

# Eyes on the Prize

Student orientation leaders direct incoming freshmen through the ins and outs of college life at Texas A&M

By MANISHA PAREKH  
Staff Writer

Although most students spend their summers relaxing or going to class, the Aggie Orientation Leaders are hard at work introducing a new class of freshmen to the sights and secrets of Aggieland.

Dressed in maroon shirts and chaki shorts, orientation leaders can be seen around campus during New Student Conferences leading tours, answering questions and making sure the incoming freshmen are having a good time.

Kimberly Sabrsula, director of personnel for Aggie Orientation Leaders and a senior management information major, said the orientation leaders' job is to make sure the New Student Conferences run smoothly.

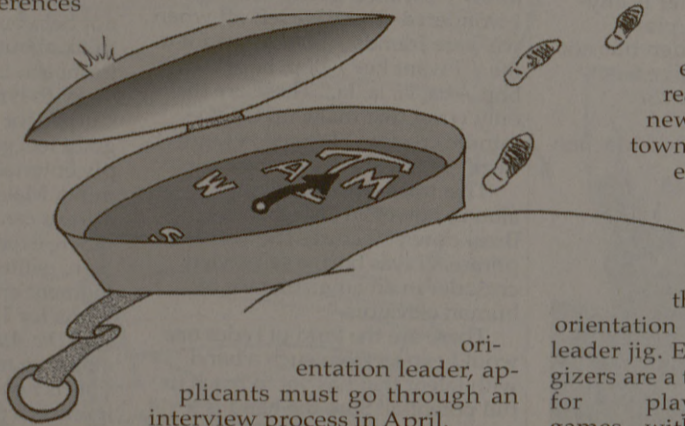
"We take care of check-in, give tours, arrange mixers and help at the Howdy Barbecue," Sabrsula said. "Orientation leaders mingle and try to get the new students to meet each other."

Brian Anglin, director of the program and a senior earth science major, said accomplishing that task takes many different kinds of people.

"We look for people from different backgrounds to become orientation leaders," Anglin said.

"We try to draw upon the different experiences of students to balance the program. We want the new students to feel like they are represented by the different types of orientation leaders."

In order to become an



want to lead tours around campus.

But for many orientation leaders, the real fun begins when the new freshmen come to town. During the conferences, orientation leaders plan mixers during which they teach the new freshmen

the orientation leader jig. Energizers are a time for playing games with a Aggie theme, such as "Reveille, Gigem, Wildcat," a game like "Rock, Paper, Scissors."

Although the Aggie Orientation Leader program is primarily there for the new Ags, the leaders themselves enjoy it as well.

Cara Langley, a sophomore agricultural economics major, said

she really enjoys "Insights," during which groups of 12 students have the opportunity to ask an orientation leader about anything they are concerned about.

"They come up with some of the best questions," she said. "The strangest question I've been asked is 'If you live on Northside, is sex free?' The most popular question is 'Where do we go dancing?'"

Langley became an orientation leader because she enjoyed her New Student Conference and wanted to help out the University and other new students.

"I had a lot of fun as a fish, and I wanted to meet some new people, so I became an orientation leader," Langley said. "It has really expanded the opportunity to meet other people."

Sabrsula enjoys her leadership role because she feels she reaches so many people.

"I like the fact that you have the opportunity to reach every new student," she said. "I have a wonderful time."

Anglin said she shares Sabrsula's feelings toward being an freshman orientation leader.

"We get to have interaction with every new student and leave your mark on every program you're in," Anglin said. "That is an awesome opportunity, and I couldn't pass it up."

**"The most popular question is 'Where do we go dancing?'"**

— Cara Langley, freshman orientation leader

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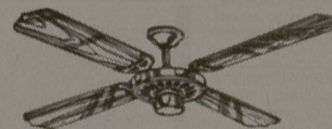


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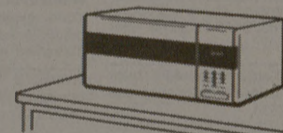
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