TWU Students Bring Health Care to African Village

What began as a lecture in a culture awareness class turned into a life changing experience for five nursing students at the TWU T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center.

After hearing TWU assistant clinical nursing professor Nola Schrum talk about her medical missionary work in a remote East African village, the students decided to accompany her on a trip to Misi, Tanzania.

And in doing so, Christina Chemmachel, Melissa Jasso, Tara King, Alisha Rushing and Sarah Winstead found themselves providing basic care to Misi villagers, most of whom had never seen a doctor or a nurse before.

The TWU students raised the $4,000 per person for the summer 2011 trip by organizing several fundraising activities, including bake sales and working the concession stands at the Ballpark in Arlington during Texas Rangers games.

“In Misi, the TWU students had no tools other than their education and training, which taught them how to become adept problem solvers,” Ms. Schrum said.

TWU senior Alisha Rushing described herself as a “jack of all trades” in Africa, triaging patients, teaching health classes, working in the pharmacy and doing whatever she could.

“In Misi, I overcame whatever stage fright I may have had as a soon-to-be-practicing nurse, and now know I can provide care under any circumstance,” she said.

Senior Melissa Jasso will never forget helping a girl named Adele get preventative medicine, dental care and eyeglasses. The next day, Adele gave Jasso a live chicken – considered the most valuable gift a Misi villager can give.

“I was so surprised, knowing the value of the chicken and what she and her family were giving up for what little I felt like I did for her,” Ms. Jasso said. “That’s when I realized that what we did wasn’t little; it was everything.”

Ms. Schrum began working in Misi four years ago on a church mission trip. She is taking another group of TWU nursing students and others to the village this summer to build a proper medical clinic.

“It truly feel work like this is important because it puts the ‘care’ back in health care, which is something vital for our nursing students to realize,” Ms. Schrum said.

TWU Business Programs Receive National Accreditation

The Texas Woman’s University School of Management has achieved a long-standing goal with the national accreditation of its business programs by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). The accreditation certifies that the teaching and learning processes in the TWU School of Management meet the rigorous educational standards established by ACBSP.

“Achievement of ACBSP accreditation is an important milestone and represents recognition of our endeavors to provide a quality, professional education while continuously improving all aspects of the School of Management’s educational activities,” said Dr. Paula Ann Hughes, director of the TWU School of Management.

The accreditation is important to students in continuing on to graduate school or in finding a job after graduation, she added.

Dr. Hughes set the goal for accreditation when she became director of the School of Management 10 years ago. Faculty and staff have worked on the accreditation process for three years.

That process began when TWU was assigned a mentor to identify and assist in areas in need of improvement. A site visit to evaluate the school followed in 2011.

“This accreditation is evidence that Texas Woman’s University is committed to accrediting organization for all associate, baccalaureate and graduate degree programs. Its mission is to promote continuous improvement and recognize excellence in the accreditation of business education programs around the world.”

ACBSP ACCREDITED

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Adriana Blanco Named New Student Regent

TWU's new student regent is determined to be a student who makes a difference at her university and in her professional career.

Junior Adriana Blanco is TWU's first Hispanic and first, first-generation student regent. She is enrolled in the TWU and University of North Texas dual degree program in engineering and math, majoring in math at TWU and electrical engineering at UNT.

Ms. Blanco is noted for her student leadership at both universities. She is president of the TWU Campus Activities Board (CAB), vice president of UNT's Society of Women Engineers, a TWU student orientation leader, a member of the TWU National Society of Collegiate Scholars and a recipient of the TWU Presidential Scholarship and the UNT Siemens Scholarship.

It was in her role as CAB president that she was responsible for bringing poet and activist Maya Angelou to the Denton campus in March. Ms. Blanco plans to become an electrical engineer and bring "green" electricity to third world countries.

"Having electricity is so important to the development of communities that have nothing," Ms. Blanco said. "I believe there are many ways we can help people in need get access to electricity using methods that don't harm the environment."

