

TCCTA MESSENGER

A Publication of the TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

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TCCTA Completes Staffing Changes

With the retirement of Charles Burnside as Executive Director of the Texas Community College Teachers Association last April, Richard Moore is well into his first year of directing the Association's activities. Having served TCCTA since 1991, he brings great experience and expertise into the role.

In the last decade, Mr. Moore has developed productive relationships with many public officials, as well as staff leaders of other organizations. The annual TCCTA Convention and Conference for Faculty Leaders are esteemed widely for relevant programs, large and enthusiastic attendance, and note-

worthy speakers and presenters. TCCTA publications and its Web site are considered to be noted sources for their valuable, accurate, and timely information.

"It is no secret that professional associations nationwide are facing major challenges these days," Mr. Moore notes. "Nevertheless I'm optimistic about TCCTA. We have dedicated and talented campus representatives, officers, and committee members and a proven record of accomplishment on behalf of our members. We will continue to listen very carefully to our membership as we move ahead."

The state office is also pleased to announce that veteran TCCTA leader and community college teacher Scott Nelson has been added to the staff as Associate Executive Director. Prior to his new appointment, Scott taught at Kingwood College for seventeen years, and at Kilgore College for seven years. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from North Texas State University (now the University of North Texas) and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Political Science from the University of Houston. He served as President of TCCTA in 1994-95, testifying frequently before legislative committees.

Scott has published one book individually and co-authored two texts with Texas community college teachers. He also has written articles on a variety of topics in the *Houston Law Review*, the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Texas Observer*, and *Texas Monthly*, among others.

"I'm delighted to be here," Scott says. "The new position seems like a natural fit after my experience as a teacher and TCCTA officer."

Administrative Assistant Carol Fricke, who has served the Association since 1976, will remain in her position, but with enhanced responsibilities. In addition to her roles involving membership and convention planning, Carol is taking on financial record keeping and other budgetary matters in the state office.

"I'm proud to be the Executive Director of such a great organization representing a truly great profession," Mr. Moore says. "We are definitely taken seriously when important matters are under consideration. People are aware that we are unique in our size, scope, and mission among higher education associations around the country."

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Conference Planned for Faculty Leaders

The 22nd annual TCCTA Conference for Faculty Leaders will be held Friday and Saturday, Sept. 21-22, at the Omni Austin Hotel Southpark.

The conference will begin with an informal social hour and Mexican "fajita bar" at 6:00 p.m., Friday. The evening program, beginning at 7:15 p.m., will feature Glenda Barron and Julie Leidig, who will discuss major policy issues affecting Texas two-year colleges.

Dr. Barron serves as Assistant Commissioner for the Community and Technical Colleges Division of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, a position she has held since February 1997. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Houston, a Master of Education degree from McNeese State University, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Leidig is the Director of Instructional Programs in the Division of Community and Technical Colleges at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Syracuse University, Master of Arts and Master of Education degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree, also from UT-Austin.

Conference activities on Saturday will begin at 8:30 a.m., with registration and refreshments. Adjournment is scheduled for 2:30 p.m., Saturday. "The Role of the Faculty in Decision-

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*Associate Executive
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The challenge is before us.

Because of changing demographics during the last two decades, the Texas population is more diverse than ever. Statistics also verify that large percentages of our ethnic minority population are not only failing to complete baccalaureate or technical degrees, but are dropping out of the education pipeline before earning high school diplomas.



All higher education entities have been challenged by the Texas Legislature and the Higher Education Coordinating Board to close these gaps in access, participation, and success. To do so, all levels in Texas must learn to work together as never before. We must form partnerships involving public schools, community colleges, and universities if we are to attract, retain, and educate students who are representative of the state's population.

The community colleges of Texas more accurately reflect our population diversity than any other component of the higher education system. Yet we are not as effective as we could be. We are the bridge that connects the public schools and universities and we must strive to enhance every facet of our unique mission.

Inherent in this mission, but rarely stated explicitly, is the goal of preparing teachers for Texas public schools. With 40,000 openings in the school system this year alone, the critical teacher shortage ought to be everyone's business. Right now, many of our school districts have no other choice than to hire teachers without the proper credentials. This trend is particularly acute in mathematics, science, and bilingual education.

