

March 20th
Scurry County Coliseum

For Reservations Call
The Visitor and Conference
Center @ 325.573.8511
ext. 220 or 240
or email thecenter@wtc.edu

Sunday, February 15, 2004

Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave. Snyder, TX 79549

WTC Theatre Department Performs "The Mai"

The opening of the 2004 theatre season is upon us. The first play of the season is "The Mia", a drama by Irish playwright Marina Carr. Performances are set for February 19-21 at 7:30 pm and February 22 at 2 pm in the WTC Fine Arts Theatre.

"The Mia" is a drama about an accomplished, beautiful forty-year-old woman who has always sought an exceptional life.

Robert, her cellist husband, has always felt stifled by the Mai's ideals of perfection. After seventeen years he leaves her whereupon she sets about building a dream house in the hope that he will one day return to her.

From her fairytale castle, The Mai waits by the window for her dark-haired prince to return.

Set in the inspiring surrounds of the West of Ireland, on the banks

of the legendary Owl Lake, we enter this world on the day of Robert's return after an absence of four years.

"The Mia" is an epic tale of love and loss, of elusive dreams shattered by vulgar but inescapable reality.

Ticket prices are \$5 for Adults, \$3 for Seniors and Students, WTC faculty, staff and students are admitted free.



Art Department Sponsors High School Art Competition

The Art Department at WTC is sponsoring the 12th Annual West Texas High School Art Competition this Saturday, February 21. The competition is open to all high school students living in West Texas. There are two divisions, Division 1 being 9th and 10th grade students and Division 2 being 11th and 12th grade students.

The competition is a juried art exhibition. Juror will be Professor Pam Price from the University of Texas Permian Basin in Odessa. She teaches drawing, painting, printmaking, computer printmaking, and art technology at UTPB. A critique of the winning artwork will be given by Professor Price at the awards ceremony at the end of the competition.

All entries must be original and executed within the last two years. The media accepted at in the competition are ceramics, sculpture, glass, drawing, graphics, painting, fibers, photography, and mixed media. All entries must be brought to the Fine Arts Building on the WTC campus between 10 am and 12 noon Saturday, February 21. There will be \$300 in cash awards, as well as scholarship awards up to \$1,000.

The Art Department will host an open house on the day of the competition featuring workshops and demonstrations by WTC Art Department faculty, as well as portfolio reviews for scholarship applicants.

For further information or entry forms, please contact Ben Sum at the Art Department, Western Texas College, 325-573-8511, ext. 235 or email at bsum@wtc.edu.

Celebrity Additions to Baugh Celebration

The celebrity list is growing as Dave Hanes, WTC Athletic Director, continues to work on confirmations of guest speakers for the "Sammy Baugh, A Celebration of a Living Legend."

Recent additions are 1957 Heisman Trophy winner John David Crow who played for Texas A&M

and then went on to join the San Francisco 49ers and win a World Championship and Donny Anderson who played under Vince Lombardi with the Green Bay Packers who walked away with the World Championship in Super Bowl I. Payton Manning, who will not be able to attend the event because

of previous obligations, will be recording a video to honor Baugh that will be played during the birthday celebration.

The event will take place on March 20 from 7-9 at the Scurry County Coliseum. To reserve a seat call 325.573.8511, ext. 220 or 240 or email thecenter@wtc.edu.

Spring 2004 Enrollment Report Is Encouraging

by Dr. Jim Clifton, Dean of Student Services

Western Texas College has put together its most recent semester enrollment statistics and finds that, when compared to the same period from our last non-funding year, 2002, we are still gaining in our student base.

One thing that many people do when they begin comparing numbers, particularly headcount of students, is fail to put the semester into context and allow proper comparison. It's the apples-to-apples thing. As discussed in the following paragraph, you will be able to see that trends require specific analysis to gain an understanding of what they mean.

