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THE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN TEXAS

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JUNE COUNCIL MEETING PLANNED

The Advisory Council will take an in-depth look at its role, scope, accomplishments, and challenges during its meeting in San Antonio, June 21-22. The group will also elect officers and hear reports of the Council committees.

Other items on the agenda include: "Roles of the Advisory Council and State Board for Vocational Education" by Joe Kelly Butler, Chair, SBOE; "Texas Study of Vocational Education" by Dr. J. R. Jackson, Coordinator; "An Assessment of the Advisory Council" by Dr. John Skinkle of Texas A & M University; "Relating Education to Employer" by Dr. Jerome F. Weynand, Presi-

dent of San Antonio College District, and Nellie Thorogood, Director of Occupational Technical Education Programs.

Other program topics will be, "Developing Adult and Vocational Programs in a School District with Declining Enrollments," by Sylvia Hinojosa of Edgewood ISD; and "Air Force System of Technical Training Evaluation," by Gene Ryder of the Evaluation Center, Lackland Air Force Base.

The group will meet in the Cavalier Room of the St. Anthony Hotel. (If you would like an agenda, call or write the ACTIVE office.)

Voc. Ed. Enrollments Up By Seven Percent

While enrollments in most areas of education are dropping or at best staying level, enrollments in vocational education programs increased by one million students in one year, according to information from AVA (American Vocational Association).

The latest figures on vocational education enrollments provided by the US Office of Education show an enrollment of 16,134,979 in FY 77 compared with a FY 76 enrollment of 15,133,322, for an increase of seven percent.

More than a fourth of the increase involved members of target groups identified for special emphasis in the Vocational Education Amendments of 1976. The enrollment

of handicapped students increased by 21 percent from 284,067 to 344,041. The enrollment of students (primarily adults) from depressed areas in consumer and homemaking courses jumped slightly more than ten percent from 1,361,420 to 1,500,535. The enrollment of students classified as disadvantaged grew by four percent from 1,873,411 to 1,956,011.

Women accounted for slightly more than half of the increase, with female enrollment jumping by 526,383 from 7,750,135 to 8,276,518. Enrollments of women in non-traditional occupational areas showed especially large gains. Enrollments of women in agricultural programs jumped by 43 percent while enrollments of women in all trade and industrial fields increased 38 percent.

Here and There

EMPLOYERS HONORED -- The El Paso-Ysleta Schools Vocational-Technical Placement Committee topped off a successful year with a banquet honoring representatives from business and industry who provided job/career opportunities for graduates. Recog-

niton and awards were given those who had been of special service to vocational education.

TEXANS ELECTED -- Billy Howard, consul-

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Teachers' Input Needed

Advisory Council members are in hopes that teachers are busy thinking about what they are going to say at the "Teachers Speak" hearings this summer. We are giving advance notice so that the word can be passed on to the teachers that they will have an opportunity to "speak their mind" and share innovative teaching practices/techniques they have found successful. Hopefully, these sessions at the inservice meetings will be a constructive time of sharing thoughts, feelings and ideas about the art of teaching vocational education.

Referral System For Women

A referral system is being established by the Texas Education Agency for women interested in vocational education administration.

"Approximately nine percent of secondary administrators and six percent of postsecondary administrators of vocational education programs are female," said Dr. Cecil Y. Wright, the Agency's coordinator of equal access to vocational education. "By establishing a referral system, we hope it will be easier for institutions to take affirmative action in hiring women administrators."

Women vocational educators interested in administering secondary vocational education programs should send a resume to Wright if they hold administrative certificates or are nearing completion of their administration credentials.

No certification is required at the postsecondary level. Requirements for postsecondary deans and directors include a master's degree, three years work experience, and three years teaching experience.

Wright may be contacted by writing Texas Education Agency, 201 East 11th Street, Austin, Texas 78701 or calling (512) 475-4641 or 475-4217.

Superintendents or college presidents seeking women applicants for vocational education administration positions should contact Wright for names of competent persons.

Tex-SIS

The Tex-SIS Follow-up System is continuing to be used by Texas two-year institutions to obtain valuable information about students' suggestions and/or opinions about vocational-technical programs, job placement rate and salary data, job titles of students, employers perceptions of the training received and other important items. All forty-seven community junior college districts, Texas State Technical Institute and Lamar University are utilizing one or more of the Tex-SIS questionnaires. The Tex-SIS System also fulfills state vocational reporting requirements.

Based on available funds, it is planned that the Tex-SIS System will be expanded to include the federally mandated Vocational Education Data System (VEDS). The Tex-SIS Data is also currently being used to produce information for Texas' postsecondary Supply/Demand system.