Every teacher of every student from kindergarten through the baccalaureate degree can influence future teachers. At community and technical colleges, where we adhere to an instructional standard of excellence, there is no better place to address the formal preparation of teachers than in our own classrooms. In addition to teaching our own courses in our own disciplines, we have tremendous potential for recruiting students into the profession and thereby affecting the future of countless students in the public schools.

Recruiting students into the teaching profession sometimes appears to be an insurmountable task when we consider the lack of respect given teachers by our society and the low salaries caused by the funding difficulties of school districts. Low salaries especially necessitate that we speak loudly as a K-16 united voice in Austin. Not only public officials, but all Texans must understand that there is no greater return on our tax dollars than to invest these resources in the education system.

I believe there is no greater call to glory than helping to provide competent, well-educated teachers at all levels. We owe that to the children of Texas and to our great state.

And there is no better way to retain students who are now dropping out before high school graduation than to make sure that every student has a qualified, caring teacher in every class.

Colleagues, let's accept the challenge. Let's make the myth of a seamless K-16 education in Texas a reality. Let's bridge the gaps and make every Texan count.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS RECOMMENDATIONS

Vivian Dennis-Monzingo, Eastfield College, chair of the TCCTA Nominating Committee, has announced that the committee is inviting recommendations of individuals for consideration as nominees for officers of the association for 2002-2003.

Recommendations should be submitted *immediately* in order to be considered by the Nominating Committee in its November meeting.

Recommendations should be sent to:

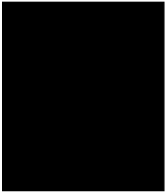
Vivian Dennis-Monzingo, Chair
 TCCTA Nominating Committee
 Eastfield College
 3737 Motley Drive
 Mesquite, Texas 75150-2099

EDITORIAL POLICY

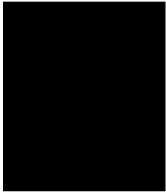
1. The TCCTA Messenger provides a forum for TCCTA members to address professional issues and subjects of interest to educators in the two-year college. Prospective authors are invited to submit articles dealing with the theory, practice, history, and politics of two-year colleges in Texas. Topics should be of general interest to members and not limited to a single teaching discipline. Articles normally should be six to ten typed, double-spaced pages.
2. Longer articles may be published when their substance and likely reader-interest justify greater length. Shorter pieces of one to two pages intended as guest editorials, letters to the editor, or personal perspectives on problems, issues, or concepts related to the two-year college are also accepted. No excerpts from grant proposals, dissertations, theses, or research papers written for course work should be submitted.
3. Submissions should be original (not previously published or being considered for publication). Authors should limit the use of specialized terminology. Authors' names and titles of key sources should be included within the text, with page numbers in parentheses. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions so that their usage conforms with the editorial practices of the Messenger. Publicity accorded to a particular point of view does not imply endorsement by TCCTA, except in announcement of policy, when such endorsement is specified clearly.
4. Submissions are reviewed by an editorial review board, though the editor maintains responsibility for final selection. An author should send a high-contrast original of the manuscript with the author's name only on a separate cover sheet.
5. Articles published in the Messenger may be reproduced provided they are reprinted in their entirety and that appropriate credit is given to the author and to the TCCTA Messenger. Brief quotations and statistical data may be reproduced provided that the TCCTA Messenger is cited as the source.
6. Manuscripts should be sent to: Chair, TCCTA Publications Committee, 901 MoPac Expressway South, Building I, Suite 410, Austin, Texas 78746-5791. Authors should retain copies of their manuscripts for their files.



Conference Planned for Faculty Leaders



Glenda Barron



Patricia Hayes



Cathy Teague



Frank Hill

at Arlington. He received his law degree, also with honors, from Southern Methodist University. Founded in 1972, the firm of which he is the senior partner now includes 30 practicing attorneys, several of whom are recognized as specialists in legal matters involving rights of teachers. Time for questions and answers from Mr. Hill will also be allowed.

(Continued from Page 1)

Making: Five Perspectives" will be the focus of Saturday's opening session. Panel members for this discussion will be William R. Crowe, president of Tyler Junior College; Robert Ballinger, instructor of government and sociology, South Texas Community College; Robert Boyd, professor of speech and theatre arts and Faculty Senate President, Amarillo College; Brian K. Dille, professor of government at Odessa College; and Cynthia M. SoRelle, director of speech and communications, McClennan Community College. Anamaria Shaw, chair of the TCCTA Professional Development Committee, will moderate the discussion.

