

The Battalion

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Psychology professors criticize A&M tenure system

By MICHELE BRINKMANN
The Battalion

Some Texas A&M professors are criticizing the University's tenure policy, saying the system is unfair and unbalanced.

Dr. Wendy Stock, an assistant psychology professor, described A&M's system as "neanderthal and androcentric."

Stock was denied tenure in January by a 12-0 vote in her departmental evaluation. The tenure committee said she did not have the type or number of publications required to obtain tenure.

"The clinical area of psychology has a bad history of accepting everyone for tenure," Stock said. "However, no one has been given tenure in this area since 1984."

Stock described the conflict between devoting time to research and to teaching in relation to acquiring tenure.

Instructors say criteria overemphasize research, devalue teaching

She said it is unfair to place more emphasis on research at the expense of students.

"I'm critical of the (tenure) criteria because it's not consistent with what serves the University and students' needs," she said. "I think the University gives lip service to the value of teaching, yet it does not carry this out in its actions."

Dr. Karl G. Hursey, a former assistant professor of psychology, was also denied tenure this year by the University. He said in a letter to former Dean of Liberal Arts Daniel Fallon that "it appears that the tenure decision was based solely on research publications."

The head of the psychology department, Dr. Paul J. Wellman, said, "In the Department of Psychology, the enhancement is now on research, which goes

along with teaching.

"Teaching plays a little role in the process despite University statements

"I think the University gives lip service to the value of teaching, yet it does not carry this out in its actions."

-Dr. Wendy Stock,
asst. psychology professor

that teaching is emphasized and highly valued," Hursey's letter stated. "I believe that the combination of my research, teaching, and service records argue in favor of

granting tenure by the balanced criteria promulgated by the University in its public statements."

Senior Vice President and Provost Dr. E. Dean Gage disagreed with criticism of the tenure process.

"These statements are completely unfounded and unfair," he said. "There are multiple steps in the process."

According to A&M's Policy and Procedures Manual, tenure allows faculty members to continue in their academic positions unless dismissed for a good cause.

A faculty member may be eligible for tenure after five years of service to the University. The tenure process begins when the faculty member submits an application. The application is then reviewed by several committees and offices, ending with the Texas A&M Board of Re-

gents, who "hold sole authority to confer tenure." The three main categories in which an applicant is evaluated are teaching, research and service.

The applicant is advised of the recommendations at each level of review, and each college has its own set of criteria.

"The hallmark of the system is that everyone knows how the process works and is aware of the guidelines," Wellman said. "At each stage the candidate knows what is happening."

If a faculty member is denied tenure, he or she has a year to find another job while still employed at A&M.

"If someone is not granted tenure, the faculty member is not cut off," Wellman said. "They have one year to stay with the University and look for another job, which they normally find."

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Pat Nixon dies of lung cancer

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — For 53 years, she was the loyal and uncompromising partner in Richard Nixon's triumphs and tribulations. And for nearly two decades, as Nixon himself noted, "she would have to share my exile."

Pat Nixon died of lung cancer at the couple's New Jersey home Tuesday. Her husband and daughters were at her side.

The 81-year-old former first lady had suffered two strokes and numerous lung infections since Nixon's resignation from the White House in 1974 but she bounced back each time. A heavy smoker at one time, she was diagnosed earlier this year as having lung cancer.

Her death came a day after the Nixons observed their wedding anniversary at their four-story townhouse in Park Ridge, N.J.

"Mrs. Nixon was awake yesterday and knew it was their anniversary," said Kathy O'Connor, Nixon's aide. "The girls were there and they looked at annivers-

ary cards and beautiful flowers that had arrived."

Mrs. Nixon later lapsed into a coma and died about 5:45 a.m.

President Clinton telephoned Nixon to express his sympathy and calls and telegrams flooded the Nixon office in Woodcliff Lake, N.J. They came from such diverse people as Ted Williams, the baseball Hall of Famer and a Nixon friend; Pat Buchanan, the conservative columnist; Roger Williams, the pianist; Mike Gminsky, a professional basketball player for the Charlotte Hornets; and prominent Democrat Pamela Harriman, now ambassador to France.

"I'm very sad," Clinton told reporters. "They had a very long and very close marriage. This must be a very difficult time for him. The American people appreciate the dignity with which she served as first lady."

Mrs. Nixon will be buried Saturday in California where she and Nixon met, outside the house where Nixon was born. The Rev. Billy Graham, a longtime family friend, will fly in from Paris to

conduct the service at the Nixon Library and Birthplace in Yorba Linda, Calif.

