

News & Views

★ Texas Rehabilitation Commission ★ A Human Energy Agency ★

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Administrative Changes Reflect National Trend

It's a national trend in many private sector companies, and, says James L. Jackson, executive deputy commissioner, "It's consistent with other TRC staff changes in the past three years."

What's the trend? It's encouraging lateral moves among TRC employees to develop broader work experiences and a clearer overall picture of Commission operations.

The most recent administrative changes of this kind occurred January 5 when Dale Place, former deputy commissioner for programs, and John Fenoglio, former deputy commissioner for administrative services switched positions.

TRC staff who reported to Place will now report to Fenoglio, the newly-appointed deputy commissioner for programs. Staff who reported to Fenoglio now report to Place, the new deputy commissioner for administrative services.

Also, staff formerly reporting directly to Commissioner Arrell are now under Jackson's supervision.

The only two exceptions to the supervisory changes mentioned are these: The Texas Advisory Board of Occupational Therapy will report to Kaye Beneke, director of public information (TABOT formerly reported to the deputy commissioner for programs), and Jack Momeier, building project manager, will continue to report to Fenoglio.

"I'm spending more and more time with issues in Washington and funding concerns on the state level," says Commissioner Arrell. "I just don't have the time I need anymore to spend with the staff."

"So the Commissioner asked me to assume the responsibility of supervising those who had previously reported directly to him," says Jackson.

Jackson sees the recent lateral administrative changes as a way for Programs and Administrative Services to work closer together in satisfying needs in both areas.

"Dale (Place), having been the Programs deputy for two years, will know how to tailor support services to better meet needs in the field," says Jackson, "and John (Fenoglio), with his work in Administrative Services for the past several years,

will know what support services are available when needs arise in his newly-acquired area of responsibility."

Other previous TRC staffing changes reflect the trend to broaden employee experience. Two years ago, David J. MacCabe moved from the Internal Audit Division to head up TRC's Disability Determination Division. And, about one year ago, Jackson himself, left the deputy commissioner for administrative services position to assist Commissioner Arrell in the newly-created executive deputy commissioner position.

Commissioner Optimistic About New Governor

Governor Clements has been gone for four years. His return for a second term has employees curious about his understanding and awareness of TRC and the needs of this agency during the current economic crisis.

" Clements has always been accessible to agencies and commissioners "

Commissioner Arrell has a positive attitude about working with our returning Governor. "Clements has always been accessible to agencies and commissioners," says Commissioner Arrell, "and we've already got a good start with his

transitional office. I'm not the least bit concerned about it."

Governor Clements is certainly aware of the TRC program. He appointed our Board Chairman, Jerry Kane, and Vice Chairman William Morrow, during his first administration. TRC was also one of the first agencies to ask for a review under the Governor's first term State Management Effectiveness Program. According to Commissioner Arrell, we "implemented 90% of the recommendations made in that review and still operate under those principles today."

Even though Governor Clements told agency heads on December 10 that state agencies will probably have to live with a reduced revenue level, the feeling around the Capitol is that to cut further will jeopardize human services. "Clements doesn't want to do that any more than

MILESTONES

DECEMBER 1986

10 years:	Region I Donald K. Fulp	10 years:	Region VI Stanley K. Collins Buena V. Henry Rudy Martinez
15 years:	Region III Carolyn E. Cearley	15 years:	Central Office Diana E. Mayfield
20 years:	Jeanette M. Sulak	15 years:	Estelle M. Jones
15 years:	Region IV Shirley Rainey	DDD Dianna S. Guinn Ardis R. Meschke	
10 years:	Region V Sarah Munro	10 years:	
15 years:	Rosario Chapa		
20 years:	Aracelly Villarreal Lucille E. Lancaster		

TRA and CTD Hold Legislative Seminar

It had never been done before! Professional service providers from the Texas Rehabilitation Association (TRA) and disability advocates from the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities (CTD) organized a unique sharing of resources in a legislative seminar January 27 in Austin.

Because powerful forces affecting the economy jeopardize the delivery system for persons with disabilities, this unprecedented event acted as a forum for legislative issues such as funding for human service agencies, workers compensation and accessible public transportation.

Lt. Governor Bill Hobby spoke on the current economic and human service dilemma in Texas during the luncheon session at the Austin Hyatt Regency Hotel.

First TRC Board Chairman Dies

The first TRC Board Chairman, John D. Simpson, Jr., died January 5 at age 81.