At 10:45 a.m., a panel discussion will focus on "Communicating Effectively with Legislators." Participants will include Rey Garcia, executive director of the Texas Association of Community Colleges; Patricia Hayes, special assistant for education for Lieutenant Governor Bill Ratliff; and Cathy Teague, director of communications for Senator Teel Bivins (R-Amarillo). The discussion will focus partly upon the impact of new technology, particularly its effect upon political activism by community and technical college educators. Danita McAnally, chair of the TCCTA Legislative Committee, will serve as moderator.

During the afternoon session, long-time TCCTA attorney Frank Hill will discuss "Sex, Lies, and E-Mail: Current Legal Issues in Higher Education." Mr. Hill holds the Bachelor of Arts degree in English, with honors, from the University of Texas

While designed primarily for leaders of local faculty organizations, the conference is open to all interested TCCTA members and faculty leaders. College presidents and other administrators are also encouraged to attend and participate. In addition to the information gathered from the program, the conference provides an opportunity for participants to share ideas and ask questions of colleagues from community colleges all over Texas.

Hotel accommodations, at a rate of \$99 for single or multiple occupancy, may be reserved by contacting the Omni Austin Hotel Southpark directly, at 1-800-843-6664. Reservations should be made by Sept. 12. In making the reservations, callers must indicate plans to attend the TCCTA conference. The hotel is located at 4140 Governor's Row, near the intersection of South Interstate Highway 35 and Ben White Boulevard, in far south Austin. Reservations made after Sept. 12 are subject to room and rate availability.

Conference registration should be completed by Sept. 18 through the TCCTA State Office by calling, toll-free, 1-800-288-6850, Ext. 11, or in Austin, 328-2044. Registrants may also contact the State Office by e-mail at stateoffice@tccta.org, or by "fax," at Area Code 512, 328-1086. A \$40 registration fee, payable on arrival at the conference, will cover the Friday evening social hour and the lunch and refreshment breaks on Saturday. ☆

Conference registration should be completed by Sept. 18 through the TCCTA State Office. Hotel accommodations may be reserved by contacting the Omni Austin Hotel Southpark, at 1-800-843-6664.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE INVITES SUGGESTIONS

The TCCTA Resolutions Committee invites individual members and campus faculty organizations to submit ideas and suggestions for proposed resolutions to be considered at the 2002 convention at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Houston.

Suggestions should be received by Feb. 1, 2002, so the Resolutions Committee can give ample consideration to the proposals prior to the annual convention. In the meeting of the Resolutions Committee, set for February 21, 2002, priority consideration will be given to proposals submitted in advance of the meeting.

Proposals should be sent to:

Jackie Porter, Chair
TCCTA Resolutions Committee
Bill J. Priest Institute
1402 Corinth Street
Dallas, Texas 75215

TCCTA COMMITTEES TO MEET BEFORE CONFERENCE

The Legislative, Membership Services, Professional Development, and Publications Committees will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 21, in conjunction with the Conference for Faculty Leaders at the Omni Hotel Southpark in Austin. Members of these committees are urged to make their travel plans now, and to stay for the conference, which is arranged by the Professional Development Committee. Agendas and other information concerning the meetings will be distributed by the chairs of the four committees. ☆

Enroll On-line!

Joining TCCTA has never been easier!

Visit the TCCTA Web site today to join on-line, at

www.tccta.org

Piper Professors Named for 2001

The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation announced recipients of the 2001 Piper Professor awards last May. Three Texas community college educators were among those recognized: J. Paul Matney, professor and division chair of language, communication, and fine arts at Amarillo College; Laura Matysek Wood, chair of social sciences and professor of history and government at Tarrant County College—Northwest Campus; and Randal Scott Yarbrough, professor of English at Collin County Community College—Spring Creek Campus.

