French Named 2007 Piper Professor

In recognition of his devotion to teaching and his impact on his students and community, Dr. Ron French, Cornaro Professor of Kinesiology, has been named a 2007 Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. The award, which includes a $5,000 stipend, honors outstanding teaching in Texas colleges and universities. The foundation makes only 15 awards each year from nominations submitted by each college or university in Texas.

“You have to be nominated by the president of your university, and you are competing against other faculty within your state,” Dr. French said. “This makes the award very special.”

Dr. French is one of the most influential leaders in the field of adapted physical education, both in the United States and internationally. He has served on the national task force to develop and revise standards and guidelines for the profession, and has received more than $2.5 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Education for professional preparation of special education teachers and consultants for students with disabilities.

“This is over 20 years of work,” Dr. French said. “Through my teaching and scholarship, Ron French has positively influenced the lives of disabled children throughout the world.”

Dr. French has published more than 12 books and book chapters, and his work is routinely used as texts for undergraduate and graduate courses in the United States and Korea. He also has published more than 100 scientific articles in national and international peer-reviewed journals.

“Every day that I go to work, either at the university or out in the field, I am excited,” Dr. French said. “If I were not being paid to teach, I would teach voluntarily.”

“In my mind, teaching must not only be intellectually stimulating to the students; it must be intellectually stimulating to the teacher as well. Part of my intellectual stimulation comes from the awareness that I have made a difference in the lives and preparation of teachers who do or will teach students with disabilities.”

by Karen Garcia

www.twu.edu
HONORS CONVOCATION

Faculty, staff and students who exemplify the excellence for which Texas Woman’s University is known were recognized during Honors Convocation.

Distinguished Alumni
The TWU Former Students Association recognized three distinguished alumni at this year’s homecoming. Shown with Chancellor Ann Stuart, they are, from left: Dr. Colleen A. Smith, president of Cisco Junior College; Norma Silva-Quinn, principal of Palm Elementary School in Austin; and Dr. Carolyn Gunning, TWU provost and vice-president for academic affairs.

Corraro Award – Dr. William B. Cissell, professor of nutrition and food sciences. The award recognizes excellence in teaching, scholarship and the advancement of learning.

Mary Mason Lyon Award – Dr. Jenehsee Kwon, associate professor of nutrition and food sciences, and Dr. Toni Roddey, associate professor of physical therapy at TWU’s Houston Center. The award is presented to junior faculty members who are developing excellent records of teaching, research and service.

Humphries Award – The late Dr. Sterling Smith, professor of biology. The award recognizes dedication to TWU.

Distinction in Scholarship – Dr. Ann Malecha, associate professor of nursing at TWU’s Houston Center. The award is presented to TWU faculty who have evidenced distinguished records of scholarship and dedication to improving knowledge and understanding in their discipline.

Innovation in Academia – Dr. Nora White, associate professor of reading. The award is presented to TWU faculty member who has influenced the university in a manner that continually contributes to new growth and progress.

Distinction in E-Learning – Dr. Jody Oomen-Early, assistant professor of health studies. The award recognizes faculty who have made outstanding contributions to e-learning through program or curriculum development.

Outstanding Student Awards

Outstanding Student Award – Kelley Humphries, a biology/pre-med major from Coupland; Tiffany Larsen, a government/legal studies major from The Woodlands; Russell Mariott, a business management major from Houston; and Cydni Vandiver, a history major from Muleshoe.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

Outstanding Achievement Awards recognize academic excellence, service and extracurricular activities.

Lemon Award – Christie Nelson-Sala, a dance major from Richardson, was recognized for outstanding artistic contributions to the university by a graduating senior.

TWU Award of Excellence – Stephany Compton, librarian. The award recognizes the highest recognition given to a staff member who exhibits loyalty, dedication, initiative and reliability.

Founders’ Day Awards
Jo Kuhn, the National Council of Jewish Women Greater Dallas Section, and PointBank are the recipients of the 2007 Founders’ Awards. Ms. Kuhn, former TWU athletic director, has been a generous supporter of TWU Athletics and the university for more than 30 years. Since 1990, the NCJW, Greater Dallas Section has funded the Reba M. Wadel Scholarship Fund for TWU graduate students in family sciences. PointBank is a longtime member of the TWU Chancellor’s Circle and a top-level corporate platinum sponsor of the Pioneer Athletics Scholarship Campaign.

From left: Jenehsee Kwon, William B. Cissell and Toni Roddey.

From left: Dr. Colleen A. Smith, president of Cisco Junior College; Norma Silva-Quinn, principal of Palm Elementary School in Austin; and Dr. Carolyn Gunning, TWU provost and vice-president for academic affairs.

TwuTimes Spring 2007

www.twu.edu
Celebrating a Century of Excellence in Preparing Educators

For 100 years, TWU has been a leader in graduating educators. TWU’s tradition of excellence began in 1906 when the state authorized the university to award certificates in kindergarten teaching. From that small beginning, TWU’s teacher education program was launched.

