

## **COMMENCEMENT BRINGS FAMILY, FRIENDS AND GUESTS**

A state senator -- Gonzalo Barrientos -- and a metroplex business executive -- Brenda Jackson -- will help more than 500 TWU graduates celebrate commencement on Sat., Aug. 15, during graduation ceremonies at 9 and 11:30 a.m. in Margo Jones Performance Hall. The university will award 23 doctoral degrees, 238 master's degrees and 265 bachelor's degrees, according to Dr. Jim Stiles (registrar). Persons with tickets are invited to attend; a reception for graduates and their families is scheduled in Hubbard Hall between ceremonies.

Barrientos, a member of the Texas State Senate, will deliver the commencement address during Ceremony I to candidates from the TWU College of Arts and Sciences, College of Nursing and School of Occupational Therapy. Jackson, vice president of TU Electric, will talk to graduates from the TWU School of Physical Therapy, School of Library and Information Studies, College of Education and Human Ecology and College of Health Sciences during the second ceremony. Dr. Carol Surles (president's office) will preside at each exercise, which includes an academic procession, certification of degrees and the commencement address.

Barrientos, who represents senatorial District 14 (comprising most of Travis County and part of Hays County), served as chair of the committee of the whole on legislative and congressional redistricting and as vice chair of the Senate natural resources committee. He was appointed to those positions by Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock during the 75th regular session of the Legislature; he serves on a number of other committees as well, including the Texas Legislative Council and the Austin transportation study policy advisory committee.

His accomplishments include passage of more than two dozen pieces of legislation designed to decrease the school dropout rate. He also has sponsored legislation to help eliminate abuse of the elderly and to protect the rights and benefits of state employees. Barrientos has received a number of awards and honors, and he served five terms in the Texas House of Representatives (1975 to 1985) prior to his election to the Texas Senate in November 1984.

Jackson, a graduate of Prairie View A&M University, serves as senior vice president for TU Electric and Lone Star Gas. As vice president for TU Electric, she shared a leadership role when the corporation re-engineered its business processes, which helped to reduce costs, increase productivity and reposition the company in a competitive environment. She also has served TU Electric as customer communications department manager and community relations manager. Jackson previously was employed at Dallas Power and Light Company for a number of years.

She currently is involved in a number of community organizations, including the Baylor College of Dentistry community advisory board; Dallas Assembly; Leadership Dallas Alumni Association; the State Fair of Texas chairman's task force; International Women's Forum (Dallas Forum program committee chair); and the Teacher Retirement System of Texas board of trustees.

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## **NEW DEAN OF HEALTH SCIENCES SELECTED**

Dr. Beverley Byers-Pevitts (academic affairs) has announced the appointment of Dr. Jean Pyfer as the new dean of the TWU College of Health Sciences, effective Sept. 1, 1998. Pyfer currently is interim dean of the college and previously was chair of the department of kinesiology. The selection was made following a national search. The committee was chaired by Dr. Richard Rodean (Arts and Sciences/performing arts).

"I am pleased to announced Dr. Pyfer's appointment. She is knowledgeable, focused on the college and is involved in moving all of the programs forward, in keeping with the university's strategic plan," said Byers-Pevitts. "I believe she possesses an overall understanding of the university, and she knows what is needed to enable the college, its faculty and its students to move forward successfully. She also understands and supports the research and teaching missions at Texas Woman's University. I look forward to her leadership in the TWU College of Health Sciences as we look ahead to our centennial year and beyond."

Pyfer said, "I am delighted to have the opportunity to continue to work with the exceptional faculty and staff in the TWU College of Health Sciences. I look forward to supporting their ongoing efforts to better serve their students, professions and the community. I am particularly excited to work with and for Dr. Carol Surlles and other members of the administration to implement the strategic plan and to move the

university into the 21st century."

Pyfer, who previously served as professor, associate professor and chair of the department of physical education at TWU, earned her bachelor's degree in physical education and biology from Bradley University; her master's degree in physical education from Indiana University; and her doctorate in physical education and educational psychology, also from IU. Her professional specializations include adapted physical education, movement assessment, programming to alleviate sensory motor development delays, and motor development during growth.

