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## Shultz's meeting Ortega offers no breakthroughs

Associated Press

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay — Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to South America last week was aimed at giving his blessing to the revival of democracy in the hemisphere, but he found his attention diverted by a new Nicaraguan peace offensive.

Shultz had viewed his three-hour visit to Ecuador and his 36-hour trip to Uruguay as symbols of U.S. support for the fledgling democracies in these countries.

But overshadowing all of his activities was his second meeting in nine months with Daniel Ortega, president of Nicaragua.

The meeting took place against the background of steadily deepening hostility between the Reagan administration and the leftist Sandinista government.

The two antagonists were in Montevideo for the inauguration of President Julio Sanguinetti, who replaced a military regime in power since 1973. Shultz and Ortega had heavy schedules and, when the Nic-

raguans suggested the meeting Friday, the only opening available to them was at 7 a.m. Saturday.

Shultz arrived punctually at Ortega's hotel and was whisked to a 17th-floor meeting room where the Nicaraguan awaited him.

Shultz sat a few feet away from Ortega, dressed in military garb, whom he had a week earlier said was leading Nicaragua into the "endless darkness of communist tyranny."

The meeting produced no breakthroughs.

They agreed that the two-year-old Central American peace mediation effort being carried out by the Contadora group was the proper forum for achieving a regional settlement.

In the past, however, the two sides have accused each other of sabotaging the Contadora peace effort, led by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama.

The U.S.-Nicaragua meeting did provide one new twist: Ortega told Shultz that there were 800 Cuban military advisers in Nicaragua. Previously, Nicaragua had acknowl-

edged the presence of only 200.

Shultz said he didn't consider Ortega's disclosure to be much of an admission because the American estimate on the numbers of Cuban military personnel is between 2,500 and 3,500.

Although their meeting produced no concrete results, officials accompanying Shultz felt it was a political plus.

"If we had refused to meet with Ortega, Congress would have complained about it for weeks," one official said privately.

Concern over congressional attitudes toward Central America dominates the thoughts of Shultz and Ortega these days now that a legislative ban on CIA funding of the Nicaraguan rebels has ended and a new proposal for \$14 million is awaiting U.S. congressional action.

The Reagan administration is placing the highest priority on winning congressional approval for the measure, while the Sandinistas are attaching equal importance to ensuring its defeat.



Photos by WAYNE L. GRABEIN

## Big Event successful

For the first time in its three-year history, Saturday's Big Event went off without a hitch, Maritza Pena, organizing committee chairman, says.

"Never have I seen it run so smoothly," Pena says. "I was very pleased that it ran so well. We were better organized than we have been."

About 5,000 students, working with 130 organizations, completed more than 80 community projects for the Big Event.

The Big Event is a community-wide service project sponsored by Student Government.

Student volunteers worked in the community painting, cleaning, gardening and visiting hospitals and rest homes.

Also, residents of Moore and Briggs Halls and the Off Campus Aggies washed fire trucks. Puryear and Keathley residents hosted a picnic for the Boys Club of Brazos Valley. Several organizations recorded the names in 12 Bryan and College Station cemeteries for the local genealogical society.



## Course outline is flexible

# Altering syllabus OK

By MICHAEL CRAWFORD  
Staff Writer

When a professor changes an exam date or alters the grading system explained in his syllabus, he isn't violating University policy, Dean of Faculties Clinton Phillips says.

A syllabus is supposed to give the student an idea of how the course will be structured, Phillips says.

"It's not a binding contract," he says. "A syllabus is supposed to, to the extent possible, outline what topics are to be covered, when exams will be given and what the general grading policy is."

Phillips says although the administration hopes the professors will follow their initial plans, syllabuses are still subject to change.

"I'm not one to say everything must be laid out in black and white," Phillips says. "There has to be some

flexibility." That's one reason syllabuses should not go into detail on plans, he says.

Associate Provost Charles McCandless says that when a professor changes a test date, it is usually to the students' advantage. In all cases of change, however, the professors should use reason and common sense, he says.

"Generally what happens is a professor talks to the students and explains why he is doing it, especially when exams are moved up," McCandless says. "Students need enough time for preparing."

McCandless says professors should give notice of a change at least one class meeting ahead of time. If a student objects to a change, he should first speak to the professor, then the department head and finally the dean if necessary. Some cases have gone as high

as the University president, he says.

Final exams are supposed to be given during exam week at times established by the University. The only exception to taking the final during exam week is for one-hour lecture courses. Those classes, he says, may take the final on the last day of the class.

McCandless says that even if the professor allows students to choose test dates, some students may be harmed.

"If you're in the minority, there's a lot of social pressure to conform," he says.

In most cases, he says, the administration isn't able to intervene because students don't complain.

"If the students agree (to the change)," McCandless says, "and the professor does it and no one says anything, then the administration doesn't know anything about it."

## Faculty can still file for Senate seats

By KIRSTEN DIETZ  
Staff Writer

Only seven faculty members had filed for 28 open Faculty Senate positions as of last Friday afternoon. The filing deadline is Friday and elections are April 4.