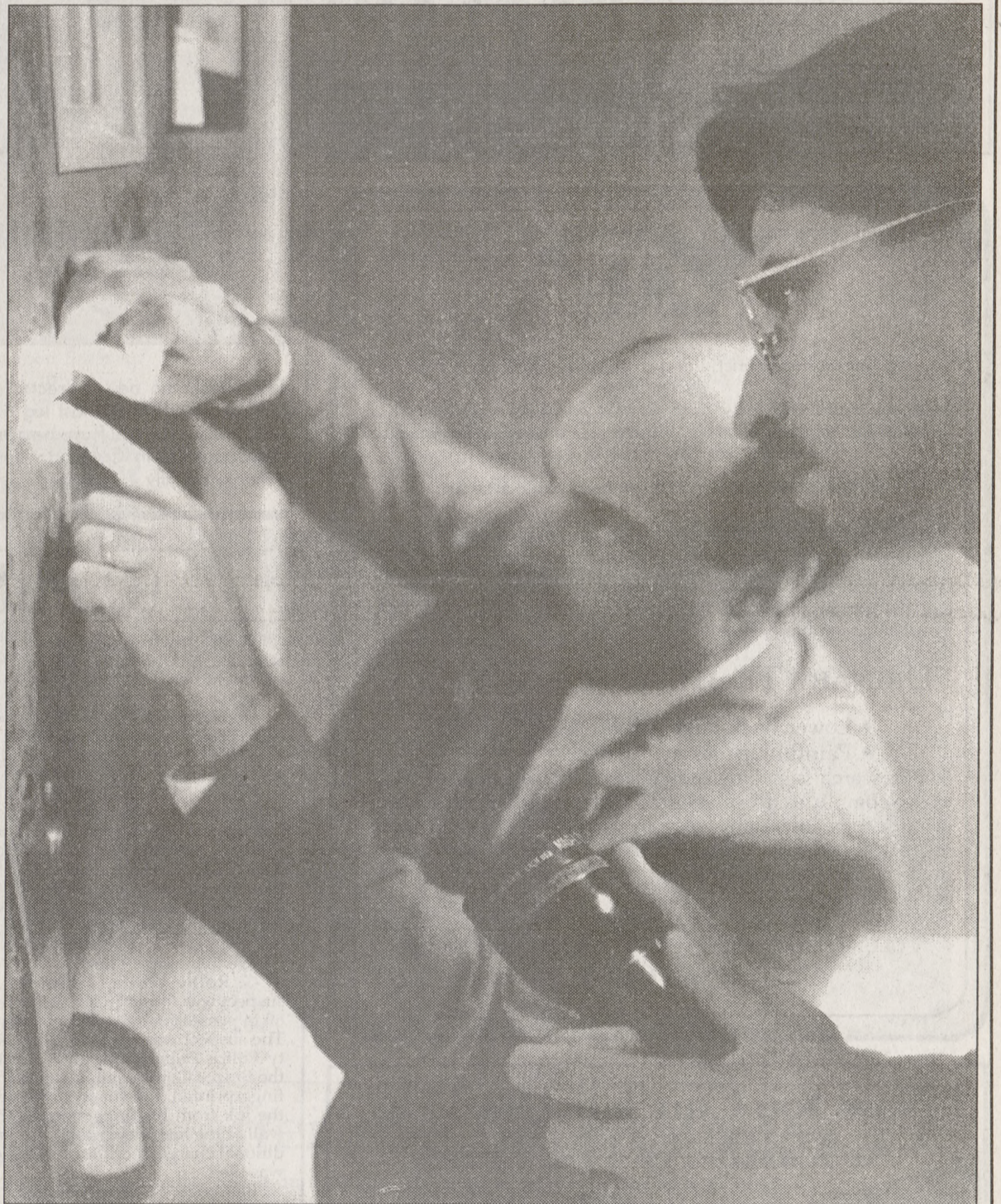
Former presidents Reagan and Ford, who live in California, said they will attend. Former President Bush said, "Pat Nixon was a lady — a real lady — whom we all loved and respected." Bush was not attending the funeral because of a death in Barbara Bush's family.

John Taylor, director of the library, said, "Mrs. Nixon was tough, compassionate, witty, down to earth, infinitely resourceful and, most of all, a woman of truly infinite heart who touched everyone she met with her joy and love of life."

During Nixon's turbulent rise in politics, through the dark years of Watergate and the pain of Nixon's forced resignation, Pat Nixon was at her husband's side, never showing in public how much it hurt.

"The resignation was harder on her than me, because she thought it was a mistake to resign," Nixon said later. "She thought we should fight to the end."

Looking for clues



BILLY MORAN/The Battalion

University Police Detective Sergeant David Villareal (right) shines a flashlight for Detective Sergeant Will Scott as they search for fingerprints on a door that was pried open during an attempted robbery yesterday morning at the Reed McDonald building.

