

# English future debated

**JULIE MYERS**  
The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M's Faculty Senate debated Monday the future of English Composition and Rhetoric I. English Department head Dr. J. Lawrence Mitchell said ENGL 103 could be withdrawn and replaced with a new English 104 Composition and Rhetoric II which would combine aspects of ENGL 103 with ENGL 104.

The Senate debated the course withdrawal for about an hour before sending the matter back to the Curriculum Committee for study and consultation with the Academic Affairs Committee.

Mitchell said the department's limited resources could be better used to teach more sections of English 301 Technical Writing and a new course, English 100, for students whose scores are not high enough to get into the new ENGL 104.

ENGL 103 is a three credit hour course required before taking ENGL 104, but the hours do not count toward graduation nor is the grade used to determine grade point ratio.

"In the interest of the University as a whole, we're not simply trying to reduce our workload," Mitchell said.

"We're trying to produce a stronger English combination."

After taking the new ENGL 104, students would be required to take courses like ENGL 301, English 325 Creative Writing, English 210 Argumentation and Composition or English 203 Introduction to Literature, a writing intensive course limited to 5 students per class. Sophomore students could also choose to take ENGL 210T, a proposed sophomore technical writing course.

About 60 to 65 percent of students do not place out of ENGL 103 using the College Board tests or the

verbal part of the Scholastic Achievement Tests.

Many senators were concerned these students would be ignored under the English Department's new package.

But Mitchell said those 60 to 65 percent of students who do not place out of ENGL 103 would still be served by the new plan. He also said ENGL 103 was not needed because 97 percent of students who took the class in the last five years, passed the course.

Mitchell suggested lowering the passing grade on placement exams to allow more students to take ENGL 104 instead of taking a remedial ENGL 100 course. Presently, A&M requires a higher passing grade on English placement tests than the University of Texas at Austin.

"We're being overwhelmed by students who didn't need to take ENGL 103," Mitchell said.

Mitchell was surprised at the debate over the issue. He said he had given all colleges affected by such a change many opportunities to scrutinize the package.

In other business, the Senate:

- Stood in silence for one minute to recognize the failure of diplomacy to resolve the conflict between the United Nations and Iraq and to acknowledge the expected heavy casualties of a war
- Recommended the revision of the University statement on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, Tenure and Promotion to include international activities in teaching, research and service as achievements to be considered for faculty performance evaluation
- Approved the final report from the Committee on Student Advising and Counseling
- Discussed a proposed amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution granting election eligibility to non-tenure track faculty who are less

## Senate endorses findings on discrimination policy

**By JULIE MYERS**  
Of The Battalion Staff

After an hour of debate Monday, the Texas A&M Faculty Senate endorsed the findings of the Committee for a Discrimination-Free Campus.

The committee's statement was approved by President William Mobley last summer and formally announced at a press conference in August.

Senators who opposed the adoption thought that by accepting the statement they also were accepting the recommendations of the committee.

Professor of philosophy Dr. Larry Hickman said the committee's report did not address applicability to the Corps of Cadets.

Corps Commandant Maj. Gen. Thomas Darling said the Corps does not discriminate based on sexual preference, but the Department of Defense will not commission homosexual officers.

Associate professor of educational administration Dr. Delbert Carpenter said approval of the policy would place A&M in the forefront of higher education instead of a laughingstock.

from discrimination given to students.

The policy, however, does not apply to employees of Texas A&M University System agencies, including the Texas Engineering Experiment Station, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and Texas Forest Service.

Associate professor of history Dr. James Rosenheim, a member of the committee, said a positive vote would be endorsing the statement and the principles of the report, not necessarily the recommendations, which have not been implemented.

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than full-time and/or those paid from funds not appropriated as teaching or library salaries

- Approved a change in one graduate level course and the addition of 12 new graduate courses
- Approved changes in two

mathematics courses and the withdrawal of Animal Science 319 Animal Nutrition Laboratory.

All resolutions passed and other action taken by the Senate must be approved by A&M President William Mobley before being enacted.

## Deadline nears White House urges rapid pullout of Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House said Monday that Iraq will be living on "borrowed time" after Tuesday's deadline for withdrawal from Kuwait. The administration urged Saddam Hussein to take "dramatic action" to avert war.

"Everyone has to assume that military action could occur at any point" after Tuesday, White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater said.

Pentagon sources said the number of U.S. forces in the Persian Gulf had topped 400,000, an increase of 30,000 from the total announced last Thursday.

There was no sign that Iraq would pull back. United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who met in Baghdad with Saddam Hussein, said, "I don't see any reason to have real hope."

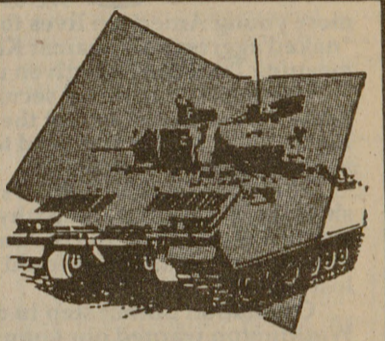
"It's time to rally behind the forces in the field," said Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., who had opposed the congressional resolution endorsing the use of force. He said the time for debate was over, but warned there could be bad news from the battlefield if war breaks out.

As the U.N.-set deadline neared, Bush summoned congressional leaders to the White House.

"If conflict occurs, there will be full support for the men and women of our armed forces," said Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, who also had opposed the congressional resolution. "Conflict is not inevitable and we hope it does not occur."

