

*Volume 29, Number 22, November 19-December 2, 2007*

## **TWU DISTANCE EDUCATION NUMBERS CONTINUE TO CLIMB**

Did you know that students taking only distance education courses accounted for 23 percent of TWU's total enrollment this fall? That's up from 20 percent in fall 2006.

At TWU, a distance education course or degree is defined as one in which 50 percent or more of the content is delivered through electronic means (Internet, televideo, etc.). As illustrated by the figure above, distance education is becoming increasingly popular among the student body.

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services Teresa Mauk said, "TWU's DE programs have been a major component in our enrollment growth. Degree programs and courses provide our students with the flexibility and convenience they want, while still maintaining the curriculum rigor for which TWU is known."

TWU has experienced a steady increase in the number of students who take online courses, a trend that colleges around the country also are experiencing. The Sloan Consortium, an organization focused on the development and continued improvement of quality online programs, reported that nearly 3.5 million students across the nation took at least one online course in fall 2006. That's up 10 percent from fall 2005.

The popularity of distance education is evident at TWU, as seen by our enrollment increases and the addition of new distance education courses. A total of 5,383 TWU students enrolled in a distance education course this fall. Of those, 2,782 took distance education courses only. Those numbers reflect a 15 and 18 percent increase, respectively, from fall 2006. Also this fall, TWU offered 279 different distance education courses, up from 244 last fall. Many of these current courses had multiple sections for a total of 647 course sections taught via distance education. That number also reflects an increase from 544 total sections of DE courses from last fall.

"The growth in distance education at TWU results from a unique combination of faculty commitment and student demand," said Mike Simmons, assistant vice president of Lifelong Learning. "These factors, combined with the strong support of Chancellor Stuart and Provost Gunning, allow TWU to be among the leaders in providing quality distance education for students."

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**DISTANCE ED**, *continued*

TWU currently offers 15 degrees that are considered part of distance education. All of them are offered either fully or predominately online. These degrees include: doctor of philosophy in nursing science; master of library science; master of science in speech/language pathology; master of science in nursing-nursing education; executive master of business administration (EMBA); master of science in family studies; master of arts in teaching; master of science in food systems administration (Nutrition & Food Sciences); master of science in education of the deaf; master of science in kinesiology; master of science in health studies; COTA to master of occupational therapy; bachelor of science in health studies completion (upper division courses only); bachelor of general studies completion; and the RN-BS online program for registered nurses.

All data referring to TWU distance education was taken from the *Fall 2007 Distance Education Snapshot Report*. To request a copy of this report, email [DE@twu.edu](mailto:DE@twu.edu).

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**TWU FACULTY AWARDED GRANTS**

Dr. **Jo Ann Engelbrecht** (research and sponsored programs) announced that Fiscal Year 2008 was off to a busy start, with five new research study projects funded in September.

Dr. **Junehee Kwon** and Dr. **Dojin Ryu** (nutrition and food sciences) and Dr. **Lisa Zottarelli** (sociology) were awarded \$456,606 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for “Food Safety Risk Assessment and Development of Education Program for Evacuation Shelters Operated by Faith-based Organizations.”

Dr. **Gayle Hersch** (OT-Houston) and Dr. **Shirley Hutchinson** (nursing-Houston) were awarded \$142,072 in federal funding from Health and Human Services (HHS) for “Adaptation to Long-term Care: Developing and Testing a Cultural Intervention.”

Three new projects, representing collaborations between nutrition and food science faculty members, each received \$35,000 in funding from the Texas Department of Agriculture: Dr. **Hunanbiao Mo** and Dr. **Clay King** for “Chemopreventive Activity of Geranylgeraniol in Human Prostate Tumors;” Dr. **Mo** and Dr. **Chandan Prasad** for “Modulation of Adipogenesis by Cottonseed Terpenoids;” and Dr. **Prasad** and Dr. **Victorine Imhran** for “Consumption of a Diet Rich in Cotton Seed Oil Improves Endothelial Function, a Marker for Heart Health.”

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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](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 National Council on Family Relations (NCFR) recognized the **TWU Child Development and Family Studies programs** for having the second-highest ratio of majors to receive their CFLE (Certified Family Life Educator) certification for the 2006-2007 academic year. This is a competition of all programs across the country. In addition to the professional honor, this recognition includes a \$500 award. The money will be used to support family studies and child development students in the department of family sciences.

Individuals and/or departments participating in the **TWU Holiday Gift Program** are reminded to bring their wrapped gifts to the Lowry Woods Community Center (if their adopted family lives on campus) or Student Union 209 (if the adopted family lives off campus) during the week of Nov. 26-29. For more information, email Amy O'Keefe (for off-campus families) at [aokeefe@twu.edu](mailto:aokeefe@twu.edu) or Nancy Murphy-Chadwick (for on-campus families) at [nmurphychadwick@twu.edu](mailto:nmurphychadwick@twu.edu).

## **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.).*

The TWU Board of Regents has appointed **Andrew Groover** as director of internal audits. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Groover served as the university's assistant director and interim director of internal audits. He previously worked as audit manager at the University of Texas at Dallas, and has several years of internal auditing experience in industry and public accounting. He is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Internal Controls Auditor and Certified Information Systems Auditor.

**Dr. Rita DelloStritto, Dr. Charlotte Stephenson and Dr. Terri Walsh** (all nursing-Houston) were named among the top 20 nurses in the Houston/Galveston Eastern Texas Nurses Association district. They were honored Nov. 15 at the TNA Celebration Gala.

**THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: NOVEMBER 19-DECEMBER 2, 2007**

- Mon., Nov. 19      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Tues., Nov. 20      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Wed., Nov. 21      -Thanksgiving holiday. University closed.
- Thur., Nov. 22      -Thanksgiving holiday. University closed.
- Fri., Nov. 23      -Thanksgiving holiday. University closed.
- Sat., Nov. 24      -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and  
Recreation open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Sun., Nov. 25      -Library open 2 p.m.-midnight; bookstore closed; Fitness and  
Recreation open 2-10 p.m.
- Mon., Nov. 26      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.;  
Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Tues., Nov. 27      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Wed., Nov. 28      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Thur., Nov. 29      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; bookstore open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.;  
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.  
-DanceMakers, Too Fall 2007 Concert, 4 and 7 p.m., Dance  
Building Studio Theatre. \$6 general, \$4 students. 81-2086.
- Fri., Nov. 30      -Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-3 p.m.;  
Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.  
-TWU Drama presents the Edward Albee Festival, a studio  
production, 8 p.m., Redbud Theatre Complex, on the northwest  
side of Hubbard Hall. Free. 81-2020.

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**CALENDAR**, *continued*

- Sat., Dec. 1            -Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
                             -TWU Annual Gala Holiday Concert, 7:30 p.m., MJPH. \$5/person. 81-2500.  
                             -TWU Drama presents the Edward Albee Festival, a studio production, 8 p.m., Redbud Theatre Complex, on the northwest side of Hubbard Hall. Free. 81-2020.  
                             -DanceMakers, Too Fall 2007 Concert, 4 and 7 p.m., Dance Building Studio Theatre. \$6 general, \$4 students. 81-2086.  
                             -The Federation of North Texas Area Universities presents "Integration of Research and Practice," featuring Dr. Linda Skrla from Texas A&M University, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Denton campus. 81-3414.
- Sun., Dec. 2            -Library open 2 p.m.-midnight; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 2-10 p.m.

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