

Sul Ross Group (SRG) Bulletin Sixty-Two



December 19, 2022

The opinions expressed in this bulletin are those of the Board of Directors of the Sul Ross Group and do not represent the opinions of The Association of Former Students, its officers, or its Leadership.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE BOARD OF THE SUL ROSS GROUP



The Sul Ross Group Board of Directors wishes all members of the SRG a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The year 2022 has been a challenging year as we have navigated changes in policy while maintaining our duty keep our members informed about controversial activities and events on the Texas A&M campus. Our board members have worked tirelessly in meeting with administration decision-makers and other influencers. We have also met with student leaders both in the Corps of Cadets and the Student Senate. We have met for lunch with the new leadership in the Corps and offered our help with the March to 3,000. We have written about controversial issues and continued to offer our opinion. We are the elder statesmen of Texas A&M, and we will continue to act in a respectful, stately and dignified manner consistent with our namesake and with the inscription on Sully's statue, "Soldier, Statesman, and Knightly Gentleman". But in that spirit, we will not be silenced as we march into 2023.

Gig 'Em!



Edis T. Oliver

TOM REID '61, PAST PRESIDENT OF THE SUL ROSS GROUP



Figure 1- Tom Reid '61, Past President of the Sul Ross Group.

Tom Reid, past president of the Sul Ross Group died after a lengthy illness on December 1, 2022, surrounded by his family in Georgetown, Texas.

He graduated from Texas A&M in 1961 with a degree in Industrial Distribution. While at A&M he was in the Corps, a member of the Fish Drill Team, a senior class officer, and Chairman of Scona IV. Upon graduation he attended Officer Basic at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and then spent a year in Korea. During that year he was headquarters battery commander and the battalion forward observer. In 1969 he completed his obligation as Captain in the US Army Reserve.

In 1963 Tom joined Briggs Weaver, a Dallas industrial distributor, as a sales trainee. His career in distribution, covering Texas and the Southwest, spanned the next 40 years. Briggs Weaver grew to 22 branches in five states with 400 employees, of which 90 were outside salesmen. Tom retired in 2003 from Briggs Weaver as president after 40 years. During his career, he served on two distribution companies' boards and several manufacturers' advisory boards. In 1988 he was president of Industrial Distribution Association (IDA).

Tom was a Class Agent for the Class of '61 for 55 years. He and his wife, Vicky, retired and lived in Georgetown, Texas. Tom served on the Sul Ross Group (SRG) board for four years and as the president of the SRG. His level-headed wisdom helped lead the organization through one of its most tumultuous times as dissidents threatened to remove the statue of our namesake, Lawrence Sullivan Ross, from the A&M campus. Tom was a great president and will be long remembered for his achievements and contributions.

HARRY GREEN '52, LONG-TIME DIRECTOR OF 12TH MAN FOUNDATION DIES.



Figure 2 - Harry Green '52

Harry Green '52, long-time CEO of The Aggie Club, the predecessor to the 12th Man Foundation died on December 12, 2022. Harry entered A&M in 1949, but his academic time was interrupted by the Korean war, so his graduation with a B.S. degree in Industrial Distribution was delayed until 1955. While working in Houston, he was selected by Buck Weirus to be the first Field Director for The Association of Former Students. Harry served as Co-Class Agent for the Class of '52 for many years.

Harry became very well-known and moved to The Aggie Club, the forerunner to the 12th Man Foundation, where he became Executive Director in 1979. In a 2012 interview in the 12th Man Magazine, he noted that in 1975 there were

1,200 members of the Aggie Club, later the 12th Man Foundation, and about \$275,000 in revenue, and when he retired there were 6,750 members with millions of dollars in revenues.

Harry Green was a congenial, friendly person never at a loss for words, and even when his eyesight was failing whenever a person came up and introduced him or herself, he would smile and have a great conversation. Harry Green '52 was an A&M treasure who made an outsized contribution to both The Association of Former Students and The Aggie Club/12th Man Foundation and will be long remembered by Aggies world-wide.

To read more, click here:

https://theeagle.com/obituaries/green-harry/image_66b314eb-70c8-5337-9f14-9eaab8e95391.html

DARPA VISITS TEXAS A&M RELLIS



Figure 3 - Secretary of the Army, Christine Warmuth.

Texas A&M Chancellor John Sharp announced that Secretary of the Army, Christine Warmuth visited the Texas A&M RELLIS campus accompanied by Dr. Stefanie Tompkins, director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, also known as DARPA. They were accompanied by other Department of Defense officials.