Pyfer also served as assistant professor, associate professor and professor at the University of Kansas; associate instructor at Indiana University; and assistant instructor at Bradley University. She also taught in the Bartonville and Toulon, Ill., school systems.

She is a member of the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance and has served as chair of that group's Therapeutics Council and Adapted Physical Education Academy, and is a charter member of the National Consortium on Physical Education and Recreation for the Handicapped. Pyfer also is an active member in the Southern Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; the Central Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation; the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; and the Kansas Association of Health, Physical Education and Recreation

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## **JOB FAIR SET**

As part of Pioneer Camp, the Student Center will present a job fair for students on Wed., Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., SC 2nd floor lobby. The program, which is free to all interested persons, will involve a number of prospective employers, including the Denton Independent School District, Domino's Pizza, Wal-Mart SuperCenter, Golden Temps, American Telemarketing Specialists Inc., Kroger Food Stores, Chili's Bar and Grill, Denton Community Hospital, TWU student employment and others. For details, call the Student Center office at 8-1-3641.

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## **TWU CELEBRATES UCD DEDICATION**

TWU is one of six institutions celebrating the dedication of the Universities Center at Dallas (formerly

the Dallas Education Center) during a news conference and open house on Thurs., Aug. 13, at 10:30 a. m. in Dallas, 1901 Main St. Responsibility for the center recently was transferred from the Alliance for Higher Education to the Federation of North Texas Area Universities, whose members and affiliate members offer courses and degree programs at the downtown location. Dr. Carol Surles (president's office) will attend as president of both TWU and the federation.

UCD represents an opportunity for Dallas-area employers and members of the downtown work force to earn a degree and increase their potential growth for personal and professional development -- a recipe for success. At the same time, employers reap the benefits of an educated, motivated work force. Registration for the fall semester will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tues., Aug. 18, at the center. "We want to recruit and educate members of the work force who are interested in advancing their careers and enriching their lives -- and their families' lives -- by earning either their first degree or a graduate degree," said Dr. Ed Pauley, director of UCD.

He added, "The UCD -- which changed its name to reflect the truly collaborative nature of the colleges and universities that offer degree programs and classes in downtown Dallas -- provides professional advancement through degree programs at a convenient location during hours that don't interrupt business or productivity. After several years of building classes and degree programs for downtown employees and area residents, we believe that Dallas can offer education, service and convenience to potential students and their employers."

The ingredients in UCD's recipe for success include: six sponsoring institutions -- TWU, Texas A&M University-Commerce, University of North Texas, University of Texas at Arlington, UT-Dallas and Dallas County Community College District; four complete degree programs -- in criminal justice, legal information management and business administration (bachelor's and master's); and a location and prospective student base that benefits all employers, companies and agencies in the downtown Dallas area. Courses are offered toward teacher certification and degrees in business, education, social work and the bachelor of applied arts and sciences. Fall semester schedules are available, and a \$25 application fee is assessed during registration for first-time students. For information or a current schedule, contact the UCD at (214) 744-6600.

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## **PIONEER CAMP: NEW STUDENTS TREATED TO A NEW PROGRAM**

Beginning this year, new students at TWU will go through orientation not once...but twice! Aside from summer orientation with family members, the students will attend a new freshman orientation program called Pioneer Camp from Aug. 26 to 28 in Denton. The program will give new students a better picture of campus life and is designed to help prepare them better for the semester ahead.

"We wanted to have a three-day, extended orientation program that students could attend at the end of the summer," explained Dee Siscoe (student life). "This orientation program is less academic and more targeted toward their transition to college life." She added that Pioneer Camp will enable new students to move into campus housing, find out where their classes are, learn about campus organizations, make

connections with other students (as well as faculty and staff) and find out about things that ultimately will mean more to them than taking placement tests.

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### **PIONEER CAMP, *continued***

Thanks to university-wide cooperation, Pioneer Camp will offer students a range of choices. "I've been really excited about the willingness of different departments on campus to get involved in this program," added Siscoe. "Because of that involvement, we will be able to help students learn more about a variety of subjects. We will offer computer lab tours, library services demonstrations and even a kinesiology activity fair in Pioneer Hall."

