

State and Local

Professor fighting dismissal asks for implementation of proposal

By Stephen Masters
Senior Staff Writer

Dr. Katharine Richards, a tenured associate professor in the Texas A&M Modern Languages Department and a member of the Faculty Senate, offered a proposal to the Senate Monday to require notification of faculty members when information is added to their personnel files.

Richards presented the proposal to the Faculty Senate's Committee of the Whole and discussion followed. No vote was taken on the proposal Monday.

Richards is currently contesting her dismissal. The University has accused Richards of "professional incompetence, continuing or repeated substantial neglect to professional responsibilities, mental or physical disability of a continuing nature adversely affecting to a material and substantial degree the performance of duties or in meeting the responsibilities to the institution, students or associates, and unprofessional conduct adversely affecting to a material and substantial degree the performance of duties or the meeting of responsibilities to the institution, students or associates."

Richards said Wednesday at the Academic Freedom, Tenure and Responsibility hearing that a "number of unexplained gaps" were in her personnel file, but declined to comment on whether anyone had changed information in her file.

The following is taken from the text of Richards' proposal:
"This concern regards the protection of the faculty member's rights regarding his personnel files. I do not know what policies are in effect in other departments and colleges, but I do know that no policies are followed in the College of Liberal Arts or the Department of Modern and Classical Languages which would allow a faculty member to know what documents have been placed in his or her files or removed from such files."

"I therefore propose that the University be called upon to maintain a register of documents as an integral part of each and every personnel file. The faculty member concerned shall be immediately notified when the administrator responsible for maintaining the file proposes to make any document a part of the file. The faculty member shall be given a copy of the document proposed for addition to his file. The

document shall be assigned a consecutive register number, and both the administrator and the faculty member shall sign the register with the date and time. The faculty member shall have the right to prepare a reply to the document in question, and have such reply registered and placed in the file with the document in question. No document which has been registered and placed in the file shall be removed from such file.

"The faculty member shall be provided with a copy of the register and shall be given the right to inspect any of his files with reasonable frequency. The faculty member shall have the right to add documents to his file as he deems appropriate, under the same registry procedure mentioned above and the reciprocal right to reply to such documents shall be enjoyed by the administrator who maintains the file."

Brownsville residents flee, Gilbert homes in on coast

BROWNSVILLE (AP)—Some came in wheelchairs, others in strollers, but nearly all of them brought blankets, food and water to various South Texas shelters Thursday as they fled their homes to escape the wrath of Hurricane Gilbert.

As one of the most feared hurricanes approached the Texas coast late Thursday, residents boarded up homes, packed belongings and either fled to northern communities or to various Red Cross shelters.

In Brownsville, where the eye of Gilbert is predicted to pass sometime Friday afternoon, several hundred people packed the civic auditorium and three high schools.

To some residents, their flight to the shelters was reminiscent of one in 1967 when Hurricane Beulah struck Brownsville and Hurricane Allen hit north of Brownsville in 1980.

"We have spent the last two at the high school, but we decided to come here tonight," said Maria Cardenas, a 78-year-old diabetic bound to her wheelchair.

"We brought food, water, some milk, but my husband forgot the stereo and all our medicine, but I think we will be all right," she said.

Numerous families set up their perimeters on the floor of the civic center, placing blankets, sheets and pillows on the floor next to bags of food and ice chests filled with meats and soft drinks.

Some children brought their plastic toys and some brought their teddy bears while others turned on their small radios and tuned in to news of the storm.

Frank Sanchez, 19, of Brownsville, said he boarded up windows at his mother's home and his grandparents'

"We know that there might be an emergency and we don't have a car and we knew we could come here where there are a lot of people and if something happened, we knew we could get something if we needed it."

— Maria Elena Silva, 34, of Brownsville

house in nearby Olmito and drove them to the civic center shelter.

"We just decided this was the best place to be because of all the predictions of damage it could cause," Sanchez said.

"We secured our house pretty well."
Maria Elena Silva, 34, of Brownsville, brought her children to the shelter because she feared staying in her second-story apartment.

"We know that there might be an emergency and we don't have a car and we knew we could come here where there are a lot of people and if something happened, we knew we could get something if we needed it," Ms. Silva said.

Ricky Saldierna, 7, said he didn't really want to be at the shelter.

"I think this hurricane is very bad because it could hurt somebody, especially some kids like me," he said.

"I wish we were in school now and I wish we were back in our own house."

Blinn will relocate, effective in fall '89

By Stephanie Stribling
Reporter

Blinn College in Bryan is moving. Effective fall '89 Blinn's Bryan facility will be relocated to the Townshere Shopping Center.

Blinn's president, Walter C. Schwartz, outlined details of the move in a Sept. 14 memo to school officials.

"Although we've enjoyed the use of the Kraft Building for the past 16 years, and experienced nothing but a high level of cooperation from area merchants, the time has come for us to move our facilities," Schwartz said.

Schwartz said that there are several reasons for the move. One is the need for more space.

"As you know, we have inadequate parking, crowded classrooms, offices and hallways," he said, "and the new facility will alleviate all these problems."

