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Election

Faculty Senate set to fill six vacated positions

By MARYBETH ROHSNER
Staff Writer

The Texas A&M Faculty Senate will hold special elections during September and October to fill six vacancies in the 85-member body.

Dr. Harry Boothe, chairman of the Faculty Senate Election Committee, says the seven percent drop is not a substantial decrease.

"We've had more turnover this year than last year," Boothe says. "But it's not an unusually large amount."

The College of Veterinary Medicine has two open positions. Elections are scheduled to fill vacancies left by Dr. Stewart McConnell, now retired, and Dr. Robert Playter, who is leaving Texas A&M. Dr. James Henderson, also leaving the University, has vacated his seat in the College of Science. Elections for both colleges will be Tuesday, Oct. 1. Boothe says nominations are open through Friday.

The College of Education has slated an election for Wednesday to fill the position currently held by Dr. John Hoyle. Hoyle will not be on campus during the 1985-86 academic year.

The College of Architecture has not yet planned an election to replace Dr. Claude Davis, who is on a leave of absence. Dr. Walter Haisler, senator for the College of Engineering, will vacate his position because of new obligations as permanent department head of aerospace engineering. An election has not been planned to fill that vacancy.

The 1985-86 Faculty Senate will deal with several issues, including the controversial core curriculum. If the proposed core curriculum passes and is approved, several departments will add math, science and humanities courses to their degree plans.

Dr. Jaan Laane, speaker of the Senate, says the core curriculum is being researched by a subcommittee of the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee and will not be discussed in the first meeting of the academic year, slated for Monday.

Laane says the Senate also will deal with the development of new procedures and criteria for emeritus status, creation of a faculty club, and selection and evaluation of department heads.

Warped

by Scott McCuller



Judge orders child porno model held in foster care; mother agrees

Associated Press

BROWNSVILLE — A 14-year-old girl who posed nude for child pornographers was ordered Wednesday to be held in foster care through Dec. 13.

Earlier Wednesday, State District Judge Menton J. Murray Jr. denied a writ of habeas corpus to the girl's mother, who could not post a \$5,000 bond to get her daughter's release.

But on Wednesday afternoon the girl's mother, prosecutors and the mother's attorneys agreed that the

girl should stay in a foster home until Dec. 13.

The teen-ager is scheduled to testify in separate trials against two Brownsville men accused of running a child pornography operation.

The mother's attorney, Larry Warner, said the mother agreed to an order turning over temporary custody to the state but that the woman would be able to visit with her daughter.

Murray said prosecutors on Dec. 13 should have to show why the girl should not be turned over to the mother.

The girl, who kept a diary of ordeals, on Tuesday testified she wanted to stay in foster care until the end of the trials before returning home. Attorney Gail Kahn was appointed last week as the girl's guardian after the teen-ager's mother failed to appear for two previous hearings.

TDC lifts prison lockdown after weapon search

Associated Press

HUNTSVILLE — About 900 inmates involved in a prison lockdown were allowed to leave their cells Wednesday after guards searched for weapons, a prison spokesman said.

One day earlier, prison director Lane McCotter ordered almost a quarter of the state's 38,000 prisoners locked in their cells in the wake of four fatal inmate stabbings over the Labor Day weekend so that guards could search for weapons.

"We're down to about 8,500 today," Texas Department of Corrections spokesman Phil Guthrie said

Wednesday. "The total yesterday morning was about 9,400."

Normally, about 1,800 prisoners are locked in their cells, prison officials said.

Guthrie said guards searching inmate cells recovered 34 weapons by noon Wednesday. He said 900 inmates at various TDC units were no longer under the lockdown order.

The Saturday and Monday slayings brought the number of homicides in TDC units to 22 so far this year.

Sixteen TDC inmates had died by this time last year and a total of 23

prisoner homicides were reported in 1984.

In addition to the 9,000 prisoners locked down, another 5,800 inmates were restricted to their cells at the three prisons where the recent stabbings took place, TDC spokesman Charles Brown said.

Brown said locked-up inmates are not allowed their two-hour recreation periods and eat meals in their cells.

"For the great bulk of those people, that's a temporary condition," Guthrie said. "We plan to gradually unlock them over the next three to five days."

Prison officials are evaluating thousands of prisoners to determine whether their freedom should be curtailed in light of the most recent stabbings, Guthrie said.

"We're taking a hard look at those who are known or possibly affiliated with gangs," Guthrie said.

TDC board member James Parsons estimated 75 percent of the stabbings are gang-related.

Department officials were considering asking a federal court to limit provisions of a recently court settlement allowing inmates to write to prisoners in other units and to contact fellow inmates for legal assistance, Guthrie said.

Officials believe inmates are using letters and visits to set up gang activities," he said.

"Inmate mail to inmates is a burden here," Guthrie said. "We use it as a means of communication to perpetuate violence and other forms of illegal activity."

While officials have found no direct link between the four killings, Guthrie said the prison system will examine "all known and suspected gang members" in an effort to reduce gang-related violence.

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