

Wells won't seek chairmanship again

No guesses made as to identity of possible successor

By JANE C. BRUST
Battalion Staff

Surprise met Clyde Wells' announcement Wednesday that he will not seek another term as chairman of the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents.

The public, at least two other regents and University officials had no indication that Wells' current two-year term as chairman might be his last.

In a telephone interview Wednesday the regent from Granbury said he will remain on the board — his current year term ends in 1985 — but will no longer serve as chairman.

"It's time for that assignment to be given to someone else," he said. Wells gave no indication who his successor might be. "I don't have anyone in mind."

"I just heard about this earlier today," Dr. Charles Samson, Texas A&M's acting president, said Wednesday. "I've enjoyed the opportunities I've had to work with him in his capacity as chairman of the board," Samson said.

Wells, 54, has served 20 years on the board and has been chairman the last 12 years. His current two-year term as chairman ends this month.

The board will elect a new chairman during today's meeting, he will take office when the regents meet again in March.

Amid rumors that Gov. Bill Clements strongly discouraged Wells from seeking the chairmanship, Jon Ford,

Clements' press secretary, said he did not know if Wells had had any recent conversations with the governor about the position. However, he said such conversations were "entirely possible."

Clements was reportedly very upset when Wells and the other regents fired University President Jarvis Miller, a close friend of the governor, in July.

Two regents said the first they heard of Wells' stepping down was when they were called for their comments.

"I'm flabbergasted and amazed," said H.C. Bell Jr. of Austin. "I had no idea."

"I'm sorry to see him take this action — he's furnished tremendous leadership for the board."

Regent Royce E. Wisenbaker of Tyler said he did not know of Wells' plans to step down but did remark that Wells has been chairman for a long time.

Wisenbaker would not speculate on whom the next chairman might be.

"Any one of us could perform that function," he said. Wisenbaker said he would not care to serve as chairman himself, however, because of the time involved.

"He (Wells) spent half his time at A&M," Wisenbaker said.

Bell shared Wisenbaker's feeling, saying he does not want to serve as chairman.

"I don't have that amount of time," he said.

Speculation is that the three regents appointed by Cle-

ments in January are prime candidates for the chairman's position.

Those regents — William A. McKenzie and Harvey R. Bright, both of Dallas, and Joe C. Richardson Jr. of Amarillo — were in Austin Tuesday where a senate subcommittee approved their appointments. They begin their six-year terms at today's board meeting.

Bell said "it might be possible" that one of the three new board members would become the new chairman.

Bell made some unsolicited comments about Bright, pointing out that the two served together on the presidential search committee. Bell said Bright is a "giant" in the state's private enterprise sector.

Bright is a senior partner of East Texas Motor Freight. He also has banking and ranching interests.

Other regents who may be considered for the chairmanship are John Blocker and Dr. John Coleman of Houston and Norman Moser of DeKalb.

Wells, a graduate of both Texas A&M University and Tarleton State University, was appointed by Gov. Price Daniel in 1961. He was reappointed by Gov. John Connally in 1967, and by Gov. Preston Smith in 1973.

He began his first term as chairman in 1969.

During Wells' time on the Board, Texas A&M has experienced an enrollment increase from 7,700 to 33,500.

He has been involved with such controversial board decisions as the admittance of women to the University in 1963 and the vote to fire Miller in 1980.



Photo by Bob Sebree

Clyde Wells, chairman of the Texas A&M System Board of Regents

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The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 51	High 50
Low 44	Low 34
Rain 0.55 inch	Chance of rain 80%

Regents' committees meet here today

By JANE C. BRUST
Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M University System Board of Regents will elect a new chairman and consider \$45,000 in appropriations for the preliminary design of the Animal Science Pavilion at today's committee meetings. Committee meetings were scheduled to begin at the following times:

- Planning and Building Committee — 8:30 a.m.
- Committee for Service Units — 11 a.m.
- Committee for Academic Campuses — 1:30 p.m.

The executive committee will meet in closed session at 3 p.m.

All meetings will be held in the Board Annex across from Cain Hall.

The committees will review agenda items and make recommendations to the full Board for action at Friday's 8:30 a.m. meeting.

The nine Board members will elect a new chairman who will take office when they meet in March.

This month ends the current two-year term of the chairman of the Board. Chairman Clyde Wells of Granbury announced Wednesday that he will not seek another term in that position.

Wells has served as chairman for the last 12 years of his 20-year period on the Board. His current six-year term on the Board ends in 1985.

