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3-29-1979

Texas Eastern Patriot Vol. 6 no. 9 (1979)

Texas Eastern University

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Recommended Citation

Texas Eastern University, "Texas Eastern Patriot Vol. 6 no. 9 (1979)" (1979). *The Patriot/Texas Eastern Patriot*. 22.

<https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/teupatriot/22>

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Texas Eastern Patriot

House, Senate study TEU bill

By Ellen Renfro

Both the house bill and the senate bill proposing TEU become a part of the University of Texas have been referred to committees on education as of March 23.

The bills, known as House Bill 1706 and Senate Bill 906, were introduced March 8 by State Representative Bill Clark in the House and by Senator Peyton McKnight in the Senate.

The Senate Bill was referred to the committee on higher education on March 12 and the House Bill was referred to the committee on higher education on the same date.

The bills, if passed, would make TEU a part of the University of Texas. TEU would then be called the University of Texas at Tyler, and all funds and appropriations for TEU would be transferred to the University of Texas at Tyler. The TEU Board of Regents would cease to exist.

If the bills are passed, they would become effective September 1.

The bills state that because of "the importance of this legislation" they should be pushed through quickly, breaking the rule that it be read on "three several days in both houses.

A vote regarding the change was taken in a TEU Educational Foundation meeting recently. The vote was 14-4 in favor of the change.

The decision to change seems to have been made entirely in the foundation. Foundation President A.W. Riter said, "A vote was taken in the last board meeting and discussion was held regarding the pro and con of the change. The members voted in favor of it because it is in the best interest of the university," he said.

"The foundation has no authority. We are strictly a supportive organization, giving financial assistance, scholarships

and contributions for things that cannot be done with state funds," Riter said.

"The legislature wanted to know how the people felt. We discussed the possibilities. We all saw what happened at the Chest Hospital which is now the University of Texas Health Center. There was a feeling that it would be beneficial to the university," he said.

"The motivating factors behind the bills are that "Tyler needs a stronger university," Riter said. "We felt that the two entities could be compatible. The legislature was in session and we felt the Senate could be encouraged to make TEU a part of UT."

Riter said, "Four persons at the meeting felt it would be better as a free entity and opposed the bills. TEU is doing fine, but it would be better as a part of UT."

"We hastened to commend TEU on its accomplishments so far. But we considered where it would be ten years from now, and we felt it would be best for it to become a part of UT.

Riter said that nothing has been said about TEU becoming a medical school. The bill just calls for making TEU a part of UT. It will change nothing that I know of except the name. It will still be a two-year upper level university for juniors and seniors and graduate students," he said.

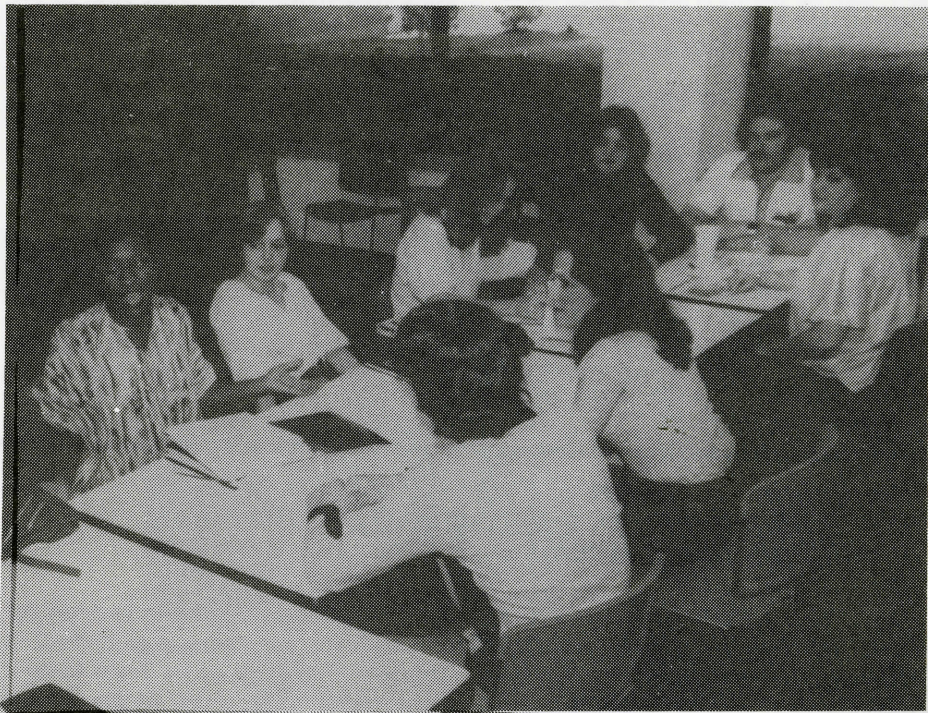
"We're not trying to compete with the nine junior colleges in the East Texas area," he said.