Tex-SIS is primarily a localized information system and has the capability of producing both statewide and local information. Tex-SIS is serviced by a technical support group located in Austin. After the individual college conducts the survey, the questionnaires are mailed to this central location for processing--utilizing computer programs developed by Tarrant County Junior College. Other support services include printing of questionnaires, conducting workshops, producing publications, monitoring data flow, providing analyses of data, etc. Dr. Jim Reed, a private consultant with the Texas Educational Information Consortium, Inc., 316 LSP Circle, Kerens, Texas, is supervising the operation of Tex-SIS. The Tex-SIS Support Services is now housed in the offices of the Coordinating Board Texas College and University System. The Director of Tex-SIS Support Services is Ms. Toni Hall, Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, 55 North Interregional, Austin, Texas 78701.

Poll Reflects Interest in Voc. Ed.

A recent Gallup Poll on public attitudes toward public school indicates that

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parents want more emphasis placed on career training. In addition, the poll notes that parents want their children to be prepared to fill a job when they finish high school in the event that they do not intend to go to college. A majority of those polled listed salable skill training as a priority for high school graduation. Typing and secretarial training were the two skills that most of those polled wished they had studied in school.

Over 41 percent of the adults questioned expressed an interest in enrolling in special courses or vocational training in a public school. Also, one third of those polled indicated in the questionnaire that they had already taken some kind of adult class.

P.R. Tips

VICA CHANGING IMAGE -- The title on the professional edition of the VICA magazine, December-January, is "Changing Our Image -- America's New Professionals." Inside are all kinds of good public information tips on, "How Do We Get People To Pay Attention," "How Do We Get 'Air Time' for TV & Radio" and "What Can We Do To Make The Most Of Our Theme?" Each article is jam-packed with good P.R. suggestions. It's worth trying to get your hands on a copy.

ACTIVE SLIDE/TAPES AVAILABLE -- Three slide/tapes that were used during the Council's public hearings last fall are available. "Who Is ACTIVE -- Why Are We Here" gives a brief overview of the Council -- what it is and does -- and what was hoped would be accomplished through the hearings. "Where We Are in Vocational Education" quotes some figures on where we are in voc. ed. and cites a few of the problems facing us due to rapid growth, etc. The third slide/tape was prepared by the Texas Employment Commission and is entitled "Job Scene 1985" and gives an overview of the job opportunities between now and 1985. All three presentations run about 6 minutes each and may be borrowed at no cost (except postage & insurance) or purchased for \$15 each. Interested parties may contact Jeanine Hicks at the ACTIVE office.

Council Expresses Appreciation

This is to express our sincere gratitude to so many of you who have expressed concern and support for the Council and its role in Vocational Education in Texas. We are indeed grateful for the many legislators who were very supportive of the Council and its needs during this legislative session when some questions were raised on the work of the Council and our funding level was in jeopardy. This experience has underlined the fact that several of our legislators do not see the need for a State Advisory Council on Vocational Education.

As a result of the action taken during the 66th Legislature, the Council will have its 1980-81 level of funding cut by about 15%, plus inflation. This will mean a reduction in staff from eight to six. The Council was also placed under the provisions of the Sunset Act, and its continuation under state statute will be reviewed by the 68th Legislature in 1983.

The twenty-four citizen members of the Council and its staff are committed to responding to the mandates of the U. S. Congress and the Texas Legislature and the needs of vocational education in Texas. We look forward to working with each of you in the best interest of vocational education.

Community-Based Career Education

A new film produced by the National Association for Industry-Education Cooperation is a fine introduction to community-based education advisory councils as mechanisms for local work-education collaboration. Produced with a grant from the U. S. Office of Career Education, the film touches on community resources workshops, staff and curriculum development, job placement, career guidance, work experience and other topics. "Community-Based Career Education Advisory Councils" is available through the National Audio-Visual Center, General Services Administration, Reference Section, Washington, D. C. 20409. A free manual to accompany the film is available from NAIEC, 235 Hendricks Blvd., Buffalo, N. Y. 14226.

(HERE AND THERE, continued from page 1)

tant in the Division of Adult Programs of TEA, has been elected state coordinator of the National Association for the Advancement of Black Americans in Vocational Education. Angie Grace, ACTIVE program officer, has been elected coordinator for region six for the NAABAVE.

NEW VOC ED CENTERS -- Vocational and technical education in the Houston Independent School District is expanding to two new campuses this year, replacing the present Houston Technical Institute campus. The new Barbara Jordan Technical Institute, located in the northern part of Houston, is being built at a cost of more than nine million dollars and is scheduled for completion by August of 1979. A strong curriculum in the transportation industry will be provided.

Milby High School, located in the southeast part of Houston, will provide a special curriculum in the construction and petrochemical industries. More than nine million dollars is being spent in renovation and new construction. This facility is also scheduled for completion by the

opening of next school year.

The High School for Health Professions will have a new home in the heart of the Texas Medical Center. The new six million dollar project is a joint effort between the Houston Independent School District, Texas Medical Center and Houston Community College. This unique facility, scheduled for completion by December 1979, is specifically designed for students who have a wide range of interests, abilities and desire to develop occupational competencies as a medical paraprofessional or pursue a professional degree in a field related to the high school training.

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