Photo by Linda Warriner

Dr. Kerry Hope, senior staff counseling psychologist for Personal Counseling Service, talks with a student in her office in the basement of the YMCA Building. She works with eating behavior control groups offered through the Health Center Satellite Office.

TV to tie A&M medical units

By KITTY FRALEY
Battalion Reporter

A microwave link between the Texas A&M University College of Medicine and its Temple campus will begin operating this month and is predicted to be a substantial time-saver.

The microwave link will provide a closed-circuit television system to be used for everything from committee meeetings to taped lectures.

The microwave system, including a relay tower, cost $251,000.

"This system will decrease travel expenses and time spent on the road between College Station and Temple," Dr. Elvin Smith, associate dean of the College of Medicine, said.

"The microwave system involves equipment that will convert television signals from Temple to microwave," he said. "The relay tower will transmit them here and at this end we will convert them back into television signals.

"Microwave wavelengths can't travel from Temple to College Station, so a relay station was built in Gause." Gause is located halfway between the two cities.

"The 199-foot tower will receive the signal, amplify it and retransmit it," he said.

John Culpepper of Bryan donated two acres of land for the station, which has been named Henderson Station in memory of his mother.

Part of the $17 million Veterans Administration grant for the medical program was earmarked for the link between College Station and Temple, Smith said.

But the upcoming system will also provide a new component to the existing linkage between the Scott and White Clinic and Hospital in Temple and the Temple, Marlin and Waco VA hospitals, Smith said.

As part of this system, television facilities are located at each of these places, Smith said.

"The system will increase the interaction between us and the Temple campus, and certainly the frequency of the interactions," Smith said.

The Temple campus is part of the College of Medicine at Texas A&M.

"I want to dispense with the idea that the Temple campus is a separate component," Smith said. "The College of Medicine consists of the Texas A&M campus and the Temple campus."

It's not unusual for the teaching hospital to be separated from the basic sciences portion of a medical school, Smith said, and in this case the students are at Texas A&M for two years and Temple two years.

The College of Medicine has people on the staff who are qualified to run the system, Smith said. This includes running the cameras and repairing them when necessary.

All are welcome to attend a free lecture entitled:

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Got the midterm blues? PCS may be able to help

By KATHLEEN WIATREK
Battalion Reporter

If midterms or approaching finals have got you nervous or depressed, the Personal Counseling Service may be able to help.

The PCS deals with problems of personal concern that all students may encounter, says Dr. Larry Roe, assistant director of the PCS. They include self image, social relationships, male and female relationships, pre-marital and marital relationships.

Roe said that the most common complaints are depression and anxiety. Anxiety may be caused by competition at college, fear of failure, approaching tests and the thought of what will happen upon graduating from school.

"The high pressure environment of Texas A&M can cause much anxiety," Roe said.

The PCS sees a rise in the number of students with emotional problems before tests and one or two weeks prior to finals, he said.

The staff is made up of seven full-time senior staff counselors who are licensed psychologists, four full-time psychology interns and two part-time consulting psychiatrists.

The PCS runs on an appointment basis. These can be made at 107 YMCA or by calling 845-4227 Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"If an appointment is not available within two weeks, the student will be put on a waiting list," Roe said.

There is always a counselor on duty in case of emergency.

Last semester, the PCS saw 600 patients, made 2,500 counseling contacts and by the end of the semester had a 60-person waiting list.

Because of the great number of students using the PCS, Roe said, the staff will counsel a student only as long as a semester. But the PCS will not refuse anyone in an emergency.

The PCS also works in conjunction with the A. P. Beutel Health Center if a patient needs counseling.

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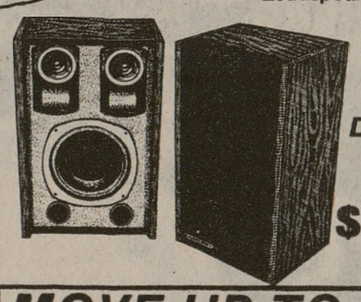

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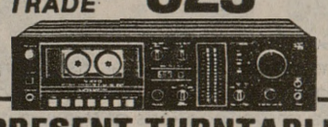

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