

RESIDENCE HALLS

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Sasse said new students do not want to live in non air-conditioned dorms that currently cost \$572 per semester.

Mack Thomas, the director of Housing Assignments, said Walton and Hart halls are filled predominantly by upperclassmen and freshmen who were assigned to the hall.

Hart Hall can hold 274 residents but currently holds 259 residents. Walton Hall can hold 336 residents but currently holds 314 students. Of those, 42 were assigned to the hall due to lack of space in the other residence halls.

During the summer, the Texas A&M Physical Plant commissioned a study within Walton and Hart halls to determine the feasibility of adding air-conditioning units and electrical outlets within the residence halls.

Sasse said the Department of Residence Life is reviewing the plant's study.

Residence Life is considering opening up one or two of the 10 ramps that section the hall into separate units in Hart Hall to female residents.

Travis Vice, a Hart Hall resident adviser and a junior mechanical engineering major, said he wants female residents to feel included in the activities.

"We do not want to stick them on a ramp, and we don't want them to be secluded," Vice said. "We want to benefit both women and current residents."

Under the direction of Residence Life, Vice said he will organize a committee to facilitate changes made to Hart Hall.

FRESHMEN

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Anderson said the larger freshman class adds more competition and pride to being a part of the programming committees.

"Every year I think the freshman class gets more talented," Anderson said.

More freshmen were enrolled in the Corps of Cadets this fall than have been seen for 11 years. Last fall 648 freshmen entered the Corps; this year's number jumped to 776 students enrolled. With the total number of cadets that reported this fall rising to 2,197, Major "Doc" Mills said this increase in numbers will help the Corps of Cadets reach its goal of an enrollment of 2,600 cadets.

"It's what we hope will be a trend in recruiting for the Corps of Cadets," Mills said.

Kelly Garrity, deputy commander of the Corps of Cadets and a senior journalism major, said the quality of the

freshmen cadets has been evident through their aspirations to get involved in student government.

"A lot of them are looking beyond being fish," Garrity said.

Tase Bailey, Corps of Cadets commander and a senior aerospace engineering major, said academically this year's freshmen are some of the best he has seen.

The Panhellenic Council registered 776 rush participants, compared with 915 this fall.

Welch said that the large freshman class gives organizations on campus the opportunity to seek out the best students to be involved with the groups' activities.

Unlike other organizations on campus, many student government committees have actually seen a decrease in numbers this year.

Dr. Ben Welch, director of the Department of Student Activities, said the smaller numbers may imply that those who have been applying for positions with these committees are more serious about involvement in

NAACP

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An African-American female participant from the Sigma Phi Beta sorority said that everyone should get to know members in the PanHellenic system as individuals.

"You should not approach someone in a fraternity or sorority just because of their letters," she said.

Another issue that was addressed was the stereotyping of African-Americans. A male student said he felt he was the victim of prejudice his freshman year when he was issued a citation and

placed in the back of the police car for jaywalking across University Drive.

A female participant encouraged action on the part of minorities. "The best action that any minority can take is by disproving these stereotypes," she said.

Several participants said non-African-American students made comments to the effect that the African-American race was ignorant and just attending the University because of athletic scholarships.

Thomas responded to this comment. "Whenever someone made that comment to me, I said that I was here because I was valedictorian of my high school."

Sexual harassment conference focuses on proper procedure

BY AMY CURTIS
The Battalion

In light of several U.S. Supreme Court decisions regarding sexual harassment, a teleconference that connected Texas A&M with several other schools across the nation was held to help faculty, students and staff deal with the issue.

Kristin Harper, the associate director of the Department of Student Life, said that one of the important points made at the conference was the fact that there are certain procedures for cases of sexual harassment that should be followed.

More than 100 people attended the conference which covered the recent U.S. Supreme Court decisions on sexual harassment as well as sexual harassment policies that have succeeded.

The panelists who were being broadcast from the University of Vermont discussed ideas other institutions have utilized to improve their sexual harassment policies.

Harper said the policy information presented at the conference resembled the Student Rules on Sexual Harass-

ment policy A&M has adopted. Harper said the Students Rules on Sexual Harassment are reviewed and updated every year.

Harper said one of the most recent changes made to the sexual harassment policy at Texas A&M states that anyone who thinks that they may have been sexually harassed should contact the dean of Faculties.

However, a clause exists in that allows a person to contact a "resource" persons such as the director of the Department of Student Life and the employee-relations manager.

Kim Casey, interim employee relations manager, said some points made at the teleconference regarding the importance of consulting with legal departments on campus involved in sexual harassment cases. Casey said another issue addressed how administrators were advised on how they should interview employees with complaints.

"Everyone really enjoyed the teleconference. I thought there was good information presented," Casey said.

Human Resources will be revising and updating its sexual harassment brochure and

distributing it soon. Patricia Schroeder, a senior at the teleconference, said that some people do not understand sexual harassment.

"Whenever a person has their power over someone else, something despicable—sexual harassment," she said.

Verna Williams, a panelist at the teleconference, said that sexual harassment is a major factor in the World Court of sexual discrimination.

She said sexual harassment occurs when the actions or behavior of one person interferes with an individual's ability to complete a task or receive an education.

She said a hostile environment can be one in which someone actively discriminates against someone else, including groping and pinching.

Another panelist, Rose Fink, an attorney, said that sexual harassment policy should cover same-sex harassment and protect men and women.

Fink said that there should be ways for people to report incidents and that should have deadlines for complaints and the investigation of those complaints.

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Names for Yizcor must be received in the office by Sept. 28, 1998