In other Board business the Facilities Planning and Construction Committee will recommend the appropriation of \$45,000 from the University Available Fund for the preliminary design of the Animal Science Pavilion. This amount would supplement a previous appropriation of \$5,000. The pavilion will be built to replace the old pavilion, which is being converted into a permanent registration facility and student activity center.

Another recommended appropriation, in the amount of \$15,000, would finance a feasibility study for dormitory construction and renovation at Prairie View A&M University.

Board members will also consider a proposal to increase dormitory fees at Texas A&M University at Galveston by 35 percent, effective with the fall semester. The fee increase is to cover increased utility costs, employee salary increases and indebtedness incurred when bonds were sold to finance new dormitory construction.

Delay asked on housing plan

By TERRY DURAN
Battalion Staff

A rambling discussion that resulted in a moratorium request on a proposed Housing Office policy highlighted a four-hour student senate meeting Wednesday night.

After unanimously approving a bill for a registration drive for potential body part donors to run in tandem with the Aggie Blood Drive, the senate turned to consideration of a series of bills opposing the Fall 1981 implementation of a housing policy that would increase the number of freshmen living on campus by keeping graduate and fifth-year students off-campus.

The proposed policy reads: "Effective with the Fall, 1981 semester, on-campus residence hall housing will not be guaranteed for graduate and fifth-year students. This policy will remain in effect thereafter until the shortage for on-campus housing eases."

Student Affairs Director Ron Blatchley told the senate two weeks ago nothing could be done to stop eventual implementation of the policy. He said then the only points to be resolved were how and when

the policy was to be implemented.

A series of four bills titled "Discrimination Against Old Folks," originally presented to the senate two weeks ago, was condensed to a three-bill version that appeared before the full senate Wednesday night. The first bill, which requests the student affairs department to consult those affected before making final decisions in the future, passed by a large margin.

The second bill, which asks for a one-year moratorium on excluding graduate and fifth-year students from on-campus housing, was passed after lively discussion from all parts of the senate.

The third bill, condensing two of the original bills in the series, would have censured the student affairs department (a "strong verbal slap on the hand," said the bill's author) for adopting the exclusion policy and asked Acting President Charles Samson to review the decision, originally made in June 1980 by then-President Jarvis Miller.

Debate produced a hard-fought amendment to remove the "censure" clause, but after discussion that ranged from the proper relationship of the student senate with

the school administration to the philosophy of the housing policy, the bill was defeated.

The bills' author, off-campus graduate representative Fred Seals, charged the student affairs department with "mismanagement," citing the overbooking of dorm rooms in Fall 1980 and rooms currently empty in campus residence halls.

"We need to alert the various departments of this University," Seals said, "to the fact that they are not here for their own gratification, but for the student body of Texas A&M."

Another measure, making its first appearance before the senate, suggested some alternatives to the freshmen vs. upperclassmen on-campus controversy, but no action will be taken until it has been studied in committee and presented again to a full meeting.

In other action:

— The "Is There a Doctor in the House?" bill was amended to request three new doctors for the A. P. Beutel Health Center for 1981-82 instead of five, and left the source of funds up to facility director Dr. Claude Goswick, subject to approval

by the senate.

— A summer job-location service for Texas A&M students was funded by transferring \$1,000 from a Student Government counseling development project.

— Thirteen new senators were approved to fill vacancies until regular elections at the end of March.

— Senators were brought up to date on preparations for the Conference On Student Government Affairs (COSGA) workshops to be held at Texas A&M Feb. 15-17. The senate approved requested University regulations changes that would:

— Decrease documentation problems for students missing classes because of health center treatment;

— Require instructors to record numerical grades throughout the semester to increase accuracy;

— A rewording of traffic accident regulations.

The rule change recommendations will be forwarded to the University Rules and Regulations Committee for review, and then presented to the administration.

Will deliver 'Economics I' speech

Reagan to outline nation's problems

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, having consulted special interests, Congress and his Cabinet, will deliver a basic "Economics I" lecture to the nation tonight seeking to build a consensus for the tough battle ahead against inflation.

Aides said the president plans nothing specific in his remarks, preferring to set particulars aside until a Feb. 18 address to a joint session of Congress. Instead, they said Reagan wants first to "spell out" the problem in unmistakable terms in his 9 p.m. EST address.

White House press secretary Jim Brady

quoted the president as telling his assistants, "This is complex."

"The first part of this is understanding. I want to be able to do it in 'Economics I' terms so that everyone understands the gravity, the magnitude and the alternative."

"I want it to be so clear that I don't want to take anything for granted," Brady quoted the president as saying.

