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MSC FILM SOCIETY OF TEXAS A&M

A&M receives \$1.3 million

Defense Department awards federal grant for environmental engineering scholarships

By Tracy Smith
 THE BATTALION

The United States Department of Defense has awarded Texas A&M University a \$1.3 million federal grant to provide environmental engineering students with scholarships and fellowships.

U.S. Sen. Phil Gramm said approximately \$437,500 of the \$1.3 million will be used for scholarships and fellowships for environmental engineering students.

The remaining \$836,375 will go to develop a demonstration project establishing environmental training courses to assist displaced defense industry workers.

"I am delighted that Texas A&M University has been chosen to play a key role in this year's Department of Defense Environmental Scholarship, Fel-

lowship and Grant Programs," Gramm said.

Dr. Bill Bachelor, Texas A&M civil engineering professor, said the grant program will benefit A&M students while training individuals who have lost their job in the defense industry.

"Basically, the Department of Defense plans to solve two problems at once," Bachelor said.

He said there are a number of defense installations with environmental problems that need to be solved before they can move ahead. Second, with defense cut-backs, many defense workers are losing their jobs.

The Department of Defense was looking for a way to combine a program that would provide new skills for unemployed workers, while bringing more environ-

mental engineers to the defense department to solve the environmental problems, he said.

"This a program that will offer support for the students and valuable training for those in need," Bachelor said.

He said that the fellowship program would allow many A&M students to receive money from the defense department by agreeing to work with the department after graduating from college.

Gramm said a total of \$20 million in the Defense Environmental Scholarship, Fellowship and Grant Program funds were awarded to 16 colleges and universities nationwide.

"These funds will go directly toward providing necessary training for students who are pursuing careers in the many

environmental fields critical to our nation's defense program," Gramm said.

Julie Hillrichs, a spokeswoman from Sen. Gramm's office said Texas A&M was the only school in Texas to be awarded these grants.

Bachelor said receiving the grant shows the strength of Texas A&M.

"This program incorporates both education and training and really shows the strength that our University system has," he said.

Under the grant program, Texas A&M will work with a number of universities, businesses and organizations including Prairie View University, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Babich & Associates, the Texas Coalition of Occupational Health and Safety, Voton Works, the Texas Environmental Health Association and the Association for Advancement of Mexican Americans.

Runoffs required for freshmen

By Melissa Jacobs
 THE BATTALION

Tuesday's freshman elections resulted in runoffs in all races except for Student Senate representatives.

Runoff elections will be held for all other positions on Oct. 11.

A runoff election will be held between presidential candidates Annie Blanco, who received 175 votes, and Blake McKinney, who received 309 votes.

Blanco said now that she is in the runoff election, she has an even bigger challenge ahead of her.

"I have to re-think my campaign for presidency," she said. "I have a big challenge ahead of me because Blake got more votes than I did."

Vice presidential candidate David Chumbley received 177 votes and will enter the runoff election against Chad Jones, who received 337 votes.

Jones said he felt really good

when he found out he had made it to the runoffs.

"I worked really hard to get here," he said. "If I'm elected vice president, I plan to get the Class of '98 off to a good start by having a social so that fish can get to know each other."

"I also want to have an off-campus charitable fund-raiser to get College Station and Bryan behind the Class of '98."

A runoff for treasurer will be held for Jeff King, who received 227 votes, and Will Jenkins, who received 243 votes.

King said he was relieved when he found out he had made it this far in the election.

Historian candidate Jill Allison received 408 votes and Robert Sproat received 333.

A runoff election will be held for the position of secretary between Joel Foshea and Dan Cochran.

Runoff candidates for social sec-

retary are Laura Beth Vogt, who received 275 votes, and Graham Upton, who received 156 votes.

Chelsey Ferguson, election commissioner, said the election commission had no problems with the election and they have not received any complaints from the candidates.

"The polling workers were all there and we have new ballot boxes with locks," she said.

Ferguson said the emergency election regulations which were passed three weeks ago really helped.


"I think they woke up the election commission and made us work better together as an organization," she said.

Freshman senators are Carlos Gancedo, Annie Blanco, Blake Henshaw, Matthews Acock, Robert Payne, Autumn Leveridge, and Chris Johnson.

Leveridge said she is excited about being elected a freshman senator.

Midnight Yell

Midnight Yell will be held in Houston at the Texas Aggie Saloon in the Northwest Mall parking lot at the intersection of Loop 610 and Highway 290.



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THE BATTALION

is accepting applications for the following staff positions for the fall semester:

Aggielife reporter

Applications are available at the front desk of Room 013 Reed McDonald Building. All majors are encouraged to apply.

Applicants must be Texas A&M students in good standing at the time of employment and remain in good standing while employed.

For more information, call Mark Evans or Belinda Blancarte at 845-3333.

THE BATTALION

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Writing Coach—Timm Doolen

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