



Fall 2013

TEXAS WOMEN IN HIGHER EDUCATION E-NEWSLETTER

TWHE 2014 Conference

SAVE THE DATE – March 24-25, 2014

Building Bonds, Blazing Trails

The Texas Women in Higher Education Conference will be on the Texas Christian University campus in Fort Worth, Texas, March 24 and 25. The conference hotel is the Historic Downtown Hilton where you will have access to all the night life associated with Sundance Square!

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/texas/hilton-fort-worth-FTWFWHF/index.html>
<http://www.sundancesquare.com/>

The conference events will include dynamic speakers who are passionate about empowering women in Higher Education, an intimate networking reception at the world renowned Bass Hall [<http://www.basshall.com/thehallhistory.jsp>], amazing food presented by Reatta [<http://www.reata.net/>], an exciting campus tour of the architecturally recognized Tarrant County District Trinity River Campus [http://www.tccd.edu/Campuses_and_Centers/Trinity_River_Campus/] and much, much more. Please mark your calendars and watch the website for updates on agenda and registration.

For more information please contact Allie Clary at:
a.p.clary@tcu.edu

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For information on TWHE, see
<http://www.twhe.org/>

If you have an article or suggestion that you would like to submit to the TWHE Newsletter, please email [Nancy KingSanders](mailto:Nancy.KingSanders).

Chair's Welcome

"January 1 is the first blank page of a 365 page book. Write a good one." - partially attributable to Brad Paisley

As classes wind down, a chill promises to set in, and we enjoy friends and family in holiday festivity, please add one more item to your to-do list: Blocking March 24-25, 2014 to attend TWHE's annual conference in Fort Worth, TX. On second thought, maybe it would be better to add it to your New Year's resolutions. And, you should know that there are women just like you making the same commitment to themselves, to each other and to higher education in the great state of Texas.

If you are like me, you haven't been too interested in making New Year's resolutions. Maybe its because we work in the academic world, where years start in September and end the following August. Or, it could be that resolutions don't work very well in most cases and we've figured that out. Now, neuroscientists have the data to prove it.

The prefrontal cortex, just behind the forehead, is where the willpower for New Year's resolutions resides. This area also handles working memory, weighs outcomes, forms judgments and facilitates other complex functions. With all of that going on, the willpower to keep resolutions may create overload, especially in periods of high stress. The prefrontal cortex merely gives out at some point, just like any other tired muscle. For this reason, scientists recommend we make one resolution.

This science inspired Saatchi & Saatchi, a global advertising firm, to start the Do One Thing (DOT) project. While this DOT campaign focuses on environmental sustainability, a campaign can be about anything. All that is needed is one simple action that clearly benefits the cause AND that you genuinely enjoy.

While there are many resolutions that I could be making, I pledge to start my own DOT campaign to propel the mission of TWHE: developing, advancing and supporting women employed at colleges and universities across the state. Will you join me? What is your DOT? - [Debbie M. Thorne](mailto:Debbie.M.Thorne), Ph.D., Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Texas State University

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Dr. Beth Lewis **by Alexandria Willars**

From a young age, Dr. Beth Lewis was compelled by her mother to always take care of herself. As her mother would say, “Don’t ever get into a position where you are dependent on someone else to take care of you.” With the self-confidence instilled in her, on January 1, 2013, Dr. Lewis took office to become the first female President of College of the Mainland in Texas City.

While in office as President, Dr. Lewis has created a new vision for College of the Mainland by opening their doors, to both the public and the media, by inviting the community to participate in various events to change any negative perceptions the public once had.

As President, Dr. Lewis has personally involved herself in numerous activities around her campus and within the community. She has been the first President to actively participate in College of the Mainland’s Fourth of July Celebration, which includes a series of challenging events that push each competitor to new levels of cooperation and determination. Along with her Vice Presidents, Dr. Lewis hosted a “Picnic with the President” event where food was grilled and the community was invited to ask questions in order to involve themselves in the needs and concerns of the public.

Dr. Beth Lewis currently has a Cabinet at the College of the Mainland that is held by five distinguished women. A constant inspiration in working along with Dr. Lewis’ Cabinet is “How can we work together to make an idea better?” By having a Cabinet comprised of five females, Dr. Lewis has realized that both taking care of children and elderly parents play a major role in each person’s life. Each individual is at a different part in their life, and they all are faced with different responsibilities. In turn, they are all able to relate and work with each other without trying to outdo one another, but instead make the biggest impact possible.

According to Dr. Lewis, “Women can’t be afraid to say ‘I don’t know if I can handle this, but I’m going to try it anyway.’” She believes that all women can take charge and lead in any type of position. Overcoming struggles can make the biggest difference in the outcome of an individual’s success and overall, the success of any professional business.

