

Star

View



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UST to Reopen School of Nursing

The University of St. Thomas has begun the initial planning phase to reopen the School of Nursing to address the growing shortage of nurses nationwide.

St. Thomas is poised to immediately initiate efforts to raise \$20 million to build and endow the School of Nursing, hire a director of nursing and begin faculty and student recruitment.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, the shortage will increase due to the aging nursing workforce (average age of practicing nurses in the U.S. is 47), aging nursing faculty (average age of nursing faculty is 57) and an environment of increasing health care needs with a growing and aging population.

By 2020, Texas will be short 83,600 registered nurses to fill its expanding hospitals. At present capacity, nursing schools in Texas can only meet 59 percent of anticipated demand.

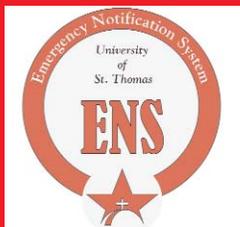
It is important to note that capacity is not hampered by lack of student interest. According to a recent report published by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, in 2005, as many as 35,000 qualified applicants were turned away from U.S. nursing baccalaureate programs,

and as many as 125,000 qualified applicants were turned away from all of the nation's nursing schools.

“St. Thomas has the potential to educate nurses with bachelor of science and master of science degrees who appreciate the values of our Catholic, Basilian institution,” said UST President Dr. Robert Ivany.

“Caring for the sick complements our unique Catholic mission. As a faith-based institution located only minutes from the Texas Medical Center and other hospitals and clinics, we can provide the highly-educated and inspired nurses who are in such great demand.”

Ivany went on to say, “We are very fortunate to receive the backing of longtime friends and benefactors Odis and Carol Peavy to begin Phase One on our three-phase project. Their generosity allows us to begin planning, preparation and fundraising,” said Ivany. “For the next two to three years, we will seek the support of Houstonians, hospitals and foundations who realize the tremendous shortage of nurses and how we can contribute to easing that impact on our community.”



On Thursday, Sept. 18, the University will conduct a fall campus-wide test of the emergency notification system. If you have not updated your emergency contact information, please do so immediately at stthom.edu/ENS. Thank you.

UST Gives a Warm Welcome to New Faculty Members



Rev. Robert Barringer, CSB
Associate Professor, Theology
Theology Department
Ph.D. in Theology
Oxford University



Dr. Malcolm Rector
Assistant Professor, Music
Fine & Performing Arts Department
DMA in Fine and Performing Arts, Music
Composition
Rice University



Dr. James Clarage
Assistant Professor, Chemistry
Chemistry and Physics Department
Ph.D. in Physics
Brandeis University



Dr. John Story
Associate Professor, Marketing
Cameron School of Business
Ph.D. in Marketing
University of Colorado at Boulder



Mr. Samuel B. Condic
Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Philosophy Department
ABD in Philosophy
University of St. Thomas



Dr. Stephen Striby
Visiting Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Philosophy Department
Ph.D. in Philosophy
University of St. Thomas



Dr. Natalya Delcoure
Associate Professor, Finance
Cameron School of Business
DBA in Economics
Louisiana Tech University



Dr. Shahram Taj
*Professor, Management and Chair,
Management & Marketing*
Cameron School of Business
Ph.D. Industrial Engineering and
Operations Research
University of Massachusetts



Dr. Ronald Hartberger
*Visiting Assistant Professor,
Mathematics*
Mathematics Department
D.Sc. in Math
University of Virginia



Dr. Mark Turner
Associate Professor, Accounting
Cameron School of Business
DBA in Accounting
University of Memphis



Dr. Elmer Ledesma
Visiting Assistant Professor, Chemistry
Chemistry and Physics Department
Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry
University of Sydney



Dr. Sharon Worley
Visiting Assistant Professor, Art History
Fine & Performing Arts Department
Ph.D. in Arts and Humanities
University of Texas at Dallas



Mr. David Noe
Assistant Professor,
Doherty Library
Master of Library and Information
Studies
University of Alabama



Ms. Aoife Ni Ghloinn
Visiting Scholar, Irish Studies
Center for Irish Studies
M.A. in Irish & Celtic Studies
Queens University, Belfast, Ireland

UST Continues to Update Technological Facilities Campus-wide

During the spring and summer, many technology projects have been in progress. The largest of which is the move of the Computing Lab, from the basement of the Robertson Science Hall to the basement of the Doherty Library in the space formerly occupied by the Learning and Writing Center. Doherty 017 has been spruced up with new furnishings and new computers in time to start the 2008-2009 school year.

