

NewsLine

Marcus Hill
Chair



Ann Hodge
Vice Chair



Hill, Hodge Elected to Head Council

Marcus Hill, a Fort Worth insurance executive, and Ann Hodge, a Houston based waste disposal industry governmental relations director, have been elected to head the Texas Council on Vocational Education, a state agency that advises the State Board of Education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on education and training policies and initiatives.

Hill, a native of Sulphur Springs, is president of the Agricultural Workers Mutual Auto Insurance Company. He will serve as chair. Hodge, who came to Texas in 1982 from California, is director of External Affairs for the Southwest Region of Browning-Ferris Industries. She will serve as vice chair. Both were elected at a July 18-19 meeting of the Council in Corpus Christi.

Also elected to serve on the Council's Executive Committee were: Martha Hinojosa-Nadler, Austin, division manager for Marketing Business Sales with Southwestern Bell; Shirlene Cook, a Beaumont Independent School District vocational counselor; and Lillian Suchoff, Corpus Christi, a Spanish and English as a Second Language teacher.

Salons Boost Vocational Budget, Bypass Governance Changes

Overall funding for vocational education was boosted to the \$700 million a year level in the two-year \$59.4 billion state appropriations bill approved by the Legislature during the special session that ended August 13 in Austin. School districts are the chief benefi-

ciaries of funding increases, with community colleges and apprenticeship training continuing to lag behind the demand for services.

The Legislature did not pass proposals to eliminate special funding for vocational education at grade nine and to consolidate the state level governance of vocational education under a single state board. These proposals were a part of State Comptroller John Sharp's recommended government efficiency and cost savings measures presented to the Legislature to address a state budget crisis.

The Legislature did consolidate numerous health, human services, transportation, and environmental functions into superagencies, and included a rider in the appropriations bill calling for the complete reorganization of the Texas Education Agency by January 1. Proposals to transfer adult education and the Job Training Partnership Act from the Texas Education Agency and Texas Department of Commerce did not pass.

Figure 1 (see page 2) denotes the 1991-92 and 1992-93 budget levels for vocational education. The biennial budget period began September 1.

Vocational Funding. School districts will receive \$342.8 and \$378.7 million in state foundation school program dollars for vocational education over the next two years, substantial increases over \$291.1 million in state funding available in 1990-91. The availability of dollars for classroom instruc-

(See LEGISLATURE, page 2)

Fifth Annual Awards Program Set to Begin

The Fifth Annual *Texas Vocational Education Awards Program* will culminate with a banquet next March 28 at the Wyndham Southpark Hotel in Austin, says Lillian Suchoff, Corpus Christi, a member of the Texas Council on Vocational Education and Awards Program Committee Chair.

The awards program is coordinated by T/COVE, and sponsored by a vocational-technical foundation with support from businesses and organizations. The program recognizes outstanding high school and college students, business and education partnerships, and exemplary advisory committees that work with schools and colleges.



Lillian Suchoff
Awards Chair

Suchoff said nomination packets will be mailed to all school districts, community colleges, and technical institutes beginning October 1. January 17 is the nominations deadline. Nine awards will be presented in six categories:

- Outstanding Student
- Outstanding Disabled Student
- Special Achievement Student
- Vocational Alumni
- Business/Labor Involvement
- Exemplary Advisory Committee

Secondary and postsecondary awards will be presented in the Outstanding Student, Outstanding Disabled Student, and Special Achievement Student categories.

Both the winners and finalists, to be selected in late January, will be invited to attend the awards banquet.

Inside This Issue:

	Page
Vocational Budget Levels	2
New Council Members Appointed	3
Business Leaders Get Involved	3
Postsecondary Conference Set	3
Adult Conference Scheduled	3
Board Acts on Rule Changes	4
Delgado Wins National Award	4

Legislature Passes State Budget (continued from page 1)

tion will not grow that dramatically, however, due to Legislative actions the past two years that allow funds to be used — beginning September 1 — to help pay a school district's indirect costs and also to help fund the state's quality work force planning system comprised of 24 regions.

