

Prairie View A&M University

Digital Commons @PVAMU

Newsletter Collections

Academic Affairs Collections

8-1968

Faculty Reporter - August 1968

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/newsletter>

Recommended Citation

Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College. (1968). Faculty Reporter - August 1968., *Vol. 1 No. 12*
Retrieved from <https://digitalcommons.pvamu.edu/newsletter/441>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Academic Affairs Collections at Digital Commons @PVAMU. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newsletter Collections by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @PVAMU. For more information, please contact hvkoshy@pvamu.edu.



FACULTY REPORTER

A Newsletter for Staff Members at Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

CALENDAR

1. Deadline for Master's Theses and Essays August 1
2. Comprehensive Examination (M.Ed. Candidates). August 9
3. Special Sermon for Graduates. August 13
4. Commencement Exercises. August 22
5. Final Examinations August 22-23
6. Summer School Closes. August 24

BACCALAUREATE AND COMMENCEMENT

Baccalaureate services will be held on August 18 with a special sermon for Graduates. The speaker will be The Reverend Shelby Rooks, Director of The Rockefeller Fund for Theological Education, Princeton, New Jersey.

Summer School Commencement Exercises will be held on August 22. The Commencement speaker will be Dr. Felix Robb, Director of the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, Atlanta, Georgia.

ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the Second Semester of The Summer Session shows an increase of 5% over the same period last year. The Admissions Office reports that prospects are good for continued increases in enrollment for the Fall Semester beginning in September.

PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS

Renovating work has begun on the College Library, Student Aids and Nursing buildings. Considerable progress has been made in renovating the three residence halls - Alexander, Collins and Suarez. These facilities will be restored to first-class condition for the opening of school in September.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Major programs of study leading to the B. A. degree in French and in Spanish will be offered by the Department of Modern Foreign Languages beginning in September. The Department has previously offered a "minor" in these subjects.

ROTC REPORTS

Summer Camp activities recently closed for twenty-six Army ROTC Cadets at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Reports indicate a very successful mission for both PV staff and students.

Naval ROTC candidates will be flown to Pensacola, Fla., where they will board the USS LEXINGTON and continue their academic work and Naval Training in a Shipboard atmosphere during the period August 9-23.

FACULTY NOTES

- Dr. Roscoe W. Lewis has been awarded a travel grant for the purpose of participating in the Western Hemisphere Nutrition Congress II to be held on August 25-29, 1968 in San Juan, Puerto Rico.
- Dr. E. E. O'Banion, Head of the Division of Natural Sciences, attended a briefing session for National Science Foundation Institute Directors at the University of Colorado.
- Dr. C. A. Wood, Director of Information Services and Mr. S. W. Prince, Acting Executive Secretary of the Prairie View Alumni and Ex-Students Association, attended a joint national meeting of the American College Public Relations Association and the American Alumni Council in Miami Beach, Florida on July 14-18.
- Dr. L. C. Collins, Head of the Biology Department, attended a special Biology Symposium at the University of Colorado.
- Dr. Charles E. Urdy, Chemistry Department, has been elected a member of the State Executive Committee of the Texas Association of College Teachers (TACT). Dr. Urdy's term of Office began on June 1.
- Dr. George Stafford, Director of Admissions and Counseling Center, has been appointed to the International Education Committee of the American Personnel and Guidance Association.
- Mr. Clyde Christopher, Mathematics Department, is participating in an Institute in Numerical and Statistical Methods of Digital Computing and Simulation Techniques held at the University of Missouri - Rolla.

TITLE IV INSTITUTE

A total of sixty teachers, counselors, supervisors and other administrative personnel from six area school systems are participating in a three weeks Institute on Problems of School Desegregation. Closing on August 2, the Institute is authorized under Title IV, Section 404, PL 88-352. The purpose is to provide participants with information, methods, techniques and skills essential for systematic and orderly desegregation of their respective school districts.

