

STATE AND LOCAL

Projects endure proposed budget cut

By KIRSTEN DIETZ
Staff Writer

The Texas Legislature's proposed state university budget cuts should not affect current or planned construction on the Texas A&M campus, says Daniel T. Whitt, assistant director for facilities planning and construction.

The funding for many of the University's construction projects comes out of Permanent University Fund (PUF) money generated from bonds sold prior to the passage of Proposition 2, Whitt says.

"There is an amount of money that, even if all construction were halted, that money still would not be available for any other purpose because the Constitution restricts its use to those purposes," he says. "It (PUF) can be used only for the purchase or construction of new facilities and the initial equipping of those facilities at Texas A&M, Tarleton State, Prairie View A&M and agricultural experiment stations throughout the state."

All projects currently under construction on campus are scheduled to be completed by May 1986.

• Next month, the Academic Building's exterior renovation will be finished. Whitt says the project, begun in August 1983, has been delayed due to the contractor's financial difficulties. The building's exterior masonry was repaired and waterproofed, the roof was replaced, the windows were refinished and the entryways were restored.

While this is not the first time the building has been repaired, Whitt says, "I imagine there has never been a project of this size undertaken before."

The outside of the building underwent an organic pagination process, where a fermented mix of cow manure and water is sprayed or brushed on the new brick. The mixture is allowed to set and then it's washed off.

"That will make the new brick look as near to the old brick as possible," Whitt says.

He says this is the same process used on a major Washington, D.C. monument by the National Park Service.

The total cost of the Academic Building's renovation is \$926,000.

• The Medical Sciences Library, east of the Medical Sciences Building along FM 60, should be completed in April. The library will be connected with the Medical Sciences Building by a covered walkway and with the Veterinary Medicine Com-

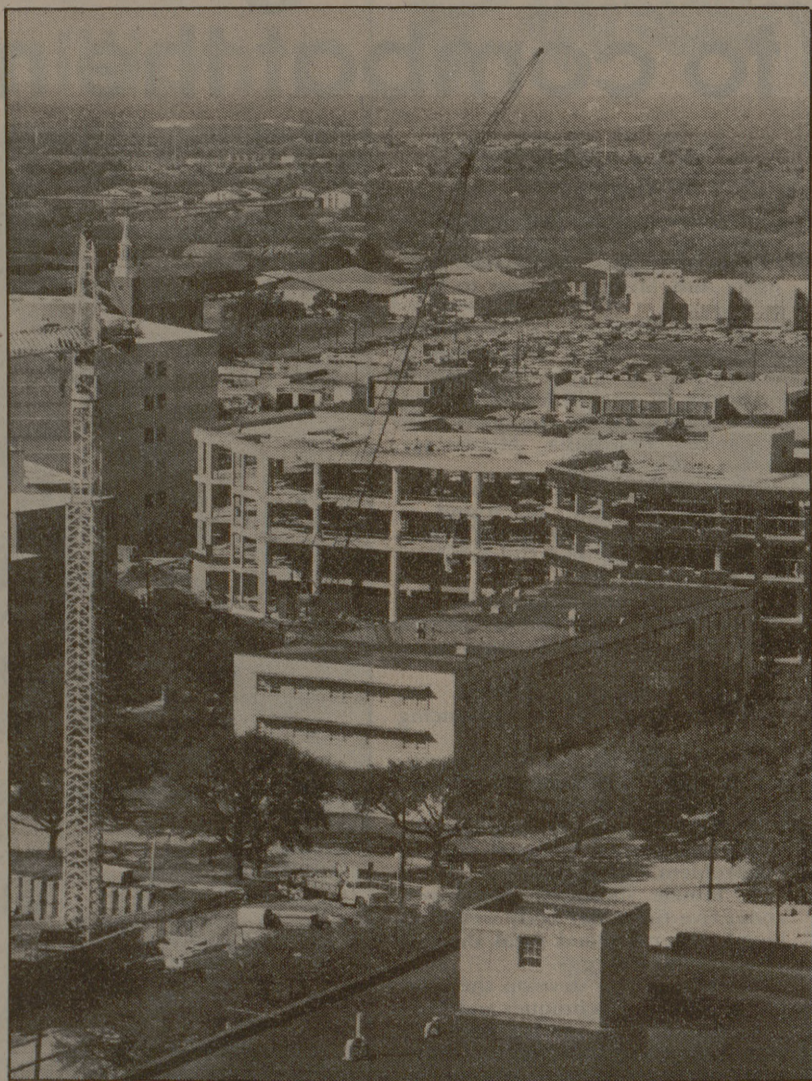


Photo by WAYNE L. GRABEIN

An overview of construction on the engineering and physics building and the new chemistry building.

plex by a tunnel underneath FM 60. The library will serve both human and veterinary medicine. Construction began in August 1983.

• The engineering and physics building, an estimated \$18.8 million project, is scheduled for completion in January 1986. The building, on Spence Street across from the Bituminous Lab, will house the physics department and a major part of the mechanical engineering department.

