

**BATT**  
 THE BATTALION  
 Mark Doré, Editor in Chief

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**CAMPUS**

# Vice president for Student Affairs candidate to visit A&M Thursday

**Pugh to give vision for position and interact with student body**

**By Heaven Martinez**

With two finalists in the running for the open vice president for Student Affairs position, candidate Daniel J. Pugh will come to campus Thursday and Friday to give his pitch for the position.

Pugh is serving as the vice provost for student affairs at the University of Arkansas.

"Pugh has a fantastic educational background that ties in very nicely with the type of work that goes on with student affairs, specifically related to student and leadership development," said Ann Kenimer, chair of the search advisory committee for the position and associate provost for un-

dergraduate studies.

Pugh's two-day visit will consist of interviews, meetings and forums. He will meet with student leaders Thursday morning and will interact with the student body at a reception from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in Koldus 110.

Pugh will meet with the Division of Student Affairs Thursday, but will make a public presentation Friday on his background and why he is attracted to this position. The presentation will be at 1:30 p.m. in MSC 2300A.

"When he visits with the Division of Student Affairs, he'll talk about his leadership style," Kenimer said. "This will be very important if he assumes the role."

After a nomination process, Kenimer said the search committee, com evaluated over 40 applications, eventually narrowing the list down to two finalists — Pugh and current A&M chief of staff in the Division of Student Affairs David Parrott.

Parrott will make his campus presentations March 26-27.

Once the two finalists have visited campus, the search advisory committee will provide feedback to incoming A&M president Michael Young and Interim President Mark Hussey, who will choose the sole



Daniel J. Pugh

finalist, Kenimer said. Tom Reber has served as interim VPSPA since the departure of Lt. Gen. Joe Weber in 2014.

**BREAK CONTINUED**

a site leader trainer, said the process of training the leaders of these trips can be lengthy.

"You're going to a faraway place so you need maps, a basic plan for what you're going to be doing during the week and food plans for 13 people over the course of a week," Sokora said. "My job is just to kind of guide them through that and give them pointers."

This semester the organization will volunteer at five different locations spread across the United States, from Memphis, Tenn. to Carlsbad, New Mexico. Each trip is dedicated to a different issue, ranging from caring for injured animals to helping underprivileged families through volunteer opportunities at a food bank. Although each trip has a different mission, Sokora said they all share a common thread in selfless service.

"One of them is going to a camp for kids with special needs," Sokora said. "They'll be helping the volunteers there and running activities for the kids and they will even be making one of their own [activities]."

The trips are confined to spring break, but site leaders prepare well before the break. Martha Todd, environmental geoscience sophomore, participated in Alternative Spring Break last year. This year will be her first time serving as a leader for a trip to the Guadalupe Mountains to learn about environmental conservation.

"You have to budget for food,

**STORY AT TX.AG/BATT19**

**SPRING BREAK SAFETY**

With spring break just days away, the College Station and University police departments offer these safety tips for the upcoming week.

1. Trust your instincts.
2. Remember, there's safety in numbers.
3. Drink in moderation and make responsible decisions.
4. Make sure your parents, guardians, friends and relatives know where you will be vacationing, when you will depart and when you expect to return.
5. Ensure the safety of your valuable belongings.

you have to contact the administration at the park to let them know you're coming, make sure that you have a place to stay," Todd said.

Coleman Ubl, animal science freshman, is a site leader for an animal rescue trip to New Orleans. This is his first volunteer trip with the organization, and he said he is confident that it will be a fulfilling experience.

"I'm expecting it to be rewarding — I'm expecting to grow leadership skills," Ubl said.

**SXSW CONTINUED**

wanted to show them Bryan and show Bryan their music because the town doesn't really get to see shows like this all the time."

Along with Sol Cat and Electric Astronaut, The Docs, The Jag and Chrome Pony will make appearances at the show.

"I'm happy to get out of town; I'm just ready to party at here and at South By, the winter's over and spring is coming and that means a lot of shows and it's kind of just a kickoff for the year, I feel like," said Gant O'Brien, a member of The Jag.

Despite the grandeur of SXSW and the reputation Austin has as the "Live Music Capital of the World," not all the bands are convinced the crowds will be better there than those found in Bryan, said Tyler Davis, a member of Chrome Pony.

"Austin is just so jam-packed and overwhelmed during South By," Davis said. "I'd say it's a little difficult to get people to get hyped up, so I think Bryan will be more excited just because it's not South by Southwest."

Although Davis said he thinks Bryan is home to a better crowd, Fisher said his experiences at SXSW last year are hard to beat.

"The shows are great, there is a lot of people," Fisher said. "My favorite story is when we were hanging at a show of one of our friends and Pharrell and Usher showed up and they were just there hanging out and we thought that was just the craziest thing and a bunch of people went up and handed them their EPs."

All the bands performing at Revolution Cafe and Bar will also be at SXSW in Austin next week. With this as a stop along the way for the bands, most of them were focused on getting to SXSW, but Fisher said nothing beats coming back to a hometown and seeing family at performances.

"I'm coming home and I get to play outside at Revolutions, so that'll be nice and just get to kick back," Fisher said.

The bands will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday at Revolution Cafe and Bar.

**BASKETBALL CONTINUED**

Kennedy admitted earlier in the week that the Aggies dealt with more problems than just House's leave. Alex Caruso reportedly played against the Crimson Tide with strep throat, while Peyton Allen competed with an infected colon, spending a couple days in the hospital following his absence in the Florida game earlier in the week.

Caruso said he's back to his old form. "I feel good. I feel better. I'm rejuvenated. I have energy. I'm ready to go," Caruso said. "[Illness] hurts a player like me because I'm a guy that needs a lot of energy. I'm running around, I'm diving on the floor. I'm yelling, I'm screaming. I couldn't do some of those things, but I'm better now. I'm ready to go."

The Aggies are in desperation mode. In Joe Lunardi's latest bracketology, A&M fell out of the dance and into his "First Four Out" after losing consecutive games. Conference foes LSU and Ole Miss shifted right past them.

If the Aggies were to find a win over Auburn, their next opponent would be LSU, who A&M beat twice in the regular season. In all likelihood, a loss to the Tigers would cut the Aggie season short, but a win could be enough to lift them over the edge. A&M's only two RPI top 50 wins were over LSU.

After LSU, A&M would most likely face top-ranked Kentucky. On Jan. 10, the Aggies met the undefeated ball club, and battled them into double overtime, but fell short 70-64.

But the Aggies must take it one at a time. Up first is Auburn at 2:30 p.m.

Thursday in Nashville, Tennessee.

Auburn lost twice to A&M in the regular season, 71-61 on Jan. 27 and 80-55 on Feb. 28. However, the second loss occurred after the Tigers' Antoine Mason departed the team due to his father's death. Mason, who is second in scoring, will play Thursday.

Coming into the tournament, the Tigers lost six straight, including three blowouts of over 20 points. This pitfall resulted in Auburn's second to last finish in the conference. K.T. Harrell leads the charge, averaging over 18 points a game while shooting over 80 percent from the free throw line.

A win would put the Aggies in the quarterfinals against 4-seed LSU, which would be played at 2:30 p.m. Friday.

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