



Training Teachers

From its founding in 1887 as a teachers' college, Troy University has helped to provide skilled teachers for classrooms. Today's College of Education is changing, but the mission remains the same – providing quality teacher education.

A line of Troy University officials, guests and dignitaries dug their shovels into the sand and flipped the soil upward.

The occasion on Aug. 10 was a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Jack Hawkins, Jr., College of Education building, named in honor for the University's current chancellor.

"This new building is going to provide for the College of Education a new dawn in terms of servicing students and faculty," said Dr. Lance Tatum, dean of the College of Education.

Appropriate words for the college's new dean to use. While the

University traces its roots back to 1887 when it was founded by the Alabama Legislature as a teachers' college, the times have changed. And no place is it seen more readily at Troy University than in the College of Education.

Dr. Tatum, who had served as the college's interim dean since July 2006, had the interim designation removed from his title in August. Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., made the announcement during the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building.

"We believe Dr. Lance Tatum is the right person at the right time to



Troy University officials and dignitaries turn the first earth at the site of the University's new Jack Hawkins, Jr., College of Education Building. From left are, Trustee Allen Owen; Charles Ingram, Whaley Construction; College of Education Dean Dr. Lance Tatum; State Superintendent Joe Morton; TROY First Lady Janice Hawkins; Chancellor Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr.; Trustee's President Pro-tem Dr. Doug Hawkins; Frank Litchfield and Greg O'Neal, both of the Montgomery-based Seay, Seay & Litchfield architectural firm; Trustee Lamar Higgins; Trustee Gerald Dial; Alex Whaley and Alex Whaley II, both of Whaley Construction Company, the building's general contractors.

lead our College of Education. As a TROY graduate, Dr. Tatum understands our rich history of excellence in teacher education. I am confident his leadership will continue this tradition," Dr. Hawkins said.

Tatum previously served as an associate professor and chairman of the Department of Kinesiology and Health Promotion in the University's College of Health and Human Services. A 1988 graduate of Troy University with a degree in physical education and recreation, Dr. Tatum earned a master of science in foundations of education from TROY in 1989 and completed a doctor of philosophy in 1993 from Florida State University. His doctoral major was in the area of athletic administration.

And then, there is the construction on the new building, a five-story, 90,800 square-foot building that will include 12 classrooms, five laboratories, three conference rooms, a workroom and a theatre-style auditorium that will seat 140 students.

The projected cost of the building is \$13.6 million. The new building will include a food kiosk, wireless high-speed internet and study areas for students. Two computer/technology teaching laboratories will include 60 computer stations, and the building will include space for two counseling laboratories and a state-of-the-art video review facility that helps students hone counseling techniques.

The building is expected to be ready for the Spring 2009 semester.



Dr. Lance Tatum, dean of Troy University's College of Education, discusses an upcoming report on higher education with Dr. Charlotte Minnick, director of teacher education and an associate professor.

New degree program brings sign language to forefront of education

Troy University officials on Oct. 4 announced with Gov. Bob Riley a \$250,000 grant from the Department of Education that will be used to implement a bachelor's degree program aimed at increasing the number of interpreters for the deaf and hearing impaired.

Through the Interpreter Training Program, TROY will offer the state's first bachelor of science degree in education with a comprehensive program in interpreting and eventually establish a Center on Deafness on its Troy Campus. In addition to the grant, the University will provide \$250,000 in matching funds, and commitments from other partners will help establish student scholarships. Partnering with the University and the Department of Education will be the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and the Alabama Department of Mental Health.

In announcing the grant, Gov. Riley said TROY's program will set a national standard.

"Alabama has made a commitment to invest in education at all levels, because investing in our educational system today pays dividends to all Alabamians tomorrow," he said. "The nation has recognized Alabama's success in our reading improvement and math, science and technology initiatives and Troy University's Interpreter Training Program will not only address a critical need in our state, but will also once again provide the nation with an ideal model for higher education."

"We have become keenly aware that our deaf community is facing a crisis and I am grateful for the opportunity to help address that crisis," said TROY Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. "I think this partnership will have a great impact on the quality of life and educational opportunities that our deaf citizens enjoy. TROY is worldwide in nature, but our service begins at home and that service begins by us addressing on a regular



Charlene Crump, front left, of the Alabama Department of Mental Health, uses sign language to interpret for Troy University's Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr., and other speakers during the Oct. 4 press conference announcing the University's new Interpreter Training Program. Through the program, TROY will offer the state's first bachelor of science degree in education with a comprehensive program in interpreting and eventually establish a Center on Deafness on its Troy Campus.

basis the needs that must be met in order to improve the education and quality of life for all our citizens."

In addition to training interpreters, the University plans to provide at least one course to high school students through the Governor's ACCESS Program.

The program is desperately needed, said College of Education Dean Lance Tatum, because of the lack of interpreters available in Alabama and by a decision from the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) that will require the bachelor's degree in order to gain national certification and licensure by 2012.

"Troy University and the College of Education are dedicated to improving the availability of interpreters to those agencies and services in Alabama that support the deaf community," Tatum said.



Alumni host Bibb Graves Renovation Fundraising event

– An alumni fundraising event for the Bibb Graves Renovation project was held at the home of Sandi and Fred Gouge on Aug. 16. From left to right are alumni event hosts Fred and Sandi Gouge; Danny and Ceil Sikes; Bill and Debbie Hopper; and Larry and JoAnne Hughes. Entertainment was provided by Jay Hughes. Also pictured is Dr. Cameron Martindale, senior vice chancellor for advancement and external relations.