J.B. Carrington, director of Blinn's Bryan campus, said that the school has acquired 32,000 square feet for the new facility, with expectations of further expansion.

Although the move won't be complete until Sept. 1, 1989, when the Kraft Building is officially vacated, Carrington said that some science and remedial courses will be taught at the new facility in Spring '89.

Schwartz said the move also comes in response to a recent bill passed by the Texas Legislature in June 1987 requiring all public institutions of higher education to administer assessment tests to incoming freshmen, and to transfer students with less than 60 hours.

Based on the results of the assessment tests, which will be designed to identify weaknesses in the basic skills of reading, writing and arithmetic, some students may be required to complete several hours of remedial education

before continuing on to higher level courses.

Effective for Fall 1989, this remedial education must be provided by all colleges and universities statewide, including Blinn College and Texas A&M University. Schwartz said, however, that the Coordinating Board may limit the type and amount of remedial education that A&M offers.

Blinn will have no such limitation, Schwartz said.

"This is really not one of their (A&M's) interests. Their interest is in research where it should be," Schwartz said, "However, I think they're going to have to set up at least a token remedial program."

He said Blinn is preparing to handle the remedial education for A&M students, as well as its own.

John D. Barkman, vice president of administration and planning at Blinn, made it very clear that A&M and Blinn College have no definite arrangements for Blinn to provide remedial education for A&M students.

"We do not, at this point, have any kind of formal agreements with A&M, or even have an understanding about offering remedial education," Barkman said.

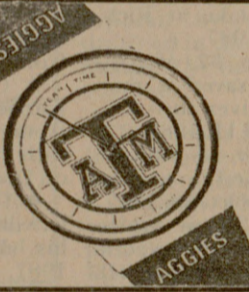
Schwartz said that Blinn has a cooperative attitude as far as helping A&M is concerned.

Due to the nature of remedial education, the remedial program at Blinn will become almost a center in itself, Schwartz said.

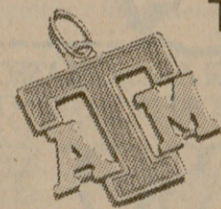
"You're going to have your own counselors and your own directors," he said. "It will be a separate school within a school."

The law requiring assessment testing and remedial education is part of a recent attempt by the Legislature to improve the quality of higher education in Texas.

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1.78	4,965	.60	795	1,500	
1.61	5,325	.58	850	1,600	
1.51	3,875	.57	795	1,500	
1.43	5,550	.56	695	1,400	
1.24 w/GIA report	2,500	.55	695	1,400	
1.18	2,325	.55	795	1,500	
1.17	2,750	.55	895	1,700	
1.11	2,350	.53	595	1,000	
1.11	3,950	.53	695	1,400	
1.09	2,195	.53	795	1,500	
1.09	2,750	.52	875	1,600	
1.09	3,850	.52	795	1,500	
1.05 w/GIA report	2,950	.51	795	1,500	
1.04	2,150	.50	695	1,300	
1.03	2,195	.50	695	1,300	
1.03	3,595	.50	795	1,500	
1.01	1,495	.48	695	1,400	
1.01	1,895	.47	695	1,400	
1.01	3,495	.47	695	1,400	
1.01	2,185	.46	650	1,200	
.95	2,395	.45	595	1,100	
.93	1,595	.44	595	1,100	
.92	1,850	.44	495	1,000	
.92	1,650	.43	575	1,200	
.91	3,195	.39	275	500	
.90	1,750	.37	375	600	
.89	1,350	.36	335	600	
.89	895	.34	335	600	
.88	1,340	.33	275	500	
.85	1,685	.30	335	600	
.84	2,150	.24	210	400	
.83	1,595	.21	165	300	
.81	1,025	.22	185	400	
.80	985	.21	215	400	
.77	1,075	.19	165	300	
.77	950	.18	155	300	
.75	1,135	.16	118	200	
.75	1,375	.15	111	200	
.75	1,395	.14	95	180	
.74	1,480	.12	78	140	
.73	1,495	.10	63	120	
.73	1,125	.09	55	110	
.72	1,395	.08	48	90	
.71	1,395	.07	45	90	
.71	1,395	.06	41	80	
.71	1,050	.05	35	70	
.70	1,395	.04	30	60	
.70	795	.03	14.95	30	
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1.61	5,875	11,000
1.23	2,250	5,000
1.23	2,250	5,000
1.18	2,250	\$4,500
.95	1,850	4,000
.70	1,395	2,780
.65	1,195	2,390
.63	895	1,600
.62	1,275	2,400
.58	1,195	2,000
.58	995	1,800
.57	1,225	1,400
.53	1,225	1,400
.51	1,095	2,200
.50	1,050	2,000
.41	795	1,400
.28	312	600
.10	105	200

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1.75	\$5,425	\$11,000
1.43	3,780	7,000
1.24	4,285	8,000
1.21	2,375	4,600
1.13	2,295	4,500
1.04	2,495	4,800
1.01	2,675	5,200
.93	2,095	4,000
.82	1,590	3,000
.64	1,295	2,400
.65	895	1,600
.62	1,395	2,700
.59	795	1,500
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