

A&M scientists to study site of new oil exploration

Texas A&M University has joined with the University of Texas, the U.S. Geological Survey, National Marine Fisheries Science Laboratories, and Rice University to study the portion of the South Texas Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) that will be the scene of new oil exploration.

The seven projects, funded to the tune of \$639,904 by the Bureau of Land Management, will be coordinated by A&M professor Dr. C. S. Giam, for the second year.

The South Texas OCS extends from about midway along the Matagorda Peninsula to the U.S./Mexico boundary and seaward from state waters to the 200 meter depth. Some 551 blocks were leased in this area by the petroleum industry for exploration.

A&M scientists will conduct biological, chemical, oceanographic and histopathological experiments in their investigations of the 24,000 square mile area. "Histopathology" is the study of the tissue changes characteristic of disease.

"The whole idea of A&M's efforts is to get chemical and biological baselines which is the first step in assessing the impact of drilling on the South Texas OCS," Giam pointed out. "The central goal is to protect marine living resources from harmful effects, if any, from petroleum exploration related activities."

This coastline is a series of low-lying barrier islands separated from the mainland by bays and lagoons fringed by wetlands and marshes. Also, the Continental Shelf is a part of the most productive shrimping grounds in the Western Gulf.

Field station established

The National Park Service has established a field station on the Texas A&M University campus for operation in conjunction with the University's recreation and parks department and the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (TAES).

In his most recent assignment as principal planner at the Gateway East National Recreational Area, he was responsible for establishing a program in a highly urbanized green space and for creating methods to assist state and city

agencies in developing procedures and standards needed for a better quality of living.

Dr. Jarvis E. Miller, TAES director, said the new field station will be headed by David Turello, a senior planner for the National Park Service and formerly assigned to the Gateway East National Recreational Area in New York City.

"This agreement is a tangible recognition of the national reputation enjoyed by our programs, as well as the interest of the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station in promoting the exchange of ideas and knowledge with the various agencies and career professionals who manage the nation's public lands," Dr. Miller said.

Dr. Leslie M. Reid, head of A&M's recreation and parks department, said the establishment of a NPS field station here will be highly beneficial to the University. He noted that the creation of the first NPS field station to be attached to a recreation and parks department is a landmark achievement.

The liaison opportunities afforded by Mr. Turello's appointment here on a fulltime basis vastly enhance our ability to interface with local, regional and national activities of the NPS," Dr. Reid said.

He also said Turello will continue many of the activities begun by L. A. (Lon) Garrison, former NPS superintendent and regional director who joined the recreation and parks department as guest lecturer and visiting professor following his retirement from the NPS in 1973. Turello, a 25-year NPS staff member, has served as recreation planner in many of the major natural areas of the national park system in the Western states and Alaska and at Independence Na-

Architect to speak on art

A pioneer in the area of creating buildings that are better adapted to human use will speak at Texas A&M University next Tuesday.

C. M. Deasy, a Los Angeles architect who now limits his practice to consultation, research and prototype design, will hold a public lecture on "Architecture — The Social Art" at 8 p.m. in the Architecture Building 110. It is sponsored by the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Deasy's best known contribution to design and planning has been to create buildings that are better adapted to human use.

A frequent lecturer at professional conferences and architectural schools, Deasy has also conducted several programs including "California Living" and "Quest, Los Angeles."

His buildings have received the Governors Design Award, the Merit Award of the Southern California Chapter, AIA, and the Merit Award of the AIA-U.S. Navy Design Award Program.

Deasy will also sit in on architecture classes Jan. 25-26.

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