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Field narrowed in VP for diversity search

By Melissa Sullivan
THE BATTALION

The 26-member committee appointed by Texas A&M President Robert M. Gates to fill the newly created position of Vice President and Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity has narrowed the list of more than 120 candidates. After several months of extensive phone interviews and paper-work, co-chairs of the search committee Rodney McClendon and Linda Parrish have invited three candidates for a campus visit. The first scheduled visit is Dr. James Anderson, who currently

serves as vice provost for undergraduate affairs at North Carolina State University. He is currently visiting A&M. Dr. Sylvia Hurtado, the second of the three candidates, currently serves as education and associate professor at the University of Michigan, and will be on campus starting June 8. On June 11, Dr. Ronald Rochon, interim director of the school of education at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, will visit A&M. The committee will continue the search until a successful candidate is found, McClendon said. "These individuals have a nation-

al reputation in this area," he said. "A&M will be fortunate to have any one of them." Parrish said all three candidates are familiar with A&M and have experience in the field of diversity. "That is always a plus," she said. "We want them to learn from their experiences in the field." Parrish said presidents at other universities have told the committee that A&M is conducting the selection process the right way by establishing a position in diversity rather than an office. "This is a bold step at this level," she said. All candidates will interview

extensively with various University officials and constituent groups, including Gates, Executive Vice President and Provost Dr. David Prior, faculty, staff and students, and will give a 30-minute presentation with the broad topic of "Vision for Institutional Diversity." Following each candidate's presentations will be a University reception where students, faculty and other attendees can ask questions. The committee welcomes the entire University to participate in the selection of the new position by attending each presentation. See Diversity on page 2

Visiting VP and Associate Provost for Institutional Diversity Candidates



Dr. James Anderson
North Carolina State University

Dr. Sylvia Hurtado
University of Michigan

Dr. Ronald Rochon
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

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SOURCE: VICE PRESIDENT FOR DIVERSITY SEARCH COMMITTEE

Student Affairs VP search extended

By Natalie Younts
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M President Robert M. Gates announced last month that he will extend the search for a vice president for student affairs into the fall. The final four candidates, Dr. William Kibler, Dr. Leellen Brigman, Dr. Juan Gonzales and Dr. Charles Fey, were brought to campus for interviews and described by Gates as more than qualified. However, after talking with committee members, Gates said in a statement that he decided to extend the search. Kibler, associate vice president for student affairs, will serve as the interim vice president for student affairs until a new one is found. Dr. Jane Conoley, dean of the College of Education, and Brandon Hill, a senior agricultural business major, headed the search advisory committee during the spring semester. "We just didn't find the right match," Conoley said. She said the search has been suspended and a new committee will be formed sometime in August. She did not know if she would head the committee in the fall, but said she would be happy to do it again. "Gates is considering the composition of a committee that will begin its work in the fall when the student body is back," said Dr. David Prior, executive vice president and provost. "The importance of this position to students is obviously great. Therefore, we believe it's important to have the student involvement both in terms of the committee and of the interview process." Conoley said there were many characteristics the committee was looking for. "We're looking for people with great leadership skills with experience in student affairs," she said. "A person who understands the connection between student affairs and academic affairs, and who will commit to moving the University toward Vision 2020 goals." More than 80 people applied for the position, Conoley said.

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A&M projects near completion dates

By Jodi Rogers
THE BATTALION



Two construction projects, the West Campus Parking Garage along with the Wellborn Underground Passageway, and the new Athletic Complex, located in the South End of Kyle Field, will be completed by the fall, officials said.

Transportation Services is now accepting reservations for parking spaces in the garage for on and off campus students.

The new garage will include more than 3,700 parking spaces, making it the largest garage on campus.

The passageway will be connected to the garage and run under Wellborn to alleviate pedestrian traffic along Wellborn.

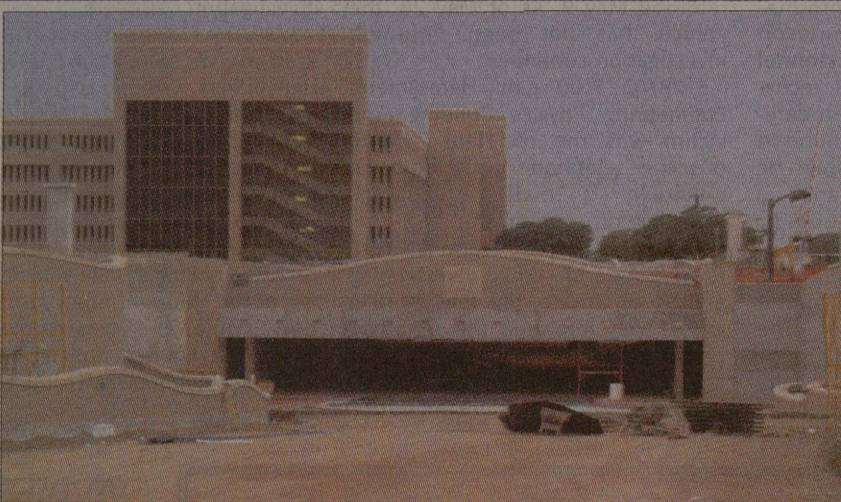
Doug Williams, assistant director of Transportation Services, said the passageway and garage cost more than \$31.6 million and should be completed by August.

"The garage will be especially useful to accommodate events that would normally overwhelm the University Center Garage," Williams said. "In the past, there was no place to direct guests and visitors to park when the University Center Garage became full."

Williams said the automated parking control equipment will accept Aggie Bucks, have seven elevators, more than 100 security cameras and six automated pay machines. The hourly parking rate will be half of the regular hourly parking rates for other garages. Transportation Services Assistant Director Debbie Hoffman said the parking spaces will not be individually assigned and that all customer groups will be accommodated.

