

# State/Local

## A&M dean develops proposal for improved teacher education

By Sharon Maberry  
Staff Writer

Universities across the nation are attempting to improve the education of teachers through Project 30, a program proposed by Texas A&M's Dean of Liberal Arts Daniel Fallon.

Fallon, co-director of Project 30, developed his proposal around the need for arts and sciences colleges to take an active part in teacher education, project coordinator Wendy Costa said.

"We are trying to bring about real, authentic discussions between arts and sciences and education (faculties)," Costa said. "As long as they don't really talk, they will get nowhere. They have to talk. This is the first time that they (arts and sciences faculties) will see that training prospective teachers is one of the valuable things they do."

"The general feeling is that public schools have to change drastically. Project 30 is doing what is needed on college campuses. This is just one small part of the puzzle."

Fallon and co-director Frank Murray, dean of education at the University of Delaware, received a

major grant from Carnegie Corporation of New York for their Project 30 proposal. The three-year program includes 32 universities throughout the nation who submitted proposals to improve teacher education to Fallon and Murray, Costa said.

The co-directors chose 30 universities, apart from Texas A&M and the University of Delaware, on the basis of the proposed plans and the quality of the faculty members involved in the project, Costa said.

"We wanted people who are movers and shakers," she said. "They needed to have a record of initiating and following through with projects."

Project 30 is based on five major themes involving teacher education on college campuses. One goal is to determine the necessary subject matter that prospective teachers should study.

A second goal is to effectively transform knowledge into a teachable subject.

"When a third grader asks why people don't fall off the Southern Hemisphere, you can't answer that,"

Costa said. "There are lots of questions that kids ask that you can't answer with a college-level chemistry or physics course."

A third goal is to determine the extent of knowledge necessary for prospective teachers, or what teachers should know even though they will not necessarily teach it.

A fourth goal is to develop a curriculum including non-Western cultures.

"We can't pretend that everything in our civilization came from Europe," Costa said. "Little attention is paid to non-European cultures."

A fifth goal is to attract significantly more minority teachers.

"By the year 2000, we will have five percent minority teachers and 40 percent minority children," Costa said. "That is totally unacceptable."

Many of the colleges chosen to participate in Project 30 have large numbers of minority students, Costa said. Also, there is a wide geographical diversity among the colleges and they range from large to small.

"We want every school in the country to be able to identify with Project 30," Costa said.

Each university involved in Project 30 has a different approach to improving teacher education, Costa said. Some schools are redesigning only specific areas such as math and science education. Others are attempting to draw more minority education majors by offering large scholarships. Some schools are extending the education curriculum to five-year programs.

Texas A&I University produces teachers for South Texas where most students are Hispanic, Costa said. The university is trying to transform Hispanic teacher's aides into teachers.

"They are looking where the people already are," Costa said. "These people like being in schools. The hope is that they will produce many hundreds of Hispanic teachers by doing this."

Costa said if Project 30 causes as much change as possible, attitudes toward the teaching profession must change. Smart students who want to be teachers should be encouraged rather than told that they can do something better or more rewarding.

## State senators clash over AIDS funding

AUSTIN (AP) — Senate budget writers clashed Tuesday over AIDS funding as one senator said increasing spending to help reduce the incidence of the deadly disease at the expense of other programs was like throwing money down a rathole.

Members of the Senate Finance Committee also heard proposals on shutting down one state mental hospital and two state schools for the mentally retarded and cutting a program that provides medical assistance to 10,000 poor women and children.

The recommendations are part of a proposed \$43.7 billion two-year spending plan, that was shaved earlier by \$1 billion in order to match expenditures with projected state revenue.

Sen. Carl Parker, D-Port Arthur, said the state should focus its attention on preventing diseases such as diabetes rather than AIDS.

Comparing AIDS and diabetes funding, he said "One program pours money down a rathole, the other money could cure enough in order to control it."

Parker said diabetes can be controlled through education.

"Policy-wise we ought to look closely at things we can do something about," he said.

Sen. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Dallas, questioned whether it was right to just let AIDS victims die.

Johnson said AIDS also can be controlled through education.

More than 5,300 Texans have been diagnosed as having acquired immune deficiency syndrome. That number is expected to grow to 45,000 by 1992.

The Texas Department of Health has requested the Legislature appropriate \$49.2 million for AIDS programs, but the proposed state budget would continue the current level of funding — \$3.4 million for education and counseling and \$3 million for the drug AZT, which is used in some cases to treat AIDS patients.

An interim task force has recommended a number of proposals that would require additional funding for education and treatment of AIDS.

Finance Committee chairman Sen. Kent Caperton, D-Bryan, said the proposed budget doesn't adequately address many needs.

Caperton said, "There are people out there who need these services that we're not getting to. This budget doesn't do anything about meeting those needs." Parker said if the state spent more on the prevention of other diseases then the eventual savings could be spent on AIDS.

"If we would adequately address diabetes, we could save enough to double our expenditure on AIDS and other communicable diseases and still have money leftover," he said.

"It's not a matter of which disease is more important," Parker added.

Sen. Carlos Truan, D-Corpus Christi, said he wants to approve enough funds to adequately address the needs of all disease programs.

"It's a hell of a predicament to have to choose between one and the other," Truan said.

Later, Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby said of AIDS funding, "I'm sure we need a great deal more than we could afford."

Hobby also said proposals to close one state hospital and two state schools would probably be approved, but the facilities would be converted to other uses.

"Probably one or more of the others could be used to house some of the TDC inmates that really more properly belong in a mentally retarded facility," he said.

