

Local

Student senate to hold last meeting of semester

By **TERRY DURAN**
Battalion Staff
Setting up shop will be the first and probably only order of business at tonight's student senate meeting.

The meeting, to be held in 204 Harrington at 7:30, will be the first and last full official meeting before the beginning of the Fall 1981 semester. The senate held an "unofficial" session April 15 to organize senate committees and brief new and old members on current activities.

The new senate does not officially take office until two weeks after election results are finalized; that date came a week after the senate's April 15 meeting.

Tonight's meeting will see election of the speaker of the senate

and a speaker pro tem, who will preside over meetings in the absence of the speaker.

Also on tonight's agenda is the confirmation of executive branch members nominated by SG President Ken Johnson, including executive vice president, university committees coordinator, recording secretary and parliamentarian. Confirmation requires a two-thirds vote of the senate.

Johnson said earlier he does not "expect any great controversy" over confirmation of executive branch members.

Another important item will be the confirmation of 180 student members of University committees. Of 69 University committees dealing with various facets of academics, student services or

business affairs, 37 have one or more student members.

Applications for the positions were reviewed by Johnson, 1980-81 SG President Brad Smith, executive vice president nominee Jeff Bissey, University committees coordinator nominee Julie Walshak, Judicial Board Chairman nominee Greg Hood and Off-Campus Aggies President Paul Bettencourt.

Bissey said Tuesday there were still openings on the convocations committee (which deals with planning for commencement exercises), menu boards and two cooperative education committees. However, he said nominees would probably be found in time for the meeting tonight.

Aggie med student says charter class unique one

By **DIANE FLETCHER**
Battalion Reporter
On June 6 an important chapter will be added to Texas A&M University's history. The 32-member charter class of the College of Medicine will graduate, giving birth to the University's first crop of Aggie doctors.

"That we are Aggies means that we are unique," said senior medical student Mark Sicilio.

"This is not to say that Aggies will be able to relate where people of other medical schools will not. It's not to say we'll know more or know less, or that we'll make more or make less."

"But I think that those who know us will see the influence that A&M has had on our lives."

Today, the Aggie medical students, officially recognized as the Texas Aggie Medical Student Association, are uniting to help save lives.

The Association, with the aid of Alpha Phi Omega and Student Government, is sponsoring a campus-wide organ-donation program in association with the Living Bank in Houston.

Sicilio explained how the Eyes of Texas A&M-Living Bank Project began:

"I was watching a film on organ donations — to tell the truth I was falling asleep — and all the sudden I remembered when I was a student at A&M in College Station and when I gave blood: 'Why don't we carry this one step further? It's only a logical progression.'"

The program is now a reality. University students who wish to register a part of or all parts of their body

for transplantation, therapy or medical research may do so during the Aggie Blood Drives held each semester.

Sicilio describes himself as a team player; one who works best when working with others. The charter class of the College of Medicine has adopted this attitude of working and helping each other.

"Our class is like one big family," Sicilio said. "The friendships that have been established in these years will be forever — they're lifetime."

Sicilio will begin a three-year residency in pediatrics at Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple after his graduation. He says he enjoys children, because he still has a little bit of child left in himself.

He said a friend once asked him, "Mark, when are you going to grow up?"

Sicilio answered, "I kind of hope I don't. Because I want to be a pediatrician, and I want to relate closely with the children under my care."

He wears a Mickey Mouse watch to the hospital each day because the children like it and he does too, he said.

Once Sicilio needed to examine a Spanish-speaking child who was scheduled to go in for surgery. The child was crying; Sicilio tried to calm him by talking to him in Spanish. The frightened child screamed and cried more.

Sicilio then pointed at his Mickey Mouse watch, and the child's tears slowed as his interest increased.

"It helps me to establish a rapport with them — to show them that I'm not only their friend, but one that's going to try to take care of them."

A&M researcher to test drug in cancer studies

A Texas A&M University medical researcher will soon begin testing interferon, the body's own "wonder drug," to discover if it can successfully fight an often fatal nerve cancer that mainly strikes children under 5.

The interferon, produced from cattle embryos at Texas A&M University's Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Amarillo, will be tested on laboratory mice at the main campus, said Dr. George C.Y. Chiou, head of medical pharmacology and toxicology at Texas A&M.

Preliminary results from the

study should be available in several months, he said.

A clinical study on humans, using the same Texas A&M-produced interferon, has already begun at a Chicago medical research center, Chiou said.

The cancer, called neuroblastoma, can spread almost anywhere in the body and is usually fatal in children — the prime targets — if not diagnosed and treated before an infant is a year old, he explained.

The disease results from a failure of nerve cells to differentiate as the body develops, said Chiou.

Another drug developed in part by Chiou has shown promise in treating neuroblastoma.

The drug, called "BRACH" for bromoacetylcholine, has inhibited the spread of cancer and has prolonged the lives of mice more than 200 percent in laboratory tests, Chiou said.

He became involved in development of BRACH more than 10 years ago at Vanderbilt and later at the University of Florida before coming to Texas A&M to assume his position as department head.

What's Up

WEDNESDAY

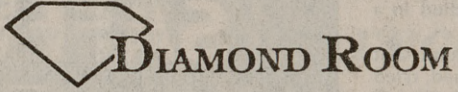
- EUROPE CLUB:** Will meet to elect officers at 8:30 p.m. at Mr. Gatti's in College Station.
- LIBERAL ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL:** Will meet at 6 p.m. at Dr. Lute's house.
- RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE ASSOCIATION:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Alamo. Jennifer Berry will speak on "Environmental Issues of the 80s."
- FINANCE ASSOCIATION:** Will have their spring barbecue at 6:30 p.m. at Hensel Park.
- BETA BETA BETA:** Will meet to initiate new members at 7 p.m. in 601 Rudder. Dr. James R. Wild will be the speaker.
- MATH CLUB:** Will sponsor a help session for students in Math 130, 150, 151, 152, 230, 253 and 308. The session will be held from 7-10 p.m. in 203 and 207 Academic. Admission is \$1.
- TAMU SAILING CLUB:** Will have an party at 7:30 p.m. in Tree-house Apartments party room.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** The Newman Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Student Center.

THURSDAY

- TEXAS A&M SPORTS CAR CLUB:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 302 Rudder.
- CANADIAN CLUB:** Will meet at 7 p.m. in 401 Rudder.
- UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY:** Will meet for dinner at 6:15 p.m. at the A&M Presbyterian Church.
- MANAGEMENT SOCIETY:** Will have a party at 7:30 p.m. at 901 Munson.
- CATHOLIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION:** Will have a night prayer service at 10 p.m. at St. Mary's Church.
- MSC AMATEUR RADIO COMMITTEE:** Will meet at 7:30 p.m. in 308 Rudder.

FRIDAY

- UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY:** Will meet at 6:30 p.m. in 145 MSC.
- INTER-VARSITY CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP:** Will hold a worship service at 7 p.m. at The Canterbury House, Jersey Street.



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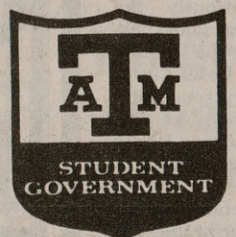
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PLACE: in front of Commons
— & SBISA —

TIME: **May 6, 7, 8** 1 - 4:00 pm

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