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Fall Convocation slated Dec. 14

The University of Texas at Tyler recognizes its fall graduates at 7 p.m. Friday with a convocation and a reception in the University Center. President George F. Hamm will preside during the ceremony.

Recognition of graduates will be by: Dr. Thomas L. Fernandez, vice president for academic affairs; Dean Robert L. Cox, School of Education and Psychology; Dean F. Lannom Smith, School of Liberal Arts; Dean L. Lynn Sherrod, School of Sciences and Mathematics; and Dr. George Joyce, senior faculty member of the School of Business Administration.

Others participating on the program include Toby Reed as president of the UT Tyler Alumni Association and the Rev. Larry Norrell, pastor of Central Baptist Church, who will give the invocation and benediction.

The UT Tyler Chorale, conducted by Dr. Mark Mecham, will provide special music. Mrs. Vicki Jacks Conway will play for the processional and Dr. Kenneth Muckelroy will lead the audience in singing *America the Beautiful*.

Degree candidates for the fall semester include 52 at the master's level and 178 at the baccalaureate level.

A reception sponsored by the UT Tyler Alumni Association and the Student Association will be held on the second floor of the University Center immediately following the ceremony.

Credit/no credit policy approved

A new policy relating to taking courses on other than a grade basis has been approved by President George F. Hamm upon recommendation of the Academic Council and will be implemented at the beginning of the fall 1985 semester, according to Dr. Thomas L. Fernandez.

The pass/fail grading system currently used will be discontinued at the conclusion of the summer sessions. Students may elect to enroll in some courses on a credit/no credit basis. Certain courses in the curricula may only be taken on a credit/no credit basis. These include student teaching and internships.

The following provisions apply to courses taken on a credit/no credit basis:

1. A maximum of 12 semester hours of CR work may be applied toward a baccalaureate degree. Work taken on a CR basis may only be applied toward a baccalaureate degree if permission is granted by an authorized representative of the department in which the student is majoring. No CR work may be applied toward a graduate degree.
2. Courses taken on a CR basis may not be in the general degree requirements. Student teaching and internships are the only courses in which CR credit may be applied toward a major, minor, certification, or endorsement.
3. Declaration for enrollment on a credit/no credit basis must be made at the time of registration on a special form requiring the signature of the student's adviser.
4. The grade CR can never be changed to a grade of A, B, C, or D.
5. The grades CR and NC will not be used in calculating the grade point average. The grade CR will be counted toward the total number of hours passed.

Regents to consider items

The University of Texas System Board of Regents will meet Thursday and Friday in El Paso. An agenda item to be considered for UT Tyler is a recommendation for an oil and gas lease on property in the Sam A. Lindsey Endowment Fund.

Docket items submitted by UT Tyler include business contracts for services, standard affiliation agreements, contracts and grants for research, development and educational services and amendments to the 1984-85 operating budget.

Muscle soreness researched

Muscle soreness, specifically the soreness felt a day or two after strenuous or unaccustomed exercise, is the current research topic of Dr. Jim Schwane, associate professor of health and physical education.

Dr. Schwane initiated this line of research while at Oral Roberts University prior to joining UT Tyler. In studies at ORU, he established that it is the so-called lengthening or "eccentric" type of muscle contractions that especially causes soreness. Such contractions are used in lowering weights, landing from a jump and in the "landing phase" of every running stride.

He has used running on different inclines to involve smaller or larger proportions of eccentric contractions. Downhill running involves more eccentric contractions than either level or uphill running, therefore downhill running is more likely to cause soreness. Such exercise not only causes soreness, but muscle tissue is actually physically disrupted as well.

Dr. Schwane is currently involved in research projects funded by UT Tyler's organized research funds to define training maneuvers that will prevent this soreness response, and investigate the involvement of muscle tissue and connective tissue in the soreness phenomenon.

Those interested in obtaining more information or assisting this research as a subject may contact Schwane at extension 323.

Holiday schedules listed

The University of Texas at Tyler offices will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1. For individuals who may need to be on campus during those dates, the following information is provided:

SWITCHBOARD

The central switchboard will be in operation from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. each weekday except Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Individuals may check at the switchboard (dial 0) for messages.