All institutions of higher education in Texas are closing out the last of a non-funding year. Since funding years run on a two-year schedule, in order for us to accurately compare this spring's enrollment, we have to look to the spring semester from two years ago to scrutinize our present performance. This isn't an effort to overlook the fact that numbers are down somewhat from last fall or even last spring when we set records for WTC enrollment, as much as it is a way to study specific categories within the report. This gives us the ability to see what is working and recognize what needs help.

For this semester, our total headcount is 1598 students, 12% more than we had in the last non-funding spring semester. Our total Full Time Equivalencies (FTE) are up 14%. This is the calculated number of full-time students we would have if we divided the headcount by the total number of class hours taken, and is one of the parameters the state actually looks at during a funding year. Speaking of class hours, which we further classify as credit contact hours, WTC is up 12% from two years ago.

One of the other directions we look at when putting an enrollment report together is the nature of student involvement, their class location, demographics, and student characteristics. Our part-time student numbers are up 12% and our full-time numbers are up 13%.

We also have more students taking advantage of dual-enrollment while they are in high school. The number of students getting college credit through this venue is up 22%. It would be a good place right here to mention that Western Texas College is the 4th largest institution in Texas that is serving students through the Virtual College of Texas. That includes every university and college in the state.

Western Texas College is in its third year of surveying new students as they arrive at the institution through a study done by the Higher Education Research Institute, housed at UCLA. This study tells us what kind of students arrive at our doorstep, how we can meet their needs better, and what their expectations are of higher education.

This semester's survey tells us

that 61.5% of our new students describe themselves as intellectually self-confident, and 53.8% as socially self-confident. Twenty-eight percent come from homes over 100 miles away, 16% from within ten miles. Forty percent of our students come from families with a total household income of less than \$29,000, and 34.6% are depending on financial aid from various sources of between \$1000 and

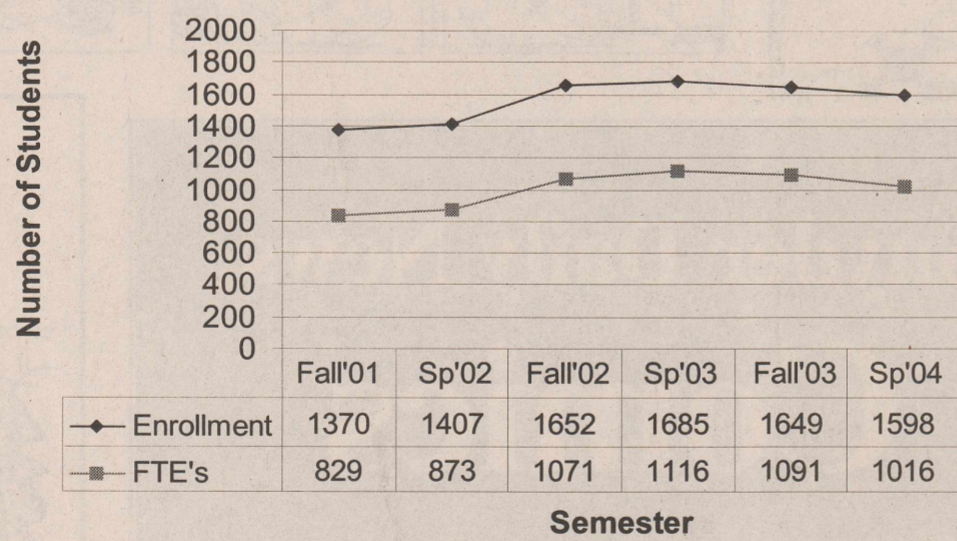
\$2999. Sixty-nine percent say they are coming to college to qualify for a good job, and at least 20% realize they are going to need extra help in math, reading, writing, and English.

