



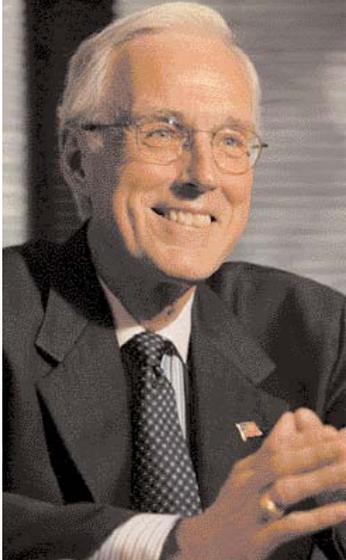
Austin College

MAGAZINE
OCTOBER 2006

A FINE
SPACE
FOR THE
FINE ARTS

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The New, The Beginning...



On August 28, Austin College began a new academic year full of great excitement and anticipation. That evening at Opening Convocation, Mr. Ron Suskind, author of the book *A Hope In the Unseen*, spoke to our freshman and senior classes, as well as the faculty and many friends of the College. This book was assigned to the freshman class as summer reading and it was a unique opportunity for students to interact with the author of the book soon after arriving on campus. As you read about our Opening Convocation in this magazine, I hope you will sense the excitement that we experienced in welcoming this new class to campus and congratulating our seniors on their accomplishments.

The freshman class this fall consists of 340 excellent students with very strong academic backgrounds. I was delighted to note that there were 58 legacies in this freshman class. We are always grateful to our alumni who send their children, grandchildren, cousins, or other family members to Austin College. The freshmen are joined by 39 transfer students to bring our new student count to 379. Overall enrollment for the fall semester is 1,345, with 53 of these students studying abroad.

As we begin the year, we look forward with great anticipation to the beginning of construction on the Betsy Dennis Forster Art Studio Complex. Through the work of the architectural firm of Linda Tycher Associates, Inc., construction drawings on this unique facility are nearly complete, and crews will begin construction in late fall with the goal of completion by mid-fall 2007. In addition, we soon will begin construction on the Sandra J. Williams Founders Plaza that will be featured in the area where Lockett Hall once stood. Adjacent to the Founders Plaza will be a newly designed Graduation Court that will create a beautiful setting for future Commencement programs.

As you read this magazine and reflect upon the differences — and the similarities — of college students over the past 40 or 50 years, I hope you will recognize the many advances made at Austin College during those changing times. Today's students bring a dynamic interest in a broad range of areas to our campus; therefore, as we look to the future we are designing programs and facilities to accommodate the needs of these students and of future generations.

I hope you enjoy this magazine, and I look forward to seeing you on campus at one of our events during the year.

Sincerely,
Oscar C. Page
President

AUSTIN COLLEGE

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AUSTIN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

October 2006

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C O N T E N T S

FEATURES

8 Then and Now

Many students entering college today have used computers since they were toddlers — and do not want to consider a day without cell phones and iPods. How did the students of the 1980s — and their predecessors — survive? This story takes a look at the cultural changes college students have experienced and the technological explosion that marks the Class of 2010.

24 A Fine Place for the Fine Arts

The Besty Forster Art Studio Complex will provide a “cool” new home for the Austin College Art Department, with studios and spaces that will make the fine arts more accessible to all students.



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Front Cover
2006 painting, "Olivine Wave," by Mark Smith
High density pigment on birch
Back Cover
Photo by Vickie S. Kirby

TODD PENNER EARNS MCINTOSH FELLOWSHIP, AMONG OTHER THINGS

In the past year, Associate Professor of Religious Studies **Todd Penner** completed a co-edited collection of essays on the work of early Christian scholar Heikki Räisänen; visited Helsinki, Finland, to lecture and hold a reception for Räisänen; earned a prestigious McIntosh Fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellow Foundation; and put the finishing touches on a book scheduled for release in November 2006. Penner is a voracious student of

early Christian scholarship who appears to write essays as freely as he breathes.

The essays in *Moving Beyond New Testament Theology? Essays in Conversation with Heikki Räisänen* (2005), edited with Caroline Vander Stichele of the University of Amsterdam, took more than five years to compile and publish. The essays respond to Räisänen's 1990 book *Beyond New Testament Theology*, which Penner said argues for a dispassionate and scientific study of religion, a study free from religious bias. "What Räisänen is arguing," Penner explained, "is that Christianity must give up its exclusive claims and place itself on a level playing field" when it comes to the scholarly study of religion. The 16 scholars in the Penner-Vander Stichele volume, including Räisänen himself who writes a response, address this topic from various angles.

Penner traveled to Helsinki, Finland, in April 2006 to give a lecture and attend a reception for Räisänen after the book's publication. "He was honored with our engagement in his work," Penner said.

A month later, Penner learned he had been selected as a Millicent C. McIntosh Fellow by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation. The

award comes with a \$20,000 stipend to support Penner's research.

Penner's ultimate goal is to understand religion as a human phenomenon, "to understand it complexly and ambiguously," he said. His McIntosh project will examine Christianity in both positive and depraved human terms, and gender is at the heart of his study. "Gender and sexuality get at the heart of individuals and communities," Penner said. "If you show gender mapped out into the origins of Christianity, then you start to get at the very core of the human element in the origin of Christianity."

Penner explores similar issues in another book with Vander Stichele, *Mapping Gender in Ancient Religious Discourses*, due in November 2006. Unlike many scholars, Penner argues that the structures of Christianity that gave it formation, substance, and power originated in the second century under Roman authority, not the first century. "The second century is the one that really matters, much more than the first," said Penner, who likens the early Christians to insurgents — the less powerful, subversive outcasts who wrote narratives. In the case of early Christianity, the accepted culture belonged to the Romans and the Greeks. The popularity of the early Christian narratives brought about the reign of Constantine, Penner said, because the early Christian martyrs gained power through death — and death on behalf of a cause was a very manly thing in Rome. "That's how Jesus' death is given meaning."

According to the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation, McIntosh Fellowships are awarded to "recently tenured faculty in the humanities at liberal arts colleges to support especially promising faculty who demonstrate a deep commitment to excellent teaching and scholarship in the humanities and who are exceptional citizens of the academic community."



PHOTO BY BRIAN BUILTA

Todd Penner

Professional Activities

HUMANITIES

Kathleen Campbell, promoted to professor of communication studies effective Fall Term 2006, participated in a seminar, “Shakespeare Production in the Academy,” at the annual conference of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education in Chicago in early August. In January, she was elected to the board of directors of the Lessac Training and Research Institute. The institute, based on the work of Arthur Lessac, offers teacher certification, training opportunities, and documentation of the Lessac philosophy and work. Lessac training offers unique learning by integrating voice, speech, and movement to deepen communication, human behavior, and creativity.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Kathleen Campbell

Robert Cape, promoted to professor of classics effective Fall Term 2006, was selected as one of 15 participants from national liberal arts colleges for the seminar, “Twenty-First Century Liberal Education: A Contested Concept,” at Transylvania University in Lexington, Ky., in early August.

Daniel Dominick, associate professor of music, spent Spring Term 2006 on sabbatical. He joined **Don Salisbury**, associate professor of physics, Florence, Italy, where Salisbury led a Chautauqua course. Dominick lectured on Renaissance arts and also completed study for his section of music history courses. He also transcribed a musical piece by Heitor Villa-Lobos, originally written for cello, choir, and soprano, to string orchestra and soprano. The Sherman Symphony Orchestra will perform the new arrangement next season and the publisher plans to add the transcription to its rental catalogue. Dominick and **Cindy Russell**, Austin College adjunct instructor in music (voice), performed a recital of American music for soprano and piano on campus in September, and have scheduled several additional performances at other venues.

Ricky Duhaime, professor of music, was a performer and conductor in the Eisenstädter Sommerakademie, held annually in Austria. The international orchestra gathered for two weeks in August, celebrating the 250th anniversary of the birth of W.A. Mozart. Concert venues included St. Stephan’s Cathedral in Vienna, the Esterházy Palace in Eisenstadt, and several concert halls in southern Burgenland. Duhaime also conducted and performed as part of the Haydn Festspielkonzert, a professional concert series held in the Schloß Esterházy coincidentally with the Academy.

Marsha McCoy, visiting assistant professor of classics, attended several conferences during Spring Term 2006, including the Classical Association of the Middle West and South at the University of Florida in Gainesville where she delivered a paper, “Petronius’ Other Rome: The Cities of the Satyricon in the Roman Imaginary.” In March, McCoy and Austin College students participated in the University of Texas at Arlington’s annual “Homerathon,” in which participants recite, during one day, the entire *Odyssey* by the Greek poet Homer.

Mark Smith, promoted to professor of art effective Fall Term 2006, spent Spring Term 2006 on sabbatical and completed a new series of mixed-media abstract paintings, “The History of Color.” The paintings are featured in a solo exhibition at the Craighead-Green Gallery in Dallas from September through mid-October. Other works in the series will be featured in north Texas venues including “Art Heist,” sponsored by EASEL (Emergency Artists’ Support League) in Dallas at The South Side at Lamar Gallery and “A3: Artists Against AIDS” at the Fort Worth Community Arts Center. During his sabbatical, Smith traveled in Texas and the Southwest searching out galleries and museums featuring contemporary art. Smith was recognized this fall for completing 20 years of service to Austin College.

Ivette Vargas, assistant professor of religion, presented a paper, “Neuropathies, Non-sense, Water Purification, and Snake Demons: Exploring the Role of Demons and Religion in Tibetan Medicine,” at the International Asian Medicine Conference at the University of Texas at Austin in April. She also presented “Juxtaposing Past with Present: Klu nad and Other Spirit-Inflicted Diseases in Tibetan Medicine” at the 11th Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies, Aug. 26–Sept. 2, at Zentralasiatisches Seminar Universität in Bonn, Germany. She is contributing to a book on the Kalacakra that will be presented to the Dalai Lama at Cornell University. She will present a paper in October at a Tibetan medicine conference at the opening in Ithaca, N.Y., of a center on medicine and religion in honor of the Dalai Lama. She also has been invited to serve as chair of the Asian and Comparative Religion Section of the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies.

DID YOU KNOW

Beginning his 43rd year at the College, Howard Starr is now the longest serving faculty member in Austin College history. The previous record of 42 years was held by Robert Harwell, 1904-1946.

SOCIAL SCIENCES

Tom Baker, professor of education, attended the 26th International Conference on Critical Thinking in July in Berkeley, Calif.

Peter A. DeLisle, Leslie B. Crane Chair in Leadership Studies and director of the Posey Leadership Institute, has been named an Advocate of the Gifted for Region 10 of the Texas Association for the Gifted and Talented. The award will be presented in November at the group's Professional Development Conference for Educators and Parents in Austin, Texas.

Don Rodgers, associate professor of political science, was one of two keynote speakers at the Symposium on the 55th Anniversary of the San Francisco Peace Treaty, "Reappraisal of U.S. Policies Toward Taiwan and China," at Stanford University on Sept. 8. Rodgers



Peter A. DeLisle

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

and fellow keynote speaker Lung-Chu Chen of the New York Law School discussed the treaty signed by Japan on Sept. 8, 1951, along with 49 Allied Powers, including the United States, Great Britain, and France, stating that Japan renounced all right, title, and claim to Formosa and the Pescadores. The symposium was organized by the Formosan Association for Public Affairs, a worldwide, non-profit organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with 55 U.S. chapters, promoting human rights and democracy education for issues related to the peace and security of the 23 million people living in Taiwan.

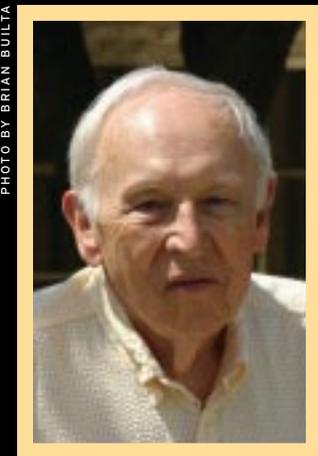


Don Rodgers

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

RICHARD NEIDHARDT PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ART, 1967-1986



Richard Neidhardt

PHOTO BY BRIAN BUILTA

Richard Neidhardt retired 20 years ago primarily to make bronze sculptures. In 1987 alone, he cast almost a dozen pieces, including "The Clock Rider," which hangs in the second floor hallway of Caruth Administration Building. Neidhardt has cast 36 statues since he retired, and also makes large wooden pieces. His work has been exhibited at museums across the country and is represented by Hooks-Epstein Gallery in Houston. At 85, he produces two or three works a year. A photo-portfolio of selected pieces of his work will appear in the fall 2006 issue of Austin's *Sulphur River Literary Review*.

A literary magazine is a suitable home for Neidhardt's work. His wife, Frances, is a long-time poet and Neidhardt titled a recent show "Divine Comedies." Sculptures, he said, replace the words he would use to express how he feels. "Some people write poetry, others compose music. I make a piece of sculpture."

Neidhardt's subjects are the absurdities he encounters in daily life, many of them humorous: a man whose head is the keystone for an arch; a man, with briefcase and umbrella, whose head is surrounded by a bird's nest; a man with a divining rod pointing at a water pump.

"It's difficult to describe absurdity," Neidhardt said, "but most people respond to humor."

Neidhardt enjoys making art more than looking at it, but said he appreciates what art can say about the people who hang it on their walls. "If a person hangs a contemporary art expression on the wall, that suggests the person is open to new things," Neidhardt said. "If you see a picture of a man hunting ducks, well, then you sort of know where that person's mind is."

Contact Neidhardt at neidhardt@verizon.net. See some of his work at http://www.hooksepesteingalleries.com/artists/thb_neidhardt.shtml.

Williams Continues to Make Connections from Washington, D.C., to Hollywood

Shelton Williams, John D. Moseley Chair in Government and Public Policy, has plenty to keep him busy these days. Though he moved to Washington, D.C., a year ago, he remains an active member of the faculty. In D.C., he directs the Washington Program and other foreign policy programs for Austin College students and for students from around the world as director of the Osgood Center for International Studies.

Williams also is enjoying further success in writing. His *Summer of 66*, Eakin Press (Oct. 1, 2006), tells of the experiences of Williams and his wife, **Janell (Hollis)** '76, as students on the University of Texas campus during the historical summer of 1966 and the UT tower shooting spree that rocked the campus.



The book jacket reveals more: “In the August 2006 *Texas Monthly* article on Charles Whitman (“96 Minutes,” by Pamela Colloff), Shelton Williams is a character in the recounting of the Whitman tragedy. Shelly was there when the shooting started, but it was not his first encounter with the young man who wreaked so much havoc on that hot August day in Austin in 1966. While Shelly and Charlie did

know each other, they were not friends and they were not adversaries at the University of Texas in the spring and summer of 1966. They were just two guys with troubled families, personal insecurities, and challenged young marriages. *Summer of 66* is not about Charles Whitman and it is not about why the two young men took such different paths. It is a memoir about life at UT, about a mystery man, and about a young man and woman who faced a changing and dangerous world in a courageous way. Charles Whitman is simply a character in this true story.”

Meanwhile, Williams' 2004 book, *Washed in the Blood*, has captured the attention of actress Moira Kelly and her husband, Steven Hewett, who are forming a production company. The couple traveled to Washington, D.C., to meet with Williams and spent more than six hours talking about the story and the potential for a movie based upon it. Kelly and Hewett are exploring the possibilities for the project that they would produce and direct, with plans to develop a screenplay this fall and possibly to shoot during the summer of 2007. Williams likely will remain involved with the project in a consulting role.

Konitzer Shares Expertise on Russian Government and Election Process

Andrew Konitzer, assistant professor of political science, made a series of appearances in Washington, D.C., in May related to his recently published book *Voting for Russia's Governors*. He gave a presentation May 15 on Russian gubernatorial elections to the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. The lecture was attended by scholars and staff from various governmental and non-governmental organizations in the D.C. area. Konitzer was a researcher at the Kennan Institute in 2002-2003.

The next day, Konitzer was a guest on Voice of America's one-hour Russian-language radio show, *Talk to America*, and a segment of its televised program, *Panorama*, discussing the state of federalism and democracy in Russia. Voice of America is a U.S. government-funded broadcast service transmitting more than 1,000 hours of news, information, educational, and cultural programs every week and has an estimated world audience in excess of 100 million viewers and listeners.

During the call-in radio show, program host Inna Dubinsky and Konitzer took calls from throughout the former Soviet Union and fielded questions ranging from the state of Russian democracy and regional governance under Putin to current challenges facing the American political system. Much of the discussion focused on the impact of the Russian government's decision in December 2004 to eliminate popular election of governors in favor of a system of selection “by recommendation of the president.” Konitzer likely will be a participant in an upcoming Voice of America roundtable discussion comparing the outcome of the upcoming U.S. Congressional elections to parliamentary elections in Russia.



Andrew Konitzer and his wife, Maja, prepare for the Voice of America broadcast.

