about rates, rental dates,

etc. A copy can be obtained at the

Student Government Office, the

It should be emphasized that

the Small Claims Court.

anything but useless from both an ecological and an economic standpoint. Ecologically the hardwood trees provide some of the most important wildlife habitat. Economically - how can one simply waste all the energy one burns up in the bonfire; the wood would be better put to use as crating material, furniture, baseball bats, or simply fuel in the home (as it

Housing Office, or the offices of

the Dean of Men and Dean of

Question: We have an oral

lease and our landlord recently

told us that he was going to raise

our rent. How much advance no-

tice does he have to give us? Can

he raise the rent in the middle of

Answer: In an oral lease, the

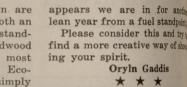
contract is considered to be re-

newed on a month to month basis.

Women.

the semester?

such a bargain.



Editor:



A picture is worth a thousa

words on the food at Sbisa

THE



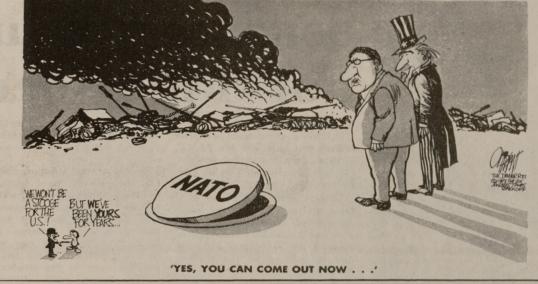
\* \* \*

Therefore, you generally pay rent Editor: monthly, and the landlord must There is a rumor going around give one month's notice before he campus that the restaurant in the changes any portion of your Rudder Conference Center is g agreement, like raising the rent. ing to be open only to facul It is legal for him to raise the rent in the middle of the semester, and there are some apartment facility. owners who use that trick of obtaining tenants at a low rental rate, but raising the rent repeat-

and staff in the near future, th not allowing students to use this I would like to find out if then is any truth to this and if so, who made this decision. edly so that the rate is no longer If it is true, I would like the

deciding party to reconsider. Af ter all, we, the students, are required to pay \$10.00 each semester for the Student Center Com plex. I, like many other students, don't mind this providing we ar allowed to use it, including th restaurant. This is the only ni restaurant on campus and seems unfair to turn the students away.

LaDonna Oldham " The restaurant, originally de signed to be a soup and sandwi bar with mixed drinks, will not be closed to students as there no faculty demand for this. Most go home after work. Another larger cafeteria is being built in the new MSC building, mon suited for student needs. The snack bar by the bowling alley is only temporary until the new facility is completed.-Ed.



Prairie View University and Tarleton State.

It is impossible for Williams to accurately review committee appointments himself and he usually farms out the task to his assistants, Dr. Tom Adair and Roger Miller. Since his approval of appointments is usually a rubber stamp (except for those people responsible directly to him), it seems even more logical to have those responsible approve their own committees.

Another aspect of this committee system foulup is, of course, who committees report to. There is frequently a criss-crossing of committee duties, which causes undue friction between members involved. By having committees report to a single individual, much of this can be alleviated.

The final problem is the apportionment of committees reporting to the various vice presidents and deans. Vice President for Academic Affairs John C. Calhoun heads the list with the most committees under him, 36, while other vice presidents may have as few as four groups. The distribution discrepancies are obvious, but unfortunately hard to solve. True, each may have assistants to deal with the committees, but then the committees aren't supposed to report to assistants, but the vice presidents.

We urge that something be done to alleviate much of the red tape and action should be initiated from the president's office.

The problem can't be solved by another committee, but the decision to make a change must be made by one man-Jack Williams.

## Che Battalion

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Letters to the editor should not exceed 300 words and are subject to being cut to that length or less if longer. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit such letters and does not guarantee to publish any letter. Each letter must be signed and show the address of the writer.

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