It is this drive to succeed that motivated Ms. Blanco to want to be the TWU student regent.

"I want to make a difference at my university and to learn how the system works, so I can be a good advocate for students and do what I can to make TWU even better," Ms. Blanco said.

Ms. Blanco's one-year term as the TWU student regent will expire May 31, 2013.

Mary Frances Baxter

Dr. Mary Frances Baxter was among only 21 professionals in the nation named to the 2011 American Occupational Therapy Association's (AOTA) Roster of Fellows. Dr. Baxter is an associate professor of occupational therapy at the TWU Institute of Health Sciences-Houston Center.

The AOTA Roster of Fellows recognizes those who have made significant contributions to the continuing education and professional development of association members.

According to the AOTA, less than 1 percent of all occupational therapists in the United States are included on the roster.

Legislators Visit Dallas Center

Several state and federal legislators and their staff recently toured TWU's T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center. They visited the TWU Stroke Center, observed human patient mannequins in the nursing labs and viewed occupational and physical therapy demonstrations. Shown on the tour are, from left: TWU Regent George Schrader; Erik With, district director for Congressman Michael Burgess; U.S. Rep. Michael C. Burgess, M.D. (R-Flower Mound); State Rep. Myra Crownover (R-Denton); TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart; and TWU Regent Sue S. Bancroft.

The performance received rave reviews in national media, including The New York Times.

The prestigious FLICfest is dedicated to the art of evening-length dance. In only its second year, the festival has become a forum for the exploration of adventurous art and cutting-edge ideas.

Susan Adams

Adult Development and Aging (AADA), a division of the American Counseling Association. The award recognizes outstanding service to the adult development division of the American Counseling Association and to the counseling profession in general.

In addition to her teaching and counseling duties at TWU, Dr. Adams is an internationally known speaker on adults dealing with grief and loss. She also is the immediate past president of the Texas Counseling Association, the largest state counseling association in the United States.

Johnnie Fuchs

During her 40-year career with NASA, Dr. Johnson’s duties included co-directing payload operations on four of the first six Shuttle flights, developing NASA’s engineering programs and improving the agency’s systems operations. She held several titles at NASA, including Special Assistant to the Associate Administrator for Safety and Security, Assistant Associate Administrator for Education and Assistant Chief Engineer. She retired as NASA’s Senior Advisor for Safety and Mission Assurance in 2009.

Dr. Johnson is a nationally known advocate for women in the sciences and is a co-author of a chapter in the book “Success Strategies for Women in Science.” She also is a dedicated volunteer for the Red Cross, managing operations for disaster relief, working with disaster victims and the wait and training volunteers. In recognition of her work, President George W. Bush and his President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation presented to her a national Volunteer Service Award in 2004.

Dr. Johnson received her bachelor’s degree in mathematics from TWU in 1971. In 2011, TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart donated $20,000 to fund a 20-year program to bring two recipients of the Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award to campus each year to share their experience and expertise with the TWU community.

Dr. Anngienetta R. Johnson

The AOTA recognizes the contribution of occupational therapists in the nation to the continuing education of occupational therapists and the development of occupational therapy.

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Niki Fogg and Jennifer Wilson

NIKI Fogg and Jennifer Wilson were among only three nursing faculty in the nation to receive 2011 Novice Faculty Teaching Awards from the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN). Both are assistant clinical professors at the Houston J. and Florence A. Dowell College of Nursing at the TWU-T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center.

Launched in 2011, the AACN Novice Faculty Teaching Award recognizes excellence and innovation in nursing education by early career faculty at AACN member schools. Two awards are presented each year—one for didactic teaching and the other for clinical teaching. Ms. Fogg and Ms. Wilson were joint recipients of the clinical teaching award.

The American Association of Colleges of Nursing represents more than 670 nursing colleges and schools at public and private institutions nationwide.

