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College seeks to decrease student-to-faculty ratio

By PAMELA RIMOLDI
Battalion Reporter

The College of Business Administration at Texas A&M University is considering raising its standards in an attempt to ease the present student-faculty ratio. The goal is one of several the college intends to achieve during the next years.

There is a relationship between the number of faculty, the number of students and the quality of education you provide," said William Muse, dean of the College of Business Administration.

To achieve the goal, Muse said the college is considering requiring a student to a 2.5 grade point ratio to advance from his sophomore to his junior year. A 2.0 is required to continue in the college.

Another way of decreasing the faculty-student ratio is to increase the number of faculty. "We would prefer to have a fairly large increase in the number of faculty, but we don't anticipate that we'll get enough new faculty to achieve a balance between student and faculty numbers," Muse said.

The ratio is important not only because of the quality of education it allows a school to provide but also because a college must maintain a certain ratio in order to remain accredited, Muse said.

"We are quite a bit over the allowed ratio rate now," he said, "so we are trying to ensure that we are in adherence to standards in order to maintain accreditation."

A task force has been assigned to formulate a proposal on exactly how the goal of decreasing the ratio is to be achieved.

Muse said he asked for a report from the task force by Dec. 31. He said the proposal will be reviewed by the executive committee within the college.

Another of the college's goals is increasing the enrollment of students in the Master of Business Administration program from the present 266 to 500 by 1985, Muse said.

A different task force has been assigned to study other schools such as Penn State and Cornell University to get ideas on how to make the MBA program at Texas A&M more attractive to prospective students, Muse said.

One change being considered is the development of a "3-2 program," which would allow a superior student to be in the College of Liberal Arts three years and finish business foundation classes the

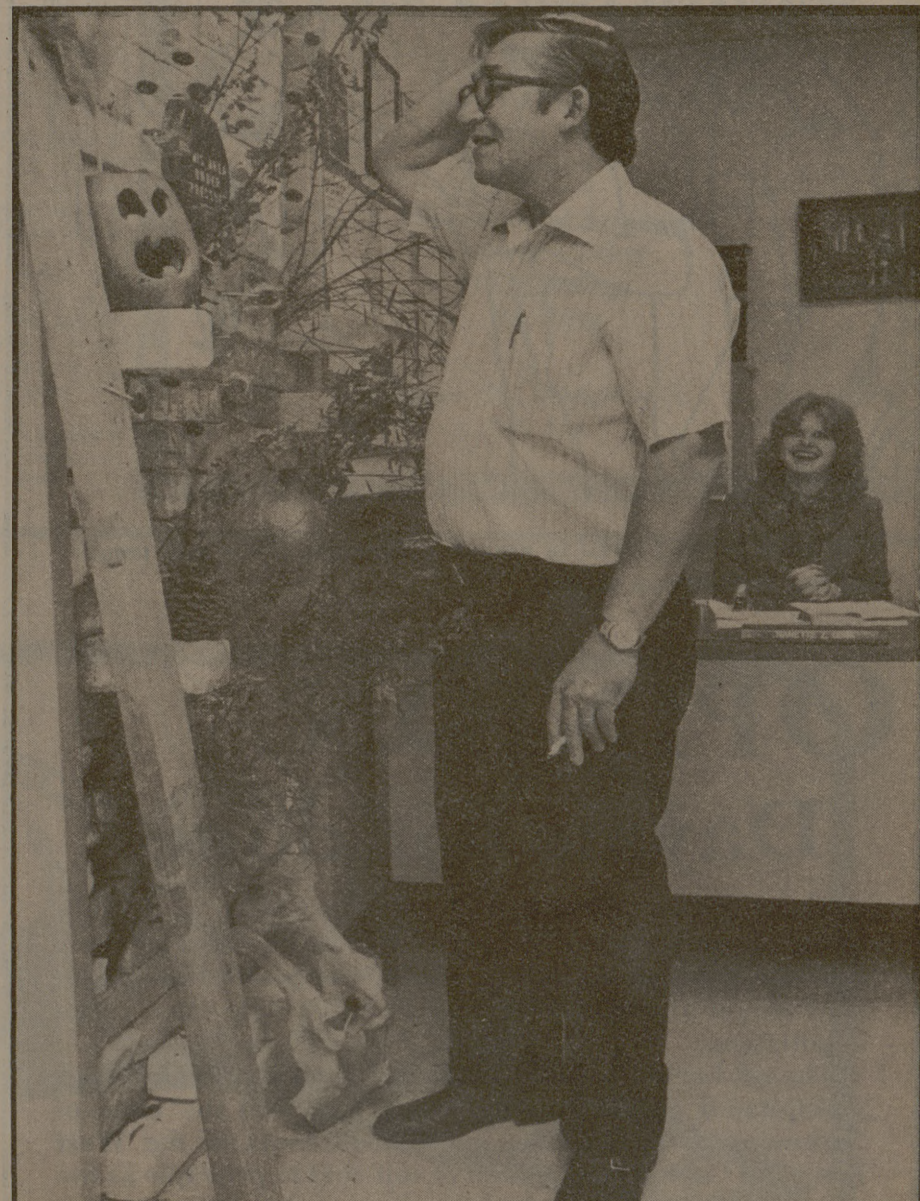
fourth year. After the fifth year, the student could obtain an MBA.

