



# Austin College

Magazine March 2008

**2008 AUSTIN COLLEGE  
LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT  
GEOFFREY CANADA**

**HUGH GARNETT HONORED | FORSTER ART COMPLEX DEDICATED | LANGUAGE HOUSE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTED  
PRESIDENT OSCAR C. PAGE TO STEP DOWN JUNE 2009**



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March 2008

#### Editor

**Vickie S. Kirby**  
Senior Director of Editorial Communication

#### Design

**Mark Steele**  
Art Director

#### Editorial

**Dara McCoy**  
Senior Writer  
**Jeff Kelly**  
Sports Information Coordinator  
**Victoria Hughes**  
Production Coordinator  
**Vickie S. Kirby**

#### Photography

**Vickie S. Kirby**  
**Jacqueline Armstrong '08**, Student Assistant  
**Aaron Flores '09**, Student Assistant

#### Office of College Relations

**Michael Strysick**  
Executive Director

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Contact *Austin College Magazine*:  
Office of College Relations, Suite 6H  
Austin College  
900 North Grand Avenue  
Sherman, TX 75090-4400  
Editor: 903.813.2414  
Fax: 903.813.2415  
Email: [editor@austincollege.edu](mailto:editor@austincollege.edu)

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## First Farewells

Dear Friends of Austin College,

A well-known passage from scripture framed the focus of the *Campaign for the New Era*: "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven."

These words from the Book of Ecclesiastes articulated for the Austin College community the idea that we were at a pivotal juncture in our history. For us to move forward on a path that would provide the promise of our unique form of education for generations to come, we needed to make a significant commitment and investment in our future. This historic call was answered resoundingly. Austin College forever has been changed because of this outpouring of generosity, and the higher purpose we serve continues to find new form and meaning as a result. In the process, we have been good stewards of our many talents, as both individuals and a community of higher education.

I have reflected on this scripture again lately, and believe just as these words spoke to the Austin College community, providing focus for our future, they are now speaking to me as the College's president. With exceeding gratitude for the honor I have had to serve this great College, I announce my intent to step down as president of Austin College effective June 30, 2009.

As I anticipate the conclusion of our current Strategic Plan and look ahead to completion of our accreditation process

through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, it became clear to me that the time has come for a season of new leadership. By making this announcement now, I am confident there will be a smooth transition that allows sufficient time to search for my successor.

This decision is bittersweet. For the past 30 years, I have had the privilege of serving as a senior-level administrator at colleges and universities throughout the South. Guiding the work of this institution has been rewarding beyond measure, and I consider my time at Austin College as the crowning achievement of my career.

As I anticipate stepping down from the presidency, I reflect upon the many great opportunities I have had to serve young people and to work with outstanding faculty and Board members during my time here.

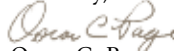
Over the last 14 years, I have had the satisfaction of watching young people mature in mind, body, and spirit. My fond memories of the students who have traversed this campus during my tenure are not limited to their time on campus. I have been fortunate to follow with interest their success in life, and I commend their great commitment to service to others.

This last point is important. One of the truly great characteristics of Austin College is its service orientation. Not only is this a great academic institution, but students on this campus appreciate the concept of service, and they continue that commitment to service when they graduate. Higher education has changed significantly over the years; however, the purpose of serving young people has not changed. Indeed, it should not and must not veer from this key purpose. While we serve students in different ways today, our goals are essentially the same: to help young people attain their academic goals and enter career paths with strong values of caring, respect, responsibility, gratitude, and service.

To my mind, there is no greater profession than one associated with education, and I am proud to have been a part of the community of educators for such a long time. As I look to the future, I intend to continue a strong association with higher education so that I can continue to contribute to the lives of institutions and individuals who make those institutions so great.

The coming months will allow time for me to thank the many people with whom I have had the privilege to work, as well as the students and alumni who are the true and best ambassadors of Austin College. Thank you for the honor of serving as your president.

Sincerely,



Oscar C. Page  
President

*Editor's Note: Dr. Page's announcement was made at press time for the March issue. More information will be published in the June 2008 issue of this magazine.*



## Garnett Receives National Teaching Honor

Austin College Professor *Emeritus* of Economics **Hugh Garnett** has been named a winner of the Acton Foundation's national award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Education. Garnett is one of 27 teachers nationally to receive this honor. All winners were initially nominated by students and then judged by a panel of master entrepreneurship teachers at Acton. In nominating Garnett, one student wrote, "Professor Garnett pushes his students to understand economic outcomes in the real world from theory and reasoning." Announcing the award, Acton Foundation President Rick O'Donnell said, "Great teachers change lives by inspiring students to recognize their gifts and to learn how to use them to pursue a worthy dream. Hugh Garnett is one such great teacher."

Garnett joined the Austin College faculty in 1981 and in 1990 was named to the Clara R. and Leo F. Corrigan, Sr., Chair of Economics and Business Administration. He received the rank of professor *emeritus* of economics upon his retirement from teaching in 2003.

"As a teacher, Hugh had a profound effect on many of our economics and business administration students," said **Michael Imhoff**, vice president for Academic Affairs and dean of the faculty at Austin College. "In traveling the country I am struck by the number of graduates who are eager to tell me of the impact Hugh Garnett made in their professional development."



COURTESY PHOTO

Hugh Garnett

## Two Faculty Members Receive Honors from Community

**Julia Shahid**, associate professor of education, was recognized as the Women of Visionary Influence (WOVI) 2007 Education Mentor of the Year at the WOVI annual meeting last fall. Founded in 2001, WOVI is an organization of women offering mentoring, education, and leadership. The organization has chapters in Addison, Austin, Frisco, north Dallas, and Sherman. Shahid works closely with students in education courses and with those from her Communication/Inquiry course. "I think that mentoring is very important, and one of the most satisfying aspects of my life has been to 'grow' people," Shahid said. "It is so rewarding to help young people recognize their gifts and talents and then to assist them as they move into areas that match those special strengths. Certainly part of my role as a mentor is to empower others to be the best that they can be."



PHOTO BY TAYLOR JONES

Julia Shahid



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Janet Lowry

**Janet Lowry**, associate professor of sociology, received the Sherman/Grayson County League of Women Voters Citizen of the Year Award in February for her work within the organization and her dedication and service to the citizens of Grayson County. She was similarly honored in August 2007 with the Grayson County NAACP Recognition Award for Political Action.

"When I moved to Texas to teach at Austin College in 1983, I also joined the League of Women Voters on the advice of a colleague in New York who taught me how the organization studies issues before reaching positions to advocate at the local, state, and national level," Lowry said. "The League never endorses candidates, but prides itself on supplying information to voters on important questions and answers from the candidates so that voters can make informed choices. That serious and bipartisan approach is very appealing to me and usually needs a good social scientist, so it was a natural fit. After attending city council meetings as a League observer corps member and petitioning the neighborhood to get stop and yield signs installed on streets beside Grand Avenue, I was invited to help staff the polling place in precinct 5. I learned the system of primary and general elections in Texas and have been trying to encourage student participation ever since."

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

### HUMANITIES

**Marsha McCoy**, visiting assistant professor of Latin, traveled to Scotland in September 2007 to attend the international conference "100 Years of Solitude: Roman Colonies in the First Century of Their Foundation," where she presented the paper "100 Years of Gauls: Narbo Martius, Roman Coinage, and Gallic-Roman Interaction in the Late Roman Republic." She also attended the Classical Association of the Atlantic States meeting in Washington, D.C., in October, where she organized a panel, "Petronius' *Satyrica*: Readings, Rationales, Reception," and presented, as a member of the panel, a paper, "Bakhtin and Petronius' *Satyrica*." She is preparing for publication an edited volume of papers from the panel.

**Mark Smith**, professor of art, will be a featured artist in the exhibition *Field of Color: Seven Contemporary Artists* at the Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi September 19 through December 28, 2008. Works featured represent different regions of the state of Texas.

**John Williams**, chaplain, has been elected to the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary Alumni Board. He attended the national conference of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators in San Diego, California, in February and led a workshop, "Can You Hear Me Now? A Biblical Model for Thinking About Ministry with Young Adults." **Alissa King** '10 of Allen, Texas, and **Courtney Mullins** '10 of Bedford, Texas, ACTivators youth ministry team members, assisted with the workshop presentation.

**Ivette Vargas**, assistant professor of religious studies, presented "Positive Stigma: Disease, Tibetans, and Religious Experience" in November 2007 at the American Academy of Religion, Religion in South Asia Section (RISA) meeting in San Diego, California. The presentation was part of the panel "Illness and Practice: Subjectivity and Community in Four South Asian Religious Traditions." Vargas presented "Recognizing the Demons and the Buddhas: Healing, Buddhism, and Environmental Awareness" at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation Church in Lubbock, Texas, in November 2007. She also presented "How Prominent Are Women in Buddhism?: Leaders, Teachers, and the Future of Ordained Nuns" in October 2007 for the conference

series "Bridging Worlds: Buddhist Words and Works," co-sponsored by Cornell University and Namgyal Monastery Institute for Buddhist Studies, Ithaca, New York. Vargas also appeared in a Promedium Productions DVD series, *Psychology of Religion*, in which a number of academics in the U.S. were interviewed regarding the impact of religion on college students.

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

**Jeff Czajkowski**, assistant professor of economics, presented his hurricane evacuation research at Texas A&M and again at the Southern Economic Association annual meeting in New Orleans in November 2007. He was invited to Texas A&M by its Agricultural Economics Department and the Hazard Reduction & Recovery Center. Czajkowski has been awarded a one-year research grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) via Florida International University's International Hurricane Research Center to continue this research.

**David Griffith**, associate professor of business administration, and assistant professor Bryan McKinney of Ouchita Baptist University presented a paper, "Can Heather Gillette Save YouTube: Internet Service Providers and Copyright Liability," at the International Association for Computer Information Systems annual conference in Vancouver, Canada, in October 2007. The paper subsequently was published in *Issues in Information Systems*.

**Janet Lowry**, associate professor of sociology, is program chair and president elect for the Southwestern Sociological Association and is preparing for the organization's March meeting in Las Vegas. More than 300 individuals will present over 80 paper and poster presentations, including **Maleeha Akhtar** '09 presenting research on HIV/AIDS in India.

**Gerald Middents**, professor *emeritus* of psychology, has written a book, *Bridging Fear & Peace: From Bullying to Doing Justice*, published in 2007. The book, in addressing the dynamics of enemy-making and peace-making, investigates why aggressive persons, leaders, and nations make enemies and then are reluctant to let go of their fear-mongering. The book examines domestic violence, sexual abuse, international wars, and global flashpoints, psychologically explaining cycles of violence and how to interrupt them.

**Don Rodgers**, assistant professor of political science, presented the paper "Democracy and Legitimacy: The False Promise of Globalization" at a conference, "Can Democracy Survive Globalization? Lessons from Taiwan," in December 2007 at the Elliott School of Government at George Washington University (GWU). Bob Dole was the keynote speaker for the event, hosted by the GWU Sigur Center for Asian Studies, The GWU Elliott School of Government, The Taiwan Foundation for Democracy, and the Formosa Foundation. In January, Rodgers participated in a roundtable conference, "The 2008 Legislative Election: A New Beginning of a Two-Party System in Taiwan?" The meeting was hosted by the London School of Economics' Asia Research Centre and Taiwan's Institute for National Policy Research, and held in Taipei, Taiwan. Rodgers and many of the other scholars attending were in Taiwan to observe the elections.

#### SCIENCES

**Lance Barton**, assistant professor of biology, co-wrote an article, "REG Proteasome Activator Is Involved in the Maintenance of Chromosomal Stability," in collaboration with researchers at the Istituto Nazionale Tumori in Milan, Italy, that was published in the February 15 issue of the journal *Cell Cycle*. In November 2007, Barton traveled to Chicago to attend the Annual Autumn Immunology Conference, where several of his students presented their research. Barton served as a workshop chair for the immune homeostasis and tolerance section of the meeting.

**Karla McCain**, assistant professor of chemistry, attended the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies meeting in October 2007 and received an outstanding poster award for her research presentation "Using FT-IR and UV-vis Light Scattering to Examine the Effect of Tail Length on the Enthalpy of Bisurea Organogel Melting." Research for this project was conducted with **Cara Barnes '09**, **Aaron Pierce '07**, **Emily Kuo '10**, **Paul Frederick '10**, and **Andrew Carr**, associate professor of chemistry.

## Across the Disciplines

### Science and the Liberal Arts

Austin College faculty **Hank Gorman**, professor of psychology; **Peggy Redshaw**, professor of biology; and **Don Salisbury**, associate professor of physics, met with faculty and academic officers in Washington, D.C., in October 2007 for the conference "Promoting the Liberal Sciences: Science as Liberal Education," sponsored by the American Conference of Academic Deans and the Phi Beta Kappa Society.

The focus of the conference was the discussion of the interdisciplinary nature of the liberal arts and how the sciences fit within the liberal arts. The Austin College faculty offered information on the changing nature of interdisciplinary courses meshing science and culture that have been offered at Austin College since the 1980s.

### A New Twist on Texas History

**Tom Baker**, professor of education, and **Light Cummins**, professor of history, attended the annual conference of the Texas Council for the Social Studies in El Paso, Texas, in October 2007. Baker organized and facilitated a session, presented by Cummins, "On-Line Resources and Lessons for Teaching Texas History." In January, Light Cummins and **Victoria Cummins**, also professor of history, attended the Texas History Conference for Secondary Teachers in Huntsville, sponsored by the Texas Education Agency, to offer a similar presentation to several hundred public school teachers. The two multimedia presentations described Austin College's project, "Writing Mexican-Americans into Seventh Grade Texas History Courses." The College's History Department, Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies, and Austin Teacher Program joined forces on the project that resulted in new lesson plans made available to teachers throughout Texas.

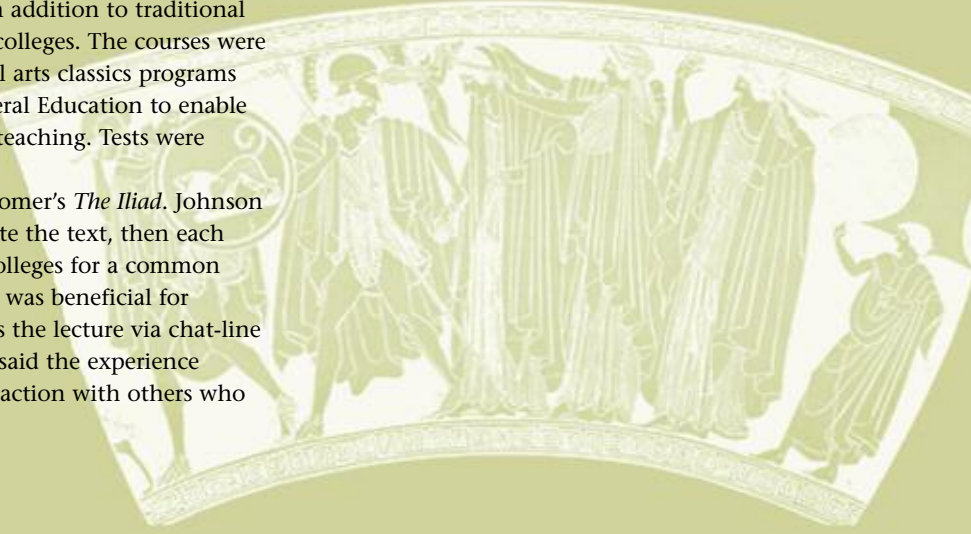
Austin College history students wrote the lesson plans highlighting Mexican-Americans in Texas history. The plans were prepared such that teachers can implement them in accordance with the state TEKS criteria. The project has been underwritten by a grant from Humanities Texas, with additional support from Austin College's Andrew Pickett Mobley Scholar Fund (see page 22).

