

Volume 29, Number 16, August 13-26, 2007

TWU, FORT WORTH ISD RECEIVE \$1.3 MILLION GRANT

Texas Woman's University and the Fort Worth Independent School District have been awarded a \$1.3 million federal grant to improve English language literacy and the academic achievement of English language learners in the Fort Worth ISD.

The U.S. Department of Education's National Professional Development Program in the Office of English Language Acquisition recently awarded grants for projects designed to increase the pool of highly qualified teachers prepared to serve students with limited English proficiency and increase the skills of teachers already serving them. Project ACCELERATE, a collaborative effort of TWU and the Fort Worth ISD, received \$1,306,911.

"Teachers at times have in their regular classes students who don't have the English language background to be successful. This grant will provide the teachers with strategies and tools to meet the needs of those students," said Dr. Pat Casey, TWU assistant professor of educational leadership and a co-director of Project ACCELERATE.

"State achievement statistics show a large gap between the academic performance of English language learners and those who know English," said Dr. Claudia Sanchez, TWU assistant professor of teacher education and a co-director of the project. "Our goal is to improve the education offered to students in the Fort Worth ISD, and we can do this through the preparation of in-service teachers. Teachers want to know the latest research-based information so they can influence children."

Project ACCELERATE is a five-year professional development program designed to advance English language learners' knowledge in reading, math, science and social studies. A total of 66 content-area teachers in Fort Worth ISD secondary schools will participate in coursework leading to nine graduate credit hours that can be applied to a master's degree at TWU. Those 66 teachers then will provide professional development to other Fort Worth ISD content-area teachers who also teach English language learners.

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GRANT, *continued*

“It’s been a wonderful collaboration with the university,” said Margaret Balandran, executive director of bilingual education for the Fort Worth ISD and a co-director of Project ACCELERATE. “This project will be integrated into our district’s professional development offerings and give us a systematic process for providing professional development. Our teachers are very dedicated and are always searching for more resources and strategies to use. They want to be the very best teachers for their English language learners and I am sure that we will be able to recruit many of them for this project.”

For more information on the U.S. Department of Education’s National Professional Development Program in the Office of English Language Acquisition, visit www.ncela.gwu.edu/newsline/archives/2007/07/2007_national_p.html.

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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. 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.

TWU Faculty Development will be held Aug. 20-22 on the Denton campus. A faculty meeting, which includes a “State of the University” address by Chancellor and President Dr. Ann Stuart, will take place from 10 a.m. until noon Monday, Aug. 20, in the MCL Auditorium. A faculty luncheon in the southeast dining room of Hubbard Hall will follow. Orientations, meetings, workshops and other events are scheduled through Wednesday, Aug. 22. For more information, contact the office of the associate provost, 81-3350.

The Pioneer Information Booth, located in front of the Student Union, will be undergoing some reconditioning work and will be closed the week of Aug. 13-17. Visitors/guests coming to campus this week should be referred to the Department of Public Safety for a visitor parking permit.

Jerry Nash, scholastic chess director for the U.S. Chess Federation, will present a workshop on the use of chess as an instructional tool Friday, Aug. 17 at TWU. The workshop is free and is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon in Hubbard Hall. To register, call 81-2211 or email sfisher@mail.twu.edu.

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NEWSBRIEFS, continued

Under section 51.907 of the Texas Education Code, “an institution of higher education may not permit a student to drop more than six courses, including any course a transfer student has dropped at another institution of higher education.” This statute was enacted by the State of Texas in spring 2007 and applies to students who enroll in a public institution of higher education as first-time freshmen in fall 2007 or later. Any course that a student drops is counted toward the six-course limit if “(1) the student was able to drop the course without receiving a grade or incurring an academic penalty; (2) the student’s transcript indicates or will indicate that the student was enrolled in the course; and (3) the student is not dropping the course in order to withdraw from the institution.” The statute applies across institutions and procedures for implementation may vary between institutions. Policies and procedures for implementation of this statute are being developed and will be published as soon as they are available.

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. Include first and last names (no initials, please) and appropriate titles (ie. Dr.).

A benefit for Rhett Vincent, son of **Sharon Vincent** (student records) will be held Sunday, Aug. 26 in St. Thomas Parish Hall in Pilot Point. Rhett, a fifth-grader at Pilot Point, currently is in Baylor Rehabilitation Center due to a head injury suffered in an automobile accident. The benefit will feature a barbecue brisket/sausage lunch from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6-11. Children under age 6 eat free. Raffle tickets for a 61-inch flat-screen TV and home theater system are available for \$20. Lunch and raffle tickets may be made by contacting **Brandon Bays** (undergraduate studies/academic affairs) at 81-3309 or by email at bbays@twu.edu or **Bob Price** (facilities management) at (940) 465-4076. Donations also may be made at Point Bank.

Dr. **Ronald Davis** and Dr. **Terri Senne**, both kinesiology, served on the review committee for the Physical Education Content Test administered to beginning physical education teachers. The committee, organized by the Texas Education Association, met July 23-24 in Austin to review more than 150 questions related to teaching physical education in the public schools.

The TWU golf course has hired **Thomas Roes** of Arlington as the new supervisor of golf course marketing and operations and **Julie Halliburton** of Cushing as the new coordinator of golf course services.

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PEOPLE, continued

Dr. **Sandra Cesario** (nursing-Houston) was invited to be the keynote speaker at the Ohio state meeting of the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) on Aug. 10 in Columbus. Her presentation was titled "Evidence Based Practice: Who, When, Where, Why, What, and How?" She also spoke on Postpartum Nursing Care during a breakout session of the same conference.

Dr. **Sandra Cesario** (nursing-Houston) recently was interviewed by a Korean film crew on the topic of precocious puberty. The interview will be a part of a one-hour documentary that will air in Korea at the end of September. The film crew contacted Dr Cesario after an article she authored on the topic appeared in the *Journal of Obstetrics, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nurses* earlier this summer.

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THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: AUGUST 13-26, 2007

Mon., Aug. 13	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Tues., Aug. 14	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Wed., Aug. 15	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Thur., Aug. 16	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 17	-Library 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat., Aug. 18	-Library closed; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m. to noon.
Sun., Aug. 19	-Library closed; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 4-8 p.m.
Mon., Aug. 20	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.

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CALENDAR, *continued*

- Tues., Aug. 21 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Wed., Aug. 22 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Thur., Aug. 23 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
-Family Mediation. For information, contact the Office of Lifelong Learning at 81-3408.
-Online Educator Symposium, 8:30 a.m. For information, visit www.twu.edu/dl/index.htm. To register, call 81-3409 or email DE@twu.edu by Aug. 16.
- Fri., Aug. 24 -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
-Teaching Online Workshop for Adjuncts, GTAs and GAs. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Details available at www.twuonline.com
- Sat., Aug. 25 -Library open 10 a.m.-2 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-noon.
- Sun., Aug. 26 -Library closed; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 4-8 p.m.

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