Murray Milford, Faculty Senate speaker, says he expects someone will file for each position by the deadline.

The 28 positions open are in Agriculture (6), Architecture and Environmental Design (1), Business Administration (2), Education (2), Engineering (5), Geosciences (1), Liberal Arts (4), Medicine (1), Science (4) and Veterinary Medicine (2).

The seven filers are: Gerald Miller (incumbent), place 4 engineering; Donald Smith, place 13 engineering; William Kuvlesky, place 7 liberal arts; Walter Buenger (incumbent), place 9 liberal arts; Samuel Black (incumbent), place 1 medicine; Stephen Fulling (incumbent), place 7 science; Thomas Cacci, place 3 veterinary medicine.

Each senator serves three years with no senator serving more than six years in a nine year period.

Last year, 770 faculty members, or 37 percent of the eligible faculty, voted in the election.

## Visitation

RHA reviews dorm hours

By ELIZABETH MICKEY  
Reporter

The Residence Hall Association will consider a proposal to extend dormitory visitation hours at its meeting in two weeks.

The external affairs committee will present the proposal at Tuesday's RHA meeting. The proposal would extend the present visitation hours on weekdays, which are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and weekends, which are 10 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. The proposed times are: Sunday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to midnight, and Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 2 a.m.

Director of External Affairs Tracy Triplett said RHA decided during the first meeting that extending visitation hours would be one of this semester's goals.

An RHA task force conducted two surveys: one which went to 5 percent of the residents of each dorm and one which went to all resident advisors, Triplett said. From these surveys, the external affairs committee wrote its proposal, she said.

Tom Murray, housing services supervisor, said if the bill is passed it will be presented to Ron Blatchley, director of student affairs. Blatchley will approve or disapprove it based on feedback from the Residence Life Staff, composed of area coordinators and student affairs professionals.

Gina Harlow, president of RHA, said that if approved, the new visita-

tion hours could be in effect for the Fall 1985 semester.

Triplett said the committee is looking for possible problems that could occur because of the new visitation hours. Included in the proposal will be a suggestion that the outside doors of women's dorms still be locked at 10 p.m. Another suggestion is to let each dorm decide its own visitation hours, as long as they stay within the maximum limits.

Other problems the committee foresees are increased noise and possible security problems, Triplett said.

Gary Niekerk, head resident of Aston Hall, said if the hours are extended, resident advisors would be required to stay up until visitation hours end to check the halls and, in women's dorms, to lock the outside doors.

Ronda Duckers, head resident for McFadden Hall, said that the only problem she foresees is more noise. Duckers said she hopes the doors will be locked at 10 p.m. so guests in the dorm will be escorted by a resident.

Monica Christen, area coordinator for the north area, said the staff of north area dorms is split between wanting longer hours and keeping hours the same.

"I don't foresee any real problems," Christen said. "There shouldn't be a noise problem on the weekdays, and if the doors lock at 10 p.m., there shouldn't be a security problem."

## West German envoy seeks better relations with Soviets

Associated Press

MOSCOW — The West German foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, arrived in Moscow on Sunday for a surprise meeting with Andrei A. Gromyko.

The visit was one more in a flurry of East-West exchanges preceding the U.S.-Soviet arms beginning in Geneva on March 12.

The official news agency Tass said Genscher arrived Sunday evening for a short working visit and gave no details.

Hours before, Politburo member Vladimir V. Shcherbitsky, who meets President Reagan and Secretary of State George P. Shultz in Washington Thursday, left for the United States.

Genscher's visit was announced Sunday morning, when sources in Bonn, the West German capital, said he would go to Moscow and also squeeze in a six-hour trip to Warsaw, Poland, between already scheduled visits to Helsinki, Finland, and the Bulgarian capital, Sofia.

The last-minute additions to Genscher's itinerary reflected renewed West German efforts to mend relations with the Soviet bloc damaged recently by NATO deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles and by bloc accusations that Bonn wants to recover German territory lost in World War II.

Diplomats in Moscow, who, like the Bonn sources, spoke on condition they not be identified, said Gen-

schler would meet Gromyko Monday, then travel to Helsinki.

The talks will mark Gromyko's third meeting with a West European foreign minister in a week. He returned Saturday from a trip to Spain and Italy during which he reinforced Kremlin protests against U.S. plans for a space-based missile defense.

Soviet officials and news media have concentrated on the space weapons issue and their objections to Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative — commonly called "Star Wars" — in the run-up to the Geneva arms control talks. Moscow diplomats said Gromyko would likely raise the issue with Genscher.

Diplomatic sources in Bonn and Moscow said Genscher would outline the West German position on the Geneva talks to Gromyko and also note that the coming 40th anniversary of the Allied triumph over Nazi Germany — to be widely marked in the Soviet Union — should not revive old animosities but strengthen détente.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl took another step toward reducing tension with the Soviet bloc last week by reaffirming in an important parliamentary speech that West Germany had no ambitions to forcibly regain German territory lost to Eastern Europe at the end of World War II.

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