Dr. Lewis said she believes that in order to be a successful President, or for any similar type of position, it is important to know each branch in the education system and the dynamics that allow them to work successfully. With more than twenty-five years of experience in systems of higher education, Dr. Lewis has gained knowledge to be able to appropriately accommodate the needs of each position within her institution.

Dr. Beth Lewis and her Cabinet further prove that women are just as capable and diversely skilled as men are in the workplace. Dr. Lewis hopes the more students see women in authoritative positions, the better perspective of women in society will be as a whole.

Alexandria Willars is a Senior at Texas A&M University-Kingsville. She is studying Communications-Speech with an emphasis in Radio and Television and is completing her minor in Journalism. She currently works as an English Intensive Writing Tutor at the Learning Assistance Center under the Center for Student Success, as a Producer of the Javelina Broadcast Network, and as the Chief Executive Officer of Texas A&M University-Kingsville’s American Advertising Federation Chapter. Upon graduation, Alexandria plans to work either in Technical Broadcasting or in the Public Relations Field.





Texas Women in Higher Education (TWHE) Institutional Representatives (IRs): Making a Difference

Each institution of higher education in Texas has an opportunity to designate an institutional representative (IR) to keep women administrators on her respective campus up to date with information from the state and national organizations and to create local opportunities of interest with women on her campus. At this time, there are 108 IRs through the state of Texas representing two- and four year, private and public institutions of higher education. IRs are undertaking many wonderful and creative ways to connect, empower, and support women in higher education. Here are a few.

One two-year college with multiple campuses host monthly virtual meeting over their v-telecommunications system. They have had guest presenters, women share “her stories,” and helpful resources are exchanged.

Another two-year college has a women’s book club. Several books recommended by TWHE are being read and discussed. Women are discussing leading and mentoring, raising family and careers, and healthy eating and exercise during the holidays.

A university created the Women’s Faculty Network (WFN). This innovative program kicked off the fall semester for all faculty women on their campus with a luncheon featuring “Stories from the Road” and over eight “Speed Mentoring” sessions. The event brought together 106 women from around the university in one room, where many of them met each other for the first time. This program is funded through the Provost’s Office. WFN is designed for tenured and tenure-track women moving through the ranks from assistant professor to associate to full. It’s all about helping women connect with each other. The mission of the newly formed network is to create and build connections among female faculty members focusing on topics relevant to women. It’s designed to foster a productive and constructive environment. Through a series of events during the academic year, the WFN brings women together to learn collectively from each other and share career advancement tips. The group focuses on topics ranging from conflict management and how to know if administrative life is for you, to avoiding burnout and thriving while achieving a work-life balance. Through lunchtime and mid- to late-afternoon sessions, women share successful strategies for accomplishing career and institutional goals.



These are just a few of the creative ventures of TWHE IRs. We would like to highlight your efforts to making a difference on your campus. Please share your efforts to support and advance women on your campus with IR committee members: [Renee McDonald](#), [Cissy Matthews](#), [Dani Day](#), and [Jean Keller](#)

Check out TWHE “Friends”

For the latest news and information on TWHE and other topics related to women’s leadership, “LIKE” us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/TexasWomenInHigherEducation?ref=ts&fref=ts>

Am I a member of TWHE?

The clear answer is Yes! By virtue of expressing your interest in TWHE, such as participation in a conference, or in providing us with your email address, you are considered a member. TWHE is not currently a dues-driven organization and we hope to continue this format through successful operation of the annual conference and the sponsor-donations received in conjunction with the conference. Individuals interested in being included in TWHE mailings may visit the website: <http://www.twhe.org/contact-us/>.



Articles of Note about Women in Higher Education

[When Women Lean In, Men Grow Up](#)

December 2, 2013

By

Jane Curry

Recently, I had lunch with a group of women who had moved to the upper levels of leadership in higher education. As is usual when such a group gathers, we talked about some of our more “challenging” moments as the first women provosts, deans or presidents. But this time, the stories were about team-building experiences that didn’t quite work when a woman was added to the mix.

One dean recounted the weekend retreat she was required to attend at the president’s cottage, where after a day of activities, everyone was expected to join the others... in the hot tub, which makes for an awkward splash if you’re the only one wearing a two-piece. Another woman described the “bonding” day her executive vice president led that involved a race with her colleagues in the equivalent of bumper cars. And still another described a hunting and fishing expedition more akin to a men’s sweat lodge. Each story left me wondering: with the increasing mix of men and women in prominent leadership roles, is something lost if institutions of learning have to adjust their informal interactions? Do the guys no longer feel free to be, well, guys, if a woman is suddenly in a cabinet meeting? And is that a bad thing? I don’t think so.....

[U of L plans workshop to encourage young women to run for office](#)

(Louisville Courier-Journal © 11/02/2013)

The University of Louisville has scheduled a workshop Nov. 9, 2013 aimed at training and encouraging college-aged women to run for office both on campus and for positions later in life. [Elect Her - Campus Women Win](#) is a five-hour workshop for students that will feature research and information about women and politics, inspiring local speakers and interactive campaign exercises. The program, also ...