Consultation has played a large role in shaping Reagan's address. Brady indicated the more Reagan has talked to such groups as mayors or members of Congress, the more he has rewritten his speech.

"He found in getting into it that there wasn't a full understanding of the things he wanted to get across," Brady said.

On Wednesday, Reagan journeyed to Capitol Hill to talk with a bipartisan group of congressional leaders. "I told them," Reagan said as he left the nearly hour-long meeting, "I'd come up on the Hill and meet with them from time to time."

Speaker Thomas O'Neill, D-Mass., attended the session and later said he had hoped for more specifics from Reagan, but the president apparently was keeping most of his ideas to himself.

What is clear, however, from Reagan's campaign rhetoric and recent news leaks and comments by administration officials is that he remains committed to the Kemp-Roth three-year, 30 percent tax cut and he believes federal spending must be cut to balance the budget and military spending must be increased.

While assuring such groups as the Congressional Black Caucus that the truly needy will not be ignored, it is certain the growth of social programs such as the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act will be curtailed.

Dwyer verdict expected Monday

Self-styled American freelance writer Cynthia Dwyer, the "53rd hostage" described by her Iranian captors as an "adulteress" and a CIA Mata Hari, was unexpectedly put on trial for espionage then sent back to an infamous prison of the late shah to await the verdict, expected Monday.

"It's an awfully long time until Monday," said Dwyer's mother, Mildred Brown, of Horatio, Ark. In Amherst, N.Y., Dwyer's husband, John, labeled as "absurd" the spy charge, which carries a maximum penalty of death by firing squad.

Although execution is the maximum penalty, a Swiss diplomat in Tehran hinted in a phone call to a Sioux Falls, S.D., radio station the mother of three could be released after the court rules — an indication Iran wants to save face while ending anything remotely connected with the hostage crisis.

"What the sentence will be and if she

could leave the country in some days or if she must serve a prison sentence, I really couldn't tell you," Swiss diplomat Flavio Meroni said.

In Washington, President Reagan said, "I feel we have an obligation to bring her home and the others we have there."

The sudden appearance of the 49-year-old New York woman in a Tehran revolutionary court came on the same day Iranian authorities cleared Mohi Sobhani, 44, an Iranian-born U.S. citizen of unknown charges, then released him on \$1 million bail.

"He sounded great," Sobhani's brother, Morris, said in Santa Barbara, Calif., after receiving a phone call from Tehran announcing his brother's ordeal was over. Sobhani's sister said about "\$1 million" in bail was raised by her brother's wife's family in Iran.

The need for bail following acquittal and the exact nature of the two trials were two

of the more murky developments in the cases of the three Americans who were kept at the release of the 52 hostages from Tehran 15 days ago.

The third American prisoner still in Iran is Zia Nisri, who was born in Afghanistan and is believed to be a leader of Afghan resistance to the Soviet invasion. The Swiss Foreign Ministry had no word about him Wednesday.

The State Department said Swiss diplomats, who represent American interests in Iran, had been unable to visit the two men, despite repeated requests.

Swiss diplomats accompanied Mrs. Dwyer at Wednesday's 6½-hour hearing and said afterward the Islamic revolutionary court would announce its verdict Monday.

The Swiss Foreign Ministry reported Dwyer, who went to Iran with a press pass issued by the Erie County, N.Y., Sheriff's Department, was "in good health and spirits."

Following the trial, she was taken back to Evin prison, where prisoners were kept during the shah's regime.

She was arrested in front of the U.S. Embassy on May 5 — 10 days after the aborted U.S. rescue raid. Tehran newspapers immediately accused her of "collaboration with an armed group for the release of the hostages" and "attempting to lay the groundwork for a new American attack."

The newspapers said "documents proving her to be an American spy" were found in a Tehran Hilton hotel room, and listed further charges of "consumption of alcohol, drugs, and adultery" against the American woman.

The Swiss Foreign Ministry confirmed Sobhani's release and said he had rejoined his wife and child who live in Tehran.

Sobhani, who emigrated to the United States in 1956, returned to Iran on an American passport to work in 1976.



Staff photo by Chuck Chapman

Texas A&M engineering

These onlookers aren't amazed with the plastic bag over the seat, they're intrigued with the ingenuity of this "Aggie moped" discovered in front of the library. Henry Kuok and Romano Richetta discuss the possibilities of mass production of this engineering breakthrough.

truck drivers encounter many dangerous situations while transporting highly explosive rocket fuel.
AFTERNOON 12:00 INCOME TAX SPECIAL
See Sunday Jobs on page 17