

# FISCAL YEAR 2009 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

## GENERAL QUESTIONNAIRE -- REP. Michael Burgess (TX-26)

Must be completed and submitted NO LATER than COB March 7,  
2008

Please submit completed questionnaire to [josh.martin@mail.house.gov](mailto:josh.martin@mail.house.gov)

***PLEASE NOTE: ALL REQUESTS MUST INCLUDE A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST ON OFFICIAL LETTERHEAD EXPLAINING THE PROJECT. THIS QUESTIONNAIRE SHOULD ACCOMPANY, NOT REPLACE, A FORMAL LETTER OF REQUEST AND ANY OTHER QUESTIONNAIRE***

### I. PROJECT BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

1. Please provide a formal name for this project:

DOCTORATE IN NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICE INITIATIVE

2. Please describe the project and its purpose:

This project will support TWU's new doctorate program of nurse anesthesia practice—the second doctoral program of its kind in the United States, and the only program to be offered 100% on-line — originating from the main campus of Texas Wesleyan University. The objective is to develop a distance learning program (utilizing recent advances in distance learning methodologies) that will provide extended education to full-time employed Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) who are located in rural or metropolitan areas of the United States. This project provides education via new technologies, including distance learning methodologies, and addresses the Healthy People 2010 goal set by HHS to eliminate health disparities.

3. Please outline the project plan, including the finance plan:

**DOCTORATE OF NURSE ANESTHESIA PRACTICE INITIATIVE**  
**PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FY 2009**

**IP Network Enhancements and Upgrades** **\$880,000**

Improve and upgrade the network and server/system resources at the University, including the core switches, intra-building wiring, and edge devices to permit the deployment of Gigabit Ethernet service in the design and digital design facilities in support of the distance learning initiative.

**Telecommunications Upgrade and Enhancements** **\$400,000**

Extend the internal campus telephone system to the model currently utilized in Texas Wesleyan's School of Law -- IP telephony. This system upgrade includes integrated voice, data, email and multimedia files allowing increased communications in a virtual office environment with students participating in distance learning programs.

**System Enhancements and Upgrades** **\$150,000**

Improve and upgrade the network and server/system resources at the core of the University – the West Library—including modern back-up, disaster recovery, and IP/SAN technology, thereby enhancing the network for all University locations.

**Audio/Visual Instructional Technology Enhancements** **\$70,000**

Enhance current audio/visual technologies for curriculum development and deployment to support instructional needs for the new distance learning program to include streaming media (audio, video, image, etc.) via the web, including equipment, software, subscriptions and licenses.

**TOTAL** **\$1,500,000**

## **II. BENEFIT TO THE 26<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT AND/OR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

1. Please explain how this project will improve life, the economy or the general welfare of the 26<sup>th</sup> District and/or the country at-large. Please be specific (i.e. outline number of jobs created, savings to economy or taxpayers, improve national security):

Texas Wesleyan University is well positioned as a demonstration site for showcasing best practices in preparing students for a doctorate in nurse anesthesia. With a significant achievement in the CRNA exam passage rate and employment placement rate in the master's program for nurse anesthesia, Texas Wesleyan University has a track record of success in education and workplace preparedness. Since its origin 118 years ago as a training ground for business and education, the University has nurtured close ties to industry as well as area school districts by recognizing the importance of higher education responding to the needs employers both locally and across the nation. **Over 50 percent of CRNA's in Fort Worth are TWU graduates. TWU's CRNA students use Harris Methodist Hospital as their primary clinical training site.**

2. Please explain why this project should be considered a priority:

The number of doctoral prepared educators and administrators is low and it is estimated that 35% of the current CRNAs will retire by 2015. Because a shortage of nurse anesthetists already exists in this country, the need to produce qualified anesthesia providers will continue for years to come. Many nurse anesthesia programs currently do not have a doctoral prepared educator on staff. This program will train the future faculty that will help prepare and increase the number of highly qualified CRNAs needed in the United States, especially in our rural and medically underserved communities.