The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation was organized in 1950, and the Piper Professor program was begun in 1958 with eight awards of \$1,000 each. Beginning in 1959 ten awards have been made each year, and the stipend has been increased to \$2,500. Nominations for awards are requested annually from all accredited institutions of higher education in the state. A selection committee from the academic community reviews the nominations to choose the professors to be honored. According to foundation officials, the committee seeks well-rounded, outgoing teachers, devoted to the profession, who have made special impact on their students and their communities.

Dr. Matney currently serves as professor and division chair of language, communication and fine arts at Amarillo College. He received a Bachelor of Journalism degree from UT-Austin, a Master of Arts degree from West Texas State University, and a Doctor of Education degree from Texas Tech University. He was the recipient of the John F. Mead Faculty Excellence Award in 1992 at Amarillo College. "Teaching in a community college has its unique rewards," Dr. Matney says. "Working with first generation college students, returning students, and disadvantaged students provides a critical opportunity to help develop and foster self-concept and self-worth."

Dr. Wood has taught at Tarrant County College—Northwest Campus since 1990. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (*Phi Beta Kappa*) in comparative studies from Texas Christian University, a Master of Arts in political science from the University of North Texas, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Texas Christian University. "One of the great benefits of a career in teaching is the immediate feedback," Dr. Wood notes. "Unlike other professionals, teachers get to actually see how they make a difference right away. Also, there is a beginning and an end to the process, so that adjustments can be made and new approaches can be tried."

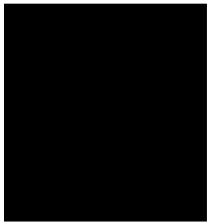
Mr. Yarbrough holds an associate's degree from South Plains College and bachelor's and master's degrees from Angelo State University. Prior to joining CCCCD in 1998, he was also Professor of English at South Plains College, where he was awarded the 1997 Excellence in Teaching Award. "Receiving the Piper Award is a bit overwhelming, since I have only been at Collin County Community College for about two years," says Mr. Yarbrough. "I think that this is one of the few awards that is really based on teaching. That is the heart of it—how you are in the classroom,

how you relate to the students, and how the students relate to you."

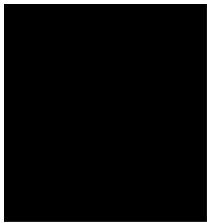
Prior community college Piper Professors are listed below:

- 1958 R. W. Lee, St. Philip's College
- Henry B. Webb, San Antonio College
- 1960 Katharine Evans, Del Mar College
- Inez Grant, South Plains College
- Bertie Warren, Amarillo College
- 1961 Marjorie Morris, Odessa College
- *Margaret Pannill, Navarro College
- *Marjorie Walthall, San Antonio College
- 1962 *Paul McFerran, Texarkana College
- 1963 Mazella Arnold, Temple College
- B. E. Schulze, Del Mar College
- 1964 S. L. Canterbury, Kilgore College
- 1965 Arthur Chesley Bowman, San Antonio College
- 1966 P. Eugene Smith, Del Mar College
- 1968 Jack R. Harvey, Weatherford College
- Robert E. Hoffman, Amarillo College
- 1970 Clarence W. Norris, St. Philip's College
- Barbara Warburton, Texas Southmost College
- 1971 Lucille M. Boyd, Navarro College
- Aileen Creighton, Del Mar College
- 1972 *Joe F. Taylor, Amarillo College
- 1973 Hoyt J. Burnette, McLennan Community College
- 1974 Frances P. Dushek, Del Mar College
- John N. Igo, Jr., San Antonio College
- Duane Chad Morrison, Grayson County College
- 1975 James A. Hankerson, El Centro College
- 1976 Theron Wilford Kirk, San Antonio College
- 1977 Annie Lou Winton Ballard, Kilgore College
- David Lloyd Pettrash, Grayson County College
- Gary Alan Smith, Tarrant County Junior College—Northwest Campus
- 1978 Geraldine Johnston, Navarro College
- Carolyn Oliver Perry, San Jacinto College
- Helen Starr Roberts, South Plains College
- 1979 Dolores C. Villarreal, St. Philip's College
- Mary Cecilia Wylie, Alvin Community College
- 1980 Harley Davis, Paris Junior College
- 1981 Betty Jo Graber, Weatherford College
- Anne Dean Turk, Kilgore College
- 1982 William Samelson, San Antonio College
- 1983 Rosemary Valladolid, El Paso Community College
- 1984 *David J. Clinkscale, Tarrant County Junior College—Northwest Campus
- Costas Katsigris, El Centro College
- Ronald J. Williams, Del Mar College
- 1985 M. Duane Gage, Tarrant County Junior College—Northeast Campus
- Joseph J. Granata, San Jacinto College—South Campus
- Katherine E. Staples, Austin Community College
- Robert W. Wylie, Amarillo College
- 1986 H. McAfee Daniel, Navarro College
- Lewis M. Fox, San Antonio College
- Ray Kenneth Robbins, Western Texas College
- 1987 Ann Cartwright, San Jacinto College—Central Campus
- 1988 Diane Martin, Eastfield College
- 1989 Ida M. Blanchette, Alvin Community College
- Elwyn Jeanette Bone, Kilgore College
- Hazelyn D. Lewis, St. Philip's College
- Wayne Hartman McAlister, The Victoria College
- Richard E. Miller, Navarro College
- Robert H. Schlieker, Temple College
- Jerry D. Thompson, Laredo Community College
- Joan Laveson Weston, Brookhaven College
- 1990 Beatrice M. Burke, Howard College (Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf)
- Mark D. Hettle, Mountain View College
- Marilyn Sue Kelly, McLennan Community College
- *Marilyn J. Lancaster, Western Texas College
- Renate True, College of the Mainland
- 1991 Jane Aycock Bouterse, Texarkana College
- Brian David Earle, Cedar Valley College
- Gary Bruce Hodge, Collin County Community College
- Tommy Kaye Kinney, Brazosport College
- Ronald R. Roberts, Grayson County College
- Lucy A. Scarbrough, El Paso Community College
- Olive Jensen Theisen, Northeast Texas Community College
- 1992 Sam W. Hawkins, San Jacinto College—Central Campus
- Thomas M. Hobbs, North Harris College
- 1993 Michael N. Donahue, Temple College
- Barbara R. McGregor, Weatherford College
- Claudia E. Neeley-Plog, El Centro College