FRESHMAN STUDIES PROGRAM

A Freshman Studies Program will be initiated at the college at the beginning of the 1968-69 Academic Term. Dr. Robert Hughley is in the process of establishing guidelines for this program and is meeting with several faculty and student groups. According to Dr. Hughley, the program will involve all facets of Freshman life and activities on campus--from curricular adjustments through campus life.

E & D MANPOWER PROJECT

The Experimental and Demonstration Manpower Project has several important activities underway, including plans to begin classes in some areas as soon as transportation arrangements can be made. Approximately 150 applicants have been processed, representing the 12-county (Southeast Texas) project area. The Academic Advisory Committee for the Project is meeting with the staff and assisting with the formation of a Business-Industry-Government Advisory Council and in the recruitment of additional personnel.

THE YEAR'S END

The 1967-68 School Year will soon come to a close. We have enjoyed a very successful year in many respects and the future looks good. I would like to take this opportunity to express to all members of the staff my appreciation for your contributions (individually and collectively) to the success of our total program.

THE 91ST YEAR

The 1968-69 academic term will mark the College's 91st year based on the fact that the institution actually opened in 1878. (The College was authorized by the 15th Legislature in 1876). Our Centennial Observance is 10 years hence--in 1978. The Citizens Study, planned for beginning in October, will center around goals to be accomplished by the College's 100th year.

FACULTY REPORTER

Faculty Reporter
Page 4
August, 1968

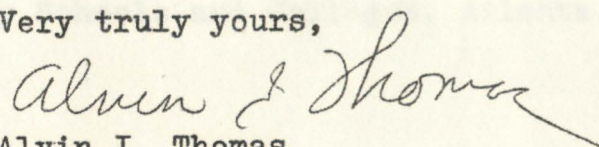
The schedule of Fall Opening Activities is as follows:

- Faculty Orientation Conference.....September 5-6
- Freshman Orientation and Registration.....September 9-14
- Registration for Graduate Students.....September 14-21
- Registration for Upper ClassesSeptember 16-17
- Classes BeginSeptember 18

BEST WISHES

-- As we move toward the close of another Summer Term and the Fiscal Year, I hope that each of you will enjoy the balance of the Summer and the Short Break before we start the new year.

Very truly yours,



Alvin I. Thomas
President

LANGUAGES

Programs of study leading to the B. S. degree in French and Spanish are available in the Department of Languages. The Department has always offered a "window" in these subjects.



The Prairie View . . .

FACULTY REPORTER

A Newsletter for Staff Members at Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College

Prairie View A. and M. College

August, 1968

Prairie View, Tex

FRESHMAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT PRAIRIE VIEW

Early in the Fall of 1966, Prairie View A. and M. College began the identification of the concept of its role as a "residential college."

The "residential college" concept envisions the integration of residence living with the instructional program, rendering the totality of college life for students as an on-going learning experience. The formulation of ideas relating to the Freshmen Studies Program has emanated from the need for a next step in the growth and development of the residential college and the ubiquitous desire to improve instruction.

President Thomas Commissions A Study

In June, President Thomas assigned to Dr. Robert Hughley, who rejoined the faculty after a one year absence, the task of conducting a survey to seek information relative to freshmen studies programs, basic education programs, and other creative, innovative and exemplary practices and programs at the lower division level. Dr. Hughley is seeking information from selected colleges and universities, and he is reviewing the literature and interviewing staff members and students for answers to the following questions:

1. What are the fundamental needs of freshmen students?
2. What are some of the approaches which might be undertaken to improve the instructional program for freshmen?
3. Will distinct educational advantages accrue to freshmen students and the college from changes in either the current program of studies, or the organizational pattern for administration and instruction, or both?
4. Will such changes assist in establishing guidelines for efficacy in the further implementation of the "residential college" concept?

Preliminary Data Analysis

A preliminary analysis of the data from the survey reveals two basic approaches to instructional improvement which are currently under experimentation and/or development. The first of these, for lack of a better name, let us call "patchwork." The second is the "divisional" approach.