A number of distinguished educators serve as an advisory panel for the project, including Adam Benavides of the Benson Latin American Library at the University of Texas - Austin, Carolina Castillo-Crimm of Sam Houston State University, J. F. de la Teja of Texas State University - San Marcos, and Teresa Lozano Long of Austin.

# The Classics Go High Tech

**Jim Johnson**, professor of classics, and **Marsha McCoy**, visiting assistant professor of Latin, attended a summer workshop at Bowdoin College in Maine to prepare to teach courses in Advanced Greek and Medieval Latin. The courses, in addition to traditional teaching, included weekly podcast lectures from participating colleges. The courses were established through Sunoikisis, a national consortium of liberal arts classics programs that works with the National Institute for Technology and Liberal Education to enable classics faculty to incorporate computer technology into their teaching. Tests were created and graded in common for all participants.

Students in Johnson's Advanced Greek course explored Homer's *The Iliad*. Johnson and his Austin College students met in class sessions to translate the text, then each week met online with students and faculty from consortium colleges for a common session featuring a faculty lecture. Johnson said the experience was beneficial for students and faculty, providing all involved a chance to discuss the lecture via chat-line software and a sense that they were part of a larger course. He said the experience allowed him to gain new use of technology and provided interaction with others who shared his enthusiasm for *The Iliad*.



## Where are they now? Cynthia Manley, Professor of French 1977-2006

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Cynthia Manley

**T**he story of a young American woman studying abroad in Paris, France, meeting a foreign love interest named Jean-Pierre, and, upon returning to the United States, struggling with the decision to go to graduate school or return to Paris and marry her French beau sounds like the premise for a Danielle Steel romance novel. In reality, it is just one of many stories from lives impacted by **Cynthia Manley**, retired Austin College professor of French.

The pride is evident in Manley's voice as she goes on to tell how **Margaret Ann Splawn '88** *did* return to France, married Jean-Pierre, and went on to make a legendary career as a derivatives broker who could "name her salary," Manley said. In November 2006, Manley went to visit Splawn in London. "She was so excited when I told her that I would come that I said 'Anybody who wants to see me that bad deserves for me to come'," Manley said.

Manley's list of student stories and memories is probably exhaustive. She joined the Austin College faculty in 1977. "I am basking in feeling good for the first time in 30 years, thanks to not being overstressed and overworked," said Manley, who left teaching in 2006 to go on disability leave to deal with chronic illness. Manley's years of service haven't seemed to lessen her interest in French. She is currently writing about her research of 18th Century feminist Louise Marie-Madeleine Dupin and her secretary Jean-Jacques Rousseau.

Whether retelling romantic stories of a student finding love during study abroad in France or describing how she barely managed to get a group of Austin College students (and their significant luggage) on a train from France to Italy during an extended train strike, Manley obviously revels in those moments. "I love thinking about former students and experiences, especially the funny ones," Manley said. "I love hearing from former students. No matter how ordinary they think they are, I think they are wonderful."

Contact Manley at 618 W. Brockett, Sherman, TX 75092; [cmanley@austincollege.edu](mailto:cmanley@austincollege.edu); or (903) 361-3666.

“I quickly learned that it is an expression of close-knit community interest and nothing to be nervous about.” — Julie Hempel

rowing up in Michigan, **Julie Hempel**, Austin College assistant professor of Spanish, often found herself horrified as a teenager by her mother’s tendency to strike up conversation at the bank, grocery store, or just about anywhere and divulge “unnecessary details about her day or her children,” Hempel said. As Hempel got older, she decided it was just a teenage attitude toward parents and didn’t give it much thought beyond that.

Hempel bounced from Eastern Michigan University to the University of Arizona and then to the University of Michigan earning bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees in Spanish before securing her first teaching position in 2002 at Austin College. In her first extended stay in the South, Hempel found herself taken aback by questions about her vacations, weekends, and time off. “I quickly learned that it is an expression of close-knit community interest and nothing to be nervous about,” Hempel said.

The behavior also brought her a revelation about her mother’s behavior. “Just a few weeks after moving to Sherman, I discovered that many women here do the same thing and I came to the startling conclusion that my mother was not the strange and embarrassing mother of teenagers that I thought her to be, but rather a Southerner!” Hempel said.

The close-knit community among faculty and students has become one of Hempel’s favorite aspects of life at Austin College. Hempel said she one aspect of developing community that she has immensely enjoyed is Communication /Inquiry (C/I), Austin College’s freshman seminar course that pairs students and faculty mentors who remain together for four years. “I love watching students mature and having personal contact with them throughout their four years here,” Hempel said. “Also, the opportunity to focus on different topics I enjoy and design myself each term is really a luxury in a world in which many do the same tasks over and over each day.”

The autonomy Hempel is given allows her to work in her area of interest in the biological and cultural mix of ethnicities or races. Mestizaje originated from the Spanish colonial caste system as a term to differentiate children from mixed indigenous and Spanish lineage from children of Spaniards in the New World, Hempel said. She plans to spend her fall 2008 sabbatical in Querétaro, Mexico, conducting new research on mestizo.

While the congenial nature of the small north Texas town of Sherman might have taken some getting used to, Hempel has long since adjusted and is fully taking advantage of the community atmosphere, academic freedom, and travel opportunities that teaching at Austin College can afford. 🦘



Julie Hempel

COURTESY PHOTO

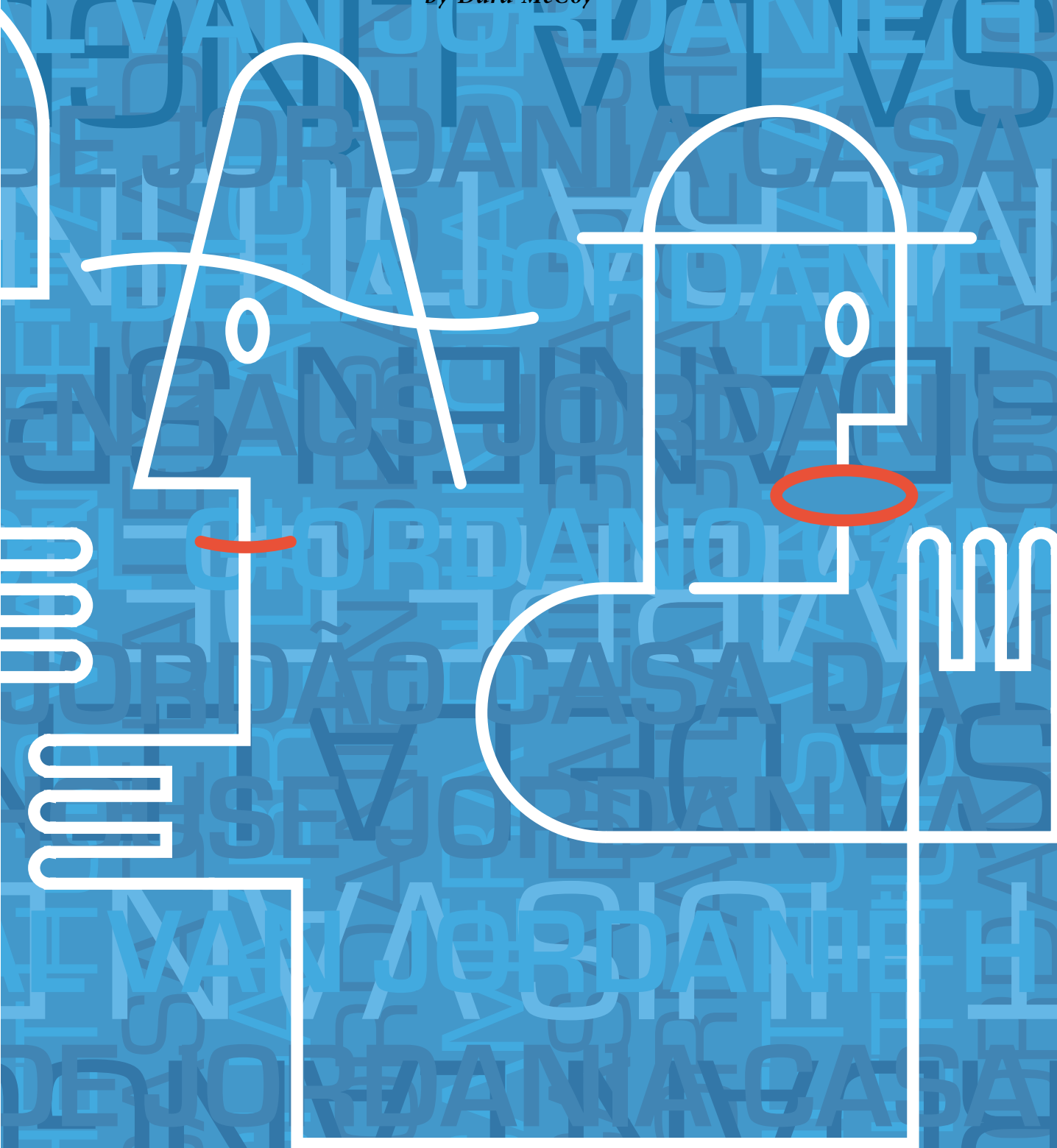
# JORDAN FAMILY LAN

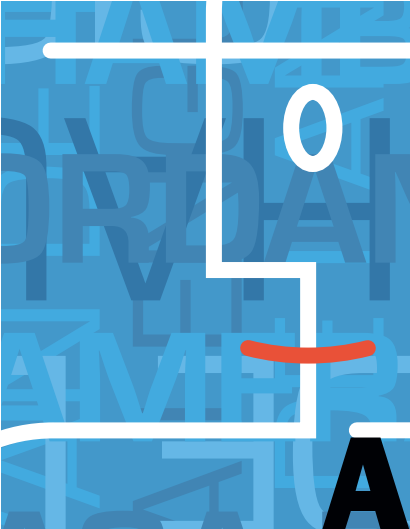


# LANGUAGE HOUSE

*From the Back of an Envelope to National Leader*

*by Dara McCoy*





*As it nears the three-decade mark, the language house program at Austin College may be on the verge of hitting its prime. It has had a fair share of growing pains, including a string of relocations from houses the College acquired to residence halls and even a stint at the local Best Western, that kept language house students and faculty in French, Spanish, and German moving more than a tourist on a trip across Europe.*

*The program has matured along the way, gaining a new language (Japanese) and building a dedicated language house facility in 1998, integrating the use of new technologies, and becoming a nationally recognized leader by hosting the first national language house conference in fall 2007. Throughout this growth and development, the purpose has remained the same. Austin College's language house program provides a focused, immersive environment in students' target languages that allows them to improve their skills and knowledge every day without the pressure of a classroom or living in a foreign country.*

## Decoding Languages

In fall 1980, Austin College's first language house term commenced with German. At the time, the language house was held in Thompson House, a Victorian-style home on the corner of Grand Avenue and Brockett Street. Each term the language house rotated between German, French, and Spanish.

Art, books, and other items from the target language and culture were moved in and out of the house. "The language house allows students to make the target language come alive in their daily experiences, in their cooking, cleaning, game-playing, watching cheesy movies or strangely comic game shows, dancing to another culture's music, and listening to other cultures' news, while still residing on the

Austin College campus," said **Patrick Duffey**, professor of Spanish and chair of the Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

To complete the environment, a native speaker of each language lives in the house, and the target language must be spoken in all common areas. **Ed Stemple '83** remembers how his experience in the French House in spring 1981 helped prepare him for a junior year abroad at Université Paul Valéry in Montpellier, France.

"The stay there helped me cross the most important threshold in foreign language development, which is thinking in the new language," Stemple said. "From that point on, French no longer seemed to be code for English, but became a distinctly different way of thinking and communicating. That's a very exciting and eye-opening moment, which is hard to achieve without the kind of immersion that a language house or study abroad program offers."

Stemple's experience is the perfect example of what Austin College's language house program attempts to do for its student occupants, who often are preparing for a study abroad term or international Jan Term trip. According to departmental surveys of Austin College study abroad students, more than 80 percent indicate that living in the language house was the most important preparation for their study abroad experience, Duffey said.

## Finding a Permanent Home

A turning point in facilities for the language house came with some bad news in 1994. The language house program, then housed in Coffin Hall, was notified the aging residence hall would be demolished to make room for the new Robert J. and Mary Wright Campus Center, said **Truett Cates**, professor of German. The following year, Cates spent part of his sabbatical visiting language house facilities at Pomona College and Stanford University.

Using Cates' research and ideas from departmental planning meetings, the language faculty proposed building a language house. "I had a drawing I'd made on the back of an envelope on the plane back from California," Cates said. "I scratched it up on the board in the department meeting, and we went from there."

When President Oscar Page visited the family of George Jordan, Sr., a 1915 Austin College graduate, hoping to raise funds for the campus center, he succeeded in raising money, but not for the center. "The president had a list of projects he carried with him when raising money," Cates said. "He showed the Jordans a list of possible projects, and they said tell us more about the language house." The language house went from proposal to an active project with gifts from Edwin B. and Louis Jordan of Dallas and Julia and George R. Jordan of Houston.

At the Jordan Family Language House dedication in October 1998, George Jordan, Jr., summarized the significant contributions by relating that his father's Austin College education helped him through a lifetime that witnessed the Great Depression, World War II, and the beginnings of radio and television. "As the world gets smaller, the need to understand foreign people and foreign cultures grows more

important, not less," he said. "Those who have the benefit of a classic education, those who understand where they came from, have a much better chance of knowing where they're going."

The new facility provided housing for 48 students, room to add Japanese to the program, and the ability to separate German, French, Spanish, and Japanese into four independent "houses" within the building. In 2007, Chinese was added to the Austin College curriculum and will be included in the language house in fall 2008. "Austin College as an institution has given such strong support for many years to the language house program," Duffey said. "We're one of only two colleges in the country with a facility designed specifically to be a language house."

## Leading the Pack

Having the foresight to build a dedicated language house almost a decade ago put Austin College's language house program squarely at the head of the pack. That's why Duffey became a little perturbed when he read a 2005 *Chronicle of Higher Education* article about the rising popularity of language houses and Austin College was not listed among the article's examples, he said. At the next National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education (NITLE) conference he attended, Duffey approached NITLE with the idea of holding a language house-specific conference for the 34 to 35 liberal arts colleges with language house programs, he said.

