

Gun control



BERNARDO GARZA/THE BATTALION

Heath Brown, a senior nuclear engineering major and member of the Navy ROTC program, practices rifle drills in front of the Military Sciences Building Wednesday.

SENATE

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Writing Center (UWC) Fee Creation Bill, which would implement a new \$8 per semester fee to offset startup costs and operating expenses for the UWC.

The UWC would operate from a central location on campus from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and would provide tutors and equipment to assist students to improve their writing skills.

This center would support the Faculty Senate Core Curriculum Review Committee's recommendation of adding writing-intensive courses to graduation requirements.

The bill states that the goal of the UWC and the writing courses will be to develop students writing skills.

At press time, other agenda items, such as the Transportation Fee Bill, had not been decided upon by the Senate.

RHA

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further alcohol-related injuries and deaths.

Currently, students 21 and older may consume alcohol in on-campus rooms. Restrictions prohibit older residents from distributing alcohol to underage students and mandate that the door to the room where alcohol is being consumed be closed. No open alcohol containers are allowed in hallways.

Other recommendations made by the subcommittee include strengthening University sanctions on alcohol violations and creating substance-free housing, which have both been in action since the beginning of this semester.

Of the 418 residents surveyed by RHA, 55 percent opposed the subcommittee's proposal. Twenty percent of students said an alcohol-free residence hall would decrease their desire to return to residence halls.

As a result, RHA will present a resolution against the alcohol-free residence hall proposal. The RHA's proposal will be voted on by delegates at its general assembly on Dec. 6. On-campus residents are asked to contact the voting delegates within their halls to voice their opinions.

The RHA General Assembly had previously passed, on Nov. 8, a Dry Campus Resolution that stated if the administration of A&M decides to make

all residence halls alcohol-free, then the entire campus should be made dry — including the homes of Southerland and President Dr. Ray M. Bowen, any University-sanctioned event on campus and the Bernard C. Richardson Zone at Kyle Field.

Though the University has the authority to make a decision without the

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— Dennis Reardon
Alcohol Drug Education Program representative

support of RHA, Jeff Bennett, Moore Hall RHA delegate and a senior landscape architecture major, said RHA will do as much as it can to discuss the alcohol-free halls with the administration.

A 21-year-old student spoke at a night's forum, questioning the authority of the University to deprive rights the law has granted. Describing himself as a mild drinker, he and others older than the senior said, "The University cannot take away the rights of a person because of their campus."

The student said that living in a residence hall is the same as living in a dorm where, and even though he chose a less-expensive option of living on campus, he and others older than the senior said, "The University cannot take away the rights of a person because of their campus."

"This is coming into my head telling me what I cannot do, and the law specifically says I can," he said.

Reardon told the small crowd that the administration has as many questions as students do.

"To take away someone's rights is a big issue," he said. "To do so it must be clearly for the greater good. We all know this is a strong issue, and the administration has the same questions [students] do."

In conjunction with efforts to mine student opinion on the issue, a TV program titled "The Future of Alcohol on Campus" began airing its first episode Wednesday.

The program will run on Channel 88 at 7, 9 and 11 p.m. Dec. 8 each night and provides RHA contacts for on-campus residents to express their opinions.

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