During the camp, new students also will receive their post office box numbers, student identification cards and books -- which will be pre-selected for them by the bookstore staff so that the campers can just pick them up -- all before classes begin on Aug. 31. "I think Pioneer Camp will make the transition as easy as possible for these students," said Siscoe. "When classes start, they already will know people. They will know where their classes are -- with books in hand. They will have everything they need to start school."

A schedule of activities for Pioneer Camp is available through the office of student life; call 8-1-3601. Other program options include a step aerobics class, self-defense class, room decor seminar, weight training class, live radio broadcast, TASP test, academic advising and others.

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### **TWU WITHDRAWAL POLICY CHANGES**

TWU has changed the withdrawal policy and procedures for students, according to Dee Siscoe (student life). Copies are available in the office of student life; for details, call 8-1-3615. The policy is provided below.

"A student who finds it necessary to withdraw from all credit classes must initiate formal withdrawal through the office of student life on the Denton and Houston campuses and in the registrar's office at the Dallas Center. The effective date of withdrawal is the day on which the student submits the completed 'Request for Withdrawal' form and it is received by the appropriate office. Withdrawals are not permitted

during the week preceding the first day of final examinations for either the long session or summer term. A student who withdraws up to or on the 12th class day will have no record of course work on the transcript. A student who withdraws after the 12th class day and before the last day to drop without penalty would receive a grade of 'W.' After the last date to withdraw without penalty, the grade of 'WF' is assigned, unless the student withdraws for medical reasons or a 'W' is recommended by the instructor."

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## **IMMUNIZATION CLINIC OFFERED**

TWU's student health services will sponsor a university-wide immunization clinic on Fri., Aug. 28, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in that office (adjacent to Redbud Theatre). "We are offering this service as part of the state and national effort to increase the number of adults vaccinated against preventable diseases," said Carole McGregor (student health services). The Denton County Health Department will be on site to provide low-cost immunizations for measles/mumps/rubella (MMR), \$5; and tetanus/diphtheria (Td), \$5 -- cash only, please. "Each year in the United States, as many as 50,00 to 70,000 people die needlessly from vaccine-preventable diseases or their complications," added McGregor. "Immunize! -- it's great health advice."

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## **NEWSBRIEFS**

**Information and news about activities, programs or TWU people may be sent to Ann Hatch (public information), editor, either through campus mail or by e-mail to [s\\_hatch@twu.edu](mailto:s_hatch@twu.edu). The weekly deadline to receive information is Tuesday 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.**

*All phone directory changes* for TWU's departmental directory and faculty/staff listing by department were due in public information today. Anyone who has not sent changes should submit them this week. All changes *must* be sent in writing and signed off by each office or department; areas with no changes are asked to return the forms, indicating that information. For details, call Johnna Shelton at 8-1-3456.

**Reminder: Letters and forms to purchase parking decals by mail for 1998-99** have been sent to all TWU faculty and staff who already have parking stickers. Avoid standing in line later by filling out the

form and returning it to the TWU department of public safety. Employees may pay the amount due or may submit a form for monthly payroll deduction; the payroll deduction form was included in the mailing. Return the completed form(s) and payment (using either check or payroll deduction) to the TWU parking office. Allow two to three weeks for decals to arrive by mail at home. For more information, call 8-1-2925.

***Be "Reckless!"*** -- Enjoy a weekend-only restaging of TWU's Summerfest 98 production of *Reckless* by Craig Lucas, scheduled in Redbud Theatre on Fri. and Sat., Aug. 28 and 29 at 8 p.m. on Sun., Aug. 30, at 2 p.m. A special midnight performance will be presented on Saturday night, too. Tickets are \$10 for general admission; \$7 for students, senior citizens, and TWU faculty and staff; and \$5 for TWU students. Special discounts are available for the midnight performance. Recent TWU MFA graduate Brad Campbell directs *Reckless*, a one-act play from the creator of *Blue Leaves* and *Prelude to a Kiss*. The play focuses on Rachel, a "perpetually optimistic woman" who finds her world turned topsy-turvy when her husband tells her that he has taken out a contract on her life. When Rachel (played by TWU student Angela Angle) hears the news, she leaps from a 2nd-story window and unwittingly embarks on an adventure...one in which she uncovers an Albanian terrorist plot; wins \$100,000 on a TV game show; and meets six different psychiatrists.

