

PUF is sore spot at budget hearing

By LIZ NEWLIN
Battalion Staff

AUSTIN — Chancellor Frank W.R. Hubert boldly asked legislators to restore his System's budget Thursday, but tip-toed around questions about the Permanent University Fund.

He says he can't speculate about possibilities for the endowment fund until constitutional questions are decided, then interpreted.

On the other hand, officers for the College Station campus were happy with their hearing before the budget subcommittee of the House Higher Education Committee.

"I feel, based on their reaction, we hit most of the important points," said Howard Vestal, the University's vice president for business affairs and a veteran of budget hearings. Both he and a newcomer to hearings, Acting President Charles Samson, were satisfied with the hearing.

Samson and Hubert lobbied for higher faculty salaries, additional funds to comply with federal civil rights standards and changing the governor's ban on hiring new faculty. They said they tried to push only what the legislators might be receptive to, instead of asking — again — for the whole \$289 million in the original request for two-year's funding. A House study group, the Legislative Budget Board, trimmed about 14 per-

cent (\$41.4 million) from the University's original biennium request.

They did not mention, for instance, the LBB recommendation to cut \$5.3 million for organized research. "They told us to quit talking about it," Vestal said, adding that a few years ago the Legislature eliminated all funds for organized research. This time the LBB recommends about \$1.9 million.

Samson explained he presented a more realistic proposal for the University's budget.

"We felt that (the new proposal) was what we might like to expect," he said.

The appearance before the budget subcommittee was only the first of at least five hearings the System budgets will face before the money is appropriated sometime in early summer.

But even in the first encounter there was something of a skirmish.

Rep. Wilhelmina Delco, an Austin Democrat, called on Chancellor Hubert to help explain a recommended \$8 million "educational excellence fund" for Prairie View A&M during the budget presentation by Prairie View President A.I. Thomas. The fund was hastily added to please federal civil rights officials after the school's original \$62.5 million request was cut by \$22 million.

All three agreed the \$8 million should be used to supplement the budget, not replace funds cut by the LBB.

But then Delco, a long-time supporter of Prairie View, asked Hubert about using the Permanent University Fund to help with work at the predominantly black school.

None of the projects, he said, could be funded through profits from the fund — the Available University Fund — or through revenue bonds backed by the fund. The Texas Constitution restricts the fund to designated schools. The schools, however, are not named in the Constitution, and Delco believes Prairie View, established just 2 years after Texas A&M, is one of the schools.

More than a year ago she asked the state attorney general to rule on the point, and she recently introduced legislation to recognize Prairie View as one of the designated schools.

If Prairie View were one of the schools, she asked Hubert, and entitled to the AUF, could it be used to repair and renovate at the school?

Hubert would only answer that the matter needed more study. Later he said, "It would be very difficult to say because of the unknown cost involved."



Photo by Steve Erickson
Texas A&M System Chancellor Frank W.R. Hubert (left) and Prairie View A&M President A.I. Thomas explain Prairie View's budget request to members of a House subcommittee on higher education Thursday in Austin.

