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This Month in UT Tyler History

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◆ **Building a University:**

Phase I Construction

featuring photographs
and sketches of the first
phase of the permanent
campus construction

Ten Years Ago (June 2006)

Nursing Meditation Garden Dedication

UT Tyler faculty, staff and students spread flower petals in the Nursing Meditation Garden after a dedication ceremony June 19. The garden was created to provide a place for students, faculty and staff to rejuvenate, and is located outside of the UT Tyler Braithwaite Nursing Building.



Deck Nears Completion

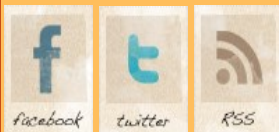
Construction of a wooden deck overlooking Harvey Lake continued and was expected to be completed by July 4. The deck was the next step in transforming UT Tyler into a student-friendly, pedestrian-oriented campus. "We are working hard to build a sense of community and make the campus a more desirable place to be," said Vice President of Business Affairs Gregg Lassen. "A lot of learning takes place outside of the classroom, and the deck will provide a place where students, faculty and staff can mingle." The UT Tyler Student Government Association committed funds to assist with the project.



MEET THE STAFF

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Twenty Years Ago (June 1996)

Tuition Waived for Senior Citizens

To increase educational opportunities for individuals 65 and older, UT Tyler began offering a waiver of tuition for senior citizens to take up to six credit hours of junior, senior or graduate courses per semester. Tuition at the time was \$32 per semester credit hour. UT Tyler chose to waive tuition for senior citizens following the Texas Legislature action in 1995 which gave the option to higher education institutions. While the waiver did not exempt seniors from paying university fees or textbook costs, the program provided an avenue by which they could complete a bachelor's degree or pursue a master's degree at a lower cost. To receive the waiver, seniors had to complete the admissions process, register for courses, and present a driver's license as proof of senior citizen status.

Thirty Years Ago (June 1986)

Reading Conference Held

“Reading – A Texas Tradition” was the title of the International Reading Association’s fifth annual conference at UT Tyler, June 11. The meeting was sponsored by the UT Tyler IRA Council. The guest speaker was Assistant Professor Dr. John L. Shefelbine from UT Austin’s Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Topics included “Decision Making – A Framework of Instruction” and “A Balanced Vocabulary Program.” Also participating in the conference was Principal of Birdwell Elementary School Shirley Franklin and Helen Carter, charter member of the Longview Story League. The conference brought together educators and students from throughout East Texas and was open to teachers, education majors, supervisors, principals, school board members and college and university faculty members.

UT Tyler Graduates Post 99.7 Percent Passing Rate on TECAT

Results of the Texas Examination of Current Administrators and Teachers (TECAT) released by the Texas Education Agency showed a passing rate of about 99.7 percent for UT Tyler graduates who took the test. Figures reported by the education agency revealed a total of 867 graduates who had taken the exam. That total included 275 UT Tyler graduates, 581 Texas Eastern University graduates, and 11 graduates of Tyler State College. “I’m not surprised by the high percentage of UT Tyler education graduates who passed the TECAT exam. Our own entrance exams through the years have been tougher than the TECAT and we knew our graduates would perform extremely well. We are proud of the quality of teachers UT Tyler has provided to the public schools of Texas,” said Dr. Robert L. Cox, Dean of the School of Education and Psychology.

Forty Years Ago (June 1976)

TEU Regents Approve 1976-77 Budget

A \$6,505,744 budget for the 1976-77 fiscal year received approval of the Texas Eastern University Board of Regents at a June 14 meeting; an increase of \$748,083 was reflected in the 1976-77 budget over the 1975-76 fiscal year. Provisions in the budget included a 6.8% cost of living increase for all full-time faculty and staff and funds for the construction of the Health and Physical Education Building and related facilities. Dr. James H. Stewart, Jr. said, “the challenges involved in formulating a budget document for a rapidly growing and developing university are demanding, but the staff is very proud of the 1977 fiscal year budget because it has been responsibly developed with the idea of sound growth and development in mind. “Generally, it provides balanced expansion and progress for the total TEU program as we look toward the 1976-77 academic year. Particularly, one of the significant characteristics of the budget is the provision for adding some 20 new teaching faculty which will provide for rational and reasonable evolvement and advancement of our instructional endeavors.”

University Archives and Special Collections

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and by appointment

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