TWU Celebrates 50 Years of Integration

When the late Alsenia Dowells enrolled at TWU in 1961, she opened the door for generations of African American students to follow in her footsteps. The TWU Black Alumni Association honored the legacy of Ms. Dowells and TWU’s first African American students during a September event commemorating the 50th anniversary of TWU’s integration.

During the event’s gala dinner, Chancellor Ann Stuart recognized the significant part these women have in the history of TWU. “TWU would not be the diverse institution it is today without these incredible women, and we honor them and their important role in the history of this university,” Chancellor Stuart said.

During a panel discussion, class of 1966 members Sharon Cranford, Bettye Gobern, Ruby House, Liz Johnson and Gloria Washington shared their memories.

Ms. Johnson recalled accidentally integrating the Parkland Hospital cafeteria on her first day of nursing clinicals. “I didn’t know I was supposed to sit in the kitchen in the back, so I ate in the middle of the cafeteria,” she said. “The next day a memo went out stating that everyone could eat in the main dining room and sit wherever they wanted.” Ms. Cranford spoke of the difficulties she encountered trying to audition for TWU’s Modern Choir. She was told the Modern Choir was for white students and that “colored girls” could join the University Chorus with the other “untrained voices.” Her voice professor, Joan Wall, wouldn’t let her give up and encouraged her to try out again the next year. She did and was accepted. “Sharon was as good a student as I ever had and deserved to be in the Modern Choir,” Professor Emerita Wall said at the event.

The panelists said they appreciated Ms. Wall and the other members of the TWU community who welcomed them. “The dean of admissions was very kind, and we received a lot of support from the staff,” Ms. Gobern said. “The cafeteria workers told their pastor about us, and each Sunday we were picked up for church and fed incredible meals, reminding us of home.”

TWU Black Alumni Association President Dianne Randolph enrolled at TWU in 1966. She said the difficulties and triumphs of these students helped make her university experience a better one. “TWU still was not perfect, but it was perfect for me,” she said.

Today, TWU is nationally recognized for its diversity, and African American students comprise 20 percent of the university’s enrollment.

AMERICA’S BEST COLLEGES

Forbes | 2011

TEXAS Woman’s University is ranked among the top 25 percent of undergraduate universities in the United States by Forbes magazine in its 2011 “America’s Best Colleges” edition.

According to Forbes, its annual ranking focuses on the “things that matter most to students” quality of teaching, great career prospects, graduation rates and low levels of debt. “The criteria for this ranking are all areas in which TWU excels,” Chancellor Ann Stuart said. “Our faculty, staff, administrators and our Board of Regents are dedicated to providing an excellent educational environment that prepares our students for success, both in the classroom and in the workforce.”

“The criteria for this ranking are all areas in which TWU excels.”

– Chancellor Ann Stuart

Forbes Ranks TWU Among Best for Undergraduates

Among Texas public universities on the list, TWU is ranked ahead of the University of North Texas, the University of Texas-Arlington, Texas State University and the University of Texas-San Antonio. Only 29 of the more than 200 Texas universities made the list.

In announcing the rankings, Forbes executive editor Michael Noer said, “Unlike other lists, we pointedly ignore ephemeral measures such as school ‘reputation’ and ill-conceived metrics that reward wasteful spending.” Rankings categories include: post-graduate success; student satisfaction; debt; four-year graduation rate; and competitive awards.

Ten TWU faculty members hold leadership positions on international, national or state professional association boards or committees. Measure of Excellence
Dr. Robert Neely, TWU provost and vice president for academic affairs, served as a guest reader for the community summer reading program hosted by the TWU chapter of the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE). Dr. Neely read Eric Carle’s “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” and “The Grouchy Ladybug” to children participating in the program. The university’s ATPE chapter partners with Barnes & Noble bookstore in Denton for the program, which includes stories, activities and crafts developed by TWU teacher education students.

TWU Announces Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award

Pat Costner

INTERNATIONALLY known Greenpeace scientist and Texas Woman’s University alumna Pat Costner is the first recipient of the TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award. She is being honored for her groundbreaking work in chemical production policy making.

The TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award recognizes alumni for their exceptional career and public achievements.

“While my years of work as a public advocacy scientist offers great personal satisfaction, receiving the TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award is an incredibly uplifting affirmation of the value the university places on work in the interest of public health and the environment,” Ms. Costner said.

