

# Equivalency Tests:

# Credit by examination provides way for student to be recognized for individual achievements

By PAT SADBERRY

The credit-by-examination program at Texas A&M University provides an outlet for students who have acquired skills and knowledge equivalent to those gained by taking a college-level course.

"A&M's credit-by-examination program recognizes a student's individual achievements," said Auston Kerley, director of the A&M Academic Counseling Center.

The student is awarded for his scholarship — reading, research, correspondence work, or other educational experiences, Kerley said.

The student who is already enrolled at A&M can gain credit in any course through departmental examinations or he may use the College Level Examination Program, which gives credit in selected courses.

In order to become eligible for a departmental examination a student must be granted permission from his academic dean.

The student must present a written petition, explaining how he received competence in the course, and briefly stating the extent of his competence.

Upon receiving approval, the student must pay the exam fee of \$15 at the University Fiscal Office.

The exam fee receipt from the fiscal office and the written petition are taken to the head of the department in which the course is listed. There the student is advised of the time and location of the test.

Departmental examinations are usually given once each semester and once each summer. The dates are set by the individual department.

The department has no obligation to return tests to the student or go

over the test with the student. Upon request, however, the department will give the student his test results.

It is the responsibility of the department to notify the registrar's office that the student is receiving credit for a course.

The departmental examinations cannot be taken for courses in which the student is enrolled, nor can departmental examinations be given for courses the student has failed.

The College Level Examination Program offers the student academic credit in selected subjects.

"A&M does not offer credit for general examinations, which are designed to measure broad academic exposure in major fields of study," Kerley said.

Subject examinations are offered in biology 113; chemistry 101 and 102; economics 203, 204 and 311; English 103, 104 and 203; history 101, 102, 105 and 106; management 105; math 102, 103 and 121; political science 206; sociology 205; and computer science 201 and 203.

College-Level examinations, given the third week in each month, may be repeated after six months at \$20 per test.

Students performing successfully on College-Level examinations and departmental examinations receive semester hours of credit without a specific letter grade.

By taking advantage of the credit-by-examination program, a large number of students at Texas A&M are saving time, which is valuable to the student, their families and the university, said John C. Calhoun, vice president of academic affairs.

"Last year 3,046 students received credit by examination in at least one course," Calhoun said. One A&M student earned 20 credits through the examination program, he said.

Students who plan to enter A&M as freshmen can earn credit through departmental examinations, the Advanced Placement Program and the College Level Examination Program of the College Entrance Examination Board.

Eligibility for taking a departmental examination depends on the scores received in particular areas of the various entrance examinations.

For example, to be eligible to take a departmental test in chemistry, a new student must score 600 or more on the math portion of the Scholastic Aptitude Test and 550 or more on the Math Level I Achievement Test.

Students should consult their high school counselors for information on registration and testing centers for the Advanced Placement Testing Program.

College Level Examinations for freshmen have the same guidelines as enrolled students.

Entering freshmen may earn credit by examination in animal science, biology, chemistry, English, geology, history, mathematics, modern languages, physics and political science.

All departmental examinations are offered to entering freshmen free, with the exception of American National Government. Advanced Placement tests are \$29 each and College-Level Examinations are \$20 each.

"Texas A&M has found that the key elements of our credit-by-examination program are communication, involvement and validity," Auston Kerley said.

Communication helps to gain the support of the faculty and staff, he said. Without a full understanding of the credit-by-examination program, Kerley said, the philosophy of the program may be misinterpreted.

"The program must be viewed as a resource available to the university to provide the best education to the largest number of students at the

lowest cost.

"Involvement in the program implies that all those concerned with the administration of such a program be included in the policy-making structure," he said.

Without this kind of involvement, he said, there would be little hope of ever testing the validity of credit-by-examination programs.

The persons best equipped to evaluate the subject matter of a course are those persons who can organize, teach and evaluate the course, Kerley said.

# Court to allow Quinlan's death

TRENTON, N.J. — "This is the decision we have been praying for," said Julia Quinlan after learning her 22-year-old comatose daughter may be allowed to begin the natural process of dying.

The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled Wednesday the mechanical respirator keeping Karen Anne Quinlan alive for nearly a year in a "vegetative state" could be removed if doctors agree her condition is hopeless.

In a 7 to 0 decision, the court appointed Joseph Quinlan legal guardian of his daughter and said he could let her die if competent medical authorities decide the girl's condition is irreversible and that there is no reasonable possibility of her recovery.

She has been in a coma at St. Clare's Hospital in nearby Denville since April 15, 1975, after apparently ingesting alcohol and tranquilizers.

The state attorney general's office said there would be no immediate decision on whether to take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court, the only avenue of appeal. The Quinlans said they would give the state time to consider an appeal before asking to have the respirator disconnected.