Jordan Fuchs

JORDAN Fuchs, assistant professor of dance, was one of only 12 choreographers in the nation whose work was selected for the FLICfest, held in January in New York City. He and his company, Jordan Fuchs Dance Company, performed "Strange Planet," a 65-minute dance theater work.
Students Recognized at International and National Levels

LaTondra Lawrence

LaTondra Lawrence, a Ph.D. student in molecular biology, was one of only 10 researchers internationally to receive a Society for Investigative Dermatology (SID) Eugene M. Farber Travel Award for Young Investigators. Ms. Lawrence was selected for the award from an international pool of graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, residents and junior faculty.

Kayla McConnell and Sarah Sutherland

Kayla McConnell and Sarah Sutherland were among only a handful of undergraduate students to present their research at the Spring 2012 National Meeting of the American Chemical Society, in which more than 400 universities participated.

Ms. McConnell, a senior biochemistry major, and Ms. Sutherland, a senior chemistry major, presented their research on DNA sequences relating to cancer and cancer treating drugs at the meeting. With more than 160,000 members worldwide, the American Chemical Society is the world’s largest scientific society and is among the leading sources of scientific information.

Elyse Cox

Elyse Cox, a master of fine arts student in dance, was one of only 30 university choreographers in the U.S. chosen to have their dance performed during the National American College Dance Festival in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Cox and fellow student Erin Bailey presented the dance “Same As It Ever Was” at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in May.

The speakers also attended a luncheon with students and a reception following the symposium. Chancellor Stuart established the Ann Stuart and Ray R. Poliakoff Celebration of Science Series in 2011 with a $200,000 gift to the university. Through a commitment of two decades of funding, the Celebration of Science Series will provide the opportunity for the departments of biology and chemistry/biochemistry to develop a sustained program of promoting and celebrating the wonders, truths and mysteries of science.

The series will continue annually through 2022. Although events will vary from year to year, the intent always will be to engage TWU students and faculty, alumni, K-12 students in Denton and others in the community.

Above: Dr. Maya Angelou, seated, visits with, from left, TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart, TWU Regent Loni Chris and Joleesia Berry, president of the TWU Student Government Association-Denton.

At right, Dr. Angelou spoke to the TWU audience.
HONORS CONVOCATION
Faculty, staff and students who exemplify the excellence for which Texas Woman’s University is known were recognized during Honors Convocation.

Faculty
Cornaro Award – Dr. Paula A. Hughes, director, School of Management. The award recognizes excellence in teaching, scholarship and the advancement of learning.

Mary Mason Lyon Award – Jordan Fuchs, assistant professor of dance, and Dr. Derek Crews, assistant professor of management. The award is presented to junior faculty members who are developing excellent records of teaching, research and service.

Humphries Award – Dr. Deborah Young, professor and program director of fashion and textiles. The award recognizes dedication to TWU.

Distinction in Teaching – Dr. Lou Thompson, professor of English. The award is presented to TWU faculty who have distinguished records of teaching and dedication to improving the teaching and the learning of their students.

Humphries Award – Dr. Sheri Dragoo, associate professor of fashion and textiles. The award recognizes dedication to TWU.

Mary Mason Lyon Award – Jordan Fuchs, assistant professor of dance, and Dr. Derek Crews, assistant professor of management. The award is presented to junior faculty members who are developing excellent records of teaching, research and service.

Outstanding Achievement Awards – Martha Ann “Annie” Plummer, research funding coordinator, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and Morgan O’Donnell, graduate adviser, Department of Health Studies. The award recognizes the dedication of TWU staff.

Students
Outstanding Senior Awards – Sarah Adams, a biology and chemistry major from Whitehouse; Amy Menge, a kinesiology major from Denton; and Christina Wagener, an English and history major from Carrollton.

Outstanding Graduate Student Awards – Katie Dial Benton, a doctoral candidate in physical therapy from Midland, and Kirsten Tulchin, a doctoral candidate in the kinesiology biomechanics program, from West Haven Conn.

Graduate Council Award for Exceptional, Original Scholarship – Lisa Fleisher, a doctoral candidate in physical therapy from Dallas, and Thomas Hecht, a doctoral candidate in dance from Cambridge, Mass.