"The basic thrust of the vote was what we felt was best for TEU," Riter said.

State Representative Bill Clark was unavailable for comment.

See page 4 for reprint of the bill.

SLAC hears students



SLAC MEETS—In its March 9 meeting the Student Life Advisory Committee formed a subcommittee to study the possibility of an elected student government. A subcommittee for student activities was formed, and a possible "Anything Goes" day was suggested. Pictured here at the meeting are: Sandra Fry, far left, Lisa Brizandine, Jim McDonald, front, Linda Sue Simms, Dena Freeman, far right, Chuck Angelico, far end, Heather Lawson, and Ellen Renfro.

(Staff Photo by Steve Knowles)

TORRENTS OF SPRING—Anyone who wanted to play tennis last week would probably have been rained out. In the intramural tennis tournament which began March 22, four men's doubles teams and four mixed doubles teams are entered.

(Photo by Steve Knowles)

Arts Festival planned

Sunday, April 1, will be the beginning of a week of music, lectures, readings, and exhibits coordinated by the TEU Fine Arts Department.

This third annual Fine Arts Festival is being directed by William B. Stephens who released the following schedule.

Sunday, April 1	UC 134	TEU Faculty Music Recital	3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 2	UC 134	Mrs. John Hutton will speak about the glass engravings at Coventry Cathedral, Thanksgiving Square, and First Christian Church, Tyler	12 noon
Tuesday, April 3	ADM 127	Individual and Duet Reading	10 a.m.
	UC 134	John Callahan "Le Theatre du Grand-Guignol de Paris: Theatre of Terror, Shrieks, and Horripilation: The Ultimate in Stage Violence?"	11 a.m.
	UC 134	Jeanine Lefevre A Poetry Reading "Words Instead of Wings"	12:30 p.m.
	ADM 127	Reader's Theatre	1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 4	ADM 127	Professor's Reading	3:30 p.m.
	UC Open Area	Mid-day Musical	Noon
	UC 134	Lloyd Pfautsch Choral Director	9:30 a.m.
Thursday, April 5		Choral Workshop	Afternoon
	HPR 274	Coffee for visiting art students and faculty	9:15 a.m.
	UC 134	Hiram Williams, painter Sol Kramer, animal behaviorist	10 a.m.
Friday, April 6	HPR 2nd floor	Critique of Junior College Art Exhibit	1:30 p.m.
	UC 134	Music Education Workshop for Church and Elementary School Music	9:30 a.m.
	UC 134	Reception for Sol Kramer	2:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 7		Art Exhibit open to the public	2-4 p.m.
Sunday, April 8			

Two art exhibits will be on view during the festival week. A Junior College Art Exhibit was displayed on the second floor of the HPR Building March 26 and will be there through April 6. Also, a Hiram Williams drawing and paintings exhibit will be shown in UC 134 April 1-8.

Editorial

This is the second in a series of editorials promoting the idea of a Day Care Center for the TEU community.

Today, a look at a similar facility provided by the University of Texas at Austin will be presented.

But first, lets bring you up to date. The Patriot previously published what was mistakenly called an Opinion Poll concerning the necessity for such a center. This poll should have been called a feasibility study because it was designed only to establish a NEED for such a facility. We think it did.

So far, over 30 parents and non-parents have given a positive response. Only one negative response, from a non-parent, has been presented.

Over 30 children is plenty. At least six staff people would be required, and that would be only the beginning.

Now, let's take a look at a successful university day care operation at the University of Texas.

Its program of child care was first proposed by the University of Texas Student Government. It began operation in 1974 and has a renewable clause for each semester. The official feasibility study was done through the Dean of Students who supplied the names and addresses of married students. They were contacted through the mail and interest was established. Next, the student government began searching for a facility. University Presbyterian Church, near the campus, was approached and an agreement was made.