Fitzwater said, "We all share a sense of deep concern and somber anxiety about reaching this 15th deadline."

However, he said, "the basic consultations and decision-making that needs to be done preparatory to the



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use of force has essentially been done."

Speaking of Bush, Fitzwater said, "If the time comes, he is ready. I think the president has made up his mind. He is prepared to use force if that is called for and if that is his final decision."

### Prayer for peace



Allen Academy first-grader Christopher Lee prays with fellow classmates for peace in Middle East Monday. MIKE C. MULVEY/The Battalion

## Military assault Soviet troops seize building in Vilnius

VILNIUS, U.S.S.R. (AP) — President Mikhail S. Gorbachev on Monday defended the bloody military assault on Lithuania and said he learned about it only after a local military commander executed it.

Soviet troops seized another key broadcasting facility in Vilnius. Lithuanian officials said the action violated an agreement to reduce tensions in the republic following Sunday's attack that killed 14 people and injured 230. Troops control eight buildings in and around the capital.

Vilnius was calm but somber. Thousands of mourners lined up in the snow outside a sports arena to file past the open caskets of 10 victims as weeping parents stroked the

bruised faces of the dead beneath a huge Lithuanian flag.

Gorbachev's statement that he was not in on the decision to use force called into question how strongly he controls the Soviet military.

In his first public comments on the weekend storming of Lithuania's radio and TV transmitter, Gorbachev expressed no sorrow or regret over the loss of life, except to say it was "a tragic development" that the Kremlin did not want.

He told the Supreme Soviet legislature in Moscow that it was "a defensive action."

"The manner of defense was decided by the commandant," Gorbachev told reporters during a break in the session.

## New garage to open; reserve spaces now

**By TROY DON HALL**  
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M students are encouraged to begin putting their names on a list reserving a parking space in the unfinished University Center parking garage.

Tom Williams, director of Parking, Transit and Traffic Services, says the parking garage will begin operation during Fall 1991.

The structure will provide approximately 1,500 spaces for contract, staff and student parking.

One thousand contract spaces have been allocated for faculty, staff and on-campus students. The remaining 500 spaces will be for visitors, he says.

"We planned for a mixture of 500 staff and 500 student, but I don't think we will need all the faculty and staff allocations," Williams says.

Parking spaces will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, he says.

"Spaces will be assigned based on when a person signs up," he says. "I encourage students to begin signing up for spaces."

He says the new parking garage should be convenient for students living in residence halls near the

MSC or the Corps area.

Street improvements and modifications, however, will limit the amount of parking on campus, Williams says.

"Street parking will be limited next semester because we will be completing our bicycle system on campus," he says.

Parking spaces will cost \$200 a year in the garage and \$150 a year for roof spaces.

Williams says he expects parking and transportation on the A&M campus to run smoothly during the spring semester.

"Parking in the spring is never as critical as it is in the fall," he says. "We had an abundance of parking spaces in the fall, so there should not be any parking problems."

Williams says Ireland Street presently is under repair and that Ross Street also will be under construction during part of the semester causing some re-routing of shuttle buses.

He says faculty members, staff and students will be kept informed of any transportation problems.

To sign up for a space in the University Center parking garage, students can contact Karen Lyons at 845-6146.

## Students, faculty establish Soviet ties

**BY MISSELLE MCALLISTER**  
The Battalion Staff

What began as a trip to the Soviet Union became "an incredible cultural exchange" between students and faculty members of Texas A&M and Kazan State University, the Sister Universities Association chairman said.

A&M sophomore Michael Pinkus traveled to Moscow with Student Body President Ty Clevenger and Special Assistant for International Affairs Lisa Cash for a conference of representatives of 50 U.S. and Soviet universities to assess the University of the Americas Program.

The A&M group left for the Soviet Union Dec. 29 and returned Friday.

The program was organized by the Citizen Exchange Council, a

non-profit U.S.-Soviet cultural exchange organization, and the U.S.S.R. Committee of Youth Organizations. The program promotes exchanges between paired universities from the two countries.

However, while they participated only as observers in Moscow, A&M representatives met for one week with students and faculty from Kazan State to establish ties to create the Sister Universities Association.

Pinkus said although Moscow was beautiful, the conference was poorly organized.

The delegation accomplished more communicating one-on-one with the students and faculty of their sister university, he said.

"The real treat was going to Kazan," Pinkus said. "It was like an ivy league school of the Soviet Union."

Pinkus said it was only natural for A&M to pair up with Kazan State because the Soviet city and Bryan-College Station are sister cities.

During their stay, Pinkus said representatives from A&M and Kazan State reached agreements of goodwill to encourage regular exchanges of information.

The first agreement, written entirely by students, was signed by Clevenger and Dmitry Kounitza, deputy secretary of the Student Governing Association at Kazan State. No other exchange program is entirely student operated, Pinkus said.

"Now we have incredible programs for each other," he said.

Besides meeting with students and faculty, Pinkus said the A&M delegation met with local small busi-

nesses, an international affairs director and a theater group to increase communication between the two cities.

The two countries can learn a lot from each other, he said. The Soviets have great theorists, he explained, but not great technology, while the United States has the technology to apply theory.

The program also was a good chance to exchange actual historical facts, not history written through propaganda, he said.

Many things taken for granted in the United States such as telephones and automobiles are luxuries in the Soviet Union, he explained.

"They are 50 years behind," he said. "It made an incredible impact on my life. It made me patriotic. It made me realize how good we have it here."