During her 20-year career with Greenpeace, Ms. Costner played a key role in worldwide campaigns to eliminate the manufacture and use of chlorinated chemicals. She served as the director of the U.S. and chemical production policies and regulations. She also wrote the book We All Live Downstream, considered a seminal work on the management of human waste.

Ms. Costner received her bachelor’s degree in chemistry and mathematics from TWU in 1961 and her master’s degree in organic chemistry from the university in 1964.

Chancellor Stuart Gives $120,000 to Support Award

TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart is donating $120,000 to establish the Ann Stuart Fund to Underwrite the TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award.

The gift will fund a 20-year program to bring the recipient of the Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award to campus to share his or her experience and expertise with the university community. The TWU academic department from which the recipient graduated will organize the TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award event, which will begin in 2012 and continue annually through 2032.

“Our many alumni who are successful in their careers and in public service are a testament to the quality of a TWU education,” Chancellor Stuart said. “This gift will make it possible to showcase our outstanding alumni and bring them back to TWU to engage in the academic life of the university.”

Chancellor Stuart is a first-generation graduate of public higher education, and has said it was her education that enabled her to pursue the opportunities that enriched her life.

She began her career as a teacher and later became a tenured professor of English at the university level.

Chancellor Stuart’s administrative career began as dean of arts and sciences at East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania. She later became provost and vice president of academic affairs at Alma College in Michigan, followed by the presidency of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s Graduate School in Connecticut.

In 1999, she came to TWU as chancellor and president.

Drama Earns Rave Reviews at Fringe Festival

The TWU drama program’s original production of “The Panther’s Scream and Other Texas Tales” at Scotland’s Edinburgh Fringe Festival drew rave reviews this summer. The national newspaper The Herald called the play “engaging and entertaining,” saying “the music is beautifully performed and the cast are a likable, earnest bunch.” The play, which premiered at TWU in November 2010, is an original work based on folk stories and Southwestern legends that celebrate Texas’ heritage. During the Fringe Festival, TWU drama students performed the play at the Space on North Bridge, a theater on the royal mile in the heart of Edinburgh’s most visible and energetic arts district. This is the second time in three years that the TWU drama program has been invited to perform at the celebrated Fringe Festival.

Clockwise, from left: Drama students act out the Texas tale “Old Woman and the Pig” as part of TWU’s original drama production of “The Panther’s Scream and Other Texas Tales.” TWU drama students performed the play at the Space on North Bridge theater in Edinburgh. Caleb Creel and a flock of shadow puppets perform during the production.
TWU Announces Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award

Provost Feeds ‘Hungry’ Imaginations

Fitness and Recreation Center Opens

Nursing Faculty Receive Prestigious Awards

Flute Choir Performs at Convention

Almost 40 percent of TWU’s fall 2011 first-time freshmen ranked in the top 25 percent of their graduating classes.
TWU Receives Grants Totaling $1.75 Million

Funds Support Scholarships, Mentoring and Preventing Violence Against Women

Helping Future Health Care Providers
TEXAS Woman’s University is helping even more economically disadvantaged students pursue degrees in the health care fields with a $908,220 grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

TWU is using the grant funds to award scholarships to undergraduate students majoring in nursing, dental hygiene, dietetics and speech pathology and to graduate students in nursing, occupational therapy and physical therapy. TWU will award a total of 265 scholarships during the 2011-2012 academic year.

Stephanie Sheed, a senior nutrition major and scholarship recipient, said, “I am very excited that the scholarship is available to people in the dietetics program, because we don’t often hear of such valuable scholarship opportunities for this profession.”

Proect REV (Re-sources for Ending Violence), a TWU program aimed at ending violence against women, will use $483,000 federal grant to implement the project on the campuses of North Central Texas College (NCTC). The grant, from the Department of Justice’s Office of Violence Against Women, will provide Project REV services on NCTC campuses in Gainesville, Corsinth, Flower Mound, Bowie and Graham. These services include counseling, referrals and resources, and shelter services. TWU and NCTC will share a project coordinator and a full-time counselor from Denton County Friends of the Family.

Mark Sandel, TWU associate professor of social work, teamed with Dr. Billy Roessler, NCTC vice president of student services, to secure the grant. “This award will allow both institutions to provide prevention education to women and services to victims,” Mr. Sandel said.

Students Mentoring Students

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has awarded a $300,000 grant to TWU for its G-Force initiative, a student mentor program designed to increase college enrollment among first-generation students in Texas.