## **III. REQUEST**

1. Amount of money you are requesting:

\$1.5M

2. Agency from which you are requesting funds:

HHS

3. Account from which you are requesting funds:

HRSA

#### **IV. FUNDING HISTORY**

1. What is the total project cost and can you provide a federal-state/local-other funding breakdown?

\$1.86M; \$1.5 federal/\$360,000 private

2. Has the project ever received federal funds before? If so, please elaborate.

No.

3. Has the project received state, local or private funds before? If so, please elaborate.

Yes, Texas Wesleyan has provided \$360,000 in private matching funds for this project.

4. Can you demonstrate a commitment for future funds from state, local, or private sectors? If so, please elaborate to the extent possible.

Texas Wesleyan University has provided \$360,000 in private matching funds for this project. After initial start-up, the project will be self-sustaining with the revenues earned through tuition payments by the students seeking their doctoral degrees.

5. How do you intend to spend federal funds for this project (operating, construction, studies, equipment purchase, salaries, other)?

Please see budget above.

6. Does the project request stem from a currently-funded federal program (i.e., an already existing congressional authorization)? If so, please explain and be as specific as possible.

Yes, HRSA

#### **V. PROJECT HISTORY**

1. Please briefly explain the level of support for the project in the local and any other community (if letters of support exist, please attach to this form).

The program has broad community support whereas 50 percent of CRNA's in Fort Worth are TWU graduates. Harris Methodist Hospital is the clinical site for TWU students.

2. Has the project encountered any objections within the local or other interested communities? If so, please describe (if letters or official records exist noting objections to the project, please attach to this form).

No

3. Please briefly explain the current stage and expected timeline of the project in a great a detail as possible.

After initial start-up, the project will be self-sustaining with the revenues earned through tuition payments by the students seeking their doctoral degrees.

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## VI. CONTACTS

1. Who is the primary point of contact for the request?

Deborah J. Roark  
Director of Grants & Research

2. Contact information (telephone and e-mail):

droark@txwes.edu  
Office: 817-531-6521 Fax: 817-531-7507  
Cell: 682-429-7561

3. Mailing address of entity that would receive the funding?

Texas Wesleyan University  
1201 Wesleyan St.  
Fort Worth, TX. 76105

## **VII. TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

1. How much of this request can be spent in fiscal year 2009?

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2. If this is a highway, transit, rail, or aviation request, did you check eligibility with the state DOT, FTA, FRA, or FAA?

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2a. If yes, did the agency indicate the project is eligible under the account requested?

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3. If this is an FHWA request, is the project considered by the state and/or regional transportation officials as critical to their needs?

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4. If a highway request, is the project on the state's transportation improvement plan?

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## **PRIORITY PROJECT REQUEST CRITERIA**

### **CERTIFICATION:**

I, Harold G. Jeffcoat, ATTEST THAT THIS PROJECT REQUEST MADE ON BEHALF OF Texas Wesleyan University MEETS THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. All appropriations requests must be a priority for the 26<sup>th</sup> District and/or the country-at large as defined as enhancing life, liberty, or the general welfare.
2. All requests must be a proper and wise use of federal taxpayer dollars and must be justified as such. Projects that include a commitment to match federal funds will receive priority consideration.
3. All requests will be immediately posted on the website and supporting documentation made available to press outlets and interested individuals.
4. None of the funding requested will be used for a building, program, or project that has been named for Congressman Michael C. Burgess, M.D. No request will be made that Congressman Burgess or his spouse has any financial interest.
5. All requests shall be made in accordance with House of Representatives rules, and within Appropriations Committee deadlines. No funding request will be submitted after the deadline established by the Committee

Name of person certifying    **Dr. Harold G. Jeffcoat**

Title of person certifying    **President**

Project name as it will appear in the bill **Doctorate in Nurse Anesthesia Practice**

Legal name of entity making request    **Texas Wesleyan University**

Address    **1201 Wesleyan St., Fort Worth, TX 76105**

  
Signature

*March 6, 2008*

Date