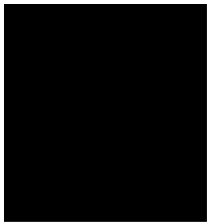
(Continued on page 5)



J. Paul Matney
Amarillo College



Laura Matysek Wood
Tarrant County College—
Northwest Campus



Randal Scott Yarbrough
Collin County
Community College—
Spring Creek Campus

*"We stand
in humility
and gratitude in
viewing
the dedicated
teaching talent
in Texas
higher education."*

Minnie Stevens Piper
Foundation

News Briefs and Links

“Closing the Gaps” is Focus of Attention as Texas Lags Behind

The Texas Legislature and Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) have adopted a plan aimed at bringing the proportion of students in colleges and universities up to a par with other states. Last June at the 17th Annual Recruitment and Retention Conference in Austin, the Coordinating Board staff concentrated on four principal components: participation, success, excellence, and research. Improvement in each of these areas is needed if Texas is to contend with demographic predictions and not fall behind other states in the education of its population.

Currently five percent of all Texans are enrolled in higher education programs, including colleges, universities, and trade schools. By comparison, California and Illinois enroll 6.1 percent.

For more information, the Coordinating Board can be accessed at www.tccta.org and clicking on “state agencies.”

Survey Assesses Part time Faculty and Gender Proportions

A new study by the U.S. Department of Education indicates that the proportion of faculty members employed part-time in all higher education leveled off from 1992 to 1998, after rapid increases during the 1980s. The study included two-year colleges.

Another statistic from the study involving community and technical colleges indicates that the proportion of full-time women faculty members at public two-year schools rose from 38 percent in 1987 to nearly 50 percent in 1998.

The full report can be obtained online at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2001/2001252.pdf>

Community College Transfers Fare Well in Coordinating Board Study

In what one participant called “the most thorough study ever done of the transfer issue in Texas,” an advisory committee of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has emphatically underscored what community college educators have been saying for decades: Transfer students from

community colleges are as successful as those who begin their studies at universities.

The Transfer Issues Advisory Committee was comprised of university and college representatives, making a comprehensive study of transfers at five public universities: Midwestern State University, Texas A&M International University, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Houston, and the University of North Texas. The five schools receive transfer students from 110 “sending” institutions.