There are, of course, differences between TEU and UT, such as size, facilities, etc. But there is a basis for comparison between the two in terms of people, their need for education, employment, and their need for good child care.

Something can and must be worked out at TEU. A large number of TEU students are parents and their needs should be understood.

Letters to the editor

To the Editor:

The "complaint" about the library, in the March 1, 1979 *Patriot*, was unkind and churlish. First, the writer should have had enough self-esteem to care about his or her syntax and spelling. Second, the library encompasses a large area. This person could have moved from the disturbance; or was he or she looking for something about which to complain. Third, why no signature? That is impolite.

I enjoy going to the TEU Library because the staff is unfailingly courteous and impressively competent. They know their business; especially Vicki. I am happy to sign--

Love you,

Zoe Smoyer

To the Editor:

I wish to express my thanks to the administration of TEU for their participation in the recent "60 minutes" session. The attitude of the students was probing and to the point. The

President and Vice-Presidents appeared open to all questions and comments. The meeting proved that the main concerns of the student body are an elected student government and on-campus housing. Perhaps much more important, the administrators learned that the college population is aware of problems facing the university and are vitally concerned about the future of this institution. I think both students and administration now have the mutual understanding and respect necessary to face these problems and together perhaps we can find solutions. After all, well-informed active students are essential to any university.

Again, I offer my thanks for an open meeting. I hope there will be others to follow in the same agreeable atmosphere. In the future, I offer my support to the administration along with my constructive criticism. I urge all students to voice their opinions and become concerned about the university's future.

John E. Hitt

Political Science/
History Major

Students view U. S. involvement with China

By Larry Everett

As we all know or have heard, the United States recently has been having extensive relations with the Communist Republic of China.

Even though many of us may not know the extent of what is totally going on between the United States and China, most U.S. citizens believe this relation has its positive and negative factors.

The positive factors mainly being that it will help us in an economical and educational standpoint. We could possibly gain valuable resources from China. Also we might be able to learn a lot from a nation that has been concealed from us for so many years.

The negative factors obviously concern the war that has broken out between Vietnam and China. Many concerned U.S. citizens are truly wondering whether our country will or will not get involved in the war.

Ever since China's Deputy Prime Minister, Teng Hsiao-ping's past friendly visit to the U.S., many citizens have expressed their comments or opinions. Included were many Texas Eastern University students and faculty that expressed their own opinions of the China involvement, basically on whether it was a good move by the United States or not.

Paul Evans, senior political science major, said he thinks it was a good move by the United States, "As long as it is not or will not be damaging to the well-being of the United States."

"I believe since the economic crisis is as bad as it is, the United States will need to have direct relations with many foreign nations in order to obtain the much needed resources other countries have that we might need."

Evans feels the U.S. will not necessarily get involved in the conflict between China and Vietnam, he said. and he added that there will not be another world war as some people believe, because no one is really ready for another major war.

"If people begin to realize the unbearable power of all the atomic weapons and defense several nations possess, then many pro-war attitudes will change," said Evans

Bill Parker, senior business major, said he thinks it was a terrible mistake. "I think the U.S. Government ought to take care of much needed business here in the United States. Our country is congested with many major problems that

"I'm not saying that the U.S. Government should completely abandon foreign affairs practices," noted Parker. "They should only pay more attention to their own country's affairs."

Since there is a lot of friction going on between many nations, Parker said he believes it might eventually lead to another World War, but hopes it doesn't get that drastic.

"Yes, I think it was a good move," said Tracie Canfield, senior sociology major. "I don't believe it put the United States in grave danger as some people think, but it will be a great asset to the U.S. to have relations with a country such as China," she added.

Barbara Fitzgerald, junior journalism major, agreed with Tracie on her opinion that the United States made a good move.

"I think the United States should get more involved in foreign affairs because it might be very important to our country and other countries in the future," Fitzgerald said.

Tammy Garkow and Tina Clark, business office employees, both believe it was not a good move by the U.S., because we should not get involved and try to solve other nation's problems. They also mentioned these kind of affairs could

possibly lead up to World War III if the economy gets bad enough, each said respectively.

Even though many people resent some of the moves of the government, Garkow said she feels it will get more involved and have larger interests in many other nations in the future and the citizens will not be able to do much about it.