Today, TWU prepares more than 600 educators each year for teaching and administration throughout Texas and the nation. Included among these educators are elementary, middle and high school teachers, preschool and reading teachers, special educators, principals, superintendents, counselors, and educational diagnosticians.

These TWU graduates are changing the world in their schools and in their communities.

Students Use Spring Break to Help Katrina Victims

Instead of sunny beaches or snow-topped mountains, 14 TWU students and two staff advisers headed east for an alternative spring break to help victims of Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi, Miss. The TWU group joined hundreds of other college students from around the country in assisting the Hands On Network in their recovery efforts in the Biloxi area. The TWU group stayed in an empty dorm at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and worked long days doing everything from removing mold and gutting houses to removing debris in order to rebuild a walking trail.

“Many of the students had never picked up a hammer before, only to discover that they could do much more than they thought,” said Candi Westbrook, volunteer coordinator for the TWU Center for Student Development, who organized the trip. “Even with all of the work we did, I think most of us were surprised about how much devastation is still there.”

Jason Waller, a senior majoring in psychology, wasn’t shocked at what he saw. “Being from Biloxi, I knew the devastation was still overwhelming and the work that needs to be done will last for years.”

The trip cost $9,000 for the 16 participants to attend. The group received a $4,500 matching grant from the United Way of Denton County with the rest coming from fundraisers and donations from faculty and staff. Each participant also paid $100 to go on the trip.

“The support from the TWU and Denton communities was amazing,” Mrs. Westbrook said. “It really showed how everyone cared about what we were doing.”

“Many people have misconceptions about Mississippi and how life is there. I think this trip gave students the opportunity to see how we as a people are alike and can help each other in times of need. The students on the trip all feel that we have united as a family and will continue to serve and educate people about Katrina and its effects.”

Two Gymnasts Win USAG National Titles on Bar and Beam

Senior Courtney Arno and freshman Rachel Zimmerman captured individual event titles in the uneven bars and balance beam, respectively, at the 2007 USA Gymnastics Women’s Collegiate Championships April 21 in Seattle. Ms. Arno won the uneven bars gold with a 9.825 score. She now has captured two USAG national individual event championships, winning the 2006 USAG national championship on balance beam.

Ms. Zimmerman claimed the national championship on balance beam with what Coach Frank Kudlac described as a “poised” performance. Ms. Zimmerman won the title with a career-high score of 9.875.

Eight gymnasts also were named to the 2007 USAG All-American teams. Four TWU gymnasts earned first team honors: Courtney Arno on bars and beam, Amy Hulbert on floor, Rachel Zimmerman on beam and Catherine Schnoes on vault.

Named to the USAG All-American second team were Amy Hulbert on vault, Rachel Zimmerman on floor, Brittany Parker on vault and Tonya Pipkorn on floor.

“We have a legacy of gymnastics excellence at TWU and our 2007 team certainly continued that tradition,” said Coach Kudlac.

For more information on TWU’s athletics programs, please contact the TWU Athletics Office at (940) 898-2001 or visit www.twu.edu.
**Campaign Will Bring More Redbud Trees to Denton Campus**

SCORES of redbuds will once again blossom on the Texas Woman’s University Denton campus thanks to the Redbud Tree Revitalization fundraising campaign.

In 1938, TWU President L.H. Hubbard began a long-term plan to add hundreds of redbud trees to the campus landscape. Eventually, more than 2,000 redbuds were planted, but many of those trees died over the years. To celebrate TWU’s Centennial in 2001, 50 redbud trees were planted.

The current redbud campaign will bring to the campus even more of the trees that once famously lined drives and walkways. A gift of $100 will purchase one 15-gallon Eastern Redbud tree and a gift of $200 will purchase one 30-gallon tree. The goal is to purchase and plant the redbud trees in fall 2007, so that in spring 2008 the Denton campus will once again be covered with the pink flowering trees.

Donations must be received by September 1, 2007. Use the coupon below to purchase a tree, or for more information contact Carolyn Ishee, executive director of TWU Institutional Development at: cishee@twu.edu or 940-898-3869.

**How to Donate**

**YES! I want to support the Redbud Tree Revitalization Campaign!**

I wish to purchase:  
___ 15 gallon tree(s) at $100 per tree  
___ 30 gallon tree(s) at $200 per tree.

My Total Gift: __________________

Please complete the following:

Name (as you want it to appear in print and on the Donor Plaque): __________________

Address: Street Address __________________ City __________________ State ______ Zip ______

Phone: ___________________ Email: __________________

Method of Payment:  
TOTAL Contribution $ __________________ Name in School (if a former student): __________________

☐ Check (Made payable to TWU Redbud Tree Campaign)

Charge: ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Account Number __________________

Expiration Date as shown on Card: __________ Signature: __________________

Contributions must be received by September 1, 2007.