These kinds of facts, along with what we learn from critical comparison of our institutional numbers, help us maintain our flexibility and adaptability in serving the students of our district,

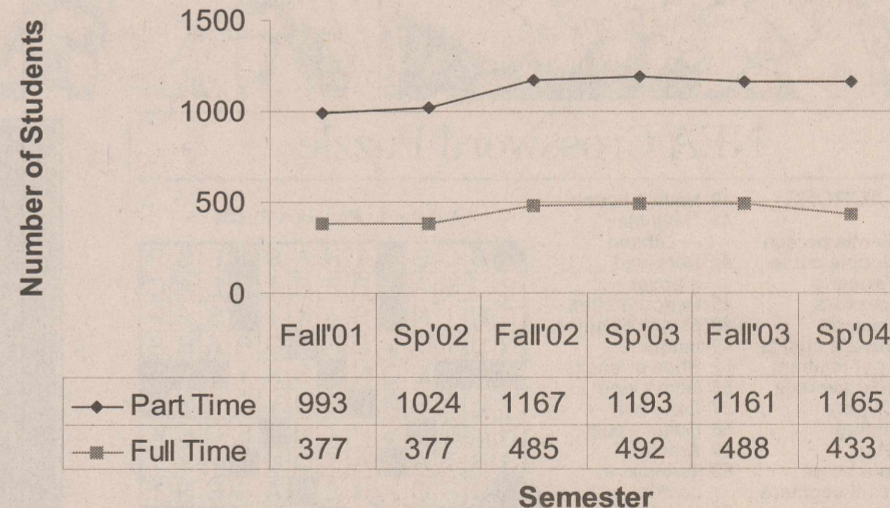
region, and state.

The faculty and staff of Western Texas College are proud to be reaching even further ahead and realizing greater results than even we anticipated. Our ongoing efforts in effectiveness and efficiency are paying the greatest benefits to students who make the wise choice of attending WTC, a trend setting institution of higher education.

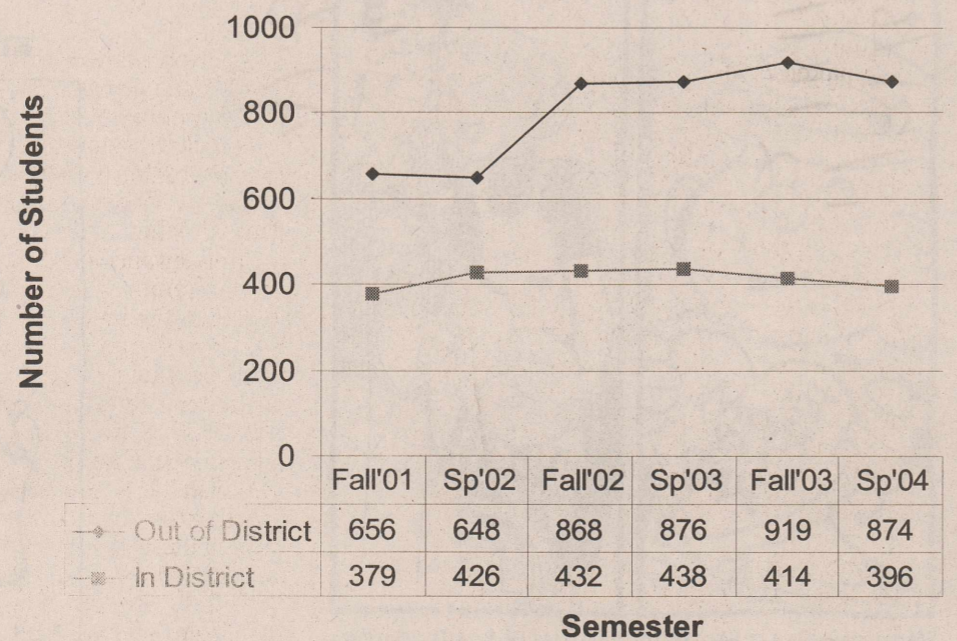
Total Enrollment and FTE's



Part Time and Full Time



In District and Out of District



Contact Hours