This permits a student to get an undergraduate degree in the College of Liberal Arts and an MBA degree in five years, whereas it usually takes six, Muse said.

This program should be attractive to liberal arts students who decide their major may not be very useful to them after they graduate, he said.

Muse said the college also hopes to expand continuing education programs for the person already employed in the business industry.

All objectives and goals established by the college lead to the improvement of the reputation of Texas A&M in the business community so that employment opportunities for students are enhanced, Muse said.



Rod O'Connor receives a Halloween trick — a bricked-up, decorated office doorway. Although the situation perplexes O'Connor, his secretary, Nanette Cook, appears to find the situation amusing.

'Brick-or-treat' for chemistry prof

By RHONDA WATTERS
Battalion Staff

While most people got candy, gum and the other mundane surprises for Halloween Wednesday night, Dr. Rod O'Connor, head of the first-year chemistry program at Texas A&M University, got something a little different — a brick wall in front of his office door.

The wall, held together by pieces of Styrofoam so it would stay tight against the door, was built by a Texas A&M female faculty member and her freshman students. The woman, who asked not to be named, said she pulled the prank because of a friendly rivalry that has been going on between her, O'Connor and their students.

Nanette Cook, O'Connor's secretary, said the feud has been going on "for quite awhile."

"It started when he told her she wore formaldehyde as perfume," Cook said, laughing. "It's been going ever since."

Cook said O'Connor was not scheduled to come in Thursday because of a meeting he was planning to attend in Fort Worth. She tricked him into coming to his office by calling him at his home early Thursday morning and telling him a pipe was missing in one of the chemistry labs and the floor was starting to flood.

"When he saw it, he just said 'Oh my God,' and then stood there looking at it for a while," she said. "Then he said, 'My coffee cup and cigarettes are in there.'"

The female faculty member responsible for the prank said O'Connor had been warned.

"He's been asking for it," she said. "This is only the beginning." She said the reason she didn't use mortar for the wall was because "I will probably be the one who will have to take it down."

One thing she said she heard about O'Connor's reaction was "he was silent for the longest period ever, and that was still in the micro-second range."

Her only other comment on the situation was, "It would have been better had he been in the office."

O'Connor, who was in Fort Worth, could not be reached for comment.

At least 4 killed in fiery collision as tanker, freighter meet in Gulf

United Press International
ALVESTON — An oil-laden tanker and an empty freighter colliding at sea collided Thursday in the Gulf of Mexico, spilling burning oil and members into the water in the pre-dawn darkness.

Four bodies were recovered, 30 men rescued and 30 others were missing, Coast guard said at mid-afternoon. The

collision engulfed the 772-foot tanker *Burmah Agate* and the 442-foot freighter *Mimosa* in raging flames.

Although damage to the tanker was substantial, the Coast Guard said only a few thousand gallons of its 400,000-barrel crude oil cargo leaked into the gulf.

The freighter, abandoned and aflame, its engines running and its rudder stuck, circled for hours amid oil drilling platforms

four miles offshore from Galveston Island. The crew of the closest rig, located about 1,500 feet from the collision site, was evacuated.

The Coast Guard stopped all traffic along the 50-mile Houston ship channel connecting the gulf with the nation's third busiest port.

Many of the Taiwanese crew members of the Liberian-registered tanker and the Cyprus-registered freighter arrived at the

hospital wet, smoke-blackened and barefoot. Most had been asleep when the collision occurred.

Kinney confirmed 26 crewmen from the *Mimosa* were alive. Four bodies and four survivors were located from the 38 men aboard the *Burmah Agate*.

Coast Guard Lt. Commander George Davis said the weather was good when the accident occurred. "It was clear. We don't know what happened," he said.

Mamie Eisenhower dies of heart failure at age 82

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Mamie Eisenhower, seriously ill since suffering a stroke in September, died of heart failure early Thursday, 10 years after the death of her husband, the 34th president.

Mrs. Eisenhower died in her sleep at 1:35 a.m. EST, said a spokesman for Walter Reed Army Medical Center where she had been treated since suffering the stroke Sept. 25. She would have been 83 in two weeks.

Peter Esker, information officer for Walter Reed, said funeral plans were incomplete.

Esker said Mrs. Eisenhower, who suffered the stroke on her Gettysburg, Pa., farm, had a history of heart trouble and had not shown any significant improvement since her admission.

"Her condition had remained essentially stable, and she did not show improvement over the long run," Esker said. "She came in seriously ill but stable."

The stroke had affected some of the functions on her right side.

She was last at Walter Reed Sept. 8-15 for a routine examination.

Her death left five living former first ladies — Bess Truman, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Lady Bird Johnson, Pat Nixon and Betty Ford.

While the family's farmhouse, a national monument maintained by the National Park Service, was her home, friends said late in life she became lonely living there.

When her husband, Dwight D. Eisenhower, campaigned, she left her role as the quiet woman behind the scenes and took to the stump. Ike would introduce her as "My Mamie."