The Legislature appropriated community colleges and the Texas State Technical College System \$272.7 and \$270.1 million in state dollars for the next two years to fund technical-vocational programs, with TSTC receiving \$48.6 and \$45.9 million of these amounts. The funding levels for community colleges and TSTC over the next two years compares to \$257.8 million in 1990-91 and \$259.0 million in 1984-85.

A rider in the appropriations bill calls for a review of TSTC's operations and the continued need for each of the main campuses (i.e., Waco, Harlingen, Sweetwater, Amarillo) and all extension centers.

Apprenticeship training — which is administered through the Texas Education Agency — will receive \$1.4 and \$1.6 million in state funds over the next two years, which compares to a funding level of nearly \$2.1 in 1984-85. A rider allows up to \$30,000 per

year in apprenticeship funds to be used for statewide inservice training of instructors.

The Texas Council on Vocational Education's funding levels of \$230,780 in 1992 and \$234,780 in 1993 compare to \$232,331 in 1985.

Regional Planning. The appropriations bill contains a rider stipulating that up to \$1.1 million can be set aside each of the next two years from state vocational funds going to school districts for use in funding the state's system of quality work force planning. The same rider calls for \$450,000 and \$500,000 over the next two years to be taken from Job Training Partnership Act funds for the system, and for \$200,000 each year of the biennium — if deemed legal by the U.S. Department of Education — to be taken from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's federal funds for state leadership activities (note: the USDE has subsequently ruled the funds cannot be used for this purpose).

Adult Education. The Legislature appropriated \$25.8 and \$21.3 million over the next two years for adult education programs (e.g., adult basic education, GED).

A rider stipulates that priority be placed

on adult literacy programs, with emphasis on serving AFDC clients, at not less than \$2 million per year.

TEA Reorganization. The Legislature appropriated the Texas Education Agency lump sums of \$48.3 and \$48.8 million for the 1992-93 biennium for administrative costs — near the current budget level — and attached a rider directing Commissioner of Education Lionel "Skip" Meno to have a new organization plan in place by January 1.

The rider stipulates that the new structure shall reduce the number of operating units, streamline organizational decision making, use a system of management accountability, and provide for consolidation of existing functions for administrative services, policy development activities, and education support. The Legislative Education Board and Legislative Budget Board must review the plan prior to implementation. Commissioner Meno plans to announce his reorganization plan in October.



Skip Meno

Figure 1
Vocational Education Budget Levels
1992-93 Biennium

Level	Revenue Source(s)	1991	1992	1993
School Districts	State/Some Local	\$291,163,772	\$342,820,440	\$378,686,759
Community Colleges/TSTI	State	257,813,439	272,718,247	270,074,493
Secondary/Postsecondary*	Federal	65,037,969	70,820,391	70,820,391
Apprenticeship	State	1,148,750	1,448,750	1,648,750
Texas Council	Federal/State	245,848	230,780	234,780
Totals		\$615,409,778	\$688,038,608	\$721,465,173

* Funds received under federal vocational legislation. Funds are split between secondary and postsecondary levels. The Texas Education Agency and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board determine the split each year, with the State Board of Education having final say on the division of funds. The secondary level will receive 60.28% of the \$70.89 million in federal funds available for 1991-92. The split for 1992-93 will be determined next spring. Federal funds are used to supplement state administration and leadership activities (e.g., curriculum development, teacher training, research); services to single parents, displaced homemakers, and single pregnant women; initiatives to achieve sex equity in vocational programs; services for criminal offenders; local programs and services, with an emphasis on serving special needs groups and integrating academic and vocational education; and special programs, such as tech prep that link high school and postsecondary programs.

Note: The 1992-93 Appropriations Bill does not denote line item breakouts for community college occupational programs. The dollar amounts shown are vocational education's projected share of appropriations, based on contacts with the Legislative Budget Board. This table does not reflect federal funds carried over from a previous year. Unexpended federal funds can be carried over. Unexpended state funds cannot. In 1989, for example, the Legislature appropriated the Council \$245,848 for 1990-91. The Council's budget is actually \$269,144, which contains \$24,744 in federal funds carried over from the previous year.