NITLE was interested, and Austin College joined representatives from Furman, St. Olaf, Colorado College, Pomona, and Oberlin to form a planning committee for the conference. In September 2007, Austin College was the host site for the first national language house conference, "Technology and the Language House Curriculum." Faculty from 19 liberal arts colleges attended the NITLE-funded conference that featured sessions on language house configuration, perspectives of students and language house residents, language house and study abroad, and many topics under the umbrella of technology and its use in the language house and language teaching.

## Speaking the Language

There's no denying that Austin College's language house program is more immersive than a typical textbook and classroom course. With a native speaker living in their midst, the relaxed atmosphere of home, and numerous technological tools providing a unique learning experience, language house alumni generally sing its praises.

**Thomas Rhodes '08** spent two and a half terms in the German house before studying abroad in Vienna, Austria. "You are surrounded by people who are struggling with the same issues as yourself, which makes you less fearful to actually speak and say something incorrectly," Rhodes said. "This prepares you before a baptism by fire when you decide to study abroad."

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



**Brenna Shay '06** lived in the language house in 2004–2005 and now lives in the Kumamoto Prefecture in Japan. “Hearing Chika, our native speaker, speak Japanese was a constant reminder of how much I didn’t know,” Shay said. “Studying a language is all well and good, but it’s the drive to communicate that generates a passion for learning. For me, Jordan and its residents provided that motivation.”

Motivation also is provided by the fact that the language house is actually an academic course at Austin College. Students are required to do certain assignments, attend meetings, and participate in their weekly “language table” at lunch in the campus dining hall. “There’s a syllabus, and there’s a grade,” Duffey said. “That’s vital because the students take the language house seriously.”

All these components place Austin College in a leadership role among peer institutions that want to improve the quality of language house programs. After the NITLE conference, several institutions expressed interest in developing a language house association, Duffey said. “Austin College is right at the cutting edge of doing this and is a real leader in language house programs.”

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Lesser-Taught Languages: Austin College Courses in Arabic, Hindi, and Persian

From Morocco to Sherman: Experiences of 2004-2005 Arabic Language Resident Yasmine Hasnaoui

Culture Shock: Austin College Language Residents Experience Surprises

Teaching in Japan: Alumni Share Their Experiences

## Boot Camp for Techies

Because of the NITLE conference’s focus on technology, Austin College language faculty decided to beef up their technology skills by participating in Pomona College’s 2007 Language Technology Boot Camp. The boot camp was designed to train language house residents, who are native-speaking students living in the language house and assisting students in learning the language.

Austin College sent Lena Krian, German language resident from Mainz, Germany, to Pomona. The Spanish, French, and Japanese residents, as well as several faculty members, participated through teleconference. Most of Austin College’s language residents are placed through the Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program of the Institute of International Education, a type of student exchange program.

The technology boot camp helped Austin College language residents and faculty improve technology skills that could assist in language learning. Sessions on Web 2.0 features like Chinswing and Gabcast; content production through Photo Story, Flickr, and Audacity; and well-known Internet sources like blogs and YouTube were discussed in context of teaching a foreign language.


For instance, Lena Krian helped three students create a comic strip in German. Spanish language resident Lucía Gascue said Spanish students are assigned to post on the Spanish blog at least once a term ([www.lamargarita07.blogspot.com](http://www.lamargarita07.blogspot.com)). “It makes students more active learners because students are more adept at using technology and actually producing projects,” Duffey said. “The language technology centers or their own computers can be more like studios where they produce things rather than passively absorbing. They’re using the target language in whatever they’re producing.”

## High School Teachers Enjoy Benefits of Jordan Family Language House

Austin College students are not the only ones benefitting from immersion experiences in Jordan Family Language House. Nearly 40 Texas high school foreign language teachers of French, German, Latin, and Spanish take part in Austin College’s annual weeklong Summer Foreign Language Institute. The Jordan Family Language House provides housing and workshop space for the program. The teachers speak their target languages at all times during the institute.

The institute, led by Austin College faculty members with the assistance of language residents from Europe and Latin America,

allows the secondary teachers to refresh language skills and to develop cultural and technology resources for their students. Austin College faculty members provide workshops on culture, literature, and technology uses in the curriculum. Films, musical and dance performances, and other activities supplement the workshops.

A grant from the Sid W. Richardson Foundation provided all fees for participants. For information on future institutes, contact Bernice Melvin, dean of Humanities, at [bmelvin@austincollege.edu](mailto:bmelvin@austincollege.edu) or watch for updates on the Classical and Modern Languages Department Web site at [www.austincollege.edu](http://www.austincollege.edu). 

# JAN TERM TURNS 40

Austin College students experienced the first JanTerm in 1968 and the four-week term that allows in-depth research or investigation of new interests through on-campus courses, career exploration through internships, travel courses, or independent projects remains one of the most popular features of the College among students 40 years later.

JanTerm is not unique to Austin College; some 50 plus schools offer a similar short term — some in January, others in May. Still, the opportunities of JanTerm — like studying World War II while walking the actual battlefields or hiking in the rain forests of Bolivia in connection with environmental studies — are described as life-changing by many students. International courses are often the flashiest; the courses on campus can have similar impact.

In courses taking students from Canada to Timbuktu and points around the globe, they travel on foot, by bike and by boat, on camels and elephants, and through all kinds of environments to discover the world around them.



## A Small World After All

**Ben and Mary Gwen Chapin Hulsey** of Houston, both 1968 graduates of Austin College, were in Aswan, Egypt, looking at an unfinished obelisk very early one morning in January 2008 when Mary Gwen, a senior member of the College's Board of Trustees, glimpsed the crimson sweatshirt of a passing young woman and "literally grabbed her to ask where she goes to college." As the student turned toward her, Mary Gwen fully saw Austin College on the sweatshirt. Connections were made, other students gathered, and a photo was taken to commemorate the chance meeting.

That experience is made more interesting because of similar moments in the past. In January 2002, Mary Gwen, at an elevator at the Louvre in Paris, overheard a group discussing a cancelled course to Rome. She knew an Austin College student whose Rome trip had been cancelled so she asked the group where they went to school — Austin College! And, in 2006, in Colorado, Mary Gwen boarded a ski lift, asked her seatmates where they were from, and discovered Texas connections, then Presbyterian connections, and finally, Austin College connections. Beneath the scarves, hats, and goggles of ski attire, she discovered new board member Stan Woodward! In every case, last minute changes to her itinerary caused these paths to cross — predestination she's sure. Whatever the cause, she's a Kangaroo magnet — and with the many travels of students during JanTerm, there's no telling where she will attract them next!



COURTESY PHOTO

*Mary Gwen Hulsey, in cap, finds Austin College Kangaroos everywhere she goes. She discovered students from the "Pyramids, Pharaohs, and Mosques" course in Egypt this January. Ben Hulsey is at the far right.*





*During January 2008, 348 students traveled to Australia, Brazil, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, India, Jamaica, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Scotland, Spain, Turkey, and Uruguay, studying architecture, environmental issues, language, art, medicine, science, history, politics, and culture. Students and faculty also spent time in New York City; Austin, Texas; and Washington, D.C., studying foreign investment, independent film, leadership, and U.S. foreign policy. Many students spent the term in career study or individual exploration projects; 21 students chose international sites in Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, India, Kenya, and Pakistan.*



## Austin College Graduation Activities Scheduled May 17-18

Four years of classes, late night study sessions, research, tests, and papers culminate with graduation activities May 17-18 for the Class of 2008, highlighted by 344 seniors crossing the stage May 18 to receive diplomas from **Oscar C. Page**, Austin College president.

Stuart Baskin, senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Tyler, Texas, will offer the Baccalaureate sermon for seniors and their parents on Saturday, May 17, at 7 p.m. in Sid Richardson Center of the Robert T. Mason Athletic/Recreation Complex.

A native of San Antonio, Texas, Baskin received a bachelor's degree in international studies from Davidson College and master's degrees in divinity and theology in church history, as well as a doctorate in theological ethics, from Union Theological Seminary. Baskin formerly was senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Greenville, Mississippi, previously holding ministry positions at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church of Houston and Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Virginia. He also served as Presbyterian campus minister at the University of Richmond.

Commencement exercises will begin May 18 at 8:30 a.m. on the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court, north of Caruth Administration Building. The A Cappella Choir, directed by **Wayne Crannell**, associate professor of music, will perform and the traditional bagpipers will accompany the graduation procession.

**NEW COMMENCEMENT START TIME: 8:30 A.M.**

The Commencement speaker will be The Honorable Antonio "Tony" O. Garza, Jr., Ambassador to Mexico. Elected chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission in 1998, he previously was a partner in the Austin office of Bracewell & Patterson (now Bracewell & Giuliani), a Houston-based law firm.

**Axel Nze Akoue** of Libreville, Gabon, Africa, was selected by his classmates to serve as senior speaker. He is majoring in international relations and completing a minor in communication studies.

Members of the Class of 1958 will be on campus during the weekend for 50-year reunion activities. Class members will receive 50-year anniversary diplomas and medallions from President Page at a dinner in the graduates' honor May 16. The graduates will take part in the Baccalaureate procession and will be recognized during Commencement exercises. Other Golden 'Roos, alumni of 50 or more years ago, take part in the reunion activities.



PHOTO BY JOSH BOWERMAN



Jay Evans

### Jay Evans to Retire from Austin College

No one really knows how many high school seniors **Jay Evans '64**, associate vice president for Institutional Enrollment, has recruited to Austin College, but it's likely more than anyone else in the history of the College. He's been at it for almost 40 years, having joined the Office of Admission in 1969, but he's ready to try his hand at something a bit more 'retiring.' Evans will give up his appointment book at the College June 30 after years of visiting high schools and sharing the Austin College story with young people and their parents. He has had primary responsibility for students in the Dallas area, but also has traveled many miles around the U.S. on behalf of the College.

Austin College will honor Evans at a campus reception May 21 from 4 to 6 p.m. Alumni are invited to attend — or to send their good wishes to Evans at [admission@austincollege.edu](mailto:admission@austincollege.edu) or Suite 6N, 900 N. Grand Ave., Sherman, Texas 75090.

The Texas Association of College Admission Counselors (TACAC) also will honor Evans at a reception in April during its annual conference. Evans received the TACAC Founders Award in 2003, recognizing contribution to the profession and to the association "above and beyond the call of duty" as well as his exceptional talent and devotion to students.

## Betsy Dennis Forster Art Studio Complex Complete

**R**emnants of the previous day's heavy snowfall hid landscaping plants but did not hinder dedication ceremonies March 7 for the Betsy Dennis Forster Art Studio Complex on campus.

**Betsy Dennis Forster**, Austin College Class of 1965, and her husband, Peter Forster, provided gifts in excess of \$4 million toward the 24,000-square-foot facility. Betsy, a landscape artist, exhibited her work during the dedication, in the gallery named for her mother. The Forsters have homes in Washington, D.C., and in Jackson, Wyoming.

Art faculty and students eagerly watched construction of the Forster Complex for the past year. For many years, the Austin College Art and Art History Department occupied approximately 8,500 square feet in the east wing of Craig Hall, constructed in 1962 and enlarged in 1972 to accommodate music and art students. Today's studio-based art courses had required modification of Craig Hall's traditional classrooms to offer space to approximately 160 students enrolled in art classes.

The new facility, designed by Cunningham Architects of Dallas, includes faculty offices, a limited number of small classrooms, a darkroom, and studio space — lots of it — with dedicated space for painting, photography, drawing, and fundamentals. The second building of the complex includes an outdoor studio for metal sculpture, workshops for metal and wood and for ceramics, and outdoor kilns.

Department faculty members hope to be moved into the new facility by the end of the term.

PHOTOS BY WICKIE S. KIRBY



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Construction Photos from the Ground Up  
Forster Complex Dedication Photos

## Lewis Announces Move; Holbert Assumes New Leadership Role

**Jim Lewis**, vice president for Institutional Advancement at Austin College for the last 13 years, will become vice president for development at the University of Texas at Arlington effective May 15.

Due to Lewis' efforts, said President **Oscar C. Page**, Austin College has enjoyed "significant success in the fundraising area," including completion in 2004 of a successful \$120 million campaign, the largest in the history of the College.

Lewis has spent his entire career in college fundraising, previously serving at Millsaps College and Southern Methodist University. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from East Texas State University, now Texas A&M University–Commerce, and his MBA from SMU.

Effective May 10, **Jerry Holbert**, now associate vice president for Institutional Advancement, will assume the vice president position. Holbert came to Austin College two years ago from Stephen F. Austin State University, where he served as vice president for Institutional Advancement for 13 years. "Working with Jim Lewis for the last two years," Page said, "Jerry Holbert has become familiar with Austin College. This familiarity, along with his previous leadership experiences in this area, provides a strong background for him to step into this new leadership position on our campus."



Jim Lewis



Jerry Holbert

COURTESY PHOTOS

## College Named to President's Community Service Honor Roll

In February, the Corporation for National and Community Service named Austin College to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth.

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on factors including scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

From weekly mentoring of children at local community centers to organizing entire fundraising efforts, volunteer hours among Austin College students amass at an amazing number, regularly totaling well over 10,000 hours annually. That's just in "normal" years. In recent years, students have logged more than

20,000 hours with spring break and JanTerm service trips to assist with cleanup and building in areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

Sixteen students traveled to New Orleans in January 2008 to continue rebuilding efforts. The trip was part of a regular JanTerm course for credit, so students also explored academic issues, particularly the broader destructive effects of disasters of the magnitude of Hurricane Katrina.

While those students worked in New Orleans, students in Sherman also had extra time during JanTerm — and 85 student volunteered with various local social service organizations through the Service Station's JanServe.

The Service Station board coordinated a return trip to New Orleans during spring break March 14–19. More than 45 students and sponsors signed up for the trip in the first two hours of registration. Students, based in a relief camp in Luling, Louisiana, worked to rebuild homes through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

## Austin College Partners with Collin College

Austin College and Collin County Community College District system officials signed a special pre-admission agreement for qualified Collin students in January. The pre-admission agreement is designed for Collin students who show evidence of high academic ability and would seek to complete a four-year degree at Austin College.

While the agreement does not guarantee admission to Austin College, Collin College students can be fully informed about credit hours that are transferable and become better acquainted with Austin College programs and opportunities while attending Collin.

To be admitted into the pre-admission program, Collin students must meet with an Austin College faculty adviser and the executive director of transfer admission each semester, follow the program of study as recommended by the adviser, maintain a 3.0 grade point average with less than 30 hours or a 2.75 grade point average with more than 30 hours, and be in good academic standing. The advising meetings are an important part of the transfer process, since Collin students and their Austin College faculty adviser will

review course selections to ensure a seamless transfer of credit toward a bachelor's degree.

"Students have many options today, and we are pleased to be working with Collin College because the community college systems of Texas represent an excellent pool of prospective students," said **Nan Davis**, vice president for Institutional Enrollment at Austin College. "These students are well-prepared to continue their education at a residential liberal arts college, and Austin College's proximity to the Collin College campuses has potential to make this agreement beneficial to a large number of students."

Austin College is the ninth college to establish such an agreement with Collin. Other partners include Baylor University, Southern Methodist University, Texas A&M University, Texas A&M University–Commerce, Texas Tech University, Texas Woman's University, the University of Texas at Dallas, and the University of North Texas.