"We hope at the last minute the Lord will take her and we won't have to remove her from her respirator," the girl's father said.

But, he added, they will order the life support treatment stopped if left with that decision.

The Quinlans, flanked by three Roman Catholic priests at their parish church in Mount Arlington, sat calmly and faced a room full of reporters on Wednesday night. They discussed the court's decision that their daughter and others who are beyond medical restoration have a right to die, based on the constitutional protection of personal privacy.

Two days earlier, they had observed their daughter's 22nd birthday at a private Mass.

The Quinlans said their daughter's condition has not changed since last October, when one doctor said she was in "a persistent vegetative state."

State Atty. Gen. William F. Hyland said he has never opposed appointment of Quinlan as his daughter's guardian "as long as there were adequate safeguards imposed by the courts on his powers. I think the decision accomplished this."

Morris County Prosecutor Donald G. Collesser, who also opposed the Quinlans, said, "I am freed now from prosecuting people who act with mercy and love in accordance with the Supreme Court's standards."

In its landmark decision, the court rejected the Quinlans' contentions that constitutional protections of freedom of religion and against cruel and unusual punishment provided a basis for ruling in their favor.

In an opinion written by Chief Justice Richard J. Hughes, the justices said that doctors claimed removing Miss Quinlan from the respirator conflicts with their professional judgment, but they agreed with her father that the apparatus "at best can

only prolong her inevitable slow deterioration and death."

Thus, the court said, if a man's right is reached beyond which, it is no hope, then an individual's constitutional right to privacy cannot take precedence over the state's interest to preserve human life.

"We think that the state's interest in the individual's right to privacy grows as the degree of invasion increases and the program," the court said. "Ultimately there comes a point at which the individual's rights overcome the state's interest."

The justices said they believed the girl's choice "would be vindicated by the law" if she could make it to the hospital.

Since her prognosis is "extremely poor and she will never regain cognitive life," the court said, a decision must be made by her legal guardian.

Future right-to-die cases will rely on the Quinlan ruling with case-by-case judicial review opinion said.

# Students volunteer for clean-up

Members of a senior-level course at Texas A&M University Saturday at Twin City Mission center for a clean-up.

Nearly 50 people are enrolled in the course, taught by E. D. C. of the Health & Physical Education Department, and about 40 are expected to help with the work of a class project.

Volunteers outside the center also welcome to help, say spokesmen at the center on Texas 21.

The class is Health 429, Environment and Health.

# Prof leaves to join cancer study

A professor of nuclear engineering at Texas A&M University is changing scientists under the Japan Cooperative Cancer Research Program.

Dr. James Smathers leaves for three weeks in Japan to work with the Japanese by participating in a worldwide cooperative program.

The program is sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, Tokyo, and the National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Md.

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THE RING CLERK IS ON DUTY FROM 8 A.M. TO 12 NOON AND 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M. OF EACH WEEK, MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. HOWEVER, IN ORDERS FOR RECORDS TO BE CHECKED, ORDERS MUST BE PLACED PRIOR TO 11:30 A.M. AND 4 P.M. WE HOPE THIS INFORMATION WILL BE HELPFUL AND EXTEND OUR CONGRATULATIONS.

EDWIN H. COOPER, DEAN OF ADMISSIONS AND RECORDS

CAROLYN WELLS, RING CLERK

THE GRADUATE COLLEGE Final Examination for the Doctoral Degree

Name: Donn, Philip Brian  
Degree: Ph.D. in Biology  
Dissertation: SEVERAL ASPECTS OF THE ORIENTATION OF SOME FISH TO LIGHT: RESPONSE TO POLARIZED LIGHT IN GOLDFISH, AND RESPONSE OF SHARK TO LIGHT, CHEMICAL STIMULUS AND THEIR COMBINATION.  
Time: April 13, 1976, 1:30 p.m.  
Place: Room 313-B in the Biological Sciences Bldg.  
George W. Kunze  
Dean of the Graduate College

"SPRING AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS" Application forms for Spring Awards Program may be obtained from the Student Financial Aid Office, Room 303, Y.M.C.A. Building. All applications must be filed with the Student Financial Aid Office not later than 5:00 p.m., April 1, 1976. Late applications will not be accepted.

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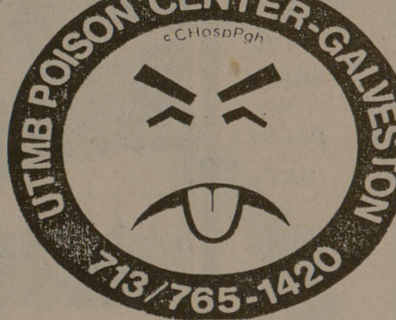
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