TSUD Assists Area Schools

In an effort to assist area school systems, Troy State University Dothan (TSUD) recently made various surplus computer systems available for donation to schools who carry a professional relationship with TSUD's College of Education.

This contribution was made available due to TSUD's recent purchase of new Gateway computers for a number of faculty and staff that PC systems fell behind minimum requirements for current operating software.

A total of 12 school systems were contacted by TSUD. Those indicating an interest were Dothan City, Henry County, Daleville City, and Coffee County. Each organization showing interest in receiving the PC's supplied the university with their system enrollment figures. The PC's were evenly divided giving the smaller systems the same proportional share of PC's as the larger school system.

A monitor, keyboard, and mouse were provided for each system. Hard drives were erased and contained no operating system, software, or data.

The following computer units were disbursed: Dothan City - 109; Henry County - 37; Daleville City - 15; Coffee County - 19. A special thanks to Financial Affairs and Information Services for organizing this community effort.

Network Administrator Concentration Coming This Fall

Building upon a solid CIS/MIS foundations program, TSUD will be offering a Computer Information Systems Network Administrator Concentration beginning this fall.

A year 2000 study by the Information Technology Association of America states that there presently are 190,000 unfilled information technology positions at mid-to-large-sized companies in the U.S. This number is growing because of higher education's inability to graduate enough students with the proper level of skills to meet the demand. According to the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce employment statistics, local businesses will pay a Computer Information Systems graduate $45,000 to start. They will pay Network Administrators $70,000+.

"The Network Administrator Concentration will add valuable dimensions to the TSUD program, provide additional enrollment opportunities for students, and keep regional companies looking to this university to fill its Information Technology (IT) professional needs," says Dr. Dorinda Van Loo, Title III Program Director.

Funding for the development of the Network Administrator Concentration is being provided through a grant from the US Department of Education, Title III, Strengthening Institutions Program to add and enhance academic programs and degrees over a five-year period.
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

"MUSINGS"

February 2002 gave us Black History Month; the first three "public" events in our new building; Dr. Wright’s 85th Birthday party; and my right and left hand assistant, Mrs. Cindy Truran’s announcement of retirement. Maybe I have left out something(s) as significant as the above but these events are certainly on my mind at this writing.

It occurs to me that the events taken as a whole point up a recognition of the dynamics of life itself. I see exciting beginnings; the reflective and celebrating past; and the moving on to better things, all encompassed with the February events referenced above.

Too often we get so busy, so preoccupied with what’s in front of us at the moment, totally consumed with petty things, that we fail to recognize the connections of things in this life. Maybe this is the message of September 11. I’ll muse on this some more!

Michael E. Malone
President

ExEL Program: Working Together

ExEL (Excellent Educators Ladder) Program Director Nancy Ludlum and Counselor Carolyn Bass recently participated in a Future Teachers of Alabama (FTA) meeting held recently at Dothan High School. With support from the ExEL Program, two local schools have recently organized FTA clubs at Wicksburg and Northview High Schools. ExEL conducts activities to identify, access, enroll, support and employ increased numbers of highly competent teachers, with special emphasis on critical fields (math, science, special education) and on minorities and other historically disadvantaged populations.

ExEL is funded through a grant awarded to Troy State University Dothan (TSUD) in partnership with Dothan City Schools, Houston County Schools, Ozark City Schools, Wallace Community College, and the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce for a unique and innovative teacher recruitment project for southeast Alabama.

TSUD Rallies to Support Higher ED Funding

Large, bright colored banners could be seen from a distance and screeching cheers heard in front of the State House as TSUD students, faculty, and staff joined hands with Higher Education Partnership (HEP) recently in Montgomery for the Higher Ed Day Rally. More than 2,000 people, including those from other public universities, rallied together to call for increased support for higher education in Alabama. HEP is promoting equitable funding for all education (K thru PhD), and urging legislators to restore the one-thirds, two-thirds formula once used to fund education in Alabama.

Following the rally, where TSU Chancellor Dr. Jack Hawkins and Lt. Governor Steve Windom were among the speakers, participants enjoyed a BBQ dinner and attended the Business Council of Alabama Job Fair. If you are interested in becoming a member of HEP, contact Dr. Alan Belsches for information.

Recruiting Career Candidates

“Hi, my name is....” was echoed down the halls of Malone Hall during the recent TSUD Annual Career Fair sponsored by the Office of Counseling and Career Services. Students came dressed for success bearing handfuls of resumes. Over 40 area employers had laudatory comments about the number of student participants and their interest in the respective organizations.

“They were very impressed by the level of education and experience the students possessed,” said Director Keith Seagle. Seagle added, “Many recruiters identified candidates for possible employment.”
Giving the Gift of Life

An outpouring of faculty, staff, and students rallied once again to show their support at the America Red Cross Blood Drive held recently on the TSUD campus. Some were able to give successfully, while others attempted. Many lives will be saved thanks to our efforts.

TSUD faculty, staff and students donated blood throughout the day.

A LOOK AHEAD

Wednesday, March 13 - Human Resource Management Forum
8 A.M. - 4:15 P.M. at Northside Mall (Continuing Education)

Monday, March 18 - SGA "St. Patty's" Bake Sale
Adams Hall - Outside the Deli

Monday, April 15 - TSUD Community Band Concert
SONY Hall (Whetstone Stage) - 7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, April 16 - Health and Wellness Fair
Malone Hall - 8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Wednesday, April 17 - Woodham Lecture Series - Dr. Larry Brown
"Railroad Villages of South Alabama"
SONY Hall - 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.

