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TEACHING AND RESEARCH

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Recreation Planning

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Tourism Planning

Frank W. Suggitt, D.P.A.  
Planning and Resource Development

Billie Ingram, Ph.D.  
Recreation Administration

Robert Couch, M.A.  
Parks Administration

Louis Hodges, B.A.  
Parks and Recreation

Ben D. Mahaffey, B.S.  
Interpretation

LECTURER

James O'Rourke, B.S.  
Park Design

EXTENSION

Jack Jones, Specialist  
Resource Development

B. Dan Kamp, Specialist  
Recreation and Parks

Jack Sloan, Specialist  
Resource Development

Jim Stribling, Specialist  
Commercial Recreation

Carson Watt, Specialist  
Area Development

RECREATION MGMT. INSTITUTE

Lon Garrison, N.P.S.

**Potpourri ---**

RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO GROW -- We are now entering our fourth academic year, and student enrollment continues to grow at an encouraging rate. Our total enrollment has now exceeded one hundred and fifty students. A comparison of figures for the first four Septembers in the life of the Department shows:

	1966	1967	1968	1969
Full time faculty and staff -----	3	8	11	14
Graduate Assistants -----	4	12	13	13
Undergraduate Majors -----	32	54	72	116
Graduate Majors, Masters -----	6	11	18	12
Graduate Majors, Ph.D. -----	2	11	19	28
Hours of Undergraduate instruction -----	243	251	377	564

The size of our departmental classes is increasing. This fall, for the first time, some of our classes had to be divided into two sections. Our primary source of R&P students continues to be transfer students. Current enrollment of undergraduate students, by class, shows the effect of Sophomore transfers:

Freshmen -----	12	Juniors -----	25
Sophomores -----	47	Seniors -----	32

These figures reflect the activities of our faculty in making the program better known throughout Texas and communicating the enthusiasm for the growing recreation field. Plans call for continued active recruitment of young men and women who are outstanding high school graduates.

REID NAMED PRESIDENT OF SPREE -- Dr. L. M. REID has been elected President of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators for 1969-1970. The new president was named to the post during a recent meeting of the Society held in conjunction with the National Recreation and Park Congress at Chicago, Illinois. The Society is composed of faculty and researchers at more than 200 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada.

SECOND PHASE OF RECREATIONAL BOATING RESEARCH TO BE PUBLISHED -- The second article of a two-part series titled "Activity Specialization Among Ohio's Recreational Boaters" is to be published in Volume I, Number 3 of the JOURNAL OF LEISURE RESEARCH. These articles are the result of the Ohio Recreational Boating Survey conducted in 1966 by Dr. C. S. VAN DOREN and Dr. BARRY LENTNEK. "Spatial Behavior in Recreational Boating" appeared in Volume I, Number 2 of the Journal.

FIRST DEPARTMENTAL TECHNICAL REPORT AVAILABLE -- "Relative Effectiveness and Visitor Preference of Three Audio-Visual Media for Interpretation of an Historic Area," by BEN D. MAHAFFEY is now available free of charge by sending a request to the Department of Recreation and Parks, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843. The research publication is centered around selected audio-visual media used for a self-guiding historic tour of Fort Parker, Texas. The article contains 63 pages, illustrations, bibliography, and appendix.

DR. GUNN COMPILING RESEARCH BIBLIOGRAPHY -- Dr. CLARE A. GUNN is compiling an annotated bibliography of research programs related to use of natural resources along the Texas Gulf Coast. The bibliography is part of a comprehensive study which Texas A&M has initiated at the request of the Gulf Coast Study Committee of the Interagency Natural Resources Council, an adjunct of the Governor's office.

The volume will list research efforts since 1950, including programs conducted by educational institutions, government agencies, and private organizations. Basic natural resource areas covered in the study are water, wildlife, vegetation, topography, soils and minerals, climate and air, as well as cultural, historic, and landscape resources. Land use will be classified in the categories of residential, manufacturing, transportation, communication and utilities, trade, services, tourism and recreation, resource production and extraction, undeveloped land, and water. Because all of these are in some way important to settlement, economic, and cultural growth, the study will include a search for material covering the mix of these topics for all bays and estuaries of the Texas Gulf Coast.

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R&P FACULTY RECOGNITIONS -- Dr. BILLIE I. INGRAM has been named as an Associate Member of the Texas A&M University Graduate Faculty, effective October, 1969. Dr. RICHARD L. BURY has been elected Secretary of the Gulf States Section of the Society of American Foresters for 1970—71. In this capacity he also serves as a member of the Executive Committee from 1969—72. Dr. Bury has also been reelected to his position on the Policy Committee of the Texas Chapter of that organization.

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UNDERGRADUATE AGRICULTURE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GOES TO RP COED -- Miss JUDY ELLISOR became the first coed to receive an Agriculture College Scholarship. The recently instituted scholarship program recognizes the outstanding freshmen enrolling at Texas A&M and is based strictly upon academic excellence. Judy has an impressive background as U.I.L. National Debate Champion, member of the National Honor Society, all Region Choir, Band, and an outstanding athletic record. We are very pleased to welcome her to our program.

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FIVE R&P STUDENTS SELECTED FOR NPS STUDENT—RANGER TRAINEE PROGRAM -- Five R&P majors were selected for the National Park Service Student-Trainee Program and received their first summer's experience in several areas: Yellowstone, Grand Canyon, and Everglades National Parks, and Glen Canyon Recreation Area.