COURTESY PHOTO

Inside the Artists' Studio

The Art Department at Austin College may be small, but the faculty who make up the department pack a creative punch. **Tim Tracz** (photography and digital imaging), **Mark Smith** (painting and drawing), **Mark Monroe** (ceramics and sculpture), and **Jeffrey Fontana** (art and history) have a combined 59 years teaching at Austin College.



Mark Monroe, associate professor of art. "Counterbalance." The materials for "Counterbalance" came from a College-owned house at 1216 North Grand Avenue, razed in 2004. Monroe and several

students disassembled the house and used the materials to create sculptures, "in a way preserving the memory ... and history of the neighborhood," Monroe said. "There is a human history found in these materials — in the scuffs and scratches, nail holes, chipped paint, and even calculations written on boards by the original carpenters." Monroe '82 joined the Austin College faculty in 1991.

Mark Smith, professor of art. "Alhambra." The title of this birch panel painting accomplished with high-density pigments refers, Smith said, to the Spanish/Moorish architecture that inspired the work — "lots of repeated arches in tri-colored red and cream brick — a great pattern and tempo." Much of Smith's recent work was inspired by the images of ancient Buddhist art — images that displayed states of wonderment, optimism, and tranquility — which he incorporates through the use of colors, shapes, and patterns. Smith came to Austin College in 1986.



Jeffrey Fontana, assistant professor of art history. This medal, designed circa 1881 by Louis-Oscar Roty, was created to personify the French Republic, said Fontana, who as an art historian studies the

significance of Italian Renaissance art in the United States and France in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, among other things. "It combines features from a literary description of ancient Gauls, an image of the goddess Roma from Roman republican coinage, a warrior drawing by Leonardo da Vinci, and Joan of Arc." Fontana came to Austin College in 2002.



Tim Tracz, professor of art. "Portrait Collage." To create the images in his portrait collage collection, Tracz merged portraits he found with background images he photographed, then added shadows and made other subtle adjustments to create a "mild sense of uneasiness. I'm creating a fictitious family album of surreal snapshots," Tracz said. "They can only be interpreted incompletely and with lots of question marks. To photograph for a lifetime is to collect one's own past. With this project I am giving that pursuit another life, as I am giving a new life to all those people — most of whom are certainly deceased — whom I collage into my experience." Tracz, named to the Craig Professorship in the Arts in 2005, joined the Austin College faculty in 1986.



See more of the artists' work and read a profile of each:
www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?5166

SCIENCES

George Diggs Is Co-Author of First Illustrated Flora of East Texas Volume

George Diggs, professor of biology, recently had published, with coauthors, Volume 1 of Illustrated Flora of East Texas. The 1,616-page book is the first fully illustrated flora for East Texas, a region that contains more than two-thirds of all the plant species known for Texas. Extensive illustrations and other visual materials make this the most fully illustrated flora for any area of the Southwest. The volume includes a 270-page general introduction to East Texas and hundreds of color photos, maps, and paintings. It also includes taxonomic treatments of all East Texas ferns, gymnosperms, and monocots.

Additional volumes will be available in the future. This is the second publication of the Illustrated Texas Floras Project, a collaborative effort between the Botanical Research Institute of Texas in Fort Worth and the Austin College Center for Environmental Studies. The first publication of the project was Shinnery & Mahler's Illustrated Flora of North Central Texas.

The book is authored by George Diggs of Austin College, Barney Lipscomb and Robert O'Kennon of BRIT, and Monique Reed of College Station. Find further information and order forms: http://www.brit.org/Sida/PDF/ETF_PDFOrderForm.pdf or www.easttexasflora.org



Software Provides New Means of Study

Research at Austin College's Clinton and Edith Sneed Environmental Research Area often entails putting on boots and jeans and walking through fields to gather data on plants and water. The trek across fields still may be necessary, but the addition of ArcGIS software to campus computers will provide another element to the research.

ArcGIS software was installed on several campus computers over the summer. Last spring, **Keith Kisselle**, assistant professor of biology and environment science, coordinated two campus workshops, with instructors from Rhodes College and from Middlebury University, to allow faculty and students to gain familiarity with the software. "One of the main uses I plan for the software is to develop maps of the data that we collect at the Sneed Research Area to spatially assess our efforts at prairie restoration," Kisselle explained.

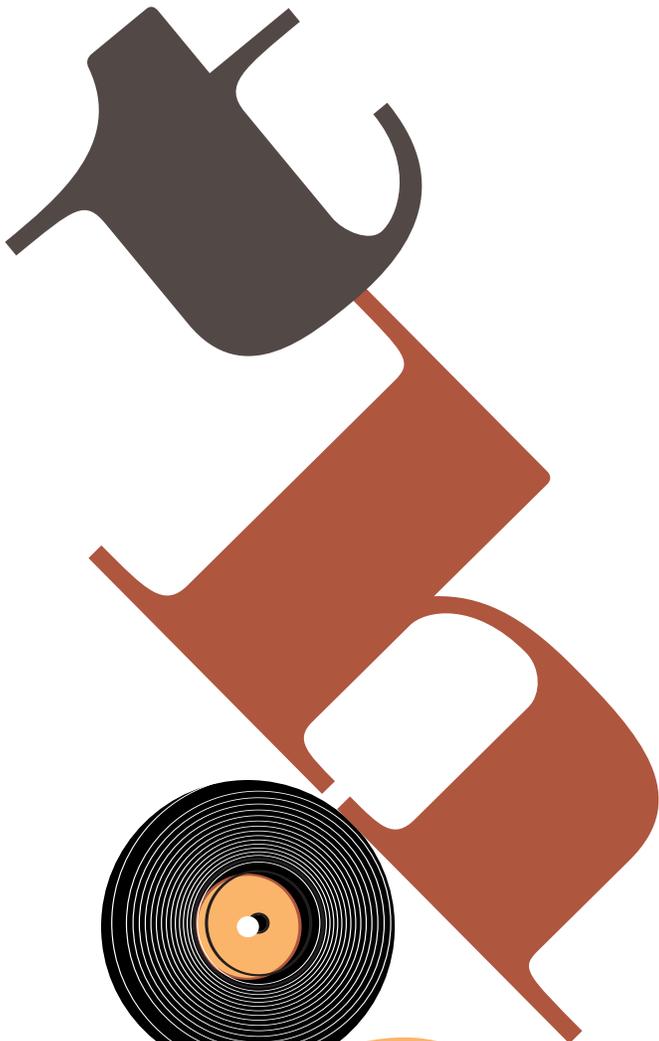
Kisselle and **Peter Schulze**, associate professor of biology and director of the Center for Environmental Studies, hope to include labs using the software in their ecology and environmental studies classes. **Wayne Meyer**, associate professor of biology, plans to use the software to identify locations of birds he studies in the field. **Mike Higgs**, associate professor of math and computer science, plans to use the software in a Communication/Inquiry class that will focus on visualizing data in order to better "see" the effects.

Kisselle explained that the software tool is very applicable to several different disciplines and has the potential to provide great opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborations. The uses for various disciplines — and possible connections to colleagues at other institutions — are just forming, Kisselle said.

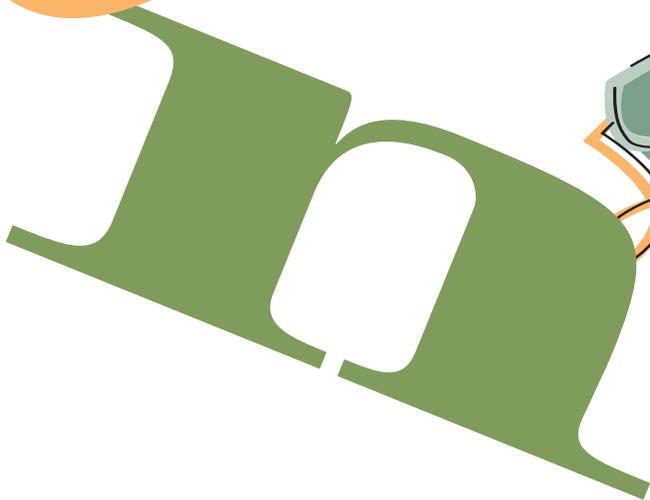
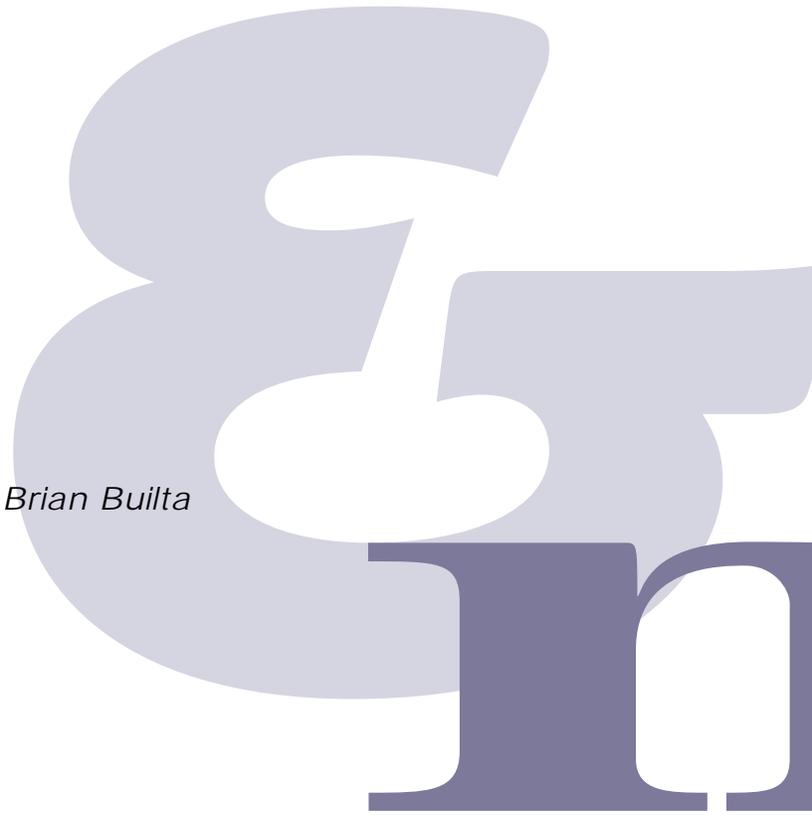
GIS computer applications allow for collection, viewing, and analysis of geographical information. Spatial data can be visualized and managed using layers of customized maps. GIS is an increasingly important tool in graduate school research and industry, and has applications in many fields.

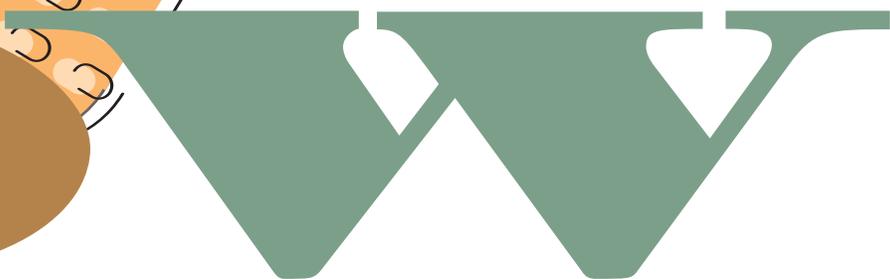
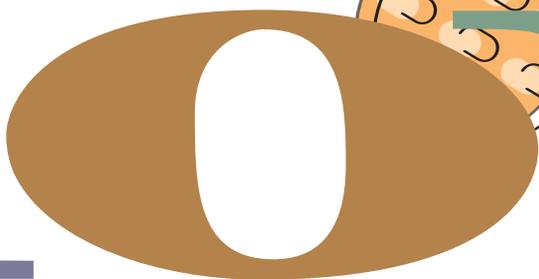
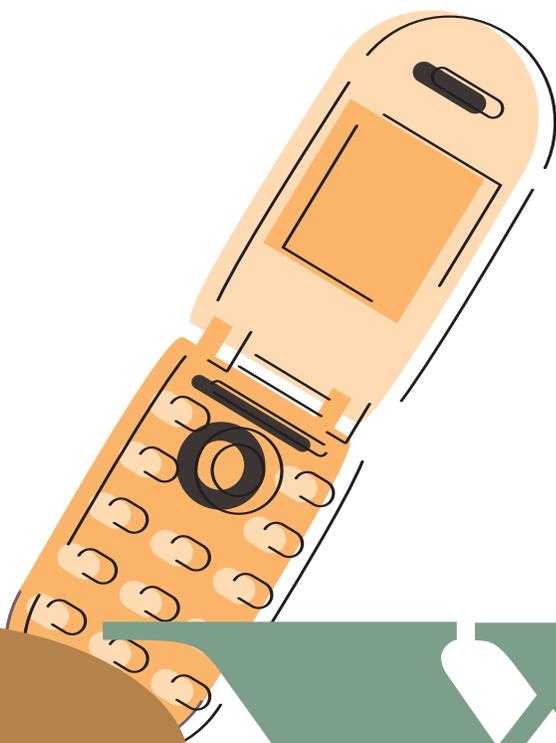
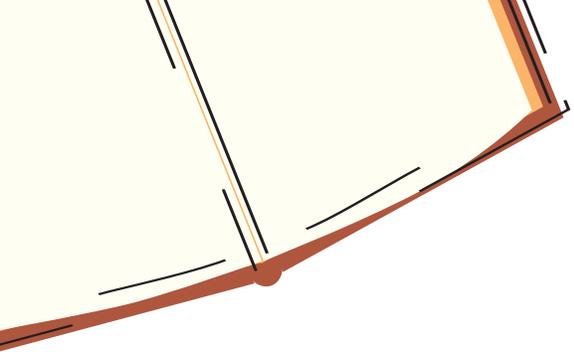
The Austin College workshops were funded by the non-profit National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education, of which Austin College is a member. NITLE promotes innovation and collaboration in the effective use of technology for teaching, learning, scholarship, and information management.

To further support the development of GIS technology on campus, **Jan Beckert**, coordinator of the Center for Environmental Studies, and **Doug Campbell**, reference librarian, attended a four-day workshop to advance their skills at Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas. Kisselle also attended a seven-day workshop at Middlebury University in Vermont this summer for additional training and usage information. 🦋



by Brian Bultha





Laurel Brackenridge '86 had it rough. A student at Austin College in the 1980s, Brackenridge looks back and shakes her head at how she survived the “Dark Age” of technology.

Brackenridge wrote papers on something called a typewriter. She corrected mistakes with liquid paper and rewriting a paper meant retyping the entire document. Research required long hours in the library poring through books, journals, and microfiche. In the library she used a card catalogue, a large wooden box with drawers full of actual paper cards, on which someone had typed the names of books and authors. In the classroom, professors passed out handouts and tests reproduced on “mimeographs” or “ditto sheets,” blurry purple documents that smelled of industrial solvent. When Brackenridge gave a presentation and needed a visual aid, she glued stuff to rectangles of poster board.



*Ask someone from the Class of 1986
and likely they will say students
were closer back in the 1980s,
before all this technology intervened.*

*"I may sound like a dinosaur,"
Mike Bianucci '86 said,
"but things seemed to be a lot simpler
in the 1980s."*

*Alan Cranfill '86 savors the memory
of being focused on school work,
friends, and extracurricular activities
"to the point of being somewhat isolated
(in a good way) from parents
and the outside world,"
he said.*

*"It was not as distracting for
my generation as it must be now."*



In the 1980s when Brackenridge and classmates were at Austin College, the technology boom was just beginning — the Apple Macintosh computer hit the market in 1984 — but had yet to reach many students. Compact discs were new and much less prevalent than albums and cassettes. Fax machines and VCRs were still in the beginning stages of everyday usage. A communication marvel at the time, remembered **Kirk Justus '86**, was the message board, a white dry erase board that hung on residence hall doors. A pen dangled from each message board. “If you had a message for someone, you simply wrote it on the door,” Justus recalled. “Not quite a blog, but it had little downtime and worked when the electricity went out.”

Sometimes Brackenridge went weeks without communication from home. Long distance calls were expensive and made on a pay phone — or received on a public phone at the end of the residence hall wing. If she got desperate, Brackenridge would write a letter home, which cost 20 cents to mail, and she often did not see high school friends until she returned home for Thanksgiving break.

“We may have been a bit more homesick,” Brackenridge said, “but we really left home.”

In contrast, students at Austin College today take class notes on laptop computers and access electronic research materials without entering a library — where at Austin College the old wooden card catalog boxes have become end tables and footstools. Students can complete major rewrites of papers and print them moments before class. They create multimedia presentations with all the “bells and whistles.”

Today’s students are rarely out of touch with family and friends. Their cell phones are as much a part of their everyday lives as keys and identification. Students talk and text message by phone until they log onto their computers and Instant Message (IM), email, and blogs provide the connectivity these students have experienced most of their lives. “Technology basically eliminates the need to say goodbye to people you care about,” said **Brenna Shay '06**. “You can just IM them the next time they’re online.”

Before leaving home for college in 2002, Shay and her high school friends each set up online journals. “No matter where we are — Germany, England, Japan — we’re never out of touch. It’s not uncommon to hear someone say, ‘My friend in Paraguay told me ...’ in conversation. It’s pretty amazing how easy it is to have a casual conversation with someone on the other side of the planet.”