Sources: General Appropriations Bill for 1992-93 fiscal years, and Legislative Budget Board estimates of current funding levels. The 1992-93 biennium began September 1, 1991.

State Board Appoints New Council Members

The State Board of Education has appointed four new members to the Texas Council on Vocational Education.

Martha Hinojosa-Nadler, Austin, division manager, Marketing Business Sales, Southwestern Bell, was appointed in June to replace Houston attorney Lewis Cook as a representative of the State Job Training Coordinating Council on T/COVE. Hinojosa-Nadler has worked in operator services, human resources, administrative services, network distributions, forecasting, regulatory relations, and marketing at Southwest-

ern Bell prior to assuming her current position. She was elected in July by fellow T/COVE members to serve on the Council's Executive Committee.

Cynthia Fobbs Morton, Dallas, was appointed in June to fill the unexpired term of Diane Troyer who resigned her El Paso Community College occupational education dean position to accept out-of-state employment. Morton's background is teaching, paralegal work, and guidance, including a counselling position at Brookhaven College.

Theodore A. Talbot, Waco, an economic development and trade consultant, was appointed in July to replace San Antonio businessman William Zinsmeyer who did not seek reappointment. Talbot, who is honorary consul to his native British Guyana on trade issues, retired earlier this year from

his dual positions of vice chancellor for Human Resources and secretary to the Board of Regents of Texas State Technical Institute.

Appointed in September was Sylvia Talavera Blain, bilingual (Spanish) instructor of Cosmetology at Odessa College, to replace Austin Community College executive Bert Marcom whose term expired. (Note: Her photo will appear in the next Newsline).

Morton's term expires in 1992. The other appointments are for three years. All four appointments were recommended by Governor Ann Richards.



Martha Hinojosa-Nadler



Cynthia Fobbs Morton



Theodore A. Talbot

TAPSOEA Plans 'Sun City' Conference

The annual Texas Association of Postsecondary Occupational Education Administrators Fall Conference will be held October 9-11 at the Westin Paso del Norte Hotel in El Paso.

Texas: Partnerships in an International Marketplace is the conference theme. Among topics to be addressed are the impact of free trade on technical education, tech prep, one-plus-one technical programs, defining related academic skills, assessing professional improvement, environmental programs, and the "New Texas."

For more information, contact Ronnie Glasscock, president, TAPSOEA, at (806) 747-0576.

New Caney Business Leaders Get Involved In Helping Students Prepare for the Future

"In an effort to form a business and education alliance, New Caney business leaders have become an integral and significant part of the faculty of the New Caney Independent School District," says Cindy Middleton, vocational counselor.

"Some forty business and community leaders teach courses through the Junior Achievement Curriculum," she says. "These courses focus on the integration of business experience and educational concepts. The correlation between education and business success is always emphasized."

Organized through the vocational guidance department and taught through vocational courses, last year New Caney had twenty-two business sponsors teaching through three programs at the intermediate, middle, and high school. This year the organization has grown to forty business people with five programs at four campuses, including one elementary school.

"In addition to the time these business people have dedicated to the classroom, each one of them has received special training through Junior Achievement," says Middleton. "Through their experience and expertise, the business sponsors have helped students establish goals, and have served as both mentors and special friends."

"Many of the business sponsors have gone beyond the bounds of the curriculum, taking students on field trips, helping them find employment, locating money for scholarships, and assisting them in personal problems," she adds. "Their input into the school system has truly been remarkable."

Briefly, the courses now underway include:

- Focusing on-Citizenship (2nd grade);
- Business Basics-Focusing on Basic Business Principles (5th grade);
- Project Business-Focusing on Free-enterprise, Capitalism (8th grade);
- J.A. Mini-Companies-Focusing on Entrepreneurship and Management (high school); and
- Applied Economics-Focusing on the practical application of economic principles in business (high school).