The Army Futures Command has a large presence at the RELLIS campus capped by the George H.W. Bush Combat Development Center. Research related to off-road autonomous military vehicles and hypersonic aircraft are on-going at the campus facility. Texas A&M is the hub for collaboration among universities, industry partners and DARPA.

Texas A&M hosted a DARPA conference between the collaborating partners at the RELLIS campus.

To read more, click on this link:

Chancellor John Sharp@tamu.edu

YALE AND HARVARD UNRANK THEMSELVES



Figure 4 - Yale Law School

As reported in an article by the Editorial Board of the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) on November 17, 2022, Yale and Harvard Law Schools said they will no longer participate in the annual law-school rankings published by U.S. News and World Report, and they will no longer use the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) in evaluating students for admission. It will come to most as little surprise that U.C.-Berkeley quickly followed.

Yale Law School Dean Heather Gerkin said that “the U.S. News rankings, which have long influenced public perception of prestige is profoundly flawed”. But the WSJ editorial said further “But Dean Gerken gave away the game when she wrote: “Today, 20% of a law school’s overall ranking is median LSAT/GRE scores and GPAs. While academic scores are an important tool, they don’t always capture the full measure of an applicant. This heavily weighted metric imposes tremendous pressure on schools to overlook promising students, especially those who cannot afford expensive test preparation courses.”

The report went on to say “This sounds like cover for a desire by Yale to be free to admit students with lower test scores in service to diversity, but without taking a hit to its exclusive reputation. Yale has long been No. 1 in the U.S. News rankings. The timing here is notable given the Supreme Court may soon strike down the use of racial preferences in college admissions. The Yale and Harvard announcements look like attempts to adapt in advance. “

Americans believe in equality of opportunity and a nation based on meritocracy, not affirmative action and quotas, but academia continues to refuse acceptance of previous Supreme Court decisions. Grade inflation has largely made GPAs unreliable, but standardized testing levels the playing field and provides a base measure for evaluating the likelihood of academic and later professional success. Academia continues to pursue its own definitions of fairness through its catchphrase of “Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)” which is far different from the general perception of the American people. Texas A&M University is no stranger to this mindset, and we must carefully guard our beloved meritocracy at Aggieland.

To read more, click here: [Yale and Harvard Law Unrank Themselves - WSJ](#)

TEXAS A&M FACULTY COLLABORATES ON NUCLEAR FUSION BREAKTHROUGH



Figure 5- Dr. Marvin L. Adams Explains Nuclear Fusion

Texas A&M scientists and engineers played a major role in the successful nuclear fusion experiment at Lawrence Livermore National laboratory in California. According to the release by Chancellor John Sharp, “Aggie involvement starts with Marvin L. Adams, the renowned Texas A&M University nuclear engineering professor who has taken a leave of absence to serve as deputy administrator for Defense Programs within the Department of Energy. Adams took to a podium in Washington D.C. Tuesday and explained to

the world the experiment that took place Dec. 5.”

Dr. Adams has spent his 30-year career at Texas A&M mentoring generations of engineers and scientists. In addition to Adams, several other industrial engineers from the Department of Nuclear Engineering played a part in the research and experiment.

Nuclear fusion offers the possibility for unlimited clean energy to fuel our future. Nuclear fusion is the source that powers the sun and consists of fusing or combining atoms whereas today's nuclear plants are fission reactors which operate by splitting atoms.

Find out more about the breadth of Texas A&M's involvement here:

<https://today.tamu.edu/2022/12/15/aggies-contribute-to-nuclear-fusion-breakthrough/>

See excerpts of Dr. Adams' press conference here:

[Marv Adams.mp4](#)

JAMIE MORRISON NAMED NEW TEXAS A&M VOLLEYBALL COACH

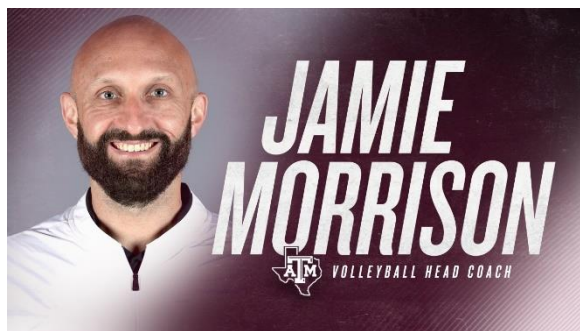


Figure 6 -Jamie Morrison, Texas A&M Volleyball Coach.

