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Commencement Set Friday For 176 Degree Candidates

The University of Texas at Tyler will recognize 176 students who are candidates for degrees at a summer commencement scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday in the University Center. W. Clayton Allen will be the commencement speaker.

The 176 degree candidates represent the largest number of graduates for a summer term in the history of the university. Included are 80 candidates for a master's degree and 96 for a bachelor's degree.

Donald W. Whisenhunt will present the candidates and conferral of degrees will be by James H. Stewart, Jr. The three graduate coordinators, Marilyn Young, John H. Spurgin and Gary Wright, will assist in the hooding of all receiving a master's degree.

Mike Warner, minister of the Shiloh Road Church of Christ, will give the invocation and the benediction will be by the Rev. Peter W. Suk, minister of the University Christian Church. Music will be by Tom G. Turns.

F. Lannom Smith will serve as convener for the commencement and Dr. Stewart will preside at the ceremony.

Allen is the third member of the UT Tyler faculty to serve as commencement speaker. He is chairman of the Department of Industrial Education and was recently promoted to professor.

Retirement Counseling Set

Officials of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas will be in Tyler on Feb. 11-12 to counsel with individual TRS members who plan retirement in 1980-81. Application for counseling should be made to TRS before January 16 in order for counselors to prepare estimates and provide complete information to the member at the meeting.

Counseling sessions and pre-retirement planning provide the prospective retirees with valuable information about benefits which they might receive, alleviate the last-minute rush for May retirements, and allow members to notify their schools well in advance of the retirement date.

In other news from the Teacher Retirement System, survivors benefits will be increased, effective Sept. 1, with lump sum payments going from \$500 to \$1,500, monthly payments from \$75 to \$100 and from \$150 to \$200, and remarriage will no longer be cause for termination of survivor benefits.

Sept. 1 is also the deadline for employees of higher education who are participating in Optional Retirement Program to exercise a one-time election to return to TRS. The deadline applies to ERS and ORP changes only.

For TRS members who have state service other than in public education, such service cannot be transferred between TRS and Employees Retirement System of Texas after Sept. 1. TRS members may transfer state service without the previously required five consecutive years of service in TRS. If the member has withdrawn deposits from ERS, the service may be transferred to TRS. It will then be treated as the same as withdrawn TRS deposits, according to a July TRS Up-Date.

Orientation, Registration Set Monday For New UT Tyler Students

Orientation and registration for the fall semester at The University of Texas at Tyler is scheduled for new students on Monday, August 11.

Orientation will begin at 10 a.m. in PHE 122. Following this session, the new students will be served a complimentary lunch, given a tour of the campus and an opportunity to early register for the fall term.

Returning students will have an opportunity to get a jump on registration with an early registration scheduled for these students from 1-5 p.m. on August 12.

Early registration for new or returning students includes advisement, selection of fall courses and payment of all fees.

UT Tyler Receives \$85,230

The University of Texas at Tyler has received an allocation of \$85,230 from the Department of Health, Education and Welfare for the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, College Work-Study and National Direct Student Loan program. The grant period is from July 1, 1980 through June 30, 1981.

These funds are administered through the student financial aid office.

Largest of the three is the College Work Study program with a \$47,992 allocation. The National Direct Student Loan program has a \$24,000 allocation and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants program has a \$12,238 allocation.

Two Department Leaders Named

The appointments of two department chairmen were announced recently by James H. Stewart, Jr. Doris Riemen is to chair the Department of Nursing and Vincent J. Falzone is to chair the Department of Special Services. Both appointments are effective with the beginning of the fall semester.

Mrs. Riemen has served as a member of the faculty as an assistant professor of nursing since 1978. She is filling a position which has been vacant for more than a year.

Falzone, an associate professor of history who has been a member of the UT Tyler faculty for five years, is replacing Terry L. Busson who has resigned effective August 15 to accept a position at Eastern Kentucky University as chairman of the Political Science Department and director of the Institute of Local Government.

With these appointments, all academic departments in the university will have leadership of a chairman.

Savings Bond Report Released

The University of Texas at Tyler ranks sixth among components in The University of Texas System in percentage of employees participating in the payroll savings campaign for 1980. UT Tyler has 11 of 190 full-time employees, or 5.8 percent, enrolled in a U. S. savings bond program.

Throughout the system, 2,590 employees were enrolled prior to the campaign with 897 enrolling during the campaign, 171 increasing bond allotment and 906 cancelling bonds.

UT Dallas has the best percentage of participation with 14.2 percent enrolled.

The UT Health Center at Tyler is ninth among 14 components and system administration with 4.9 percent of its 690 full-time employees enrolled.

in the Spotlight. . .

BETTY ANDERSON has been appointed to a three-year term as a university representative on the Council for Personnel Preparation for the Handicapped in Texas. The appointment was made by Don L. Partridge, associate commissioner for special education with the Texas Education Agency.

RITA S. BRYANT recently attended the Texas Council for Exceptional Children annual meeting in Dallas.

NEIL FORD presented a speech entitled "Studies in Reptile Behavior" to the Dallas Herpetological Society in Dallas on July 17.

PAXTON HART spoke on "The Achievement of Robert Penn Warren" at the June 30 meeting of the current-literature group of AAUW.

CHRISTINA MITCHELL gave a presentation for the Tyler-Smith County Health Department on June 25 on "Direct Communication in Conflict Situations."

MAC MOSELEY and JACK MILLS presented a paper related to hearing impairment and the responsibility of the resource teacher at the annual meeting of the Texas Council for Exceptional Children.

JOHN H. SPURGIN and MICHAEL VICTOR were participants in the 58th annual meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association held in Houston. Spurgin presented a paper at the meeting and Victor presented a paper and chaired a panel.

Deans Council Members Named

The Deans Council at The University of Texas at Tyler will be made up of nine representatives of the academic area in 1980-81.

Chairing the group will be Donald W. Whisenhunt, vice president for academic affairs. Other members will include: Patricia A. Gajda, associate vice president for graduate studies and curriculum; Tom G. Turns, dean of student services; Kenneth R. Casstevens, coordinator of the media center; C. Olene Harned, university librarian; and the four academic deans—Robert L. Cox, George Joyce, Frank H. Smyrl and L. Lynn Sherrod.

"Flex Schedule" Used in Promotion

The new fall schedule for The University of Texas at Tyler has received the tag of "flex schedule" to communicate the formal "optional flexible schedule plan" to the public.

The "flex schedule" label was selected because it is short, will fit into headlines and accurately describes the purpose and intent of the optional flexible schedule plan initiated for the 1980-81 academic year.

INTERCOM is published every other Thursday (excluding holidays) for The University of Texas at Tyler personnel. Deadline for submission of written material is 5 p.m. Monday before publication. The information is collected, edited and written in the Public Information Office, Room ADM 313, Telephone Extension 220.