Dean of Humanities **Bernice Melvin** said her current students buzz, beep, and vibrate more than previous classes. They email, blog, surf, download, and Google each other in a world of instant communication.

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Growing up with instant communication is just one life experience that has formed the perspectives of today’s college students. In recent years, Beloit College in Wisconsin has

released an annual Mindset List. “We assemble this list out of a genuine concern for first-year students, and as a reminder to the faculty of the gap that may exist between generations,” Tom McBride, Beloit humanities professor and co-founder of the list, said. “Education is the best remedy for the situation, but we start out with varying points of reference and cultural touchstones.” According to the Mindset List, most students entering the Class of 2010 were born in 1988 and within their experience:

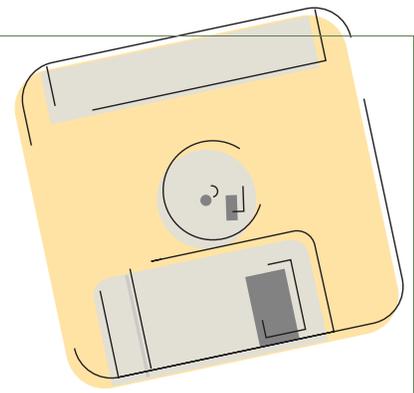
- ❖ Paul Newman has always made salad dressing.
- ❖ They have never heard Howard Cosell call a sports game on television.
- ❖ Smoking has never been permitted on U.S. airlines — and they have never had the chance to eat bad airline food.
- ❖ DNA fingerprinting has always been admissible evidence in court.
- ❖ Gas has always been unleaded.
- ❖ Bar codes have always been on everything, from library cards and snail mail to retail items.
- ❖ Computers have always fit in their backpacks.
- ❖ Professional athletes have always competed in the Olympics.

Today’s students possibly have had experiences more similar to students of the 1960s than of the 1980s. Both decades have been marked by major military conflicts — Vietnam and Iraq. Both have experienced significant episodes of civilian terrorism — racial terrorism related to the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s and today’s global terrorism based on differences in religion and ideology. Both decades witnessed an increase in student involvement in politics — war protests across the country in the late 1960s and a historic turnout for students voting in a presidential election in 2004.

But it is not necessary to travel back to the 1960s to see great cultural changes. The 1980s will do. Students who graduated from Austin College in 1986 grew up with the Cold War, the arms race with the Soviet Union, and then saw the Berlin Wall fall. They played the first video games, bought music on vinyl albums and 8-track tapes, talked on telephones attached to walls with cords, and changed television channels by turning a dial on the set.

Those who graduated in 2006 witnessed the rise of the Internet and a growing fight against terrorism. Their video games fit in their pockets; they download music; their phones are always with them; and they simultaneously can watch two high definition programs — in surround sound on flat panel screens.

Students from both the 1980s and the 2000s experienced space shuttle disasters, trouble in the Middle East, and a Communist Cuba under Fidel Castro. Like all generations, these students had different tastes — in music, clothing, and movies. But unlike other generations, something massive and pervasive took place in the years between their graduations from Austin College — something bigger and more personally transformative than anything since the Industrial Revolution — the explosion of technology.



“Students still have late night conversations in the dorms and form strong friendships just like they did in the 1980s,”
said Carnie Tibbals ’06.
“Technology has just made it faster and easier to keep in touch. They may use IM or cell phones to figure out when and where to meet, but it does not serve as a replacement for spending time with friends.”

“People don’t really have heart to heart conversations over Instant Messenger or through email,”
she said.

“Technology like IM or email, though, has made it easier to keep in touch with people who are abroad or who are not at Austin College. It is so much easier and quicker than writing letters and making long distance phone calls.”

The 1980s

The 1980s brought power dressing, big hair, cable television, Yuppies, heightened concern for the environment, political correctness, MTV, the rise of the Japanese economy, Oprah Winfrey, ET The Extraterrestrial, Blockbuster video rentals, scientists' claims of a hole in the ozone, AIDS, Martin Luther King Day as a national holiday, juice boxes, and Cabbage Patch Kids.

In 1999, in addition to its Mindset List for freshmen entering college, Beloit produced the "Only a Child of the 1980s Can Explain" List: They owned and operated a "trapper keeper."

During time in the arcade, they actually lined up quarters on the top of the game to "reserve" a spot.

They know the profound meaning of "wax on — wax off."

They could breakdance, or wished they could.

Partying "like it's 1999" seemed SO far away.

They wanted to be on Star Search.

They owned a doll with "Xavier Roberts" signed on its rear, or knew someone who did.

They knew what Willis was "talkin' 'bout."

They owned pieces of the Care Bear Glass collection from Pizza Hut.

They have occasionally pondered why Smurfette was the ONLY female smurf.

TECHNOLOGY EXPLOSION

The first computer came to Austin College — along with long hair, integration, and "The Girl From Ipanema" — in 1965. It was an IBM 1620 with 20 to 60 K of RAM and took up a room in Thompson Hall. In 1978, the Apple II became the first personal computer on campus. The first computer lab on campus — the first one located away from the mainframe computer — was the Academic Computing Laboratory, which opened in 1980. By 1986, the year the Clyde Hall Microcomputer Classroom opened in the then-new Abell Library, all major administrative applications on campus had been computerized. By the mid-1990s, a fiber optic network had been established connecting all computers on campus to a central server and the mainframe had been abandoned.

In 1986, the College's Information Technology department (then called Computing Services) consisted of three full-time and two part-time staff members. Today, 14 staff members keep technology humming across campus.

Bill Edgette is today's highly-caffeinated executive director of IT. He is a whirlwind of a man who leads a swirling department unlike any other. In the three years since he arrived on campus, Edgette said every server and every piece of software has been replaced or upgraded. The brain of campus technology is the Network Operations Center on the second floor of the Jackson Technology Center. Inside, a cascade of orange fiber optic wires pours out of a server and into the floor, disappearing to every building and every office and every computer on campus. "The network is so vast that you need to adapt and learn new knowledge at a moment's notice," Edgette said. "It's not a job for the meek."

Edgette's job is one that most people notice only when something goes wrong, for these days email, websites, and the Internet are primary educational tools. Every department, from physics to philosophy, uses computers in and out of the classroom and a lab even exists to train faculty in new technologies.

But have these modern conveniences made students better learners?

"I don't think national test results say that after four years at a modern American college students' language skills have increase more dramatically than they used to," said Margaret Root Brown, Chair of Foreign Languages. She recalled that in the 1980s language textbooks came only with a workbook, but today include auxiliary materials on CDs, resources on DVDs, and a list of websites to visit for more material. "No amount of glitzy material will make reading and writing easier," she added. "Students still have to open the book and do the exercises. I'm not sure they've gotten better at doing that."

UNEXPECTED CONSEQUENCES

Years ago, when students sat in a classroom, the rest of the world fell away. Students may have daydreamed and passed notes, but the outside world did not often intrude on the lesson. Today, as students sit in class, messages bombard their email accounts while text and voice messages enter their cell phones. "All their relationships with parents and friends come in on their cell phones while they sit in class," Melvin said. "In the old days, those things did not get into the classroom." She said text messaging

is the biggest change. “You see a sea of faces, looking down, fingers punching.” After class, ear phones pop into ears, iPods turn on, cell phones flip open.

Howard Starr, dean of Social Sciences and professor of psychology, said that after class he rarely sees students talking to one another. Instead, they are talking on cell phones.

Starr said one result of students’ increasing use of technology is a lack of face-to-face, one-on-one encounters. “I think students are more intimidated during one-on-one encounters,” he said. In the “dark ages” of the 1980s and 1990s, students were more likely to drop by the office of professors or the individuals with whom they needed to speak, he said. “That helped the communication process,” he said. “People had the advantage of visual observations of non-verbal reactions and voice tone changes. In other words, we communicated with the whole person — rather than in today’s shortcut “computer-ese.”

That current college students are so dependent upon technology is understandable, Starr said. “They probably had their photo taken in the delivery suite and it went out to all their relatives and friends instantly. It has always been part of their culture,” he explained. Expectation of immediate gratification also is a product of technological advances. “Students want their papers back tomorrow,” Starr said, “not next week.”

Technology, Starr said, even has created a new excuse for students with “the computer/CD ate my homework.”

Kessel Thompson, director of Student Life, has worked with college students for 20 years. She said technology has provided both the best and worst changes she has seen in the lives of students.

Today’s students are used to multi-tasking, Thompson said. They are better connected with their parents and have a more global outlook on the world. “They travel more and are more open to other cultures,” she said. “They are also more global in their thinking. As a result, students often feel more pressure to perform.”

Thompson agreed that technology has reduced the amount of time students spend in face-to-face interactions. “Communication is quicker,” Thompson said, “but students also get to select people in and out of their lives. They can email you, delete you, ignore you.” Email and text messages, she said, allow students to avoid tense situations in person. “I’d say the depth of relationships is different.”

Less face-to-face interaction is one factor that led to the launch of Facebook.com in February 2004. Facebook is described as an online social utility where people can share information “the same way they do in the real world.”

“Facebook is huge, huge, huge in students’ lives,” Thompson said. “They research each other. Roommates meet each other online before they meet in person.” The existence of other social networks such as MySpace and Xanga has caused college administrations across the country to caution students about the extent of personal information they post online and the possibilities of identity theft and harassment.

*“I worry that the
cultural contributions
that our generation
will be known for
include the
characters
Spuds McKenzie
and
Max Headroom.*

What a pox upon civilization!”

– Clifton Caskey '86

*“Students in 2006 are still
very close
despite all of the advances
in technology.
For instance, some of
my friends and I still have
weekly game nights
where we get together
and play fun games like
Battle of the Sexes,
Balderdash, Trivial Pursuit,
or Spades.”*

James Kowaleski



THE MORE THINGS CHANGE ...

Technology, facilities, and progress aside, in many ways college students today are much the same as those from the 1980s, 1960s, and the generations before them. For most individuals, college offers the first taste of independence. Students must learn time management skills, adjust to life with a roommate, and battle the Freshman 15 (pounds). They “pull all-nighters,” cram for tests, and worry about finals. Austin College students still “discover themselves,” still balance new freedom and its accompanying responsibilities, still ponder their personal and professional futures.

Decades of Austin College students have experienced January Term, Heritage of Western Culture courses (even if known by other names), A Cappella Choir, and classes in Sherman Hall. Many students eventually look back upon their college years as the best of their lives. Many consider friendships one of the most important outcomes of their college experience. Regardless of decade, students share a need for community and connection. ... Today’s students just have more options to achieve those — face to face, cell phone to cell phone, or blog to blog



A blog is a journal available online that can be easily accessed and updated by those with little or no technical background. The activity of updating a journal is “blogging” and one who adds to it is a “blogger.”

'Roos who attended Austin College in the past, and the 'Roos of today, have similar and dissimilar experiences about life in Sherman. Share your thoughts about these topics on the 'RooBlog:

www.austincollege.edu/info.asp?4857

<i>Austin College</i>	<i>1986</i>	<i>2006</i>
<i>Students*</i>	<i>1,175</i>	<i>1,301</i>
<i>Tuition</i>	<i>\$5,950</i>	<i>\$23,355</i>
<i>Room and Board</i>	<i>\$2,875</i>	<i>\$7,741</i>
<i>Freshmen</i>		
<i>Applied</i>	<i>735</i>	<i>1,457</i>
<i>Admitted</i>	<i>625</i>	<i>1,051</i>
<i>Entered</i>	<i>287</i>	<i>342</i>
<i>Campus buildings</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Majors</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>30</i>

**does not include students studying abroad*

1 9 6 6

National

“You have the right to remain silent. ...” U.S. Supreme Court Miranda decision leads to reading of rights upon arrest.

International

Conflict in Vietnam escalates: 6,000 U.S. soldiers killed, 30,000 wounded.

Intergalactic

The United States and Soviet Union both land probes on the moon.

Best-Selling Books

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote, *Thousand Days* by Arthur Schlesinger, *Rush to Judgment* by Mark Lane

1 9 8 6

National

President Ronald Reagan confirms that the United States has been selling arms to Iran in exchange for the release of American hostages in Lebanon and that the revenue was used to support Contras fighting against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

International

A Soviet nuclear reactor at Chernobyl nuclear plant in the Ukraine explodes, releasing deadly radiation into the surrounding areas.

Intergalactic

The U.S. Space Shuttle *Challenger* explodes 73 seconds after lift off, killing all seven astronauts on board.

Best-Selling Books

Bus 9 to Paradise by Leo Buscaglia, *Fatherhood* by Bill Cosby, *His Way* by Kitty Kelly

2 0 0 6

National

Drought seizes much of the United States as record-high temperatures raise the issue of global warming.

International

Hezbollah guerrillas kill seven Israeli soldiers and kidnap two others. In response, Israel launches air strikes and Israeli troops enter southern Lebanon.

Intergalactic

The International Astronomical Union (IAU), meeting in Prague, Czechoslovakia, demotes the planet Pluto to a “dwarf planet.” Overnight, the solar system drops to eight planets.

Best-Selling Books

For Laci by Sharon Rocha; *Don't Make a Black Woman Take off Her Earrings* by Tyler Perry, *Wisdom of Our Fathers* by Tim Russert, *Fiasco* by Thomas Ricks

Sports

Boston Celtics, Montreal Canadiens, Baltimore Orioles, and Green Bay Packers are champions in basketball, hockey, baseball, and football respectively.

Popular Entertainment

Songs: “The Sound of Silence,” “When a Man Loves a Woman,” and “These Boots Are Made for Walkin’”

Television: *Bonanza*, *Bewitched*, and *The Beverly Hillbillies*

Movies: *Doctor Zhivago*, *Thunderball*, and *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

Sports

Boston Celtics, Montreal Canadiens, New York Mets, and Chicago Bears are champions.

Popular Entertainment

Songs: “That’s What Friends Are For,” “Addicted to Love,” and “Greatest Love of All”

Television: *The Cosby Show*, *The Golden Girls*, and *Moonlighting*

Movies: *Aliens*, *The Color Purple*, and *Ferris Bueller’s Day Off*

w h a t ' s
g o i n
o n ?

Sports

Miami Heat, Carolina Hurricanes, and Pittsburg Steelers are champions, with baseball competition ongoing.

Popular Entertainment

Songs: “Check on It,” “Dirty Little Secret,” “So Sick,” “Walk Away”

Television: *CSI*, *Lost*, and *Desperate Housewives*

Movies: *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Dead Man’s Chest*, *The Da Vinci Code*, and *Cars* 🐾

ACADEMIC YEAR OFF TO GOOD START; TOP RANKINGS KICK OFF YEAR

Austin College continues its ranking among the Top Liberal Arts Colleges of *U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Colleges 2007*, announced in August. The College also remains among the featured colleges in the Princeton Review's *Best 361 Colleges*.

The ranking announcements came just prior to the opening of the 158th academic year of Austin College. Orientation events Aug. 24 brought 340 freshmen and their families to campus, with the ever-dependable Student Development Board again moving belongings of those students into their residence halls.

The Class of 2010, 51 percent women and 49 percent men, includes 48 percent of students who

graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school classes, with 78 percent from the top 25 percent of their classes. The students come from throughout Texas and from 14 states, as well as countries beyond the United States. Legacy connections are found among 17 percent of students and 27 percent indicate they are of ethnic minorities. The middle 50 percentile of SAT scores for the class are 1160-1320, with middle ACT scores of 23-28.

The Austin College student total for Fall Term 2006 is 1,349 with 53 students studying abroad. The Austin Teacher Program graduate program for 2006-2007 includes 32 students.

Freshmen Alissa Dodson, Caitlin Tabor, Emily Webb, Kaleigh Kelley, and Sarah Campion prepare for Opening Convocation.



LANDSCAPING ADDITIONS TO ENHANCE NORTH SIDE OF CAMPUS

Campus improvements will continue this fall with construction just underway on the former site of Lockett Hall and in the area between Caruth Administration Building and Dean Hall. At the corner of Grand Avenue and Richards Street, landscaping, brickwork, lights, and fountains will form the Sandra J. Williams Founders Plaza and create an attractive entrance to campus from the north end of Grand Avenue. Just north of Caruth Administration Building, brickwork and landscaping will create the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court. The projects are scheduled for completion in spring 2007.

Trustee **Todd A. Williams '82** and his wife, Abby, have made significant contributions to the educational and scholarship programs of Austin College, as well as to the beautification of campus. Gifts from the couple name the Founders Plaza in honor of Todd's mother.

Clyde L. Hall '46 joined the Austin College faculty in 1950 and was named to the John T. Jones Chair of Economics. In 1977, he became the first occupant of the Clara R. and Leo F. Corrigan, Sr., Chair of Business Administration. Hall has been honored with the Distinguished Alumni Award, the Teacher Excellence and Self-Improvement Award, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Homer P. Rainey Award. Former students have made gifts to name the Graduation Court in Hall's honor and encourage others to join them to complete the funding. Call **Jerry Holbert**, associate vice president for development, at (903) 813-2336 for information.

