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University of Texas at Tyler

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Ten Years Ago (December 2007)

Cyber Security Institute Announced

Associate Vice President for Research Dr. Arlene Horne announced the creation of a new institute to provide research and first-responder training in computer security and emergency preparedness for the state of Texas. UT Tyler planned to form a partnership with Mississippi State University’s renowned Center for Computer Security Research to start the Texas Emergency Preparedness and Cyber Security Institute. “This new institute will have four separate research and first-responder training components to include the Center for Petroleum Security Research, Texas Firefighter First-Responder Training, Texas EMT and Paramedic Emergency Response and Crisis Management Training, and Texas First-Responder Cyber Security Training,” said Horne. In addition to MSU, partners in the program included the UT Tyler Police Department and the Smith County Sheriff’s Department. “We have also entered into partnership discussions with the Tyler Police Department and the Texas Attorney General’s Office. We hope to develop other strategic partnerships throughout the state,” Horne added. UT Tyler News Release, December 14, 2007.

UT Tyler Archivist To Participate In Marathon

University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian Deirdre Joyce was in training for the AT&T Austin Marathon to raise money to find a cure for cancer. “I’ve always been somewhat athletic, though not an athlete per se,” said Joyce. “I enjoy fitness for the healthy feeling I get and certainly I’ve been competitive, though most of my competitive pursuits have been more academically oriented. I am, at heart, a big nerd in running shoes.” Her desire was not concentrated on herself, however, but her 10-year-old nephew Sean, who lost his battle with acute lymphoblastic leukemia March 2007. Joyce said she found the strength and courage to run because of Sean and other young children who had battled and continue to battle cancer. Both her training and fundraising were made possible by the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society’s Team-in-Training, which called itself the world’s largest endurance sports training program. Sean was diagnosed with leukemia just 10 days after Joyce started serving at the university, on September 21, 2006. UT Tyler News Release, December 13, 2007.

Twenty Years Ago (December 1997)

Graduates Pass National Licensure Exam

Dean of the School of Nursing, Dr. Linda Klotz, announced that the first graduates of The University of Texas at Tyler School of Nursing Palestine Extension Program achieved a 100 percent passing rate on the national licensure examination for registered nurses. “This is a significant accomplishment for the first group of graduates from the innovative nursing campus. The Palestine Extension campus is the only program in the state of Texas to use this distance education approach. The success and integrity of the program is reflected in the achievements of its graduates,” Klotz said. UT Tyler began offering its baccalaureate nursing program in Palestine in 1995. The extension campus utilized a combination of state-of-the-art Interactive Video technology and on-site instruction and clinical experiences. UT Tyler News Release, December 8, 1997.
Thirty Years Ago (December 1987)

**Treasurer Urges Student Involvement**
Texas State Treasurer Ann Richards encouraged students to be involved in the political process including joining political clubs, when she spoke to the UT Tyler chapter of the Young Democrats, December 9. Richards said Texas was on the road to economic recovery, but the state should continue to encourage small business development to spur further economic growth. She continued by saying that Texas must increase processing and marketing of its own raw resources for further economic vitality, and that the year 2000 would be a benchmark year. Richards said that she had not decided whether to run for governor in 1990. “The decision to run is really tough. There are a lot of factors to consider. I have not come to the conclusion that the time is right for me to run for governor. I have to be sure the money is going to be there. I have to be sure I can do the job and I can win.” In 1982, Richards became the first woman elected to statewide office in 50 years. In 1990 she was elected 45th governor of Texas. *The UT Tyler Patriot*, December 10, 1987.

Forty Years Ago (December 1977)

**Degree Candidates Recognized at Fall Convocation**
Texas Eastern University degree candidates for the fall semester were recognized at a convocation held December 9 in the recently constructed Physical Health and Education Building. Seventy of the 125 degree candidates were among the crowd of more than 300 attending the ceremony. Jeff Austin, Jr. of Jacksonville brought congratulations from the Board of Regents. Other program participants were James H. Stewart, Jr., Donald W. Whisenhunt and the academic deans. The 125 candidates made up the largest group of fall graduates in TEU’s history. The previous high was 93 in 1976. Fall graduates totaled 37 in 1974 and 52 in 1975. Twenty-one master’s degrees were among the 125 awarded. Twenty-five towns were represented. *Intercom*, December 15, 1977.

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.