

Thursday, November 15, 1990

Panel: A&M falls short in multicultural goals

By ELIZABETH TISCH
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M University inadequately addresses multiculturalism, said students on the panel at a multicultural forum sponsored by the Residence Hall Association Wednesday night in Rudder.

The panel, consisting of seven student leaders from various minority organizations, answered questions from A&M students. RHA Director of Programs Kathy Hopkins began the panel discussion with the question, "Do you feel A&M is adequately addressing multiculturalism?"

Paul Howard, executive for the Minority Liberal Arts Society and panel member, said A&M has taken the ball, meaning multiculturalism, and has run with it, but not fast enough.

"A&M needs to ask themselves what they want to do with it (multiculturalism)," Howard said. "We need to increase minority enrollment and make it more equal in number."

Hopkins read the minority enrollment figures, which startled the audience. According to Hopkins, 2.3 percent of the approximately 41,000 students enrolled at A&M for the Fall 1990 semester are African American. Hispanics make up 7.5 percent of the student body and Asian-American students make up 2.8 percent. Hopkins said there are only .2 percent Native Americans enrolled at A&M.

Robert Villarreal, a member of the Committee for the Awareness of

Mexican-American Culture, U-ACT and a member of the panel, said he feels there is a lack of multiculturalism in the academics offered by the University.

"Students need to learn about each other's history," Villarreal said. Several people from the audience said that minority authors are never discussed in the world literature courses taught at A&M.

Villarreal said he has confronted several of his professors about this; however, he felt they had a lack of concern.

When asked why minority groups segregate themselves with organizations designed only for minority students, several members of the panel were prepared to answer.

Melanie Isabell, President of Delta Sigma Theta, said these groups provide not only a social outlet but also an identity for minority students.

"If we didn't have these (groups), who or where can we find this," she said. "No efforts are being made."

She also stresses that learning about other cultures will do everyone a favor, not just the minority groups.

"There is so much to learn from different cultures," she said.

The forum was part of the week-long multicultural program sponsored by RHA. The "Cornucopia of Cultures" will continue with a performance by the Voices of Praise choir in the MSC Flagroom today at noon. Later this evening, a cultural extravaganza featuring a variety of dance and musical groups will be from 7 to 9 in the Flagroom.

In Advance

McFadden sponsors pig kissing tonight

McFadden Hall will sponsor a "Kiss a Pig" contest at 6:30 tonight in the Grove to support the American Cancer Society.

Dr. John Koldus, vice president of student affairs; R.C. Slocum, Texas A&M's head football

coach; Ty Clevenger, student body president; Brant Ince, head yell leader; and Rhonda Jo Horn, Miss Texas A&M will participate.

All proceeds will benefit the American Cancer Society.

What's Up

Thursday

CHI OMEGA: Songfest tickets are on sale now in the MSC and Blocker. Songfest is this Friday at the Bryan Civic Center at 8 p.m. All Chi Omegas will be selling tickets for \$4 now and \$5 at the door. For more information call 693-5340.

FOURTH DAY: meeting for all those who have made any Aggie Awakening at 6:15 p.m. in St. Mary's Student Center. AA #29 is coming soon! Call 846-5717 for more information.

SPEECH COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION: social with the profs. from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Flying Tomato. Call 693-5630 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: general discussion at noon. Call C.P.D.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: general discussion at 8:30 p.m. Call C.P.D.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS: general discussion at 6 p.m. Call C.P.D.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

RIO BRAZOS AUDUBON: Dr. Sayed El-Sayed "Living Resources of the Southern Oceans: Blueprint for Their Conservation" at 7:30 p.m. at the College Station Community Center, 1300 George Bush Dr.

REP K CLUB: Grad Study Night at 7 p.m. in 202 Francis.

MSC ALL NIGHT FAIR: early registration for the 1991 Lights, Camera, Action fair. Cost is \$15 until Nov. 21. Applications available in SPO. Call Stacey at 693-1687 for more information.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY PRESS: Warehouse Book Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 in the Lindsey Building Warehouse next to bonfire. Call 845-1436 for more information.

IL CIRCOLO ITALIANO: the movie, "Mi Manda Picone" will be shown in 100 HECC at 7:30 p.m. Call Beatriz at 846-1245 for more information.

TEAC EDUCATION COMMITTEE: EcoRAP this week discusses Native American Indians and the true meanings of Thanksgiving at noon under trees in front of the Academic Building.

