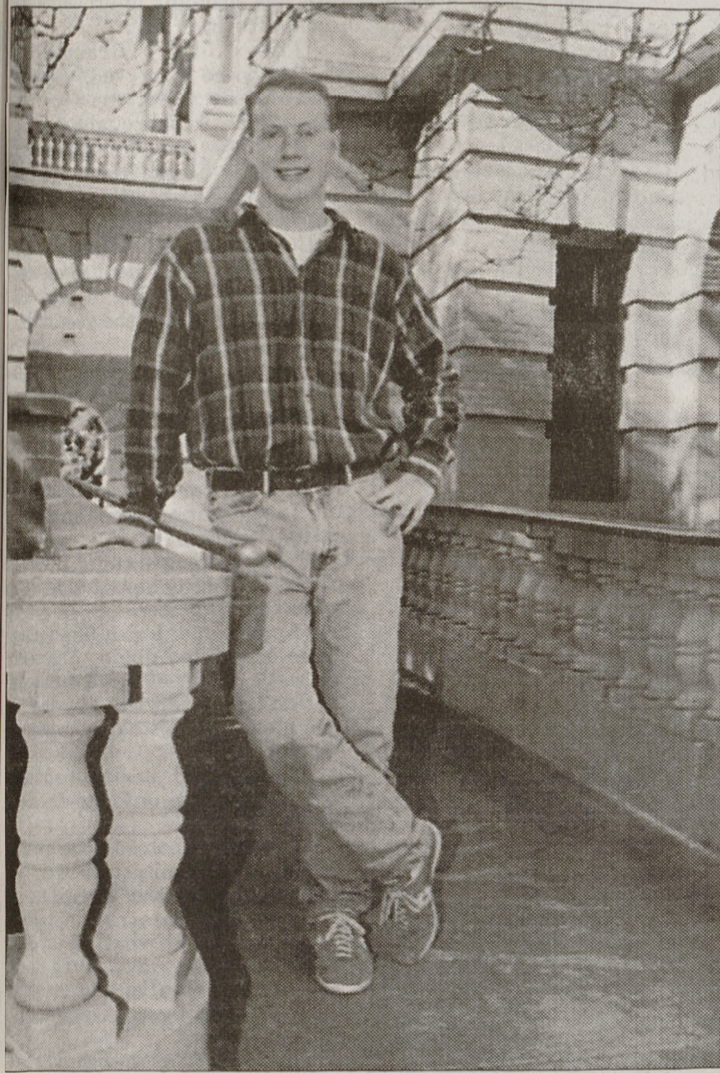


Leading the way

Conway uses unique approach to strengthen his position



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Patrick Conway, a senior genetics major, is president of the MSC.

By Kristina Buffin
THE BATTALION

Last April, the newly selected Memorial Student Center executives gathered to travel to Houston to meet with the Reveille Club, but they were missing the most important person, MSC President Patrick "Cone" Conway.

— Patrick Conway —

Executive vice president for public relations and senior political science major Jonathan Neerman was a little scared.

"We were supposed to meet at the MSC at 5 a.m. to go to the Houston Reveille Club, and he wasn't there, so we had to go pick him up at his house," Neerman said. "He came running out of his house half-dressed. His pants were undone; his tie was around his neck, and his jacket was in his mouth. He had to finish getting dressed in the car. I thought I would have to dress him for the remainder of the year."

Although Conway may have scared Neerman, he has gained nothing but support and respect since then.

"He (Conway) is different because he comes across as outgoing and fun, and some people think that he doesn't work hard, but he is a hard worker," executive vice president for programming and senior economics major Heather Huntley said.

Conway, a senior genetics major, attributes his ability to carry a huge work load and still do well in school to the people he works with.

"It has been pretty much what I expected," he said. "It is hard to balance school with 40 hours a week of work, but I knew that going in. I've enjoyed it, and everything has gone smoothly. All the other people around me have made it smooth."

Part of his academic success included a

nomination as a finalist for the Rhodes Scholar Award. Conway was one of two A&M students nominated to have the opportunity to study abroad in England at Oxford University.

"It was great to be a finalist," Conway said. "It was a tremendous experience to meet all those other people."

"It was also good to see that students from state schools can compete with the Ivy Leagues in a competition like this."