G-Force members mentor high school students, participate in college enrollment workshops and help to staff TWU-sponsored Go Centers in area high schools. The two-year grant will allow some G-Force members to be hired as TWU student workers and be paid for their G-Force work.

The Coordinating Board has awarded TWU more than $1 million in funding for the G-Force program since 2004.

Students Volunteer at SpiritHorse

New TWU freshmen attending Pioneer Camp spent a service day clearing trails at the SpiritHorse Therapeutic Center in Corinth. The center provides free therapeutic horseback riding services to people with disabilities, victims of abuse and others. The students were among 226 freshmen who volunteered at 10 sites in Denton County. The annual service day encourages new students to begin their college careers by giving back to their new community.

This year’s event was part of Pioneer Camp Service Day.

Businesses That Want to be Considered “Work Friendly” to Women Must Offer Equal Pay, Practice Good Ethics

Dr. Pushkala Raman, TWU associate professor of marketing, coordinated the Women in Business Study for the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. To a study conducted by TWU for the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. “Much of the traditional perspective on the workplace has been from the male point of view,” said Dr. Pushkala Raman, TWU associate professor of marketing, who led the study.

“This project stops to ask women directly what they desire, value and cherish in an ideal workplace,” she said.

During the spring 2011 semester, undergraduate students in Dr. Raman’s small business management class conducted focus groups with Tarrant County working women. Dr. Raman then designed a web survey, which was distributed by the chamber and the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

The study’s 430 participants also identified training and mentoring programs, facilities with safe parking and clean restrooms, wellness initiatives and community involvement as important factors for an ideal workplace.

“Most women said their companies offered the option of telecommuting,” Dr. Raman said. “However, these women felt they were constantly being checked up on by their supervisor. ‘The message from them was ‘back off’ and ‘trust me to get the job done. If I mess up, then start close monitoring.’"

The Fort Worth Chamber’s Women Influencing Business Group contacted TWU to create a study on women in business in Tarrant County.

“TWU’s history as a women’s university and the exceptional reputation of its business program made it an ideal partner for the survey,” said Marilyn Gilbert, executive vice president of marketing for the chamber. The chamber is using the results of the study to establish criteria for recognizing top women-friendly workplaces in Tarrant County.

Women who participated in the survey listed these factors as being most important to them:

- Equal Compensation
- Ethical Practices
- Work and Leave Flexibility (Telecommuting)
- Training and Mentoring Programs
- Adequate Facilities
- Wellness Initiatives
- Community Involvement

The Coordinating Board has awarded TWU more than $1 million in funding for the G-Force program since 2004.

www.twu.edu
Alumni Honors Who’s Who Students

TWU’s 2011 Who’s Who student recognition reception revives the university’s tradition of photographing honor groups and societies on the stairs of Hubbard Hall.

True Pioneer Society Honors Alumni

ARE you a TWU “true pioneer?” If you have celebrated the 50th anniversary of your graduation from TWU, you are automatically a member of TWU’s new True Pioneer Society. Almost 4,000 women members of this special group. True Pioneer Society members receive a newsletter twice a year, special invitations to campus events, a society pin and personal updates from other society members called Pioneer Postings. The True Pioneers also have a web page on the TWU Office of Alumni Relations website at www.twu.edu/alumni.

TWU Honor Student who received the Who's Who in Divinity Award at the Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Billie (Shewell) Hubbard, B.A./B.S. ’51 and M.A. ’85, received her bachelor’s degrees in clothing and costume design and mathematics and her master of arts in clothing and costume design. She designed the quilt of the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods that hangs in the Blagg-Huey Library. She is married to Dr. George Hubbard, son of former TWU President Dr. L. H. Hubbard.

Mary Martha (Monroe) Lappe, B.S. ’60 and M.S. ’62, received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in dance. She has spent 52 years in public education, receiving the Presidential Distinguished Teacher Award from four different U.S. Presidents. She is now the executive director of Houston’s High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA).

Tommye Pitts-Baker, B.S. ’61 and M.A. ’85, received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in interior design. She credits TWU with giving her the skills necessary to establish her own company – Tommye Pitts Interiors, Inc. – to travel to world markets and participate in numerous professional organizations.

Appraise

Ocielia Gibson, Miss Black USA

Ms. Gibson became interested in attending TWU based on the recommendation of two cousins. A campus visit confirmed her decision. She says of her academic experience at the university, “I truly appreciated the personal attention I received at TWU.” “It was meaningful that each of the professors in the music department knew me by name.”