The "patchwork" approach to providing instruction for freshmen has several kinds of programs currently in operation. Included among these are variations of the following:

1. Honor Systems

Special courses organized and taught for very able students

2. Proctors and Tutors

Assignment of special faculties to provide additional and/or remedial instruction

3. Remedial Instruction

Special courses for able and willing educationally handicapped students

4. Interdisciplinary Curriculum Planning

The development of survey courses for the purpose of providing a broad base of interrelated knowledge

5. Selective or Advanced Placement

Students are permitted to "by-pass" courses and take more advanced work in specified subject areas upon "passing" in particular testing programs.

6. Time-Block Subject Course Patterns

Curriculum presented in traditional, departmentalized course offerings, usually in a specified sequential order

7. Freshmen Camps and Summer Trial Programs

Special orientation programs and courses (some with college credit, while others are remedial) designed to provide either enrichment and/or remedial work leading to a determination of who should be allowed to matriculate in the fall semester

8. Residential Instruction

Instruction within residential complexes for those students who reside therein. Special faculty including counselors and advisors assigned to residence halls for instruction and/or guidance.

The second general approach involves the regrouping of related subject matter faculties into broad divisions, within which more fluid curriculums and more flexible groupings of scholars are possible than is the case where departmental lines are sharply drawn. Some colleges and universities have limited their divisions to freshmen studies, while others are developing general studies or general education courses covering either a two year or four year span; still others have

developed basic studies programs providing terminal service courses. In the meantime other institutions are actively studying the issues related to the development of quality programs for freshmen.

Response of Deans and Department Heads

In the regular meetings of Deans and Department Heads held during the month of July, Dr. Hughley presented a summary of the preliminary findings of the survey to that group. He sought from them their ideas and advice concerning those things which might be done to improve the program of studies for freshmen students. During these discussions the following suggestions were made:

1. Plan a program designed to encourage and permit freshmen to express themselves more fully
2. Provide for spiritual advice on personal and other problems
3. Provide for an on-going physical activity program
4. Structure a continuing counseling and advisement program, providing experiences outside the formal student life counseling functions
5. Plan activities relating to community service and utilize the community as an instructional laboratory
6. Organize a special faculty for freshmen instruction. Include in the staff those who are capable of teaching, advising and counseling
7. Plan activities which will improve faculty-student relationships
8. Provide for cultural enrichment experiences

9. Increase the opportunities for instruction and learning through the development of the classroom as a "learning laboratory," i.e., reduce the quantity of teacher-centered instruction.

Informal discussions with randomly selected faculty members and students have been held, and their ideas have been associated with those of the administrators and the findings of the survey and the review of literature. Based upon these, a model for a Freshmen Studies Program has been developed. This model proposes to:

1. Organize freshmen studies as a Division of the College with its chief administrative officer reporting to the Dean of the College
2. Organize those who teach terminal lower division courses into a special faculty responsible to the chief administrative officer of the Division of Freshmen Studies
3. Interrelate residential living and the instructional program
4. Initially include a limited number of faculty and courses of the character described above.

Further, this model will permit and require the freshmen faculty to focus its efforts upon the improvement of instruction for freshmen students enrolled in the terminal courses chosen to be organized in the Freshmen Studies Program. It is anticipated that under this arrangement Schools and/or Departments will provide instruction at the freshmen level for their majors because the nature of that instruction should be introductory and not terminal.

While it is recognized that not all students are required by their curriculums to enroll in certain terminal courses

during their freshman year, such courses are, nevertheless, terminal in nature and thus, by definition, may be rightfully assigned to the Freshmen Studies Division.

Terminal Courses Proposed

Consideration is currently being given to inaugurating the Division of Freshmen Studies in the Fall Semester, 1968. The terminal courses which will probably be reorganized into the Division are:

English 113-123, Freshman Composition

Mathematics 173-183, General College Mathematics

Mathematics 113-123, College Algebra and Trigonometry

Science 113-123, College Science

Chemistry 114-124, General Inorganic Chemistry

Physical Education 111-121, Freshman Practice

Selected Bibliography

Brown, F. G. and Dubois, T. E. "Correlates of academic success for high-ability freshman men." Bibliog Personnel and Guid Journal, Vol. 42, pp.603-7, F-'64.

