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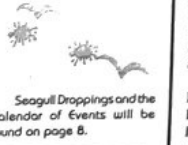
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Student newspaper continues to grow

Every university should have a student newspaper and in November of 1992 the *Island Waves* began as a volunteer effort by about a half dozen students. The *Island Waves* is intended to be a voice of and for the students of TAMU-CC. This is the student newspaper's ninth issue and finishes its third full semester. Many people hope there will always be a student paper on campus and maybe the *Island Waves* can show that it should be made a priority. What can best make that happen is more support and story input from volunteers and others on campus. Submissions and involvement from other students, faculty and staff are welcomed and very much needed.

The paper has gained increased acceptance from the campus community as well as local advertisers. The university administration also wants the paper to succeed, especially since TAMU-CC becomes a four-year institution next fall. But because of the complete lack of journalism or print communication classes on campus, the student paper has only a small and mostly untrained staff. The job of putting together the *Island Waves* is done primarily by only three people—a reporter, an advertising salesperson, and the editor who also does the page layout. Occasional submissions from other students are also used.

There have been previous attempts to have student newspapers on campus throughout the university's history—each was short-lived. Why? Because these papers were usually dependent on the journalistic skills of a single student. The situation with the *Island Waves* is not too different. It relies on one skilled student with a Del Mar journalism degree and the university provides limited financial support. However, this is not enough to ensure a student newspaper will survive.

Whether the paper will get some much-needed curriculum support is doubtful because TAMU-CC may not be allowed to offer a journalism program because it might overlap with the program at TAMU-Kingsville. Eventually, this proximity limits curriculum expansion at TAMU-CC.



So it seems that any formal programs are likely to be years away due to the exigencies of university curriculum development. Such policies threaten the viability of any student paper on our campus because of the dependence it fosters on the skills of a very few students.

A benefit of the recent increase in student services fees will be better funding for the student newspaper. This semester the funding was so low that budget shuffling was required to meet expenses of printing and part time wages. With improved funding the paper will be hiring more students, including a couple work study students. It is hoped that some of the new freshmen or sopomores might have high school journalism experience and be able to work on the paper. In any case, more student involvement will allow for a diversity of viewpoints, better coverage of campus activities, more creative writings and more in-depth reporting.

Several part time, paid positions with the Island Waves will be available next fall and students interested in working with the paper are encouraged to apply.

A dedication to make the student newspaper a success is the primary job qualification for both the *Island Waves* staff and volunteers. Journalism means that extra hours of effort are often necessary, usually without pay, in order to get the paper done. This can be a real chore for students who are taking a full class load because the paper is like a sponge that will absorb all the free time you have to give. Such is the nature of college journalism and a lighter class load is recommended.

Part time positions, which pay for up to 20 hours work per week, include an editor/page layout specialist, two reporters, an advertising person, and data entry people. Applications to work with the paper are available from the Office of Student Life for the various staff and volunteer positions. Journalism experience would be preferred; however, we realize that most students lack such skills. Even volunteers who can only do a column, cover a particular campus activity or be a club liaison are very much needed. Volunteer effort is needed get the job done.

The *Island Waves* is your newspaper too and anyone on campus can help to improve it. Let your voice be heard on the island!

Unique core curriculum is created for the new Freshman class

By Al Torres and Ed Glaze

The addition of freshmen has not only created a need for a core curriculum but allowed for the development of a program that is unique. Many student wonder why such a variety of classes must be taken? More often than not, students would rather not take some of the classes. The core curriculum, often been referred to as "the basic" classes, is designed to round out student's collegiate education and provide a foundation for their advanced education.

The goal of the core curriculum is the enhancement of intellectual skills such as speaking, listening, reading, writing, critical thinking, and mathematical competency which will include modeling and a computer lab.

TAMU-CC has designed a unique and interdisciplinary core curriculum that links all the freshmen classes to a common univer-

sity theme. "Toward the Urban Environment" will guide the education of the freshmen attending TAMU-CC for the next few years. This particular theme highlights civilization's transition from a rural to an urban environment.

There are five curriculum perspectives that are tied to the entire undergraduate curriculum. These perspectives are the individual in relation to society, principles and ethics that govern human interaction in the world, the relationship of the physical world with the individual and society, the relationships among abstract quantities and the last deals with the major and profession chosen by the student.

The upcoming freshman triad, which ties together a series of three courses, will have a government course, a history course and a writing course utilizing computerized learning which focuses on

the process of writing and will be graded by the student's portfolio. In addition, a single-semester-hour freshman seminar will be required of full time freshmen which encourages students to discuss integration of their triad core classes. Also to be taught will be skills of use to all college students, such as time management, note taking, studying skills, and test taking strategies. Topics of the second semester freshman seminar will include goal setting and career exploration.

Dr. Marilyn Spencer, director of the University Core Curriculum Program, points out freshmen should realize that knowledge is a construct. "The students will learn that history and political science are constructed, not just truths of previous generations."

Other classes outside the triad will be required as well. Math,

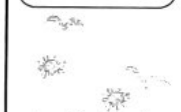
economics, environmental issues, literature and some other classes will be compulsory. The core curriculum will be capped by a course to be taken in the junior year—Foundations of Professional Ethics. Freshmen will have to take 46 hours of core curriculum classes.

Though these classes are not required of upper-level students, some sections will be offered that can be taken by any student. Of particular interest might be the environmental science class that will be offered in the Spring triad.

Even though this is a unique curriculum, a transitional policy is in effect for three years which will allow transfer students to TAMU-CC to get their degree. However, beginning in 1997 all transfer students who began college after May 1994 must have adhered to the core curriculum requirements.



