

# T E X A S A & M U N I V E R S I T Y

# THE BATTALION

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## College of Education sponsors administration seminar

**The week-long seminar will address issues concerning administration in higher education.**

By Tara Wilkinson  
THE BATTALION

Participants in Texas A&M's 28th annual Summer Seminar on Academic Administration this week are focusing on critical issues facing new administrators in higher education. Education administrators are leading 21 representatives from Texas higher-education administrations in lectures and discussions. Topics include fi-

nances, student needs, conflict resolutions, education law and changing societal expectations.

The seminar, sponsored by the College of Education's Department of Academic Administration, began Sunday and ends Friday.

Seminar speakers include Dr. Charles A. Hines, president of Prairie View A&M University; Dr. Donald Voelker, president of Blinn College; Kenneth H. Ashworth, commissioner of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and D. Parker Young, professor at the University of Georgia Institute of Higher Education.

Other seminar speakers are Dr. Bryan R. Cole and Dr. Dean C. Corrigan, members of A&M's educational administration department.

Cole, seminar director and associate professor of educational administration at A&M, said the seminar has trained 675 administrators for public and private Texas higher-education institutions.

"It gives folks an opportunity to view a lot of issues and talk about them in a non-threatening environment," he said. "They'll go away with alternatives and ways to better handle situations."

Corrigan, professor of educational administration, gave the seminar's keynote speech.

Corrigan, who was the A&M dean of education for 10 years before he re-

turned to professorship five years ago, said he wants a restoration of social purpose in higher education.

University administrators should

**"The seminar is an effort to take middle management and to make them more efficient or to help them rise to a higher administrative level."**

— Kenneth H. Ashworth  
commissioner of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

aim to correct the current social conditions, in which one of every five U.S. children lives in poverty, he said.

"The most critical issue is the issue of mission," Corrigan said. "Instead of

talking about the courses we need to provide, I want to talk about how we use what is taught. Sometimes we get in our ivory tower and forget we can apply our talents to help people."

Corrigan said higher education needs to be reconnected with the public.

"We need to relate the university's thoughts and actions to the lives of the people who pay for the institution," he said.

The seminar develops leadership qualities that enable new administrators to initiate progressive changes in educational administration, Corrigan said.

"We talk about the difference between management and leadership," he said. "Leaders are proactive. They are

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## Institute focuses on diversity in higher education

**Participants in the program began discussing diversity education problems they encounter on college campuses and possible solutions.**

By Michael Simmons  
THE BATTALION

Representatives from several colleges and universities discussed diversity education training at Texas A&M's first Diversity Education Institute.

The institute began Saturday and runs through Wednesday and is sponsored by the Department of Multicultural Services.

The program trains representatives from various schools to organize workshops and seminars related to diversity education for administrators and students at their respective campuses.

Sheri Schmidt, student development specialist and coordinator of A&M's diversity education, said the institute enables representatives to share ideas and learn new approaches to diversity education.

The 28 participants of the institute and several support staff members attempt to create, through various activities, programs and workshops, an atmosphere conducive to team work and the expressions of individual opinions and ideas.

The institute representatives discussed problems and solutions they have encountered at their schools.

Curtis Polk, ombudsman at the Texas Department of Insurance, said it is important that everyone articulates a certain honesty and openness during the workshops.

"Every participant has to understand what they bring into a diversity education workshop," Polk said. "No one person's oppression is worse than anyone else's. When you begin a workshop, you must first establish each person's cultural identity and move on from there."

Schmidt said the workshops teach people how to openly discuss the cultural groups that have influenced them over the course of their lives. The cultural groups people belong to are defined by race, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation and socioeconomic status.

"The idea behind diversity education is not to point fingers or place blame on someone, but to develop an understanding of different languages

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Eddy Wylie, THE BATTALION

### READY, AIM, FIRE!

Nick and Sara Crocoll help their father Bill, a doctoral student in Industrial Distribution, set up a model rocket which they launched on the Polo fields Sunday afternoon.

## Bryan, CS link fire dispatch systems

**The departments are linked to allow them to respond to emergencies in either city.**

By Wes Swift  
THE BATTALION

A new program between the College Station and Bryan fire departments shortens the time it takes firefighters respond to blazes by precious seconds, fire department officials

said Thursday.