In addition, new building signs are being installed and Grand Avenue medians adjacent to campus have been landscaped.

The projects were designed by the architectural landscape firm of Linda Tycher Associates, Inc., of Dallas.



Sandra J. Williams Founders Plaza



Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court

RON SUSKIND DELIVERS POWERFUL ADDRESS TO OPEN AUSTIN COLLEGE ACADEMIC YEAR

Author and journalist Ron Suskind delivered Austin College's Opening of School Convocation address Aug. 28, quickly capturing the attention of his audience, made up of the Class of 2010, officially matriculated into the College at the event; the Class of 2007, appearing for the first time in caps and gowns as the "senior class;" plus faculty, staff, parents, and other guests.

Suskind is the author of *A Hope in the Unseen – An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League*, which President Oscar C. Page selected as a "common read" for the Class of 2010. All students were sent the book over the summer and were requested to read it before school began to create a common perspective among students. The book was launched by a *Wall Street Journal* series that won Suskind the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing.

A Hope in the Unseen follows the two-year journey of Cedric, an honors student from a poor Washington, D.C., neighborhood to admission at Brown University. Suskind shared bits of Cedric's story along with the insights that Suskind gained from the interaction with the young man and his mother. Sharing stories of Cedric and his mother, Suskind urged students, "Reach across the divides that seem to separate individuals — divides amplified by our society. The differences between us are nothing compared to what binds us."

Suskind's presentation was thought provoking, humorous, poignant, and inspiring — gripping his audience until the standing ovation he humbly acknowledged with a wave of his hand. He urged his listeners to take full advantage of their college years, and to realize their "incredible fortune" in attending college. "More happens in these four years than in any other two decades pressed together," he said. "Undergraduates are the finest product of America. You are an evolution beyond us. Do something with it."

Suskind also has written *The One Percent Doctrine* and *The Price of Loyalty, George W. Bush, the White House and the Education of Paul O'Neill*. From 1993 to 2000, Suskind was the senior national affairs writer for the *Wall Street Journal*. He currently writes for various national magazines, including the *New York Times Magazine* and *Esquire Magazine*.

Suskind has appeared on various television news programs as a correspondent or essayist and is a distinguished visiting scholar at Dartmouth College. He is a graduate of the University of Virginia and Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He and his wife, Cornelia Kennedy Suskind, live in Washington, D.C., with their two sons.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Alumni College Weekend Set for May

Alumni who have been out of the classroom for one year or for 30 are invited to take part in Austin College's first Alumni College Weekend: 360 Degrees of Learning, Friday-Sunday, May 18-20, 2007, on campus. Austin College faculty will offer academic presentations, and sessions following each lecture will allow alumni to discuss the lecture together and further pursue the topics.

While many details are still to be worked out, **Sarah Campbell Stevens '75**, director of Alumni and Parent Relations, anticipates a great program and has worked with the Alumni Association Board for several months on the project. **Kelly Breazeale '68** is the chair of the Alumni Board's Alumni College Weekend Committee.

The program will include **George Diggs**, professor of biology, "Texas Across Time: Surprise Connections between the Modern Environment and the Past;" **Marsha Gathron**, visiting associate professor of education, "The Impact of our Immigrant Women and Children from the Southern Region on our Medical Care System;" **Karen Nelson**, professor of psychology, "Self and Identity in an Increasingly Flat World;" and **Kenneth Street**, *emeritus* professor of political science, "The United States Supreme Court in Transition."

A Friday night reception is planned with all College faculty, current and *emeriti*, invited. Saturday will include three lectures by faculty, an alumni speaker, a field lab trip to Sneed Environmental Research Area (and alternate activities for those not up for a hike), a gathering at the College Lake Campus, a seated dinner on campus, and evening entertainment.

Sunday's agenda includes an optional worship service led by alumni and the final lecture and discussion session.

Information will be mailed to all alumni. Details available: www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?879.



DID YOU KNOW

Technological advances aside,
all student residence rooms must
include a landline phone.

In case of the need to
make a 9-1-1 call,
emergency personnel
cannot track a cell phone call.



COURTESY PHOTO

Milton Aylor '60 of Frankfurt, Germany, visited campus Sept. 12 to present "A Theological Appreciation of Secular Humanism" and to visit a number of classes. Aylor co-taught religion and philosophy courses with Steve Stell, associate professor of religion; Todd Penner, associate professor of religion; and Rod Stewart '70, professor of philosophy. Aylor has two alumnae daughters, Britt '00 and Jo '04.

Posey Leadership Institute Named Community Leadership Center

Austin College's Posey Leadership Institute was named a regional Community Leadership Center this summer by the Community Leadership Association (CLA) and received a grant designed to improve overall communication skills in the governance capacity of the community. The CLA is a partner with the University of Georgia Fanning Institute and the Alcoa Foundation supported the grants.

"Austin College is a proud 'citizen' of the Texoma area and is pleased to be a part of a leadership program that benefits the entire region," said Austin College President Oscar C. Page.

The Leadership Institute hosted a two-day workshop, "Leading Collaborative Communities: The Texoma Model," for north Texas and southeastern Oklahoma community leaders in August, working closely with Frances Pelley and the Texoma Council of Governments. **Peter A. DeLisle**, Leslie B. Crane Chair in Leadership Studies and director of the Posey Leadership Institute, said the workshop helped leaders "learn processes and develop strategies that positively embrace 'the community' on a larger scale than their own town or city — investigating and creating opportunities for organizational collaboration, cooperative problem-solving, and community development. Such collaboration has the potential to enhance the quality of life for the region and result in growth and development of local commerce and industry."

Additional workshops and meetings are planned for the Texoma-area leaders. For more information call the Posey Leadership Institute Office at 903.813.2015.

SUMMER AT AUSTIN COLLEGE – NO ‘LAZY DAYS’

Each summer, several thousand individuals visit Austin College as participants in various summer conferences. Many are youth camps, ranging from church and school groups to dance teams to the Young Leaders Conference of the National Hispanic Institute.

Meanwhile, College faculty offer a number of special learning opportunities in addition to regular summer term courses.

Earth System Science Workshop

High school teachers from Texas and Oklahoma attended a two-day workshop that included using NASA satellite technology, collecting physical data at the College’s Sneed Prairie, exploring geological websites, and integrating fields of science to reach a conclusion about water flow in urbanized areas.

The workshop, funded by grants from the University Space Research Association and NASA, provided teaching material for classroom instruction. Faculty for the sessions were **David Baker**, associate professor of physics; **Peter Schulze**, associate professor of biology and environmental science; **Keith Kisselle**, assistant professor of biology and environmental science; and **Julia Shahid**, associate professor of education.



Peter Schulze leads a tour at the Sneed Environmental Research Area.

Institute for Foreign Language Teachers

Several high school teachers of French, German, Latin, and Spanish spent a week in a residential immersion program in Jordan Family Language House. All participants spoke the target language at all times. Austin College faculty led a number of sessions that allowed the Texas teachers to refresh language skills and develop cultural and technological resources to advance classroom teaching. Costs for the teachers, including room and board, were funded by a grant from the Sid W. Richardson Foundation.

Truett Cates, professor of German, coordinated the institute and **Robert Cape**, professor of classics; **Ruth Cape**, adjunct assistant professor of German; **Patrick Duffey**, associate professor of Spanish; **Julie Hempel**, assistant professor of Spanish; **DeDe Hosek**, adjunct instructor in French; **Jim Johnson**, professor of classics; **James Knowlton**, professor of German; and **Bernice Melvin**, Margaret Root Brown Chair of Foreign Languages, led the sessions.

Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies Offers Summer Institute for Talented High School Students

High school rising seniors from Grayson, Collin, Cooke, and Fannin counties are selected each spring through the Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies to attend two Austin College summer courses relating to the interests of the Center. Students earned full credit for the courses, taken along with regularly enrolled Austin College Summer Term 2006 students.

Course offerings this summer were “Introduction to Cultural Anthropology” and beginning or intermediate Spanish. **Terry Hoops**, associate professor of anthropology, and **Patrick Duffey**, associate professor of Spanish, taught the courses. Duffey and **Light Cummins**, Guy M. Bryan professor of American History, are co-directors of Austin College’s Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies.

Elementary Students Learn About Weather

Students in the Austin Teacher Program (ATP) also stayed busy this summer, providing the fourth annual summer camp for approximately 40 gifted and talented students at Jefferson School. “Weather and Natural Disasters” was the topic of the two-week session, with future teachers providing lessons and hands-on projects on tornadoes, earthquakes, hail, tsunamis, and other weather-related concerns. Carrie Tibbals ‘06, left, and Jefferson School student Aaron Garza made snowflakes during a study of winter weather in the midst of the summer heat. Julia Shahid, associate professor of education, directed the summer program, which was funded through the College’s Mellon Grant program.



HEALTHY CAMPUS INITIATIVE ADDRESSES STUDENT BEHAVIORS

Discussions of wellness on a college campus include much more than concerns of flu and virus outbreaks. The National College Health Association identified the top 10 student-reported impediments to academic performance as stress, cold or flu, sleep difficulties, concern for a family member or friend, relationship difficulties, depression or anxiety, Internet use, sinus infection, death of a friend or family member, and alcohol use.

Austin College staff and faculty provide educational programming and interaction that address the social, physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual wellness of students.

Linda Little, Austin College counselor and coordinator for student wellness, oversees wellness concerns and is familiar with behaviors common among college students everywhere. Programs of Austin College Wellness Services address issues like dealing with homesickness and promotion of positive attitudes about body image, but a major focus of Little's work comes from something called the Healthy Campus Initiative.

Austin College joined the Healthy Campus Initiative, begun by the American College Health Association, to further promote a healthy campus community. Every other year, a Wellness Survey is distributed to students to gain information about needs and lifestyles, and addresses topics such as sleep patterns, spirituality, eating and weight, depression, violent behavior (involvement in and observations of), drug and alcohol use by self and other students, sexual behavior by self and other students, and exposure to health and wellness information. Since the survey is completed anonymously, staff members consider the responses to be fairly accurate. Programs offered on campus specifically address the behaviors and perceptions revealed through responses to the survey.

Alcohol use among college students is not a new issue, but the reality of drinking on campus does not always match the perceptions. Little has initiated a "social norms" campaign to counter misperceptions

and educate about the true norms of alcohol behaviors at Austin College. The social norms approach uses a variety of methods to identify, model, and promote healthy, protective behaviors that are the actual norms in a given population. Freshman students are required to complete the My Student Body online alcohol education course prior to the beginning of the fall term. Little also works with those students who have evidenced substance abuse problems in the Alcohol Education Workshop.

Another focus of the Healthy Campus Initiative is increased education about violence prevention and reduced risks for physical assaults. In Fall Term 2005, the Mentors in Violence Prevention program began on campus in order to create awareness, provide communication, and suggest bystander intervention methods, with the goal of students becoming proactive in the reduction of violence, sexual assault, and harassment. The freshman orientation session, Risky Choices, consists of short vignettes depicting typical student

situations involving relationships, alcohol, sexual assault, and sexual harassment. Each vignette involves at least one character using bystander intervention techniques.

Students have the ability to do something about these situations that staff members do not, Little said, because staff members usually are not present when these behaviors are manifest. "We can teach students to recognize signals of a situation getting out of hand and to see the red flags when a situation may become potentially violent," she said. "Students can be educated in how to diffuse a situation and how to safely intervene. Our training empowers the students to take action."

Last year, a group of students received training — and in turn trained others — in violence prevention. Education is now in progress for new members of the training team, which will educate students and urge them to "Step up and step in." A number of Wellness Peer Educators assist Little with the social norms campaign and other student wellness programs.

COURTESY PHOTO



*MENTORS IN VIOLENCE FOUNDER
JACKSON KATZ
AUSTIN COLLEGE LECTURE
OCT. 26, 11 A.M.
IDA GREEN THEATRE,
IDA GREEN
COMMUNICATION CENTER*

WE WILL NEVER FORGET

PHOTO BY AARON FLORES



The Austin College community gathered for a candlelight vigil in remembrance of the 2,973 people who lost their lives during the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and United Airlines Flight 93. The Campus Activities Board organized the event as well as the ringing of the Wynne Chapel bells, playing the first six notes of “The Star Bangled Banner” at the precise times that each of the hijacked airliners crashed.

Biography Through the Authors' Eyes

Reading biographies is a good means of learning about a historical figure. But all books have finite pages and readers might wonder what information failed to make it to the final pages.

Students in Austin College’s “Biography in United States History,” taught by **Light Cummins**, Guy M. Bryan, Jr., Chair of American History, will not wonder for long — the biographers who wrote the four Texas biographies used in the course will visit class and discuss their research, motivations, and experiences.

Cummins said the course will give students an understanding of historical research in primary documents and secondary sources, proper note-taking and research skills, organization of material, and the methods of writing a biography. They also will gain an understanding of the schools of historiographical interpretation employed by historians of the United States. Before each author’s visit, students will develop procedural, historiographical, and methodological questions for discussion. Students will incorporate the knowledge gained in writing biographical term papers on figures in Texas history.

Books and authors for the course include *Writing Biography* by Lloyd E. Ambrosius; *Sam Houston* by Randolph B. Campbell; *Stephen F. Austin* by Gregg Cantrell; *Ralph Yarborough* by Patrick Cox; and

Profiles in Power: Twentieth Century Texans in Washington by Kenneth Hendrickson, Jr., Michael Collins, and Patrick Cox.

“I believe this class is a first,” said Cummins. “I am unaware of any undergraduate class at Austin College, or at any other university for that matter, which has had the authors of all the books being read by students actually come to the class and participate with them in the analysis and consideration of their books.”

Alumni Join College Board of Trustees

Two alumni joined the Austin College Board of Trustees at the June 2006 meeting.

John Q. Adams, Jr., '84

Co-Founder and Former President
Adams Respiratory Therapeutics
Southlake, Texas

Mary Ann (Stell) Harris '70

Community Volunteer
Fort Worth, Texas

Robert J. Wright of Dallas is chair of the Austin College Board of Trustees. **Robert M. Johnson** '53 of McLean, Va., is chair elect. (For a full list of members, see page 47.)

A CAPPELLA CHOIR RELEASES CD

The Austin College A Cappella Choir debuted a new CD, "Traditions," during Homecoming 2006 activities. The project contains 28 tracks from 1957 through 2006, offering "staples" of the choir and representations of directors **Wayne Bedford**, **Bruce Lunkley**, and current director **Wayne Crannell**.

Crannell began work on the project many months ago with the assistance of **Dave Rankin '79**, who had previously worked with Lunkley in recording and preparing releases. Crannell and Rankin spent hours listening to previous recordings of the choir under direction of Bedford (1947-1957) and Lunkley (1959-1991) to select pieces for the new release, as well as scheduling professional recordings of the current musicians. No formal recordings were made during Paul Fletcher's directorship (1991-1995) and the archival tapes were not of a quality that allowed music from that period to be included.

The final — and longest — step of the process, Crannell said, was the mixing, filtering, preserving, and de-noising of the recordings. "Most of what we used were live concerts or one-take recordings complete with coughs, trains, traffic, page turns, wrong notes, pitch problems, birds, and general noise," Crannell said. Rankin has worked to clean up the sound quality, and he and Crannell have listened to the pieces again and again to achieve a quality production. "My personal standard was that we would not 'correct' the performances. We could clean the background noise, and work with the overall distance or room size, but I was not going to change notes or make the choir sound like something it wasn't," Crannell said. "It was very important to me that we hear these early

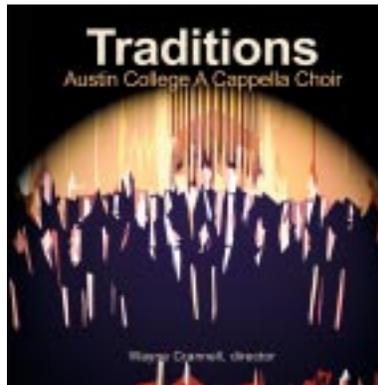
recordings as historical works that represent what the Choir was and is. As a result we have cuts from all sorts of places. The tracks from 2000 were recorded in Italy. The 1957 version of "Brother James Air" also was recorded on a Europe tour. One of the finest performances was recorded in one of the friendliest, but driest, churches in Austin, he said.

Crannell also took on the task of designing the artwork and obtaining licensing rights for the songs. The new CD label has roughly the same design as the 1950 record, known to many as the "Red Album."

A highlight of the CD is the final track, "Benediction." Crannell and Rankin combined the performances of six choirs from throughout the years, each one singing a phrase, and two choirs even singing together near the end. Crannell said this required some digital tricks with pitch and tempo since Bedford's choirs sang "Benediction" much more slowly and in a lower key than Lunkley's and present day choirs.

A gift from choir alumna **Mary Kennedy '60** funded production of the CD, which coincides with the 60th anniversary of the A Cappella Choir, and possibly with the 100th anniversary of a full choir at Austin College, Crannell speculated.

The commercially prepared CD sells for \$15 and will be available at the choir's performances. The CD also may be purchased through the Department of Music. Call (903) 813-2251 or send email to choircd@acappella choir.net. Information is available on the choir website: www.acappella choir.net.