Under the budget proposal, the state would cut a \$16 million program that provides medical help to poor women and children.

Michael Hudson, Texas director of the Children's Defense Fund, said, "Texas continues to rank at the very bottom among the states in spending on health and human services. The recommended budget would only worsen that human crisis."

## Iraqi businessman stockpiling oil rigs in Texas for possible export to Libya

HOUSTON (AP) — Iraqi businessman Ihsan Barbouti, who has been linked to the sale of West German equipment to Libya for an alleged chemical weapons plant, has been stockpiling oil drilling rigs with the intention of exporting some of them, the *Houston Post* reported Tuesday.

In a copyright story, the *Post* reported that at least one source close to Barbouti said Barbouti said he was going to ship drilling rigs he has stored in Texas and Oklahoma to Middle East countries, possibly including Libya.

The U.S. Customs Service in Houston is investigating the possible export of some of these drilling rigs to Libya because it is illegal to export any commercial material from the United States to that country.

"The problem is that if these things are going to Libya, they would use a transshipment point, such as Egypt," so the ultimate destination would not appear on any export documents, a customs investigator said.

"I wouldn't be surprised if they are heading for Libya," said Woody Stamper, an oil-field operator in Waller, where Barbouti has four rigs stored.

"It was no secret. Barbouti told me from the very beginning that some of the rigs — 10 or 12 — were going to the Middle East," according to one source close to Barbouti who asked not to be identified.

This source told the *Post* that Barbouti bragged he has been a consultant to Libya for the

past three or four years and is getting \$120 million a year from Libya, paid into a Swiss bank account.

The West German magazine *Stern* reported that the German company Imhausen-Chemie supplied Libya, through a Barbouti company, with everything that was needed to build a chemicals factory.

The *Stern* article said Barbouti set up IBI Engineering in Frankfurt solely for the Libyan contract and then liquidated it.

Barbouti, 61, has a doctorate in engineering and taught architecture in Germany at one time. He lives in London and is said to be traveling in Europe.

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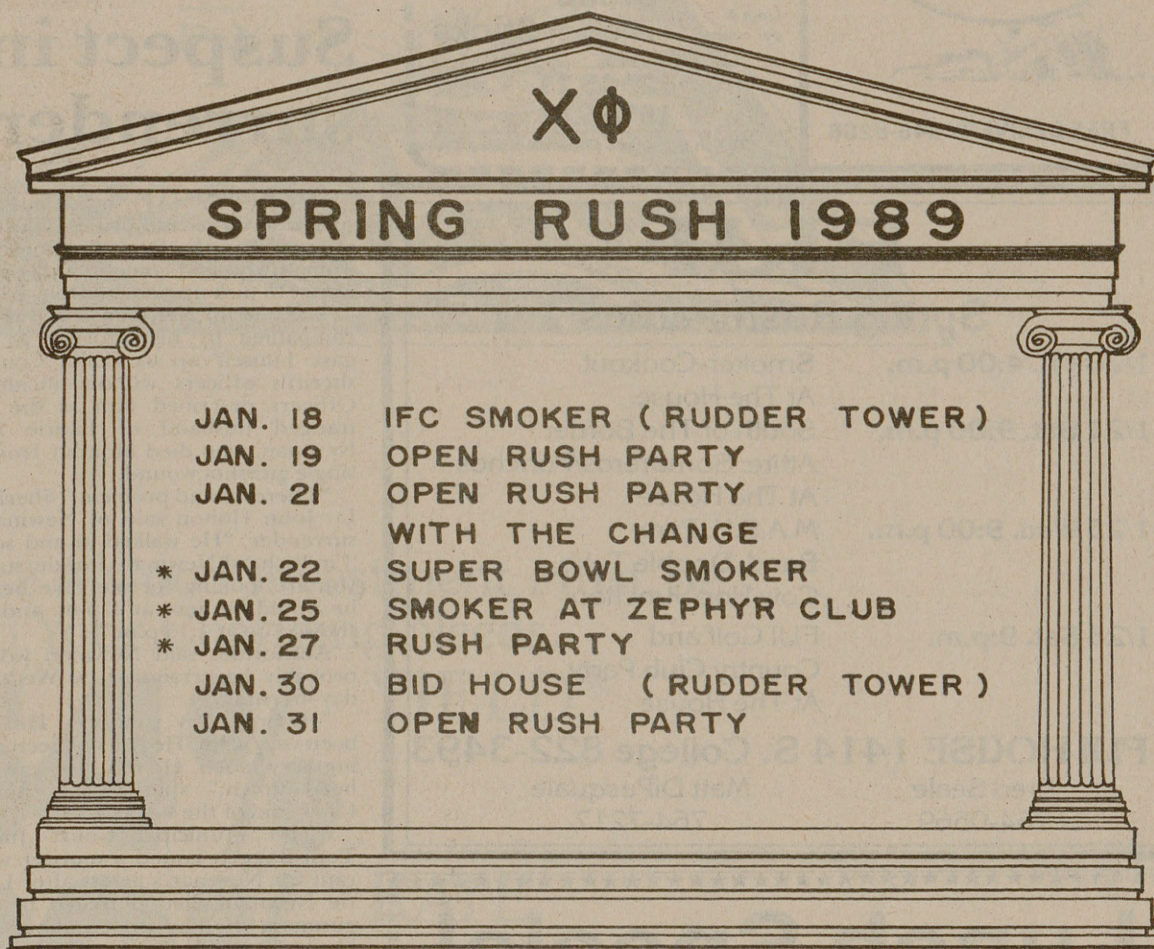
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