

Counseling center faces staff, fund shortage

BY STUART HUTSON
The Battalion

emergency assistance will most likely face a three-week wait.



Steve Strawn, the only full-time psychiatrist working at SCS, said he had already seen three people that morning who, at some point, may have committed suicide had it not been for his intervention.

Strawn said that while he cherishes his job, it often presents difficulties for him because of the intensity of the situations he must face coupled with what is sometimes a problematic lack of resources.

"I think that the SCS really does a good job with the resources that it has but there are times when the work demands become really too intense," Strawn said.

Birch said while this staff is adequate for SCS's current needs, he would like to hire two additional counselors, as well as expand the SCS's Website where students can obtain self-help literature.

"The problem is simply funding," Birch said. "But then again, I don't know of any facility like this which has adequate funding."

Birch said the problem of funding stems from a cap placed on student service fees by the Texas Legislature. He said all funding for SCS comes from these fees.

The cap is currently \$150 per student. A&M charges \$131, but Birch said the University must maintain the \$19 gap in case the Legislature mandates faculty pay raises, which must come from student service fees.

Ronald Lutz, a psychologist for SCS, said SCS will be instituting a new "case staffing" system this semester in which each student who requests help will be assigned to a counselor who will then personally keep up with that student's therapy.

A&M honors retiring counselor Dobrovolsky

BY AMANDA SMITH
The Battalion

Texas A&M will bid farewell to Dr. Nick Dobrovolsky of the Student Counseling Service (SCS) at a retirement reception today from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in MSC 145 in his honor for his service as a psychologist.

Dobrovolsky began working at A&M in the Department of Educational Psychology in 1975 and continued as an intern until 1978, when he began his work for SCS.

"When I came to Texas A&M, I was interested in career counseling," Dobrovolsky said. "That's what I did my dissertation on, and later I became more interested in

hypnosis. I am a counseling psychologist and have a different way of looking at mental health, looking at the strengths of an individual."

Dobrovolsky plans to continue to operate his small practice, which specializes in habit control, eating behavior and biofeedback — a measurement of body responses like hand temperature, muscle activity and brain activity.

During his years with SCS, Dobrovolsky was awarded the President's Meritorious Service Award in 1994, served as president of the Brazos Valley Psychological Association in 1983 and 1996 and served as vice president for the Central Texas Society of Clinical Hypnosis in 1992.

As a psychologist, Dobrovolsky's interests include career counseling, hypnotherapy, counseling and psychotherapy, stress management education, relationship counseling education and consultation and outreach.

Dr. Wade Birch, the director of SCS, said Dobrovolsky's expertise in the areas of hypnosis and biofeedback have aided the University community.

"He has really contributed in several areas [like] relaxation and biofeedback services," Birch said. "Not every campus has services and equipment for that. Knowing how to relax is important to students, no matter what problems the student may have."

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"This may not eliminate a waiting list," Lutz said. "This will offer more of a chance that a student will be personally contacted each week instead of being shuffled around from counselor to counselor with weeks between sessions."

Birch said SCS has been authorized to hire another psychiatrist to help alleviate Strawn's workload.

"A psychiatrist is a medical doctor who can prescribe medicine and tends to see the cases who require more in-depth therapy," Birch said.

"They tend to get burnt out a little more quickly because of this constant exposure to extreme cases."

Strawn said though his case load may be extreme, he enjoys his job and values each person he has the opportunity to help.

News in Brief

Services to be held for engineering prof

Daniel B. Fambro, associate department head for undergraduate studies in the civil engineering and associate professor at Texas A&M and Class of '73 died Sunday at the age of 48.



FAMBRO

Fambro's teaching and research career spanned more than 20 years. His time being spent at A&M. He was also a research engineer at the Texas Transportation Institute.

Since 1990, Fambro directed the Summer Undergraduate Fellows Program, designed to attract the nation's top engineering students to A&M. He had just led the development of a new course to introduce new students to the civil engineering.

Fambro also served as a graduate adviser in the department since 1995.

He was past president of the Texas Section of the Institute of Transportation Engineers and a recipient of two major teaching awards at A&M — the Zachry Award for Excellence in Teaching and the Birdwell Endowed Teaching Award in Civil Engineering. Earlier this year, he was named the Ruth & William Neely Distinguished Chemical Fellow.

Fambro earned his bachelor of science and master of science degrees in civil engineering from A&M in 1973 and 1974, respectively. He earned his Ph.D. in civil engineering from the University of Tennessee in 1988. Funeral services are today at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church in Bryan.

Soil toil



BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

Cole Watson, of Colorado City, removes a soil sample from a drilling truck Tuesday on Joe Routh Boulevard. The sidewalk near Wellborn Road has been blocked over the last two weeks as the drilling crew took samples in the area. The information will be used by engineers to design a tunnel that will run under Wellborn Road.

Volunteer Fair to help students help others

BY ROLANDO GARCIA
The Battalion

When Bowie Hogg helps paint houses for the needy, the junior business management major believes he is providing more than just a fresh coat of paint.