President Oscar C. Page introduces Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams.

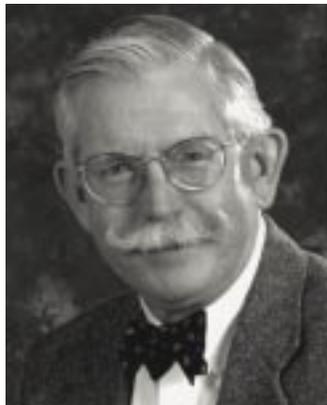
VOTEXAS Mobile Unit Visits Austin College

Texas Secretary of State Roger Williams and the mobile unit of the voter education program VOTEXAS visited campus in September to demonstrate new voting machines and encourage participation in the electoral process.

Secretary Williams made brief comments to gathered students, city and county officials, and other guests before inviting the audience to try out the new voting methods and learn more about the process for November elections.

Holbert Named Associate Vice President in College Institutional Advancement Division

Jerry Holbert joined the Austin College staff in July as associate vice president for Institutional Advancement. He came to Austin College from Stephen F. Austin University where he served 13 years as vice president for university advancement. His tenure at the university was interrupted by a two-year stint as national vice



Jerry Holbert

president for major donor relations at the American Heart Association headquarters in Dallas. Holbert earned a bachelor's degree in English and later, a doctorate in history at Texas A&M University, as well as a master's degree from Pan American University. After a tour as an Arabic linguist in the United States Navy, Holbert began his career in education. First a high school teacher, he advanced to private school development director, private school headmaster, and finally university fundraiser at Louisiana State University before joining the staff of Stephen F. Austin University.

president for major donor relations at the American Heart Association headquarters in Dallas.

Holbert earned a bachelor's degree in English and later, a doctorate in history at Texas A&M University, as well as a master's degree from Pan American University.

After a tour as an Arabic linguist in the United States

George Rowland Announces Retirement After Nearly 40 Years at Austin College

George Rowland, vice president for Business Affairs, will retire Dec.31 after 38 years of responsibility for financial management functions of the College.

"In 1969, a young man joined the staff and began a long-term relationship with Austin College that has been extremely beneficial to three presidents and numerous faculty and staff members," President Oscar C. Page said, announcing the upcoming retirement. "For the past 12 years, George Rowland has served as my vice president for Business Affairs and I am truly grateful for his service to the College and his commitment to the evolution of services and programs that effectively serve our students today. Through participation in the community, George has helped the College develop a very strong relationship that benefits all of us."



George Rowland

A national search is underway to fill the position.

College Staff Members Take Lead Roles in Professional Organizations and Activities

Stephanie Palmer Bierman '00, senior associate director of Admission, received the 2006 "Rising Star Award," given annually during the Texas Association for College Admission Counseling (TACAC) conference, in recognition of excellence in serving the needs of high school students in the transition from high school to college. Bierman, who joined the College's Admission staff in 2002, serves as the TACAC exhibitor and sponsor chair.

Laurie Coulter, executive director of Financial Aid, has been named to the National Presbyterian Scholarship Selection Committee and to the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas/Texas Guarantee Efficiency Committee and College Consultant Team.

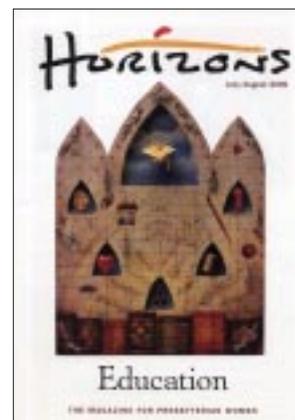
Nan Davis, vice president for Institutional Enrollment, has been selected to a three-year appointment to the College Board National College Scholarship Service Assembly Council and the Southwest Regional College Board Council.

Jay Evans '64, director of Admission, was selected for a three-year appointment to the College Board National Guidance Admissions Assembly Council.

Celeste Longoria '04, associate director of Admission, has been appointed to the TACAC Conference Planning Committee.

Tim Millerick, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics, is serving as chair for the National Small College and University Knowledge Community of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA). NASPA has 21 "knowledge communities" to provide an opportunity for NASPA members to access information and resources on a specific professional topic and to come together through common interests as they face local and national issues. Millerick said small college student personnel make up 50 to 60 percent of NASPA's 9,000 members.

John Williams '84, chaplain and director of church relation, wrote "Faith and Higher Education," which was published in the July/August 2006 issue of *Horizons*, the national Presbyterian women's magazine. He also is participating this fall in "Doing Theology Downtown," a project of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas.



A FINE SPACE FO



THE BETSY DENNIS FORSTER ART STUDIO COMPLEX

*A \$2 million gift from Peter and Betsy Forster '65 provides the
first art-specific facility on campus*

R THE FINE ARTS



P

rofessor of Art **Mark Smith** is giddy about plans for Austin College's new Betsy Dennis Forster Art Studio Complex. 'Giddy' is perhaps not the word Smith would use, but hearing him talk about the two planned buildings is like listening to a kid talk about what Santa Claus might bring.

"It is the building we have dreamed and fantasized about," Smith said. "It is a building that will matter. With steel, brick, and glass, people will see elegant simplicity. The synergy of materials, room, function, and proportions will create a kind of aesthetic vitality and visual poetry. Not all buildings achieve a poetic presence."

In a word, Smith said, the buildings are "cool."

by Brian Builta



The Forster Complex will increase the Art Department's square footage from 8,500 to 20,000 and will include a gallery with a 37-foot-high ceiling, a 75-seat lecture hall, studios, a student gallery, a digital laboratory, and space, space, space.

An arts facility was not in the College's immediate plans when **Betsy (Dennis) Forster '65** and her husband, Peter, began discussing a gift to the College's Art Department. At first, the Forsters considered endowing a chair for the art faculty. Then Betsy Forster visited campus and saw the crowded conditions in Craig Hall, originally housing the Department of Music when built in 1962 with funds donated by Catherine Craig in memory of her late husband, Thomas Craig, both long-time College trustees. The Art Department moved into Craig Hall after a fine arts wing was added in 1972 with gifts from Catherine Craig and Gladys Madden, but the area is now inadequate for the needs of the studio-based program, and simply too small for the growing department.

Forster, herself an artist who paints landscapes, said, "Of course they needed a building. There was no space for anything. I'm just glad the faculty members have stayed as long as they have."

THE COMPLEX

The Forster Art Studio Complex will be the College's first art-specific building. It will consist of two buildings — one long and sleek and rectangular and the other square and functional.

The long, two-story building will sit on a 4-foot concrete base to give the building some height and will house the "clean" arts — photography, painting, and drawing. The dramatic entrance will be faced with dark green soapstone and will act as a porch, looking across campus toward the Wright Campus Center. Two vertical windows and a soaring overhang will invite visitors into the gallery, which Smith describes as a chapel for art. "It will be an art sanctuary," Smith said, "from the troubled and difficult outside world to the shelter of the gallery, where people can contemplate art in an inviting atmosphere."

The building also will include four studios — photography, painting, drawing, and fundamentals, a darkroom, a library for slides, and a second gallery/lobby for students.

The one-story building housing sculpture and ceramics will be a less pronounced, "tucked-away" building connected to the longer building by a covered walk. This will be a hands-on facility housing two shops — one for ceramics and another for wood and metal — and a covered outdoor court for kilns and metal sculpture.

"The building is a model for what good visual design is all about," Smith said. "And if the building itself is a benchmark of excellence, that trickles down throughout the department."

THE CHALLENGE

Cunningham Architects of Dallas developed five models for the complex before settling on the two-building approach. To Gary Cunningham and his team, the site of the complex and its relation to the rest of campus was the most important consideration. The College clearly has a history and a strong propensity to creating an axis of orientation on campus, said Gary Cunningham, explaining why the complex aligns with the Wright Campus Center. "People feel good walking toward something with beauty."

Two of the firm's main challenges were designing a complex that would connect the north edge of campus (north of Richards Street) to the main campus south of Richards, and overcoming the natural closure that Dean Hall gives to the heart of the campus. Cunningham overcame these obstacles by creating a skinny two-story building and placing it on a 4-foot high pedestal aligned with and facing the Wright Campus Center.

"Scale was definitely an issue," said Cunningham architect Bang Dang. "If the building is not comparable in height, it becomes more like a stepchild."



The key to the building's appeal, Cunningham said, is simplicity and repetition. "One of our core beliefs is to be expressive and honest about what a building is made of," he said. The steel frames that support the main building will be exposed and spaced every 22 feet. The floor will be made of concrete. The building will be only 40 feet wide, allowing natural light to penetrate every room.

"It is the hippest building," Smith said, "designed by the hippest architect."

THE EFFECT

Demand for art studio courses has always been high at Austin College. In 10 years, the number of art majors has doubled and the Art Department serves more than 300 students each year. The Forster Art Studio Complex will allow senior art students to leave works in progress in place and will give non-majors an opportunity to take introductory art classes earlier in their college careers.

Mike Imhoff, vice president for Academic Affairs, said art courses — particularly the studio courses — are highly sought after by students majoring in other fields. "The art faculty encourages non-majors to take art courses," Imhoff said. "The faculty members work with students at the students' level. Therefore, they are a big influence on our student body."

Having a quality art facility will communicate two things to students, Imhoff said. "It says we value art, aesthetics, and creativity, and that we are interested in well-rounded people."

The added space also will open the possibility for broader curricular offerings. One possible addition would be an exhibition management dimension, which would involve classes in gallery management, art history, and training in the technical preparation of exhibitions.

The location of the Forster Complex — just east of the Jordan Family Language House and not far from the site that will become a

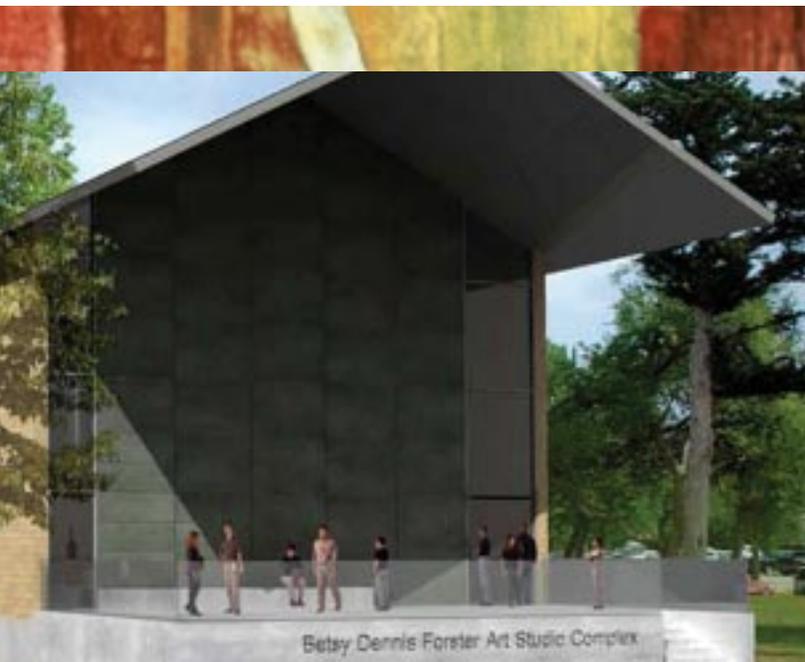
landscaped entrance off Grand Avenue to the north edge of campus — will eventually transform the entire north side of campus. As in the 1950s, when the campus grew south with the construction of the Student Union Building, Wynne Chapel, and various residence halls prompting the closure of College Street, the addition of the Forster Complex will set in motion plans to broaden the contiguous campus by closing portions of Richards, Luckett, and Hurt Streets and adding a new road curving north of the Forster Complex connecting Richards and Dugan Streets.

"The generosity of Betsy and Peter Forster has allowed us to accelerate the College's master plan for the north end of campus," Austin College President **Oscar C. Page** said. "The Forster Complex will be a dramatic and appropriate addition that will draw students not only to the north end of campus, but to the fine arts as well. It is certainly appropriate that this facility will bear the name of an alumna who is a talented artist who truly loves the arts and has a concern for Austin College students."

THE HOPE

Betsy Forster never took an art class at Austin College. She majored in education and did not enroll in a formal art class until age 28. She hopes the new buildings will help students who are not majoring in art to gain appreciation for art. "I was not aware that I was an artist," Forster said. "I hope students who come to the buildings find out who they are supposed to be. For those who are majoring in art, perhaps they will realize that is what they are supposed to be doing, and they can start earlier than I did."

The arts have been a meaningful part of education for the kind of students Austin College produces, Imhoff said, and the array of great alumni who have studied in the Art Department is a testament to the mileage that a relatively small department has gotten out of its resources. "It is wonderful to have a physical building to support that."





Can You

by *Rose Rothmeier, Ph.D.*

Many have something producing sound in their ear for the majority of each day. They speak to the air, assuming a “cone of silence” protects their privacy in a crowd. At 2 a.m., they “talk” online to a friend who is half-way around the world in China completing a study abroad program. They document their college years in cell phone snapshots, potentially sharing these events online with the world. This is technology in the lives of Austin College students in 2006.

Students have the ability to work, communicate, play, and display themselves 24/7. There are tremendous advantages to the technological advances in the academic environment, so many ways that student learning can be enhanced and creativity challenged. Students can supplement in-class discussions with faculty and classmates through discussion boards and access information that is “on reserve” without notice of library hours. Technology is essential to the continued advancement of the undergraduate program at Austin College.

But how are students being personally shaped by the prominent role that technology has in their lives — a shift that has taken full hold only in the past decade? For example, the concept of patience, let alone the development of this virtue, seems to be lost as speed increases with each technological advance. Even the mildest mannered students seem prone to attacks of rage when a computer is slow, or forbid, has the audacity to freeze! It is as if the computer is insulting them, denying them access to something they have a right to have at a moment’s notice.

At some universities, it has been reported that there is an increased demand for anger management classes. Chronic

complaints of stress, depression, and anxiety on campus may, in part, also reflect natural consequences of a desire — no, demand — for ever-increasing speed, access, and defiance of sequential steps inherent in developing mastery and efficacy as an adult in a complex world.

While much has changed due to technological advances, many of the same issues facing traditional-aged college students are the same. Few come prepared for the challenges of living in a residential community. Many have effectively enlisted the influence of parents when conflict or frustration occurred in their lives. Prior generations found the lack of parental intercession at college liberating, an opportunity to make their own mistakes as well as show all that they could do with what they had been given so far. With constant access to parents and peers via cell phones, some students today are genuinely at a loss to problem solve and have impaired abilities to negotiate conflict with roommates and friends. It is amusing to think that roommates with a conflict might choose to “discuss” a disputed matter by text messaging each other, while in the same room, but this does occur.

Dislike for other students, staff, or faculty can provoke vitriolic assessments on websites specifically designed to vent negative appraisals of specific groups or types of individuals. It is a challenge for those who work most closely with students to facilitate an understanding that problems tend to worsen with these types of technologically mediated efforts and that there is conceivably little hope for peace in the world if it cannot be achieved through face-to-face negotiations in the places where students live and learn.

Relationship issues of all sorts have long been a focal point in the college population. Due to the advent of websites such as FaceBook and MySpace, students often come to Austin College “knowing” other students that they have “met” on these websites. More than one heart has been broken over a blossoming online

Hear Me Now?

relationship that has come to a screeching halt when both parties arrive on campus. Students check out their peers by looking up their pages and attempting to determine if they have anything in common. The media has made much of adolescent postings of personal information and webcam photos with provocative content. Most colleges have added references in conduct policies restricting the use of camera phones to intrude upon the privacy of other students. Most classroom and formal Austin College functions request the silencing of cell phones in order to convey respect to presenters, as well as those who prefer to not be disturbed by the ever-more-creative ring tones of others.

Technology has clearly made this generation more dependent on material objects to sustain a sense of connectedness to essential relationships and day-to-day activities. Since none of the desired pieces of technology are inexpensive, it also makes it abundantly clear who has access to resources and who does not. As the market makes what is new today obsolete in six months, students are visibly reminded of who can afford the most up-to-date cell phone, computer, and related amenities. The cell phone has become so ubiquitous that it is a frequent reminder to the students and those around them who is “at the cutting edge,” which also can be viewed in terms of success and power.

It is always a disappointment to see a student working off-campus more hours than he or she should to succeed academically at the College, merely to pay credit card debt or to afford the cell phone, computer gadgets, and other trappings of success.

It probably will take an additional generation or two for those who observe and facilitate growth during the college years to clearly assess the full impact of technology on the personal development of college students. Right now, we are only beginning to learn how these tools can offer opportunities to intrigue students about the richness of human experience and open doors to acquiring knowledge of self and others —

knowledge which both confirms and challenges a student’s “world view.” Hopefully, with our goals in mind, we will discover ways to promote genuine dialogues and meaningful self exploration using tools yet to be devised.

Real time relationships and projects on campus will be supplemented with more fluid, interactive computer based-programs that will challenge students to apply personal values and attitudes in simulated situations, perhaps with peers in other parts of the world. Computer-based opportunities to confront a variety of conflict-laden interpersonal situations also may offer opportunities to experiment with different responses and strategies, providing opportunities to build interpersonal competencies and resiliency.

