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System chancellor visits Antarctica

Adkisson journeys to scientific posts to examine research

By Daniel A. La Bry
Staff Writer

While most Texas A&M students spent New Year's Day watching the Cotton Bowl and recovering from activities of the night before, Texas A&M University System Chancellor Perry L. Adkisson rang in the New Year by departing for a trip to the bottom of the Earth.

Adkisson, a member of the National Science Board's polar research committee, traveled to Antarctica on a 10-day, on-site visit with a team assigned to inspect several American scientific posts.

"The purpose of the trip was to go review and see some of the research in progress and to make an inspection of the facilities," Adkisson said. "A decision is going to have to be made about rebuilding or replacing the facilities, or reducing funds for the programs."

The American research programs in Antarctica are funded by the National Science Foundation, a federal agency that oversees most of the basic university research in the United States. The foundation's activities are supervised by the National Science Board.

"The National Science Foundation funds the majority of the basic research done in the universities in this country," he said. "It's the largest funder of basic research."

The installations, about 30 years old, are deteriorating. The information collected by the polar research

committee will provide a basis for making recommendations about renovating the facilities, he said.

The majority of the programs in Antarctica deal with geologic and geophysical research, Adkisson said. The ice-covered continent provides a stable research environment for long-term observations.

Studies on the ozone layer, cosmic radiation, air pollution and marine life are under way currently at the American research posts.

The Antarctic cold also acts as a good preserver of meteorites used to study the origins of the Earth, he said. Adkisson hoped to have a chance to meet Austin Mardon, an A&M geography student searching for meteorites in Antarctica, but was unable to do so because Mardon was working at a different location.

Adkisson and a fellow Aggie, William L. Merrell, did find time to have a little fun while on the bottom of the Earth. The two showed their Aggie spirit by flying a Texas A&M flag at the South Pole.

Merrell, on leave from Texas A&M's oceanography department, is also a member of the foundation's polar research committee. Merrell took a leave of absence to accept a National Science Foundation appointment as Assistant Director of Geosciences.

Adkisson, who once headed the entomology department at Texas A&M, said this was his first trip to the Antarctic.



Photo courtesy of the Chancellor
System Chancellor Perry L. Adkisson and William L. Merrell of the oceanography department fly an A&M flag at the South Pole.

7 endowed positions awarded to liberal arts faculty members

By Melanie Perkins
Staff Writer

Six endowed professorships and an endowed chair have been awarded to professors in the College of Liberal Arts, a first for Texas A&M and a sign of the growth and increased acceptance of the University.

The University has received endowments in such fields as engineering, agriculture and business in the past, but Daniel Fallon, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said it is generally easier to solicit the large amounts of money to support an endowment when the department is more directly related to a profession.

Liberal arts provides for a broad-based education and it's not as easy to make the connection to a specific business, Fallon said, because liberal arts graduates go into a variety of fields. However, he said, liberal arts is expanding and becoming more widely accepted as an area for major emphasis and study.

The recipients of the seven en-

dowed chairs or professorships in liberal arts are:

- Dr. George F. Bass, who holds the George T. and Gladys H. Abell Chair in nautical archaeology and is a distinguished professor of anthropology. Bass has authored five books and serves as archaeological director of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology.

- Dr. Melvin Greenhut, who holds a George T. and Gladys H. Abell Professorship of liberal arts and is a distinguished professor of economics. Greenhut served on the National Economic Policy Committee and Economic Advisory Council for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

- Dr. John McDermott, who holds an Abell Professorship in liberal arts for national and international research. He is a distinguished professor of philosophy and humanities and has been a visiting lecturer at more than 200 universities in America and abroad.

- Dr. Harrison Meserole, who holds an Abell Professorship in lib-

eral arts and is a distinguished professor of English. He serves as director for the Center for Bibliographic and Textual Studies, which prepares annual and long-term bibliographies of Shakespeare and examines texts for authenticity.

- Dr. Hamlin Hill, who received the Ralph R. Thomas Class of '21 Professorship in liberal arts. Hill is head of the English department and a renowned authority on Mark Twain and American humor.

- Dr. David Rosen, who holds the McMillan Professorship of Analytical Psychology. He received his M.S. from the University of Missouri and won a distinguished young physician award in 1985 from the Missouri Medical Alumni Association.

- Dr. Patricia Stranahan, who holds the Naomi Lewis Faculty Fellowship in liberal arts is an associate professor of history. She has published studies on Yanan women in central China and is currently in China to pursue studies.

Smelly case of skunk spray finally faded

STRATFORD (AP)—The stink of Hacker's Skunk Scent that started with a smelly odor is finally fading in this quiet West Texas town.

A judge agreed to dismiss a case against Alvin Hacker, a retired carpenter whose business gassed city hall.

Hacker insisted the skunk odor too young to have such a mother's odor. But the charged Hacker with disorderly conduct.

Hacker asked to subpoena the entire 1984 voter roll of the County — about 1,800 people to municipal court.

County Judge W.S. Stranahan agreed to drop the entire case after the county attorney's argument destroyed the animal after the alleged misdemeanor offense.

Sigma Phi Epsilon presents their Spring Rush Schedule:

Jan. 21 "Go West"	8:00 pm
Jan. 24 Winter Cookout	4:00 pm
Jan. 25 Super Bowl Bash	T.B.A.
Jan. 28 Suppressed Desires	5:00 pm
Jan. 30 Date Party *	8:00 pm
Feb. 2 Smoker	6:00 pm

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