United We Stand, America targets students

By LAURA HALEY
The Battalion

This summer the national United We Stand, America (UWSA) organization established a College Task Force and a hotline in Dallas to promote student involvement in state, county and local politics.

UWSA is a grass-roots political party started by former presidential candidate Ross Perot.

Darla Kreller, northeast region states and Texas coordinator of UWSA, said the hotline number (1-800-333-USWA) is available for anyone interested in knowing about the organization and how to form a chapter at their university.

No fee is required to join, and students do not have to be members of the national organization, although it is recommended, she said.

"If the youth of our country become involved in public service, we can address the serious problems facing our nation," Kreller said.

Texas A&M established a student UWSA chapter in March and currently has approximately 100 members. The chapter has already sponsored a candidate forum for the recent special election to fill Lloyd Bentsen's senate seat.

Dr. Ron Darby, faculty adviser for the A&M student chapter, said they have not had much time to recruit new members, but he expects the membership at A&M to grow.

Brent Sumner, a senior business analysis major, is

a member of the national UWSA organization and plans to join the A&M chapter. He said it is important for students to become involved in politics.

"United We Stand, America is an awakening of what's going on with the economy and what's happening," he said.

The student chapter will grow because many people are disenchanted with traditional political parties, he said.

Dana Williams, former president of Aggie Democrats, said she does not believe the group will affect membership in Aggie Democrats or College Republicans.

"Most people involved in Aggie Democrats or Republicans are not interested," she said.

But, Sumner said the conservative attitude at A&M will contribute to the growth of the chapter.

"A&M is very conservative, but it has a good chance [for UWSA growth] because a lot of people are conservative enough to believe Perot is right," he said.

Sumner said he believes in the organization because of Perot's stance on many issues. "I am a supporter of Mr. Perot," he said. "I think he stands for a lot of things the country needs most that people are not aware of."

UWSA has established student chapters at Harvard University, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, University of Kansas, University of Southern California, University of Tennessee at Knoxville and University of Texas.

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OPINION

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- Column: Dickerson argues for drug legalization

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WEATHER

- Wednesday: partly cloudy with scattered mainly afternoon showers. Highs in the upper 80s
- Forecast for Thursday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of mainly afternoon showers or storms. Highs in the 90s
- Extended forecast: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon rain

Program helps new Aggies adjust to college

By LISA ELLIOTT
The Battalion

Hordes of new students have descended upon the Texas A&M campus, equipped with maps and closely followed by wide-eyed parents.

Summer orientation conferences began June 1, and almost 6,500 new freshmen and 2,500 transfer students will visit the campus and register for fall semester classes during the summer, said Brian Hicks, member of the executive committee of the Aggie Orientation Leader Program.

The goal of the Orientation Program is to help ease the transition for new students and their families from high school to college, he said.

The Orientation Leader Program, which is sponsored by Student Services, is made up of 225 upperclassmen volunteers who were chosen from about 1,000 applicants based on interviews.

"They were asked questions about how they would handle certain situations and then given a number score," Hicks said. Those with the highest scores were chosen.

The Orientation Program consists of activities such as tours, energizers, ice cream socials and help sessions in which students can get help from Orientation Leaders (O.L.s) in making out their class schedule.

There is also an "insights" session during which students ask O.L.s questions about everything

from dating in College Station to classes, Hicks said.

In addition to student programs, O.L.s host parent socials, Hicks said. "This is an opportunity for parents to get away from the hustle and bustle and meet with other parents and O.L.s."

Laurel Leszinske, a new student from Houston, said she really enjoyed the energizer Monday night. "It was a good way to meet people," she said. "I came by myself and didn't know anybody." She said as a result of all the O.L. programs she has made several new acquaintances.

Kimberly Spencer, a new student from San Marcos, said she is really excited about attending the conference and A&M.

Her mother, Kathy Spencer, is attending the conference with her.

"We love it here," she said. "We didn't get to attend the ice cream social because we got here too late." But, she said, they are planning on attending the tour and as many of the other programs as they can.

Scott Votaw, orientation leader executive, said many new students who attend the programs approach him and personally thank him for the help.

Votaw said the orientation leader program is a very special program because it "helps keep A&M the friendly place that it is." He said new students are greeted immediately by O.L.s when they arrive on campus and have a friendly first impression of A&M that lasts throughout their college experience.

Tomorrow in Aggielife —

Feature: Taylor Publishing Co. presents communications workshop at A&M

Review: 'What's Love Got To Do With It,' — the life of Tina Turner



Review: & The film and soundtrack of 'The Last Action Hero' — Arnold Schwarzenegger stars in a fast-moving flick