Conway first got involved with MSC programs his freshman year when he joined nine committees. He became the chair of MSC Town Hall his junior year. He said this early involvement in several committees and his leadership skills helped propel him into the position of MSC president, which he will hold until April.

"It has helped me out so far — having such a wide variety of involvement," Conway said. "It gives you a base of knowledge to work from. I did a lot of leadership stuff in high school, and I kind of wanted to be student body president or MSC president."

"The reason I chose the MSC was that, although it is bureaucratic, I feel that I have a lot of control. As student body president, you represent the students, but stuff with the administration, you are just an influence."

One of Conway's goals has been to bring the MSC committees together with more co-programming. Instead of having just one organization sponsor an event, he wanted to see organizations sponsor programs together.

"Co-programming allows us to pool our resources, and that equals more effective programming," he said. "In the past, we got caught up in whose name was on the program, but that is not important."

Conway has reached out to other organizations such as the Resident Hall Association and the Graduate Student Council, and Neerman attributes this to Conway's

character and leadership.

"His organizational method is different from the past in the MSC," Neerman said. "He has proved that you can have a different style and it can still be a benefit. He challenged us to do it in a different way because the campus is changing."

"As long as they are not scared to try something new, I hope his changes stay with the MSC because the MSC can't continue to be stagnant. But I think he has had an impact on the younger leaders."

"He (Conway) has proved that you can have a different style and it can still be a benefit."

— Jonathan Neerman
executive vice president for public relations

Though the new president will be selected on Monday, Conway hopes that people won't neglect their current jobs, and he said that his main focus is to keep every one on task. However, Conway admits there are a couple of things he wishes he could have accomplished.

"I wish I could have added more new programs like an executive lecture series that would bring in people like Bill Gates for only 25 cents per student," he said. "I also wish we did a better job of tying organizations together in a cooperative effort."

Conway said being MSC president is a great experience that will help him when he graduates and faces the real world.

"We have the largest student union in the world," he said. "It is very unique at A&M that we let the students run everything. It is tremendous that students get that opportunity."

"I feel that I learned a ton because of this experience, and I may have a consulting opportunity after I graduate just because I've had this experience in a corporate environment."

Lyons works to improve dorm life by keeping up with technology

By Libe Goad
THE BATTALION

The sky looks a little different in Suzanne Lyons' world. Instead of looking into the night skies in ignorant bliss, the Residence Hall Association president and senior geophysics major looks to the stars to her future career as an astronaut and planetary science researcher.

— Suzanne Lyons —

As RHA president, Lyons aims to make residence halls a home away from home.

"I get teased that it just looks good on a résumé because this has nothing to do with my major," Lyons said. "The time I'm here, though, I want to make a difference."

As Lyons enters her ninth month as president, she has already helped to extend visitation hours to 2 a.m. during the week and to create a memorial park for Law and Puryear Halls. She has also worked to ensure the 400 overassignments adjust comfortably.

Some dorms also gained access to the Internet and e-mail last semester, and four other dorms will have access this semester. Lack of money has kept RHA from putting the systems in every dorm.

"We don't have it in Hughes right now," Lyons said. "My suitemate has it on her system and always has her calls forwarded to our room. It's a pain."

Plans for new dorms and cable television for every resident are also in the works.

"Cable has an educational value," Lyons said. "With teleconferencing, someone can take a marine biology class from A&M at Galveston."

She also said the University wants to have a cable channel that would post the times and places different organizations meet during the week, similar to the monitors found in the Memorial Student Center.

Her plans are far from complete as she looks into her residence hall crystal ball, preparing the campus for physical and technological growth that could happen in the next 20 years.

"We want to get the ball rolling so we won't have to catch up with technology," she said.

"I get teased that it just looks good on a résumé because this has nothing to do with my major."

— Suzanne Lyons
RHA president

Lyons said RHA's main mission is to make hall residents feel comfortable with their environments. The organization set up a system in which each hall elects representatives to voice their constituents' needs to elected RHA officers. The officers serve as the official link between the students and university officials.

Lyons got involved in RHA as a freshman after a hall president made her feel welcome.

"The hall president treated me like a human being, and I looked up to her," Lyons said.

Now, people look up to Lyons and expect her to make the campus a better place to live.

