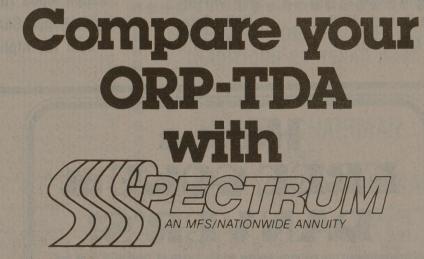


Attention A&M Faculty and Staff

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The Texas A&M Wheelmen have been helping students regis-ter their bicycles with the campus police this past week. The

Wheelmen will have a table set up in front of the MSC through today. The registration stickers are free.

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By Scot K. Meyer

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Battalion Staff Catching the Aggie spirit is easy to b. Students who attend Texas A&M Iniversity quickly learn that it has a nique culture and that being an gie involves making adjustments order to fit in.

Students are not the only ones affected. Dr. Heitor Gurgulino de issue of whether nza, a Fulbright visiting professor rom Brazil, has only been on cam-pus since June, but he said he "feels

ike an Aggie already." The Fulbright program is an annual activity coordinated by the the panel an uncil for International Exchange of Scholars in Washington D.C. It's oly the FECd urpose is to bring researchers from her countries to study at U.S. unisities, and to provide support for against inde FEC sides S. professors who wish to study at iversities outside the United

> "Iam probably the first lecturer to A&M from Brazil," de Souza said. Adjusting to Texas A&M has not en particularly difficult for de uza, since "there are many simi-ities and common interests" been Texas and Brazil.

> The purpose of de Souza's visit is increase intellectual, technical l cultural exchange between the ited States and Brazil. One of the cific areas of interest to de Souza

chools in the United States and zil are facing similar problems in

TDAVE

educating students," de Souza, vice president of the Federal Council of Education of Brazil, said. "And that's oducing not only more graduates,

but better quality graduates." De Souza said that Brazil has spe-cial problems because more than 50 percent of the country's population is under 20 years old. The shortage of teachers, combined with a student population of about 30 million, has led to larger classes and a lowering of

standards The top priority in Brazilian education is to train more teachers, de Souza said. Brazil needs instructors in a variety of fields, "in order to diversify career options.

Some specific fields are engineering, medicine and agriculture, "which is why Texas A&M is particu-larly suited to having a larger ex-change program with Brazil."

De Souza estimated over 3,000 Brazilian students studied in the Un-ited States last year, "which was a little more than one percent of the 260,000 students studying here from abroad (according to figures released by the Institute of International

Education) Among the foreign students in American universities last year, he said 20,000 were Latin American, with the largest number coming from Venezuela. Since the popula-tion of Brazil (now reaching 120 million) is much larger, de Souza said many more Brazilian students

should be here, particularly for gra-De Souza also said he feels some

American graduate and undergradu-ate students should attend Latin American universities, particularly Brazilian institutions. "You'd be well greeted there," he said, and added he hopes more Texas

professors and specialists could go down to "teach, carry on research and exchange experiences with their Brazilian colleagues. Both our countries have a lot to gain from that."

What Texans have to gain, de Souza said, is an increased under-standing of the Brazilian people, im-portant because "Brazil and the United States are good trading part

Developing and expanding that trade would be good for both coun-tries, and it requires each country understand the needs of the other.

Brazil is a heavy importer of wheat, oil and machinery from the United States, de Souza said. Twelve billion dollars worth of products come through Texas on the way to Latin America, which de Souza said is a good reason for Texans to pay more attention to Latin America.

"I think Texas A&M should increase its international programs more than it has," de Souza said. "Texas has a unique opportunity to be bi-cultural, and Texas schools should take advantage of that opportunity by teaching both Spanish and

De Souza said he was disappointed to learn Texas A&M does not

Staff photo by Pat O'Malle

and at other universities when he has mentioned closer ties between the nations. De Souza has attended seminars at the University of Texas, the University of Houston and Rice. De Souza is from Sao Paulo, which

he describes as the Texas of Brazil. "It's a beautiful country," he said You really ought to visit it. ATTENTION

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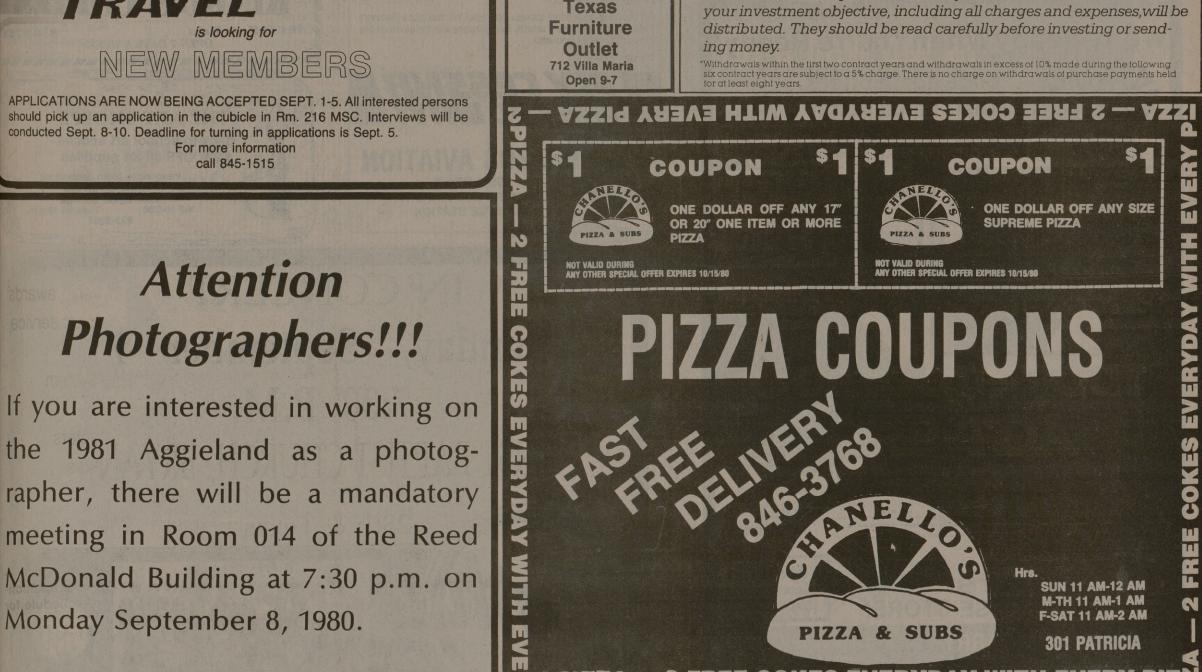
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offer courses in Portuguese. The professor said he "has been very well received" at Texas A&M



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