The committee found “no significant difference in the quality of student performance” (as measured by grade point averages earned at the receiving universities) among community college transfer students, “native” students, and those who came from other universities.

While recognizing specific problems that need addressing in certain academic and technical fields, the committee also determined that “transfer of credits between institutions is generally efficient.”

The Coordinating Board Web site can be accessed at www.tccta.org

New K-12 Testing Program Launched

The state’s new generation of public school student tests is to be called the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, or TAKS, Commissioner of Education Jim Nelson announced in a press release earlier this summer. “Each time this state has launched a new testing program, the test has gotten a new name so it is fitting that the TAAS name be retired,” Nelson said.

According to the release, the test reflects close alignment with the state’s new curriculum standards, called the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. The entire program, mandated by the Texas Legislature in 1999, will cover more subjects and reportedly be more rigorous than the 11-year old TAAS.

In other changes, the exit-level TAKS exam, which students must pass in order to receive a high school diploma, will move from the 10th grade to the 11th grade. The exit exam will also cover the subjects of English, math, science, and social studies.

Additional information about the testing program, which authorities say is still in the developmental stage, can be found at www.tea.state.tx.us/student assessment.

Visit the TCCTA Web site

at www.tccta.org

for more information.

Piper Professors

(Continued from page 4)

- Robert K. Peters III, Tyler Junior College
Charles E. P. Simmons, Midland College
Mary Seals Thorpe, Del Mar College
1994 Tommy W. Stringer, Navarro College
1995 Dennis J. Cravens, Vernon Regional Junior College
Sandra S. Shumate, San Antonio College
1996 Vivian Ruby Brown, Laredo Community College
Norman C. Delaney, Del Mar College
Shelley Denise Lane, Collin County Community College
Elroy Smith, Palo Alto College
Charles Dennis Spurlin, The Victoria College
1998 *Emmeline Dodd, College of the Mainland
Bettye Craddock, Kilgore College

- 1999 Mattie J. Collins, Angelina College
Gary D. Swaim, North Lake College
Warren Taylor, Midland College
2000 Luke Barber, Richland College
Hanhphouc (Happy) Vu Buu, North Harris College
*Patsy W. Goss, San Jacinto College—Central Campus
Vivian Dennis-Monzingo, Eastfield College
Bill O’Neal, Panola College
2001 J. Paul Matney, Amarillo College
Laura Matysek Wood, Tarrant County Community College—Northwest Campus
RandalScott Yarbrough, Collin County Community College—Spring Creek Campus

* Asterisk denotes past president of the Texas Community College Teachers Association.

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629-6003

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and Rodeo

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Alley Theater
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WE HEARD YOU! The 2002 TCCTA convention, February 21-23, in Houston, will be held at the Galleria! Those who have never been to the Galleria are in for a treat.

Located west of downtown Houston at Westheimer Boulevard and Loop 610, the Galleria is a four-story, air-conditioned mall containing just about every kind of food and fun available. The convention will be held in the Westin Galleria and Westin Oaks hotels, part of the Galleria complex. So never mind uncertain weather: Unless you wish, you'll never have to go outside!

Shopping opportunities abound, with approximately 300 shops, ranging from The Gap and Footlocker to Saks Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus. Specialty stores include The Disney Store, the Discovery Channel Store, the Metropolitan Museum of Art Store, Rand McNally, Trains and Planes, the Warner Bros. Studio Store, and Victoria's Secret.

You'll find over 40 food establishments, including McDonalds, Cafe de France, the Cheesecake Factory, Chili's, Delmonico's, Shucker's Sports Bar, Ninfa's, and Zuchini's. There are also food courts in the mall, outside both the Westin Oaks and the Westin Galleria hotels, offering a wide variety of casual dining. There is even an ice skating rink that is open until 11:00 p.m.

Visit the Galleria Web site for details at
www.galleriabouston.com

If you just *have* to leave the mall, Houston has plenty of other things to offer in February. Fine restaurants, as well as nightclubs and movie theaters, are very near the Galleria.

Other entertainment in Houston is available at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the Houston Symphony, Jones Hall, the Grand Opera, Bayou Place, and the Alley Theater in downtown Houston. See the Web site of the Greater Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau at www.houston-guide.com for details.

