

# Koldus considers his job more a lifestyle

by Rusty Roberts  
Battalion Reporter

Remembering the name and face of Dr. John J. Koldus is easy for thousands of Texas A&M students, but amazingly enough they can remember their names and faces too — every one he meets.

When he can't remember a student's name, which is rarely, he buys that student lunch.

Koldus, vice president for student services, said it's his job to meet and get to know as many students as he can.

"My job is to be the best known administrator among the students," Koldus said. "It's very important to me and I work hard at it. I take the responsibility upon myself to get out of the office and get to know the students."

However, he said, meeting students has become more difficult after 10 years at Texas A&M.

**Dr. John J. Koldus doesn't mind the work at all, he said, because he considers his duties as vice president more of a life style than a job.**

"It's getting harder each year to remember names," Koldus said. "When I came here in 1973 there were just over 18,000 students. Last year there were more than 36,000 and we'll probably have over 37,000 this fall."

Koldus keeps a "cheat file" on every student he meets. It helps him remember when and for what reason he last talked to them, he said.

"I'll put their name, the date and something interesting they said about themselves on the card," Koldus said. "Then I make a mental picture of their name and link it with their name and their unique characteristics."

He said remembering names isn't a special talent, just hard work.

But, Koldus doesn't mind the

work at all, he said, because he considers his duties as vice president more of a life style than a job.

"I don't think of it as an eight hour a day job," he said. "I enjoy getting up early to associate with the people and the problems that come with the job I have. It's an all day, everyday, seven days a week job and I love every minute of it."

Koldus said he is responsible for anything from personal problems to academic problems relating to students outside the classroom. He described it as handling "everything underneath the sun."

As vice president for student services, Koldus presides over the University Police, the Corps of Cadets, student affairs, student activities, the Memorial Student Center, A.P. Beutel Health Center, the Personal Counseling Service, the Students' Legal Adviser and the Intramural Department.

Even though Koldus handles similar problems each year, he said there is no standard or insignificant problem.

"Each problem relates to an individual," he said, "so I never consider a problem insignificant. It's always significant to the individual or he wouldn't have brought it to my attention."

Koldus said the majority of the students who come for counseling or advice are referred to him by other students, faculty or administrators.

The most important thing for freshmen to realize, he said, is that the academic environment they are in now is much harder. He said he gives them four rules to follow: never be afraid to ask for help; study hard and stay with the books from the first day; learn how to budget time and don't take too many hours the first year.

"You need to be successful when you first come to A&M," Koldus said, "and if you take more hours than you can handle, then you make it really tough on yourself."

He said that even though those guidelines are directed at

freshmen, every student should follow them.

The 53-year-old administrator said he enjoys other things besides meeting people.

"I enjoy athletics," Koldus

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said, "but I've limited that now to being a spectator. There is one exception though — I love to play golf in my spare time."

Koldus also loves to read. He joined the Book of the Month Club when he was in second grade and he has read himself to sleep ever since.



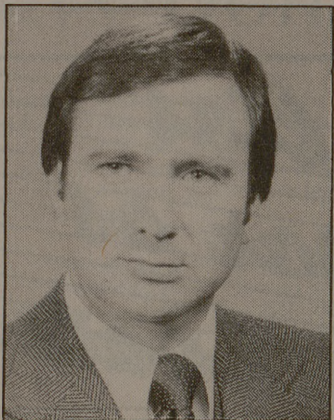
Dr. John J. Koldus

## Davis manages A&M's business

by Jill Slayman  
Battalion Reporter

Responsible for the management of Texas A&M's financial and business affairs, to the tune of \$325 million, is Dr. Eddie J. Davis.

Davis, who has held the position of vice president for fiscal affairs since January, is back at Texas A&M after a two week tour of duty in Germany with the United States Army Reserve in which he is Executive Officer of the 443rd Military Intelligence Detachment.



Dr. Eddie J. Davis

As vice president for fiscal affairs, Davis acts as President Frank E. Vandiver's chief financial adviser and manages all of Texas A&M's financial operations.

Davis supervises the development of the Legislative Budget Request for Texas A&M and provides testimony to support the request to the various state agencies and the Legislature.

No stranger to that line of work, Davis was Texas A&M's assistant vice president for business

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business affairs from 1978 to 1980. In 1980, he became the associate vice president for business affairs. Later he held a similar position at North Texas State University before returning to Texas A&M in January.

A major concern of Davis' is upgrading the University's computing resources.

"We should have taken steps a few years back to get things automated, but it's happening now," Davis says. "A year ago, we were ten years behind, now we're just two years behind."

Currently, he is working on upgrading systems in registration, billing, records, and financial aid.

Because computers have become common to everyday life, students should have some knowledge of them, Davis says. Some students need only to know how computers work, others need to know how to make them work, and still others need to know how to build them, he says.

"We're not talking Star Wars

stuff, we're talking reality," Davis says.

An Aggie at heart, Davis received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Journalism in 1967 from Texas A&M. He attended Harvard University's Graduate School of Business Administration in 1971, and received his Master of Education in Educational Administration from Texas A&M in 1973. In 1980, Davis received his doctorate in Educational Administration, also from Texas A&M.

Davis has taught graduate courses at Texas A&M in higher education finance and management.

Texas A&M is in a new era, Davis says. For the past decade, there has been such phenomenal growth that the University has had to react rather than plan. He says that the growth which finally seems to be leveling off, is a result of Texas' fortunate economic state.

Davis says he wants to get feedback from faculty and students to see what direction they

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want the University to head in. What areas they hope will be the strongest — engineering, science, liberal art, and so on — will help Davis determine what the University can support, he says.

Davis, who is married, and has a son, 7, and a daughter, 4, grew up in North Texas.

He enjoys golfing, reading, free-lance writing, and family activities.

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