Clark believes countries will eventually fight for resources instead of trading for them.

Kathy O'Tierney said, "The United States is already involved in too many problems of other countries than solving the many problems in their own country.

She said she believes it is good to associate with other nations, but concludes that there is no way every nation can satisfy each other because no two nations are exactly alike, all are basically run a different way.

O'Tierney foresees that there could possibly be another major war on the uprise. She indicated that all nations will either totally destroy themselves or destroy each other with all this advanced nuclear powers and equipment.

Charles Birdsong, junior criminal justice major, said he feels it was a terrible U.S. move because, "We have already spent more than 10 years fighting for a lost cause (referring to the Vietnam War).

"The Vietnam War was a political war. This type is a war that cannot be won because it is not fought for territorial acquisition."

Birdsong's views indicate that the United States should not jeopardize it's relationship with in the China-Vietnam confrontation and it will be a repeat of what happened in Vietnam.

He also said the United States should not jeopardize it's relationship with China any further than it is now, because it could possibly lead to further serious involvement with Russia and Germany.

The way the economic situation is now, the Oil Embargo not helping, the wheat situation with Russia and others, Birdsong implied that continous friction between nations could probably evolve into another world war.

Millard Willey, business administration major from Kilgore had views which seemed to coincide slightly with Birdsong's. He believes that the China situation was a bad move by the United States. This type of involvement could possibly lead us to a nation confrontation with Russia and Germany, he said.

Since the world is in an economic downturn right now, he said, the U.S. Government feels heavy foreign relation involvement might help boost the economic situation.

"I truly believe the U.S. really wants to remain isolated and be friendly with all other nations, but, it is the other nations that want to keep the U.S.

involved in their affairs, sort of like a big brother or watchdog. In order for the U.S. to keep a friendly atmosphere, officials must feel obligated to intervene

with these nations. This is so because we are slowly running out of natural resouces, and we might need to rely on these nations in the future," said Wiley.

Finally, Sandra Fry, Jacksonville psychology major, said the United States had good intentions to inter-relate with China because they're becoming a more productive and recognized nation.

"China is a very old, established civilization and I think that there is a lot we can learn from their culture. Some of the greatest scientists are Chinese. Personally i am very curious to know about the country and the ways of it's people." said Fry.

Fry also believes it will be very educational for the United States to learn things from and about China and vice versa. At the same time it can help the United States economically with the usage of their resources and by promoting industries and U.S. businesses in their country.

Many other opinions that were expressed basically had the same overall response. Surprisingly, at TEU, the majority of feelings were negative, and more thought the United States made a bad move to begin relations with a communist nation.

These negative feelings evolved perhaps because people are now uneasy, since friction and non-trust is constantly building up within our country. Maybe it's because people do not have much faith in our government anymore. Whatever it is, we know that many, if not most U.S. citizens have some kind of personal feeling or opinions about their country's involvement in foreign affairs. By the way, what is your opinion?

Texas Eastern Patriot

The **Texas Eastern Patriot** is published during the regular academic year on the second and fourth Thursday of every month. Only one issue is published in September, December, January and May. The paper is published by Texas Eastern University with student funds, but the opinions expressed are those of the student editors and not necessarily those of the student body, faculty or administration.

STAFF

Editor Diane Hazel
Assistant Editor Lynda Mitchell
Photographer Steve Knowles
Faculty Advisor Robert Jones

On spring

By Bobbie Evans

It's the one disease that doesn't have a poster child, a telethon or a society for the prevention of. Medical books don't list it, but the epidemic abounds.

It strikes millions of Americans each year, especially students, robbing of the will to work or focus their minds on the academics. Its victims can be seen almost everywhere, sprawling on the grass, reclining on a park bench, lying under the sun, or sitting under a tree.

One victim, a fellow student and friend, had a very bad case of it. She walked around for days in a daze. Seems she just couldn't muster the energy to do much of anything. I gave her a good old fashioned pep-talk, thinking it would do the trick. Seems as if nature has defeated my whole purpose. With the beautiful sunny days we've been having lately...I'm afraid she's got it bad again.

This mysterious disease has three stages: 1. excessive daydreaming of fantastic things to do outside (this usually occurs when one should be either concentrating on what is going on in the classroom or his or her job) 2. an overwhelming desire to enjoy nature's beauty. 3. complete lethargy.