As reported in a release by 12th Man.com, Director of Athletics, Ross Bjork, Jamie Morrison was named Texas A&M's seventh volleyball coach. Jamie succeeds Laura "Bird" Kuhn, who was fired after five seasons for her 76-60 record. According to the release, "Most recently, Morrison has served as the head coach of USA Volleyball's U19 National Team since 2021 and has coached current Aggies Logan Lednický and Ava Underwood. Morrison led the United States to a

gold medal at the 2022 Pan American Games."

Morrison has significant international experience as noted in the release. "Morrison has coached prior with USA Volleyball and served on a staff that helped the United States men win gold at the 2008 Olympics. His other accomplishments with USA Volleyball include assisting the 2012 and 2016 Olympic teams, which captured silver and bronze medals, respectively, over two stints with the U.S. Women's National Volleyball Team (2009-12 and 2014-16). Morrison's other international experience includes a three-year stint as the head coach of the Netherlands Women's National Volleyball Team (2017-19), during which he led the Dutch to a runner-up finish at the 2017 European Championship.

At the professional level, Morrison spent 2010-11 as the head coach of SVS Post Volleyball Club in Vienna, Austria, and led the club to its best season in history, finishing with a 32-6 record and an Austrian Championship as well as a silver medal in the Middle European League." Gig 'Em, Coach Morrison.

o read more, click here:

[Aggie News: Jamie Morrison named as the new Texas A&M volleyball coach \(usatoday.com\)](#)

NATE SHARP NAMED DEAN OF MAYS BUSINESS SCHOOL



Figure 7 - Nate Y. Sharp, Dean of the Mays Business School.

As reported in The Eagle on December 14, 2022, Dr. Nate Y. Sharp was named dean of the Mays Business School at Texas A&M University, effective February 1, 2023.

Dr. Sharp holds the Nelson D. Durst Endowed Chair in Accounting. He received his bachelor and master's degrees from Brigham Young University and his Ph.D from t.u. He taught undergraduate and graduate students at A&M and won several awards. He joined the A&M staff in 2007 as an assistant professor, and from 2007 through 2020 he served as the Ph.D program coordinator in the Department of Accounting. He has served as department head of accounting since 2020.

"Nate is known as a unifier and team builder. He not only embraces the core values; he also lives them," A&M President M. Katherine Banks said in a release. "I am absolutely confident he will position the Mays School to be at the pinnacle of excellence where it belongs."

To read more, click here:

[Nate Sharp named dean of A&M's Mays Business School \(theeagle.com\)](https://theeagle.com)

WHO, WHY, AND HOW TO RECEIVE THE SRG BULLETINS?

It was previously The Association of Former Students' policy that anyone could "opt in" (register and grant permission) to receive the 56 SRG produced Bulletins which began in 2020. In mid-April 2022, the policy guidance was changed so that only SRG members can now receive them. The "opt in" system was rescinded by The Association so that now, non-SRG persons no longer can be recipients. That rescission and change in policy also included three conditions: (1) that SRG can no longer express opinions or include "opinion-based" material in the bulletins, (2) that the SRG can only issue one bulletin each month, and (3) that our "bulletins" be simply typical SRG newsletters. Accordingly, in order to maintain our independence of thought and communication with our membership, the SRG board has decided to abandon the email service of The Association, known as "ListServe", and to communicate with you directly through bulletins sent by email to the Class Agents. The Board intends to maintain our policy of complete transparency and that is the reason we have inserted the disclaimer on the front page of this bulletin. To communicate with the SRG address your emails to SRGPresident@gmail.com

The Sul Ross Group (SRG) Board of Directors (BoD) are responsible for producing the SRG Bulletins. We do so in keeping with one of our four charged SRG Constitution's purposes, which is to ensure our represented SRG Membership is kept informed in a timely manner.

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER
SUL ROSS GROUP REUNION
March 7-9, 2023**

A block of rooms is available on a first-come, first-served basis, for the 2023 Sul Ross Group Reunion. Make your reservations by calling the College Station Hilton directly before Feb. 13, at 979-693-7500, or by booking online. Be sure to reference the group code **ROSS23** to receive the rate of \$129 per night, plus tax.

For more information, go to the Sul Ross Group web page link below:

<https://www.aggienetwork.com/events/2023/sulross.aspx>

IF YOU WISH COMMENT TO THOSE WHO DECIDE:

Chancellor Sharp: chancellor@tamus.edu

The Board of Regents: vickie@tamus.edu or jbell@tamus.edu

President Banks: president@tamu.edu

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