THE BATTALION

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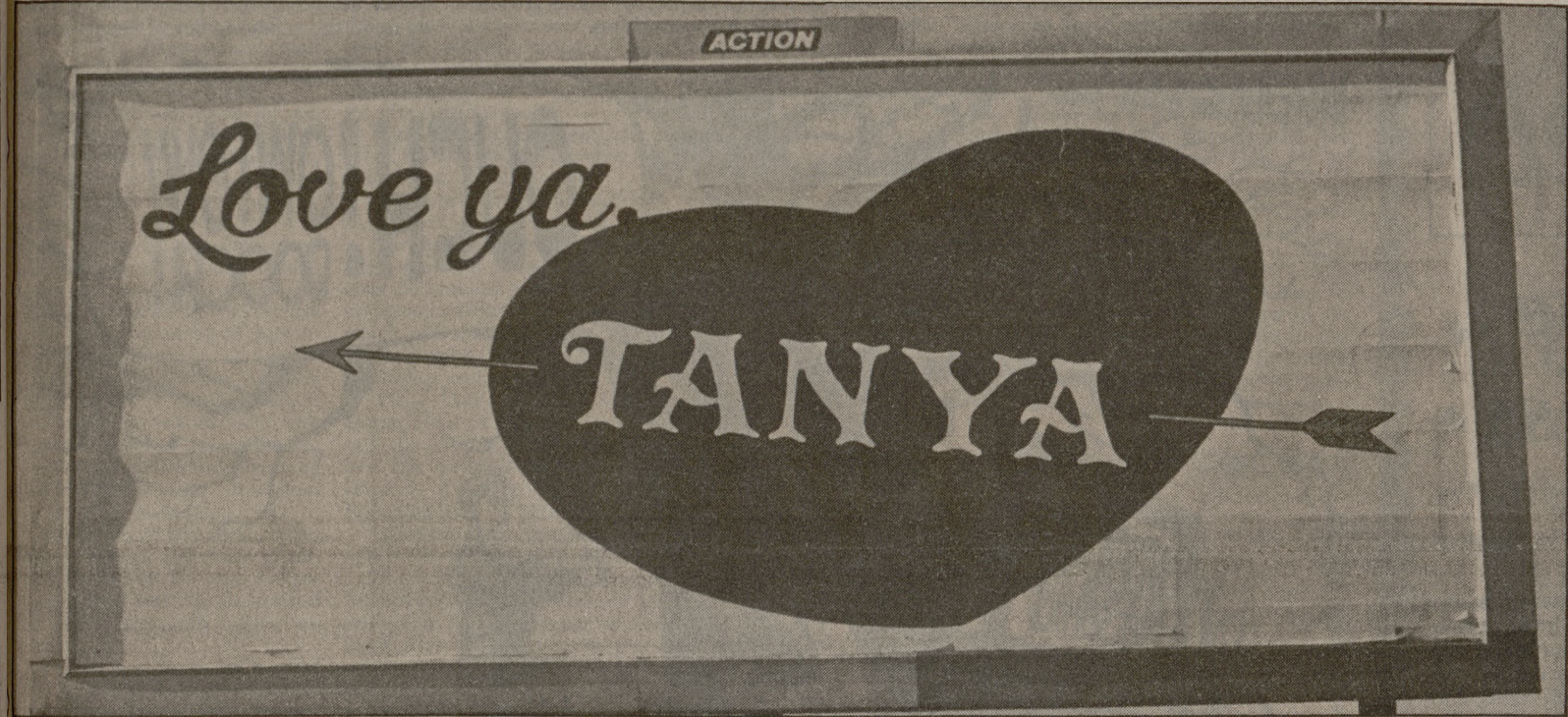
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Friday, February 13, 1981
College Station, Texas

USPS 045 360
Phone 845-2611

The Weather

Yesterday	Today
High 47	High 52
Low 35	Low 36
Rain none	Chance of rain . . . none



We love you, too

Staff photo by Chuck Chapman

Someone has an unusual way of sending a Valentine: via billboard. This billboard was seen on Wellborn Road north of Texas A&M.

Errors scuttle shuttle bus request

By JOHN WEAVER
Battalion Reporter

Another 1981-82 shuttle bus request will have to be submitted to the Finance Committee after mathematical errors permeated the one presented Thursday night.

The Finance Committee heard the shuttle bus request and requests from two other student service fee users in the second of four meetings to review each user's 1981-82 request.

The committee reviews each user's request before recommending fee allocations for the next fiscal year.

Approximately \$2.2 million in student fees were collected during the 1980-81 school year; these fees will be allocated in the 1981-82 school year. All allotments to the nine student service fee users will come from the collected student service fees.

An embarrassed Donald Powell, Texas A&M assistant director of business services, told the finance committee a new shuttle bus budget would be prepared today. Powell had given a lengthy explanation of the shuttle bus allocation request before being informed by several committee members that portions of the request were in error.

"You mean we've goofed up," Powell said. "Well, that's what I get for not checking the figures."

Powell's budget added \$71,440 too much to planned shuttle bus service income by miscalculating the revenue from shuttle bus passes and coupons and by adding, instead of subtracting, pass and coupon refunds to the income total.

Powell had listed the total income, with the \$169,000 allocation request from student fees, at \$833,620. The correct income total was \$762,180. The estimated expenses for the shuttle bus service also was misstated.