PHYSICAL THERAPY CLUB: Dr. Merryfield will speak and answer questions from Texas Tech Physical Therapy Program at 7 p.m. in 410 Rudder. Call Michelle at 693-8904 for more information.

ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST STUDENTS: weekly meeting with guest speaker, Philip Atterberry, at 7:30 p.m. at the Beacon Baptist Church, 2001 Villa Maria Rd. Call Cherry at 847-0019 or Stephen at 847-7101 for more information.

TEXAS A&M PRE-LAW SOCIETY: Dr. Hilary Jessup will conduct a "Personal Statement Workshop" for applying to law school at 7 p.m. in 126 Blocker. Call Joyce Lynn at 693-2842 for more information.

LADY AGGIE STUDENT SUPPORT ORGANIZATION: roadtrip to Austin to support the Lady Aggie Volleyball team. Transportation is provided. Cost is \$10 including food on the bus, but not the game ticket, \$2. Game time is 7 p.m. Call Connie at 775-0542 for more information.

BIRTH PARENT SUPPORT GROUP: meeting at 5:30 p.m. at the Child Placement Center, 505 University Dr. East. Call 268-5577 for more information.

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS: SWE T-shirts on sale until Friday in SWE office, last chance. \$10. Call Sarah at 693-7139 for more information.

MSC JORDAN INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL AWARENESS: Religions of the World, a panel discussion featuring experts on Christianity, Judaism, Islam and Hindu. The speakers will discuss their religion's perspective on contemporary problems at 7 p.m. in 206 MSC.

MSC OPAS: Brazos Valley Classical Guitar Society focus on Performing Arts Week at noon in the Academic Plaza. University Chamber Series featuring John Walker, organist, at 8 p.m. in the A&M Methodist Church.

CLASS OF 1991: Senior Awareness Week: Senior Night at Texas Hall of Fame. \$2 Cover.

THE SOCIETY OF MEXICAN-AMERICAN ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS: last meeting of the semester, elections for secretary and head of publicity committee positions at 7 p.m. in 102 Zachry. Call Albert at 696-5923 for more information.

RHA: Voices of Praise free concert at noon in the MSC Flagroom. Party with International Music and Dance Groups from 7 to 9 p.m. also in the Flagroom. Call 845-0689 for more information.

TAMU BAHAI CLUB: National dev. and spiritual principles, in Chinese at 7:30 p.m. in 230 MSC and Introduction to the Baha'i Faith, in English at 9 p.m. in 206 MSC.

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST: Lifeline meeting. Everyone welcome at 7:30 p.m. in 200 HECC.

POLITICAL FORUM: E.L. Miller Lecture Series presents, "Over a Barrel: The U.S. Alternatives to Mid East Oil Dependency." Panel discussion, "The Dueling Dilemmas: Resolving the Economic and Environmental Needs of the U.S." from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Panel discussion at 7 p.m. in Rudder Forum. Call 845-1515 for more information.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS: general meeting at 7 p.m. in 301 Rudder.

AGGIES FOR EQUITY: association of graduate assistants working to obtain health benefits meeting to discuss strategy at 7 p.m. in 164 Blocker. Call Brad at 845-6222 for more information.

McFADDEN HALL: will have a "Kiss a Pig" contest to benefit the American Cancer Society at 6:30 p.m. at the Grove. Call Lisa at 847-8445 for more information.

PAX CHRISTI OF ST. MARY'S CHURCH AND THE MEDICINE TRIBE: will have a candlelight vigil to honor the six Jesuit priests and their two helpers slain one year ago Friday by the Salvadoran military at 10 p.m. at the All Faiths Chapel. Call Irwin at 268-7471 for more information.

Friday

CAMPUS ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: Anyone interested in being part of a campus recycling program and receiving part of the revenues should call Susan Davis at 764-9488 by 5 p.m.

AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION: this is a special general meeting for the purpose of voting on changes to the ASA constitution at 7 p.m. in 404 Rudder. Call Lynn at 260-9233 for more information.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: will have a discussion at noon. Call the C.P.D.E. at 845-0280 for more information.

COLOMBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION: will have meeting TBA. Call Juan at 775-0645 for more information.

OCA: will have a dinner club at 7 p.m. at Mr. Gatti's. Call Brian at 778-2784 for more information.

SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS: last chance to order T-shirts for \$10 in SWE office. Call Sarah at 693-7139 for more information.

Warehouse, next to bonfire. Call 845-1436 for more information.

Items for What's Up should be submitted to The Battalion, 216 Reed McDonald, no later than three business days before the desired run date. We publish the name and phone number of the contact only if you ask us to do so. What's Up is a Battalion service that lists non-profit events and activities. Submissions are run on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no guarantee an entry will run. If you have questions, call the newsroom at 845-3316.

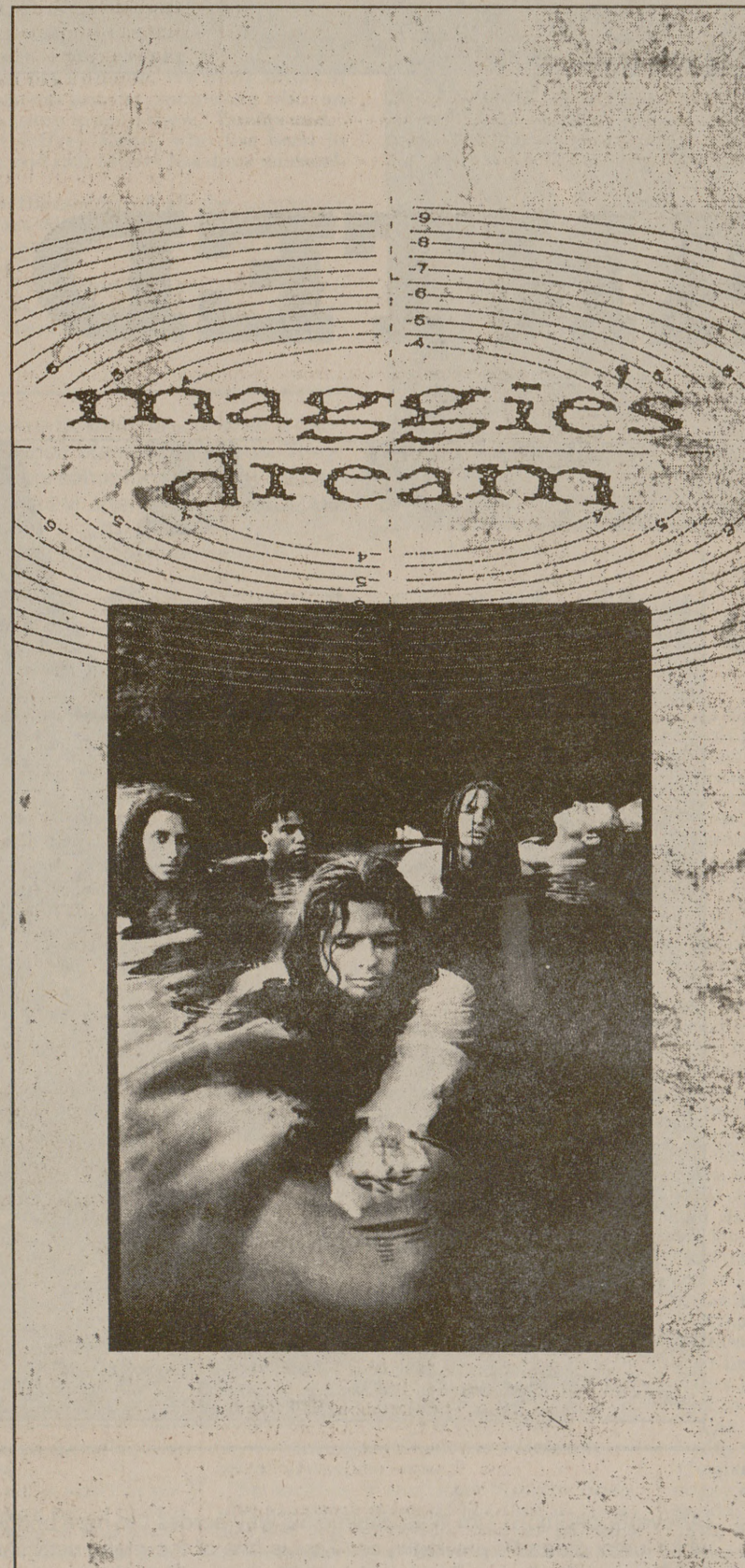
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