

- Student Government represents all WTAMU students
- SG has three branches: Executive, Legislative, and Judicial
- Student Senate Meets every Monday @ 4PM in JBK 11

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Be HERD on Campus

WTAMU Student Government Newsletter

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 3, 2010

Concealed Carry Debate Heats Up

On the WTAMU campus, Texas House Bill 1893 and Senate Bill 1164 have been the cause for impassioned debate among students. Student Government hosted a Town Hall on October 25th in JBK Legends to provoke discussion among students, faculty, and staff about this controversial topic.

Tim Vela, Student Body President, attended the event. "The Town Hall was a big success in gaining a wider perspective on what the students at WTAMU want," Vela stated.

Debate on both sides of the issue heated up as students stated their opinions and discussed the finer details of the bills. Students offered compromises and adjustments that they might make to the bills.

Student Government held the Town Hall event in order to better inform the students about the issue, and to help inform Student Senators on the student's opinions.



Senate Resolution 10510, a resolution in the WTAMU Student Senate, is in opposition to the Concealed Carry legislation, .

The resolution was passed at the Student Senate Meeting this past Monday, November 1, 2010. The resolution, and an accompanying letter, will be sent by Student Senate to the relevant State Senators and Representatives in the Texas Legislature.

Websites such as www.concealcampus.org and www.gunfreekids.org provide information both in support of and in opposition to allowing CHL (concealed handgun license) holders to carry a gun on a college campus.

The Texas legislature's website, www.capitol.state.tx.us, provides the full text of the bills and a synopsis of their purposes.

(Continued on page 3)

Centennial Homecoming Elections

Student Government hosted the 2010 Centennial Homecoming Elections on Tuesday, October 5th and Wednesday, October 6th. On the ballot were 11 candidates for Homecoming King and 10 candidates for Queen.

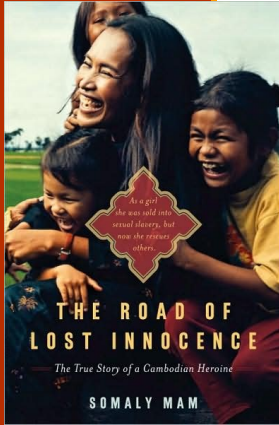
The Homecoming elections resulted in a triumph for Residence

Halls, with Pedro Ramos, sponsored by Jones Hall, and Lindsey Wright, sponsored by Cross hall, taking the title of Centennial King and Queen.

Students also voted on a constitutional amendment to the Constitution of the Student Government. The amendment proposed

a requirement of two long semesters served in the Student Government by all potential Student Body President Candidates, unless overturned by a 2/3 senate vote. The amendment failed to pass, with a close vote of just over 50% percent of students voting against the change.

Freshman Convocation



**WTAMU 2010
Common Reader: *The Road of Lost Innocence***

By Sumair Ahmed

To be a freshman, but experience something that is supposed to happen three years from now: that was the point of the 2010 Centennial Freshman Convocation.

Somaly Mam, this year's speaker and author of the Common Reader, *The Road of Lost Innocence*, gave the Class of 2014 a

certain sense of hope.

She congratulated the group on utilizing their opportunity to take the path of education. She spoke of her sincere regret about her situation. She did not have the choice to look towards education, along with a brighter future.

Before the formal Convocation ceremony, the semi-

-finalists of the WT Readership Program asked Somaly some questions. In this private session, she revealed her passionate opinion on several topics.

I enjoyed this experience and am glad to be part of the WT Class of 2014. I would not have traded going to Convocation and meeting Miss Mam for anything.



ROCK THE VOTE

September 28-29, 2010



Midterm Madness Arrives

Midterms are here—and we don't mean the exams. Mid-term Elections in Texas were on Tuesday November 2nd, bringing an air of political discussion, controversial commercials, and plenty of debate.

Student Government hosted a 'Rock the Vote' drive for voter registration in the JBK

Commons during lunch on September 28-29 this year. With the elections quickly approaching, SG felt a responsibility to inform and engage students in the democratic process.