Special Offer from Southwest Airlines!

Southwest Airlines is offering a 10 percent discount on most of its already low fares for air travel to and from the event. You or your travel agent may call Southwest Airlines Group and Meetings Reservations at 1-800-433-5368 and reference the assigned I.D. Code **(R8104)**.

Reservations sales agents are available 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Monday-Friday, or 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

You must make reservations five or more days prior to travel to take advantage of this offer.

Express Shuttle USA offers shuttles every 30 minutes between the local airports and the Galleria, from 5:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. The fare from Hobby Airport is \$15 one way, and \$26 round trip. The fare from Bush Intercontinental Airport is \$20 one way, and \$36 round trip. (Any of these is less than half the cost of a taxi.) The shuttle departs from the baggage claim area of the airport.

MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS EARLY

TCCTA members planning to attend the 55th annual convention, February 21-23, 2002, in Houston, are encouraged to reserve hotel accommodations early. A block of rooms has been reserved for the TCCTA convention, but it is likely that members who wait until the last minute to make reservations will be disappointed. With the exception of a few special functions arranged for some of the section meetings, all TCCTA convention activities will be held at the headquarters hotel. Hotel accommodations may be reserved by completing the form below and mailing it to the Westin Galleria Hotel, or sending a facsimile of the form to the hotel, at Area Code 713, 960-6551, or calling the hotel, at Area Code 713, 960-8100. Reservations will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations received after Jan. 26 will be subject to availability.

Forms and inquiries regarding reservations should *not* be directed to the TCCTA state office, as all convention housing arrangements are under the control of the Westin Galleria Hotel.

2002 CONVENTION SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The general format for the February 2002 TCCTA convention has been released. More than 140 separate events will be crowded into a three day period, beginning at 9:00 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 21, and concluding shortly after Noon, Saturday, Feb. 23.

A detailed program will appear in a special convention issue of the *Messenger* in January. Except for a few special tours arranged for some of the section meetings, all convention activities will be held in the Westin Galleria Hotel, in Houston. An abbreviated schedule appears below:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2002

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.—Special Meetings (to be announced)
 12:00 Noon-10:00 p.m.—Convention Registration
 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. —Committee Meetings, as called by Committee Chairs
 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. —Meeting of Executive Committee, Resolutions Committee, and Committee Chairs
 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. —Social Hour
 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. —GENERAL SESSION

11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.—Section Meetings for Remaining Sections (visit to exhibits for others)
 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. —Financial Planning Seminar (repeat of 8:00 a.m. presentation)
 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. —Professional Development Seminar (repeat of 8:00 a.m. presentation)
 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. —Other Special Meetings (to be announced)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2002

8:00 - 9:15 a.m. —Financial Planning Seminar (repeated at 1:00 p.m.)
 8:00 - 9:15 a.m. —Professional Development Seminar (repeated at 1:00 p.m.)
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.—Convention Registration
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.—Exhibits Open
 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.—Polls Open (Election of Officers)
 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. —Section Meetings for Some Sections (visit to exhibits for others)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2002

8:00 - 11:30 a.m. —Convention Registration
 8:00 - 11:30 a.m. —Exhibits Open
 9:00 - 10:15 a.m. —Section Meetings for Some Sections (visit to exhibits for others)
 10:30 - 11:45 a.m. —Section Meetings for Remaining Sections (visit to exhibits for others)
 11:45 a.m. —Adjournment
 12:00 Noon - 3:00 p.m.—Special Meetings (to be announced)

TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

55th Annual Convention

Westin Galleria Hotel — Houston, Texas — February 21-23, 2002

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

MAIL TO: Westin Galleria Hotel—5060 West Alabama—Houston, Texas 77056

OR PHONE: (713) 960-8100 OR FAX: (713) 960-6551

RESERVATION CUT-OFF DATE: January 26, 2002

Please reserve _____ room(s) of the type(s) checked below:

Check accommodations desired:	Rate
___ Single Room (One person)	\$116
___ Double Room (Two persons)	\$127
___ Triple Room (Three persons)	\$142
___ Quad Room (Four persons)	\$157

Arrival Date: Feb. ____, 2002

Departure Date: Feb. ____, 2002

(Hotel check-in time is 3:00 p.m.; check-out time is 12:00 Noon.)

