

Press conference reversed

Local officials quiz media

by David Marchand
Battalion Reporter
Four local officials questioned directors of the local media Monday night in a lively reverse press conference that was held in recognition of Freedom of Information month.

The Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, which designated March as Freedom of Information month, and Women In Communications, Inc. sponsored the conference to foster community understanding of the workings of the press.

Dr. Edward J. Smith, head of Texas A&M's department of communications, opened the conference by defining the relationship between the two groups as one of cooperation, conflict and complexity. This conflict, which Smith called correct and appropriate, surfaced as the theme of the discussion.

Bryan Mayor Richard Smith, College Station Mayor Gary Halter, Brazos County Judge Dick Holmgreen, and Texas A&M Board of Regents Vice Chairman William McKenzie quizzed Bryan-College Station Eagle Editor Glenn Dromgoole, Battalion Editor Diana Sultenfuss, KAMU News Director Jeanne Norton and KBTX News Director Jeff Braun on their policies and opinions.

Mckenzie quoted the predicate, "Build the news upon the rock of truth and righteousness," and asked the media representatives if they subscribed to that philosophy. The panel said that they did.

But when McKenzie asked Dromgoole what editorial free-



staff photo by Bill Schulz

Panel members from left to right: William McKenzie, Richard Smith, Gary Halter, Dick Holmgreen, Glenn

Dromgoole, Jeanne Norton, Jeff Braun, Diana Sultenfuss, and moderator Rebeca Zimmermann.

dom and objective reporting was, Dromgoole said, "objective reporting doesn't exist," but that "(the Eagle) strives for fairness." He said the news can't be covered purely objectively.

Smith asked the media panel about their policies on inflammatory words used to sensationalize stories which he said often mislead the reader. Norton and Sultenfuss said they didn't advocate that type of reporting and

writing. Halter cited a report of the arrest of the mother of two Bryan police officers and questioned the relevance of the relationship to the story. Dromgoole said the prominence of a figure is important, as is the irony of a story.

Norton and Braun said running a story like that was an individual editorial decision but Sultenfuss said that such a relation-

ship was irrelevant and said that a story should be run on its news value.

Holmgreen cited an inaccurate story and said, "truth will never catch the first lie that's told." He asked Dromgoole why retractions aren't printed on the same page as the error. Dromgoole said the Eagle prints all retractions on the opinion/editorial page.

local

MSC council adopts constitution, bylaws

by Connie Edelson
Battalion Staff
The Memorial Student Center Council adopted a new constitution and bylaws Monday night.

Because numerous parts of the old constitution were revised, the Constitution and Bylaws committee recommended approving the entire new constitution instead of approving only the changes.

One of the changes made in the constitution drops "Council and Directorate" from the name of the organization so as to represent more accurately the entire group instead of just officers.

Also, new offices approved by the council earlier this spring — Executive Vice Presidents for Administration, Programs and Marketing — are added in the revision.

Qualifications for Council officers, committee officers, and student officers are changed from a grade point of 2.4 for the fall semester and 2.0 for spring to a 2.0 for both, as stated in the University Rules and Regulations.

Also, in case of resignation or removal of the MSC President, the Executive Vice President for Marketing and Personnel shall serve as interim president, instead of the Vice President for Development, as was previously stated in the constitution.

One change in the bylaws of the constitution designates two different levels of student officers of the MSC. The president,

executive vice presidents, and vice presidents are officers of the council and of the organization, while directors and committee chairmen are officers of the organization only.

The office of Director of MSC Services is changed to the Director of MSC Internal Services, and the Director of Non-MSC Services is changed to Director of MSC External Services.

Also included in the bylaws is a description of all MSC programs. All programming groups are designated committees in the description, instead of committees and projects, as they are usually called.

Several Study Committees which were approved over the last year, were included in the list of committees.

In other business, speakers were approved for Political Forum and CAMAC. Political

Forum will present a debate April 18 between Senators Robert Taft and Eugene J. McCarthy, former U.S. Congressmen and Senators. The probable topic for the debate will be Reaganomics. CAMAC will host an attorney for the Mexican-American Legal Defense Fund, Norma Veronica Cantu, on April 12. She will speak on Hispanics in Higher Education.

A proposal was forwarded to the Enrichment Fund Board, which decides which MSC projects are worthy of extra funds, that requested \$3,000 to produce a top-quality, 16-page brochure explaining the programs and leadership opportunities available through the MSC. The brochures would be given to campus visitors and used for public relations and Enrichment Fund purposes.

OFFICIAL NOTICE General Studies Program

Students who plan to Pre-Register for the Fall Semester in the General Studies Program are URGED to pick up a Pre-registration Form in Room 100 of Harrington Tower from Mar. 28 thru Apr. 15.

pre-Easter dress sale!



misses' spring dresses!

29⁹⁹

Orig. \$42-46. Save 12.01 to 16.01 on knit polyester or polyester/cotton dresses in snappy brights or pastels, misses' 6-18.

fashion bonus!
linen-look dresses

39⁹⁹

Comp. \$54-62. These are polyester/rayon or polyester/cotton dresses! Button-front, wrap, shirt styles; bright hues. Misses' 8-16, petites' 6-14.

misses' jacket-dresses

49⁹⁹

Comp. \$62-74. Add polish to your wardrobe with a finely detailed jacket dress in bright colors plus navy, misses' 8-16.

Dillard's

shop Dillard's monday thru saturday 10-9; post oak mall, college station

Dillard's welcomes the American Express® Card