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Ten Years Ago (July 2006)

New Associate Provost Hired

Dr. Muthukrishnan Sathyamoorthy was hired as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs, Provost Richard Osburn announced. The new associate provost was hired to assist Osburn in the management of undergraduate programs, including policies, procedures, and review processes, and the establishment of new undergraduate programs. He was also expected to develop and implement an undergraduate honors program, international studies program and assist with faculty development. Sathyamoorthy served as Dean and Professor of the Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering at the West Virginia University Institute of Technology. He had worked in higher education since 1969 and had published three books and more than 60 journal papers. “We are pleased to have someone of Dr. Sathyamoorthy’s experience and background become a part of UT Tyler,” Osburn said. “He will bring an exciting perspective to our programs and will help greatly as we move into new areas of study.” In addition to associate provost, Sathyamoorthy was expected to serve as a Professor of Mechanical Engineering. Today, Sathyamoorthy works as Associate Dean, Professor, and Interim Chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He earned his doctorate in aeronautical engineering and his master’s of technology degree in engineering mechanics from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, and a bachelor’s of engineering degree from the University of Madras in India.

Twenty Years Ago (July 1996)

“Phaedra” Opens

Jean Racine’s passionate French tragedy “Phaedra” was presented from July 24-28 by the Theatre Repertory Ensemble Company in the UT Tyler Studio Theatre, ADM 127. Director James A. Hatfield said that “Racine’s title character, Phaedra, has no rival in the drama of France.” “If we associate passion with the French, then Phaedra represents for Racine and his countrymen the mastery of passion over intellect and morality, and the disastrous results for any who follow Phaedra and succumb to unbridled passion.” Many students cast in the production attended performances in the Parisian historic theatre of the Commedia Francais, during the university’s travel study tour to England and France in May, Hatfield noted. The Commedia’s heritage extends to the time of Racine and before “Phaedra” was written in 1677. In its fifth season of producing plays in repertory with a central theme, UT Tyler’s theatre program had earned a regional reputation for productions of the finest artistic quality. The repertory company’s production of “Oleanna” was selected as regional finalist in the Kennedy Center’s American College Theatre Festival, and the Fall 1995 production of “Lettice and Lovage” received 13 Kennedy Center awards.
Thirty Years Ago (July 1986)

Creative Teaching Workshop Held

“Creative Teaching Concept,” a seminar by psychologist Dr. Roger Allen, was held July 19 in ADM 127. Sponsored by UT Tyler's Office of Continuing Education, the program was approved by the Texas Education Agency for six hours of advanced academic training. The session was designed to provide teachers with more effective methods of communicating, verbally and nonverbally. Topics included “Communication: What You Say is What You Get” (verbal communication and body language), “Styles of Teaching” (protesting, directing, discussing and advising; asking and answering questions; and handling objections), “Learning versus Memory” (mnemonic devices and photographic memory), and “Imagery, Imagination and Magic Carpets” (the use of metaphors). Lecture was combined with specific responses to classroom problems, with questions and answers throughout the presentations. Allen, a licensed psychologist and educational consultant, had conducted numerous seminars and in-service workshops for teachers, parents and church groups.

Forty Years Ago (July 1976)

TEU Moves to New Campus

Texas Eastern University moved to its new campus over the summer with relative ease. The administrative offices and equipment were moved to the new building on Old Omen Road in July, but class instruction continued at the old campus on North Broadway until the end of summer school in mid-August. VP for Academic Affairs Donald Anthony said, “the change had a noticeable effect on morale,” and “the overall instructional program has improved.” Anthony cited the science labs, media center, library, and office spaces as examples of improvements over the crowded conditions in the old building.

He also said the new campus “gives an impact of completeness and enhances the ability to draw students,” as seen in the Fall 1976 semester’s increased enrollment. One of the most complex segments of the summer move was the re-location of the university library. Head of Public Services for the Library Olene Harned said, “careful planning alleviated most problems, but it took a lot of hard work, and everything went smoothly. There were countless books to be moved before school began, and we had to wait a short time for shelf space, but the move was made in the time allotted and also within our budget.” Library personnel handled their own moving, and the only serious problem came when a fire at the factory which supplied the library chairs delayed a chair shipment. Once the chairs arrived the library was able to seat 254 people. From “The Patriot”, Vol. 39 No. 1, October 4, 1976, by Jerry Beasley and Billy Carter.

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.