

*Volume 36, Number 2, January 27-February 9, 2014*

## **TWU EARNS REAFFIRMATION OF ACCREDITATION FROM SACS**

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) Commission on Colleges has reaffirmed the accreditation of Texas Woman's University for an additional 10 years, marking 90 years of SACS accreditation of the university.

The announcement, which was made in December, is the culmination of more than three years of work by TWU faculty and staff to document and demonstrate the university's compliance with regional and national standards of excellence.

"This was a team effort, and I am proud of how the TWU community worked together for the good of the university," said TWU Chancellor Ann Stuart. "This reaffirmation confirms our commitment to the highest standards of higher education and is a true indicator of the quality of teaching and learning that take place at TWU."

As part of the reaffirmation process, SACS requires each institution to develop a five-year Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve student learning or the learning environment in a specific and measurable way. TWU's plan, "Pioneering Pathways: Learn by Doing," focuses on experiential or hands-on learning.

"Our Quality Enhancement Plan continues the university's long tradition of preparing students for the workforce or graduate study through clinical and practical learning experiences, while also enhancing their education through community and other volunteer service," said Dr. Barbara Lerner, associate provost for undergraduate studies and academic partnerships.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges is the regional body for the accreditation of higher education institutions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and Latin America that award associate, baccalaureate, master's and/or doctoral degrees.

Accreditation of an institution signifies the institution has a purpose appropriate to higher education and has resources, programs and services sufficient to accomplish that purpose on a continuing basis. Accreditation evaluates whether an institution maintains clearly specified educational objectives that are consistent with its mission and appropriate to the

degrees it offers and whether it is successful in achieving its stated objectives.

For more information on TWU's reaffirmation of accreditation, visit <http://www.twu.edu/sacs>.

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## **NICHOLAS TO RETIRE IN APRIL; RAY PROMOTED**

Dr. Richard Nicholas, vice president for student life, will retire effective April 30 after more than 18 years at TWU.

Chancellor Ann Stuart announced the pending retirement in an email to the TWU community. She credited Dr. Nicholas with establishing the Office of Commuter and Non-Traditional Services; conducting needs analyses and planning for new facilities including Lowry Woods Community apartments, the new Fitness and Recreation Center, housing renovations and the expansion of the Student Health Center; increasing scholarship support through the Terry Foundation Scholars and the TWU Scholars scholarship programs; and establishing the Student Life Development unit, which has raised more than \$7 million – primarily for scholarships – since its inception in 2006. His efforts also have moved the university's auxiliary enterprises from financial losses to a position of consistent revenue centers, she wrote.

A national search will be conducted for Dr. Nicholas' replacement.

Chancellor Stuart also announced the promotion of Gary Ray to the position of vice president of enrollment services. Mr. Ray has served as associate vice president of enrollment services at TWU since 2010. He previously served as vice president for enrollment management at Lee University in Tennessee. He holds a bachelor's degree from Lee University and a master's from the University of Tennessee. He also completed post-master's work in educational leadership at the University of West Georgia as well as the higher education management development program at Harvard University.

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## **TWU'S STEWART NAMED PDK EMERGING LEADER**

Dr. Mandy Stewart, assistant professor of bilingual and English as a Second Language education at Texas Woman's University, is one of only 26 educators in the United States selected for PDK (Phi Delta Kappa) International's 2013-14 Class of Emerging Leaders.

PDK International is a professional association for educators. The PDK Emerging Leader program recognizes educators who make invaluable commitments to the field of education. A committee of past Emerging Leaders selected this year's class from a competitive field of applicants. "This recognition means they (PDK) believe my career

will have an impact on education,” Dr. Stewart said. “I feel so invigorated and inspired to make a difference and to effect change.”

Dr. Stewart received the 2013 PDK Outstanding Dissertation Award for her research on adolescent English learners. She recently received university and external grants to continue her research at North Texas high schools.

PDK International represents nearly 30,000 professionals in K-12 education across the country. For more information, visit [www.pdkintl.org](http://www.pdkintl.org).

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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](mailto: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.*

Faculty and staff are invited to join Chancellor Ann Stuart in celebrating **TWU’s reaffirmation of accreditation**. **Receptions** will be held at all TWU campuses: **Denton** – from 3 to 4 p.m. **Thursday, Jan. 30** in the Southeast Ballroom of Hubbard Hall. Remarks begin at approximately 3:30 p.m.; **Dallas** – noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, Multipurpose Room (3620). Remarks begin at approximately 12:30 p.m.; and **Houston** – 12:30-1:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6 in The Legacy Room. Remarks begin at approximately 1 p.m.