• Construction on a physiology research and conditioning lab, behind the scoreboard at Kyle field, began in December. The \$2 million

building will be used by the athletic and physical education departments and contain physical education classrooms and weight rooms. The building also will be used for research on the effects of physical conditioning. It will be completed by March 1986.

• The new chemistry building, to be finished in May 1986, will provide added space for the chemistry department. Construction, begun in June 1984, will cost almost \$18 million. The new building will be on Ross Street across from Halbouty Geosciences Building.

Plans also have been made for future campus construction.

• Construction of the track and field events center and the physical education and intramural playing fields will begin this month. Total estimated costs for both projects is more than \$3.3 million and they should be completed in November. The track and field events center will have one of the best tracks in the world, according to Texas A&M track coaches Ted Nelson and Bill Nix.

• A facility for the Ocean Drilling Program will be built in the area for the new research park across Wellborn Road. The building contract was awarded in January and the \$5 million building is scheduled for completion in May 1986.

• A \$1 million west campus landscaping project also should be completed in May 1986.

• In September, Whitt says, a contract will be awarded for a \$2.3 million enlargement of the A.P. Beutel Health Center. The construction, scheduled for completion in December 1986, will provide more doctors' offices and at least one X-ray room, Whitt says.

• In May, a contract on a new engineering building will be awarded. Scheduled for completion in May 1987, the building will be between Zachry Engineering Center and the Highway Research Center. It will house the civil engineering and engineering design graphics departments and the Texas Transportation Institute. Because of space limitations, current plans call for the building to be eight stories.

• A new system administration building is under design, but the awarding of the contract is currently on hold, Whitt says. The building will be on the edge of the research park at FM 2818 and FM 60. After it is built, Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver and his staff will occupy the current System Administration Building.

Whitt says a special events center will probably be built one day. Architects are currently developing designs, but the project, in the \$40 million range, is awaiting funding. He says funds will probably come from a combination of sources, such as the PUF, Athletic Department funds and private contributions.

Models and brochures are being developed to aid in the fund raising.

"It (the fund raising) is probably underway already, at least in the preliminary stages," Whitt says. "Our Board of Regents are doing it primarily at this point."

Tutor information service founded

By LORIE WOODWARD
Reporter

Instead of wandering down empty halls and peering into dimly lit offices in search of help, students who need tutors now can get assistance through the Student Counseling Service.

"We're not offering tutoring services," says Aileen Goldstein, the graduate assistant responsible for the program's development. "Basically, we're a clearinghouse of tutorial information."

The program's main objective is to provide students with a centralized source of tutorial information, Goldstein says.

"A lot of times students get really frustrated when a university has gotten this big," Goldstein says. "They know they need a tutor but they don't know where to go."

Students will be able to find out what tutorial services are currently available at the Student Counseling Service's Reference Library on the third floor of the YMCA Building.

The tutorial services file includes listings of departmental recommendations and specific departmental programs, such as help sessions, Goldstein says.

"Currently, every department does its own thing," she says. "A student who needs help in Chemistry 101 and Math 253 must run around campus looking for help."

In addition to departmental recommendations, the file also lists the names of people interested in tutoring in that depart-

ment's academic area, Goldstein says.

To become registered in the file, a potential tutor must come by the counseling services office in the YMCA Building and complete a data sheet, Goldstein says. The sheet includes the tutor's courses, qualifications, fees, hours and telephone number.

Tutors are responsible for keeping this personal information current, she says.

Students using the file to locate tutors are on their own, because the counseling service does not screen the applicants, Goldstein says.

Another source of information is a booklet which lists all the tutorial services available on campus, she says. This listing includes departmental help sessions, honor society programs, and specialized programs for athletes and cadets.

Compiling the booklet was the first of three steps designed to enhance the program's development, Goldstein says.

"First, we had to get down to what was currently available so we could give the students a basic idea of what was here," she says.

Next, departments were surveyed to get ideas and feedback about existing services, Goldstein says. The third step is the identification of individual tutors.

Goldstein says response to the program has been positive.

"I've talked to department heads, students and students' mothers and they've all been really enthusiastic," she says. "I've heard, 'Hey, we need that, that's a good idea, a lot,'" she says.

History today

Today's highlights in history: Fifty years ago, on Feb. 13, 1935, Bruno Richard Hauptmann was found guilty by a jury in Flemington, N.J., of first-degree murder in the kidnap-death of the infant son of aviator Charles Lindbergh. The verdict carried an automatic death sentence.

In 1542, the fifth wife of England's King Henry VIII, Catherine Howard, was executed after being accused of adultery.

In 1633, the Italian astronomer Galileo arrived in Rome for trial before the Inquisition.

In 1920, the League of Nations recognized the perpetual neutrality of Switzerland.

In 1945, during World War II, the Soviets captured Budapest, Hungary, from the Germans after a 50-day siege.

Also in 1945, Allied bombing raids began against the German city of Dresden.

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