This program gives the Recreation and Parks student summer training in a ranger manager position on a career conditional appointment, allowing leave for continuing his college education. Upon graduation, the participants will receive a GS—5 position and be sent to Horace H. Albright Training School at Grand Canyon National Park for in—service training.

This outstanding opportunity has been welcomed by such comments as: "It was great." -- J.T. REYNOLDS, Everglades National Park; "I enjoyed my job this summer and hope to continue with this work for the rest of my life." -- JOHN SHEEK, Grand Canyon National Park; "The concept of the Student—Trainee Program is excellent and shows a progressive thinking trend by the N.P.S. -- WALT DABNEY, Yellowstone National Park; "... we have a good outlook as to what we can expect to be doing for the first few years of our careers." -- RAY ARMOUR, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area; "The area was enchanting, mysterious, and interesting..." -- BILL CERYNIK, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

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GRADUATE STUDENTS HAVE VARIETY OF INTERESTS AND BACKGROUNDS -- The new graduate students majoring in Recreation and Resources Development demonstrate the variety and scope of recreation. These students, from the U.S. and Canada, hold degrees in Forestry, Wildlife Science, Education, Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, Zoology, and Urban Planning in addition to Recreation, Park Administration, and P.E. This "mix" of backgrounds proves highly useful in developing a total approach to the field of Recreation. These individuals also bring with them a wealth of experience from previous employment in various facets of the Recreation and Parks field.

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TAMU HOSTS "BEAUTIFY TEXAS" CONFERENCE -- The Beautify Texas Council, formed in 1967, is a volunteer organization attempting to coordinate state-wide efforts to eliminate unsightly vistas and remove litter from the Texas landscape. Under the direction of JACK SLOAN, R&P Extension Recreation Specialist and Secretary-Treasurer of the organization, the Council hosted a conference to launch state-wide interest in the organization.

The Board of Directors of the Beautify Texas Council now includes 100 members and functions as a contact and coordinating agency. Council activities include workshops and the preparation and distribution of publications. The workshops have attracted many prominent people, including Governor Preston Smith.

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#### MEETING NOTICES

Texas Turfgrass Conference, December 1—3, 1969, at Texas IBM University.

Texas Recreation and Park Society, Annual Meeting, December 4—6, 1969, at the Continental Houston Hotel in Houston.

Remote Sensing Conference for Recreation Managers, December 9—10, 1969, sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Parks and the Remote Sensing Center, at Texas A&M University.

# FACULTY FORUM

By Dr. CARLTON S. VAN DOREN

Dr. Marion Clawson has idealized the outdoor recreation experience into five distinct phases: anticipation, travel, on site, travel back, and recollection. In light of these phases of a trip experience (aside from the session itself), my recent visit to the National Recreation and Parks Association Congress in Chicago prompts some comments and opinions.

Attending a national meeting cannot truly be considered an outdoor recreation experience, but it does require the same experience phases. Goods and services are provided attendees by the tourism-recreation-travel industry--a paramount adjunct in the parks and recreation field.

If you attended the Congress, what is your recollection of the total experience? My recollection is not entirely unpleasant but I had a well-formed, experience-based image of what to expect in Chicago from the services industries associated with the Congress. Most of my recall of the trip centers around the people engaged in providing the various services. Many of my associations with these service people were not pleasant. This is probably the result of the recognized traits that identify many inhabitants of our nation's cities. The urbanite in the service industries of our cities is frequently terse, surly, and humorless. Using this unfriendly nature they portray the distinct impression that they are performing a favor instead of a paid service.

Have I hit a note of accord with this description? If I have, what is the point? It is simple. It is not too late to emphasize to our students or employees that their individual success, and our professional growth, rests with positive personal contacts. Unfortunately, it may be necessary to call attention to the negative in order to portray a positive approach that emphasizes hospitality, a sense of humor and service with a smile. A cold, impersonal attitude by employees of travel service industries will inevitably reduce the consumer income that is the raison d'être.

The people providing services often influence the lasting impression of any travel and recreation experience. Consequently, whether one is a student, teacher, practitioner, travel agent, hotel clerk, or bus driver, he is constantly making favorable or unfavorable personal impressions. We all need more of the Aloha spirit.



By Dr. LESLIE M. REID, Department Head

Election this year to the presidency of SPRE makes me mindful of how quickly we will be entering the decade of the '70's. As we review the few short years that are the '60's, we realize how poorly we can predict the course of events over the next five or ten years.

I am interested in the education of our young people who are preparing to enter the field. We know how rapidly the world is changing, and the recreation and park professionals must either be responsive to these changes or, better yet, assume a leadership role in guiding their course, if they are indeed to make a significant contribution in the years ahead.

But are we responding to or keeping abreast of the changes? The 1973-74 graduates are, even now, freshmen on our campuses. What must we do NOW if we are to significantly improve these young men and women who will enter our field in the next five years?

Time waits for no one. Educator and practitioner alike must immediately seek better ways to cooperate in the preparation of our younger R&P professionals. The days are gone when employers could afford to employ a green graduate and wait several years for the new man to "learn the ropes". What are the alternatives? Some of the developments we see on the horizon include new forms of internship, cooperative work-study programs, and, for the agency employee, educational leaves of absence to obtain additional professional preparation. All of these, and innovations not yet tested, need to be explored.

All in all, I am definitely encouraged. Each year sees more professionals employed on a part-time basis in the colleges and universities, as well as a larger number of R&P educators becoming better acquainted with agency operations through short-term or part-time assignments. To me, this means that we are moving rapidly to a time when both educators and practitioners see the same problems, speak the same language, and share the same goals.