Powell had to renege on an earlier statement that he anticipated no increase in the cost of shuttle bus passes or

coupons. This statement was based on a projected shuttle bus service deficit of \$25,151, which Powell said would be made up by a "reserve fund."

After calculating with the correct income and expense totals that the service would suffer a deficit of \$46,440, he changed his mind.

"Boy, we're in a lot of trouble now," he explained to the committee. "Looking at the figures, I'd say we will have to go up one dollar, at least, on the shuttle bus passes."

"But that is still pretty cheap transportation."

The current cost of a shuttle bus pass is \$38.

The intramural department submitted two figures for committee consideration.

Director Dennis Corrington's request represents an increase of either 45 percent or 51.3 percent over last year's allocation.

Corrington's request depends on the size of the student worker pay hike. One figure includes an anticipated 9.2 percent pay raise which state employees might receive in September; the other figure does not. Both figures include the Legislature's recent 5.1 percent pay raise.

The Department of Intramural Athletics received \$379,781 for the 1980-81 school year and is now asking for either \$551,094 or \$574,461.

Bob Rogers, chairman of the Student Publications Board, requested \$34,000, a \$2,000 increase over last year's allocation, in student service fees.

Rogers said that this amount is based on \$1 per student and will be used to help pay circulation costs of The Battalion.

The recommendation requires the approval of the student senate; Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student services; Acting President Charles Samson and the Board of Regents.

Energy costs over estimates

By CINDY GEE
Battalion Staff

The gas station is not the only place that Texas A&M University students will be paying more for gas — dorm fees, dining hall fees and many other fees will increase in September due to rising natural gas prices.

Texas A&M, unlike many other universities, generates its own electricity and steam to heat buildings and water by burning natural gas. Therefore, as natural gas costs increase as they have from \$2.45 per million BTUs in 1979 to \$2.70 this month, virtually all of the University's energy costs increase.

Rep. Bill Presnal of Bryan has introduced a supplemental appropriations bill to pay the additional costs of purchased utilities at Texas A&M and Texas Tech.

Every two years the state Legislature appropriates money to the University based on its projected needs. At the start of the past two legislative sessions many state institutions have had to ask the legislature for more money to pay for utilities, said Presnal aide Nathan Rheinlander.

Texas A&M, including the Moody College branch at Galveston, is asking for \$950,120, and Texas Tech is asking for \$430,000 to help pay for its projected utility bills.

"We don't owe anything now," said Howard Vestal, Texas A&M vice president for business affairs, "but before the end of August we will have spent all the money that the Legislature appropriated for us. We won't have enough to pick up the tab, but only for about 20 days, if we're projecting right."

It's a fairly routine procedure, Rheinlander said. Legislators realize that people don't come to the Legislature lightly with these bills; they're really feeling the crush.

Presnal's bill, which only applies to the end of this fiscal year, is scheduled to appear before the appropriations committee Tuesday. The bill is designed to cover the needs of all the schools that need additional money. Rheinlander said it was introduced as a vehicle bill because they are waiting to hear from other universities.

The money that the state may appropriate would revert back to the state if the schools don't use all of it. This money is not transferable, Vestal said. The schools couldn't use it for anything except utility bills.

Texas A&M officials are in Austin now with their request for money for fiscal years 1982 and '83. The initial request for 1981 was \$12,426,748. The request for 1982 is \$15,094,700 and for 1983 the University is requesting \$19,113,000. These figures show the University is predicting a 22 percent increase in its budget for next year, and a 27 percent increase between 1982 and 83.

However, state tax money will not be making up all of the energy cost increases. Vestal said there are many facilities on campus that do not receive state support such as dormitories, dining halls, the bookstore, the printing operation, and campus apartments. All of these facilities are charged by the University for their electricity.

Therefore these facilities will see a significant increase in their bills also, Vestal said.

Today in SCONA ...

The 1981 MSC Student Conference on National Affairs concludes Saturday at Texas A&M University. Internationally known leaders from academia, business and politics at the three-day affair are addressing the topic: "International Society in Transition."

Speakers at sessions today and Saturday are:

— Dr. Peter T. Bauer, chairman of the Department of Economics at the

London School of Economics and Political Science and Dr. Douglas Bennet Jr., former administrator at the Agency for International Development in Washington, D.C., debating at 10 a.m. in Rudder Theater.

