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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**First generation US citizen gives back to the community  
through college preparatory mentoring program**

Fort Worth, March 30 – Fabiola Duron is a first generation US citizen and the first in her family to receive a college degree. To be “first” implies much. In Duron’s case, it allows her to be proud. Duron recently accepted the position as coordinator of Texas Wesleyan University’s Upward Bound Math and Science (UBMS) program.

“The position for the Upward Bound Math and Science program opened up, I applied and got it,” states Duron on her acceptance of the job.

According to Jane Moore, project director of UBMS, the goal of the UBMS is to help students improve their math and science skills and pursue degrees in these fields. A five-year grant award of \$1.1 million from the US Department of Education enables Texas Wesleyan University to offer this program to the community free of charge. The program, scheduled to start June 8, is a college preparatory course for students currently in high school. UBMS also aims to increase the students’ ability to relate to their peer group and provides them with new academic, social and cultural learning experiences.

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The program works with Polytechnic, North Side, Diamond Hill and Dunbar High Schools; however, all students from any area high school are eligible to apply. The program will enroll 50 students.

As coordinator of UBMS, Duron acts as an academic advisor to the students and organizes events. Duron visits with students every month to check report cards, making sure that they receive A's and B's in math and science. Once every month an Enrichment Saturday occurs and the group meets for a special event. The event varies each month but include activities such as field trips, SAT prep workshops and community service. Duron also helps students look at potential colleges and secure financial aid.

Before coming to Texas Wesleyan University, Duron worked with the Upward Bound Program at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Fort Worth.

Duron's parents made the move to Fort Worth from Mexico almost 33 years ago. The youngest of three, Duron received her high school diploma from R.L. Paschal High School and then furthered her education at the University of Texas at Arlington. Duron graduated from UTA last May, earning a bachelor's degree in Spanish with a minor in marketing. Duron plans to earn a master's degree in business administration.

Duron credits her success to the encouragement and support from her parents. As a young woman, Duron sees students who are facing some of the same problems she did and wishes to help them in the same manner. Duron hopes the new Upward Bound Math and Science program at Texas Wesleyan will build a good reputation and provide students with the help and encouragement they need. Duron says, "I can relate to these students and want to give them the same support and encouragement that my parents

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gave me.”

For more information on the Upward Bound Math and Science program, contact Dr. Jane Moore, project director, at (817) 531-4883.

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