## Senior High Youth Take Over Campus

Some 775 Grace Presbytery youth descended on the Austin College campus at the end of January for the annual Senior High Youth Connection. Through music, worship, small groups, energizers, and presentations, the group explored the theme "Between the Trees," examining the tree of life in the Garden of Eden and the tree in the fulfilled heaven in Revelation.

The event is planned by adults and youth from across central and northeast Texas in partnership with the College's ACTivators mobile youth ministry team and College chaplain **John Williams**. The event, held annually at Austin College since 1980, is the largest presbytery youth meeting in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

PHOTO BY JACQUELINE ARMSTRONG



*Event staff for the Presbyterian event, known as SHYC, included 47 current Austin College ACTivators and 13 ACTivators alumni, as well as adults from the region.*

## College Hosts Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration

Norm Lyons, vice president of external affairs for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club, presented the keynote address for the fourth annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Community Celebration on campus in January.

Austin College and several Grayson County Rotary groups co-sponsor the event.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Norm Lyons

## Annual Undergraduate Conference Upcoming

The fifth annual Austin College Undergraduate Conference in the Humanities and Social Sciences, "Transformation and Translation," will be held on campus April 25–26. The conference regularly includes 30 to 40 student presenters from across the country as well as faculty speakers and other experts.

Speakers for 2008 include **Trisha Sheffield**, Lilly Visiting Scholar in Religious and Gender Studies at Austin College, as well as Phillip Boehm, translator, playwright, and director; Jonathan Marks, bioethicist, barrister, and professor of law; and Carmen Perez, translator and retired professor of English.

**Szende Szabo '09** of Argentina is chair of the student committee for the conference. **Julie Hempel**, associate professor of Spanish, and **Alex Garganigo**, assistant professor of English, serve as co-directors of the event. Hempel has been involved with the organization of the conference since its beginning in 2005.

Past conference topics have included "Environment and the Humanities," "Race and Nationhood," "Gender and Humanities," and "Religion and Science."

For information about the 2008 event, contact Hempel at [jhempel@austincollege.edu](mailto:jhempel@austincollege.edu).

## Law Symposium April 7 Features Jeffrey Toobin

Austin College's 2008 Law Symposium Monday, April 7, will feature a luncheon keynote address by Jeffrey Toobin, author of *The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court*. Three panel discussions led by other experts in the profession will be held that afternoon.

Cost for the symposium is \$50 per person and registration begins at 11 a.m. Approval is pending for 4.25 CLE credits, including 1.5 in ethics. Those interested in attending should contact the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations by April 1 at 1-800-467-6646 or [alumni@austincollege.edu](mailto:alumni@austincollege.edu).

## NOTEWORTHY

### Expert Discusses "The Leaders We Need"

Internationally recognized leadership expert **Michael Maccoby** was the inaugural Posey Leadership Forum Chair of Excellence in November, presenting "The Leaders We Need." Maccoby, an anthropologist, psychoanalyst, and consultant on leadership, strategy, and organization, is president of The Maccoby Group in Washington, D.C., and director of the Project on Technology, Work, and Character, a not-for-profit research organization. "We are going through a huge, historical change and that change is as great as the Industrial Revolution, I think as great as the Renaissance," Maccoby said. "That change is in the attitudes and values of people growing up today and that our views of leadership, which have been really developed in another world — particularly in an industrial, bureaucratic world — don't fit today." Maccoby said changes in economy — like a shift to service or knowledge-based jobs from manufacturing or production jobs — also have changed the characteristics needed in leaders today. "We see companies more and more moving from product to solution," he said. "The leaders we need today are going to be people who respond to the needs of the common good, who are able to convince others about their purpose — that it's meaningful, who understand the strengths of and what motivates those people, and who respect those people, but have a passion to reach the goal," Maccoby said. "The leaders we need are not going to be paternalistic, father figures or mother figures, but they will be role models for those people who are collaborating with them to achieve a common good."

### Students Head into Community for Day of Service

Austin College held its 11th annual Great Day of Service in November. More than 400 Austin College students volunteered at more than 50 sites around Grayson County. The Great Day of Service is coordinated by the 18 members of Austin College's student-led Service Station. The board works throughout the year to connect campus volunteers with individual and organizational needs in the community.

### Buddhism and Psychology Expert Visits

Psychologist **Harvey Aronson** presented "Buddhism and Psychology" in a lecture to students in November. He is a licensed psychotherapist in private practice as well as a Buddhist meditation teacher and translator of Buddhist texts. He is co-director of Dawn Mountain Research Institute for Tibetan Buddhist Studies in Houston, with Professor Anne Klein from Rice University. Aronson has been a student of several prominent Buddhist teachers in India, Nepal, and the U.S. The lecture was hosted by Austin College's Keck Faculty Reading Group on Buddhism and Psychology, sponsored by the Keck Foundation.

### Massacre Survivor: I Am Not Afraid

Three years ago, then-Austin College student **Robert Thomas Quiring '06** wrote a grant proposal to fund a video documentary of the survival and faith journey of peasant-activist Rufina Amaya who witnessed the worst massacre ever recorded in the Americas, conducted as part of a scorched earth policy in 1981. The documentary *'I Am Not Afraid: Rufina Amaya's testimony'* premiered on campus in December, with filmmaker Wendy Wallas traveling from El Salvador to present the 31-minute film. The film's narrative is spoken by Rufina Amaya in Spanish, with English subtitles and explanatory text. "Rufina's ability to retain her own faith in God, and even move on to help survivors and refugees believe in each other and reflect on the Bible while asking for justice, has been a role model for thousands around the world who have made a pilgrimage to the 'collaterally damaged' (massacre) sites in El Salvador," said **Sophia Kuiper '08**, who organized Wallas' visit. During the past six years, many Austin College students have traveled to El Mozote village where it has been reported more than 3,000 civilians died in two weeks. On December 11,

2006, at the 25th commemoration of the massacre, Rufina told a crowd of thousands: "I may not be here next year, so now it matters that all of you continue to tell our history, so that future generations will use their presence, actions and words to denounce violence against all peoples of the world." She died of multiple strokes and heart attacks in March 2007.

#### The Meaning of Marx Discussed

**Milton Aylor** of Frankfurt Germany, presented "On Understanding the Moral Meaning of Marx" to students in November. Aylor has visited campus many times in recent years to speak to philosophy and religious studies classes.

#### World AIDS Day Recognized

Austin College recognized World AIDS Day on December 1 with a candlelight service that included prayers in English and several other languages, as well as songs and poems offered by members of the Austin College community. An offering of approximately \$300 was collected for the AIDS children's orphanage in Zimbabwe, Africa, that Austin College students sponsor. **Roger Platizky**, Austin College professor of English, coordinates the campus event.

#### Artist Documents Texas Singer-Songwriters

Fifty portraits by **Gary Goldberg** documenting Texas singer songwriters were exhibited at Austin College in February and March, hosted by the Department of Art and Art History. Goldberg said the idea for the exhibit, "Texas Singer-Songwriters: An American Portrait," began about seven years ago when he attended an event in Archer City, Texas, called "The Late Week Lazy Boy Supper Club," a venue where Texas singer-songwriters present their music. A few years later, he said, it dawned on him that these musicians, whose work is not well-known nationally, have stories to tell that are worth documenting. "I decided to create a body of work that would leave its own impression on the music culture," Goldberg said, beginning the project with the group that had performed in Archer City and eventually taking photos of 100 artists. "There are many other fantastic musicians whom I was unable to photograph and some I'm sure I overlooked, but in the end I narrowed my photographs down to 50 images."

#### Phi Beta Kappa Scholar Visits

Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar **Morris Fiorina** presented the lecture "The Great Disconnect in American Politics: The Breakdown of Representation in the United States" at Austin College February 14. The lecture extended the discussion in his book, *Culture War? The Myth of a Polarized Electorate*. Fiorina is the Wendt Family Professor of Political Science and a senior fellow of the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. His visit was sponsored by the Austin College chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, with additional funding from the departments of political science and sociology and the local chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha national honorary society for students of political science.

#### Economist Discusses Issues of Inequality

Economist **James K. Galbraith** presented "Globalization and Inequality" as the annual Will Mann Richardson Lecture, hosted by the Department of Business and Economics, in February. Galbraith, the Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr., Chair in Government/Business Relations and professor of government at UT-Austin's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, teaches economics and a variety of other subjects.

## A Woman in the White House? Maybe. A Woman President for Austin College's Student Body? Nothing New for Campus

American voters are yet to determine whether they will elect a woman to the presidency in 2008, but a woman heading the Austin College student body is nothing new. (**Ruth Ann Whiteside '64** was student body president in 1963 — likely not the first female — and many women since have followed in those footsteps.)

**Monica Martinez '09** continues the tradition in 2008, beginning her term as president of Austin College's student body after Student Assembly (SA) elections in November. An international relations and combined religion/philosophy major, the Mineola native is very involved with Model United Nations, is a member of Omega Zeta social sorority, and participates in various service activities at Austin College.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Monica Martinez

Other SA Officers:

**Tayyar Unal '10** of Duncanville, Texas, vice president. A resident assistant in Dean Hall, he is a member of the Pre-Medical Society.

**Carla Cortez '09**, secretary. An Asian studies and international relations major from Mesquite, Texas, she is a member of the Asian Student Association.

**Dallas Key '10**, treasurer. The political science major from Whiteface, Texas, is a member of the Posey Leadership Institute, a Model UN participant, and a member of Alpha Phi Omega national service fraternity and the Pre-Law Society.

Completing the Executive Committee of SA are **Jessica Douglas '09** of Allen, Texas, public relations chair; **Karen Edwards '09** of Rockwall, Texas, elections chair; **Lisa Simpson '09** of Houston, Texas, charter review chair; and **Parth Shah '09** of Murphy, Texas, budget and finance chair.



Pictured, left to right, front row, are Tayyar Unal, Monica Martinez, Carla Cortez, Dallas Key; and back row, Jessica Douglas, Karen Edwards, Lisa Simpson, and Parth Shah.

## Andrew Pickett Mobley Scholar Project Memorializes History Interests

History excited Andrew Mobley. It was an interest he was unable to pursue to the fullest as an Austin College student due to his death at age 19 in August 2003, but an interest his father wanted to be sure other Austin College students could pursue in depth.

Austin College Board of Trustees member **Steven M. Mobley** funded the Andrew Pickett Mobley Scholar Project in 2006 in memory of his son who died in a house fire in Sherman. The Austin College Department of History and the Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies coordinate the multi-year project, which provides collaborative learning experiences focused on Texas and regional history, said **Light T. Cummins**, professor of history, project director, and current Andrew Pickett Mobley Scholar.

Cummins, realizing "biography brings a personal dimension to the study of history" has taught three terms of "Seminar in Biography" covering Texas and Southwestern figures. The courses have produced award-winning papers, including the work of **David Thomas '07** that won Best Paper at a history honorary society conference in April 2007.

While students prepared biographical papers for the course, Cummins worked on the biography of Emily Austin, due to be published in late 2008 or early 2009. "It's the only Texas biography I

know of that was part of an undergraduate collaborative learning process in which undergraduates helped shape the book," Cummins said. "In a couple cases, Austin College students offered significant advice that changed the nature of the book for the better."

The Mobley Scholar Project involves students in biographical research in four areas: Cummins' seminar in biography; preparation of lesson plans for Texas schools that include Mexican-Americans within Texas history; participation in the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress; and the publication of the Emily Austin biography.

The project has enabled students to present papers at conventions, visit archives and libraries across the state, develop a Web site to share their biographies and lesson plans for collaborative learning, hear on-campus presentations from award-winning biography writers, and participate in internships organizing important papers from those of Lyndon B. Johnson to Sam Rayburn. "The students are getting the kind of relationships with faculty members in collaborative learning that most students in the United States don't get until they go to graduate school," Cummins said.

The students also are getting the kind of experiences Andrew Mobley would have found exciting.

## Alumna Donation of Books on Mexican Heritage Creates Ruth T. Bello Collection at Abell Library

Thanks to the generous donation by **Ruth T. Bello '60**, resources on Southwestern and Mexican Studies in Austin College's George T. and Gladys H. Abell Library Center have been bolstered. Bello donated 69 books covering Mexican and Mexican-American history, religion, sociology, economics, and art to the library in spring 2007, said **John West**, librarian and Abell Library director.

"Ms. Bello thought that Austin College was a good place for the books, especially now that we have a Center for Southwestern and Mexican Studies," West said. "These 69 books are important additions. A large number of those works came out in the 1970s as the interest in ethnic studies began seriously."

Bello's father was recruited from the State of Guerrero, Mexico, by Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary to be an evangelist in the Mexican community in Texas. Though Ruth Bello was born in the United States, she wanted to maintain her Mexican heritage. An Austin College course on Mexico encouraged her to delve further into study. Starting in the 1960s, Bello bought many books on Mexican-American and Tejano history and culture, assisted by her employee discount at a Presbyterian bookstore in Dallas.

"I just hope the books will serve to increase the knowledge of Mexican and Tejano history and culture in Austin College students," Bello said. "They have opportunities to study those topics that were not available to me during my college experience."

The Ruth T. Bello Collection, including titles such as *Zapata: A Biography*; *Memorias de Pancho Villa*; *The Browning of America: the Hispanic Revolution in the American Church*; and *Among the Valiant: Mexican Americans in WWII and Korea*, is available in the circulating collection of Abell Library.

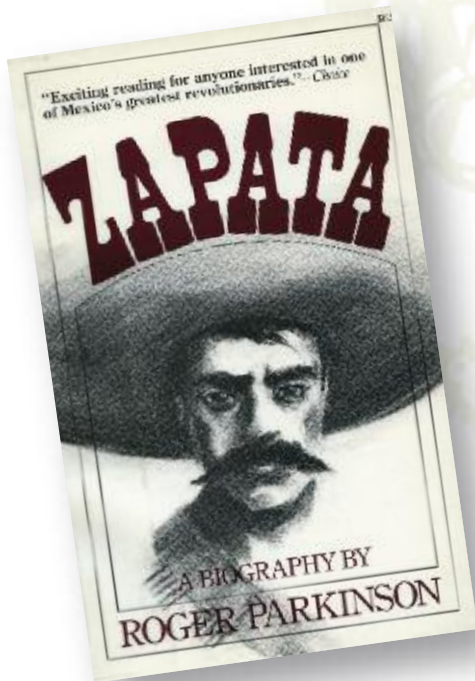




PHOTO BY JULIE HEMPEL

## AUSTIN COLLEGE AMONG TOP 5 COLLEGES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPATION

Austin College ranked No. 4 in the nation among baccalaureate institutions in undergraduate study abroad participation, according to the Open Doors 2007 report released in November by the Institute of International Education (IIE). Since 2002, Austin College has ranked in the top five in its category on four occasions, taking the number one spot in 2004 and in 2006.

"Austin College's phenomenal study abroad rate has been one of higher education's better kept secrets for some time, but it's rewarding when the rest of the world is let in on our success," said Austin College President **Oscar Page**. "This ranks us higher than such prestigious institutions as Colby, Lewis & Clark, and Colorado College — all included in the IIE's top 20."