CHECK RELEASE

Pay checks and/or warrants will be released to employees Dec. 31 from 10 a.m. - 12 noon. Employees should have available some form of picture identification (e.g., driver's license).

If an employee authorizes a spouse, friend, secretary, etc. to pick up the payroll check, the following conditions must be met:

1. A notarized letter of authorization from the employee giving approval to release the check or warrant to the person receiving it;

2. Picture identification of person receiving check or warrant. The cashier's office will not mail or deposit any payroll checks Dec. 31. Checks and warrants not picked up on that date will be released at 10 a.m. as normal on Jan. 2, 1985.

ROBERT R. MUNTZ LIBRARY

The Robert R. Muntz Library will begin its between-semester schedule Dec. 15 and continue through Jan. 15. During this period the library will be closed each Saturday and Sunday, will be open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Dec. 17-21, Jan. 2-4, Jan. 7-11, and Jan. 14-15. The normal schedule will be resumed on the first day of classes.

The library will be closed during the holiday period observed by other administrative offices, Dec. 22 - Jan. 1.

UNIVERSITY POLICE

The university police will be on duty 24 hours a day during the holiday period. Individuals needing assistance may reach an officer at 566-1271.

ADMISSIONS OFFICE

The UT Tyler Admissions Office will be open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Dec. 26-28 to assist visitors and prospective students.

MAILROOM

Mail will be picked up by mailroom personnel on Dec. 24, 28 and 31. Mail will be delivered on those dates to the library and executive area on the third floor of the Administration Building. The campus post office will be open from 10 a.m. until 12 noon on the three dates.

FROM THE MASTER CALENDAR

- Dec. 14 — End of semester at 10 p.m.
- Dec. 14 — President's decision regarding curriculum changes communicated to the VPAA
- Dec. 17 — Fall semester grade sheets due from faculty to the office of the Registrar — 12 noon
- Dec. 24 —
- Jan. 1 — Staff and administrative holidays; all offices closed
- Dec. 31— Report on consultation and similar fees due from President to Chancellor
- Jan. 2— Administration and staff return
- Jan. 4— Deans' reports on promotion and/or tenure due to Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Jan. 11— Last day for submission of spring semester schedule changes to the Vice President for Academic Affairs for addendum sheet
- Jan. 15— Faculty returns
- Jan. 15— Registration for spring semester
- Jan. 16— Classes begin

in the spotlight...

Dr. Paula Lundberg, assistant professor of psychology, conducted a leadership seminar for the Pilot Club of Tyler Nov. 2-3 discussing stress management and "How to Reduce Stress by Becoming an Assertive but not Aggressive Woman." She also attended a training seminar Nov. 9-11 to prepare to become a leader for the newly founded Parents Anonymous group in Tyler. Parents Anonymous is a self-help group for parents involved in child abuse. Also, Dr. Lundberg is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Smith County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse. She was elected secretary-treasurer for 1984-85.

Amount of taxable earnings increases

The Department of Health and Human Services has announced that the maximum amount of annual earnings subject to social security contributions will be automatically increased from \$37,800 to \$39,600 effective Jan. 1, 1985.

The social security tax rate in 1985 for both employers and employees will increase to 7.05 percent.

Currently the employees share of the tax is 6.7 percent and the employers pay 7 percent. The state will continue to pay 5.85 percent of earnings up to \$16,500.

Medical guide available

A memorandum was mailed Dec. 10 to all employees of UT Tyler covered under the Group Medical/Dental Plan. The memorandum described how to receive a free copy of the American Medical Association *Family Medical Guide*.

The guide is an excellent medical reference and is designed to assist you in working with your primary care physician and other doctors. Employees are to return the address reply card that was attached to the memorandum to the UT System Personnel Office by Dec. 31. Your copy of the *Family Medical Guide* should be received in early 1985.

A copy of the guide is on display in the Personnel Office at UT Tyler, ADM 108.

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 215, Telephone Extension 215.