And while she liked to spend restful weekends in the country during her husband's two terms, she would often fill in for him when national groups visited the White House.

Mrs. Eisenhower, born Nov. 14, 1896, in Boone, Iowa, never hid her preference for the serene, country life of the farm during her eight years in the White House.

She did not miss the public life, she said in an interview on the couple's 50th wedding anniversary.

"No one who has ever been in that terrible limelight would ever seek it again," she said.

With a politician's memory for names and faces, she drew warm responses from those she met, and her long training as an Army wife served her well in the White House, where she enjoyed entertaining.

After her husband's death on March 28, 1969, Mrs. Eisenhower dedicated herself to the ideals Ike championed.

Great Plains storm kills 10

Mud hampers cleanup after blizzard

United Press International
Snow piled 12 feet high by the season's first blizzard melted into mud and slush on the Great Plains Thursday, hampering the efforts of utility crews to restore electrical power to more than 60,000 rural residents.

The storm, which swept out of the Rockies on Tuesday and moved into Canada Thursday, left a trail of debris from north Texas to North Dakota. Hardest-hit were parts of eastern Colorado, western Kansas, Nebraska and South Dakota.

The storm killed 10 people in New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado and Nebraska, and hundreds of head of cattle on the open ranges of the Plains.

National Guardsmen cleaned up debris left by swollen waterways in Kansas. In Halstead, where 5,250 people were evacuated, Mayor Dick Nearman said water on the streets delayed the start of cleanup operations. A spokesman for the Kansas Electric Co-operatives estimated that most of between 20,000 and 25,000 customers in northwest Kansas were still without power Thursday.

Another 30,000 lost electricity in Nebraska and utility officials said it may be early next week before service is restored to some of them.

The Southeast Colorado Power Association, which serves a 13,000-square-mile area, reported 4,500 customers still without electricity Thursday night.

Another 2,500 customers waited for restoration of power in South Dakota.

Hundreds of motorists who abandoned their cars in eastern Colorado retrieved their vehicles. All major roads and highways in the snow covered southeastern

portion of Colorado were reported open by noon Thursday.

Rescuers who arrived too late to save a New Mexico couple who died of carbon monoxide poisoning revealed the contents of a note found in the glove compartment of their car. "I don't want to go this way," wrote Mary Sawyer, 56. Their car was found a few feet from a Continental Trailways bus where 16 passengers shared food

and blankets to survive the night.

Elsewhere, a cold front spread rain from Ohio, through eastern Kentucky and into Alabama, and cold air replaced a belated Indian summer in the Great Lakes region. Light showers were scattered across Minnesota, Wisconsin and Upper Michigan.

Gale warnings were hoisted on Lakes Superior, Michigan, and Huron, where winds gusted past 35 mph.

Students asked to clear all fees to prevent registration blocks

By JETTIE STEEN
Battalion Reporter

Students who went through drops and ads this semester at Texas A&M University are being advised by the Fiscal Office to go to that department in the Coke Building and clear any outstanding fees before pre-registration for the spring 1980 semester.

"It's going to be one big mess when stu-

dents start trying to pre-register only to find that they are blocked from registration for not having paid this semester's fees," said Robert Smith of the Fiscal Department.

There are about 5,000 students who have not taken care of charges or credits with the University. About 75 percent of these cases are students who owe the school for added courses, Smith said.

"In most instances, students have failed

to notify housing or the registrar's office of a change of address and we just can't track them down to send notices," Smith said.

Smith said it would be much easier on the students to clear themselves with the Fiscal Department now rather than wait until pre-registration Nov. 12-16.

Payment of the outstanding fees in Room 100 of the Coke Building will prevent blocked registration, said Smith.



Battalion photo by Lynn Blanco

Tradition says that Texas A&M University freshmen in the Corps of Cadets must wear spurs during the week before the SMU football game.

3,000 more seats open for SMU-A&M game

An additional 3,000 seats have been added to Kyle Field since the University of Houston game. The addition brings stadium capacity to approximately 62,000. Texas A&M associate athletic directorally Groff said the new seats are on the third deck of the east side of the stadium. Groff said most of the seats will be for ticket holders assigned to incomplete portions of the third deck on the stadium's east side.

Spectators assigned to section 308 will move to 333, 307 to 334, 306 to 335, and 305 to 336, Groff said. Other relocations are from sections 313, 314, 315 and 316 to sections 337, 338 and 339.

Groff said these switches apply to the SMU game only. He said more seating will be ready for the Arkansas game Nov. 17.

"We're getting there," Groff said, "but we still have a ways to go and request continued understanding. We know there have been, and will continue to be, inconveniences, particularly for students, and we deeply regret that. But progress most assuredly is being made, and we will soon have a facility that will serve us well for years to come."

Safety precautions will be basically the same for this game as they were for the Houston game, said University Police Chief Russ McDonald.

"We'll have about 100 officers at the game," McDonald said. "The temporary barricades will still be up in dangerous areas. We'll be checking the stadium out again today (Thursday) to see what else needs to be done."