

## State and Local

# Focus of search committee to be on A&M candidates

By Tracey Baber  
Reporter

Texas A&M's associate provost search committee expects to receive 20 nominations and applications for the positions, but applications from outside the University are not likely, the chairman of the committee said.

Dr. John Dinkel, associate provost for computing information systems, said, "We focused on an internal search due to the short time span given and the nature of the position."

Nominations and applications are due by June 20, he said.

Dr. Charles McCandless, the current associate provost, will be leaving Texas A&M at the end of August to

become executive vice president of Iowa State University.

He will join current A&M Provost Gordon P. Eaton, who is leaving the University at the end of June to become president of Iowa State.

In mid-July, after the search committee has reviewed all the nominations and applications, it will submit a list of candidates to the new provost, Dr. Donald McDonald.

The final selection will be made by McDonald.

Dinkel said the committee is looking for a good match between the candidate's capabilities and the requirements of the position.

"Because of the nature of the position and its duties, they need to

have a good working knowledge of A&M," Dinkel said. "They need to have a good working relationship with the administrators, deans, department heads and the faculty of A&M."

The associate provost assists the provost and vice president of academic affairs in coordinating university programs and activities and chairs the Academic Operations Committee, which deals with most academic policy.

His other duties include chairing the Master Planning Committee and working with the Texas College and University System Coordinating Board, McCandless said.

### 'Human' prints may belong to dinosaur

DALLAS (AP) — Sets of ancient footprints creationists have claimed as evidence that humans and dinosaurs co-existed may actually be tracks of flatfooted creatures, according to new research.

The finding by Glen Kuban, a computer programmer and part-time dinosaur detective from Brunswick, Ohio, has prompted some creationists to back away from claims the prints are evidence that God created mankind because man existed at the same time as the dinosaurs and did not evolve.

The prints in the Paluxy River, southwest of Dallas, were excavated beginning in 1968. They are 15 to 20 inches long and do not appear to have clear toe marks like most of the dinosaur tracks nearby.

But because of the new findings that the prints may be those of dinosaurs with an unusual heel-to-toe gait, distribution of a creationist movie on the subject has been stopped and the author of a popular book on the prints now sends out disclaimers.

Geologist and author John Morris said, "Until we get it ironed out, we may have made a mistake."

Morris used the prints for much of the evidence in his book, as did the Films for Christ Association for the creationist film, "Footprints in Stone."

Kuban sent his evidence to creationists. Last fall, distribution of "Footprints in Stone" was stopped.

Morris, a geology professor at the Institute for Creation Research in El Cajon, Calif., encloses an article he wrote about Kuban's findings when he sends out copies of his book.

### Lawsuit against TECAT reaches high court

AUSTIN (AP) — A plea on behalf of 350 Starr County educators against the recent reading and writing test reached the Texas Supreme Court Wednesday.

The court was advised, however, that the lawsuit did not include all the issues raised by educators against the Texas Examination for Current Administrators and Teachers, or TECAT.

The Texas State Teachers Association had asked the court to delay the Starr County suit and consolidate it with the TSTA suit in which the 3rd Court of Appeals at Austin ruled Friday that the literacy exam administered to all Texas educators was a legal exercise of the state's "police power."

The Supreme Court denied that motion.

"Ours is the only case which includes all the issues — both statutory and constitutional — and ours is the only case which represents all administrators and teachers in Texas," TSTA President Charles Beard said in a statement.

Representatives of TSTA were in the courtroom for oral arguments on the Starr County case filed by Project Principle Inc., a nonprofit teachers' organization.

The organization obtained a temporary restraining order from State District Judge Ricardo Garcia that said the state could not take away the educators' teaching certificates if they failed the exam.

Assistant Attorney General Kevin O'Hanlon said teachers are not being "singled out" by the tests, since certified public accountants, lawyers, medical students and engineers all must pass multiple-part tests to be certified.

The intentions of the test are "to make teaching truly a profession in this state," he said. "What we're trying to do is create a profession, if you will."

However, Chief Justice Hill added that perhaps a test on subject matter would be a "better gauge" of a teacher's competency.

### Clues scarce in shooting

DALLAS (AP) — Police said reports were trickling in Wednesday about the freeway shooting of a 23-year-old woman, but they are still unsure what triggered the attack.

Beverly Amaro died at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday after her relatives removed life-support equipment at Baylor University Medical Center.

She was shot about 11:45 p.m. Saturday as she and a friend, Karen Zapata, 37, were driving on a south Dallas freeway. Zapata, who was shot in the back, was released from Baylor Monday.

No arrests have been made in the case, Dallas police investigator Bobby Hammer said Wednesday.

"We've had a couple of people call," he said. "We don't have much of a description of the vehicle. Ev-

erything that comes in we're checking."


Zapata told police a red-and-white 1950s or 1960s model pickup drove past her car seconds after the shots were fired. She also said Amaro earlier had argued with a man who made a rude remark to her at the Oak Cliff nightclub the women had visited.

Hammer said there is speculation the argument may be connected to the attack, but he said the men at the club are believed to have been illegal aliens and cannot be traced.

The victim's family — her parents, five sisters and nine brothers of Socorro, N.M. as well as her husband, Mike Amaro and her two children — are devastated, a sister said.

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