I anxiously await these advances in technology, moving students beyond “Can you hear me now?” to “Now, see who I have become!”



Rose Rothmeier, psychologist, is the director of Student Services at Austin College. She holds the rank of assistant professor and teaches courses in psychology.

WORKING TOWARD A MEANINGFUL LIFE

Since its beginning four years ago, Austin College's Lilly Theological Exploration of Vocations Program has allowed hundreds of students to complete internships — locally as well as across the nation and around the world.

Students have had the opportunity to explore career options ranging from ministry to crime scene investigation, from archeology to screenplay writing. Other students experienced aspects of law, politics, historical conservation, environmental studies, medicine, hotel management, education, organizational psychology, non-profit administration, business, and the Christian music industry. All those opportunities came just in 2006 — and the list does not describe all the areas of exploration.

The Lilly Program however, is designed to provide much more than a summer job. The goal of the program is to enable students to explore the meaning and significance of their lives within the concrete world of work and service, to integrate faith and action.

The students' experiences do not end when the summer ends. All Lilly Interns take a fall "reflections" course led by Mark Hebert, associate professor of philosophy, which examines their Lilly experience through ethical inquiry and exploration of the role and meaning of work — and its integration within a meaningful life.

The Lilly Program began in 2002 with a grant from the Lilly Endowment and was continued with a sustainability grant in 2005. The internships are just one aspect of the program, which includes resulted in Lilly Visiting Scholars, the Lilly Speakers Fund to bring new voices to campus, curricular additions, and research opportunities for students and faculty. The Lilly grant allowed College staff to offer paid internship and study opportunity

to many students each year, expanding upon the Career Study Off-Campus and Individual Study Off-Campus programs offered through the Office of Career Services.

Tim Millerick, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics, said the Lilly Program has provided wonderful opportunities for students and has provided College staff experience with administering a unique program. Though the name will likely change after Lilly Endowment support ends, College staff fully anticipate continuing the program. "There may be programmatic changes, but the intentions, the learning opportunities, and the career and life exploration will not change," Millerick said. He said College administrators are seeking support to allow paid internships opportunities to continue.

One of the most unique aspects of the Lilly Program is the reflection component, Millerick said. "Students spend significant time making meaning of their learning." Though Millerick said it is not certain exactly how this component will be handled beyond this fall, he said there is strong consensus that it must continue.

"The Lilly reflections class helps students to gain further insight and understanding into the significance of our summer internship experiences—whether that means discovering a new vocational passion or simply growing as an individual," said **Kristin Saboe '07**, who spent the summer in Washington, D.C., with the Osgood Center for International Studies. "In the reflections class, being surrounded by a diverse group of peers with a wide variety of vocational and personal experiences from their summer is energizing and introduced me to many opportunities I was unaware of before."

A significant part of her Saboe's internship involved attending

COURTESY PHOTO



Kathryn McKenzie '07 spent her summer on an archaeological dig in Pompeii, Italy. The work, she said, was harder than it looked as the ability to interpret what is unearthed is vital. The experience helped her to realize she would not want to do similar work as a career, but holding the items that others found excited her and has led her to further consider museum curator work. "In archaeology, you dig up history," she said, "but as a curator you hold that same history in your hands and share it with others."

seminars, speeches and press conferences at D.C. think-tanks, and she said she not only learned from the events and the individuals involved, but that the experiences “have significantly shaped my understanding of the world, culture, and my own future aspirations. I discovered multiple avenues through which to explore topics I am passionate about, and gain insight into where I want to direct my future — personally and vocationally.”

A site across the country was not necessary for such insights. **Geoffrey McCoy '08** spent the summer exploring non-profit organization administration at Rainbow Days in Dallas. “By working with homeless and at-risk youth around Dallas, I was able to see and understand more about the way the real world is than any insight a classroom experience could have given me,” McCoy said. “The Lilly Program provided me with the means to take on a position that stretched my capabilities to the ‘max’ while giving me a greater love for children and the world.”

Dan Bradley '08 spent a summer as a Lilly intern in D'Iberville, Miss., where he was the manager of a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Volunteer Village, assisting in the Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast. He provided oversight to the daily operation of the village, including pre-arrival preparation, housing of volunteers, worksite supervision, and financial matters.



COURTESY PHOTO



COURTESY PHOTO

Hampton and Farrar pose with a bust of Joseph Haydn at his birthplace.

Students Make 'International' Music

Katy Hampton '08 and **Rebecca Farrar '08** spent two weeks in August performing in an international orchestra as part of the annual Eisenstädter Sommerakademie in Austria. Concert venues included St. Stephan's Cathedral in Vienna, the Esterházy Palace in Eisenstadt, and several concert halls in southern Burgenland. Both participated in various chamber music ensembles and were excited to see and to play in such historic locations.

The Best Opportunity of My Life – So Far

A 2006 summer apprenticeship at the Santa Fe Opera thrilled **Thomas Rhodes '08**. “I never thought I would be able to do something like this. This was the best opportunity of my life so far,” said the Austin College music and German major from Odessa, Texas.

Rhodes said he has long been interested in classical music and, a violinist (now learning piano also), he has studied music for many years. During a January Term course led by Professor of History **Hunt Tooley**, Rhodes was able to see several operas and since has studied the history of opera with **Dan Dominick**, associate professor of music.

“Opera is the perfect art form,” said Rhodes, who also is a countertenor in the A Cappella Choir and composes music. “Every medium is presented — music, theatre, painting. The technical aspect of opera is an art in itself.”

Rhodes should know. He spent 80 hours a week this summer as an orchestra services and production assistant for the opera's five productions — helping run rehearsals, make scenery changes, set up rehearsal sites for the orchestra, and design orchestra seating charts — which change with each production. A seating chart doesn't sound that complicated until considerations have to be made for scaffolding that extends into the orchestra pit or a set that includes a large trough of water placed above the orchestra area with very nervous musicians concerned with potential water leaks on their instruments. Ultimately, those issues, which arose during Rhodes' work during *The Tempest*, were solved with an altered stage design.

A career in opera is likely for Rhodes though he will study further and examine opera from different perspectives. He plans to spend a semester abroad in Vienna and hopes to have the opportunity to at least be an usher at a Vienna opera house.

“Every once in a while you find the perfect thing,” Rhodes said. “This is it for me.”



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Thomas Rhodes

STUDENTS EXPLORE SOUTHWESTERN CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH SUMMERLEE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Austin College Summerlee Internships are granted each spring by the College's Center for Southwest and Mexican Studies to students exploring Texas and its diverse cultural heritage within the context of the humanities or the social sciences.

The internships are completed at sites that provide varied and substantial exposure to the study of the Southwest.

Interns and their 2006 worksites are listed below.

Jackie Armstrong

Texas State Historical Association, Education Department in Austin. Working with a number of educational programs, including the Old Stories, New Voices Inter-Cultural Youth Camp and the Heritage Travel Tour program.

Courtney Baker

McNay Art Museum in San Antonio, Texas. Working in the Teacher Resource Center on the Summer Teacher Institute and Tres Museos, focused on encouraging teachers to bring students to the museum. Baker worked with **Kate Carey '00** at the museum.

Susan Bennett

Fort Bend County Museum in Richmond, Texas. Several projects, including an inventory of the records of Austin County during the colonial period in Texas. Also worked closely with the George Foundation.

Mariam Chaudhry

Salvation Army Oak Cliff Corps Summer Day Camp Program. Working with mostly Hispanic children 6-8 years old, in activities ranging from field trips to reading, writing, and world culture projects.

Jessica L. Lucas

San Antonio Museum of Art (SAMA) Education Department. Helping to promote and run educational and outreach programming; helped design and implement an informational program, "Tuesday Greeters Program."

Ravina Patel

Dallas Independent School District. Tutoring fifth graders at Cesar Chavez Learning Center and assisting at the Mentoring and Parent Engagement Department creating materials for workshops for the DISD's Hispanic parents about higher education potential for their children.

Elena Muniz

Summerbridge at Fort Worth Country Day School. Teaching eighth grade math and working with students to help them consider higher education. Fifty percent of students in her programs spoke English as a second language.

Jacquie Welsh

The University of Northern Colorado's Middle Ground Project. Working with publications regarding U.S. government interactions with the Navajo Indians. Her work also included gathering materials to provide reservation instructors with the skills and resources needed to teach U.S. history and civics.

All the students reported successful experiences — as foundations for future endeavors, the satisfaction of a job well done, further insights into cultures, enhanced communication skills,

knowledge about Texas and Texas history, or opportunities to serve others and provide assistance.



Courtney Baker poses outside the McNay Art Museum.

All in the Family

by Brian Bulta

Emileigh Stewart '08 did not plan to attend Austin College. Her mother, **Leighann Stewart '79**, attended Austin College, as did her father, **Jack Stewart '79**, her aunt **Kimberly McMath '86**, her uncle **Tom Stewart '84**, her great uncle **James Stewart '53**, and her grandmother **Cathy Stewart '57**. Even her great grandmother, **Mary Donoho**, took a class in 1922, as did her great grandmother's cousin, **Margaret Lucille Donoho**, who attended 1928-31.



PHOTO BY BRIAN BULTA

Emileigh Stewart

Major:
*Psychology and
Political Science*

Hometown:
Midlothian, Texas

Career Goal:
*Analyst for the Central
Intelligence Agency*

"I had been here [at Austin College] my whole life," said Emileigh, who grew up in Midlothian, Texas, but often visited her grandmother, Cathy Stewart, who worked as an assistant in the Moody Science Building from 1972 to 2002. Emileigh did not say her parents forced her to visit Sherman when she was seriously looking for a college, but it was "strongly encouraged," she said. "They wanted me to make my own choice," Emileigh said. "That's probably something they learned here."

Emileigh fell in love with Austin College the day she visited as a prospective student. She has learned since that the College is both similar to and vastly different from the place her family knew.

The Student Union Building, where Emileigh's grandmother played bridge and her uncle socialized with his professors, is gone. The track where her father ran has been removed and the College no longer has a track team. Emileigh lives in the new Johnson 'Roo Suites and is a scholar in the 11-year-old Posey Leadership Institute, both things her family could not do. Emileigh said her father would have made a great Leadership scholar. "She did not

know me when I was in college," Jack Stewart said, "or she would not have said that." Still, they talk about leadership and Emileigh shares what she has learned.

Kimberly McMath said Emileigh is a more focused student. "She takes school more seriously. I sense the student body is a little more dedicated than we were." Jack Stewart said the campus is prettier than it used to be and the buildings more modern.

Still, a surprising number of things have remained the same for the past two generations of Stewarts. They all enjoyed January Term. Emileigh participated in the Model UN program, as did her aunt and uncle (which is where they met). All took Heritage of Western Civilization courses and commented on the close relationships they have had with faculty. Emileigh has taken courses from **Hank Gorman**, who taught some of her other family members. Each time Emileigh walks into Wynne Chapel, she thinks about her parents, who married there in 1979.

But the hub of the Stewart family's long connection with Austin College is the second floor of Dean Hall. Her father lived there four years and met his future wife, Leighann, there. Emileigh's aunt and uncle also lived there two years. Even Emileigh lived there her first two years at Austin College. Sometimes she and her father swap Dean Hall stories. "His experience sounds very similar to mine," Emileigh said, "except I'm a girl and probably was not as gross." 🐾

KANGAROO FOOTBALL COACH TAKES THE FIELD

With nine months under his belt as Austin College's new head football coach, **Ronnie Gage** has begun to get a taste of life as a college football coach. The former head coach of two-time Texas 5A State Champion Lewisville High School and former president of the Texas High School Football Coaches Association also has noticed the difference between coaching in the high school and the college ranks.

The biggest adjustment, Gage said, has been the issue of time management. At an academic institution like Austin College where scholarship is emphasized before athletics, Gage has noticed that scheduling practices and games around his players' class schedules often presents a challenge.

In addition, Gage has gotten a whole new perspective on recruiting. "I worked recruiting for years on the other end," said Gage of his time at Lewisville, when many of his high school players were recruited to collegiate playing careers. Being the actual recruiter, though, "is more tedious and demanding on this level. It is important to find players who fit the Austin College profile and try to get them here."

Gage said that his move to college football has been made easier by support from the faculty and staff. "Tim Millerick, David Norman, and Oscar Page all have been very good to me and extremely helpful," said Gage. "Tim has been instrumental in making my transition as painless as possible."

Gage credits the rest of the Austin College coaching staff for helping to smooth his transition. "The coaches here are all first class and very professional with their approach. I learn something new from them each day."

With a new coach comes a new philosophy. This year, fans see the Kangaroo offense work out of a run-oriented wishbone system that should look familiar to anyone who saw Gage on the sidelines for Lewisville. Along with implementing the same system he used as the coach at Lewisville, Gage's first coaching hire was **Bill Pietrosky**, his longtime offensive coordinator with the Farmers. (See Assistant Coaches Back Gage, page 36.)

"The players are great and work hard," said Gage. "We know the challenge we are up against and it is going to be a process that will take time. Austin College has a tremendous reputation as a

strong academic institution, and we want our program to reach a level that represents the school in a strong, positive manner."

Gage said the challenge of heading up the Kangaroo football team was his main reason for coming to Austin College, but ultimately he is here to help shape good student-athletes, and he knows he has a strong group on the Kangaroo football team.

"These are great young men who are here for the right reason," Gage said. "But they still have a passion for football."



PHOTO BY JOSH BOWERMAN

Ronnie Gage

PHOTOS BY JOSH BOWERMAN

Volleyball Team Sets Sights on Conference Championship

Coming off of the best season not only in Austin College history, but also in the history of the American Southwest Conference, it is little surprise that the Kangaroos volleyball team entered the 2006 season being hailed as one of the top teams in all of NCAA Division III. The 'Roos began the season ranked No. 18 in the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) preseason poll released Aug. 29.

Early in the season the 'Roos have shown why they were so respected by coaches around the country, racing to a 10-0 start. In fact, the 'Roos reached the 10-win plateau faster than any other team currently ranked in the AVCA Top 25. That mark was good enough to boost the 'Roos to the No. 15 ranking, the highest in school history, in the AVCA poll released Sept. 13.

Along with the higher degree of respect this season, the 'Roos also will face a higher degree of difficulty as the season continues. By season's end, they will have played three teams ranked in the Top 25 in Emory (5), Southwestern (13), and Trinity (20) in the Sept. 13 poll.

Coach **Ed Garza** and his team look forward to the challenges. Led by All-Region performers **Veronica Stephens '07** and **Becca Harpham '07**, Garza and the 'Roos hope to capture a Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference championship the first year in the conference.

The Austin College volleyball team won its 35th straight home match by the end of September, bringing the season record to 16-3.

In that time, Harpham became Austin College's all-time leader in kills.

*Left, Becca Harpham;
Above, Veronica Stephens*



Assistant Coaches Back Gage

When **Ronnie Gage** took the job as head coach for the Austin College football team, his first order of business was to assemble his own coaching staff to help lead the 'Roos. His staff combines youth with experience, with the additions of **Bill Pietrosky**, **Eddie Brister '72**, **Chris Johnson**, and **Scott Dunavant**.

The experience comes from Pietrosky and Brister, in addition to **Loren Dawson**, in his fifth year with the Kangaroos. Gage managed to bring both Pietrosky and Brister out of retirement to help him on the sidelines at Jerry Apple Stadium.

Pietrosky has a long history with Gage, having served as the offensive coordinator under Gage at Lewisville High from 1986-1995 and again from 1996-2002. Pietrosky has occupied several head coaching positions, along with serving as an assistant coach at North Texas State University, the University of Southwest Louisiana, and Livingston University prior to joining Gage with the Farmers.

Brister, a former Kangaroo football player, also has a history with Gage, having served as an assistant at Lewisville in 1980-1981. Along with having attended and played at Austin College, Brister is also familiar with the Sherman area, having served as the offensive coordinator at Sherman High from 1982-1984. Most recently, Brister was the offensive coordinator at Stephen F. Austin and then the head coach at Texas A&M-Commerce.

Johnson and Dunavant bring a bit of youthful exuberance to the sidelines for the 'Roos. Johnson is a 2000 graduate of Kansas State University, where he was a standout defensive lineman. Johnson was

the MVP of the 2001 Cotton Bowl and holds the single game NCAA record for tackles for loss with seven. After a stint with the Chicago Bears and the Arena Football League's Orlando Predators, Johnson became a graduate assistant at Kansas State, where he earned his master's degree in 2004.

Dunavant is a 2006 graduate of the University of North Texas, where he worked as an Athletic Department student assistant. Dunavant is certified by the National Academy of Sports Medicine as a personal trainer, is a member of the U.S. Amateur Boxing Association, and has worked as a private instructor for high school athlete training.

Loren Dawson, coordinator of defense, special teams, and recruiting, has transitioned from the Kangaroo former football coaching staff to Gage's squad. "Loren has been my right hand man since I got here," Gage said. "He is a tremendous coach and knows Austin College very well." Dawson held similar coaching duties at Phoenix College before joining the Austin College staff.

