

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

Texas Women in Higher Education Announces Four New Members of the Board of Directors

SHERMAN, Texas – Texas Women in Higher Education (TWHE) is pleased to announce the addition of four new members of the board of directors. The board of TWHE is dedicated to developing, advancing, and supporting women employed at colleges and universities across the state of Texas. Unlike organizations focused on one area of responsibility, TWHE serves women in all sectors of higher education—public and private, university and community college—working in all areas of their institutions. The four new board members are Dr. Holly Hansen-Thomas of Texas Woman’s University, Dr. Rosalind Ong of San Antonio College, Dr. Jessica B. Parra of University of the Incarnate Word, and Dr. Jamie M. Thomas of University of Houston.



Holly Hansen-Thomas, Ph.D., is the Vice Provost for Research, Innovation, and Corporate Engagement, as well as a Professor of Bilingual and ESL Education, at Texas Woman’s University. In the words of Hansen-Thomas, “I joined TWHE so that I could learn from and engage in important conversations with peers, mentors, and mentees in higher education throughout the state. TWHE is an organization dedicated to the empowerment of women of all backgrounds, disciplines, and areas in higher education, and I am thrilled to contribute to this important mission as an incoming member of the board of directors.”



Rosalind Ong, M.Ed., is the Director of Learning Outcomes Assessment at San Antonio College. According to Ong, “I joined the TWHE because I am passionate about higher education and supporting women to collaborate and lead higher education locally, statewide, and nationally. The mission and vision of the organization resonates with my desire to serve in a role that intentionally provides programming to create higher education spaces that reflect our communities and foster a sense of belonging. I am excited to work with the TWHE community and serve as a new partner, sharing experiences and expertise as we navigate higher education leadership.”



Jessica B. Parra, D.B.A., is the Assistant Dean of the School of Professional Studies, as well as an adjunct instructor in the Business and Organizational Leadership programs at the University of the Incarnate Word. Regarding her reasons for joining TWHE, Parra shared, “The mentorship and leadership TWHE provide for those in a higher education field, specifically for women, is inspiring. There are significant challenges in the career path of higher education, but with the mentorship being provided through TWHE, I found similarities and encouragement. I am honored to join this amazing team in providing support to the members of TWHE and the board of directors.”



Jamie M. Thomas, Ed.D., is the Executive Director of Student Affairs, Technology Division at the Cullen College of Engineering at the University of Houston. In the words of Dr. Thomas, “I joined the TWHE because it’s a great opportunity to directly engage with the vast community of professional women in higher education across the state. TWHE has been instrumental in my professional growth – from mentorship, to connecting with peers at other institutions, to learning from women at all professional levels. Through serving on the board of directors, I hope to encourage others to engage and connect with the TWHE network as they continue to excel in their own leadership journey.”

*Texas Women in Higher Education follows the ACE Women’s Network guidance on diversity and inclusion: “The ACE Women’s Network holds inclusion and gender equity as core values to its work. Any individual who is committed to supporting and advancing women in higher education is welcome to participate in the ACE Women’s Network without regard to gender, gender identity, and gender expression.”*

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