The two fire departments' dispatch systems are linked by the "First Response Automatic Aid System," which alerts the nearest firefighting and medical units of emergencies, regardless of if the emergency is in Bryan or College Station.

Jim Bland, Bryan fire chief, said the time saved by this program is vital to combating any emergency.

"We look at time as the enemy," he said. "Either it's a heart attack, when the first five minutes are crucial to saving someone's life, or it's a structure fire, when the first five minutes is critical to containing it."

The fire departments' dispatch systems keep track of all available units in both cities and send one from the nearest station when an emergency arises.

Lee Gillum, CSFD training assistant, said if the nearest unit is not available, the dispatch alerts a unit from the second-nearest station.

"So if a paramedic is needed at Villa Maria, but the nearest one is responding to another emergency, the signal goes to

the next unit," Gillum said.

Some College Station fire stations are closer and can respond to emergencies in Bryan quicker than those in Bryan, and vice versa.

Areas like Texas Avenue at Rosemary Drive, College Main and FM 2818 at Turkey Creek, which lie near the boundaries of the two cities, will be affected the most.

The program began March 8 after almost two years of research by officials of both fire departments.

David Giordano, BFD assistant fire chief, estimated that each fire department has been dispatched into the neighboring city the same number of times since the program began.

When asked about residents' reaction to the program, Bill Kennedy, College Station fire chief, said those already helped by the program did not notice a change.

"The citizens had no idea that Bryan [firefighters] were in College Station," he said. "What mattered was that they got the help."

B-C residents may reap more rewards than just improved fire protection, Kennedy said.

The Insurance Service Offices, an agency that will begin rating fire protection services for the State Board of Insurance, gives a 90-percent discount on fire insurance rates for an automatic aid program. That could translate into lower insurance costs for B-CS residents, he said.

The two fire chiefs said they hope to improve the computer systems to allow the two departments to share equipment, information and records.

The system could also be extended to allow the cities' police departments to share police records and information.

## A&M changes provisional student enrollment policy

**The students are now allowed to enroll in the second summer session.**

By Javier Hinojosa  
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M now allows provisional students to enroll in the second summer session and the fall semester, so the students have more time to prepare for college after high school graduation.

In the past, provisional students only could enroll in the first summer session. Provisional students were admitted into the University on a provisional basis, although they did not meet admission requirements.

Thirty-eight provisional students are enrolled for

the second summer session and 132 for the fall.

Gary Engelgau, executive director of the Department of Admissions and Records, said provisional students show indications that they can be successful at the college level.

Admissions faculty look into the individual's overall high school record.

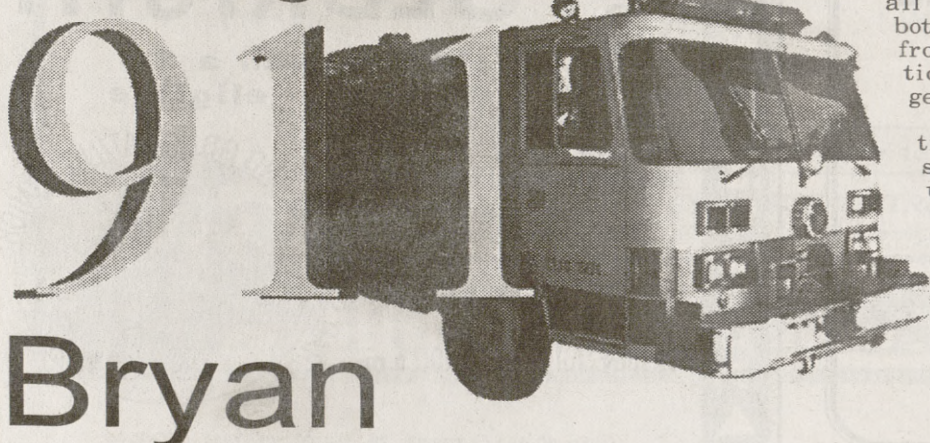
"Their records may explain why the student did not do so well," Engelgau said. "They may have been involved in activities that drew too much time away from their studies."

However, no exceptions are made for completing college preparatory course work such as high school English, math and science.

Fidel Fernandez, professional counselor for General Academic Programs, said there were

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## College Station



## Bryan