

# MSC art committees consolidate

By ROBERT LEE  
Campus Reporter

The MSC Crafts and Arts Committee is taking on a new look. The committee now is actually a combination of two old MSC groups, the Arts Committee and the Crafts and Arts Committee.

The new arrangement was approved at the MSC Council meeting Jan. 29.

The merger resulted from a recommendation made by a study group, headed by Teresa Beshara, MSC vice president of programs.

The group found that the two groups could work more efficiently together than singly.

According to the study, the two committees were having personnel and programming problems. The Arts Committee offered too many different types of programming and did not have the leadership to make those programs successful. The Crafts and Arts Committee was suffering from a lack of membership.

Kerri Kernan, acting chairman of the new committee, said at first she was against the merger.

"The two committees were both floundering. Putting them together would only worsen the problem," she said.

But, Kernan said, the study group decided that it was better to have one solid group instead of two weak ones.

"If we funnel our resources (students and budget) into each program we offer, we can be successful," she said.

Kernan said unity is the key to making the Crafts and Arts committee work.

"Lack of unity was the problem

with the Arts committee," she said. "We didn't try to sell the Arts Committee as a whole, we just sold the subcommittees," she said.

Although the Arts Committee has changed its name, its subcommittees will continue to function until August, Kernan said. The film series will continue, but eventually it will become a part of Aggie Cinema, she said.

"Moebius," the old Arts Committee's literary magazine, will be published this semester, and a poetry and fiction contest will be held in March.

The Crafts and Arts Committee will continue to present some of its programs also. A crafts fair is scheduled for April and the brown bag seminars at the MSC fountain will be held throughout the spring, Kernan said.

The Crafts and Arts Committee will work to bring even more fine arts programs to the campus. With a recommendation of \$26,000, the new group's plans for 1980-81 include a series of Smithsonian art exhibits, a juried art contest for both art and craft works, a trip to the Texas Renaissance Festival, an art awareness day on campus, and a pop art culture series, Kernan said.

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# Student government eyes membership on Chamber

Texas A&M University's student government is considering joining the Bryan-College Station Chamber of Commerce.

Cheryl Swancy, vice-president of external affairs, said she introduced the bill requesting the student senate ask for chamber membership because the chamber already helps the campus with various activities.

For example, the chamber helped the student government with its student purchase programs, said Judy

Rychlik, immediate past president of the chamber. When approached with the discount book idea the chamber gave its endorsement by sending out letters to area merchants asking for support and advertising for the students. She said this also helped student government get acquainted with the business community.

Swancy said the chamber wants students to participate in more activities and is generally willing to help

students.

"We really would like a closer involvement with the students," Rychlik said. "If you want an active role in the direction of something you have to take an active part."

Chamber memberships are \$50 a year and help to run the chamber offices. They also entitle members to vote and to serve on various committees, Rychlik said. Members also receive a monthly listing of all people

expressing interest in the community.

Swancy said if the bill passes, student government will pay \$25 for membership through August and then start paying yearly dues in September.

The bill will be decided at the next senate meeting Wednesday.

# Legend teaches love

By SHERRY WOODARD  
Campus Reporter

St. Valentine's Day is recognized as a day for white-laced hearts and dew-dropped roses. Cards are exchanged more as a greeting than a declaration or proposal of love. But the holiday actually commemorates the love and devotion of one man and the price he paid for it.

In ancient Rome during the persecution of Christians by the emperor Claudius II, a young man named Valentine was imprisoned for refusing to give up his Christian religion. While in jail he was befriended by the jailer's daughter.

According to legend, on the day he was executed, Feb. 14, he sent a farewell note to the little girl. It was signed, "from your Valentine" and was probably the first Valentine ever sent. After his death Feb. 14 was called Valentine's Day in honor of a

man who chose to die rather than give up his faith.

Over the centuries Valentine's Day has developed different meanings.

One probable reason Valentine's Day has come to signify love and romance to us is during the Middle Ages in Europe it was believed the

birds began to mate on Feb. 14. So ... if birds do it ...

Also in ancient Rome, years after Valentine's death, on Feb. 14 names of young men and women were put in a box and drawn at random. For one year the young man became the escort of the young woman whose name was chosen for him.

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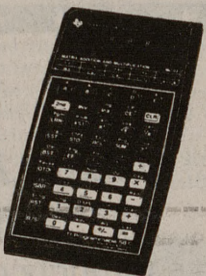
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