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TWU PROFESSOR, STUDENT TO PRESENT RESEARCH AT CAPITOL

Texas Woman's University student Sidrah Khan of Plano, and Dr. Nasrin Mirsaleh-Kohan, assistant professor in the TWU Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, will showcase their research on understanding interaction of anticancer drugs with DNA during the 2015 "Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol" in Austin Wednesday, March 4.

Ms. Khan, a senior biology major/chemistry and biochemistry minor, is among 60 undergraduate students representing 50 higher education institutions across the state selected to participate in the undergraduate research day. She and Dr. Mirsaleh-Kohan will present their research, "Probing Surface-Enhanced Raman Spectra of DNA Bases, Cisplatin and Carboplatin Adsorbed on Silver Nanoparticles," at the event.

According to Ms. Khan and Dr. Mirsaleh-Kohan, the research focuses on the binding of anticancer drugs to DNA and what changes occur. The purpose of the research is to develop an analytical technique to investigate how anticancer drugs modify DNA and to further understand the nature of the modifications at the molecular level.

"I am excited to share my research and what is possible at Texas Woman's University at the Capitol and to see the research that other students are doing in Texas," Ms. Khan said.

Dr. Mirsaleh-Kohan added, "It is an honor to be chosen to represent TWU at this event and showcase the research we are doing here, which I believe is at the highest level in Texas. I also am looking forward to networking and collaborating with my colleagues from across the state."

"Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol" is intended to highlight how research conducted by undergraduate students positively impacts Texas and Texans. In addition to showcasing their research, student participants and their faculty advisers will have the opportunity to tour the Capitol, attend committee hearings and the daily meeting of the Senate and House of Representatives and meet with their respective legislators.

The Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, Inc. and the Texas Association of Community Colleges

coordinate the biennial “Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol.” For more information, visit www.cpupc.org.

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SPEED APPOINTED SENIOR ASSOCIATE VP FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Heather Speed recently was named senior associate vice president for student engagement at Texas Woman’s University. She previously served as the associate vice president for student services for the university.

In her new position, Dr. Speed will have a primary leadership role as the support for TWU Vice President for Student Life Dr. Monica Mendez-Grant.

“Heather is a highly motivated, collaborative and innovative student affairs leader,” Dr. Mendez-Grant said in announcing Dr. Speed’s new appointment to the campus community. “She has a strong visionary leadership for directors and managers in Student Life and will work with me to ensure the effective collaboration and integration for a wide range of student affairs programs and services, which will achieve the desired learning outcomes for the university.”

Dr. Speed has served in various leadership positions at TWU for the last 17 years. Prior to her service as associate vice president for student services, she served as TWU’s dean of students for five years and as director of the Center for Student Development and Student Orientation for seven years.

“I am excited and grateful for this expanded role at the university, which will allow me to continue to collaborate with the many talented and creative students and staff at TWU,” Dr. Speed said. “TWU is my home, and I look forward to continuing to serve the university and its exceptional students.”

Dr. Speed’s many accomplishments at TWU include:

- Securing and administering a \$75,000 leadership scholarship for incoming first-year students and maintaining the scholarship value through fundraising;
- Establishing three leadership scholars programs to provide 10 four-year scholarships to outstanding new students; and
- Expanding New Student Orientation to accommodate growth, incorporate technology and provide materials and presentations in Spanish for Spanish-speaking families resulting in increased participation of this population.

Dr. Speed received her bachelor of arts degree in political science from Sam Houston State University, and her master of arts degree in history and doctorate in higher education from the University of North Texas.

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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. 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 department of nutrition and food sciences is **seeking volunteers** for a **study of the effects of raspberry juice on bone density and bone status**. The study is open to postmenopausal women between the ages of 45 and 70 who have experienced bone loss. Benefits of the study include measurement of bone density and markers of bone status and promotion of bone health through diet and exercise, as well as \$100 in compensation. For more information, contact Dr. Shanil Juma at 81-2704 or sjuma@twu.edu.

Applications for the **Dr. G. Ann Uhlir Endowed Fellowship for Higher Education Administration** are due March 27. The \$1,000 fellowship award may be used for development activities completed during Summer 2015, Fall 2015 or Spring 2016. For more information, contact the Office of the Senior Associate Provost at 81-3500 or osap@twu.edu.