Locating the lab in the library is the first of many initiatives intended to transform Doherty into an Information Commons. Another is the creation of an Information Literacy Classroom which is located down the hall from the lab. This 30-seat classroom features flexible furni-

ture, wireless laptops and full projection capabilities. This classroom will enable the reference librarians to more efficiently host information literacy classes. New



computers have also been installed in the library's reference section.

To make room for the literacy classroom, the Communications Department's post production and audio facilities have been relocated to Doherty 006 and 013, respectively. The video editing

facilities have been moved to Robertson B113, which has 24 new high-end computers with larger monitors and editing software. This room will also be used by the Mathematics Department for computer science classes.

These moves make Doherty 009, a 70-seat, tiered classroom with AV capabilities more accessible for general purpose use. Students and faculty should enter the library and take the stairs or elevator to the basement floor to access any of the new library facilities. An identification card must be presented at the security desk of the library to gain access to the facility.

The University hopes that these new and improved facilities enhance students' technology experiences on campus. Happy computing!

Bioinformatics to develop cutting-edge fruit fly genetics course

The University will continue its efforts to be on the cutting-edge of bioinformatics thanks to a new special topics course which will be developed by Biology Professor Dr. Don Frohlich in Spring 2009.

This summer, Frohlich traveled to Washington University in St. Louis to receive training from the Genomics Education Partnership, a program funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, which only accepts 12 undergraduate institutions per year.

Bioinformatics major Jacquelyn Flores will receive the teacher's assistant GEP training in January. Frohlich and Flores will develop a computer-based bioinformatics lab curriculum to analyze and annotate the genome of the *Drosophila melanogaster*

fruit fly.

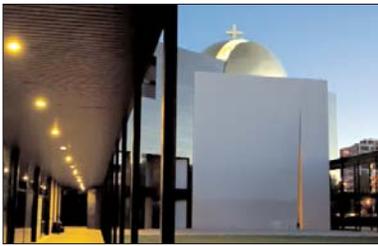
"At St. Thomas, we are trying to train our students to be the best bioinformaticists that they can be," Frohlich said. "Being a part of the Genomics Education Project is an incredibly prestigious opportunity for UST, because there are so few undergraduate institutions able to participate, and usually, only doctoral students have a chance to work on this level. This is an indication that the University's original instincts about bioinformatics increasing importance in science were right on the money. We are headed in the right direction."

See www.stthom.edu for the full story.

Welcome Back!!!

Mark your calendars and usher in the new semester with these UST fall events.

Mass of the Holy Spirit August 26



Join the University in prayer and celebration of a new semester at the Mass of the Holy Spirit on Tuesday, August 26. Mass will begin at 12:45 p.m. in the Jerabeck Center, followed by a reception which will feature highlights from the UST pilgrimage to World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia. For more information, call 713-525-3588.

Father Keon Days Sept. 3



Students can treat their favorite faculty or staff member to lunch at the Crooker Center Cafeteria for Father Keon Days on Wednesday, Sept. 3. Fr. Keon Days were established in recognition of Fr. Keon's lunches in Crooker Cafeteria. This day was created to promote student-faculty/staff interaction. Cafeteria lunch is two for the price of one.

Welcome Week August 25-29



Help make our new students, faculty and staff feel a part of the UST family during Welcome Week August 25-29. Look for the different activities during welcome week including: welcome booth, commuter coffee talk, drive-in-movie and a home game for the men's soccer team.

Freshman All-Campus Weekend Event



Discover the treasures of UST at the Freshman All-campus Weekend Event, Friday Sept. 12-13. Campus Ministry will lead first-year students in a fun-filled weekend with challenging obstacle courses, a mega-treasure hunt, tasty food, and a sleep-over at the Link-Lee Mansion. Each member of the winning team will earn a gas card. Contact Campus Ministry 713-525-3588.

Labor Day Weekend August 30-Sept. 1



Amid the rush of the return to academia, Labor Day comes just in time for those who need a chance to catch up or wind down. Kick back and relax. Have a safe and fun Labor Day Weekend August 30-Sept. 1.

Helping Hands Job and Volunteer Fair Sept. 9



Visit with local non-profit organizations on the Crooker Patio about volunteer opportunities and part-time, full-time, and work-study positions on Tuesday, Sept. 9 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Begin building your resume today through community service and work experiences.

Star View is published by the Office of Marketing Communications as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news. Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.

Executive Editor
Sandra Soliz, MLA '01

Editor
Ronnie H. Piper

Writer/Editor
Elise Marrion