Wendy Lyons, RHA external affairs director and a senior wildlife and fisheries science major, said the president keeps people well-informed with happenings around campus.

"She does a good job keeping everyone informed," Wendy Lyons said. "She's like a big two-way street."

Chareny Rydl, assistant director of Student Affairs and Student Life, said Lyons' high energy has made her a good president, especially during the fall semester when there were hundreds of overassignments.

"She handled that as she does with a lot of other things that fall into her lap as RHA president," Rydl said. "She assessed the situation and made the best of it."

Though RHA was not responsible for the overassignments, the organization sponsored a dinner for students with no permanent place to live and stayed in contact with them.

"It was a huge predicament," she said. "We didn't want the overassignments to think we forgot them or didn't care."

Lyons not only deals with unexpected events with the housing situation, but also deals with being a student.

"I had to pull it out during finals," she said. "I learned halfway through the semester where priorities should lie."

Lyons takes a full load of classes and is an avid water polo player. She said she has learned how to give time to her activities and maintain a social life by planning things down to the hour.

"It frustrates the heck out of my roommate and sister," she said. "I even plan going to the Chicken."



Cory Willis, THE BATTALION

Suzanne Lyons, a senior geophysics major, is president of the Residence Hall Association.

This will be Lyons' final term as RHA president. She lifts off from A&M in December and heads into the unknown world of space exploration, leaving her imprint for future RHA presidents.

Like the movie that inspired Lyons' passion for space travel, the RHA president seems to have the "right stuff" to get the job done.

CONTACT LENSES

ONLY QUALITY NAME BRANDS
(Bausch & Lomb, Ciba, Barnes-Hind-Hydrocurve)

Disposable Contact Lenses Available

\$79.00 OR \$110.00*

STANDARD CLEAR DAILY WEAR OR EXTENDED WEAR SOFT CONTACT LENSES.

\$99.00 FOR STANDARD TINTED SOFT CONTACT LENSES.

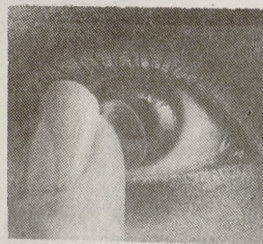
Call 846-0377 for Appointment

*Eye exam and follow up visits not included.

CHARLES C. SCHROEPPLE, O.D., P.C.
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

505 University Dr. East,
Suite 101
College Station, TX 77840

4 Blocks East of Texas Ave. &
University Dr. Intersection



J.D. Walks
ROCKN
SALOON

Two Steppin Tuesday
Chivas, Cuervo, Jager, Crown
any single shot drink \$1. 8-11 p.m.
And also, \$1.00 Longnecks 8-11 p.m.
No Cover - No One!

Woodstone Wednesday
DJ plays whatever you want to hear
with \$1. whatever single shot drinks you want.
Chivas, Cuervo, Jager, Crown
Any single shot drink \$1. from 8-11 p.m. \$1.00 Longnecks 8-11 p.m.
No Cover - No One!

Thurs., Fri., & Sat.
LADIES WEEKEND
NO COVER LADIES 18 & UP TILL 10 P.M.
NO COVER LADIES 21 & UP TILL 12 MIDNIGHT
.50¢ Bar Drinks & Draft Beer \$2.75 Pitchers 8-10 p.m.
\$1.00 Shot Specials on the Patio All Night Long!

Careers For The Next Generation.

You're intelligent. You're aggressive. You know what you want and what it takes to get there. You're a prime candidate for Abbott Laboratories' Financial Professional Development Program (FPDP) - an intensive program designed specifically for tomorrow's next financial leaders.

FINANCIAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FPDP is designed specifically for top students who are eager to gain exposure and experience in virtually every area of our financial operations. Here, we provide a careful mix of formal training coupled with on-site, in-depth financial assignments. The FPDP program will provide you with the necessary knowledge in key financial and accounting disciplines to prepare you to assume a leadership role within our organization.

Our financial figures have soared, year after year. Our performance has made us one of the five most profitable organizations in the nation. And our status in the industry is undeniable. If you're looking for the next big opportunity, take a good look at Abbott Laboratories at the:

Southwest Black Student
Leadership Conference
January 18-21, 1996



Abbott is an Affirmative Action Employer/Smoke-Free Environment

Over one hundred years of quality healthcare worldwide