Thursday, April 18 - Library/Technology Building Ribbon-Cutting
(Time TBA)

Thursday, April 18 - SGA Annual Spring Picnic
11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.
4:30 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.

Saturday, April 20 - Spirit of Service Day
TSUD Project and Luncheon for SOS Workers
8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Saturday, April 27 - March of Dimes "WalkAmerica" 2002
It's not too late to join the TSUD Team! If interested, contact co-captains Chris Bryant, ext. 393 or Julia Smith, ext. 320.

DEPARTMENT VIEWS

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Copy Cards are available for purchase by faculty and staff at the Switchboard in the lobby of Malone Hall in increments of $5 and $10. You may buy these cards and use them at any time, particularly when departmental copiers are booked up at night. Limits may be placed or valued on these cards based on the amount of usage in each department. The copiers are located in the Library and on the second floor lobby of Malone Hall. NOTE: Do not throw these cards away. They may be reused once the initial value is exhausted by returning them to the Switchboard for re-encryption.

LIBRARY NEWS

What is an electronic book? It's simply a book you can read online or download to your computer. The Library has purchased a package of over 14,000 titles from the NetLibrary Company.

What are the advantages over print books? The primary advantage is cost. The Library can purchase access to thousands of e-book titles at a fraction of the cost of buying print books. Also, there is not problem finding space on the shelves.

However, there are disadvantages. You must read the book from a computer screen. So, unless you have a laptop, you must sit at your computer and read. Also, clicking back and forth between chapters and scrolling within chapters to find specific information can be hard on your eyes. Limited printing is possible.

Many publishers will not allow their books to be published electronically due to copyright and profits. NetLibrary has addressed these concerns by limiting the number of characters that may be printed at one time.

To sign up for access, go to www.netlibrary.com. You must download E-Book Reader Software. Sign up today and enjoy access to more than 14,000 titles.

COUNSELING AND CAREER SERVICES

Math tutoring is now available to any TSUD student who requests it. Under the auspices of the Office of Counseling and Career Services, the Instructional Assistance Program fills an identified need for math tutoring of those who are not eligible for Student Support Services (SSS).

Recently retired math instructor Mrs. Viola Powell has been selected as the Instructional Assistant (IA). Students may use the IA for one-time or short-term math assistance as needed. SSS will continue to provide more comprehensive services, including tutoring in other subject areas.

NEW FACES/NEW PLACES

Dr. Dennis Pitts is joining the College of Education on a half-time basis as the project director for the Eisenhower Professional Development Grant.

Gayle Nelson recently joined the Information Services Division and the Distance Learning Department as the Coordinator for Design and Development/Webmaster.
Young at Heart

The TSUD family recently honored Dr. Burton Wright, Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences, with a 85th birthday celebration. Many of his colleagues participated in his “Birthday Roast” and enjoyed food and fellowship.

Dr. Wright and wife, Marie, enjoy food served by Rosalyn Horne, Joy Carr and Tracey Kitts.

COURTESY COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2002

Get Well Cards
Mrs. Grace Motola - Dr. Barbara Alford’s (Executive Vice President) mother
Ronnie Childree (Grounds)
Fred Anderson, Thomas Anderson’s (Physical Plant) father
Dr. Patricia Fritchie (College of Education)
Patrick Schado (Bookstore Manager)
Patsy Rach (Admissions)

Sympathy Cards
Patsy Rach (Admissions) on the death of her father-in-law
Nancy Miller (Financial Affairs and Administration) on the death of her father-in-law

Wedding Gifts and Cards
Dr. and Mrs. Matt Elbeck (College of Business)
Cindy (President’s Office) and Paul Truran

Retirement Gift and Card
Dr. Brenda Ameter (College of Arts and Sciences)
Mrs. Viola Powell (College of Arts and Sciences/Student Support Services)

Thank You Notes
Please convey my sincere thanks to the Courtesy Committee for the lovely retirement luncheon and the beautiful vase. Brenda Ameter

Thank you very much for the beautiful crystal vase. Paul and I look forward to enjoying it in our home for many years. Cindy and Paul Truran

To members of the TSUD Courtesy Committee - a big thank you!! We are using your gift and will treasure it always Matt and Svetlana Elbeck

I want to thank the Courtesy Committee and all the TSUD family for their wonderful warm thoughts and kind words of encouragement following my hip replacement surgery. It is a moment I am happy is behind me and I am now on my way back on my feet and active again. Patrick Schado

I would like to thank each of you that helped in many ways concerning the aftermath of our home burning in January, but that is hardly feasible. Please accept a heartfelt thank you and know that you have all been such a blessing. People have blessed us that I don’t even know. I thank my God for all of you and pray he will bless you each day. Sherry Allen, Marshall, Shawn, Brandon, and Clayton

Thank you for your cards, phone calls, visits, prayers, and donation of time for me and my family. More importantly, for your concern and caring. I feel very fortunate to work with a such a group (extended family) of caring, concerned people. Your support has been very important to my shoulder surgery recovery. I will always be indebted to you. May God bless you all. Ronnie Childree

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

MARCH
5 - Jeanett Anglin
7 - Robert Burroughs
13 - Henry Hernandez
19 - Sam Wise
25 - Thomas Anderson

APRIL
1 - Charles McArthur
1 - Christine Evans
6 - Donna Miller
9 - William Borders
12 - Anne Lorance
19 - Steve Cross
26 - Tracey Kitts
28 - Mary McCruter

"We are what we repeatedly do, excellence then is not an act, but a habit."

Aristotle

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