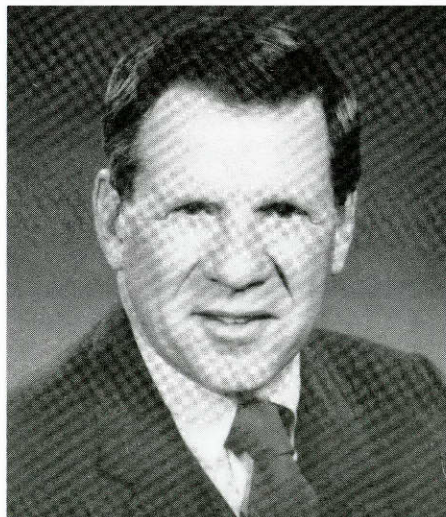
Simpson was appointed by Governor Preston Smith, in 1969, to his first six-year term as chairman on the newly formed TRC Board when the Vocational Rehabilitation Program broke with the Texas Education Agency to become a separate commission.

Governor Briscoe later appointed him to a second term as chairman which he did not complete, having to step down because of failing health. In all, Simpson served over 10 years as TRC Board chairman during the

crucial years of the Commission's development.

"He was a great influence on the Commission in its formative years," says Commissioner Arrell.

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Lt. Governor Bill Hobby appeared at a TRA/CTD sponsored legislative seminar to address the problematic state economic situation and how it affects delivery of human services.

Commissioner Optimistic

continued from page 1

anyone else," says the Commissioner. According to Commissioner Arrell, some sort of tax increase for human services, with a one-year budget to closely monitor spending, will probably be proposed when the 70th Legislature convenes.

Political observers have noted that one thing seems certain about Governor Clements as he prepares for his second term—you don't have to wonder where he stands on issues.

James L. Jackson, executive deputy commissioner, remembers Simpson as a kind and gentle man who "... was acutely aware of the Board's responsibility to set policy and to leave the administration of programs to the Commissioner and his staff."

Simpson was chairman of the board of Superior Dairies, Inc., until 1981 and was active on many local, state and national dairy industry organizations.

In addition to his service to Texans with disabilities through activities on the TRC Board, Simpson served on numerous other boards and committees dedicated to community service and civic betterment.

The seminar was designed to help participants understand the legislative process and how to make it work for them. Activities included discussions with legislators about pending legislation affecting people with disabilities, a trip to the Capitol and an informal reception to express appreciation for the legislators and their involvement.

★ Applause

Here is another long list of TRC employees recently receiving press coverage for the Commission: **Joe Mosel**, area manager in the LaMarque Field Office; **Michelle Bouvette**, **Minnie Norwood** and **Larry Gladden**, all counselors in the LaMarque Field Office; **Jo Anne Hull**, counselor in the Corsicana Field Office; **Bill Vardell**, counselor in the Vernon Field Office; **Donald White**, counselor in the Mineral Wells Field Office; **Anna Posey**, counselor in the Victoria Field Office; **Jerry Gibson**, counselor in the Jacksonville Field Office; **Gilbert Bermea**, counselor in the Uvalde Field Office, and **Nancy Murray**, counselor in the Edinburg Field Office.

Mario Flores, counselor in the Edinburg Field Office; **Enrique Ybarra**, counselor in the Brownsville Field Office; **Janet Schultz**, counselor in the Huntsville Field Office; **Jean Duafala**, counselor in the San Angelo Field Office; **John Burns**, Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons; **Keith Sanson**, counselor in the Lufkin Field Office; **Linda Ragsdale**, counselor in the Midland Field Office; **Shirley Cochran**, stenographer in the Beaumont Field Office; **Lisa Thrower**, counselor in the Marshall Field Office; and **Ray Fenton**, counselor in the Nacogdoches Field Office.

John Greening, counselor in the College Station Field Office; **Kirk Collins**, **Judy Freeman** and **Ben Cadenhead**, all counselors in the Longview Field Office; **Fancher Melton**, counselor in the Athens Field Office; **Polly Walton**, counselor in the Beaumont Field Office; **Knobby Sanchez**, counselor in the Ft. Stockton Field Office; **H. M. Bailey**, counselor in the Pampa Field Office; **Duane Mitchell**, area manager in the El Paso Field Office East; **James Jones**, area manager in the Richmond Field Office; **Mike Brevell**, counselor in the Wharton Field Office; **Becki Brogsgaard**, job readiness trainer in Wharton; **Wes Huerta**, **Mary Herrera**, and **Donald Byrd**, counselors in the Harlingen Field Office; **Allen Craig**, area manager in the Amarillo Field Office; **Bill Langston**, counselor in the Lubbock Field Office; **Paul Goldborer**, counselor in the

Brenham Field Office; and Board Chairman Jerry Kane.

