

Volume 29, Number 15, July 30-August 12, 2007

MORE THAN \$3.7 MILLION IN GRANTS RECEIVED TO DATE

TWU's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs reports that 48 grants and contracts have been funded to date in Fiscal Year 2007 for a total of \$3,702,815. Highlights of May awards include two projects that were awarded more than \$235,000 in federal funding.

"Phosphorescent PLEDs" by Dr. **Manal Omary** (chemistry and physics) was awarded a \$150,000 Department of Defense grant. Dr. Omary's research will use innovative strategies to increase the light output of PLEDs (polymer light-emitting diodes) by chemically reacting the polymers with carefully-designed metal precursors to make the resulting polymers inherently luminescent. Actual PLED devices will be fabricated based on the brightest polymers produced in the first phase of the project.

"Algebra in the Middle Schools" by **Catherine Banks** (mathematics and computer science) was awarded an \$86,994 U.S. Department of Education grant. The project will provide support for 17 middle school teachers and three pre-service teachers to attend a state mathematics conference and two graduate courses focused on teaching algebra in middle school.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board approved \$93,008 in funding for a TWU-Dallas ISD High School Bridge Program. The project, proposed by Dr. **Judith Bean** (academic affairs), will provide 75 Dallas Independent School District high school students free access to instruction to improve their readiness for college during a four-week summer program.

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FACULTY, ADMINISTRATORS TO ATTEND SUMMER INSTITUTE

A team of six TWU faculty and administrators has been selected to attend the 2007 SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities) Summer Institute Aug. 3-6 in Portland, Maine. SENCER is a comprehensive faculty development and science education reform project funded by the National Science Foundation.

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INSTITUTE, *continued*

The SENCER Summer Institute is one component of a national dissemination program designed to improve undergraduate science education and stimulate civic engagement through the design and development of courses that teach basic science through complex, unsolved public issues.

Participation in the institute is by invitation only, with support from the NSF. TWU participants are Dr. **Ann Staton** (College of Arts & Sciences), Dr. **Don Edwards** (math and computer science), Dr. **Barbara Lerner** (TWU P-16), Dr. **Sarah McIntire** (biology), Dr. **Richard Sheardy** (chemistry and physics) and Dr. **Richard Jones** (chemistry).

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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 Fall 2007 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) booklet is now available online. The FAQ booklet is designed to answer the typical questions that faculty, staff and students have at the beginning of the semester. The booklet also lists various departments' extended hours and assistance tools available during the week before school and the first week of school. Hard copies of the FAQ booklet will be distributed to department chairs later this week. For more information, visit www.twu.edu and look for "Fall 2007 Opening of School FAQ Handbook." Classes for the fall 2007 semester begin Aug. 27.

The Denton County Transportation Authority has added a late-afternoon Commuter Express stop at TWU. Beginning Aug. 20, the last TWU pick up will be at 5:45 p.m. Riders should be aware that, unlike the earlier buses, the final bus will not return to Dallas, but will end its route at the park and ride location in Carrollton. Tickets for the Commuter Express are available for purchase online at www.dcta.net, and soon will be available in the TWU Office of Commuter Services, Room 209 in the Student Union. (Continue to check the Commuter Services Web site, www.twu.edu/o-sl/studentcenter.commuter.html for updates.) Costs are \$85 for a monthly pass or \$45 for a 20-ride punch card. A single one-way cash fare of \$5 may be paid on the bus. For more information, call the TWU Office of Commuter Services at (940) 898-3227.

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. **Barbara Presnall** will assume the role of interim chair of the Department of History and Government effective Aug. 15. Current chair, Dr. **Jim Alexander**, is retiring on Aug. 31 and will step down as chair on Aug. 15.

A book by Dr. **Mahesh S. Raisinghani** (School of Management), titled "Handbook of Research on Global Information Technology Management in the Digital Economy," has been accepted for publication by IGI Global Press. A copy of the book will be available in the TWU Library after it is published in spring 2008.

Faisal H. Aboul-Enein (nursing-Houston) has published a manuscript titled, "Perception and knowledge of a common skin disorder among university students in Jordan" in the *Journal of Public Health*. The journal is an interdisciplinary publication for the discussion and debate of international public health issues. This research was done in collaboration with the Department of Clinical Pharmacy at Jordan University of Science and Technology.

Alli Peterson (Lifelong Learning) represented TWU at the 2007 International Blackboard Users Conference, *Bb World*, July 10-12 in Boston. Her presentation, titled "Exploring Blackboard Usage," showcased Lifelong Learning's experience surveying TWU faculty Blackboard use. She spoke about the survey instrument, the results and the next steps that came about as a result of the survey.

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THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: JULY 30-AUGUST 12, 2007

Mon., July 30	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Tues., July 31	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Wed., Aug. 1	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

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CALENDAR, *continued*

Thur., Aug. 2	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 3	-Library 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat., Aug. 4	-Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m. to noon.
Sun., Aug. 5	-Library open 2-10 p.m.; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 4-8 p.m.
Mon., Aug. 6	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-6 p.m.; Fitness & Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Tues., Aug. 7	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Wed., Aug. 8	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Thur., Aug. 9	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri., Aug. 10	-Library open 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; bookstore open 8 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-8 p.m. -Teaching Online Workshop for Adjuncts, GTAs and GAs, 9 a.m. For more information, visit www.twuonline.com .
Sat., Aug. 11	-Library closed; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-noon. -Teaching Online Workshop for Adjuncts, GTAs and GAs, 9 a.m. For more information, visit www.twuonline.com .
Sun., Aug. 12	-Library closed; bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 4-8 p.m.

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