

TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

EXCELLENCE IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

E3 NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Graduation application deadline is March 16th.
- Bilingual textbooks are on reserve for E3 students at the Killam Library.
- Please advise the program if you add or drop a course.
- The E3 program would like to welcome Camelia Villanueva and Patricia Patlan who have been accepted into our program.



TAMIU and Webb County Administrators Meet

Texas A&M International University administrators, Dr. Juan Lira, Dr. Ramón Alaníz, Dr. Ronald Anderson, and José Velásquez recently met with Webb County officials, Leticia Zavala and Juana María Martínez, T/TA Manager and Education Coordinator. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the E3 program which will end on September 30, 2011. The discussion focused on the conclusion of the program based on the immediate events and schedules in progress at the University and the Head Start Centers.

The focus of the meeting was to determine the Head Start/TAMIU relationship after E3 funding ends. The cohorts agreed that meeting the needs of future teacher interns in Webb County Head Start was very important, suggesting that some of the degreed personnel work-

ing at the Head Starts Centers be trained to take over the mentoring process needed to meet University and State requirements. The committee agreed to 1) identify qualify applicants from the Head Start Centers to serve as mentors; 2) develop an application for all Head Start personnel who would be interested in providing such services; 3) develop a training model for all degreed or certified personnel to become proficient mentors; and 4) develop a plan to address rules and responsibilities of the mentors.

Administrators of both entities agreed to set March 2, 2011, as a date for a follow-up meeting.

Additionally, and for the first time in the history of the University, the TAMIU department of Teacher Preparation is utilizing Head Start Centers as

practicum laboratories for Interns (student teachers) to complete their final semester. Both our E3 students and our Head Start children gain from the arrangement.

We continue to be thankful to the Office of Head Start (OHS) for their crucial support of our efforts to improve quality education for our pre-school children via professional training of our teachers.



LR José L Velásquez, Leticia Zavala, Dr. Ramón Alaníz, Mayra L. Pena, Estela Salazar, and Juanita Martinez

TAMIU Providing Basis for OHS Mandates

Texas A&M International University is providing Webb County and Teaching and Mentoring Communities (TMC), Head Start programs for certifying teachers in the state of Texas to meet the goals set by the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families. The following is the latest data available

from the E3 program office. As of the Fall semester 2010, the University granted approximately 21 degrees to Webb County Head Start teachers and five to TMC. The program currently has 19 students enrolled in TAMIU education courses and six are expected to graduate in May, 2011.

With the one year No Cost Extension by the Office of Head Start (OHS) of our current grant, the E3 program will have exceeded the proposed number of graduates (BS degrees in Early Childhood Bilingual Education) by approximately eight graduates.