"We're excited about the grand opening because we feel the passageway will be a key element in uniting both west and main campuses," she said. "It will be a significant improvement in increasing pedestrian and

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PHOTOS BY JOSHUA HOBSON • THE BATTALION

Above: Viewed from the south end of Kyle Field, the new Athletic Complex will bring an athletic academic service and expanded areas for football team meetings and coaches' offices closer to the field the athletes play on. The complex is scheduled to open Oct. 27.

Left: Students may be able to walk to West Campus traffic-free as soon as August, when Texas A&M officials expect the underground passageway to be complete.

FCC eases limits on media ownership

By David Ho
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators voted Monday to allow companies to buy television stations reaching nearly half the nation's viewers and to own newspaper-broadcasting combinations in the same city, relaxing decades-old rules against media concentration. The 3-2 vote by the Republican-controlled Federal Communications Commission brought strong criticism from opponents, including one lawmaker who predicted an "orgy of mergers and acquisitions" putting a few giant companies in control of what most people see, hear and read. Many media companies favored the move, saying current restrictions hindered their ability to grow and compete in a market changed by cable TV,

satellite broadcasts and the Internet. Rather than squelching diverse viewpoints and local control in news and entertainment, the companies say, freedom from old restrictions will allow them to provide better news coverage in more communities. The broadcast networks say the changes will help keep free TV alive by helping them compete with pay services for quality programming. FCC Chairman Michael Powell said the FCC achieved its goal of "building modern rules that take proper account of the explosion of new media outlets for news, information and entertainment." The commission's Democrats, Jonathan Adelstein and Michael Copps, said the changes give too much power to media giants. In the largest markets, a single company will be

Mass media metamorphosis

The Federal Communications Commission eased decades-old restrictions on media ownership Monday, permitting companies to buy more television stations (reaching up to 45 percent of U.S. households) and

Company	Networks	Cable	Motion Pictures	Magazines	Newspapers (total daily)	Stations owned
Walt Disney Co.	ABC, ESPN, Disney Channel	Touchstone, Miramax				10 TV, 59 Radio
General Electric Co.	NBC, MSNBC, CNBC, Bravo					14 TV
Viacom Inc.	CBS, MTV, Nickelodeon, UPN, Showtime, BET	Paramount				39 TV, 163 Radio
News Corp.	FOX, Fox News Channel, FX, Fox Sports Net	20th Century Fox	TV Guide	New York Post (with Post 175 International)		35 TV
AOL Time Warner	WB, CNN, TBS, HBO	Warner Bros. New Line Cinema	Time, People, Sports Illustrated			7 TV (Local news)
Pearson Communications Corp.	PRX					65 TV
Tribune Co.	WGN					28 TV
Gannett Co.					USA Today (100) (17 in Britain)	22 TV
New York Times Co.					New York Times, Boston Globe (12)	8 TV, 2 Radio
Knight Ridder					Philadelphia Inquirer, Miami Herald (31)	
Hearst Corp.				Esquire	San Francisco Chronicle (12)	27 TV, 2 Radio
Cox Enterprises Inc.					Atlanta Constitution (17)	15 TV, 79 Radio
Clear Channel Communications Inc.						39 TV, 1,238 Radio

Top television broadcasters			Top radio broadcasters			Newspaper companies		
Company	Number of stations	Percentage of households reached	Company	Number of stations	2001 revenues (\$ millions)	Company	Number of newspapers	Circulation (in millions)
Viacom Inc.	39	38.6%	Clear Channel Communications Inc.	1,236	\$3,255.4	Gannett Co.	100	7.7
News Corp.	35	37.8%	Viacom Inc. (radio)	163	\$2,061.1	Knight Ridder	31	5.1
General Electric Co.	14	33.0%	Cox Enterprises Inc.	79	\$431.4	Tribune Co.	12	5.1
Pearson Communications Corp.	65	30.0%	Engstrom Communications Corp.	63	\$407.9	New York Times Co.	19	3.2
Tribune Co.	28	30.0%	Walt Disney Co.	60	\$403.9	Hearst Corp.	12	2.4
Walt Disney Co.	10	23.8%						*Largest reported circulation

SOURCES: The companies; The Center for Public Integrity; Audit Bureau of Circulations; BA Financial Network; Nielsen Media Research; Associated Press
able to own up to three TV stations, eight radio stations, the cable TV system, cable TV stations and a daily newspaper. "This is the most sweeping and destructive rollback of con-

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A&M, UT geology profs remembered after deaths

By Karen Yancey
THE BATTALION

University of Texas geology professor Dr. Robert Goldhammer was killed last Monday, along with one of his students, when the van he was riding in hit the median of a road and flipped over.

The same tragedy struck the Texas A&M Department of Geology six years ago with the death of Dr. Norman Tilford, who died after losing control of his airplane and crashing in central Texas while en route to meet his students.

"Both professors were lost in a transportation-related accident while leading a geology field trip," said Dr. Christopher Mathewson, a professor of engineering geology at A&M.

Tilford spent time working for Harza Engineering Company and Ebasco Services Inc., while

Goldhammer worked for Exxon, Shell, Texaco and Sonat. They brought international professional experience into the classroom.

"Norman Tilford and Robert Goldhammer left industry for the express purpose of being a teacher," Mathewson said. "They both were dedicated teachers who incorporated their real world experience into their teaching and they led popular field trips that were rated highly by the students. This was a tragic loss of a person who knew what the real world was about and could bring it to his students."

This is the first death of a faculty member while on a field trip that the UT geology department has experienced.

However, during the past 40

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