The IIE data includes formal semester and year-long study abroad programs as well as short-term study (such as JanTerm).



Five Austin College students are spending the entire 2007–2008 academic year in study abroad programs; 22 students were abroad for the fall and 20 students are studying internationally this spring. Sites for this year's study include Argentina, Australia, Austria, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, England, Ecuador, France, Italy, Japan, Mali, Peru, Samoa, Scotland, and Spain. During JanTerm 2008, nearly 370 students traveled internationally. (See pages 13–15.)

Nearly 72 percent of the Class of 2007 had an international study experience of at least one month at Austin College. 🐾

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Open Doors Report 2007/Study Abroad

# A VISIONARY

## { Geoffrey Canada

2008 AUSTIN COLLEGE  
LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT

By Dara McCoy

*Geoffrey Canada is a man of great vision, great passion, and impressive determination to win a battle against poverty, disadvantaged circumstance, and hopelessness for the children of our nation's harshest neighborhoods. He is the 2008 recipient of the Austin College Leadership Award.*



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PHOTO BY CHESTER HIGGINS, JR.

March 2008

Austin College Magazine

25

Austin College Leadership Award  
Harlem Children's Zone, Inc.  
Canada Comments on Leadership and Ethics  
Excerpts of Canada's *Oprah* and *Sixty Minutes* Appearances



PHOTOS COURTESY OF HARLEM CHILDREN'S ZONE

undreds of uniformed elementary school children line up shoulder to shoulder, backs against the halls of the Promise Academy Elementary School and face each other to recite the Promise Academy creed. "We will go to college," the children proclaim in unison. "We will succeed." This scene is one man's vision, struggling against all odds to become a reality. It unfolds each day in Harlem, New York City, one of the nation's most troubled neighborhoods. Harlem's Children Zone, a non-profit, community-based organization trying to enhance quality of life for children and families in Harlem, works not to simply keep the children of Harlem from dropping out of school or facing much harsher line-ups, but to allow them the chance to reach their full potential.

"You play to win the game. We're not playing to see how many children we can stop from being murdered, how many we can stop from dropping out of school or becoming pregnant," said Canada, CEO of the Harlem's Children Zone (HCZ), who has led the non-profit's efforts for 17 years. "We're trying to see how many of our kids we can make sure go into college, come out with jobs, and become successful. Can we intervene early enough so we actually disrupt what had been a conveyor belt leading children into jails and prisons and a life of poverty and despair?"

Canada has been on that conveyor belt. He grew up in the South Bronx in New York City with his mother and three brothers. "We were growing up in and living in these apartments with roaches, mice, and rats," Canada said. "I felt like I was a good kid, and my mother was a nice lady, and I just didn't understand. You just think, why me?"

Canada said the early experience shaped him into the leader he is today and inspired him with his life's mission. "I knew I wanted to go into those places where children feel no one cares, and say 'I not only care, but I've got a plan'," Canada said. "I've got a way for you to get out, to change your community, and to change life circumstances so that you're going to have a chance to live out your dreams."

#### **ZONING IN**

In 1983, Canada joined the truancy-prevention program, Rheedlen Centers for Children and Families, in New York City. In 1990, as president and CEO, he began to make changes that would result in Rheedlen's restructuring and renaming to Harlem's Children Zone. To Canada, the first step in saving Harlem's children was reaching them early and staying with them through college. Canada's next concern was scale. He said some

## THE PROMISE ACADEMY CREED:

*Our futures are bright. We keep our goals in sight.  
Promise Academy helps us to see all that we can be.  
We will go to college. We will succeed.  
This is our promise. This is our creed.*

programs could save children “by the fifties or maybe the hundreds,” but thousands needed help.

The next big step was revolutionizing communities. “Part of the strategy of saving poor children is that you’ve got to transform the communities these young people are growing up with,” Canada said. “If you allow the community to stay disorganized and chaotic, you might help these children, but the children born in the next generation are going to face the same obstacles.”

To tackle these issues, Canada transformed his organization, reorganizing Rheedlen’s board to focus on fundraising efforts needed for his more ambitious and expensive plan. Canada’s philosophy, which included running his non-profit like a business with clear-cut strategic goals, high accountability standards among employees, benchmarks, and annual reports, contributed to HCZ’s growth and success.

### BEYOND WHAT THE EYES CAN SEE

“He’s a fearless leader,” said Larry Mills, president of Bowdoin College who nominated Canada for the Austin College Leadership Award. “In a way most people couldn’t imagine, he took his vision and expanded it to solve the problem. He’s not only visionary, but also innovative and fearless.”

Canada’s success and determination can’t be pinned simply on his business skills, fundraising efforts, or even charisma and passion. Sometimes vision involves refusing to accept what the eyes see. “There are lots of excuses for failure in our work: broken families, single-parent households, poverty, illiteracy, health challenges, drugs, and gangs,” Canada said. “If you buy into any of those factors being the reason children don’t succeed, you will simply fail in this business.”

In 2007, HCZ served 16,000 children and families through parenting workshops and child development classes in Baby College, head start childcare programs, kindergarten through ninths at the Promise Academy, after-school media and fitness programs, the Employment and Technology Center for middle and high school students, and college preparation and success programs.

No gangs, drug use, or level of poverty slow Canada down. “The problem is something which must be overcome, and it means that you may have to spend weekends, you may have to spend evenings, or you may have to work longer hours, but in the end, if you won’t accept failure, you will succeed,” Canada said.

### VISION FOR A NATION’S CHILDREN

After 17 years of fighting against the odds, progress keeps Canada energized. In 2004, Canada opened his charter school for Harlem’s children to combat poor results at traditional public schools. HCZ has expanded from its original 24-block area of coverage to 100 blocks. Canada’s ultimate goal is to establish a continuous pipeline of involvement, engaging parents before the children are born and continuing involvement with the children through college.

Canada is assembling a conveyor belt leading to success and fulfillment of dreams, and the nation has taken notice. Canada has been featured in Time Magazine, on 60 Minutes and Oprah, and earned numerous awards. He said success and publicity have encouraged similar efforts in other cities. In fact, Canada believes progress is being made all over America.

“I really, really believe in America, and we are close to creating the kind of communities across America that reach the standards that were first laid out in the Constitution by the founding fathers of this country,” Canada said. “We have been making progress toward a country where people — regardless of income, race, religion, or sexual orientation — have an equal opportunity to make it.”

Progress gives Canada hope for future leaders like our nation’s next president. “I think the challenge in this political election is to elect somebody prepared to do what’s necessary for the children of this country, regardless of whose ox gets gored,” Canada said. To Canada, the purpose of such efforts is undeniably simple: to help young people develop the skills necessary to become independent adults who can provide for themselves, their families, and contribute to society.

“I think the American Dream, for most Americans, is not to grow up to be president,” Canada said. “It’s to have food, to have warm clothes or air conditioning, just basic stuff that you consider to be an average life. I think that’s the least we should offer the children of America, not the most, but it’s surely the least we should offer. That has always driven me, and it still drives me today.” 🐾

# take a

## Canada Urges Students to Prepare Now to Be Ready for Their Moments of Opportunity

As Austin College 2008 Leadership Award honoree Geoffrey Canada concluded his comments at the campus convocation March 6, a hush hung in the air before the applause — long and loud — grew among the audience gathered in Wynne Chapel.

Canada had moved his audience — to laughter, to tears, and hopefully, to action. He laughed at himself and situations in which he finds himself, but there is little to laugh about in his quest to bring hope and possibility to young people.

As CEO of Harlem Children's Zone, Inc., Canada works every day on behalf of young people whose futures likely would include incarceration or death by violence without intervention.

Canada expressed the importance of saving America through saving its youth, especially in the neighborhoods where poor minority children live. He explained that politicians and others seen as the nation's leaders "don't have a clue" about the need to reform education. Canada's program provides for the whole child — physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional — and the home life of the child. The programs of Harlem Children's Zone address those needs at a cost of \$3,500 per child per year.

When faced with objections that his program is too costly, Canada cites the costs of incarceration per inmate each year. He said leaders are more than willing to continue putting tens to hundreds of thousands of dollars into the justice system, but are not as willing to make similar efforts in improving education and opportunity for all children.

Canada told Austin College students it would take people like them, who make sure their actions are guided by ethics and a moral compass, to save America.

"Are you getting ready for your leadership moment?" Canada asked the audience. "You don't know when or where it will come. You are preparing now for your moment to change America."

He closed his remarks with the poignant recitation of his poem "Take a Stand."

## Take a Stand

*Maybe before we didn't know,  
That Corey is afraid to go  
To school, the store, to roller skate.  
He cries a lot for a boy of eight.  
But now we know each day it's true  
That other girls and boys cry too.  
They cry for us to lend a hand.  
Time for us to take a stand.*

*And little Maria's window screens  
Keep out flies and other things.  
But she knows to duck her head,  
When she prays each night 'fore bed.  
Because in the window come some things  
That shatter little children-dreams.  
For some, the hourglass is out of sand.  
Time for us to take a stand.*

*And Charlie's deepest, secret wishes,  
Is someone to smother him with kisses  
And squeeze and hug him tight, so tight,  
While he pretends to put up a fight.  
Or at least someone to be at home,  
Who misses him, he's so alone.  
Who allowed this child-forsaken land?  
Look in the mirror and take a stand.*

*And on the Sabbath, when we pray,  
To our God we often say,  
"Oh Jesus, Mohammed, Abraham,  
I come to better understand,  
How to learn to love and give,  
And live the life you taught to live."  
In faith we must join hand in hand.  
Suffer the children? Take a stand!*

*And tonight, some child will go to bed,  
No food, no place to lay their head.  
No hand to hold, no lap to sit,  
To give slobbery kisses, from slobbery lips.  
So you and I, we must succeed  
In this crusade, this holy deed,  
To say to the children in this land:  
Have hope. We're here. We take a stand!*

— Geoffrey Canada Printed by Permission

# stand

PHOTOS BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



PHOTO BY ARON FLORES



## Don't Mess with Mother Nature

Not since 1924 had there been a “significant snow event” in north Texas in March. But Mother Nature has her own agenda. When Geoffrey Canada’s on-campus lecture ended at noon, huge white flakes greeted guests leaving Wynne Chapel. By the end of a luncheon with Mr. Canada, accumulations were becoming substantial. At the close of the booksigning, all those connected with the Leadership Awards Gala scheduled for that evening in Dallas were furiously making calls to the Highway Department to determine road conditions. In Dallas, there was no snow in sight. On campus, cars were buried in snow that quickly reached eight, then nine inches.

Considering the number of students, staff, faculty, and convocation attendees who needed to reach Dallas via treacherous roads and the still-furiously falling snow, the decision was sadly announced: the gala was cancelled.

Of course, Mr. Canada received his award, but with none of the ceremony intended — no chance to honor him “in style” before a large group of Austin College friends, no involvement of the scheduled master of ceremonies Henry Winkler, no opportunity to meet with individuals and business leaders who had generously sponsored the gala event.

Mr. Canada was part of the decision-making, agreeing that the snow created too dangerous a situation to ask so many people from north Texas to make the trip to Dallas. He, though, was pleased to have had the chance to speak to students. “If I was able to do only one event,” Canada told President Oscar Page as the cancellation was deliberated, “I am very happy I was able to speak to young people.”

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Photos of Canada’s Austin College Visit  
Photos of the Unexpected March Snows



## Students Spend January Exploring Careers

All too quickly for most, today's Austin College students will begin careers and take their place in the "real world." More than 120 students spent JanTerm exploring the world of work through Career Study Off-Campus (CSOC) experiences — in the Sherman community and around the world. Many students worked alongside healthcare professionals, lawyers, and teachers. Others explored the worlds of politics, business, religion, social service agencies, and finance. A few samples follow.

### On the Road to Service

**Julie Jones '09** of Bergheim, Texas; **Cara Barnes '09** of Bryan, Texas; and **Holly Boerner '09** of Boerne, Texas, traveled to Ethiopia, Africa, to work with Blessing the Children International at the Kamasha Orphanage, located in one of the poorest regions of one of the poorest countries in the world. The campus has a capacity of 500 children, and includes facilities for housing, feeding, and educating the children. In a land of mud huts and straw thatched roofs, the Kamashi Orphanage stands out — built with concrete walls and floors, tiled roofs, electrical wiring, and plumbing.

The Austin College students worked on clothing and shoe inventory and distribution, built a dam, organized a library, and worked with the principal on needs of the school. Students also interacted with the children and helped them build a bamboo fence around their new gardens.

"We learned a lot about the culture of Africa and the pace of life there," said Jones. "We also learned a lot about non-profit organizations and the difficulties in overseas communication due to the many cultural differences. There is no greater gift than to serve, and I could not pass up this opportunity to serve those in need."

### On the Air

**Ritika Chitkara '09** of Frisco, Texas, spent January interning at CNN International in New Delhi, India. "I researched many stories for correspondents and went to other local news stations within India," she said. She worked on the Benazir Bhutto assassination, Tata's one-lakh rupee car, the end of the Sri Lankan ceasefire agreement, and the Asian Stock Market crash. The staff at the Delhi Bureau encouraged her to find contacts for stories, research footage to air, and help edit the footage.

"I have always been interested in international affairs and how the media portrays different countries," Chitkara said. "This was an amazing opportunity to explore broadcast journalism and better understand the modernization of India."

### On the Path to International Healthcare

**Daniel Jackson '10** of Allen, Texas, chose a combined cultural experience/service opportunity. He interned through the Rafiki Program in Nairobi, Kenya, working with a Christian orphanage. He assisted with various activities of the village, including teaching and creating spreadsheets comparing the cost of purchasing food and the savings via the garden's production. He also visited several areas in Kenya, including one of the largest slums in Africa, as well as middle and upper class neighborhoods, exploring the wealth distribution and the healthcare options throughout the country. "Because of my experience I really think I want to go into international medicine or possibly work with the Center for Disease Control or the World Health Organization after completing medical school," Jackson said.

## On the Campaign Trail

**Robert Henderson** '10 of Sherman was one of 10 Austin College students who spent January in Iowa and South Carolina as volunteers with the John Edwards for President Campaign. Other students were **Rami Batrice** '08, **Craig Hinson** '11, **Dallas Key** '10, **Jeff Mai** '10, **Sarah Muths** '09, **Sunna Quazi** '10, **Omar Saenz** '08, **Brandon Stevenson-Matthews** '11, and **Bailey Woods** '11.

"Our primary job in Iowa was to canvas for caucus goers and try to influence them to caucus for Edwards," Henderson said. "We spent days trudging door-to-door in the snow in an effort to turn out as many people as possible."

Henderson said he learned a lot about the caucus system and gained a greater insight into the role of representative government in the United States.

## On Capitol Hill

**Taylor Adams** '08 of Rockwall, Texas, found himself among the political movers and shakers in Washington, D.C., in January, interning in the office of Congressman Ralph Hall. This was a return trip for Adams, who interned with Congressman Hall in summer 2006. "Almost two years and four political science classes later, I truly appreciated the tasks of Congress and the complexity in which our national government works," said Adams, who said he was awed by the process in 2006.