Do you know of a staff member who has gone above and beyond their call of duty? Nominate them for a **Pioneer Proud** award! Any staff member – up to and including directors – may be nominated. Visit [www.twu.edu/staff-council/pioneer-proud.asp](http://www.twu.edu/staff-council/pioneer-proud.asp) to complete the nomination process. **Nominations are due by Friday, Jan. 31.**

The College of Professional Education will host an **Open House** in **Stoddard Hall** from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. **Wednesday, Jan. 29** to celebrate the renovations within the building. Light refreshments will be available in the lobby. Visitors also are encouraged to view the improvements made to the Counseling and Family Therapy Clinic in the Human Development Building.

## 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](mailto:info@twu.edu). Include first and last names (no initials, please) and appropriate titles (ie. Dr.)*

The Department of Psychology and Philosophy will host a retirement reception for **Glenda Peters** from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 28 in the Stoddard Hall lobby. She has worked at TWU for 34 years. Cards will be available for those who wish to write her a personal note.

The TWU Department of Public Safety will host a retirement reception for Lt. **Ken Adams** from 2-3:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 31 in the TWU DPS Break Room in Hubbard Hall. Lt. Adams has served with TWU for 24 years.

Dr. **DiAnna Hynds** (biology) co-chaired the Developmental Biology and Genetics section of the 2013 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students, held Nov. 13-16 in Nashville, Tenn.

Dr. **Phyllis Bridges** (English) chaired the book review committee for Texas Tech Press for the Lou Halsell Rodenberger Award. Also serving on the committee were Dr. Frances Brannen Vick of Dallas County and Joyce Gibson Roach of Tarrant County. The award is named in memory of TWU distinguished alumna and former regent Dr. Lou Halsell Rodenberger. The award is unwritten by an endowment administered by the Texas Tech Press.

Dr. **Mahesh S. Raisinghani** (School of Management) has been invited to serve as a keynote speaker in the field of “Adaptive and Self-Adaptive Systems and Applications for the Focus 3-3: Modeling and Simulation of Adaptive Systems toward Intelligent and Adaptive Control” at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual World Congress of Advanced Materials-2014 (WCAM-2014), to be held June 6-9 in Chongqing, China. The theme of the event is “Dream of Ubiquitous Smartness.”

Dr. **Mahesh S. Raisinghani** (School of Management) will serve as vice president of the Global Information Technology Management Association, to be held from June 22-24 in Philadelphia, and as academic chair of the Global Outsourcing Conference, scheduled June 26-27 in Toronto, Canada.

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## **THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AT TWU: JANUARY 27-FEBRUARY 9, 2014**

### **Mon., Jan. 27**

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

### **Tues., Jan. 28**

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- TWU Maroon & White Luncheon, noon, Outback Steakhouse, 300 S. I-35 E in Denton. Cost is \$5.

**Wed., Jan. 29**

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Pioneers Basketball vs. Texas A&M-Commerce, 5:30 p.m., away.

**Thurs., Jan. 30**

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

**Fri., Jan. 31**

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

**Sat., Feb. 1**

- Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Bookstore open 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Houston Center Open House, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. 84-3014.
- Pioneers Gymnastics vs. Rutgers, 7 p.m., home.
- Pioneers Softball vs. UT-Permian Basin, noon, and St. Mary's, 4 p.m. St. Mary's Tournament, away.

**Sun., Feb. 2**

- Library open 2 p.m.-midnight; Bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open noon-midnight.
- Pioneers Basketball vs. Tarleton State, 2 p.m., home.
- Pioneers Softball vs. St. Edward's, 2 p.m., and Texas A&M-International, 4 p.m. St. Mary's Tournament, away.

**Mon., Feb. 3**

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Pioneers Softball vs. St. Mary's, 10 a.m. St. Mary's Tournament, away.

**Tues., Feb. 4**

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

**Wed., Feb. 5**

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

**Thurs., Feb. 6**

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-midnight; Bookstore open 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Pioneers Basketball vs. Cameron, 7 p.m., home.

**Fri., Feb. 7**

- Library open 7:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Bookstore open 9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Fitness and Recreation open 6 a.m.-midnight.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Regis, 1:30 p.m., and Fort Lewis, 4 p.m., Desert Stinger Tournament, away.

**Sat., Feb. 8**

- Library open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open 8 a.m.-10 p.m.
- Pioneers Basketball vs. South Dakota School of Mines, 2 p.m., home.
- Pioneers Softball vs. UT-Permian Basin, 4 p.m., and Colorado School of Mines, 6:30 p.m., Desert Stinger Tournament, away.

**Sun., Feb. 9**

- Library open 2 p.m.-midnight Bookstore closed; Fitness and Recreation open noon-midnight.
- Pioneers Gymnastics vs. Centenary and Lindenwood, 2 p.m., home.
- Pioneers Softball vs. Adams State, 1:30 p.m., Desert Stinger Tournament, away.

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