

**THE
BURKHART
CENTER
FOR AUTISM
EDUCATION
AND
RESEARCH**

Burkhart Buzz



You're Invited: Gala Latina

September 2009

Volume 1, Issue 4

The Caprock Foundation, in conjunction with local physicians, have established Gala Latina, a non-profit fundraising event that will promote and support local charity organizations in Lubbock and the surrounding communities.



Gala Latina: "Mi Cuba" Hosted by: Caprock Foundation

September 26, 2009
6:30 p.m.

This year, the Gala Latina committee has selected the Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research as its primary recipient with all proceeds from the event being donated to the Center.

On behalf of the Caprock Foundation, we want to extend an invita-

tion to participate in this exciting evening. This cocktail event will feature the Cuban culture and its authentic food, music, and entertainment.

Show your support by gathering friends and family to sponsor a table or simply purchase individuals tickets. Donations will also be ac-

cepted if you want to participate but are unable to attend the event.

For information about table sponsorship, to purchase individual tickets, or to make a donation please contact Lynda Weems at (806) 791-0077 ext. 244. We are honored to be recognized and look forward to your support.

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Introducing...Charles Ruch, Interim Dean of the College of Education

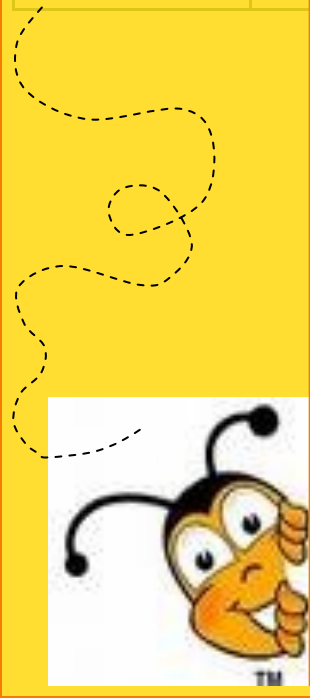


Texas Tech University announced in May that Dr. Charles P. Ruch (pronounced "rook") would serve as interim dean of the College of Education, effective June 1. With his impressive background in higher education, he is expected to be an exceptional leader during his time

at Texas Tech.

Dr. Ruch attended the College of Wooster where he received his bachelor's degree in Chemistry. He later went on to complete his master's and doctorate in Education from Northwestern University.

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During his professional career, Ruch has served as the provost, vice president of academic affairs, and dean of the College of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition, he was the President of Boise State University for ten years and most recently retired from his tenure at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology where he also served as President.

After retiring, Ruch became a member of the Registry for College and University Presidents, a nonprofit organization which engages former university

presidents interested in serving in interim leadership roles. Texas Tech Provost Bob Smith thought that finding an interim dean through the registry would be a winning situation for the university, and says, "It is a great advantage for Texas Tech to be able to draw on the resources of the registry to bring strong, proven leaders in to fill our short-term needs."

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Ruch to Lubbock, and believe that he will be a tremendous asset to both the College of Education and the Burkhart Center.

Upcoming Events

August 29, 2009	Swimming Party	7:00-9:00
September 4, 2009	Parents' Night Out	6:00-9:00
September 22, 2009	SPAN Meeting	6:30-8:00
September 26, 2009	Gala Latina	6:30-Late
October 2, 2009	Parents' Night Out	6:00-9:00
November 6, 2009	Parents' Night Out	6:00-9:00

PNO Update: After a short summer break, Parents' Night Out will resume in September. It will be held at Monterey Church of Christ located at 6111 82nd St. (82nd & Iola) on the first Friday of each month from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Despite the change in location, games, crafts, and play equipment will still be provided. If you are interested in bringing your children, please RSVP to the Burkhart Center prior to each event as space will be limited. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Susan Volland at susan.volland@ttu.edu. Hope to see you there!

A Closer Look: SPAN

As the school year begins, so do the meetings held by the South Plains Autism Network. Since 2003, SPAN has served our community by providing educational seminars that provide up-to-date information to parents and professionals in order to better meet the needs of children with autism.

SPAN also serves as a clearinghouse for information concerning local events and services related to autism. Emails are sent out weekly about training opportunities and activities for families.

This year, coordinator Sherry Sancibrian says meetings will cover topics that include Project IDEAL, establishing special needs trusts, working with children who have autism plus other disabilities, and accessing community resources.

SPAN meets at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday night of each month during the September-May school year. Meetings are held on the fourth floor of the east wing in room 4AB100.

Free childcare is provided by students in the Speech, Language, and Hearing Sciences department, and is located in the Speech and Hearing Clinic, room 2A300 on the 2nd floor.

For further information, or to sign up to receive emails, please contact Sherry Sancibrian at sherry.sancibrian@ttuhsc.edu. We encourage everyone to take advantage of this excellent resource.

Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research

College of Education
Texas Tech University
806.742.1998 x 458
burkhart.educ@ttu.edu
www.burkhartcenter.org