[Texas Tech Women's Studies Program Announces Fall Schedule of Events](#)

(KAMC (ABC) 28 - Lubbock © 09/12/2013)

Texas Tech University Womens Studies Program announced its schedule of events for the 2013 fall semester. The Womens Studies Program is an interdisciplinary academic program that offers co-curricular events throughout the semester, examines the culture and social construction of gender, explores the history of women, and studies the influences of gender on the lives of women and men. Its mis...

[Women's association celebrates 90 years](#)

(Amarillo Globe-News © 10/28/2013)

The Amarillo branch of American Association of University Women celebrated its 90th anniversary on Oct. 12. The celebration began with a brunch at 10:45 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church. Mayor Paul Harpole opened the program by expressing his appreciation of women leaders and explaining plans the city has to build the Amarillo Recreation Center if the bond passes. Texas AAUW President Jeannie ...

[Crisis Management on Campuses in the Age of Social Media](#)

(Chronicle of Higher Education © 09/13/2013)

By Hannah Winston The rise of Facebook and Twitter have made crisis management harder than ever for institutions, companies, and individuals, according to a new book by a professor at Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi. What’s essential, she says, is making a plan before you need it. Michelle Maresh-Fuehrer, author of *Creating Organizational Crisis Plans*, says she wrote for a broad range...



[82nd National Women's Leadership Forum](#)

(ACE © 09/20/2013)

This interactive program, held both in June and December, fosters discussions with women presidents and executive search consultants who help participants develop effective search strategies. Three day leadership program for senior-level women administrators (typically deans and above) seeking a college or university presidency, vice presidency, or major deanship. To find out more or to regi...

[Shirley Reed of South Texas College Wins the 2013 McGraw Prize in Education](#)

(Women in Academia Report © 10/02/2013)

Shirley Reed, the founding president of South Texas College which is based in McAllen, is the winner of the 2013 Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education from McGraw Hill Financial. The prize, and a \$50,000 cash award, is given to individuals who have made significant strides in making a college education an achievable dream for the next generation. Over the past 20 years, South Texas College has s...

[Harvard Business School Case Study: Gender Equity](#)

(Pittsburgh Post Gazette © 09/08/2013)

An aggressive program intended to foster female success brought improvements, but also resentment and uncertainty. BOSTON -- When the members of the Harvard Business School class of 2013 gathered in May to celebrate the end of their studies, there was little visible evidence of the experiment they had undergone for the last two years. As they stood amid the brick buildings named after businessmen

Promotions and Hires for Women in Higher Education

[TAMU Dean ,College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Eleanor Green, inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame](#)

Dr. Eleanor M. Green, Carl B. King Dean of Veterinary Medicine at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, along with three other distinguished cowgirls, joined 211 previous honorees when they were officially inducted into the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame at its 38th Annual Induction Luncheon Ceremony on Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013 in Fort Worth, TX.

[Grayson College welcomes new Vice President of Student Services](#)

(Bonham North Texas E-News © 09/06/2013)

Regina Organ joins Grayson College administration Grayson College President Jeremy McMillen introduced the newest member of the college's administration team, Regina Organ. Organ joins GC as the vice president of Student Services. Selected from a field of more than 50, Organ has worked in several facets of student services and has experience as a vice president. She comes to Grayson after serv...

[Anglin rejoins Blinn College as academic affairs vice president](#)

(Brenham Banner Press © 10/20/2013)

Blinn College has named Pamela Anglin, a 33-year veteran of higher education administration, its new vice president for academic affairs. Anglin, who will begin her new duties Jan. 1, is currently president of Paris Junior College. You must be logged in with the proper services to print this article....

[SHSU Academic Affairs announces reorganization](#)

(Huntsville Item © 10/21/2013)

LAKE CHARLES, La. — As part of a reorganization of Sam Houston State University's Division of Academic Affairs, Provost Jaimie Hebert has announced that Richard Eglsaer has been promoted to vice provost of the university. Additional appointments include Mary Robbins to associate vice president for academic affairs and Barbara Eckenfels to executive director of special programs. Read more...



[Vice Provost Judith Langlois announced permanent dean of graduate school](#)

(University Texas Daily Texan © 10/25/2013)

Vice Provost Judith Langlois will serve as the permanent dean of the UT Graduate School. Langlois, who was appointed Thursday, has served as interim dean of graduate studies since January 2012 and will retain her post as vice provost in addition to her new appointment. The UT Graduate School is home to more than 100 programs and more than 11,000 graduate students. It is one of the largest Ph.D.-pr...