"Washington, D.C., is a great place to make contacts and witness the legislative process that runs our country," said Adams, a business and political science major. "Mr. Hall's valuable time and advice really helped me understand the direction I need to go after college if I want to pursue a career in politics." Adams will work for Hall's election campaign this summer and fall, begin law school in fall 2009 and, eventually, "venture into politics."

## On the Riding Trail

**Casey Check** '09 of El Cajon, California, spent much of January on horseback at Dahana Ranch in Hawaii. A business administration major, Check is interested in business agriculture, though she is unsure of the direction that interest might take her. She had visited the ranch on vacation and wanted to learn about running a ranch.

She experienced the long, often grueling days of a ranch hand — cleaning stalls, feeding and preparing horses for daily rides, and helping on those rides. "Tourists come all year for "Ranch Rides" and cattle drives in Waimea's beautiful, green rolling hills," Check said. Riders are given freedom on the open range to experience a day in the life of a Paniolo (Hawaiian cowboy). Check also was able to learn about the buying and selling of livestock and to deal with the personalities of the clients.

Though Check had ridden horses and was prepared for her days to be physical, she knew little else about ranching in the beginning. "I was constantly required to step out of my comfort zone and being ready to adapt was a decision I made upon my arrival," Check said. "I cannot be more grateful for going into a situation where I did not know anything because it made me lose all pride and simply listen. Sometimes in life the hard part is not to figure out the specifics, but to have the patience and confidence to wait and see what the big picture is. From this experience I've learned that whatever I do, I will be able to adapt and to have the confidence to ask questions and the character to do what I know is right."



COURTESY PHOTOS

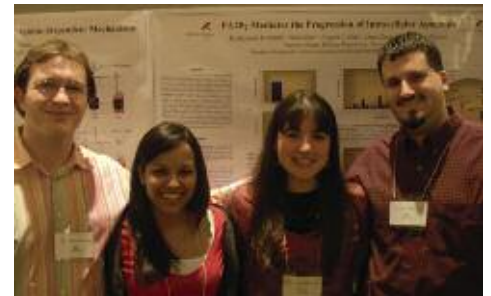


## Students Experience Professional Conferences

Students from many academic disciplines attended professional conferences this year — some sharing the role of Mexican-Americans in Texas history, others presenting work on counterfeit goods and on the effects of language ability within the Latino-American labor force. Other conferences took students to Chicago and to Lubbock and San Marcos, Texas.

### Biology

**Mark Hamilton** '08 of Austin, Texas; **Nida Iqbal** '09 of Carrollton, Texas; and **Raehannah Jamshidi** '09 of Rockwall, Texas, attended the 36th Annual Autumn Immunology Conference in Chicago, Ill., November 16-19, 2007, with **Lance Barton**, assistant professor of biology, to present their research orally and in poster form. The students also attended a workshop on careers in immunology and met one-on-one with faculty from major research universities and various companies. Hamilton is pursuing an honor's thesis in biology in Barton's lab. Iqbal and Jamshidi, who received Council on Undergraduate Research Biology Division Travel Awards, have worked on research with Barton for several semesters.



Mark Hamilton, Nida Iqbal, Raehannah Jamshidi, Lance Barton

### Chemistry

Eight students presented posters at the Southwest Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Lubbock, Texas, in October 2007. Presenters were **Cara Barnes** '09 of Bryan, Texas; **Anna Engle** '10 of Houston, Texas; **Paul Frederick** '10 of Longview, Texas; **Emily Kuo** '10 of Lucas, Texas; **Andrew Kurrialacherry** '10 of Coppell, Texas; **Holly Messamore** '09 of Wichita, Kansas; **Zach Seifert** '08 of Rochester, Minnesota; and **Kelly Wiggins** '08 of College Station, Texas. Wiggins' poster was selected for the SciMix session with both graduate and undergraduate students. Barnes won an outstanding poster award in the undergraduate section. All had participated in the Austin College Chemistry Department Welch Summer Research Program in 2006 or 2007.



Anna Engle and Holly Messamore

### Art

**Karena Rogers** '08 of Austin, Texas; **Elizabeth Cox** '08 of Sherman, Texas; and **Ellen Weaver** '06 of Dallas traveled with **Mark Monroe**, associate professor of art, to the Texas Sculpture Symposium at Texas State University in November 2007. The students attended lectures and participated in a casting workshop. Art work by Rogers, Cox, and **Matthew Whitenack** '08 of Dallas was accepted for the juried undergraduate and graduate exhibition at the symposium. "The juried student show included only 18 total works from schools throughout Texas," Monroe said, noting that three Austin College selections was particularly impressive. "The opportunity for our students to interact with sculptors from throughout the state and to meet young sculpture students from some of the most vital programs was a truly unique experience," Monroe said. "I am confident that the creative energy and inspiration generated by this trip will have a significant impact on these advanced students."



Elizabeth Cox and Karena Rogers

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The iconic words spoken to Peter Parker and his heroic alter ego Spiderman — “with great power comes great responsibility” — have relevance far beyond the pages of the comic book or movie screen. **Jesse Travis** '08, Austin College religion and psychology major from Plainview, Texas, said those words sum up the importance of serving others in her own life. “I don’t think of myself as holding power in the traditional sense, but I think there is a power given to everyone who doesn’t have to worry about basic living necessities,” Jesse said. “If I have an able body and can make time, have skills, or can donate money, it seems irresponsible to let these resources go to waste.”

It is hard for Jesse to pinpoint when she developed a passion for service, but it was likely long before she ever read a Spiderman comic. Service is “just something I’ve always done,” she said. Maybe such an outlook can be traced to her upbringing in the Presbyterian Church, where her father was a minister, but regardless of when it began, it followed her to college.

Jesse’s service-oriented work since becoming a member of the Austin College community is too extensive to list in full. She has made Halloween decorations for a nursing home and slept outside on cardboard boxes to raise awareness and money for the Grayson County Homeless Shelter through Austin College’s Service Station, which she served as co-chair last year.

Through her sorority, Omega Zeta, Jesse helped raise money for Hannah’s Horseshoes of Hope, an equine-assisted therapy program in Bonham, Texas, for children and adults with physical, mental, emotional, and learning disabilities, and sent Christmas cards to amputee patients. Jesse also serves as a Sallie Majors Intern for Austin College’s Religious Life program and helps organize events of the ACTivators, the College’s mobile Presbyterian youth ministry team.

In 2006, Jesse received a Lilly Foundation grant to travel to El Salvador during JanTerm. She raised money through her home church for chairs and bedding for the Center of Art for Peace there. She spent her spring break that year in New Orleans to help gut houses devastated by Hurricane Katrina. In fall 2006, Jesse studied abroad in Madagascar and worked on an independent study project about citizens suffering from learning disabilities.

“The process of service tends to be an exchange where the roles between helper and recipient are constantly in flux,” she said. “Those who are supposedly the givers are often the recipients of amazing experiences where they gain just as much as those who are supposedly unable to give.”

At Austin College, Jesse is involved in the Best Buddies program that pairs college students with local high school students who have learning disabilities. Jesse may never possess web-slinging or spider-sense superpowers, but she plans to attend graduate school in occupational therapy or special education and continue to pursue her “power” to serve others. 🕷

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Jesse Travis

# HIGH SCHOOL TEAMMATES EARN TWO-SPORT CONFERENCE HONORS

by Jeff Kelly

Only five years ago, the Austin College baseball team limped its way to a 2-36 record. At that point, few would have predicted the miraculous turnaround that culminated in an undefeated run through the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) Tournament and a berth into the NCAA Tournament in 2007.

Over the past few seasons Coach **Carl Iwasaki** has been stockpiling talented student-athletes. As it turned out, he did not need to go far to find talent and leadership to help make the Austin College baseball team a winning program.

In 2005, **Matt Finke '09** and **David "Scooter" Means '09** made the 10-minute drive from Denison, Texas, to arrive at Austin College — and soon to make a lasting impact on Kangaroo athletics. Means made his presence felt early on, leading the 'Roo football team in tackles his freshman year, a feat he has repeated every season of his career.

When spring rolled around, the two high school teammates were part of the baseball team, and soon worked their way into the starting lineup. A year later, Finke and Means had developed into two of the best

players in the SCAC, evidenced by their First Team All-Conference selections as key members of the conference championship squad.

That conference championship represented tremendous accomplishment. "Coming from that low point a few years ago and seeing the team turn around into a conference champion a few years later is something special," said Finke, a utility player who finished the season as the starting second baseman. "I'm just glad to be able to say I was a part of something like that. Being a local guy and growing up only 10 minutes away makes it even that much more special."

"Last season everything seemed to click for us at the right time," added Means. "It has been a great experience to be part of turning the baseball program around. Everyone has worked hard and the change in attitude around the clubhouse is like night and day from when I came in as a freshman."

Means, who split time between the outfield and his role as the team's designated hitter, also noted similar changes in his other sport. "My feelings are the same for the football team, and I look for us to have a breakout year next season with the hard work and dedication that everyone is putting in."



*Matt Finke  
and Scooter Means*

While the 'Roos captured only one football victory during Means' freshman season, they've made great strides and have won a combined eight games in the past two seasons, thanks in large part last fall to the Denison duo, who have helped bolster the Austin College defense.

For Finke, who had opted to focus on baseball for his first two years at Austin College, the decision to return to the gridiron was based on one simple factor. "I missed it," said Finke, a starter at both cornerback and safety in his first year back on the field. "I came to Austin College wanting to focus on one sport, but missed football so much. I missed having the ability to go hit someone. If I tried to do that on the baseball field I'm not so sure Coach Carl would like it too much."

When the 2007 football season began, Finke showed that he hadn't lost a step on the field, finishing among the SCAC leaders in interceptions and second on the team in tackles, behind only Means. His stellar play earned him All-Conference honors, giving him a distinction he shares with Means as All-SCAC performers in two sports.

The duo excels not only on the field of play, but also in the classroom. Both have earned Academic All-

Conference honors — an astounding feat considering the amount of time and devotion that must be given as two-sport athletes.

"There's not much time for anything else," conceded Finke. "There's morning workout, class all day with maybe an occasional nap, practice for a couple of hours after that, then it's dinner time. After that it's time to go back and study, then hit the sack."

Means credits his teachers — past and present — with preparing him for the time commitments required. "Matt and I were blessed to have come from such a great high school," said Means. "I believe that our teachers there prepared us very well for our college classes. Also, I believe that at Austin College, it is easy to make good grades because of the dedicated professors here. They are always great about going over anything I am having difficulty with, either in class or meeting with me on their own time. I think that kind of special attention sets Austin College apart."

Finke added that achieving his goals in both athletics and academics has required prioritizing and making sacrifices. It's about giving and taking so you can do what you have to do to be successful," he said.

## Women's Soccer Posts 10th Straight Winning Season

The Kangaroo women's soccer team had a bit of an up-and-down season in fall 2007, but still managed to finish the year with a record of 7-6-5 overall. With that record, head coach **Paul Burns** and the Austin College women's soccer program achieved the remarkable feat of 10 consecutive winning seasons.

The 'Roos finished 2-4-3 in a very strong Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) with wins over Oglethorpe at home and on the road at Hendrix. Out of conference, the 'Roos had several offensive explosions, eclipsing five goals in four different games and shutting out McMurry by an 8-0 score. The 'Roos outscored their opponents 39-16 on the year.

Three members of the women's soccer team earned All-Conference accolades, led by selection of **LeAnne Nguyen '09** to the First Team All-SCAC, **Helen Heres '09** to Third Team All-SCAC, and **Holly Messamore '09**, who led the 'Roos in scoring for the third straight season, to the Honorable Mention All-SCAC Team.

Messamore finished with nine goals and added a pair of assists to give her 20 total points, while Heres had six goals and tied with **Faren Frazier '09** for a team-best four assists despite missing some time with injuries. **Jen Duncan '08** scored five goals for the 'Roos, and **Cari Hubbard '08** scored four goals while primarily serving in a defensive role for Austin College.

Overall, 12 players scored goals for Austin College and two more added assists, giving the 'Roos a whopping 14 players contributing to the scoring column during the season. **Kaitlin Elledge '11** had an outstanding freshman season in goal for the 'Roos, allowing just 13 goals in 14 appearances and making 48 saves for a save percentage of .787 as the team's primary starter in the net.

## Football Team Leads Conference in Rushing

The Kangaroo football team enjoyed a solid season in head coach **Ronnie Gage's** second year, finishing with a 4-6 record overall and 2-5 mark in Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) competition. The season included the program's first three-game win streak since 2002, defeating Colorado College, Sewanee, and Birmingham-Southern in consecutive weeks.

In their second season in the SCAC, the 'Roos finished at the top of the conference in team rushing for the second straight year, averaging a staggering 241.1 yards per game on the ground. **Ross Hasten '09** and **Ryan Cowley '08** led the attack for the 'Roos, as Hasten piled up 672 yards and seven touchdowns and Cowley added nine touchdowns and 653 yards. Both backs averaged 5.7 yards per carry.

Hasten and Cowley were Honorable Mention All-SCAC performers, joining eight of their teammates as All-Conference honorees. **Justin Duncan '08** was selected as a First Team All-SCAC member after anchoring the team's offensive line, while defensive end **Jared Baker '08**, linebackers **Peyton Woodyard '08** and **Patrick Martell '08**, and defensive back **Matt Finke '09** each earned Second Team honors.

In his first season with the football team, Finke finished among the SCAC leaders with four interceptions and added 57 tackles. Baker also was near the top of the conference leader board with 16 tackles for loss and 7.5 sacks. Martell added six sacks, and Woodyard finished third on the team with 56 tackles.

Quarterback **Kent Bell '09**, lineman **Gary Sullivan '08**, and linebacker **Scooter Means '09** also earned SCAC honorable mention honors. Means led the team in tackles for the third straight season, making 87 stops from his middle linebacker spot. Bell rushed for 316 yards and four touchdowns while throwing for two more scores.

Overall the 2007 season proved to be another step in the right direction for the Kangaroos, with three of their losses coming by seven points or less. With Hasten returning to help defend the team's conference rushing crown, 2008 looks to be a strong season for the team.

# Baseball Team Visits Hawaii for JanTerm Training Camp

Austin College baseball coach **Carl Iwasaki** showed off his home state of Hawaii to his team during JanTerm as the team spent the month training at the Central Oahu baseball fields and playing exhibition games against Hawaii Pacific University and San Diego City College.

Not only was the team able to prepare in paradise for the 2008 spring season, but players had ample opportunity to discover the culture and history of Hawaii. Highlights of their travels included viewing the 30-foot surf on the North Shore of Oahu and visiting the historic Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.



## Soccer Team Faces Tough Season

**Mark Hudson's** first year as head coach of the men's soccer team had its share of tough breaks as the team finished the season with an overall record of 2-15-1, including a 2-8 mark in Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) play. However, the 'Roos finished on a bit of an upswing with the conference victories coming late in the season.

Despite the record, the 'Roos proved to be a tough and competitive team all season, with 10 defeats by a single goal and three defeats in overtime.