"The business sponsors in New Caney come from all phases of work experience; therefore, they have put New Caney students on the leading edge of corporate skills and technology," says Middleton. "Their contribution has been one which not only has prepared students for their futures, but has drawn our community and schools closer together, establishing a team approach to education."

Adult Conference Planned Oct. 9-11

The Texas Education Agency's annual Adult and Community Education State Conference will be held October 9-11 at the Doubletree Hotel in Austin.

The conference theme is *Communitas, Communication, and Commitment to Learning*. Topics will include sessions on family literacy, workplace literacy, dropout prevention and recovery programs, school-age child care, parent programs, extended-day programs, and instructional approaches for special populations including computer-assisted instruction.

The onsite registration fee is \$35. For more information, contact the TEA at (512) 463-9447.

Next Meeting

The Texas Council on Vocational Education meets September 26 at the Wyndham Southpark Hotel in Austin.

Board Acts on Voc Ed Changes

The State Board of Education — at its September 12-14 meeting in Austin — gave final approval to a rule change permitting school districts to use up to 15 percent of their state vocational funds for *indirect costs* (e.g., administration).

The change complies with a legislative directive passed in 1989 allowing a portion of state vocational dollars — at a level set by the Board — to be used for this purpose beginning with the 1991-92 school year. The percent set by the Board is the same as for other special programs (i.e., compensatory education, bilingual education, special education, gifted and talented).

Other Board actions on voc ed were:

•passed a rule on *emergency adoption* and the first of three readings permitting private industry councils established under the Job Training Partnership Act to serve as fiscal agents for *Quality Work Force Planning Committees*;

•repealed on the first of three readings a rule requiring sunset reviews of vocational programs in lieu of legislation passed this year requiring the quality and effectiveness

of vocational education to be considered as a part of the same accreditation process that impacts academic programs;

•passed on the first of three readings a rule change requiring local advisory councils for vocational education to have at least two members that are parents, including at least one parent of a student who is a member of a special population group;

•approved a time schedule for the biennial update of the Master Plan for Vocational Education, which includes Board review of a proposed draft next June, a public hearing in July, and final action next September; and

•appointed a new member to the Texas Council on Vocational Education (see Council Appointments on page 3).

At its September meeting, the Board adopted a policy statement on middle grade education and middle grade schools. Developed by an ad hoc committee chaired by Board member Mary Perkins, Lufkin, the policy statement addresses curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional growth and development, student support, and community involvement.

Delgado Garners Top Special Student Award

Lana Delgado, travel and tourism major at North Harris County College in Kingwood, was honored June 7 in Washington, D.C., as the 1991 *National Special Populations Student Award* winner, presented by the National Council on Vocational Education.

Delgado plans to consult the travel industry on making products and services more accessible to the elderly and disabled. Confined to a wheelchair, she entered the program after encountering problems traveling on airlines. She holds a business degree from the University of Houston and works for a petroleum company in Houston.

Delgado was nominated for the award by the Texas Council on Vocational Education. She was the 1991 recipient of the Texas Vocational Education Awards Program *Postsecondary Special Achievement Student Award* (see related article on page 1).

Will Reece, Executive Director
George F. Matott, Program Officer
Lynda Rife, Chief Researcher
Valeria Blaschke, Adm. Technician
Selena Calley, Secretary

Texas Council on Vocational Education
P. O. Box 1886
Austin, Texas 78767
512/463-5490

Marcus Hill
Chair
Fort Worth

Ann F. Hodge
Vice Chair
Houston

Mike Bickley
Lufkin
Sylvia Blain
Odessa
Shirlene S. Cook
Beaumont
Martha Hinojosa-Nalder
Austin
Edward L. Lehman
Vernon
Ted Martinez, Jr.
Dallas
Cynthia Fobbs Morton
Dallas
Jack C. Pennington
Garland
Henry R. Sollers
Cotulla
Lillian J. Suchoff
Corpus Christi
Theodore Talbot
Waco

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