One of the advanced symptoms of spring fever is a tendency to put off important tasks in order to just enjoy nature. As a matter of fact I need to get back to typing this editorial, but I think I'll.....

EDDIE MAE (A LOVE GONE BY)

*How well I recall the day
Me and Eddie Mae
Went walkin' down to the lake
A little sweet love to take.*

*The sun, he set. The moon, she rose.
The sand felt good between our toes
And me and Eddie Mae pledged our love and lives forever, that day.*

*Summer came and summer went,
And all the days in love we spent.
We had our cake and ate it, too,
never realizing it was icing, through and through.*

*Maybe it was just loneliness,
Maybe it was the light,
The way it streamed through the bamboo screen
On That moonlit April night.*

*Oh, Eddie, Eddie, where are you?
Ain't it strange what time will do?
I just would not live a lie
But sometimes I still cry for a love gone by.*

*She, a budding engineer,
Led me around by the ear.
She went after money -- I was searching my soul,
The very part she tried so hard and nearly stole.*

*One dark night I had a dream
But it just would not fit her scheme.
I told her my love could not stay
And me and Eddie Mae went separate ways that day.*

*Oh, but Eddie, Eddie Mae,
Too bad it had to end this way.
Quarter carat Diamond ring...
Did you pawn it or did it ever mean a thing?*

*Time just will not era...
The mayonnaise from your face
That's how I remember you...
Remember me while you chew and Eddie Mae... Adieu.*

*Maybe it's just loneliness,
Maybe it's just the light,
The way it streams through the bamboo screen
On this moonlit April night.*

*Oh Eddie, Eddie, don't you see,
Just how blind a love can be?
No need to be right if you're the first.
Any water's good, though it be cursed, to one who thirsts.*

Contributed by Steve Knowles



FLY ME—A Chapel Hill High School student seized a spring holiday to visit the TEU campus and fly his kite. He is pictured here catching an upwind.

(Photo by Steve Knowles)



BUDDING ANEW - The first of March brought these almost unreal flowers to many of the young trees on the TEU campus. This one is located at the bottom of the stairs of the ADM building. (Photo by Steve Knowles)

Students offered sports

By Ellen Renfro

A homerun hitting contest, noon softball, golf lessons, a table tennis tournament, a new tennis court policy, and a sports club are current topics in TEU recreation.

A homerun hitting contest was held March 23 in the TEU fields along Old Omen Road. Nine men, two women and six co-recreational teams entered.

Turnout for noon hour softball "fluctuates," said Dan Bibeau, coordinator for recreation. "Sometimes we have 11 or 12 show up, and sometimes it's only three or four," he said. "Sometimes we have 11 or 12 show up, and sometimes it's only three or four," he said. "I'd like to get as many as 20 so we can have some games."

Noon softball will continue until the end of the semester, he said.

Beginning April 2, students will have an opportunity for golf lessons, Bibeau said. The lessons will be given Mondays and Wednesdays and the student must supply his own equipment.

A table tennis tournament will be held March 30 at TEU. The play will include teams from the University of Texas at Arlington and possibly students from Stephen F. Austin, East Texas State, Sam Houston State, North Texas State, Texas A&M, and Southern Methodist University. The TEU team will be determined by a round robin play-off tournament. Individual awards will be given to the members of the first place team.

Bibeau hopes to have a Fun Day in cooperation with the Student Life Advisory Committee (SLAC). SLAC hopes to have a picnic and Bibeau plans to supply the fun.

There is a new tennis court policy in effect to eliminate confusion as to who can use the tennis courts when. There will be a time designated specifically for students in which they can reserve a court to play. To do this, they must call or come by Bibeau's office and get a reservation card allowing them to use the court. To get the card, they must present a student identification card, Bibeau said.

The student must carry the card to the court. Persons who are not connected with the university may follow the same procedure but they must get a card. Each day a schedule will be posted on the courts listing the reservations. If there is an open time, the court may be used on a first-come first-serve basis.

If the person fails to bring a card to the court, he has lost his reservation.

"There's still a chance to be able to play sports if we had a sports club," Bibeau said. "This would be different from other clubs on campus. Members could make teams for various sports and compete with teams from other schools, the YMCA, American Athletic Union (AAU) and other open teams."

