

*Volume 27, Number 21, July 11-24, 2005*

## **TWU HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTION TO CLOSING THE GAPS**

The Greater Dallas Chamber recently recognized Texas Woman's University's contribution to the statewide Closing the Gaps campaign.

TWU was honored for its high school Go Centers, which offer information and financial aid and application assistance for students to encourage greater participation in higher education. In addition, current TWU students serve as mentors to potential college applicants.

"Through our partnership with TWU and the College for Texans Campaign, we have provided many area students with the information they need to pursue college careers," said Becky Lewellen, manager of education for the Greater Dallas Chamber. "The Chamber advocates the importance of a strong education system and is committed to providing students with the access they need to pursue higher education goals."

"TWU is strongly committed to our partnerships with area high schools, businesses and the Chamber of Commerce," said Dr. Richard Nicholas, TWU vice president for student life. "These partnerships have the potential to increase the college-going rates necessary to meet the Closing the Gaps goals."

During the 2004-2005 academic year, TWU operated four Go Centers at Moisés E. Molina High School in Dallas, and Denton, Little Elm and Valley View high schools. For the 2005-2006 school year, TWU plans to add Go Centers to Coppell High School and Carter-Riverside High School in Fort Worth.

The Closing the Gaps campaign is a Texas initiative aimed at increasing higher education enrollment by 500,000 students by 2015. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Business and Education Coalition, the Greater Dallas Chamber and school districts and higher education institutions are working together to increase the percentage of high school graduates attending college in Texas.

For more information on Closing the Gaps and the College for Texans campaign, visit [www.collegefortexans.com](http://www.collegefortexans.com).

\*\*\* \*\*

## **TWU AWARDED FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT GRANT**

Texas Woman's University has been awarded \$50,000 from the First Generation College Student (FGCS) Grant Program, allowing TWU to continue providing assistance to first-generation college students for the 2005-2006 academic year.

“Beginning with the initial grant in spring 2004, TWU has offered scholarships to nearly 100 first-generation college students,” said Dr. Richard Nicholas, TWU vice president for student life. “These scholarship participants also conduct workshops in area high schools for potential first-generation college students and their parents. The program is able to support current first-generation university students, as well as assist future first-generation students in high school in their pursuit of higher education.”

Established in 2003, the FGCS program is a result of funding from the U.S. Department of Labor to the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The program's goal is to increase the participation and success of first-generation college students.

\*\*\* \*\*

## **TWU PROFESSOR, STUDENTS TO PROVIDE AID TO SRI LANKA**

A Texas Woman's University professor and four of her graduate students are part of a team heading for Sri Lanka on Tuesday, July 12, to help train Sri Lankan medical personnel and social workers in counseling victims suffering from post traumatic stress disorder following last December's tsunami.

Dr. Merry Evenson (family sciences) said the group will spend two weeks in Sri Lanka, teaching trainees skills in helping others deal with grief, as well as critical stress management and how to move on with their lives in a healthy way. A special emphasis will be placed on play therapy.

“We hope to enable them to provide continuing counseling services to tsunami victims in need after we are gone,” Evenson said. She also hopes to gather data for a research project on survivors of trauma.

Evenson was contacted by a former student, Janet Perrera, now a counselor in the Dallas Independent School District, who asked for her help in training counselors in Sri Lanka. The short time frame left no opportunity for the project to qualify for class credit, and each member of the TWU group was required to raise approximately \$2,500 to cover expenses. The group is working with Children's Emergency Relief International, the overseas arm of Baptist Child & Family Services, a human service organization based in San Antonio.

\*\*\* \*\*

## **TWU CHAPTER WINS THIRD CONSECUTIVE TCEC AWARD**

The Texas Woman's University Student Council for Exceptional Children was named Outstanding Chapter by the Texas Council for Exceptional Children (TCEC) at its annual conference June 16-18 in Houston. It is the third consecutive year the TWU chapter has won the award.

"The students took real pride in it," said Dr. Lloyd Kinnison (teacher education). He and Dr. Carol Thomas (teacher education) serve as co-chairs of the TWU chapter.

Criteria for the award include participation in community activities as well as attendance at the conference.