**Austin Newman '08** led the 'Roos throughout the season and was named Second Team All-SCAC. He finished with two goals and an assist and proved to be a dynamic threat with the ball while also helping establish Austin College as a strong defensive team.

**Garrett Evans '11** led the team with five goals, needing just 17 shots all season to tally those scores. **Alex Dawson '10** and **Nate Spradlin '08** also had solid offensive years, each scoring four goals and adding an assist. Spradlin also was an anchor of the team's defensive unit.

**John Martinez '08** was solid in directing the offense from his midfield position, earning a team-best four assists plus a goal, while **Tommy Haney '09**, **Raif Smith '10**, and **Josh Pollock '10** each added a goal on the year.

**Matt Dickinson '09** picked up both victories in goal for the 'Roos and finished the year with a .700 save percentage, allowing 18 goals in his 10 appearances, and **Nate Noel '10** led the team with 57 saves in 11 appearances in goal.

The team hiked up the Diamond Head Crater and to the Makapuu lighthouse on the east shore of Oahu. Some players, perhaps inspired by the trip to the North Shore, rented surfboards and learned to surf in Waikiki, while others snorkeled at the Hanauma Bay National Fish Sanctuary. Team members also paid respects to the man who invented the game they love, visiting the grave of Alexander Cartwright, Jr., credited with founding modern baseball. The team placed a signed Austin College baseball on Cartwright's grave.

Finally, the 'Roos enjoyed a luau on the beach, eating local foods and dancing on stage in front of hundreds of tourists.

## Soccer Players Do Battle Against Cancer

Austin College and Centre College men's soccer teams raised more than \$5,000 in fall 2007 for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, the world's largest grassroots network of survivors and activists working to end breast cancer.

Austin College Coach **Mark Hudson** had served as assistant to Centre's coach for five years and both had close friends who lost their lives to cancer. When Hudson took on the head coach position at Austin College, the two coaches set about to see what the two teams could accomplish toward the effort before their game in October, Breast Awareness Month.

The check for \$5,300 was presented to a member of the Louisville foundation office before the teams' matchup at Centre. All the players wore pink armbands in support of the cause. 🐾



COURTESY PHOTO

## Awards Gala Honors Five Alumni

*The 2008 Austin College Awards Gala on campus March 7 honored the recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Awards and the Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Service Awards.*

### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI 2008

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes alumni who achieve excellence in professional, social, avocational, or humanitarian efforts; demonstrate leadership through community involvement and service to others; support Austin College, its mission, and its students; and exemplify high ethical standards. First Decade Award recipients meet criteria of Distinguished Alumni in the first 10 years after graduation. All alumni may submit nominations for Distinguished Alumni honors to the Alumni Association Board. Nomination deadline is July 1. Nomination procedures are available on the College Web site.



COURTESY PHOTO

Distinguished Alumni Award  
**W. Osler McCarthy '73**  
Austin, Texas  
Staff Attorney for Public  
Information  
Texas Supreme Court



COURTESY PHOTO

Distinguished Alumni Award  
**Jeannine Hatt Phelps '72**  
Denison, Texas  
Pediatrician, Texoma Care  
Pediatrics  
Board member and former board  
chair, International Child Care



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

First Decade Award  
**Jennifer J. Deng-Pickett '99**  
Silver Springs, Maryland  
Director, Washington, D.C.,  
Language Access Coalition

### HEYWOOD C. CLEMONS VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARDS

*The Clemons Award recognizes long-term service of alumni and friends of the College who serve in the spirit of former Board of Trustees Chair Heywood C. Clemons of Fort Worth, Texas.*

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



**Sarah Gunderson '81**  
Dallas, Texas  
Vice President,  
Operational Systems  
Equity Residential

**John D. Bentham '93**  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Producer, IvoryStar  
Productions  
Owner,  
Promotions in Print

## Bill Warren Co-Produces Environmental Documentary, *The Unforeseen*

**Bill Warren** '74 co-produced the film *The Unforeseen* and arranged an Austin College premiere of the film in November 2007. The campus event was arranged through the College's Center for Environmental Studies.

The film details the development and preservation of the City of Austin, and some of the environmental issues faced by citizens in the growth of the city. Warren said one of his major concerns is the state of our environment, and he hopes this film will help other people take an active role in protecting it.

Screened at Sundance, San Francisco, and various other film festivals, *The Unforeseen* also was on the agenda at the Hamptons Film Festival in New York in October 2007, with Warren leading a discussion about the film. *The Unforeseen* opened February 29 in New York.

Warren, of Dallas, is a member of the Austin College Board of Trustees.

PHOTO BY WICKIE S. KIRBY



Bill Warren

## Nurre Leads Alumni Board

**Mike Nurre** '67 took over duties as president of the Austin College Alumni Association Board in January 2008. He has been a member of the Alumni Board for the past four years.

A principal of Michael T. Nurre & Co., L.L.C., an investment banking firm, Nurre lives in Dallas and is active in several financial organizations, his church, and a non-partisan community affairs group.

Nurre said the Alumni Association Board looks to focus on promoting the alumni to Austin College, its administration, faculty, staff, and the current student body and on increasing annual fund participation among alumni.

The Alumni Board is responsible for selecting Distinguished Alumni and First Decade Award honorees as well as the 20-plus recipients of John D. Moseley Alumni Scholarships. The board organized and sponsored the 2007 Alumni College on campus and Homecoming on the Green.

Alumni interested in serving on the Alumni Association Board should contact **Victoria Martinsen**, director of Alumni and Parent Relations, at (903) 813-2381 or [vmartinsen@austincollege.edu](mailto:vmartinsen@austincollege.edu).

PHOTO BY WICKIE S. KIRBY



Mike Nurre

## Alumni College in Austin Goes “Green” — Not Just a Color

Approximately 65 alumni, parents, and friends from the Austin area gathered in Austin's City Hall Atrium in February when Austin College hosted Alumni College in Austin, “Not Just a Color — A Way of Life,” focusing on the film *The Unforeseen*. **Bill Warren** '74, co-producer; film director **Laura Dunn**; and Austin College Professor of Biology **George Diggs** offered a discussion of the documentary and the environmental issues chronicled in the film. The panel was moderated by **Stephanie McDonald** '97 of Austin, who helped coordinate the event.

*Andy Greene* '96 and *Melanie Bickley Greene* '94 attended the gathering in Austin. Andy and their daughter, *Caroline*, 4, were all smiles for the camera.



*The Honorable Will Wynn*, mayor of Austin, at far right, spoke to alumni, parents, and friends about the environmental path the City of Austin has taken. With him, left to right, are his brother *Allen* and their parents *Charlotte O'Hagan Wynn* '51 and *Roger Wynn* '49.

# language house can change a life

**Ed Stemple** '83 can attest to the influence of Austin College's language house program from its beginning. Stemple moved

into the language house in the spring of 1981, only one semester after the program's inception. At the time, the language house was Thompson House, a Victorian-styled home on the corner of Grand Avenue and Brockett Street that now serves as the Temple Center for Teaching and Learning.

Languages rotated in and out of the house each term. In the fall of 1980, the program started with German House. In the spring of 1981, it was Stemple's turn to move into

French House. "I have fond memories of that semester, which had a big influence on my life," said Stemple, whose French House term readied him for study abroad at the Université

Paul Valéry in Montpellier, France. "It helped prepare me for a junior year in France, entrance into Thunderbird for graduate school, and a job in international relief and development. Language house can change a life." Stemple, his wife, Jan, and their two sons live in Redmond, Wash., where he plans the marketing and communications for AT&T's 67 million wireless phone customers.

The friendships Stemple made with French students in Montpellier, the French language, and even French culture have lasted a lifetime. Stemple returned to Montpellier in 2000 and stayed with the same friends he met at the university cafeteria in 1981. "I still speak, read, and write French," he said. "To this day, I love French wines, cheeses, and foods. Seeing one new culture in enough depth to reveal its glory opened my mind to realize every culture has depth and greatness to be discovered and appreciated."

COURTESY PHOTO



ALUMNI PROFILE

## Alumni News

58

**Robert Lehr** (2) retired from Southern Illinois Medical School after 25 years of teaching, but is now teaching two classes at colleges in Vermont. He also does consultation for head trauma rehabilitation and is scheduled to make several presentations for international audiences.

63

**Glen Stanbaugh**, chair *emeritus* and chief medical officer of the Texas Renal Coalition (TRC) and a retired Lubbock nephrologist, has worked daily since his retirement to find ways to reverse the increase in cases of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) he has documented in his practice. The work of the TRC resulted in a \$1 million allocation from the Texas Department of State Health Services to fund an education program, Decrease the Increase. The TRC and Dr. Stanbaugh's work was included in June and December 2007 issues of *Texas Medicine*, a publication of the Texas Medical Association.

68

**Jefferson Stewart** chaired the 18th Annual International Conference of the American Society for the Competitiveness (ASC) in November 2007 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is the chair of the ASC Advisory Council.

69

**Shirley Ruth Brooks Laseter** (3) retired as library director of the Muir S. Fairchild Research Information Center at Air University on January 3, completing 27 years of federal service. She joined the library in 1980 as a reference librarian, and served as systems librarian, bibliographer, reference chief, and reader services division chief before appointment as library director. Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama, is the center of Air Force graduate and professional military education.

74

**Carol Wiley Toll** received a Bank of America Spirit Award of Excellence, an annual award that recognizes and rewards the top 1 percent of employees for significantly exceeding performance goals and consistently demonstrating the bank's core values. She and her husband, Ralph, will attend an award celebration to be held in Miami's South Beach in March. She has worked for Bank of America since 1995, including 10 years for acquired company MBNA.

75

**Marjie Dexter Podzielinski** is librarian for 1,200 kindergarten-through-sixth-grade students at Coulson Tough School in The Woodlands, Texas. She serves on the Teachers' Choices Steering Committee for the International Reading Association (IRA). The committee examines newly published books for curriculum content in kindergarten through eighth grade. Marjie presented in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, at the IRA meeting in May, and presented at the

Numbers in color after alumni names correspond with photos on pages 42 and 45.

Sam Houston State University Children's Book Festival. ■ **Jeffrey Powers** performed with the Baylor Symphony Orchestra in the "Kindling the Fire!" performance September 18 at Jones Concert Hall in Waco, Texas. He is the principal horn with the Waco Symphony Orchestra and a member of the Baylor Woodwind Quintet and the Baylor Brass. He also performs regularly with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the East Texas Symphony Orchestra, and the Plano Symphony Orchestra. He has performed professional and internationally for many years, including 16 years with the Royal Philharmonic of Flanders in Antwerp, Belgium. ■ **William P. Proctor** is the new pastor for First Presbyterian Church of San Angelo, Texas. He and his family moved from the Main Line outside of Philadelphia, where Bill served as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Ardmore for the past 11 years.

79

**Kim Powers** has written a second book, *Capote In Kansas: A Ghost Story*, now in its second printing. He describes the book as "a sort of 'fantasia' about two of our greatest writers, Truman Capote and Harper Lee, and the inescapable memories that bind them together. Plus the ghosts of Boo Radley and the murdered Clutters from *In Cold Blood* make an appearance!" A *Library Journal* starred review called the book "exceptional" and asserted, "Powers succeeds brilliantly in blending fact and fiction to produce a sensitive portrait of two lost souls."

85

**Janet Moody Melton** has been appointed clinical assistant professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education at the University of Texas at Arlington.

86

**Charles Bradshaw** has opened a new art gallery in San Angelo, Texas, at the Chicken Farm Art Center. The first exhibition, the paintings of **Elizabeth Marsico** '87, opened in December.

87

**Richard "Trace" Haythorn** (1) became president of The Fund for Theological Education in January. He previously was director of the vocation and values

program and founder of the Center for Servant Leadership at Hastings College, where he also served as assistant professor in the Department of Religion. Haythorn has served pastorates at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, Tennessee; Toorak Uniting Church in Melbourne, Australia; and the chaplaincy at Nazareth College in Rochester, New York. He and his wife, Mary — also a Presbyterian minister— live in Atlanta with their son and daughter.

88

A daughter, Mary Catherine, was born August 30, 2007, to Stephanie and **Duncan Robert Ware**. The eighth child of the family, she joins brothers Jeremy, Connell, and John, and sisters Kylie, Molli, Olivia, and Sarah Grace.

89

**Sarah Booth** survived the Chicago Marathon in October 2007. She was on mile 20 when the race was cancelled, but she did finish all 26.2 miles of her second marathon. When not running, Sarah is the assistant director of the Montgomery County Memorial Library System in Conroe, Texas. ■ **Paul Reilley** (5) and Lisa Brewer were married August 9, 2007, on the beach in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The couple shares six children and lives in Spring, Texas. Paul continues to work as a physician's assistant with KSF Orthopaedic Group in Houston. Lisa is a reservations trainer with Continental Airlines. ■ **Bill Ucherek II**, formerly in Abilene at The Ucherek Law Firm, has joined the law firm of Juneau, Boll, Ward, & Carboy in Addison, Texas. He is a board certified personal injury trial lawyer. He and his wife, **Brenda Montfort Ucherek** '88, moved back to the metroplex last summer with their three boys, Nick, 14; Jared, 11; and Walker, 6. ■ A daughter, Brynn Elise, (9) was born January 17 to Richard and **Laura Brown Squires**.

90

A son, Benjamin (17), was born to Joe and **Susan Overstreet Schwartz** in May 2007. He joins his sister, Leah, 7. In June 2007, Susan received her M.D. from UT Southwestern Medical School. She is now a stay-at-home mom, but will begin a residency in family medicine in summer 2008.

## Fedora Is New Head Coach for University of Southern Mississippi Football Program



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

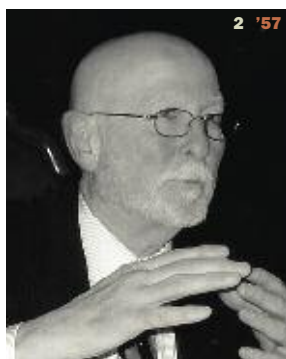
**Larry Fedora** '85 was named head coach of the University of Southern Mississippi football team in December, having spent the past three seasons as the offensive coordinator for the Oklahoma State Cowboys.

Fedora played wide receiver for the Austin College football team from 1981 to 1984, and was a member of the Kangaroos' 1981 NAIA National Championship team. He was named an All-American in 1983 and was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Honor in 2006 in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Austin College athletics.

Fedora broke into coaching as a graduate assistant for the Kangaroos in 1986, and after a stint at Garland High School, became the wide receiver, tight end, and running back coach at Baylor in 1991. He moved on to coach quarterbacks and wide receivers at the Air Force Academy in 1997, and got his first offensive coordinator job in 1999 at Middle Tennessee State. He went on to become the offensive coordinator at the University of Florida in 2002 before taking the same position at Oklahoma State in 2005. With his move to the head coaching position at Southern Mississippi, Fedora becomes one of just five current NCAA Division I-A head coaches who are athletic alumni of Division III schools.