The first **TWU Regional Supplemental Instruction Conference** will take place May 1 on the Denton campus. The conference allows for sharing information and encourages cooperative and collaborative efforts to improve student success through the use of supplemental instruction and related activities, not only at TWU but across the area as well. The **deadline for proposals** is March 22. Registration for attending or presenting is required. **Registration closes** April 1. To register or submit a proposal, visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/J88LGMF>. Questions? Contact Dr. Bev Carlsen-Landy at sit@twu.edu

The **deadline for nominations** for the TWU Award for Outstanding Contribution to the TWU Libraries is **March 25**. Send nominations to Versinia Gooden at vgooden@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. Include first and last names (no initials, please) and appropriate titles (ie. Dr.)

Dr. **Elena Grigorieva** (math & computer science) published a new paper, “An Optimal Control Problem for Borrowing,” in *Computational Mathematics and Modeling*, Vol. 26, No1, pp.14-34. (Springer)

Dr. **Phyllis Bridges** (English) chaired the Folklore Section at the Southwest American

Culture Association conference, held Feb. 13 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She also presented a paper titled "Where There Is a Will, There is Folklore," and served as the judge for the award for best papers by a graduate student in Folklore in the Southwest.

Dr. **Mahesh Raisinghani** (School of Management) had a paper titled "A Four-stage Evolution Model of Business-IT Strategic Alignment: An Integrated Perspective" accepted for presentation and publication in the proceedings of the 44th annual meeting of the Western Decision Sciences Institute.

Dr. **Mahesh Raisinghani** (School of Management) will serve on a Small Business Innovation Research Panel at the National Science Foundation on March 16 in Arlington, Virginia.

Drs. **Michelle Buggs** (Undergraduate Studies and Academic Partnerships) and **Joshua Adams** (Pioneer Center for Student Excellence) presented a concurrent session on an assessed program titled "Mixing It Up: A Hybrid Method of Mentoring First-Year Students" at the 34th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience, held Feb. 7 in Dallas. Drs. **Buggs, Adams, Heather Speed** (student life) and **Kimberly Miloch** (QEP) presented a facilitated discussion titled "From Retention to Persistence: Framing the Conversation" at the conference.

Jenna Lee has accepted the position of assistant registrar. Ms. Lee began working in the office as a student assistant three years ago. She will complete her master's degree in history from TWU in May.

Janelle Davis (kinesiology), **David Infante** (health studies) and **Kim Taylor** (College of Health Sciences) gave a presentation titled "Baiting the Hook: How the TWU College of Health Science Prepares Students to Succeed" at the TEXAAN Academic Advising Conference held Feb. 18-20 in Corpus Christi. Ms. **Davis** was named co-chair of the North Texas Region of the organization.

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THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: MARCH 2-15, 2015

Mon., Mar. 2

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 3

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- EMBA Information Session, 6:30 p.m., IHSH 3130. Free.
- TWU Wind Symphony in Concert with Brandon Ridenour, 7:30 p.m., MJPH. \$5.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Southwestern Oklahoma State, 3 and 5 p.m., home.

Wed., Mar. 4

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

Thurs., Mar. 5

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Pioneers Basketball vs. Tarleton State, Lone Star Conference Championship, 6 p.m., away.

Fri., Mar. 6

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Pioneers Basketball, Lone Star Conference Semifinals, 6 p.m., away.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Tarleton State, 5 and 7 p.m., home.

Sat., Mar. 7

- Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Bookstore closed, Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Graduate Program Showcase, 8:30 a.m., Hubbard Hall. Free.
- Pioneers Basketball, Lone Star Conference Finals, 3 p.m., away.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Tarleton State, 1 and 3 p.m., home.

Sun., Mar. 8

- Library open 2 p.m.-midnight; Bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open noon-10 p.m.
- Pioneers Gymnastics vs. Arizona, 1 p.m., home.

Mon., Mar. 9

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 10

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Accessibility in Reality – Lunch and Learn, 12:30 p.m., SU 111. Free. Lunch will be provided to those who RSVP. Contact Michelle Prudhomme-Coleman at mprudhommecoleman@twu.edu

Wed., Mar. 11

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

- Faculty Spotlight Series: “Politics and the Literary Artist, with Particular Reference to Japan,” with Dr. Timothy Hoye, professor of history & government. 12:25 p.m., Stoddard Hall. Free.

Thurs., Mar. 12

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

Fri., Mar. 13

- 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.
- Pioneers Basketball, NCAA South Central Regional Championship Quarterfinals, time and place TBD.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Midwestern State, 5 and 7 p.m., away.
- Pioneers Gymnastics vs. Florida, 6 p.m., away.

Sat., Mar. 14

- Library closed; Bookstore closed, Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Pioneers Basketball, NCAA South Central Regional Championship Semifinals, time and place TBD.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Midwestern State, 1 and 3 p.m., away.

Sun., Mar. 15

- Library closed; Bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open noon-10 p.m.

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