"The university has set away money for travel for a club but no one is using it. The club would buy its own uniforms because its not a school connected athletic organization. The school would pay for travel and equipment," he said.

The club may be formed anytime enough interest is shown.

"Phoenix Song"

You...

*touched me— and made me feel
again...even to the deepest,
dustiest corner of my embittered
heart— The length of time we
shared together seems now
somehow insignificant, trivial.
I don't begrudge you your freedom
anymore than I'd give up my own—
yet I am grateful, independently*

*indebted, to you—for reaffirming
my self-confidence and
for showing me gently that
life— and love—
cannot be predicted, and
should not be.*

I...

*Will always remember you,
and those nights when
the moon was misted,
but the stars shone...
just for us.*

Contributed by Becky Stahl

House bill 1706 and Senate bill 906 for UTT

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of Texas Eastern University as a component institution of The University of Texas System.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

Sec. 1. The governance, operation, management and control of Texas Eastern University and all land, buildings, facilities, improvements, equipment, supplies and property comprising said university are transferred from the Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University to the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System. Said university, land, buildings, facilities, improvements, equipment, supplies and property shall be governed, operated, managed and controlled pursuant to such powers, duties and responsibilities as are or may hereafter be conferred by law upon the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System for the governance, management and control of the component institutions comprising said system.

Sec. 2. All appropriations made by the legislature for the use and benefit of Texas Eastern University under the governance of the Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University are transferred to the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System for the use and benefit of said university, and all other funds held for the use and benefit of Texas Eastern University shall be similarly transferred.

Sec. 3. All contracts and written obligations of every kind and character, including bonds, entered into by the Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University for and on behalf of said university are ratified, confirmed and validated, and in all such contracts and written obligations, including bonds, the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System is substituted in lieu and shall stand and act in the place and stead of the Board of Regents of Texas Eastern University.

Sec. 4. The university shall be organized to accept only junior-, senior- and graduate-level students.

Sec. 5. The name of the University shall be The University of Texas at Tyler.

Sec. 6. Chapter 113 of Subtitle F of Title 3 (i.e., Sections 113.01 through 113.36) of the Texas Education Code is repealed, and all other laws or parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Sec. 7. The effective date of this Act is September 1, 1979.

Sec. 8. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Profs oppose proposal to abolish tenure

By Bobbie Evans

There is presently a proposal before the Texas Legislature to do away with the tenure system for college teachers and require written renewable contracts be utilized.

This proposal is House Bill number 145 and was introduced by Rep. Frank Gaston.

A random sampling of TEU instructors showed they prefer keeping the tenure system. Stephen Rada, chairman of the Department of Communications said, "Tenure has been associated with two ideas: financial security and job security. Since there is a national decline in enrollment in colleges, the financial security part of tenure is in jeopardy anyway."

"Long-term contracts would be just as good as tenure. Immunity is what bothers me most and long term contracts wouldn't give one that immunity. Without tenure, faculty members would have to be more careful about what they say in the classroom," said Rada.

"I really don't think tenure means that much in terms of financial security," he added.

Assistant Professor of English, Roger Anderson, said he believes such a resolution would upset professors who have tenure. "It would remove the security that teachers now have. It would allow the administration to treat professors

with less care and respect in moving them in and out of universities," said Anderson.

Tenure is an agreement that exists between administration and faculty, it takes the place of contracts as in other jobs. It allows the professor to build an alliance with the school and at the same time allows him to feel a responsibility to the school," added Anderson.

"Tenure system is good in that it secures this alliance between the school and the professor. I am opposed to taking that stability out of the school. Abolishing tenure would hurt the school and the professor. It would undermine the alliance that a professor has to a school and it would also hurt his motivation," said Anderson.

"It's a dangerous idea," concluded Anderson.

John Spurgin, associate professor of Political Science, views the bill as a real threat to the long tradition of academic freedom. "I am resolutely opposed to any proposed legislation that would take away academic freedom," said Spurgin.

The TEU Chapter of the Texas Association of College Teachers of which Spurgin is president also oppose the bill, he said.

"Once a person has received a terminal degree and unless he becomes grossly unfit he should be allowed to teach in that area. Tenure is just some blanket you have to perform your duties well. It allows a teacher to feel free to probe issues in society without the fear that he or she will be dismissed," said Spurgin.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Donald Whisenhunt, said he supported the tenure system, but would be hesitant to say much else.