[ASU names Susan Keith its graduate dean](#)

(San Angelo Standard Times © 11/02/2013)

SAN ANGELO, Texas - Angelo State University named Susan Keith dean of the College of Graduate Studies. Keith, a member of ASU's kinesiology faculty since 1997, will take over Jan. 1. The position opened last fall when Brian May was named university president. Communication professor June Smith served as interim dean for the past year. ...

[Texas A&M University announces shuffling of high-level positions](#)

(Bryan-College Station Eagle © 09/12/2013)

The Texas A&M University System has announced the shuffling of some high-level administrative positions. Chancellor John Sharp announced the changes Wednesday in a news release. Guy Diedrich, vice chancellor of federal and state relations, will assume the position of vice chancellor for strategic initiatives on Oct. 1. The vice chancellor spot was recently vacated by Brett Giroir, who...

[UTSA welcomes new director of admissions Beverly Woodson Day](#)

(University of Texas at San Antonio © 09/27/2013)

(Sept. 27, 2013) -- The UTSA Office of Undergraduate Admissions has named Beverly Woodson Day as UTSA's new director of undergraduate admissions effective Oct. 1. Day has 20 years of experience and will oversee day-to-day and strategic operations for admissions. "The Office of Admissions plays a vital role in facilitating a great education and college experience for UTSA students," said George E...

[Mary Ann Amelang named VP for institutional advancement](#)

(Ultimate Pasadena © 10/05/2013) The College of the Mainland in Texas City recently named Mary Ann Amelang vice president for institutional advancement. Amelang previously was the executive director of resource development at the school, according to press release from the college. She also has served as executive director of institutional advancement at Lee College in Baytown and was a grant writing consultant. She has...

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TCC adds Jackson, Leffler to Southeast campus administration

Zena Jackson, Ph.D. and Lyvier Leffler, Ph.D. have been added to the administration of Tarrant County College's (TCC) Southeast campus. Jackson will take on the role of vice president of academic affairs and Leffler is the new vice president of student development services....

[Helen Piwnica-Worms, Ph.D.](#), vice provost of science, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine (IOM). Election to the IOM is considered one of the highest honors in the fields of health and medicine and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding professional achievement and commitment to service.

[Nov 8, 2013 - UIW selects dean for School of Osteopathic Medicine](#)

The University of the Incarnate Word is planning to develop a new medical school campus in downtown San Antonio. The university named Dr. Robyn Phillips-Madson to be the founding dean of its new School of Osteopathic Medicine.

[Anne H. Ngu](#), professor in the Department of Computer Science at Texas State University, has received the 2013 National Center for Women and Information Technology Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award. Ngu established a computer science undergraduate research program at Texas State with 20 students from diverse backgrounds. The award is sponsored by ATT, which will donate \$5,000 to Texas State

[Richie Hunter](#) has joined the University of Houston as associate vice president/associate vice chancellor for marketing and communication for the University and the UH System.



In Memoriam Dr. Robin Capt



Canyon residents who died in plane crash leave academic legacy

The rural communities of the panhandle lost a great doctor and WTAMU lost a beloved professor and a top student, but its clear Mike, Robin and Bill Capt leave behind a legacy of academic excellence in the panhandle.

"While every child knows that at some point they will have to say goodbye to mom and dad, at 23 years old, I never thought that would be today," Elizabeth Capt through tears said. "But as hard as this moment is, saying goodbye to my little brother is a challenge that can not be expressed with words."

Although it's always hard to say goodbye, the sheer number of people gathered in WTAMU's Legacy Hall prove these three leave behind just that, a legacy. "Both [Mark] and Robin exhibited a strong desire to serve their fellow man, and I think they instilled that in their children," family friend Neil Pratt said.

48-year-old Mike Capt was a biomedical engineer and a physician serving rural communities in the panhandle, not to mention an adventurer with a love of aviation, scuba diving, and travel. "It was amazing how he could pursue multiple high level intense interests all at the same time," Pratt said.

48-year-old Robin Capt was also an academic as a professor of education at WTAMU as well as associate dean of the graduate school. "Robin Capt was important in the lives of her students, her colleagues, and the university," said Dean of WTAMU's College of Education, Dr. Eddie Henderson.

Their son, 19-year-old Bill Capt, was a pre-med student at WTAMU, not to mention a tutor of biology and genetics, a researcher, and a little brother. "Although he was quiet in public, those who knew him knew how much of a goober he really was," Emily Capt said.

The Capts leave behind two young daughters, Emily and Elizabeth, both destined to be doctors. "If anything defined my parents, it was that they loved us. But beyond that, they believed in us. They often told us that they did not want us to match their success, but they wanted us to surpass them," Emily said.

Although it was a somber Sunday in Canyon, it was filled with memories, something the Capt family wants to remind everyone not to take for granted. "I ask that you treasure every memory with your loved ones, as we will honor their lives," Elizabeth said.