Dave Ward, director of Operations Analysis in DDD; **Janie Wilkes**, program specialist for Inquiries Services in DDD; **Ginger Eways**, medical professional relations officer in DDD; and **Gail Mayfield**, program analyst in DDD, all wrote articles which appeared in the September 1986 issue of *The Forum*, a nationwide publication for disability determination services.

Hal Haralson, member of the TRC Consumer Advisory Committee, received the National Mental Health Association's most prestigious honor—the Clifford Beers Award, presented annually to a consumer of mental health services who has made major contributions in helping those with mental and emotional disorders.

Dr. Robert Castle, medical consultant in DDD, recently made national headlines as the referring pediatric cardiologist in San Antonio's first human heart valve transplant.

TRC recently presented certificates of appreciation to officials at Lackland Air Force Base, Medical Center, Willford Hall Cafeteria in San Antonio for outstanding efforts in hiring people with disabilities to work in the cafeteria. **Capt. James F. Miginot**; **Ludie Johnson**, personnel officer; **Carlos Molina**, retired cafeteria supervisor; and **Fernando Guerrero**, current cafeteria supervisor, all received certificates.

In 1986, the Commissioner established an expectation for 90 percent effectiveness of case folder documentation of client eligibility for services. A FY 1986 management audit of 890 cases revealed only 15 questionable cases—a **98 percent effectiveness rate** which is the highest in the history of TRC audit findings.

Marshall Mitchell, Amarillo College coordinator of accessibility service, has been named chairman of the board of directors of Advocacy, Inc. Marshall represents the Coalition of Texans with Disabilities on the board.

Place Gets LULAC Award



At the December Board meeting, Dale Place (left), deputy commissioner for programs, received a certificate of recognition from the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) for unselfish and invaluable service as a health and human services representative. Jose Garcia DeLara (right), state director of LULAC, presented the award on behalf of LULAC, a national organization founded 53 years ago in Corpus Christi, which fights discrimination against Latin Americans in housing, employment and human services.



American Disabled for Accessible Public Transportation (ADAPT), a national organization with several Texas chapters, has opened a Dallas office. ADAPT dedicates its efforts to securing the right of all people with disabilities to ride public transportation. Its goal is 100 percent accessibility on all fixed route public transportation through purchases, by transit systems, of only accessible vehicles. For more information on ADAPT and its activities in Dallas, contact the Dallas office at (214) 902-9661.

Transitions

Mona Raven, clerical supervisor in Client Accounting at the Central Office, will retire around the first of March 1987 after over 17 years with the Commission.

Ike Fife, administrative coordinator in Staff Development, will retire in mid-March 1987 after 16 years of service with TRC.

Dorothy L. Winn, stenographer in the Bryan Field Office, will retire January 31, 1987 after eight years of work with the Commission.

William B. Krieg, Jr., senior counselor in the Austin Field Office South, retired September 24, 1986 after 13 years of Commission service.

Kenneth Pierce, senior counselor in the San Antonio Field Office South, retired September 30, 1986 after almost 23 years with the Commission.

Wanted: Nominations for the Texas Rehabilitation Counseling Association Counselor of the Year Award. Nominations are being accepted for the rehabilitation counselor who best provides clients with guidance, resources and support they need to be independent and productive. Consideration will be given to the quality of services provided not respective of age, background or experience of the counselor nominated. Deadline for nominations is February 15, 1987. For more information on criteria for nominations, contact Rebecca Hayes at (214) 392-7337 or Norman Hooze at (512) 434-9421.

You will notice that the TRC "News & Views" will have a little bit different look in upcoming issues. As part of a continuing legislative effort to hold the line on state spending, the Appropriations Bill formed in the special session of the 69th Legislature stipulates that agency publications will be allowed to print only one photo for every two printed pages. Although photos are a great way to add interest and enhance a story, we will have to find different ways to accomplish this in the future.

The U.S. House of Representatives has approved a bill which would amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to provide that wages paid to employees in sheltered work centers be based on productivity. The

measure, identical to one approved by the Senate, safeguards people with disabilities, whose productivity is impaired, against "... the possibility of exploitation or abuse."

In spite of the ever tightening state budget situation, TRC counselors will have more funds to serve clients in FY 1987—an average of \$20,000 more per counselor in case service funds. The reauthorization of the Rehabilitation Act this past fall provided for the additional federal dollars through an increase in basic state grants funds (Section 110) to state agencies. TRC officials have identified most of TRC's share of the additional dollars as case service funds to benefit clients. The funds will be distributed to the regions where they will then be divided among counselors.



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