Reservations must be guaranteed by approved credit card or advance payment of one day's lodging. Guaranteed reservations not cancelled by 3:00 p.m. on the day prior to arrival will be subject to deposit forfeiture or first night's charge to credit card.

Hold room on a guaranteed basis with the following credit card:

Credit Card _____ Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: The Westin Galleria Hotel is unable to grant direct billing for room or incidental accounts. The hotel accepts all major credit cards. In the absence of an approved credit card, the hotel requests payment be made by cash or traveler's checks. Credit information will be required at time of check-in. The hotel will not accept payments by personal or institutional check unless definite arrangements are made with the Credit Department prior to arrival.

Confirm reservations to: Name _____ Phone A/C _____ - _____

School or Company Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

ROOM(S) WILL BE OCCUPIED BY:

Name (please print)

Address

City/State/ZIP Code



A Special Invitation

Here are some of the ways TCCTA benefits its members...

REPRESENTATION

As the only organization dedicated to serving community and technical college educators, TCCTA provides a strong, positive legislative program to represent **your** interests.

INFORMATION

TCCTA compiles and publishes annually a comprehensive statewide analysis of faculty salaries and retirement programs.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

In difficult and sensitive cases, TCCTA provides valuable information on academic defense issues facing educators in two-year colleges.

CONFERENCE FOR FACULTY LEADERS

The annual TCCTA Conference for Faculty Leaders features sessions and speakers who address the issues facing educators in two-year colleges.

ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION

The annual TCCTA convention is attended by thousands of your colleagues from across the state. The 2002 convention will be held in Houston, Feb. 21-23.

MANY OTHER USEFUL BENEFITS

- A viable job placement/referral service;
- A detailed analysis of programs available under the Optional Retirement Program;
- A Web site, featuring timely information of interest to two-year college educators;
- A Financial Planning Seminar, at the annual convention.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY COVERAGE—AN ADDITIONAL OPTIONAL BENEFIT

Again this year, members may enroll in an optional \$2,000,000 educator's professional liability insurance program. The cost of the program is \$40. Major provisions of the policy include:

- Professional liability coverage of \$2,000,000 per member (plus cost of defense)
- Reimbursement of attorney's fees of up to \$10,000
- Reimbursement of bail bond premium of up to \$1,000
- Coverage for punitive damages up to \$5,000

TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION Membership Enrollment Form

Dr.
 Mr.
 Mrs.
 Miss
 Ms.

 First Name Middle Name or Initial Last Name

College _____
(If more than one campus, indicate your campus.)

Preferred Mailing Address for TCCTA publications (if other than to college): _____
Street Address or Post Office Box

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

E-MAIL: _____

- Instructional (Subject taught: _____)
 Student Services (Position: _____)
 Learning Resources/Library/Media (Position: _____)
 Administrative (Position: _____)
 Other (Specify: _____)
 Retired (Previous Position: _____)

CHECK HERE IF YOU DESIRE COVERAGE UNDER THE OPTIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM, AND ADD \$40 TO THE AMOUNT OF YOUR CHECK.

- CHECK ONE:**
- PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP (Full-time educator at a Texas community or technical college)—Dues \$35
 ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP (Classified employee or retired or adjunct (part-time) educator at a Texas community or technical college)—Dues \$25 (Retiree may join as Professional or Associate Member.)
 STUDENT MEMBERSHIP (Enrolled for graduate credit in community college education)—Dues \$20
 UNAFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP (Friend of the Association not eligible for one of the foregoing types of membership)—Dues \$25
 CHECK HERE if you wish to receive the TCCTA Messenger. Annual dues include \$5 for subscription; there is no additional charge for the Messenger.

Membership Period: September 1, 2001–August 31, 2002.

If paying by credit card: Visa MasterCard

Account Number _____

Expires ____ / ____

You may renew or activate your membership and enroll in the liability insurance program using your VISA or MasterCard. No need to write a check. No bothersome bank drafts. Simply provide your credit card number and expiration date at the places indicated above.



If paying by check: Make checks payable to TCCTA. Give enrollment form and check to your campus membership representative or mail to: TCCTA, Barton Oaks Plaza I, Suite 410, 901 MoPac Expressway South, Austin, Texas 78746-5791.