

THE BATTALION

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Faculty trade barbs over possible reorganization

Roland Allen says the current structure is ineffective

Weather R. Rosenfeld
BATTALION

arks are flying among Faculty members over a proposed reorganization in the governance structure. The proposal, made by Dr. Roland Allen, professor of physics, called for a reorganization of the Faculty Senate into what he calls a "Faculty Council."

When the Faculty Senate was first established, we all had high hopes for the program. Our hopes were dashed, however, when it became apparent that the Faculty Senate is absolutely impotent when it comes to practical action on truly important matters."

In a memo to Dr. Ray Bowen, Texas A&M president, Allen called for the reorganization. The memo cited several reasons for Allen's proposal, including a

general frustration with, "... a run-away process of political correctness carried... to outlandish extremes."

As a result of these complaints, Allen resigned his seat as a college of science senator.

Dr. Larry Oliver, deputy speaker of the Faculty Senate, had objections to Allen's methods of handling his grievances.

"The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate is nominated by other members in the Senate; anyone could have run against me for this position," Oliver said. "If Dr. Allen had problems with the way things were run in the Senate, he could of changed things internally."

Dr. Steven Oberhelman, speaker of the Faculty Senate, also disagreed with Allen's approach.

"I will use this analogy: A young

boy who loses in a game of marbles," Oberhelman said. "Not only does the boy go home, he takes the marbles with him and doesn't want the other boys to have the opportunity to play the game either."

In the memo, Allen anticipated the personal attacks and responded in kind. "I have been told that I should not get into a hissing contest with a skunk," Allen wrote. "But this is the problem with the Faculty Senate: If you do anything that is perceived as remotely challenging to the political extremists, you get hissed upon from all directions."

Some Faculty Senate members simply disagreed with being categorized as political extremists.

"I categorically deny that the Faculty

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Police question three men about church fire

30 southern churches have been burned

GREENVILLE (AP) — Federal officials following the pattern of black churches being set on fire across the South expected the trend would soon spread to Texas.

Their fears were realized twice in a four-hour span late Sunday and early Monday when blazes broke out at two black churches about a mile apart in Greenville.

Three men were being held and questioned today about the fires, although the second blaze was reported three hours after they were taken into custody. Local officials also were investigating two other racially tinged incidents.

"The FBI and the ATF in Dallas called a meeting last week where we met with a number of community leaders about the burnings that had taken place elsewhere," said Paul Coggins, U.S. Attorney for Texas' Northern District. "The FBI and ATF had devised a plan on how to deal with these — they

had anticipated trouble here."

Coggins declined to elaborate about why authorities expected the church burnings in Texas.

Coggins, who returned to Dallas from Washington, D.C. late Monday night, said he planned to meet with his staff and other Justice Department agencies early today about the Greenville fires.

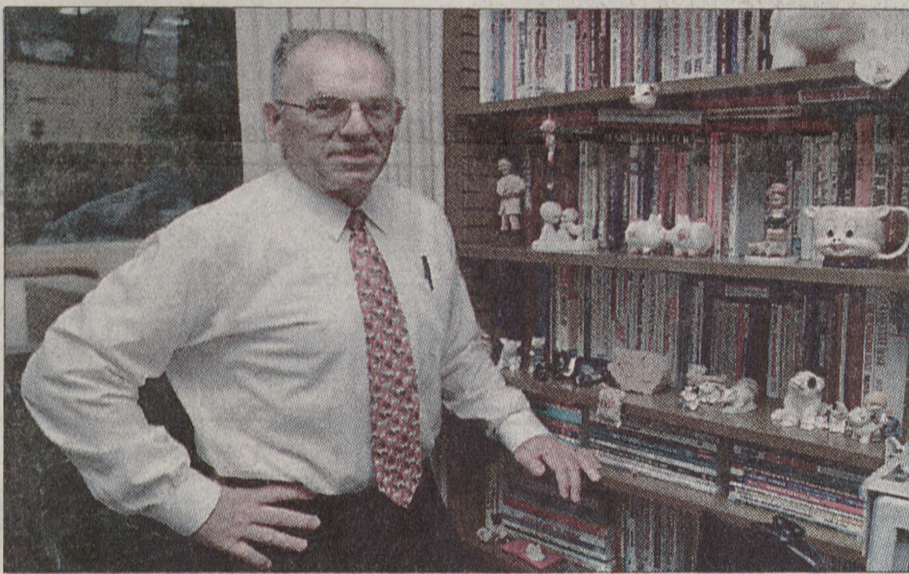
The first fire was reported around 11:30 p.m. Sunday at The New Light House of Prayer. The facility suffered extensive damage to a rear classroom and attic area and heavy smoke damage to the sanctuary.

About a mile away, members of the Church of the Living God were trying to recover from a fire that charred exterior siding and an interior wall.

The two incidents in this city of 32,000 about 40 miles northeast of Dallas bring the number of burned black churches in the South to more than 30 in the last year and a half.

Real Life 101

Class teaches professional job hunting, people skills



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Dr. Howard Hesby is the "barbecue class" professor. The class teaches students professional skills to help them get jobs in the agriculture field after graduation.

