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TWU, TI DEDICATE NEW MATHEMATICS LAB

As part of TWU's increasing efforts to establish partnerships with other educational institutions and corporate organizations, the university will dedicate a new mathematics laboratory this week: the Beverly Washington Wedgeworth Mathematics Laboratory.

Beverly Washington Wedgeworth called TWU her alma mater and Texas Instruments Incorporated her home. Little more than a year following Washington's death, TWU and TI are celebrating her memory with the dedication of the new lab -- a facility that will help future mathematics, computer science and engineering students pursue careers that previously were nontraditional fields for women.

On Fri., Sept. 20, representatives from both organizations will dedicate the laboratory at 3 p.m., CFO 104. Dr. Carol Surles (president's office) will host Delbert Whitaker, senior vice president of mixed signal and logic products at TI, and Dr. C. Roland Haden, vice chancellor and dean of the College of Engineering at Texas A&M University, with which TWU recently began a new "3+2" program. Members of the Wedgeworth family, including Mrs. Wedgeworth's husband, Dee, also will be present. For details, call Dr. Frances Thompson (mathematics and computer science) at ext. 2166.

TI is involved in both the new TWU mathematics laboratory and the TWU/Texas A&M "3+2" engineering program. The company donated \$125,000 to build the new lab, which will be used by a number of TWU students, including those who will enroll in the dual degree program. Those students, in turn, will transfer to Texas A&M after three years at TWU; during the second phase of the program (two years), they will enroll in classes and participate in a cooperative education experience at TI.

"We wish to express our deep gratitude to Texas Instruments for their donation of \$125,000 to create the Beverly Washington Wedgeworth Mathematics Laboratory," said Surles. "There is no gift more meaningful to a university than one which supports and enhances its mission of education while honoring an alumna." The donation was made to the TWU Foundation, which provided funds to purchase equipment for the new lab. Surles added, "The new laboratory will enhance TWU's ability to encourage women to enter the engineering profession, including African American students, who will find a role model for themselves in Beverly Washington Wedgeworth."

"Texas Instruments appreciates the opportunity to help support Texas Woman's University and Texas A&M in the cooperative engineering program," said Whitaker earlier this year. "We are very excited about the laboratory as well as providing opportunities for students -- potential employees -- to learn more about the field of engineering from TI."

The new laboratory will accommodate 24 students with that many work stations and microcomputers, plus a laser printer and table, chairs and instructor work station that includes an overhead projector, LCD panel, videocassette recorder and other equipment.

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TWU DEDICATES LAB, *continued*

Wedgeworth, a native of Dallas, graduated from Franklin D. Roosevelt High School in 1966. She earned a bachelor's degree in business from TWU in 1971 and worked for TI 19 years in the human resources department.

Texas Instruments Incorporated, headquartered in Dallas, is a high-technology company with sales or manufacturing operations in more than 30 countries. TI products and services include semiconductors; defense electronic systems; software productivity tools; printers; electrical controls; metallurgical materials and others.

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SURLES ADDRESSES DENTON-AREA LEADERS

Stressing TWU's statewide role in higher education and the importance of partnerships, Dr. Carol Surles (president's office) spoke to area business, civic and governmental representatives during the university's annual community leaders breakfast on Sept. 11. Three TWU regents -- Kay Williams Goodman, Richard Hayes and Sheila Whitaker-Kellagher -- also attended the event, which brought more than 100 area leaders to campus for an update on TWU.

Surles discussed higher education in general, as well as several priorities for TWU and the importance of those efforts as they relate to the university's mission. "We are experiencing unprecedented change in higher education. Universities have tremendous opportunities to serve in fields of higher education in a number of relative ways," she said. "We are looking at education and at the needs of business, and how we can teach our students to meet those needs.

"We must be responsive," she continued. "Paradigms are shifting....The very fiber of the tapestry that pulls us together (in higher education) and binds us together is changing." She noted that the strategic planning committee is examining a number of areas, including infrastructure, campus life (serving students) and other areas, as well as functions. "We are looking for new ways to deliver service to the community.

"TWU has a statewide mission...to deliver programs to Texas through additional modalities...to serve the people here, in west Texas, in east Texas and across the state...and to tailor programs more relevantly to the needs of our constituents," said Surles. She also discussed the higher education price index and compared it to the consumer price index. "The higher education price index always is two to three times higher than the CPI. As a result, we can never really keep pace with the cost of educating students."

Surles also referred to higher education's "shopping cart," which includes such high-priced items as computers, technology, higher salaries for researchers, academic programs in health sciences and other factors that affect the cost of funding higher education. "As a result, we are looking for friends and people who will partner with us -- other universities, corporations, businesses and individuals -- and can help us close this gap in the future," she stated.

The president also discussed enrollment, TWU's continuing efforts in community service, financial aid for students, retention and the proposed widening of Highway 380 in Denton, as well as TWU's efforts and recognition at the state, regional and national levels. She then thanked the leaders for their continuing support.

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