"It may sound kind of corny, but I think it's like a fresh coat of paint on life," Hogg said. "It's rejuvenating to see that there are people out there willing to work like this to help them."

Students will have a chance to learn about community service opportunities at the Volunteer Opportunities Fair today and tomorrow from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Bonfire site.

Lori Salter, adviser for student activities, said the fair, which is sponsored by the Volunteer Services Center, will feature more than 20 organizations from the Bryan-College Station area students can join, including such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Habitat for Humanity and Planned Parenthood.

Hogg, a coordinator for the Big Event, an annual Texas A&M one-day volunteer service project, and also a mentor with Helping One Student To Succeed (HOSTS), said volunteering is a constructive way for students to spend their free time.

"There's no better satisfaction in life than helping those in need," Hogg said.

He said HOSTS allows college students to help children struggling in school by tutoring and becoming a mentor and friend to an elementary school student.

"As someone who has done well in school, I think

Volunteer Fair

-today and tomorrow
-from 10am to 2pm at the
polo fields
-more than 20 volunteer
organizations will attend

ROBERT HYNCEK/THE BATTALION

a college student can be someone these kids look up to as a positive role model," Hogg said.

Jeff Rogers, projects coordinator for the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and a senior speech communication major, said his work with the Special Olympics was memorable.

"These kids have to overcome so much just to be there," Rogers said.

"I was a hugger at the finish line, and to see those kids so excited, no matter how they finish, it's the best experience I've ever had."

Salter said in addition to the volunteer fair, students can access the Volunteer Services Center's Website to find an organization that suits them.

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Ball State University honors Battalion, Aggieland works

BY AMANDA SMITH
The Battalion

Six Texas A&M students and their work published in Texas A&M's newspaper, *The Battalion*, and its yearbook, *The Aggieland*, received awards for their graphic art works in the 1999 College Graphics Reporting and News Art Competition sponsored by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and Ball State University.

Michael Price, the competition chair and the graphic journalism coordinator at Ball State University, said the Department of Journalism at Ball State University and the *Philadelphia Inquirer* joined three years ago to provide a competition to recognize visual arts in media production and education.

"Part of the reason we undertook this with the *Philadelphia Inquirer* is to recognize excellence in graphics reporting and news and to promote the fundamentals of visual journalism in student media," Price said.

Price said he hopes the competition will lend more attention to graphic art and photo illustration in news delivery.

"My hope is that they would be given equal thought in considering the telling of a story," he said.



"North by Northgate" won third place and was designed by Guy Rogers, Robert Hyncek and Mike Fuentes. "Sometimes the best way to tell a story is to show it."

Entries totaled 278 for the 1999 competition, compared to 174 entries in the 1998 competition. Of the entries, 87 received awards. Nine awards were claimed by A&M students.

The graphic arts awards recipients from A&M represent relatively young talent. Robert Hyncek, a graphic arts awards recipient and a senior biomedical science major, started working with the graphics at *The Battalion* in Fall 1998.

Hyncek said the results of the competition are more exciting, in light of the competing schools.

"Texas A&M doesn't even have a fine arts department, and we placed against Ball State University with a competitive graphics department," Hyncek said. "I think it is a big reward to have people just point out [graphics] from the paper."

Guy Rogers, an awards recipient and a sophomore agricultural journalism major, started working with the photography desk at *The Battalion* in Spring 1999.

"I got involved with photography because I wanted to create more visually pleasing art," Rogers said.

Mark McPherson, an awards recipient and a senior environmental design major, started with *The Battalion* in Spring 1999.

In reviewing the entries, Price said the judges initially determine whether the entry meets the competition's criteria for the individual entry, the content of the graphic or the illustration, the degree to which a graphic or illustration advances its story, the visual appeal of the graphic, the accuracy and the written components accompanying the graphic.

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Board, chancellor meet

BY BRADY CREEL
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Chancellor's Student Advisory Board (CSAB) will meet today for the first time with A&M's Chancellor Gen. Howard Graves, to discuss restricting student financial aid and other current issues for the schools in the Texas A&M University System.



GRAVES

CSAB is comprised of the student body president and a student representative from each of the institutions in the system. The purpose of meeting is to provide Gen. Graves, the top-ranking administrator for the System, with information about each campus's specific needs.

CSAB, Gen. Graves and the

Texas A&M Board of Regents will meet today at 11:30 a.m. for a luncheon meeting at the John Connally Building.

The purpose of CSAB is to generate scholarships and internships and to produce quality opportunities for students to achieve higher education.

Student Body President Will Hurd, a senior computer science major, said this is an important time for concentration on student-related issues within the System.

"This is an incredible time to capitalize on the collective wisdom of student leaders from various parts of the state to discuss the nature of higher education in the state of Texas," he said.

The highlight of the agenda of the CSAB delegation for this year will be its trip to Washington, D.C., to lobby Congress concerning student-related issues.

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Possible new qualifications for competitors would reflect reality.

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Batt radio

Listen to KAMU-FM 90.9 at 1:57 p.m. for details on the Paul Christianson Awards.