— Dr. Fred R. Glahe, professor of Economics at the University of Colorado at Boulder giving the closing presentation Saturday at 11 a.m. in 224 MSC. The public is invited to attend.

Technology should be shared

By SUSAN DITTMAN
Battalion Reporter

Lesser developed countries of the third world should be taught how they can develop a high technology of their own, Edgar Owens, development



Edgar Owens

officer of Appropriate Technology International, said Thursday.

Owens addressed a crowd of about 350 in Rudder Theater as part of the 1981 MSC Student Conference on National Affairs at Texas A&M University.

Owens said most of the industrial technology offered to the developing countries comes from multinational corporations. To some extent, he said, the corporations take advantage of these countries.

"The developing countries are really quite mad at us (the rich countries)," Owens said. "I tend to be sympathetic with some of the complaints that come from developing countries." They only get a small percent of the profits made by the corporations, he said.

Owens said lesser developed countries have the same desire to get rich as the people in more developed countries. That is why they "hook up" with multi-national corporations, he said. Owens said rich countries such as the United States do 90 percent of the research and development of high technology.

If the developing countries are go-

ing to learn how to develop high technology on their own, he said, more of the research needs to be done in their own countries.

Owens also said the relationship between the poor and the educated, who are trying to help the lesser developed countries, needs to be recognized.

The poor, he said, have some say in what they are willing to pay for and what they are willing to work for. He used an example of a village in Thailand whose water was dirty and hard to get. When a sanitary engineer developed a water faucet system they could use for little less than \$1 per year, the villagers would not use it because they thought it was too expensive and they relied on water gathering as a chance to socialize, he said.

The engineer then rigged up a water pump system which could be used for less than one cent per year, Owens said. The village people were pleased with this because it fit into their price range and also allowed them to socialize, he said.

Owens said the educated have learned that they have to listen to the people they are trying to help.

Rich need to help the poor

By DANA SMELSER
Battalion Reporter

Some of the world's energy shortage could be solved if the developed nations would help the Third World countries develop their natural resources, a professor of energy and resources said Thursday.

John Holdren, addressing an enthusiastic crowd of about 350 attending Texas A&M's 26th Student Conference on National Affairs, said the rich countries only give .3 percent of their gross national products to help the underdeveloped countries.

Seventy-five percent of the world is in poverty, he said, and 85 percent of the world's technology is being used for the improvement of the countries that are already rich.

The less developed countries are frustrated from the conflicts over industrial nations attempting to raise their standard of living by acquiring more resources, he said. This is a driving force of the world-wide arms race, Holdren said.

"Nuclear weapons will not save the

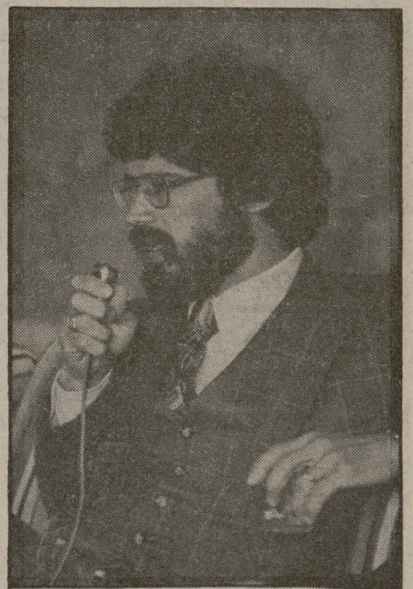
rich countries," he said. "The real question is whether the rich catch on in time."

The world is not running out of energy, Holdren said. It just needs to efficiently utilize the resources it does have.

Oil and gas reserves may last only 12 years, he said, but enough coal exists to last 100 years. Metals and solar energy have use far beyond this, he added.

Many underdeveloped countries have a small, but significant amount of oil and gas resources for future energy, Holdren said. The problem is the lack of money and technical skills to develop the extraction and use of these resources, he said.

For exploration in the sea and in space, the countries should use the "football draft principal," he said. Those who have had losing seasons as far as the development of resources, should have the first-round draft for the choice of desirable areas of exploration, he explained.



John Holdren