156 students were registered to vote during the drive. Student Government also teamed

up with the College Republicans and Democrats to host Midterm Madness, an informational event for WTAMU students about the elections. Free lunch was served and door prizes given out, during the event in the JBK Commons at 12:00 on October 26th.



Students attend Scholarship Workshop



The scholarship workshop hosted by student government was a come and go opportunity for students to fill out the scholarship application for the next academic year. WTAMU

awards an estimated 3.5 million dollars in scholarships annually. Velma Murillo from scholarship services who has hosted many similar workshops said, "There are still students on campus who aren't aware of the scholarships available." During the workshop, she spoke to students about the advantages of applying by the February 1st priority date. She said, "Students who apply by the priority date usually receive more scholarship funds." All of the

students who attended the workshop expressed how useful it was and how they would recommend students attend. There will be more workshops similar to this one occurring closer to the priority date in February as well as reminder emails to all students. The scholarship application is now available on WT's main site under scholarships, and scholarship services is located in Old Main Rm. 105 to assist students in need.

Students are encouraged to speak with their senators and get informed about issues important to WTAMU.

Concealed Carry on Campus (cont.)

Students interested in contacting Student Government or their Student Senators to learn more can visit the Student Government website or Facebook at:

wtamu.edu/student-life/student-government.aspx

www.facebook.com/WTAMUsg

Students are encouraged to speak with their senators and get informed about the issues important to WTAMU.

In response to the debates on campus, the Executive Branch of the Student Government recently distributed a student poll about Concealed Carry on Campus and Parking issues on campus. The survey results, as of November 1st at

2:30pm, were revealed to the Student Senate prior to their vote. An excerpt of the results is listed below.

Overall, WTAMU students disapprove of Concealed carry on Campus, by a small margin. As for parking, most students feel that it is a problem on campus and that a parking garage would be the best solution.

Do you believe those individuals with state-issued concealed handgun licenses should be allowed to bring handguns onto college campuses?

NO 59.4%
YES 40.6%

Survey results

What is the best solution to WT's parking situation?

Construct a parking garage 43.1%
Construct more parking lots on the outer limits of the campus 36.3%



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[facebook.com/WTAMUsg](https://www.facebook.com/WTAMUsg)

Student Government is one of the most active student organizations at West Texas A&M University. By evaluating issues that affect the student body, Student Government works closely with faculty and staff to ensure an academically challenging University while providing many opportunities for fun.

Three branches make up Student Government: executive, legislative, and judicial. Each branch represents the student body in a different way, while providing checks and balances on the other branches.

Students interested in learning more can contact a Student Body Officer in the Student Government office at: 806-651-2385.

Stop in and visit in JBK 102.

The A&M Board of Regents and YOU



What exactly does the Board of Regents do and how does their job affect you as a university student?

By being aware of their responsibilities, you should be able to grasp the importance of the decisions they make and their affect on you:

Oversee the administration and set policy direction for the System's nine universities, seven state agencies and health science center;
Ensure a quality undergraduate and graduate education experience for all students;
Promote academic research and technology to benefit the state of Texas and the

nation;
Disseminate programs of the A&M System across the state through outreach and public service efforts; and
Support the state legislative and higher education leadership to position Texas at the forefront of higher education nationally.

What is a Student Regent and what do they do?

A student regent has the same powers and duties as the members of the board of regents of the system, including the right to attend and participate in meetings of the board of regents, except that the student regent:

(1) may not vote on any matter before the board or make or second any motion before the board; and
(2) is not counted in determining whether a quorum exists for a meeting of the board or in determining the outcome of any vote of the board.

You can apply to be the voice of your fellow students as the Student Regent:

- This position is open to almost any student
- Simply fill out an application and submit it to Student Government
- You may be selected by the Texas Governor as the next Student Regent to sit on the Board of Regents
- The Student Regent serves a term from June 1 – May 31 of the following year.