Additional help comes from volunteer assistant coaches **Shane Allison '96** and **Rick White**, as well as graduate assistants **James Kowalewski '06**, **Derek Ruthardt '06**, and **David Lockett '06**, all Kangaroo football alumni.

BASEBALL TEAM GETS NEW "DIGS"

The improvement of the Kangaroo baseball team this past spring has been well documented, and now the home field of Coach **Carl Iwasaki** and his squad has had major improvement as well.

Baker Field has undergone a fairly extensive facelift this summer months, notably with the construction of two new brick dugouts and home plate being moved back 15 feet. The new placement of home plate increases the dimensions of Baker Field, with the new distances to the outfield fence being 325 feet down

the leftfield line, 410 feet to centerfield, and 315 feet down the rightfield line. In addition, the entire field has been leveled.

A low brick wall and netting have replaced the old chain link fence backstop, improving the look of the field and providing spectators a better view from the stands. Further improvements to the facility are possible, as proposals for a new scoreboard and new bleachers are being reviewed.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Soccer's Future Doctor

by Jeff Kelly

“What did you do over summer break?” Most college students have similar responses: reconnected with old friends, relaxed, earned money for the return to college. For **Tricia Stone '08**, the answer was quite different.

Stone, a native of The Woodlands, Texas and a forward for the women's soccer team, spent her summer helping in the battle against cancer. Working under the supervision of Dr. Carola Leuschner in an undergraduate summer program at Louisiana State University, Stone helped test

and research a potential new drug for prostate, breast, and ovarian cancers, developed by the William Hansel Laboratory for Cancer Prevention at the Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge. The drugs with which Stone worked are called lytic peptide conjugates.

Over the course of her time at LSU, Stone focused on ovarian cancer research, which has affected Stone in a personal way. Last fall, Stone's close friend, Malia Schlattman, lost her mother, Laurie, to ovarian cancer.

“The cancer had become resistant to the chemotherapy drugs, so her second treatment was unsuccessful,” said Stone. “Lytic peptide conjugates could potentially cure people in a situation like Laurie's, which is really exciting.”

In her studies, Stone's data showed that lytic peptide conjugates are more successful when used in conjunction with chemotherapy. Based on this discovery, she believes that a combination of chemotherapy and lytic peptide conjugates could ultimately become a highly efficient treatment for multi-drug-resistant ovarian cancer.

While Stone admitted the process of testing the drugs was tedious, the experience was well worth the repetition of the experiments. “I feel I contributed something valuable to the scientific community and maybe even society as a whole,” said Stone. “I believe eventually we will have the technology to cure or prevent every form of cancer. Finding cures takes the dedication of scientists like Dr. Leuschner, who work to achieve particular goals. Science is a process, and requires individuals willing to explore many methods that *don't* work before they discover something that does. Those scientific breakthroughs have the potential to affect millions of lives.” 🐾



Tricia Stone

COURTESY PHOTO

BUSINESS ALUMNI SHARE EXPERTISE WITH STUDENTS

Dallas business executive **Brian Ainsworth '85** presented the Austin College Will Mann Richardson Lecture Sept. 21.

Ainsworth has served since 2001 as CEO of Archon Group Europe, a 100 percent affiliate of Goldman, Sachs & Co. The European platform of Archon Group has offices in Paris, Milan, Rome, Frankfurt, Munich, and Berlin.

An alumni panel, listed below, shared insights on "Transition from the Liberal Arts College to the Workplace."

- ❖ **John Q. Adams '84**, founder and managing partner, Legacy Capital Partners
- ❖ **Zeke Ashton '95**, founder and managing partner, Centaur Capital Partners
- ❖ **Dana Bays '93**, financial analyst, BP's North America Gas and Power
- ❖ **Charles T. Dix '84**, senior vice president and resident manager, Dallas office, Wachovia Securities
- ❖ **J. Curtis Henderson '84**, president and CEO, Coterie Capital Partners, Ltd.
- ❖ **Richard V. Lentz '76**, president and founder, Landscape Lighting
- ❖ **J. Weston (Wes) Moffett '82**, president and CEO, Avelo Mortgage
- ❖ **Rodney L. Moore '84**, a partner, Vinson & Elkins
- ❖ **Steve Schiff '71**, managing partner, Schiff & Company, Ltd.
- ❖ **Chris Siebenhausen '02**, assistant vice president, American Bank of Texas
- ❖ **Robin Smith '90**, leasing manager, Archon Retail
- ❖ **Allison McKinney Tarpley '99**, certified financial planner, A.G. Edwards & Sons
- ❖ **William E. Warren '74**, owner of Warren Properties
- ❖ **Todd A. Williams '82**, partner and managing director with Goldman, Sachs & Co.
- ❖ **Brandon Willard '05**, marketing manager, TippingPoint Technologies.

The Will Mann Richardson Lectureships and Seminars were endowed by gifts from Will Mann Richardson and his family to bring outstanding individuals to Austin College to discuss issues in economics and banking, law, and government.



PHOTO BY JOSH BOWERMAN

In early June, Libby Kellum '06, center, suffered severe head injuries in a serious car crash. She spent two months at Parkland Medical Center and Baylor Rehabilitation Center. By September, she was able to attend a Kangaroo football game on campus, and posed for a photo with Tim Millerick, vice president for Student Affairs, at left, and at right, Deb Hunter, women's basketball coach for whom Kellum played as a 'Roo.

COLLEGE CONNECTION STRONG AMONG CLASS OF 2010

At least 65 members of the Class of 2010 can be classified as Austin College “legacies” — at least one other member of their family also attended, or is now attending, the College. Several of those freshmen

students gathered during orientation sessions for the photo below. Some alumni family members were able to join them and other legacy connections are identified.

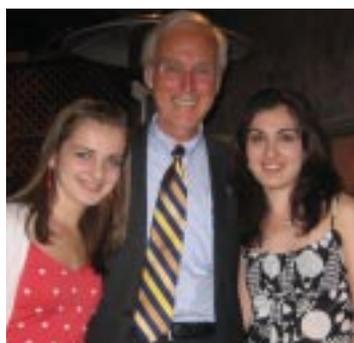


Pictured are, left to right, front row: Eric Mims '85, Kathleen Johnson Mims '86, James Duncan '10, John Duncan '59, Megan Dougherty '10, Molly Dougherty '08, Gregory Griffin '10, David Griffin '78, Ann Caliga Harper '75, Andrew Harper '10, Brian Harper '74; second row: Eric Mims '10, emeritus professor Jack Carlson, Kary Wilshusen Rawlings '77, Rebecca Rawlings '10, Jerianne Cline King '79, Alissa King '10, Rachel Chesney '10 and her sister Sarah Birge '01,

Brandon Bollier '10 – nephew of Dennis Williams '66 (not pictured); back rows: Mike Carlson '10, Social Sciences administrative assistant Mary Carlson, Jean Beck Carlson '82, John Carlson '79, Stephen Bull '78, Emily Bull '10, Rashd Ibrahim '10 – nephew of Aldo Billingslea '87 (not pictured), John Mark Purcell '10 – great grandson of Graham Senic '13, Joseph McMordie '10 — grandson of Howard Angus '34 and great-nephew of Donald Angus '29.

Austin College on the Road

President **Oscar C. Page** visited with Nino, left, and Tamuna Jejeia '06, right, at an Austin College event in Palo Alto, Calif., in September. The sisters are originally from Tbilisi, Georgia.



Ashwini Shridhar '05, left, and Nelipher Moyo '05, right, visit with Jim Lewis, Austin College vice president for Institutional Advancement, during the College's Washington, D.C.,-area event at the home of Joyce and Robert M. Johnson '53 in August.

GET YOUR FALL GEAR AT THE CAMPUS BOOKSTORE

John, Will, and Kate Newsom, children of Vicky and Tommy Newsom '91 enjoy the Austin College t-shirts they received after their grandparents Don '64 and Carol Campbell Newsom '62 visited the Campus Bookstore. Get your Austin College gear (or share some with the grandkids):

www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?1260



COURTESY PHOTO



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

LEGENDS GALA HONORS ALUMNI, RAISES FUNDS FOR ATHLETICS

The annual Legends Gala was held on campus in July in conjunction with the 24th annual Slats McCord Golf Tournament, which honors Ralph "Slats" McCord '50, former Austin College coach and professor

emeritus of physical education. A reception honored several award-winning teams and an auction held during the Gala raised more than \$21,000 for the Athletic Enhancement Fund.



PHOTOS BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

2006 Athletic Hall of Honor Inductees

Left to right, W. Blake Hyde '86, Dallas, Texas, attorney; Ken Loyd '64, Gilmer, Texas, long-time high school boys basketball coach; Brian Riley '87, Irving, Texas, geometry teacher; Marisa Hesse '99, Minneapolis, Minnesota, attorney; and Larry Fedora '85, Stillwater, Oklahoma, offensive coordinator and quarterback coach at Oklahoma State University.



The Kedric Couch Coach of the Year Award

Claude Webb '79 of Denison, Texas, was recognized as Coach of the Year for his successful season at Texoma Christian School in Sherman. The coaching award was named this year to honor Kedric Couch '55, a long-time coach and retired athletic director for the Dallas Independent School District. Couch was inducted into the Austin College Athletic Hall of Honor in 1978 and was named a 2006 Distinguished Alumnus.



The Coach Joe Spencer Award for Lifetime Achievement and Meritorious Service in Coaching

Reggie Davis '62 of Lufkin, Texas, was awarded the Coach Joe Spencer Award. He spent most of his coaching career at Midway High School in Waco, Texas, coaching first boys and then girls basketball. Now retired, Davis was the only coach in Texas selected to coach both boys and girls all-star teams during the Texas High School Coaches Association summer games.

HELP ENSURE CONTINUED POSITIVE COMPETITION FOR ALL SCHOLAR-ATHLETES

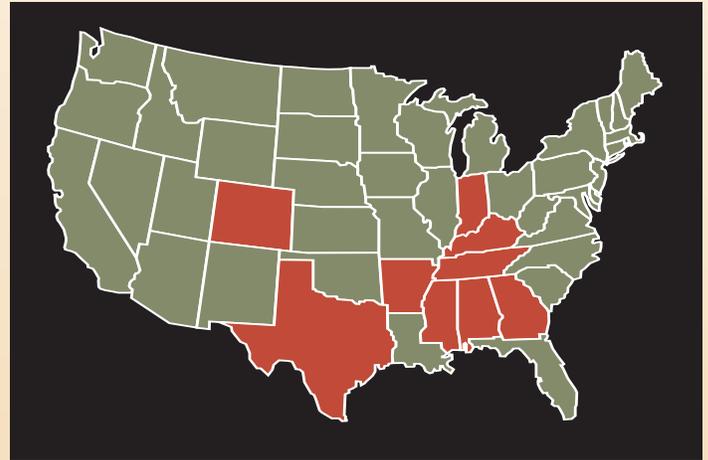
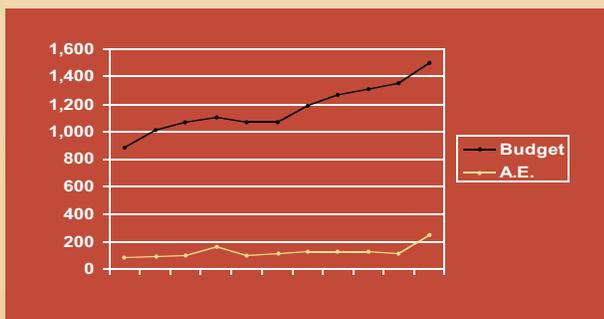
*Designate your Annual Fund gift to Athletic Enhancement
 Become a Travel Sponsor to cover transportation, lodging, and meals
 Become a "Program Partner" with a \$250 gift to sponsor one team member
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Athletic Enhancement provides funding for each sport:

- ❖ Flights, bus travel, hotel accommodations, and meals
- ❖ New game uniforms every three years
- ❖ Recognition awards program
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- ❖ Capital equipment for programs
- ❖ Basic gear and equipment

Since 1996, the Athletic Enhancement Fund has allowed the college to improve the experience of the scholar-athlete:

- ❖ Increased operating budgets for all NCAA sponsored sports
- ❖ A comprehensive athletic training component, including two certified athletic trainers, to support all programs
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Membership in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference increases the operating budget of athletics by approximately \$274,000

- ❖ Austin College
Sherman, Texas
- ❖ Centre College
Danville, Kentucky
- ❖ DePauw University
Greencastle, Indiana
- ❖ Hendrix College
Conway, Arkansas
- ❖ Millsaps College
Jackson, Mississippi
- ❖ Rhodes College
Memphis, Tennessee
- ❖ The University of the South
Sewanee, Tennessee
- ❖ Southwestern University
Georgetown, Texas
- ❖ Trinity University
San Antonio, Texas
- ❖ Oglethorpe University
Atlanta, Georgia

To make a gift or discuss Athletic Enhancement opportunities, contact David Norman (903) 813-2499, (800) 467-6646 or dnorman@austincollege.edu

30

Charles E.R. Cameron celebrated his 100th birthday July 1 with family, friends, and a number of his former students and Boy Scouts. He returned to McAllen, Texas, after graduating from Austin College and was the science, biology, and physics teacher at McAllen High School for many years. He also served as scout master. He lives in McAllen.

38

David Lee “Tex” Hill was honored July 15 with enshrinement in the National Aviation Hall of Fame. The retired Air Force brigadier general and three other aviation notables received the honor during the 45th annual NAHF Enshrinement Dinner and Ceremony in Dayton, Ohio.

47 50-YEAR CLASS REUNION COMMENCEMENT 2007

53

Robert “Bob” Ferrill celebrated his 75th birthday Sept. 23. He is active and working, as witnessed by 13 grandchildren, and awaits his first great-grandchild, due in March. ■ **Robert M. Johnson** continues to receive honors as producer of the documentary film, *Paper Clips*. The film was nominated for an Emmy Award in the Outstanding Historical Programming — Long Form category this summer. The film chronicles the experiences of a class of middle school students in rural Tennessee who hope to grasp the enormity of the Holocaust by collecting paper clips to represent each individual who was killed.

62 45-YEAR CLASS REUNION HOMECOMING 2007

63

Nick Lund, executive director at Northern Arizona University in Yuma for 11 years, has been named *emeritus* professor. He helped develop a partnership between Northern Arizona University and Arizona Western College that has become a recognized model partnership. While at NAU-Yuma, he served three terms as chairman of the Yuma County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, two

terms on the Arizona Area Health Education Commission, and 11 years on the coordinating committee for the Yuma K-20 Education Consortium. Before joining the faculty in Arizona, Lund, had served as associate vice president for academic affairs at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, and was a member of the faculties at the University of North Florida and Texas Woman’s University. He and his wife, Peggy, have now retired and live in Show Low, Ariz.

64

Ed Kendall, retired from Exxon, **Rich Calhoun**, retired from Safeway, and **Bob White**, retired from Humboldt State University in California, got together in May for a bike ride around the Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. Their next project is backpacking in the Grand Canyon.



Kendall, Calhoun, and White

COURTESY PHOTO

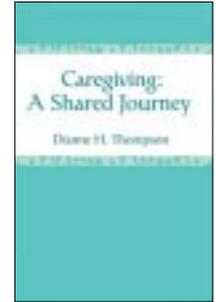
65

Paul Pearce of Schaumburg, Ill., has left Kemper Sports Management after six years to join a Texas firm headed by the son of **Harold H. Walker** '48. Pegasus Golf recently acquired Bull Valley Golf Club in Woodstock, Ill., and Pearce, a veteran of the club industry, is the club’s general manger.

67 40-YEAR CLASS REUNION HOMECOMING 2007

68

Dianne Hardie Thompson has published *Caregiving: A Shared Journey*, a personal memoir about her experience facing the fatal illness of her husband, **Allen** '66. The couple and their family faced an incredible trial when Allen was diagnosed with aggressive, stage-four cancer. The book is a story of a marriage and a family helping him fight and accept his cancer, and ultimately his death, now two years ago. The book is available online through Barnes and Noble and Amazon. Thompson’s proceeds will be donated to various cancer and caregiving charities



70

Jane Reitmann Kass-Wolff completed her doctorate in nursing from the University of Texas at Austin in December 2005. She lives in Denver, Colo., and is the assistant professor at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center School of Nursing, teaching family and women’s health care nurse practitioners.

72 35-YEAR CLASS REUNION HOMECOMING 2007

73

Shirley Smith Duke has been selected to participate as one of the children’s authors at the Texas Book Festival in Austin, Texas, in October. She also will participate in a panel discussion about children’s books. *No Bows!* is her first book.

74

Donald Gaffney has been selected by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court as the first Consumer Privacy Ombudsman in the United States.



Donald Gaffney

COURTESY PHOTO

He is a partner with Snell & Wilmer's bankruptcy group.