AUGUST



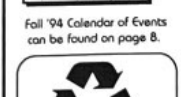
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MONTH



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Greetings to our new and returning students

Robert R. Furgason
TAMU-CC President

The 1994-95 school year marks a major milestone in the development of our university. With the arrival of our first freshman and sophomore students, which we haven't had since the time we were a private Baptist university, we have attained a status that has been the dream of a large number of people in this region—that is, to be a comprehensive, doctoral degree granting university. With the \$75,000,000 of construction underway, these are exciting times. It is shaping up to be one of the finest instructional facilities of any university in this nation. Our new student housing is not only very striking, but incorporates the type of living style students want these days. The beauty of our campus, with its setting surrounded by water, is unparalleled anywhere.

It is the education you will receive that is the most important factor. For our new freshman students, the core curriculum program is something most universities would love to implement, but can only dream about. We have about 70 new faculty members joining us this Fall bringing us expertise from throughout the nation and world. Their credentials are outstanding and they join a current faculty who have exceptional and noted for the caring attitudes toward the students. We intend to have our university rank among the best in the state.

With the number of projects underway, and all the new folks around, there are bound to be a number of things that don't go as planned. Thus, this first year will be a "shake down cruise" refining what and how we are doing. I hope you can share in the excitement that has prevailed at this university during the past several years as we prepared for this time. I welcome you'll to the Island University and wish you the best in your academic and personal pursuits.



Greetings students

Elliot Chenuaux
Dean of Students

Welcome to TAMU-CC. The years of planning have culminated. Greetings to all new students and to our returning students. For those of you who are returning to campus, you will notice many changes. These include new and renovated buildings, such as the field house with \$100,000 worth of new equipment.

Many buildings will have new hours. The Student Service Center (the round building) will be open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Glasscock Memorial Student Center (snack bar and bookstore building) also has new and extended hours.

Many new activities and programs are planned for the coming year. I encourage you to get involved in the activities or send your input to the Student Service Center. Please be aware we have many new programs in Health Services, Career Planning and Placement, Personal Counseling and Tutoring. Once again, Welcome, good luck in your studies and have a good year.

Welcome New Students

By Al Torres
Staff Reporter

Hello, and welcome to the orientation issue of the *Island Waves*! If this is the first issue you've read, you might be wondering why there is an *Island Waves* newspaper. This is a STUDENT newspaper. Our publication is run by students. We hope that we will be able to serve you for many years to come.

You will also see a newspaper called *The Island University News* scattered all over campus. It is on heavy, white paper and is put out by the Public Information Office. Well, that wonderful publication is a separate entity, funded by administration, with a full-time staff and that paper is professionally assembled by experts. It is also a public relations tool for the university.

I am proud to say that the *Island Waves* has grown impressively since its first issue three semesters ago. From humble beginnings with a single person working on the paper, we have published papers up to 16 pages long and have done it with about three dedicated staff, led by a fearless editor that is pretty much the only guy who knows what he is doing, and a handful of volunteers.

You might be saying, "What the heck does this have to do with me?" Well, unlike other college papers that have classes of journalism students reporting news for a structured publication, we are a dedicated few writing mostly about student-related events, and have the freedom to be a forum for creativity. And, believe it or not, we want you to get involved with the paper.

What, you say? You're not creative? Well, since you're in college you can surely write. Maybe you write poetry or can draw pretty pictures (like Clinton, my favorite person in the whole Western hemisphere. Yeah, right!) Maybe you just want to complain about something and suggest changes for the betterment of all. We welcome letters from students but please, nothing like Dr. So and So is such a jerk, or, Gee, that Al Torres is such a Rush Limbaugh wannabe. Substantive, constructive criticism or social commentaries are appreciated.

Anyway, I thought that you should know a bit about who we are and why we exist. Now that we are acquainted, stop over and say hello! We are in the round building, on the second floor, room 205. Ask for Ed, or Al. If you are really unlucky, you'll get Jim. If no one is home, stop by the Office of Student Life where someone can get you in touch with one of our people. Well, that's all! Looking forward to seeing your work. See you soon!

Let's get involved

Sergio Olivares
Student Government President

Greetings and welcome to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. As the President of Student Government, it is my duty to inform you of what I wish to accomplish during my term in office at this university.

First of all, the student government is committed to looking after the well-being of all students that attend TAMU-CC. Any issues that arise dealing with the welfare, morale, or other concerns of the students should be brought to the attention of the student government. We will try to see that appropriate actions are taken to remedy the situation.

Second, I believe that in order for an organization to be successful, it requires a commitment from all students and advisors involved. In a couple of weeks, my staff and I shall present to the student body our new student government constitution. The old constitution is very restrictive, outdated and does not meet the needs of our growing institution. This new constitution allows for better participation from all the colleges: Arts and Humanities, Business Administration, Education, and Science and Technology. It also allows for representation from all the classifications: freshmen, sophomores, juniors, seniors, and graduate students. Your mission is to assist us in spreading "the word" to get our new constitution approved by the student body. Once it has been approved, we can get down to business and hold elections, as the new constitution dictates, to fill the vacancies created.

After all elected senators, congresspersons and student representatives have been sworn-in, we can address the objectives of the Leadership Training Program currently under development.

I want to stress "involvement." Get involved not only in student government, but also in some of the 30+ student organizations on campus. Teamwork is very important and it helps to keep life exciting.

Please recycle or pass on this newspaper to someone else.

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