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Ten Years Ago (May 2005)

Evidence-Based Practice Workshop Hosted

The University of Texas at Tyler College of Nursing and Health Sciences Center for Nursing Research and Outreach and The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler held an evidence-based practice workshop Wednesday, May 18. The "Igniting Evidence-Based Practice in Education and Clinical Settings" workshop was held at the Tyler Area Senior Citizens Association Ornelas Activity Center. Health professionals, faculty, students, and practitioners interested in providing care based on scientific evidence attended the event.

Students Awarded Hole-in-One Scholarships

Nancy Lamar, Executive Director of University Advancement announced that Amanda Gadison, Holly Griggs, and Scott Moss were awarded scholarships by the UT Tyler Patriots organization. The $1,000 scholarships were funded by the UT Tyler Cox Communication Patriot Hole-in-One Contest.

Twenty Years Ago (May 1995)

Liberal Arts Complex Groundbreaking Held

The groundbreaking ceremony for construction of the Liberal Arts and Fine and Performing Arts Center was held Friday, May 5. The ceremony began at the University Center and concluded at the site of construction. University President George F. Hamm stated that the "multipurpose facility will serve the specialized educational needs of students. It will enhance classroom activities, student performances, student activity programs, and university sponsored convocations and commencements. Moreover, the center will extend the walls of the University throughout the region." The $19,298,000 complex was designed by C/A Alliance-Architects and built by C. Construction Company, Incorporated.

Engineering Program Approved

House Bill 2187, sponsored by Representative Ted Kamel and Senator Bill Ratliff was approved by the Texas Legislature. The bill provided a blueprint for the development of an engineering program on the UT Tyler campus. Final program approval was later given by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The bill also allowed UT Tyler to enter into a partnership agreement "with a private institution of higher education located in the same county." The state appropriations bill, House Bill 1, approved May 25, designated $1.5 million for starting the engineering program. The need for an engineering school in the East Texas region was identified in a 1994 study commissioned by the 14 public colleges and universities in 36 Northeast Texas counties. The appropriations bill also included $267,000 in funding for the extension of the UT Tyler nursing program into Palestine. House Bill 1 was advocated in the legislature by Representative Todd Staples of Palestine.

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Employee Film Screened

An employee film titled “Telephone Manners” was shown on Friday, May 17. This film emphasized the significance of utilizing the telephone in a manner that would insure positive and lasting impressions of the organization. Techniques offered included using the caller’s name to personalize the transaction, having writing tools available, and using repetition to guarantee accuracy.

Governor Signs Name Change Bill

On May 26, Governor Dolph Briscoe signed House Bill 630, which changed the name of Tyler State College to Texas Eastern University. The name change was official 90 days from the date of the governor’s signature. Representative Bill Clark, who sponsored the bill in the House, said the bill passed both houses of the legislature under normal procedures. Senator Peyton McKnight sponsored the bill in the Senate. A delegation of East Texans joined Senator Peyton McKnight and Rep. Bill Clark in Austin for the bill signing ceremony. Those representing the institution at the ceremony were President and Mrs. Stewart, Regent C. Quentin Abernathy, Regent and Mrs. Jack Morgan and their children, Millicent and Jack Jr., Regent and Mrs. Robert Schleier, Regent Dr. B.H. McVicker, Regent H.J. McKenzie, and Dr. J. Paxton Hart, president of the TSC/TEU faculty senate. President Stewart said, “Although we are pleased about the name change and the regional image it projects, we are more pleased that our institution meets the qualifications to be classified as a university.”

Library Expands

The Tyler State College library scheduled expansions for later in the year. Circulation Clerk Ann White explained that the expansion included moving the microfilm and reference materials to rooms across from the media center. Additionally, two new microfilm readers and cabinets were acquired. The move was expected to be completed by August. White said that a book drop was being contemplated for use by students when the library is closed. Concerning library operations, the lack of a standard security check created a problem in the form of missing materials. White stated that periodicals were the items most often taken and not returned, and that the problem worsened during the summer months.

Two New Master Degrees Approved

The Master of Arts and Master of Science degrees in Inter-disciplinary Studies Program submitted to the Coordinating Board, Texas College University System by Tyler State College was approved in Austin.

University Archives and Special Collections

The University Archives and Special Collections Department (UASC), located on the ground floor of the Robert R. Muntz Library, retains materials of archival and/or historical interest to The University of Texas at Tyler and the surrounding community.