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Grandparents University® Scheduled to Launch at UNT In Summer of 2009

The University of North Texas will introduce ***Grandparents University***® during the summer of 2009, according to Dr. Michael McPherson, program dean.

The unique learning opportunity, scheduled for June 25-26 in 2009, will give multi-generational families the opportunity to experience college life together during the summer. It is also an optimal time to help alumni and other adults supportive of the UNT mission to become re-acquainted with the campus and to introduce their grandchildren to the many learning opportunities available at UNT.

During their time on campus, grandparent/child pairs will choose from a variety of “majors” on topics such as Art, Engineering, Merchandising, Mathematics, Athletics or History (all major topics to be determined). Participants will have a one of a kind chance to actually live on-campus and explore UNT. Students will engage child-friendly, hands-on learning that results in a ***Grandparents University***® “degree.”

UNT is seeking about 200 participants for the inaugural session in 2009. Children who attend will be between the ages of 7 and 14. Adult attendees are expected to be UNT alumni, supporters as well as members of the community at large. Program fees, specific dates and specific majors will be discussed over coming months.

As planning gets underway, UNT’s Center for Achievement and Lifelong Learning is seeking faculty and staff who are interested in identifying and crafting the topics of interest, the resulting curriculum and specific schedules for the attendees. As program leader, Dr. McPherson will be working closely with other UNT faculty/staff to prepare a major outreach campaign designed to draw attendees. Information sessions for those interested in participating will be scheduled for early in the fall 2008 semester. Some stipends will be available.

To submit a proposal for a ***Grandparents University***® major topic, or for more information on ***Grandparents University***®, please contact Tami Russell at (940) 565-3353, or email her at trussell@pdi.org.

The term Grandparents University® is a registered trademark of the United States Patent Office and is used with permission. ***Grandparents University***® at the University of North Texas is based on the program which originated in 2001 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.