

Local / State

\$121,000 given for expansion

Co-op program gets grant

By JUDY ALLS
Battalion Reporter
Texas A&M University has received \$121,000 from the U.S. Department of Education to expand and strengthen its cooperative education program.

The Cooperative Education Program is a work/study program allowing students to work for credit and gain experience while they earn extra money that may further aid in obtaining an education. The 1981-82 grants, awarded to universities on a competitive basis, represent a maximum of five years partial federal funding for program administration, Steve Yates, director of cooperative education program, said. The University's grant proposal was ranked among the top four in 380 submitted by universities throughout the nation, Yates said. The 1981-82 school year is the last year the co-op program can

receive a federal grant, Yates said. In the future the University will have to pick up the expense and be entirely self-sustaining.

"Since 1977, the first year a federal grant was awarded to Texas A&M, the University's co-op program has grown 119 percent," he said. "Most of the expansion has occurred in colleges other than the College of Engineering, which has had a co-op program since 1963."

The grant will be used for travel costs of coordinators and faculty co-op advisers who visit the students' job sites to check their progress, Yates said. The grant will also cover office expenses and coordinators' salaries.

Currently, 1,150 students are actively involved in co-op education. Co-op salaries can be as much as \$1,200 per month, with the high-

est salaries going to engineering students, Yates said.

It's impressive that the co-op students earned \$3.3 million during the 1980-81 school year, Yates said.

The Colleges of Agriculture, Architecture and Environmental Design, Business Administration, Education, Engineering and Liberal Arts and the departments of meteorology and biomedical science are participants in the co-op program.

Academic credit is available through most of the colleges for the co-op experiences. A student is usually employed for three to four work periods (a work period is usually one semester).

Each college requires a minimum grade point ratio for participation in the program. And a student must have completed two full semesters of academic work.

John Miller, a senior mechanical engineering major has worked through the co-op program for Exxon at the Baytown Refinery for three work periods. He has been offered jobs in several divisions in the Exxon corporation.

Miller gives much of the credit to the co-op program and said the program helped him learn what was offered in the field of mechanical engineering and further aided in his decision for that area of study.

Miller is the president of the Co-op Student Association. The association promotes the co-op program on campus through presentations, flyers, orientations for freshmen and high school seniors and participating in career day.

Students interested in the co-op program should contact the Cooperative Education Office in the Placement Center.

Concessions permits head RHA agenda

By BARBIE WOELFEL
Battalion Staff
The Residence Hall Association met Thursday night to discuss what type of dorm activities require concessions permits from the Texas A&M Concessions Committee.

RHA president Tim Ryan said if dorms had any questions regarding permits, they should see Dave Bergen, chairman of the Concessions Committee in the Student Activities Office in 221 MSC.

Any organization that wants to hand out literature or sell anything on campus, except to its own members, is required to have a concessions permit. This policy excludes all MSC committees, however, Bergen said.

Surveys concerning the new structure of RHA were completed and returned at the meeting.

RHA voted last spring to restructure RHA adding new directorships. They were established to coordinate the efforts of all of RHA's old committees. The survey was primarily concerned with how effective these committees have been this semester.

The survey also invited any suggestions or comments for RHA in general and how general meetings could be improved.

Student Government External Affairs Committee member, Kelli Kiesling, requested that RHA help out in the "Aggies Helping" charity program for the American Lung Association Nov. 30 through Dec. 4.

Kiesling said tables would be set up in the MSC and outside of Rudder Tower where pamphlets and literature on smoking will be handed out and discussed.

Ryan announced that visiting hours for all dorms would be extended Bonfire night (Wed., Nov. 25) to 1:30 a.m.

Tracy Moy, facilities and operations chairman, requested that all cable surveys be returned from dorm presidents in order to establish a cable policy for next semester to provide better cable service to hall residents.

External affairs chairman, Stacy Graf announced that a party planning booklet would be distributed at the end of this semester or the beginning of the spring semester. The booklet will contain information on where to buy party supplies, locations for mixers and picnics, caterers and a discussion of some rules to follow when having parties.

Team to meat challengers

BY LAURA J. LARSON
Battalion Reporter

The Texas A&M meats judging team will defend its national championship title Sunday at the International Meats Judging Contest in Dakota City, Neb.

The contest is sponsored by the National Livestock and Meat Board and Iowa Beef Processors Inc.

Meats judging team members grade beef carcasses and place classes of beef, pork and lamb carcasses, hams and beef wholesale cuts, then write reasons defending their placings on five of the classes.

Earlier this year, Texas A&M placed first in meats judging contests in Plainview, Denver and West Point, Miss.

The International is the last contest of the 1981 intercollegiate meat judging season. Ray Riley, the team coach and graduate assistant in meats and muscle biology, said 24 to 25 teams are expected to enter.

The competition will be tough, Riley said. "The teams from Purdue, Michigan State, Colorado State, the University of Illinois and the University of Nebraska should be especially strong," he said.

To prepare for intercollegiate contests throughout the year, team members have spent nearly every Saturday during the last three semesters practicing in meat coolers — usually in San Antonio, Abilene, or in the meat lab on campus.

The team travels to practice meat judging because it is less expensive when meat is not available from classes or research projects.

Team members pay nearly all of their own travel expenses for practice judging and representation of the University in intercollegiate contests. Riley said it costs each member about \$1,500 to be on the team.

Meats judging is beneficial to students because it gives them in-depth exposure to the meats industry — one of the most important segments of American agriculture, Riley said.

The team will leave Tuesday for Dakota City. On the way to the contest, members will practice judging at Columbia Packing Company in Dallas, Canadian Valley Packing Company in Oklahoma City, Iowa Beef Processors in Emporia, Kan., and Spencer Packing Company in Schuyler, Neb.

"It is important for the team to

take extra time for travel to practice along the way because cattle types change in different areas of the country," Riley said. "It is important that team members know what to expect when they get to the contest."

To qualify for the team, students must enroll in Animal Science 317 and attend all team practices.

Members of the team are Steve Hudek, Pat Hamby and Jeff Royce, from San Antonio; Mary Cawlick, from Poth; Sherrie Wellborn, from Victoria; and Mike Kuck, from Gonzales.


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Senator to assist McKnight campaign

United Press International
AUSTIN - Sen. Hector Uribe, D-Brownsville, announced Wednesday that he will be deputy manager for the gubernatorial campaign of Sen. Peyton McKnight, D-Tyler.

Uribe said McKnight is the only Democrat with a strong chance of unseating the incumbent governor.

One of McKnight's top priorities will be to provide salaries that will attract and keep the best teachers, Uribe said.



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