Lannom Smith, chairman of the departments of literature and Languages, said, "I am opposed to abolishing tenure, but my degree of opposition depends on what alternatives the legislature would come up with. No one has yet come up with any reasonable alternatives."

Most of the faculty members would be opposed to abolishing tenure, at least the ones I've talked to would," said Smith.

Professor of English J. Paxton Hart supports tenure. "Tenure is a reward, it has to be earned. It is not a gift and its purpose is to retain teachers who have proven that they are good teachers."

Frank Smyrl, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, said he believes tenure is a good system and doesn't need abolishing. "Tenure as we

have it here has proven very effective," said Smyrl.

"Teachers who do not have tenure can be dismissed without much notice," added Smyrl.

"On the whole, I am not opposed to doing away with the tenure system, given the present political system and atmosphere in Austin," said Terry Busson, associate professor of Political Science.

"The move to abolish tenure is an attempt to punish professors. Some people abuse tenure. The real purpose of the tenure system is to provide academic freedom. As an alternative I would support a three-year contract or a five-year contract," said Busson.

The bill proposes that faculty members who have not been granted tenure or other permanent contract status will be entitled to continued employment under renewable contracts and faculty members who have been granted tenure or other permanent contract status will be entitled to continued employment in that status until August 31, 1990. After this date all faculty members will be employed under renewable contracts, regardless of prior tenure status.

If confirmed by the Senate, this bill takes effect of Sept. 1, 1980.

TEU handicapped organize to help themselves, others

Seven TEU handicapped students met March 2 to begin the process of becoming a recognized campus organization.

Francine McPherson, an accounting major, called the meeting. She has had "moderately severe" hearing loss all of her life.

She told the group she hoped through organizing they can let people know the obstacles the handicapped face everyday. "The more people that know what our problems are and our struggles the better," McPherson said.

Even if they gain nothing else through organizing, she said, "we will have a place to go with our problems."

A petition was circulated during the meeting for signatures of people interested in joining. According to school rules ten people must sign the petition and the organization must have a sponsor. That sponsor will be J. Paxton Hart, English instructor.

The group decided to be called the Texas Eastern Handicapped Association.

Membership will be open to all interested undergraduates, and there will be a dual purpose, to aid the handicapped, and to be a source of information for those interested in the handicapped.

Problems mentioned at the meeting included locked elevators for those in wheelchairs, professors who speak too fast for a student deaf in one ear, and a lack of university facilities for the blind.

Although it is extra-difficult for the handicapped to attend school, one student noted, a college degree is especially important to them.

"It is the only way to get a job if you're handicapped," he said. "You need a degree to prove your stability."

Hank Streetman, 24, is a sociology major who has been attending TEU off and on since 1975. He has been under academic suspension, possibly, he said, because of his physical problems. He is almost completely deaf in his right ear and has been an epileptic since he was four or five years old.

His daily struggle is hearing the teachers, he said. "People don't know our struggles and problems. We need to make them aware."

Chris Tanner is 23 and plans to graduate in May with a degree in accounting. He broke his neck diving off a pier into shallow water in July of 1969. Today, he is a quadriplegic. Because he is in a wheelchair his main problem, he said, is with the heavy doors in the campus buildings.

Fred Mitchel is also 23 and a quadriplegic. His injuries resulted from a football accident in 1971. He owns a van which is especially equipped for him including an electric lift to help him into the driver's seat. Both Fred and Chris receive tuition monies from the Texas Rehabilitation Commission.

Fred noted that some of the ramps are too steep, requiring a wheelchair with a lost of power. He also said he is hassled every morning by having to go all the way down to the flagpoles to get on the ramp

leading to the UC.

Evajane Duvall has 25 years of experience as an RN. Today, after two years of blindness resulting from a cerebral vascular accident, she gets upset when people say she "used to be a nurse." After many months of what she describes as a "head trip," she went through three months of rehabilitation training in Chicago. Her major at TEU is Health Education. She came back to school, she said, "because I need the clout of a master's degree to get a job in my own field."

Everyday she faces new frustrations. "This meeting, for example, was evidently well-posted," but she knew nothing about it until someone told her just before it began because she could not see the signs.

She began the semester with a 12 hour course load but had to drop six. Because, "It is a simple matter of logistics. You can read a book in five hours but it takes 25 hours to listen to the talking books," she said.