For more information please contact: Carolyn Ishee, Executive Director, Institutional Development cishee@twu.edu or 940-898-3869.

**Dykes Leadership Award**

Lindalyn Bennett Adams received the 2007 Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award at the fifth annual luncheon Feb. 1. Bank of Texas and Bank of Texas Private Bank were the presenting sponsors of the event, which recognized Mrs. Adams for her leadership and steadfast commitment to numerous civic, historical and educational initiatives in the Dallas community. Shown are, from left: Roland Dykes, Virginia Chandler Dykes, Lindalyn Bennett Adams and Chancellor Ann Stuart.
The undulating wall is the organizing element that stretches from the complex’s east to west ends. The shape has subtle references to a theater curtain, the scrim on a stage and the exterior brick wall that fronts the retired Redbud Theater. The wall forms a string of public spaces along the windowed north wall of Hubbard Hall and is adorned with brightly colored red and orange laminate.

The complex features practice rooms, a make-up classroom, conference rooms and faculty offices, as well a scene shop, a costume shop and laundry, storage and more. This marks the first time in the history of the TWU drama program that all of these elements have been housed under one roof.

The new Redbud Theater Complex was designed by Bottino Grund Architects of New York and Austin and built by Joe Funk Construction Engineers, Inc. of Dallas. While the Redbud Theater Complex has been under construction, TWU Drama staged productions at venues in Denton, Dallas, Fort Worth and even Dublin, Ireland. The Irish production, titled “The Long March,” also was performed in New York City’s Greenwich Street Theatre in March 2006.

“We’ve been fairly resourceful in performing ‘on location’ during the past two and a half years, but for drama to have a new home is a thrill for us,” Sharon Benge, director of TWU’s drama program, said. “Walking into the complex, you are met with bold, highly saturated colors that give off an exciting energy, which invigorates the students and should foster increased creativity for our classes and productions.”

Ms. Benge also said the new space “will require a realistic and honest acting style for the students because of the intimate relationship created by the proximity of the stage to the audience.”

Ms. Benge adds that students have quickly made the complex their home, rehearsing scenes for acting or directing projects in rehearsal rooms, relaxing in the green room and studying in classrooms.

TWU drama students intern at more than 80 theaters around the country, and graduates have gone on to work in professional theater companies including the Dallas Theater Center, Stage West and the Dallas and Fort Worth Shakespeare Festivals.

TWU Times staff

Learning Government First Hand

Two TWU students spent the spring semester interning in the Texas Legislature. Tiffany Larsen, was one of only eight students in the state selected for the Speaker’s Internship Program. She interned for House Speaker Tom Craddick (R-Midland). Stephanie Ozuna was one of only 12 students in Texas selected for the Moreno/Rangel Legislative Leadership Program sponsored by the Mexican American Legislative Foundation. She interned with State Rep. Veronica Gonzales (D-McAllen).

…opened the new Redbud Theater Complex with a pre-performance reception attended by Denton Mayor Perry McNeill and District 2 Councilwoman and Mayor Pro Tem Pete Kamp.

…congratulated the winners of TWU’s annual edible car contest, including teams from Tolar High School, Rio Vista High School and Ursuline Academy.

…attended a lecture by author and TWU Regent Dr. Lou Halsell Redenberger on her latest book, “Jane Gilmore: A West Texas Writer and Her Work.” Joining Chancellor Stuart at the event in the TWU Library were, from left: Ann Burton of the library staff; Dr. Bruce Krajewski, chair of the Department of English, Speech and Foreign Languages; Dr. Carolyn Gunning, TWU provost; Dr. Redenberger; Dr. Phyllis Bridges of the English faculty; and Charles Redenberger.

…met with new TWU Student Regent Christianne Kellett.

…hosted a reception for the 2006 inductees of the Texas Women’s Hall of Fame, which since 2003 has been housed in Hubbard Hall on the Denton campus. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are, from left: inductees Dr. Ellen Vitetta, Dr. Shirley Neeley and Amanda Dunbar; Maj. Gen. Mary Saunders, USAF (Ret.), executive director of the TWU Leadership Institute; and Lesley Guthrie, executive director of the Governor’s Commission for Women.

…hosted a breakfast in Austin for members of the 80th Texas Legislature, including, from left: Sen. Craig Estes, Dr. Shirley Neeley and Amanda Dunbar; Maj. Gen. Mary Saunders, USAF (Ret.), executive director of the TWU Leadership Institute; and Lesley Guthrie, executive director of the Governor’s Commission for Women.

…met with student leaders from the Denton campus who traveled to Austin to greet legislators at the TWU breakfast and deliver courtesy gifts to each legislator at the Capitol.

…held a question and answer session with students on career paths and how to be successful at your first job, sponsored by the Denton Student Government Association.