Ms. Gibson aspires to become an international speaker, author and advocate for girls and women. In 2006, she founded More Than a Pretty Face, Inc., an empowerment ministry dedicated to installing the message of true beauty to young women of color. She has received many awards for her work, including becoming the youngest person to receive Ebony magazine’s Unsung Hero Award in 2009.

To nominate alumni for APPLAUSE, email alumnirelations@twu.edu.

Homecoming Reunion 2012

TWU students participate in the annual stunts competition in 1962.

The TWU Class of 1962 will celebrate its 50th anniversary during Homecoming Reunion Weekend 2012. All TWU alumni are invited to the Denton campus April 19-22 for 2012 Homecoming activities, which include the Distinguished Alumni Luncheon on April 20, presentation of the 50-year class pin, a service at the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods, and class reunion activities for classes ending in “2” and “7.”

For additional information about reunion activities, call the TWU Former Students Association at (940) 898-2586 or visit www.twu.edu/fsa.

www.twu.edu
TWU Celebrates 10th Anniversary of the Virginia Chandler Dykes Award

Ten years ago, TWU alumna Virginia Chandler Dykes approached the university with an idea for a Dallas event to raise money for scholarships for occupational therapy students. That initial idea has grown into TWU's annual Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award Luncheon, which honors a prominent leader in Dallas and raises money for graduate student scholarships in TWU's four colleges.

The event also has raised TWU's profile in Dallas and helped inform the city's most prominent community leaders about the university.

Since the first luncheon, TWU has awarded more than $200,000 in scholarships to TWU graduate students. Dallas leaders who have been honored include: Joel Allison (2011), Kathleen Mason (2010), Caroline Rose Hunt (2009), T. Boone Pickens (2008), Linda Adams (2007), Marnie and Dr. Korn Wildenthal (2006), Gretchen Minyard Williams and J. L. "Sonny" Williams (2005), Geraldine “Tincy” Miller (2004) and Susan and Charles Cooper (2003).

The 2012 Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award will be presented Feb. 16, 2012, to its first mother-daughter recipients – Myrna D. Schlegel and Kimberly Schlegel Whitman.

Scholarship Dollars Needed for Students

TWU is in need of general scholarship dollars to help students receive a quality education and become prepared to enter the workforce.

Currently, more than 74 percent of TWU students require financial aid to be able to pursue their studies.

With the downturn in the economy, there has been a significant increase in the number of TWU students asking for additional financial assistance. This need comes at a time when state financial aid is being reduced.

Please help by giving to the general scholarship fund or to a designated academic scholarship.

To contribute use the coupon below or visit www.twu.edu/giving.

Recient gifts totaling $73,000 will fund scholarships for Texas Woman’s University students. The Friends of the Farmers Branch Manske Library donated $43,000 to the TWU Foundation for scholarships for TWU students pursuing advanced degrees in library science. “This gift allows our graduate students to pursue their goals with less of a financial burden,” said Dr. Linghwey Jeng, director of TWU’s School of Library and Information Studies. The TWU Foundation also has added to TWU’s scholarship funds for the 2011-2012 academic year by approving a $30,000 gift for TWU general scholarships. “With the current economic climate, students need more scholarship dollars, and we wanted to do our part to ensure students’ success,” said Nancy Millichamp, chair of the TWU Foundation Board of Directors.

From left: Geraldine “Tincy” Miller, 2004 Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award recipient; Hannah Mills, TWU master’s student in child development and a 2012 VCD scholarship recipient; and Dr. Nan Restine, dean of the TWU College of Professional Education.
TWU Earns National Rankings

Texas Woman’s University recently gained national recognition for its commitment to diversity and veterans of military service. The U.S. News and World Report ranking places TWU in the top three in the state and the top 10 nationally among universities with the most diverse student populations. The ranking, published in the magazine’s “2012 Best Colleges” issue, marks the fifth consecutive year the magazine has placed TWU on its list of most diverse universities.

TWU Offers Certificate in Science, Society and Sustainability

As one of the first participants in TWU’s new Science, Society and Sustainability Certificate Program, Stephanie Kniely plans to use her certificate to achieve her dream job in the “green” energy field. “This program is ideal for students like me who want to make a difference in our environment,” Ms. Kniely said. “By obtaining this certificate, I will have a more solid background in sustainability and be more marketable in my future career in environmental technology.”

Many careers today – whether in science, business, government or other areas – require an expertise in issues related to sustainability. The business world is facing increasing pressure to incorporate sustainability into all aspects of business, and many corporations are hiring high-level sustainability officers.