***Reminder: Norma Davidson*** (performing arts, music) and her son Kevin will stage a special duel performance on Mon., Aug. 10, at 8 p.m. at the Denton Center for the Visual Arts. TWU faculty member Dr. Pamela Youngblood will join them. The concert is free, and the public is invited to attend. For details, call 8-1-2500.

***TWU faculty and members*** of the Council of Chairs, the Academic Council and executive staff are invited to attend a picnic hosted by Dr. Carol Surles (president's office) at University House on Tues., Aug. 25, at 5 p.m. Questions? Call 8-1-3201.

***Reminder: SPSS Windows***, a software program for statistical analysis, will be the subject of a training workshop at TWU on Fri. and Sat., Sept. 25 and 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., both days, SH 312. Enrollment is limited to 20 faculty members (only one faculty member per department or school), and applications will be accepted in the order in which they are received. If space remains, additional faculty from a department or school will be admitted. For more information, contact Dr. Carolyn Bednar (nutrition and food sciences) at 8-1-2658.

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**NEWSBRIEFS, *continued***

***Faculty should note:*** The fall faculty general assembly will be held on Mon., Aug. 24, at 10:30 a.m.,

MCL auditorium. Faculty Development Day will be held on Tues., Aug. 25, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; call Dr. Clay King (nutrition and food sciences) at 8-1-2652 for details and a schedule. A faculty picnic hosted by the President Carol Surles begins at 5 p.m. that Tuesday at University House.

**Reminder:** *TWU's annual graduate assistant orientation* will be held on Fri., Aug. 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., CFO 205. This program primarily is for all new graduate teaching and research assistants, but returning students also may attend if they wish. Departments hiring new assistants are asked to forward those students' names by Aug. 19 to Adele Petty (Graduate School). Petty can be reached at 8-1-3402 or by e-mail at s\_petty@twu.edu.

**Copies of the National Teaching and Learning Forum** are available online for interested faculty and staff who want to keep up with current trends in teaching, enhancing classroom skills and obtaining practical advice. The address is <http://twu.edu/ntlf/> and the resource is offered because of a partnership formed among TWU's academic and advising support programs, information technology services and the library. "This unique tool is offered to our academic community to stimulate critical thinking and to reflect on teaching," said Dr. Emily Harbold (academic advising and support programs). Recent issues include topics like detecting Internet plagiarism; "morphing"; student success and shared learning environments; and others written by faculty colleagues from universities across the nation. For details, call Harbold at 8-1-3950.

**The electronic library** now is available to TWU faculty, staff and students. The electronic library, according to Connie Maxwell (Blagg-Huey Library), is a comprehensive general reference product that contains a variety of sources, including: more than 150 full-text newspapers; hundreds of full-text magazines; national and international news wires; 2,000 complete literary works; more than 28,000 photographs, images and maps; television, radio and government transcripts; book, movie and software reviews; *Colliers Encyclopedia*; a dictionary, thesaurus and almanac; fact books; and more. The information is current and updated daily by satellite. Users may access the electronic library through the TWU library's web pages.

**Seven new players** have joined the TWU Pioneers softball team for 1998-99: freshman biology major Kim Deaton of Arlington; freshman biology major Kenya Freelen of Oklahoma City, Okla.; freshman Kristi Leard of Taos, N. Mex.; freshman kinesiology major Siobhan Pena of Peoria, Ariz.; kinesiology major and transfer student Leslie Roddy of Allen (Texas); freshman Monica Romero of Arlington; and freshman Stacy Sowder of Denton, who graduated from Ryan High School this spring. The signings were announced by TWU softball coach Dianne Baker (kinesiology/intercollegiate athletics) in late July.

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## **UPDATE ON TWU PEOPLE**

Sympathy is extended to Dr. **Evelyn Curry** (Library and Information Studies) and her family, following the death of her mother, Virgie Curry, on July 22. Services were held in Marshall, Texas, on July 25.

