

FACULTY

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Chester Dunning, an associate professor of history at A&M, said many raises are based on merit as determined by the amount of work published rather than teaching aspects of the job.

Dunning said as the recipient of three distinguished teaching awards and an internationally recognized scholar he makes \$44,000 per year, and with the additional teaching he will do this summer he will make almost \$50,000.

He said in his case he will not benefit from a merit raise this year because the two articles he submitted for publications did not come out during the 1998 year.

He said his department is receiving a 3-percent average increase, but the department head has to take 1 percent of the 3 percent to give money to those professors that might move to another university because they will be paid better.

"The system is completely corrupt and discourages faculty from taking time for students," Dunning said. "The merit raises are for those faculty that push their teaching responsibility back

to work on publications. Most of the faculty are hardworking and are underpaid."

The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) publishes an average salary report each year. The average nine-month salaries for full professors, associate professors and assistant professors for a Category 1 school, which includes schools that award doctoral degrees, are \$84,350, \$58,987 and \$50,184, respectively.

The average nine-month salaries at A&M for full professor, associate professor and assistant professor are \$76,072, \$54,392 and \$47,937, respectively.

She said the research faculty members participate in it is important to keep knowledge current and also for the recognition the University receives.

"Faculty members teach and also provide services by participating on committees and advising students," Stout said. "The message was — when you give raises, consider all aspects of a person's job."

Charles Self, head of the A&M journalism department, said he appreciated the Texas legislature for recognizing the crucial role faculty play, by providing the funds for the salary increase.

"We have fallen behind over the years (in providing competitive salaries)," Self said. "This must not be the end, but this was wonderful recognition of the state in the economic development."

SLOCUM

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The A&M men's basketball program is predicted to bring in nearly \$2.2 million in ticket sales as well as television sponsorships and two checks from the NCAA for various tournaments. The baseball program brings in \$975,000 from ticket sales, student fees and concessions.

Some said that Slocum's pay raise may give the impression A&M values the importance of athletics over the importance of education.

Chester Dunning, an associate professor of history, has worked at A&M since 1979 and said the football mania has continued to grow during the last 20 years. He said Slocum's contract was "outrageous."

"Last time I checked, we were in the business of education," Dunning said. "There are great arguments, but a state employee shouldn't make a million dollars a year."

Robert Kennedy, vice president for research and associate provost for graduate studies at A&M, said the National Science Foundation, an independent group, forms statistics regarding research expenditures for universities.

For the 1998 fiscal year, A&M received \$393 million for all colleges and agencies in College Station related to A&M.

According to the Texas Higher Education Board, the University of Texas

received \$276 million in research expenditures, and Texas Tech received \$47 million in research expenditures. Powell said the state only appropriates a certain amount of money towards Slocum's salary and the rest comes from private sources.

Dunning said he is a "cultural specialist" who believes in hard work and getting a good education.

"Slocum walked into opportunities after inheriting the job of head coach," Dunning said. "Slocum's deal was a market decision, because we [A&M] are involved in a bidding war to keep Slocum from going to another school."

Bowen said Slocum's salary comes from the revenue generated by the athletic department. He said the success of the football program benefits everyone at A&M.

"The athletic department draws people to A&M," Bowen said. "The football program is a wonderful door to the University."

Dunning said it would be nice to reapportion resources and build new, larger classrooms instead of new sports facilities to help solve some of the educational problems such registration and improving the quality of an undergraduate education.

Powell said the Board of Regents wants to come up with a study to find ways to reward faculty and outstanding teachers.

"Nothing would thrill me more than for A&M to be able to reward the faculty," Powell said.

dressing a narrow problem area is likely to have the kind of response and results needed to address problems that are interlined with each other," Piña said.

He said these workshops depend heavily on collaboration between the two parties involved.

"This is not a one-way street," Piña said. "We have to operate as a mutually benefiting relationship."

Gov. Bush's war record questioned

MERRIMACK, N.H. (AP) — Amid questions over his Vietnam-era military service, Texas Gov. George W. Bush defended his record Sunday, declaring that "I served my country" as a National Guard pilot in Texas.

He received no special treatment, the Republican presidential hopeful insisted, after details of his stateside duty during the Vietnam War emerged in the *Los Angeles Times* and *The Dallas Morning News*.



BUSH

"I asked to become a pilot. I met the qualifications, and I ended up becoming an F-102 pilot," Bush said as he prepared to march in a Fourth of July parade.