The university also received the third consecutive ranking for its military-friendly programs. TWU received the Military Friendly School ranking for its military-affordability and value, diversity and being veteran friendly. The magazine has placed TWU on its list of most diverse universities.

First Community Service Day

TWU’s first-ever “Fall for Fall Service Day,” a university-wide service opportunity held in September, highlighted the importance of volunteerism and philanthropy. Students assisted in the Dallas Arboretum’s Tour de Fleurs 5K race; helped conduct inventory at the Christian Community Action resale store in Lewisville; picked up trash for Keep Denton Beautiful and Keep TWU Beautiful; and helped harvest crops at Cardo’s Farm Project, a community-supported agriculture (CSA) farm in Ponder.

TWU Times staff

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Keep Denton Beautiful.

dira Escobedo and Kendra Lewis help collect trash and recyclable materials for Keep Denton Beautiful.

Above: Student volunteers, from left, Marissa Noble, Linda Nnajiofor, Degiandra Escobedo and Kendra Lewis help collect trash and recyclable materials for Keep Denton Beautiful.

Above left: Kamilah Hasan, left, and Kimberly Lawson learn how to maintain a garden at Cardo’s Farm Project in Ponder.

Above right: Student volunteers, from left, Marissa Noble, Linda Nnajiofor, Degiandra Escobedo and Kendra Lewis help collect trash and recyclable materials for Keep Denton Beautiful.

Right: Student volunteers, from left, Marissa Noble, Linda Nnajiofor, Degiandra Escobedo and Kendra Lewis help collect trash and recyclable materials for Keep Denton Beautiful.

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Keeping Denton Beautiful.
…welcomed fans of TWU athletics to the September Maroon and White luncheon hosted by the Denton Outback Steakhouse. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: Dr. Richard Nicholas, TWU vice president for student life; Mike Pope, vice president of First United Bank; and Kyle Nayfa, financial adviser for Edward Jones Investments. Outback Steakhouse, First United Bank and Edward Jones Investments are corporate partners of TWU athletics.

…launched TWU’s 2011 State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) at a luncheon at Hubbard Hall. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: Jeff Bowerman, assistant director of TWU Athletics and TWU SECC Campaign co-chair; Dr. Kyle Biggerstaff, associate professor of kinesiology and TWU SECC Campaign co-chair; and Gary Henderson, president and CEO of United Way of Denton County.

…joined the faculty in welcoming State Rep. Don Branch (R-Dallas) as the keynote speaker for TWU’s opening of school faculty assembly. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: Sue Bancroft, vice chair of the TWU Board of Regents; Dr. Jeff Robb, speaker pro-tem of the TWU Faculty Senate; Rep. Branch; State Rep. Myra Crownover (R-Denton); Dr. Kimberly Milosh, chair of the TWU Faculty Senate’s academic standards committee; and Dr. Chad Smith, speaker of the TWU Faculty Senate.

…served as the “Principal for a Day” at the Irena L. Rangel Young Women’s Leadership School in Dallas. Chancellor Stuart is shown with students from the school, which is the first all-female public magnet school in Texas.

…was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Fort Worth chapter of the TWU Former Students Association at the Kimbell Art Museum. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: TWU alumni Vicki Hines, Connie Sitterly and Nancy Glick.

…served as the “Principal for a Day” at the Irma L. Rangel Young Women’s Leadership School in Dallas. Chancellor Stuart is shown with students from the school, which is the first all-female public magnet school in Texas.

…co-hosted a luncheon with TWU Provost Dr. Robert Neely for faculty and staff at TWU’s Institute of Health Sciences-Houston Center. Shown with Provost Neely, left, and Chancellor Stuart are faculty and staff who attended the luncheon.

…welcomed fans of TWU athletics to the September Maroon and White luncheon hosted by the Denton Outback Steakhouse. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: Dr. Richard Nicholas, TWU vice president for student life; Mike Pope, vice president of First United Bank; and Kyle Mayna, financial adviser for Edward Jones Investments. Outback Steakhouse, First United Bank and Edward Jones Investments are corporate partners of TWU athletics.

…attended a reception announcing Myrna D. Schlegel and Kimberly Schlegel Whitman as the 2012 recipients of the Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: Dallas Mayor Mike Rawlings, Myrna D. Schlegel, Kimberly Schlegel Whitman, Norm Bagwell, chairman and CEO of Bank of Texas, which sponsors the event, and Virginia Chandler Dykes.