

## GRANT ACTIVITIES

### **Richard Evans – Dyslexia and ELL**

#### Summary

The main goal of this study is to identify the effects of the Dyslexia reading program on L2 reading skills for L1 Spanish speaking students. Bilingual programs are under intense scrutiny and criticism at the national, state and local levels. They are challenged for failing to assure accelerated reading and language skills for students who transfer to English programs, and for maintaining students too long in Spanish only environments. Empirical evidence for alternative guidelines is needed and this pilot study could provide the beginning of such evidence in the area of reading. The design is composed of two groups that are six students each, randomly assigned to tutors. The treatment for the experimental group is a Dyslexia style reading program. The dependent variables in the design will be a) student progress in English reading, b) student continued progress in Spanish reading if applicable, c) student reading performance at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year.

Richard A. Evans, Ph.D.

Special Education Program Advisor

COE - Dept of Teacher Education

Angelo State University

2601 W. Avenue N

San Angelo, Texas 76909

CARR # 120

325-942-2052

Fax: 325-942-2039

### **Donna Gee, et al – TQ Grant (Math)**

Ref: Draft of Press Release

Contact: Roy Ivey

### **ASU Professors Win Grants for Teacher Training**

Region XV teachers will benefit from two Teacher Quality Grants awarded to three Angelo State University professors by the U.S. Department of Education through the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Dr. Andrew Wallace and Dr. David Bixler of the ASU Physics Department and Dr. Donna Gee of the Teacher Education Department will work with area teachers on two separate two-year projects designed to improve elementary school number sense and secondary school physics education.

Gee is in her first year at ASU, and has worked with similar programs at other institutions. She received \$170,000 for her project, "Enhancing Number Sense," to train teachers of grades 3-5. The purpose of the program is to give teachers a deeper understanding of mathematical number sense to help them implement that knowledge in the classroom to increase student achievement. The project is a partnership between ASU and the San Angelo Independent School District.

The 15 teachers chosen will each **earn** six hours of graduate credit in teacher education and 120 professional development hours **over the two year period by** attending summer institutes at ASU this year and in 2010.

The teachers will participate in classroom implementation planning June 10-12, **August 17**, and four all-day sessions in Fall 2009 and Fall 2010. Among the benefits of the program, teachers will receive \$300 stipends upon completion of the summer institutes, \$450 at the end of each academic year, \$450 in supplies to use in the classroom and a laptop computer.

Dr. Trey Smith of the ASU Mathematics Department will teach a class on math during the program.

The initial application deadline was May 1, but applications submitted after that will be considered until all 15 positions are filled or until June 1 when the summer institute begins.

More information is available by calling Gee at (325) 942-2052 or sending an e-mail to [donna.gee@angelo.edu](mailto:donna.gee@angelo.edu).

Wallace and Bixler's \$200,000 grant will fund work with 16-20 teachers. This project is their fourth and they typically work with 15 teachers, mostly from Region XV's 43 independent school districts and three consolidated school districts. This project will focus on high school science teachers, who mostly teach biology and chemistry, to bring them up to speed on physics.

Participants will attend a 72-hour summer institute July 20-31 on the ASU campus and will go to the Conference for the Advancement of Science Teaching (CAST) in October in Galveston. The program will pay travel expenses and registration fees. The conference is the largest in the nation with 6,500 teachers attending, Wallace said.

During the summer sessions, they will do "make and take" projects that they can use in their classrooms, Wallace said. They will also take a field trip to an undetermined site related to physics. Last year, they toured the nuclear reactor at the University of Texas in Austin.

The teachers will then participate in three academic workshops during the 2009-10 school year at the Region XV Service Center with Amy Rutherford, a secondary science consultant in curriculum.

For their efforts, the teachers will each get a 72-hour certificate, a laptop computer and \$1,000 upon completion to compensate them for the hours they will lose by not teaching summer school.

Deadline for applying to participate in the program is June 12.

Wallace said each high school science teacher in Region XV has been contacted, but interested teachers can send an e-mail to Wallace at [andy.wallace@angelo.edu](mailto:andy.wallace@angelo.edu) for information.

Marilyn Eisenwine:  
here is the wiki address  
<http://ramps.wikispaces.com/>

Here is a link to the Pearl of the Concho Writing Project website.  
<http://www.angelo.edu/dept/education/writingproject.html>