The *Times* said Bush, as a young recruit in the late 1960s, became a second lieutenant just out of basic training, jumping into the officer ranks without credentials that many other officer candidates possessed.

Bush spokesperson Karen Hughes said the Texas Air National Guard was short of pilots, and a candidate had to be a commissioned officer to go to flight school.

The *Times* said it was informed by Tom Hail, a historian for the Texas Air National Guard, that Bush's unit had 27 pilots at the time he began applying, two short of its authorized strength. The 147th Fighter Interceptor Group in Houston, had two other pilots in training and another awaiting a transfer.

Tower power



CODY WAGES/The Battalion

Rico Oliva, of Advantage Sandblasting, adjusts safety lines atop the Northside water tower last week. Workers are repainting and repairing the tower. Completion of the project is expected by the end of the month.

E. coli blamed for campers' illness

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Health officials have confirmed that a rare strain of the E. coli bacteria was the mysterious bug that sickened at least 58 students and instructors during a drill team camp last month at the University of North Texas.

Now that the strain — E. coli O111:NM — has been found, the investigation is focusing where it came from, Texas Health Department epidemiologist Brad Walsh said.

A likely source for the bacteria is raw or undercooked food, he said.

Federal officials will be notified of the discovery of the rare E. coli strain, which has been reported sporadically in the United States, Walsh said.

"It has never been found to cause an outbreak in the U.S. before," he said. "This will begin to alert at the federal level. If we find a pathogen that is in the U.S., it has implications for food policy. We to figure out where it came from."

The strain is similar to a more common strain of E. coli O157:H7, that killed more than a dozen people in the West Coast six years ago, health officials said.

E. coli is a bacteria commonly found in humans and animals. Most strains do not cause illness, but a mutated strain can cause severe stomach illness.

Symptoms include diarrhea, vomiting, nausea and cramping.

MEXICO

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The potential cost for this undertaking could reach millions if the goals of the project expand to include community development, human health, nutrition and other facets.

"In today's world, it is highly unlikely that one institution ad-

AGGIE RING ORDERS

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- You must be a degree seeking student and have a total of 25 undergraduate credit hours reflected on the Texas A&M University Student Information Management System. (A passed course, which is repeated and passed, cannot count as additional credit hours.)
- 60 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University if your first semester at Texas A&M University was January 1994 or thereafter, or if you do not qualify under the successful semester requirement described in the following paragraph. Should your degree be conferred with less than 60 undergraduate resident credits, this requirement will be waived after you graduate and your degree is posted on the Student Information Management System.
- 30 undergraduate credit hours must have been completed in residence at Texas A&M University, providing that prior to January 1, 1994, you were registered at Texas A&M University and successfully completed either a fall/spring semester or summer term (I and II or 10 weeks) as a full-time student in good standing (as defined in the University catalog).
- You must have a 2.0 cumulative GPR at Texas A&M University.
- You must be in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

Graduate Student Requirements:

If you are a August 1999 degree candidate and do not have an Aggie ring from a prior degree, you may place an order after you meet the following requirements:

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- You are in good standing with the University, including no registration or transcript blocks for past due fees, loans, parking tickets, returned checks, etc.

However, if you have completed all of your course work prior to this semester and have been cleared by the thesis clerk, you may request a "letter of completion" from the Office of Graduate Studies (providing it is not past their deadline). The original letter of completion, with the seal, may be presented to the Ring Office in lieu of your degree being posted.

Procedure to order a ring:

- If you meet all of the above requirements and you wish to receive your ring on September 16, 1999, you must visit the Ring Office no later than Wednesday, July 7, 1999 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to complete the application for eligibility verification.

It is recommended that you do not wait until July 7 to apply for your ring audit. Should there be a problem with your academic record, or if you are blocked, you may not have sufficient time to resolve these matters before the order closes out on July 8.

- Return no later than July 7, 1999 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. to check on the status of your audit and if qualified, pay in full by cash, check, money order, or your personal Discover, Visa or MasterCard (with your name imprinted).

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The Battalion

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News: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University Division of Student Publications, a unit of the Department of Journalism. News offices are Reed McDonald Building, Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2647; Email: batt@tamv1.tamu.edu; Website: http://battalion.tamu.edu

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The Battalion (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through Thursday during the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University, Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX 77840. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 015 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-1111.