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**TWU PEOPLE**, *continued*

**Chalese Connors** (intercollegiate athletics) has received a Citation of Excellence from the College Sports Information Directors of America for her gymnastics brochure, which was awarded during the organization's annual convention in Spokane, Wash., this summer. A total of 1,754 entries were received and 505 citations were presented to 150 institutions in 62 contests.

Condolences are offered to the families of **Donald Yeck** (controller's office) and **Meshel Roden** (library), following the loss of his brother and her uncle, David Wayne Yeck, who died July 16. The funeral was held in Denton on July 20.

Dr. **Rudy Rodriguez** (reading and bilingual education) recently received an award for dedicated service from Region VII of Pi Lambda Theta, the international honor society and professional association in education.

Dr. **Keith Swigger** (Library and Information Studies) recently announced that TWU alum **Ramiro Salazar**, director of the Dallas Public Library, received the 1998 REFORMA Librarian of the Year Award in June during a national conference in Washington, D.C. REFORMA is the national association that promotes library services for persons who speak Spanish; it is an affiliate of the American Library Association. Salazar earned his TWU master's degree in library science.

**Raquie Gasperson** (public safety) graduated in July from the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute...specifically, its Graduate Management Institute. The GMI program is taught by a consortium of Texas universities -- including TWU -- and it provides law enforcement administrators and executives with the skills needed to deliver effective policing services.

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Catherine Curry**, a former faculty member in the TWU School of Occupational Therapy, who died on Aug. 5. Currie taught at TWU from 1969 to 1983, when she retired; she served as assistant director from 1978 to 1982 and as interim dean from 1982 to 1983. A memorial service was held on Aug. 10, followed by burial in Fort Worth.

**Carolyn Barnes** and **Ann Hatch** (public information) recently attended the 1998 CASE District IV mini-conference on trends and issues in higher education on South Padre Island, Aug. 6 to 8. Hatch led one session on methods of communicating with the news media (phone, fax, e-mail, snail mail) and was a discussant in a second session that explored how news and information professionals can assume a leadership role in integrated marketing for their institutions.

Welcome to all new employees who joined TWU in July: housing -- **Pat Glenn**, clerical specialist II; physical plant -- **Maria Del Castillo**, custodian I, and **Bryan Magana**, groundskeeper I; golf course -- **Sean Simas**, golf course assistant; public safety -- **Pamela Tutt**, dispatcher; public information -- **Rachel Palmer**, writer; and the Graduate School -- **Allison Lovett**, transcript evaluator I.

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## THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: AUGUST 10 - 23, 1998

### Aug. 10-12

- Blagg-Huey Library open 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

### Aug. 10-14

- Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

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## CALENDAR, *continued*

### Aug. 13-14

- Blagg-Huey Library open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

### Aug. 13

- Universities Center at Dallas dedication/open house, 1901 Main St., Dallas, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

### Aug. 14

- CPR for the Professional Rescuer: \$40, requires a resuscitation mask and advance reservations, SC 110, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

## **Aug. 15**

- Blagg-Huey Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wellness Center open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
- Commencement: Ceremony I -- 9 a.m., MJPH, for College of Arts and Sciences, School of Occupational Therapy and College of Nursing (speaker: Brenda Jackson, vice president of TU Electric); Ceremony II -- 11:30 a.m., MJPH, for College of Education and Human Ecology, College of Health Sciences, School of Library and Information Studies and School of Physical Therapy (speaker: the Hon. Gonzalo Barrientos, Texas state senator); reception in Hubbard Hall between ceremonies.

## **Aug. 16**

- Blagg-Huey Library closed; Wellness Center open 1-6 p.m.

## **Aug. 17-21**

- Blagg-Huey Library open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Wellness Center open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

## **Aug. 21-23**

- Continuing education: "Conflict Resolution," 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

## **Aug. 22**

- Blagg-Huey Library closed; Wellness Center open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

## **Aug. 23**

- Blagg-Huey Library closed; Wellness Center open 1-6 p.m.