Miss Nunnery
BATTALION

Science (ANSC) 400, better known as the "barbecue class," is a one-hour class teaching students how to get a position in the agricultural field after graduation.

Howard Hesby, an animal science professor, teaches the class. The class teaches students how to go after a job more professionally," Hesby said.

The class has been offered since about 300 students take it each year.

Students have the option of going to eat barbecue each week in the class, hence the name "barbecue class."

During the first week, students set their goals. They search for job opportunities by writing letters to companies. Then, they write a multi-page resume and a single-page resume.

Students in the class learn interviewing techniques through a practice interview with a videotape and a live interview with an outside professional.

Hesby also teaches his students to dress professionally for interviews.

The class includes a seven-course meal at the Faculty Club where students learn etiquette for business dinners.

Joe Garcia, a senior agricultural development major, took the class.

"I learned a lot of professional manners and people skills," Garcia said. "It was a class worth taking."

Hesby brings in role-model speakers to motivate students.

"The speakers are professionals who tell students how they got a job and how to make it after graduation," Hesby said.

Dr. Joe Townsend, Associate Dean for Student Development in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, said, "We added the

class because big businesses came to us and said A&M graduates have great technical skills, but no people skills."

Townsend said some people have five careers in their lives. Classes like ANSC 400 prepare them for these career changes.

He said the purpose of the class is not to replace technical skills, but to enhance people skills.

"Students are our product and we're trying to make them more marketable to big companies," he said.

Hesby said most students who took the class were successful in their job search after graduation. He said they knew how to answer interview questions, how to react in different situations and how to dress for interviews.

Luke Park, a senior agricultural development major, said, "It was one of the most valuable classes I've ever taken because it teaches real world skills."



Pat James, THE BATTALION

GETTIN' FRESH

Junior Ami Macchi sorts through the fresh produce while working at the Farm Patch in Bryan Monday afternoon.

Proposal may affect tuition rates

Passed, state schools will set their own tuitions

Marie Hauser
BATTALION

As public colleges and universities may be able to set their own tuition rates, a proposal by Texas lawmakers. Currently, tuition rates are set by the Texas Subcommittees on Higher Education.

The proposal for Texas residents is \$30 per credit hour, but in the fall it will be \$32 per credit hour. The proposal is passed next year, each university will set its own tuition rates.

A spokesperson from the Senate Education Committee said this policy is common nationwide. Normally, college tuition is not managed by the legislature.

John Ashlock, executive director of University Relations at Texas A&M, said the University will track the proposal with interest.

"We would like to have some flexibility in setting tuition because we are close to the situation," Ashlock said. "But this proposal is long from being a reality."

State Rep. Steve Ogden (R-Bryan) said he is cautious with the issue of raising tuition until everything has been carefully considered.

"We might be on the verge of pricing too many people out of an education," Ogden said.

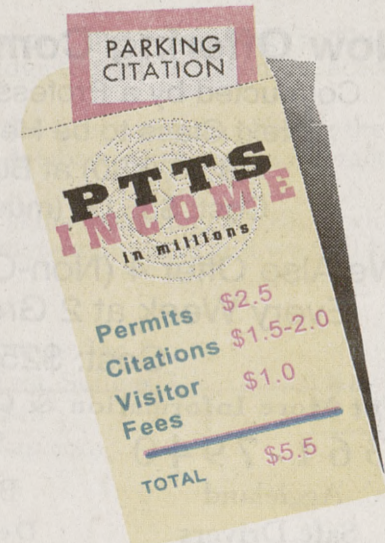
The Senate Education Committee spokesperson said the proposal would be beneficial because, if passed, it would generate money for financial aid. Also, tuition costs would differ at each institution.

"We don't want to arbitrarily raise tuition," Ashlock said, "but we want the best education for the student."

When asked about the short-term effects on students, Ashlock said, "Nothing is imminent."

PTTS explains budget, revenue sources

By Brandon Hausenfluck
THE BATTALION



The money collected from the little yellow envelopes may seem like enough to pay the national debt, but the Department of Parking Transit and Traffic Services says it just ain't so.

Only \$1.5 million of the PTTS annual budget of \$5.5 million is produced by parking citation revenue.

Although this figure may seem high, officials claim this revenue is not a significant source of income for their department.

"We (PTTS) don't write parking tickets to produce income," explained Tom Williams, director of PTTS. "The majority of our revenue comes from the sale of parking permits and temporary visitor parking."

The income produced from park-

ing citations is placed into the revenue stream. From this stream of money, the department pays its 32 parking service officers, who earn a starting wage of \$6.53 an hour, and maintains its parking areas and equipment. The department is also obligated to pay debts incurred by the construction of parking lots and garages.

"Two-and-a-half million dollars a year goes toward money borrowed to build parking garages," Williams said. "And this doesn't include the estimated cost of \$30 million for building the parking garage by the (Evans) library or the one going in on West Campus."

Mary Helen Bowers, deputy director of University Relations, said the department is concerned with

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