

Academic skills taught

Counselors offer clinics

by Karen Schrimsher
Battalion Reporter

The Student Counseling Service is offering hour-long group academic skills clinics.

The clinics, operated by Drs. Betty Milburn and Anne Schroer, focus on the development of time management, reading and note taking techniques, and test-taking skills.

The counseling service has typically offered academic skills counseling on an individual basis but this is

the first semester group, lecture-type meetings, have been used.

The first two clinics are full. There is a waiting list for future clinics.

"We really have been pleased with the results," Milburn said Monday.

After students attend an academic skills clinic, they can return to the Student Counseling Service for individual counseling, Milburn said.

The clinics meet at 3 p.m. Mondays and at 3:30 p.m.

Tuesdays. Registration is in 107 Academic Building.

Each clinic is limited to 10 students. There is no fee for attending a clinic and all counseling is confidential.

The interest testing clinic is another self-help service offered by the counselors.

Students take an inventory of subjects in which they are interested and return a few weeks later to meet with a counselor to evaluate the results of the inventory.

"The purpose of the in-

terest inventory is to let students see how their interests compare to the interests of people who work in various fields," Milburn said.

Students then can be referred to members of the faculty that may be helpful in making career choices.

Students may pick up a copy of the career interest inventory in 107 Academic Building. Interest testing clinics are held each week at 9 a.m. Tuesdays, at 4 p.m. Thursdays and at 10 a.m. Fridays.

Award-winning poet recites works tonight

Internationally known poet William Stafford will present a selection of his poems during a reading at 7:30 tonight in 204 Sterling C. Evans Library.

Stafford, whose work has appeared in hundreds of books and magazines, has won the National Book Award in Poetry, one of the highest awards in the country, says Dr. Elizabeth Cowan of the English department.

Most of Stafford's poems deal with nature and have a lot of "quietness" in them, she says.

The English department selected Stafford to visit Texas A&M to give awards to graduate students and to present his work.

"I like writing," Stafford says. "It seems to me to be very easy

and natural. If you write a lot it naturally falls on the page.

One should let that "idling process" continue without fear, Stafford says. "Writing is letting your ever-going current go into language," he says.

Stafford says he writes for himself. "I try religiously to keep from writing for public critics," he says.

"When I'm writing I feel that

satisfaction of each ratchet I contribute — like a happy centipede taking each step."

Stafford says he doesn't worry whether people will understand his writing. "I have a lot of confidence I'm communicating," he says.

"Mostly I don't worry because people respond," he says. "Part of the fun of communication is the response."

Vet school approves new grading system, curricula

by Joel deGuzman
Battalion Reporter

Faculty in the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine voted Friday to implement new grading standards next fall.

The faculty also approved a proposal for a change in pre-professional and professional curricula for veterinary students.

The new grading scale will apply to students entering the veterinary college in fall 1983, but the proposal for different curricula must be approved by a number of University committees, including the University curriculum committee.

There will be no change in the standards for assigning letter grades but any grade below 70 percent will be considered a failure.

"It's a positive step for uniformity and consistency," said Dr. E. Dean Gage, associate dean for academic and clinical programs.

Many veterinary schools across the country already use a similar grading system, and the state licensing board examina-

tion also requires a minimum 70 percent to pass, Gage said.

The new scale will apply to first-year veterinary students in September and all subsequent classes, but will not apply to students already in the school, he said.

"I think it'll be good news for this upcoming class," Gage said. "It'll give them an early start in making the standard."

The grade change was approved by the University in the fall and the new grade scale was accepted by the faculty Friday.

Gage said the preprofessional curriculum change, which would change the minimum course requirements for enrollment in the veterinary medicine college, and the professional proposal are the result of a four-year effort by the college's curriculum committee.

The pre-professional proposal would add 17 undergraduate credit hours to the current requirements for all applicants. If the proposal is approved, classes in biochemistry, computer sci-

ence and entomology will be added to the current list of 66 required credit hours.

If the proposal is approved, applicants will have at least three years of college credit, Gage said. The average pre-professional education for students now enrolled is 4.7 years.

The new requirements would strengthen students' scientific disciplines and start the profes-

sional curriculum at a higher level, he said.

The proposal in the professional curriculum will place more emphasis on specific biological systems in the third year and rearrange the clinical block program in the fourth year.

"The good thing about the new curriculum is that it will address the modern problems in vet medicine today," Gage said.

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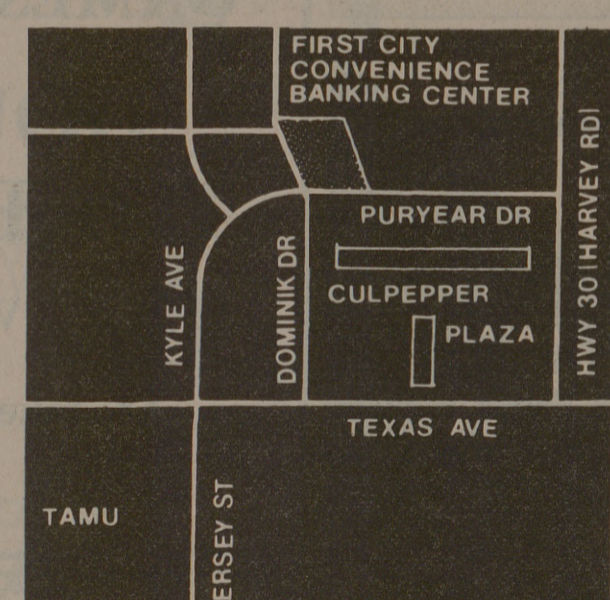
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