Broxton, J. "Self concepts of Freshman Women." Nat Assn Women Deans and Counselors Journal. Vol. 26, pp. 25-9, June-'63.

Cohen, H. L. "Preliminary Report on A Pilot Study for Educating Low Achievers; Experimental Freshman Year Program." The Superior Student, Vol. 6, pp. 36-45, Ja.-'64.

Congreve, Willard J. "Independent Learning." The North Central Assoc., Vol. 40, pp. 222-8, Fall, 1965, No. 2.

Gayles, A. R. "Program for instruction improvement." Improving Col. Unn. Teach, Vol. 11, pp. 65-7, Spr., '63.

Gnens, P. R. "Varieties of Learning Experiences in The College Classroom." Ed. Forum, Vol. 27, pp. 437-40, May, '63

Hadden, J. K. and Evans, R. R. "Some Correlates of Religious Participation Among College Freshmen." Religious Education, Vol. 60, pp. 277-85, July, 1965.

Herbert, D. J. "Relationship Between The Percentage of Freshmen on a Residence Hall Corridor and The Grade Point Average of the Occupants." Colleges and Universities, Vol. 41, pp. 348-52, Spring, 1966.

Hewer, V. H. "Vocational Interests of Colleges Freshmen and their Social Origins." Biblog Journal of Applied psychology, Vol. 49, pp. 407-11, Dec., '65.

Hood, A. B. and Swanson, E. O. "Look at Student Achievement in Different Types of Colleges." Personnel and Guidance Journal, Vol. 49, pp. 282-5, N., '65.

Jarrett, J. L. "Honors Programs." Am Assn Col Tech Ed Year Book, Vol. 49, pp. 150-3, '63.

Kirk, B. A. "College Qualification Tests and Differential Guidance with University Freshmen." Bibliog Personnel and Guid Journal, Vol. 42, pp. 47-51, S., '63.

LaFauci, Horatio M. "Team Teaching In a General Education Program." Vol. 17, pp. 147-58. The Journal of General Education, July, 1965, No. 2.

Morgan, L. B. "Calculated Risks; A study of success."
Col and Univ, Vol. 43, pp. 203-6, Wint, '68.

Morris, M. "Learn to Learn; A Freshman Introductory Course." English Lang. Teaching, Vol, 20, pp. 106-9, Jan., 1966.

Muller, S. "Changing Nature of The College and University and What This means to the Freshman." Middle States Assn. Col. and Sec. Sch Proc, 1962, pp. 58-70.

Myers, K. E. "College Freshman" A Faculty Responsibility." Improving Col. Unn Teach, Vol. 12, pp. 9-10, Wint, '69.

"New Freshman Programs at Antioch" School and Society, Vol. 93, pp. 141t, Mr. 6, '66.

Plante, P. R. "Experimental Freshman Program in The Humanities." Journal Higher Ed, Vol. 39, pp. 209-13, Ap., '68.

Pullias, E. V. "Factors Influencing Excellence in College and University Teaching." Bibliog From Ed Rec, Vol. 44, pp. 243-7, July, '63.

Richards, M. Jr. "Life Goals of American College Freshmen." J Counsel Psychol, Vol. 13, pp. 12-20, Spr., '66.

Smith, J. "Singificant Differences Between High-Ability Achieving and Nonachieving College Freshmen as Revealed by interview data." J Ed Res, Vol. 59, pp. 10-12, S., '65.

Smith, P. M. Jr. and Johnson, N. C. "Attitudes and Academic Status of Freshmen." J. Negro Ed, Vol. 35, pp. 95-9 Wint, '66.

Werts, C. E. "Social Class an initial career choice of college Freshmen." Sociol of Ed, Vol. 39, Wint., '66.