Outstanding Achievement Awards – Martha Ann “Annie” Plummer, research funding coordinator, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and Morgan O’Donnell, graduate adviser, Department of Health Studies. The award recognizes the dedication of TWU staff.

The TWU Former Students Association recognized three distinguished alumni at this year’s homecoming. Shown with Chancellor Stuart, they are, from left: Mrs. Lillie Tucker-Akin, B.S. ’58, a senior science consultant with Delta Education company; Arkansas House of Representatives Majority Leader Dr. Johnnie Roebuck (D-Arkadelphia), B.S. ’64; and Dr. Anne Myers Gudmundsen, B.S. ’62, former dean of the TWU College of Nursing and a retired nursing educator and practitioner.

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Two TWU alumni groups received awards at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District IV’s annual conference in April. The TWU Black Alumni Association received a Gold Award in the alumni event category for organizing the university’s 50th anniversary of integration titled “Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future – Celebrating Fifty Years of African American Heritage at Texas Woman’s University.” In addition, the TWU Student Alumni Relations Council (STARS) received the Outstanding External Program Award from CASE District IV’s Association of Student Advancement Programs. STARS was honored for organizing the reception celebrating TWU’s Who’s Who student nominees in May 2011. CASE District IV includes universities from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Mexico.

Chapel Benches Dedicated to Goodman

As a toddler, Kay Williams Goodman sat in her little red wagon as First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt dedicated the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods at Texas Woman’s University in 1939. Today, two new benches in front of the chapel are a permanent acknowledgement of Mrs. Goodman’s lifelong service to the university. Members of the TWU classes of ’56 to ’60 donated almost $7,000 for the benches and the Little Chapel-in-the-Woods preservation fund. Ms. Goodman is a TWU Distinguished Alumna, former chair of the TWU Board of Regents and the TWU Foundation, and a member of the TWU Former Students Association.

Alumni Announcements

Alumni Attitude Survey

This summer TWU alumni will have the chance to help the university and the Office of Alumni Relations understand how to serve alumni better by completing the TWU Alumni Attitude Survey. The online survey will be sent via e-mail and takes about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. To update your email address, call (940) 898-2586 or fill out the online information update form at www.twu.edu/alumni.

Alumni Decals Still Available

TWU alumni still can request a free TWU Alumni decal, a personalized decal for their major and a decal for special groups such as the TWU Honors Scholars. To request a decal, email alumnirelations@twu.edu with your name, degree and graduation year, current mailing address and the member and type of decals requested.

Homecoming Reunion 2012

Texas Woman’s University and the TWU Former Students Association celebrated memories and friendships during the university’s 2012 Homecoming/Reunion Weekend festivities. The “Golden Girls” of the TWU Class of 1962 posed for their 50-year reunion class portrait, received commemorative class pins, attended a reunion dinner and held a memorial chapel service for deceased classmates. “We celebrated our strength, spirit, loyalty, camaraderie and trials, which have kept us together and grateful to our university for these 50 years,” said class agent Beverly Varnado.
TWU Receives $600,000 for WASP Endowment

TEXAS Woman’s University – home to the national archives of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) – recently received two gifts totaling $600,000 for the endowment that supports these archives.

These gifts will allow TWU to continue to digitize WASP documents, photographs and oral histories.

A $500,000 gift came from the estate of WASP Dorothy “Dot” Ebersbach. Dot grew up in Ohio and began working for her father’s construction company, which required that she learn to fly. She quickly fell in love with flying and when the U.S. became involved in World War II, she joined the WASP. She served both in Texas and Arizona, doing test flights and towing targets so that soldiers could practice firing anti-aircraft weapons. The work of Dot and her fellow WASP was instrumental in the war efforts, allowing men to fly and fight overseas at a time when women were not combat participants. In 2010, Dot and her fellow WASP were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation’s highest civilian award for their service during World War II. Dot passed away last November at her home in Florida at the age of 96. A second gift of $100,000 was given to the WASP Endowment by an anonymous donor. This donor also gave $100,000 to the endowment in 2009.