75

Patty Able completed her master's degree in education leadership from Stephen F. Austin State University in August 2005. She has just moved to Half Moon Bay, Calif., and is the Pescadero Elementary and Middle School principal for 2006-2007. ■ **Margaret Ann Wearden Raidt** has been promoted to director of

counseling and guidance at Plano West Senior High School in Plano, Texas. She is celebrating 31 years in education, 24 of those years in Plano schools where she began as



*Margaret Ann Wearden
Raidt*

an English teacher. She also maintains a part-time private practice as a licensed marriage and family therapist. ■ **Allen Wallace** left semi-retirement in June when he was appointed as the detention superintendent of the Minnie Rogers Juvenile Justice Center in Beaumont, Texas. He retired in May 2004 after 29 years of service with the Texas Youth Commission. His last nine years on the job were as assistant superintendent of TYC and superintendent of a juvenile correctional facility.

77 30-YEAR CLASS REUNION HOMECOMING 2007

79

Kim Powers has written a memoir, *The History of Swimming*, which includes his years at Austin College. He appeared on *Good Morning America* and on Leonard Lopate's NPR program to promote the book in September. The book has been selected for the Barnes & Noble "Discover New Writers" series for the holiday season. Powers continues his "day job" as a writer for ABC's *Primetime Live*.

Benjamin Willis Receives Kenneth H. Cooper, M.D., Award for Outstanding Research from UNT Health Science Center

COURTESY PHOTO



Benjamin Willis

Benjamin Willis '76 received a Master of Public Health degree with an emphasis in biostatistics from the School of Public Health at the University of North Texas Health Science Center in May ceremonies. He was honored with the schools' Kenneth H. Cooper, M.D., Award for Outstanding Research. The award is given to the School of Public Health student who demonstrates excellence and quality in the application of research methods. "Ben has contributed significantly to the DREAM 2 Project (which is concerned with diabetes)," said Karan Singh, chairman of biostatistics. "He has been working as a graduate research assistant with Dr. Mike Clearfield's and Dr. Walter McCarthy's team on the CDC-funded diabetes project. The team is extremely pleased with Ben's hard work, sincerity, and expertise in statistics. He goes the extra mile in doing an outstanding job on a given project."

Willis holds a medical degree from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School.

Rhyme Hughes Earns UT Southwestern Medical School Stembridge Scholarship for Excellence in Pathology

Rhyme Hughes '98 graduated from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School in May and earned the 2006 Vernie A. Stembridge Scholarship for excellence in pathology.

Hughes earned a master's degree in biology from the University of North Texas in 2002 and has worked in inorganic chemistry and for a radiopharmaceutical company in Denton. At UNT where he taught biology for non-science majors, he was honored as an outstanding teaching assistant.

Hughes plans to participate in Emory University's residency program and pursue a career in pathology, either in an academic or private realm.



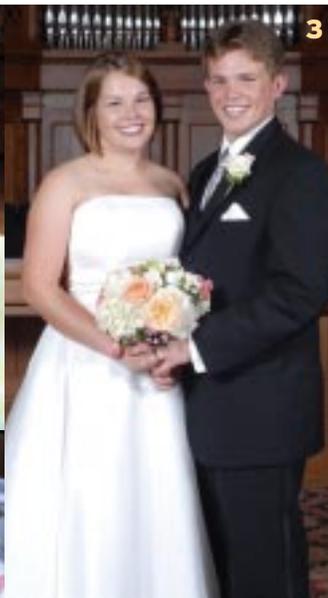
COURTESY PHOTO

Rhyme Hughes



Go Back to the Classroom
Alumni College Weekend: 360 Degrees of Learning
May 18-20, 2007

www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?879



'Roo Notes

From the Class of 1980 to 2006
are now posted on the
Austin College website.

Post your news and find details
about the news of the alumni
pictured here at

www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?892

Photos may now be posted
on the site as well.

While on the site, register for the
Austin College Online Directory.

If you have comments about the format
change to 'Roo Notes, please write
editor@austincollege.edu

1. Jerrell, Nichole (Knesek) '00, and Jonah Ingalls 2. Timothy, son of Emily Herbruck Erington '89

3. R. Henry Owen and Emily Richardson '05 4. Anthony, Amy (Anderton) '86, Mark, and Alina 5. Bill Leonard '82

6. Tyler, son of Kevin Pittman '91 7. Michael Lohman and Paige Harper '02 8. Annie, Faith, and Dalton, children of Annie Seale Harris '86

9. Yami Cazorla-Lancaster '01 10. Sunil Patel and Shalizeh Azizi '97 11. Madeleine, Dylan, and Jacob, children of Jennifer Esser '93 and

Steve Sullivan '95 12. Kinsey, daughter of Darin Griggs Hallam '98 13. Alexander "Alex", son of Sarah Lien Finnerty '93

14. Mike '94, Jeni (Abraham) '93, and Madeleine Squiers 15. Chelsea, daughter of Kevin '95 and Carrie Wheeler Cross '96

16. Rania Batrice '03 and Brooks Wehner '01

ALUMNI PROFILE:

COURTESY PHOTO



Betsy Dennis Forster

PAINTING THE WEST

A profile of Betsy (Dennis) Forster '65

by Brian Builta

Betsy (Dennis) Forster '65 lives in Washington, D.C. She likes living there, but the arrangement creates two problems: 1) she is a landscape painter surrounded by the city; 2) she's in love with the west.

Forster solves both problems by flying west, most often to Jackson, Wyo., where she casts off the responsibilities of the east in favor of capturing the west on canvas. "The moment I step off the airplane," Forster said, "I look at the mountains and take a deep breath – [big sigh] – I'm here."

Forster's love affair with the west began with the golden hills of California, where she was born, and was nurtured through ski trips and exposure to vast open places. "I need openness," she said. When she first traveled to New Mexico, the arid land of sagebrush and Georgia O'Keefe, she said, "I had to fight back the tears. I just felt so good."

Nature may be Forster's first love, but art is a close second. She grew up around art — her mother and great grandmother were artists — and constantly "made things" as a child. But Forster did not take her first serious art class until she was 25 years old. The influence came from her mother, who sent Forster art supplies each birthday until the hint took hold.

Now Forster splits time between home in Washington, D.C., where her husband, Peter, is CEO of Clark Construction Group, and Jackson, Wyo.

Forster said her soul also is fed in Washington D.C., but in the west she serves on no committees, rarely attends meetings, and shoulders fewer responsibilities. "To come out here as an artist, where I can paint every day — it's heaven." 

Forster's work is shown at the Touchstone Gallery in Washington, D.C.

To see it, visit www.touchstonegallery.com.

Forster's "Granite Canyon," at right, is a 2005 oil-on-canvas painting.



DID YOU KNOW

Today's college students are known as Millennials. Prior generations were known as Generation Y, Generation X, and the Baby Boomers. Those born from 1925 to 1945 are known as the Silent Generation.



IN MEMORIAM

'42	Bennett A. Joiner	June 24, 2006
'43	Mary Marie Shirley	July 3, 2006
'49	Josephine Gregg Groben	June 5, 2006
'49	Felix W. Keys	July 26, 2006
'51	Martha Carlene Biggers Raper	June 24, 2006
'53	Carlos S. Buck	June 13, 2006
'59	Martha Nell Webster Green	June 20, 2006
'62	Edward Sammons, Jr.	August 13, 2006
'64	Flora McElreath	August 19, 2006
'70	Margaret J. Cook	June 10, 2006
'79	Frank P. Thompson	June 19, 2006

SEND US YOUR NEWS

'Roo Notes will publish news of recent marriages, births of children, promotions, and other news of Austin College alumni through the Class of 1979 in *Austin College Magazine*. News of the Class of 1980 and beyond will be published on the Austin College website.

For Magazine Publication:

Email: alumni@austincollege.edu

Mail: Class Notes, College Relations
Austin College
900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H
Sherman, Texas 75090

Photos will be used as space is available. Electronic photos must be 300 dpi (high resolution) and publication quality.

For Online Posting:

Post your news online

www.austincollege.edu/Category.asp?892

Email: alumni@austincollege.edu

Photos can be posted online.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Jacqueline R. Cooper '73, Oakton, VA	Davis B. Price '67, Lubbock, TX
Barry B. Donnell, Wichita Falls, TX	Fazlur Rahman, San Angelo, TX
F. R. "Buck" Files '60, Tyler, TX	Annadele H. Ross '66, Dallas, TX
Rebecca Moseley Gafford '72, Dallas, TX	Ann Colt Sporer Smith '65, Fort Smith, AR
Dennis E. Gonier '83, Fredericksburg, VA	Caroline Elbert Taylor '66, Wyalusing, PA
Mary Ann Stell Harris '70, Fort Worth, TX	Jesse R. Thomas '74, Sherman, TX
Charles Hendricks '61, The Woodlands, TX	Linda Plummer Ward '78, Nashville, TN
M. Steve Jones, Sherman, TX	William E. Warren '74, Plano, TX
Sharon S. King, Richardson, TX	Todd A. Williams '82, Dallas, TX
Jeffrey Landsberg '81, Dallas, TX	Stanley M. Woodward, Dallas, Texas
Fred R. Meyer, Dallas, TX	Michael G. Wright, Dallas, Texas

MEET THE TRUSTEE

Fazlur Rahman was born in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) but has lived in San Angelo, Texas, for 30 years, which gives him a rather unique Bengali-cowboy accent. Pora Bari is the village where Rahman was born, and it was there that he experienced, at age 7, the defining moment of his life: the death of his mother.

Rahman was a smart young man drawn to medicine because of his mother's death and his own battle with kala-azar, a parasitic disease that nearly killed him when misdiagnosed.

After graduating from Daulatpur College and Dhaka Medical College, Rahman bucked the usual trend of going to England for higher education and instead moved to the United States in 1969, finishing postgraduate training in New York and at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

In New York, one of the first things Rahman saw was the grave of Washington Irving, a favorite writer of his childhood. "I'm a doctor," Rahman said, "but I'm a little odd because of my varied interests." In college, he actually received better marks in liberal arts than in science and has since fed his literary habit by publishing articles and essays on medical, social, and ethical issues in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Houston Chronicle*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Harvard Review*, *Lancet*, *Short Story International*, and other papers and magazines, as well as for his hometown paper, *San Angelo Standard Times*. Besides his love for medicine and literature — Rahman said he has learned more philosophy from Albert Camus, Anton Chekhov, and Rabindranath Tagore than from any philosopher — and he is committed to promoting education and advancing interfaith and intercultural understanding and dialogue.

Rahman specialized in oncology, a new specialty in the 1970s, and remembers posters that read: We will cure cancer in our lifetime. "I thought I could make a difference," he said. Rahman moved to San Angelo because his department chairman at Baylor College of Medicine was approached by a doctor from the area who said San Angelo and West Texas as a whole had no oncologist, and Rahman and his wife, Jahanara, wanted to live in a quieter place.

There are two sides to treating cancer patients, Rahman said. "If you can take care of someone who is sick and vulnerable and they get better, that makes you feel good." Rahman also sees people suffer; as a professional, dealing with that requires mental discipline. "You get used to the facts of what happens, but you don't get used to the suffering itself," Rahman said. The key, he added, is empathy. "Otherwise, you could not practice oncology day in and day out." 

oct.

- 13-15 Homecoming
- 14 Community Series, Mozart with Friends, Wynne Chapel, 7:30 p.m.
- 19-21 Theatre: "How I Learned to Drive," Ida Green Theatre, Ida Green Communication Center, 7:30 p.m., \$5
- 26 Lecture: Jackson Katz, Ida Green Theatre, 11 a.m.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



nov.

- 2 Land Stewardship Lecture Series: J.Baird Callicott, professor of philosophy at University of North Texas, Hoxie Thompson Auditorium, Sherman Hall, 11 a.m.
- 4 Great Day of Service
- 12 Choral Concert, Wynne Chapel, 3 p.m.
- 15 Concert Band Presentation, Wynne Chapel, 7:30 p.m.
- 19 Faculty Recital: Rick Duhaime, Barbara Case, Cathy Richardson, Wynne Chapel, 3 p.m.
- 20 Chamber Music and Jazz Concert, Wynne Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



dec.

- 1 World AIDS Day Service, Wynne Small Chapel, 9 p.m.
- 2 Community Series Event: Christmas Pops, Sid Richardson Center, 7:30 p.m.
- 3 Community Series Event: Christmas Pops, Sid Richardson Center, 3 p.m.
- 7 Lessons and Carols, Wynne Chapel, 7 p.m.
- 21-30 Campus Offices Closed for Holidays

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

jan.

- 3 Campus Offices Re-Open and Jan Term Begins
- 23 Jan Term Ends
- 29 Spring Term Begins

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

See the Austin College Campus Master Calendar for a full schedule of events:
<http://www.austincollege.edu/MasterCalendar.asp?2057> 



▲ EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

The Austin College Archives is filled with photos from the 157-year history of the College. Alumni with information to share or names of individuals from the above photo can write Editor, Austin College, 900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H, Sherman, Texas 75090 or editor@austincollege.edu.

Alumni: Send in your Austin College photos for possible inclusion in Every Picture Tells A Story. Send to Editor at the above address.

THE STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO ▼

Several people wrote to identify the Mo Ranch Theatre Troupe, naming **Casey McLellan** '79 (in the tree), then left to right, **Matthew Plummer** '81, **Cynthia Williams** '79, **David Fessenden** '80, **Carrie McLarty Daniel** '81, **Laura Hickey McMeley** '89, **David Reneau** '79, Professor of Communication Arts **Dub Narramore** '62, and seated, **Laura Vargas** '80, **Jennifer Lackey** '82, and **Selmore Haines** '80. Notes came in from **West Gurley** '80, **Kathryn Strempeke** '85, **Cynthia William** '79, Rebecca Narramore, **Neil Shurley** '86, and **Megan Ely Ferris** '88. Several members of the campus community offered help and **William Moore**, professor *emeritus* of humanities, wrote reminiscences of several of the students pictured. **Marc Daniel** '83 said a copy of the same photo hangs on his refrigerator! He said it was the 1979 troupe in front of the Barn that served as housing for the troupe as well as their stage. "Hot summers, \$35 a week, scorpions, skunks, bats, centipedes, and wonderful theatre," he wrote.



Opening of the 158th Academic Year

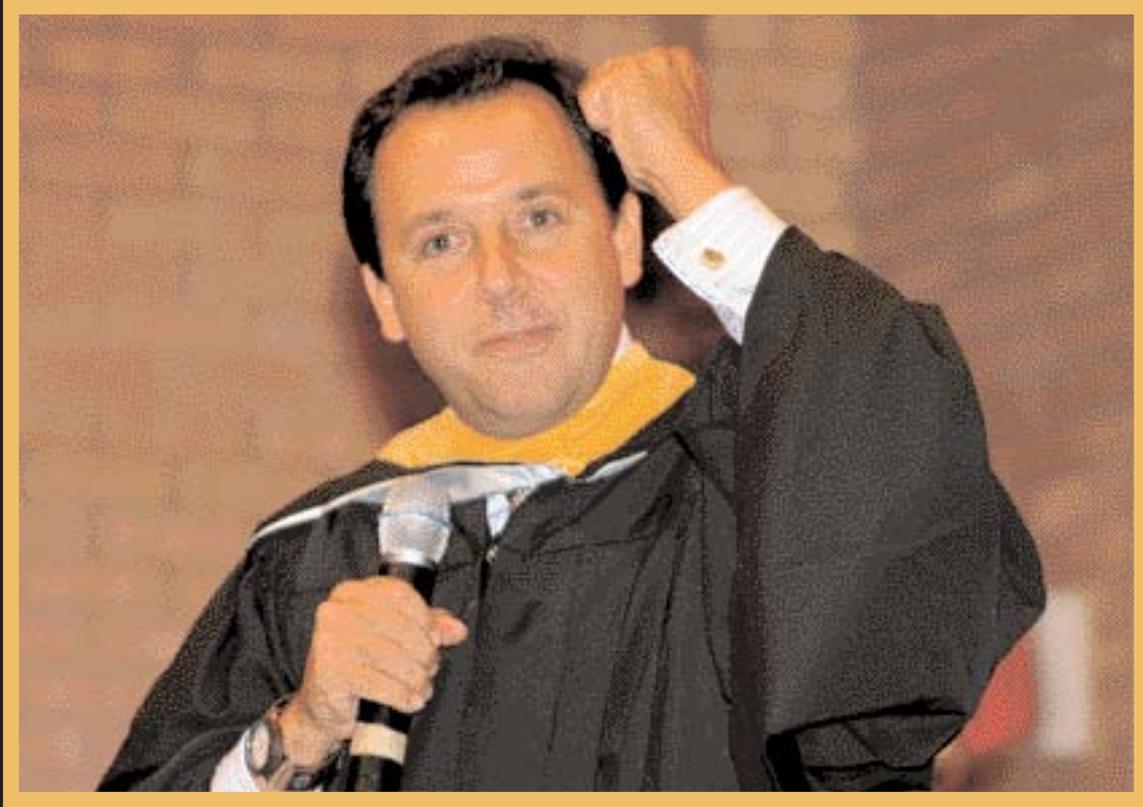


PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Journalist and Author Ron Suskind

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