

# Local

## Engineering head returns

By KITTY FRALEY

Battalion Reporter  
Roy Hann, the former head of \$4 million environmental engineering division of the civil engineering department at Texas A&M University, recently returned to his old duties after serving as acting director of the Sea Grant Program for 1½ years.

"EE is an academic division of the CE department and a research division of the Texas Engineering Experiment Station," Hann said. Hann is in charge of several areas within the environmental engineering program. One of these areas is the environmental systems group.

"In this group we're particularly interested in evaluating the environmental aspects of engineering works and products," Hann said. "The group is currently determining the environmental aspects of the brine discharge

from the government's Strategic Petroleum Reserve Program." Brine has high concentrations of salt, especially sodium chloride.

The concept behind the SPRP is a simple one, Hann said. "The SPRP was established to store oil so that if we were cut off from our imported oil, we would be able to carry on business as usual until we could adapt through rationing, conservation and more production," he said.

The SPRP now receives \$4 million but started with a \$25,000 project through the Sea Grant Program, as have many of the research programs.

"The Sea Grant Program was established in the 1960s in order to educate students with regard to the development of our ocean and marine resources," Hann said.

"It's an excellent program that has done a lot in stimulating the de-

velopment of our marine resources."

Another area that the environmental systems group is involved in is the Oil Spill Technical Assistance Program.

"We put on training courses around the world to help upgrade the educational level of people that are going to be managing oil spill control programs," Hann said. "Many of the countries don't even have oil control programs."

As research program manager and head of the environmental engineering division, Hann is responsible for the administrative aspects of the projects and the environmental engineering division.

"This means that I have less time to work on the projects because I have to make sure that reports get in on time, the researchers know what's going on and everybody's happy," he said.

Hann has been at Texas A&M for 16 years. He received his bachelor's degree and master's de-

gree in civil engineering and his doctorate in engineering science from the University of Oklahoma.

As for the future, Hann wants to have both an academic environmental engineering program and an environmental research program that are consistent with the nation's largest engineering program.

"I feel that the engineers that come out of Texas A&M should realize and understand their ability to shape and have an impact on the environment," Hann said.

Hann was head of the environmental engineering division and Texas Engineering Experiment Station from 1970-1975, but he relinquished this position to become acting director of the Sea Grant Program, where he remained until Dr. Robert Able became the director in 1976.

Able remained with the Sea Grant Program until February 1978 when Feenan Jennings became the director.



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## Statistics help desk aids researchers

Battalion Reporter

Faculty and students at Texas A&M University with statistical questions in their research can go to the Statistical Assistance Service (STAS) for help.

Known as the statistics help desk, STAS is located in 203F Teague Research Center. The student or faculty member must set up an appointment with the secretary for the initial visit.

"Students enrolled in a statistical consulting course are the ones who provide the assistance," Dr. R. J. Freund, STAS coordinator, said, "but they are always supervised by a faculty member."

The help desk is open nearly 30

hours every week, and the hours really depend upon the student's schedules, he said. All work is done by appointment.

"We don't charge anything for the assistance," he said. "We ask that all users take Statistics 691 to help finance the service, but the researchers aren't forced."

"We've been providing this service all along, but it was only recently that we've had to account for our time better because of a lack of finances."

The statistics department was a natural way to help the researchers, he said.

"Statistics is a research tool which everybody uses and a lot use it wrong," he said. "This is how we got started helping the researchers."

Researchers are asked to be prepared for the first visit and to request the service as early as possible in the research process.

"We sometimes help in the design of the questionnaire and make suggestions on the type of questions to ask," Freund said. "We don't write the questions for the researcher, though."

STAS also helps in the analysis of data and the interpretation of results of statistical analysis.

"We're always busy but we'll try to help anyone who needs it," he said.

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## Applications open for law scholarship

The Texas Aggie Bar Association has announced that applications are open for a \$500 scholarship for students entering law school in 1981.

Applications are available to any Texas A&M University student who is a Texas resident and is entering law school in 1981. The winner will be the applicant with the highest GPR and LSAT scores.

The Texas Aggie Bar Association is made up of attorneys who received bachelor's degrees from Texas A&M.

Applications can be picked up in the Academic Services Office, 100 Harrington Tower. Deadline for application is March 23.

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