These gifts will allow TWU to continue to digitize the WASP collection of more than 1 million pieces of paper, 25,000 photographs and about 700 oral histories. The endowment also supports the library’s efforts to lend portions of the collection for exhibits around the country.

VCD Scholarship Recipients

Past and current scholarship recipients celebrated the tenth anniversary of TWU’s Virginia Chandler Dykes Leadership Award Luncheon in February. Since 2002, the event has raised more than $300,000 for TWU student scholarships. Shown are, from left: past scholarship recipients Rebecca Malidor, Debbie Ariqie, Barbara Grudemann, Gulf Poskey and Lees Washington, and 2012 recipients Heather Roberts, Tiffany Smith, Hannah Mills and Kathleen Sheneen McAdams.

Old Main Society Breakfast

Texas Woman’s University Foundation hosted a breakfast at Homecoming to honor the Old Main Society — alumni and friends of TWU who have generously planned for the university’s future by including TWU or the TWU Foundation in their estates. The event was held at the Blagg-Huey Library. From left: Old Main Society members Joe and Betty Alford, Walter and Joyce Rinehart, and Margaret Murrell. For more information about the Old Main Society, please visit www.twu.edu/foundation/old-main-society.asp or call (940) 898-3865.

Endowment and Estate Gifts Since April 2011

ENDOWMENT GIFTS — THE FOLLOWING ENDOWMENTS HAVE MET OR EXCEEDED THE MINIMUM INVESTMENT OF $10,000

- Friends of the Farmers Branch Manuscript Library Scholarship Endowment
- Margaret Spangler Shipley Scholarship Endowment
- Dorothy Jones Whitfield Endowed Scholarship

ESTATE GIFTS

- Janice C. Williams
- Dorothy E. Ebersbach
- Ruby B. Dean

For more information please visit www.twu.edu/foundation
Women's Museum Donates Archives

The archives are being incorporated into TWU’s Women’s Collection, the best concentration of resources on U.S. women in the Southwest. “The Dallas Women’s Museum has found the perfect home for continuing its legacy and expanding awareness of women’s significant contributions to our nation and world,” said Sherilyn Bird, dean of the TWU Libraries. “TWU’s rich history as an institution for women uniquely qualifies the institution as an appropriate home for the archives and exhibits.”

Artifacts donated by the museum reflect pop culture as well as organized movements—from Betty Boop nesting dolls to political buttons for Geraldine Ferraro, Ann Richards and NOW (the National Organization for Women). Historical documents related to the museum’s programs, exhibits and the museum itself are also included, along with artifacts from the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). TWU is home to the official WASP archives. TWU will incorporate some of the museum’s artifacts into its exhibits and will provide online access to the archives.

The contributions from the Women’s Museum will enhance the available women’s research for individuals around the world, and sustain and honor the museum’s mission,” museum board co-chair Liz Minyard said.
...celebrated the 100th birthday of donor Florence A. Doswell, seated center, with nursing faculty and students at the TWU Houston J. and Florence A. Doswell College of Nursing in Dallas. TWU nursing students gave Mrs. Doswell 100 birthday cards to commemorate the occasion.

...welcomed more than 60 TWU student leaders to a picnic at University House on the Denton campus. Student leaders enjoyed food and music with Chancellor Stuart, her dogs Georgette and Honeybear, and other university officials.

...co-hosted a luncheon for faculty and staff at the TWU T. Boone Pickens Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center with TWU Provost Dr. Robert Neely, right.

...attended the TWU Institute of Health Sciences-Houston Center Service Awards ceremony. Shown with Chancellor Stuart are faculty and staff who were recognized for their service to TWU.

...hosted a “TGIF” reception for faculty at the TWU University House. Shown with Chancellor Stuart is Dr. Phyllis Bridges, TWU Cornaro Professor of English.

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