Activities conducted by the TWU chapter have included raising \$1,200 through a bake sale to provide books for students at Denton's Tomas Rivera Elementary School; conducting a school supply drive for Rivera and Newton Rayzor elementary schools; collecting food for the Denton Food Bank; and providing food for a local family at Christmas. The group also began sending care packages to U.S. troops in Afghanistan when Kinnison's son was stationed overseas. Though his son's troop has returned, Kinnison said, the TWU chapter continues to send packages to another unit overseas.

The Texas Council for Exceptional Children is a non-profit organization that supports the national Council for Exceptional Children in advocating for students with disabilities and/or gifts and talents and in supporting those who serve this special population.

\*\*\* \*\*

## **NEWSBRIEFS**

*Information and news about activities, programs or TWU people may be sent to the Office of Marketing and Communication through campus mail or by e-mail to [info@twu.edu](mailto:info@twu.edu). The deadline to receive information is the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. for the following week. Student information for the "People" section is not published unless it is submitted by or in conjunction with a faculty member and that faculty member's related activities.*

The 2005-06 Cultural Connections Conference Series will include the 3rd Annual Latina Student Leadership Conference (LSLC) on Oct. 7 and the 5th Annual African American Student Leadership Conference (AASLC) on March 3, 2006. These conferences will be free to all current TWU students, faculty and staff who complete registration by the appropriate deadlines: Sept. 15 for the Latina Student Leadership Conference and Dec. 15 for the African American Student Leadership Conference. For more information, contact the Office of Intercultural Services at 8-1-3679.

## UPDATE ON TWU PEOPLE

*Please submit "People" items (faculty and staff only) to the Office of Marketing and Communication by campus mail or by e-mail to [info@twu.edu](mailto:info@twu.edu). Include first and last names (no initials, please) and appropriate titles (ie. Dr.).*

Chapters of the second edition of the Theory-Directed Nursing Practice nursing textbook (Shirley Melat Ziegler, editor, published by Springer Publishing Company: New York, 2005) were written or jointly written by current TWU Dallas nursing faculty. These include: **Drs. Susan Chaney, Oneida Hughes, Rose Nieswiadomy, Caryl Mobley and Judy Johnson-Russell**. Other contributing authors include former and retired TWU nursing faculty: **Dr. Shirley Ziegler, Dr. Wilda Arnold (Professor Emerita), Lois Hough, Dr. Gail Watson, and Dr. Kathleen Baldwin**.

**Liz Fuentes** (nursing-Dallas) received the 2005 AANP State Award for Nurse Practitioner Excellence for Texas during the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners conference June 19 in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

An abstract by Dr. **Kathryn Tart** (nursing-Houston) and Dr. **Sally Northam** (nursing-Denton) titled "NEWTON: Nurse Educator Web-Technology Outreach Network" has been accepted for a podium presentation at the Professional Nurse Educators Group (PNEG) conference scheduled Nov. 3-6 in Houston.

**Faisal Aboul-Enein** (nursing-Houston) has been invited to speak at the Nurse Oncology Education Program conference in March 2006 in Houston. His presentation includes "Discussing Cancer Care in the Saudi Arabian and Arab Context."

\*\*\* \*\*

## THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: JULY 11-24, 2005

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Mon., July 11  | -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;<br>Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.<br>- First day of Summer II classes. |
| Tues., July 12 | -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;<br>Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.                                      |
| Wed., July 13  | -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;<br>Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.                                      |

*continued*

**CALENDAR**, *continued*

- Professor's Corner: The Art of Memoir. 7 p.m., Denton's South Branch Library. Free. For more information, contact Dr. Stephen Souris, [ssouris@twu.edu](mailto:ssouris@twu.edu).
- Thur., July 14      -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Fri., July 15      -Library open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Sat., July 16      -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Wellness Center  
open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Sun., July 17      -Library open 2 p.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore closed; Wellness Center  
open 1-6 p.m.
- Mon., July 18      -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Tues., July 19      -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Wed., July 20      -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Thur., July 21      -Library open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Fri., July 22      -Library open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.;  
Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Sat., July 23      -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Wellness Center  
open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Sun., July 24      -Library open 2 p.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore closed; Wellness Center  
open 1-6 p.m.

\*\*\* \*\*