1 '87



2 '57



4 '81



3 '69



5 '89



Grace Nworie '02 and Anthony Pokoo-Aikins were married August 18, 2007. Pictured above are Marrisa Isaac, Grace, and Kelly Oby, bridesmaid.

91

**Scott D. Forbes** (4) has been appointed director of governmental relations for the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. He previously spent seven years as a manager of governmental relations for the Port of Houston Authority, and spent eight years as assistant director for state and federal relations under Houston mayors Bob Lanier and Lee P. Brown. Scott lives in Kingwood with his wife, Karen, and daughters Emerson, 5, and Kirby, 2.

■ **Tommy Newsom** has been appointed president of The Art Institute of Austin, with 20 years of experience in higher education. He has been with The Art Institutes for eight years, first as director of public relations at the Dallas school. After two years, he became dean of Student Affairs, also serving in that capacity for two years. He then worked in the organization's central office for three years, first as assistant vice president of Student Affairs, and more recently as vice president of Student Affairs. From June to August 2007, he served in an interim role as president of The Art Institute of Tennessee-Nashville.

■ A daughter, Chyanne, 3, was adopted by **Kathie Null** and her partner, Marilyn Jones, with the process finalized December 20, 2007, in Pennsylvania.

93

**DeaAnn Mackie Martin** (14) earned a master's degree in nurse anesthesia from Texas Christian University in December 2007. She will work as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist at Methodist Hospital of Dallas. She and her husband, Adam, have one son, Brandon, 4. ■ **Brian "Rube" Rubrecht** has been awarded a tenured professor position teaching English in the School of Commerce at Meiji University in Tokyo, Japan. He is only the third non-Japanese to work for the department in its 104-year history. ■ **Marianne Bishop Turner** was installed as pastor of Friendship Presbyterian Church of Athens, Georgia, by the Northeast Georgia Presbytery in October 2007.

94

A son, Seth Thomas, was born November 29, 2007, to Bryan and **Jennifer Baker Adams** of McKinney, Texas. Seth is the grandson of Connie and **Tom Baker**, Austin College professor of education.

■ A daughter, Pacey Addison (10), was born December 1, 2007, to **Kelly '92** and **Stella Lucio Mulhollan**. She joins her sister Catalina, 4. The family lives in North Carolina. ■ **Amanda "Mandi" Hill Picken** left her job as a design and print project manager in August 2006 to become a self-employed

Numbers in color after alumni names correspond with photos on pages 42 and 45.

editor and have more time to look after Alex, 5, and Isabel, 3. Mandi and her husband, Martin, live in Woking, England, where he is a network development manager for British Airways.

95

**Jay Bender** and his wife, Lynn, live in McKinney, Texas, where Jay has opened a law firm on the historic square. He previously served as assistant district attorney in both Dallas and Collin counties. Lynn is a manager with Hitachi Consulting.

96

A daughter, Vivianna Rose (8), was born April 17, 2007, in Portsmouth, Virginia, to Allen and **Kirstin Hurtado Adkins**. The family, including big sister, Madelynn, 3, lives in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, while Allen completes a master's degree at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. ■ Twin boys, Trent William and Brooks Fenner (18), were born March 6, 2007, to Tim and **Kate McCarron Head**. The family lives in Rockwall, Texas. On August 25, 2007, friend and classmate **Father David Madison** baptized Trent and Brooks at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Heath, Texas. ■ **Matthew Kirby** is a full partner in a private practice at the Atlanta (Georgia) Institute for Ear, Nose, and Throat. A graduate of Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, he completed his residence in otolaryngology at Baylor in 2006. In Atlanta he is able to do charity work through the local Scottish Rite Children's Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital.

97

A daughter, Marley Faith (19), was born July 20, 2007, to Matthew and **Jena Marie Sibbald Toich**.

98

A daughter, Lily LeBron (13), was born July 25 to Jonathan and **Camille LeBron Powell**. Camille is an associate pastor at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.

99

**Bryan Campbell** earned a master's degree in computer networking in July 2007 at Napier University in Edinburgh, Scotland. ■ **Jack Peebles (19)** is the new senior pastor of the 1,400-member First Presbyterian Church of Yakima, Washington. Jack graduated from Princeton Seminary in 2004 and began serving as associate pastor at First Presbyterian in Kingwood, Texas. Jack, his wife **Margaret (Johnson)** '98, and their children,

Annabelle and David, moved to Washington in February. Jack and Margaret participated in a mission trip to Egypt in 2006 and are pictured on Mt. Sinai at dawn.

00

**Kimberly Blanton** and Daniel Day were married June 23, 2007, at the Texas Discovery Gardens at Fair Park in Dallas. **Rabab Fayad**, '00 was a bridesmaid and **Tim Hardesty** '00 attended. Kimberly is a labor and employment attorney with the U.S. Postal Service in Dallas. ■ **Amanda Jester** practices health law at the firm of McDermott Will & Emery in Miami Beach, Florida, and will speak to a group of fellows at the University of Miami Medical School in November regarding the federal physician self referral law and the federal anti-kickback law.

■ **Douglas E. Lowe** was promoted to senior accounting specialist in logistics finance at JCPenney. This comes after two years of work as an accounting analyst in stores finance. He also has recently been selected as an elder for Trinity Presbyterian Church in McKinney, Texas.

01

A son, Sean Hunter, was born October 25, 2007, to **Daniel** '02 and **Jennie Knapp Harper**. Sean is the couple's second son. ■ **Irma Pedroza** graduated

## Back to the Classroom



Austin Teacher Program alumnus Chris Hitch '81 spoke to education students and to students in the Communication/ Inquiry course, "Education for All: Seeking Equity, Excellence and Justice in U.S. Schools," taught by Professor of Education Tom Baker. Now a professor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Hitch has been a teacher and principal, and now runs a doctoral program for educational leaders and consults both in the U.S. and internationally. He made the trip to campus after traveling to Dallas for a conference.



from Thurgood Marshall School of Law in Houston in May 2006 and sat for the Texas Bar in July 2006. While awaiting her results, she attended Georgetown University Law Center to obtain a Master of Laws in Taxation, completing the program May 2007. She now works in the National Tax Office of Ernst & Young in Washington, D.C.

02

**Stacy Smith** was ordained as a minister of word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) November 4, 2007, at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas. Many Austin College friends attended and were involved in the service. **Omi Boggus** offered the Call to Worship; **Todd Penner**, associate professor of religious studies, read from the Gospel of Luke, and Stacy officiated communion alongside the **Rev. Mary Newberg Gale '01**. Stacy recently received her Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and is a Lake Fellow in Parish Ministry at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. ■ A son, **Frank George III, (12)** was born September. 21, 2007, to **Frank and Tamara (Smith) Kirby**. Tamara works part-time as a forensic chemist and spends the rest of her time with their son. Frank finished his master's degree in social work and is a supervisor in a child residence facility in Illinois.

Numbers in color after alumni names correspond with photos on pages 42 and 45.

03

A son, **Trajan Alexander (6)**, was born August 20, 2007, to Paul Jimenez and **Elizabeth Wiley**. The family lives in Austin, Texas, where Elizabeth works as an actuarial consultant.

04

**Joseph Greenberg** and **Leslie Moore (7)** were married October 20, 2007. Both passed the Texas Bar Exam in July 2007. Joseph works as an associate for the Dallas/Houston law firm of Godwin Pappas Ronquillo, and Leslie works as a contracts analyst for British Petroleum. ■ **Andrea Lerner (11)** and **James Miller '03** we married June 11, 2006. The wedding party included **Kyle Eichas '03** and **Celeste Longoria '04**. The couple now lives in Richmond, Va., where Andrea is working on her doctorate in counseling psychology and James is pursuing a master's degree in library science. ■ **Jordan Watson**, a graduate of Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, passed the July 2007 Texas Bar Exam. She plans to pursue a career in estate planning law.

05

**Hesham Hambazaza** graduated from Washington University in Saint Louis in May 2007 with a degree in electrical engineering. He has moved to Huntsville, Alabama, to work for Boeing as an electrophysics engineer.

07

**Clelia Moreno** and **Hairo Hassam Pena '06** were married Aug 5, 2007, in Monterrey, Mexico. Bridesmaids included **Stacy George**, **Valerie Wehmeyer**, **Kathleen McLaughlin '08**, and **Nicole Hagenbuch**. Groomsmen were **John Mark Wiginton** and **Bobby Myers**. The Penas live in Sherman, Texas. ■ **Amber Powell** and **Christopher Hinds (15)** were married May 27, 2007, in Pilot Point, Texas. The wedding party included **Jon Glenn**, **Annie King**, **Dan Pucul '05**, **Frank Sedita**, **Maliko Ubl '06**, **Megan Wald '05**, and **Ellen Weaver '06**. The couple lives in Poughkeepsie, New York, where Chris attends the Culinary Institute of America and Amber is the assistant director of graduate admission at Marist College. 🦘

# GLOBAL GOLD

April 17, 2008

[www.austincollege.edu/alumni](http://www.austincollege.edu/alumni)

AUSTIN, TEXAS

BUFFALO, NEW YORK

DALLAS, TEXAS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

GRAYSON COUNTY, TEXAS

HOUSTON, TEXAS

LUBBOCK, TEXAS

MCKINNEY, TEXAS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

TAMPA, FLORIDA

WASHINGTON, D.C.



# Community Mourns Death of Lee Posey

COURTESY PHOTO



Members of the Austin College community were saddened by the death of Lee Posey on February 29 after a long and courageous battle with pancreatic cancer.

Posey has been a good friend and generous benefactor to Austin College. Lee and his wife, Sally, have long been dedicated to mentoring

young people and assisting them with college funding. The couple discovered in the goals of the College's Leadership Institute many of the values that inspired their own lives and soon became supporters of the program. The institute was named to honor the Poseys, their leadership, and their support of the College. From the Posey Leadership Institute developed the plan for the Austin College Leadership Award to recognize individuals who devote themselves to humanitarian or educational advances that will create opportunities for young people in the U.S. and around the world. Posey embodied the principles of servant leadership and selfless dedication to young people that are at the heart of the Austin College Leadership Award.

Posey earned a bachelor's degree from Alma College in Alma, Michigan, in 1956. Upon graduation, he joined Redman Industries, Inc., and from 1967 to 1977 served as president of the company. He founded Palm Harbor Homes, Inc., in 1978 and served as the company's chair until 2005, then assuming the role of chair *emeritus*. He served on a number of corporate and civic boards, including Monaco Coach Company, Red River Ventures, Dallas Habitat for Humanity, and the Dallas Symphony. He also headed the Posey Family Foundation, focused on improving educational opportunities for students at risk, and he made pioneering efforts on behalf of single-gender education in Texas.

Posey was a trustee of Alma College and a member of the Austin College President's Advisory Forum.



## IN MEMORIAM

Austin College has received word of the deaths of the following alumni.

'33	Anabel Barton Johnson	January 28, 2008
'34	Katherine (Kay) Buchanan	January 6, 2008
'39	Mary Louise Hawkins Garland	January 30, 2008
'47	Marion Bookout Ringgold	February 19, 2008
'51	Elizabeth Ann Page Krajewski	December 27, 2007
'52	Betty Cutis Lugosky	December 9, 2007
'55	William D. Hamm	January 17, 2008
'64	Clifton Finney	December 2007
'68	Merrill J. Howard	January 5, 2008
'71	Frank Clarence Sullivan	October 19, 2007
'72	Judith Joy Jacobson	December 15, 2007
'80	Mozelle "Perky" King	October 30, 2007
'87	Robert L. Hitt	January 25, 2008

Former faculty member Delta Warren Gier died December 19, 2006.

Known as "Pop" and "Doc," Gier taught at Austin College from 1959 to 1961.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

### CHAIR:

Robert M. Johnson '53, McLean, Virginia

### VICE CHAIR:

Richard J. Agnich, Dallas, Texas

### TRUSTEES:

John Q. Adams, Jr. '84, Southlake, Texas	Jeffrey Landsberg '81, Dallas, Texas
Margaret Allison, San Antonio, Texas	Luan Beaty Mendel '75, Palo Verdes, California
Jerry E. Apple '60, Irving, Texas	Robert W. Minshew '60, Sherman, Texas
Lee Dean Ardell '74, Houston, Texas	Steven M. Mobley, Austin, Texas
James D. Baskin III '75, Austin, Texas	Samuel S. Moore '64, Dallas, Texas
Jacqueline R. Cooper '73, Oakton, Virginia	Jo Ann Geurin Pettus, Graham, Texas
Barry B. Donnell, Wichita Falls, Texas	Davis B. Price '67, Lubbock, Texas
Linda Morris Elsey, Fort Worth, Texas	Fazlur Rahman, San Angelo, Texas
F. R. "Buck" Files '60, Tyler, Texas	Annadele H. Ross '66, Dallas, Texas
Georgina Fisher '69, Severna Park, Maryland	Ann Coit Sporer Smith '65, Fort Smith, Arkansas
Rebecca Moseley Gafford '72, Dallas, Texas	Caroline Elbert Taylor '66, Wyalusing, Pennsylvania
Donald Gibson '75, Houston, Texas	Jesse R. Thomas '74, Sherman, Texas
Dennis E. Gonier '83, Fredericksburg, Virginia	Linda Plummer Ward '78, Nashville, Tennessee
Thomas Hall, Jr. '78, Colleyville, Texas	William E. Warren '74, Plano, Texas
Mary Ann Stell Harris '70, Fort Worth, Texas	Todd A. Williams '82, Dallas, Texas
Charles Hendricks '61, The Woodlands, Texas	Stanley M. Woodward, Dallas, Texas
M. Steve Jones, Sherman, Texas	Michael G. Wright, Dallas, Texas
Sharon S. King, Richardson, Texas	Robert J. Wright, Dallas, Texas

## meet the trustee

**Jacqueline Cooper '73** earned a master's degree in government from the University of Texas in 1975. A resident of Oakton, Va., she is active at Dahlgren Chapel on the Georgetown University campus, serving as a Eucharistic minister and altar assistant. She volunteers at Georgetown University Hospital in the Pastoral Care Department as a weekend Eucharistic minister and on the hospital's Volunteer Leadership Team Committee. "This service allows me to give back what so richly has been shared with me and emphasizes those values that were so much a part of my Austin College experience," she said. Her personal interests include travel, photography, and cooking.

*Austin College Magazine staff asked Cooper about her service on the Austin College Board of Trustees.*

### What does it mean to you to be a trustee of Austin College?

"Being an Austin College trustee is the realization of a dream come true. It allows me to help foster an institution where students are equipped morally, socially, and academically to meet the stresses and joys of the 21st century. I have the chance to help create an environment that is important to me. As a student, Austin College provided me with a very nurturing environment where I grew both academically and socially, and where I could practice firsthand the concept of what President Page calls servant leadership. Austin College was more than just a learning institution, for I developed life-long friends and extended family. I have called on Drs. John D. Moseley and Kenneth Street countless times for guidance and wisdom. I am godmother to the son of a former roommate and a surrogate aunt to other Austin College friends' children."

### What do you hope to see for Austin College in the future?

"My goal for Austin College is for it to maintain its high academic standing and stay small enough that the professors know their students by name and are very interactive with them."

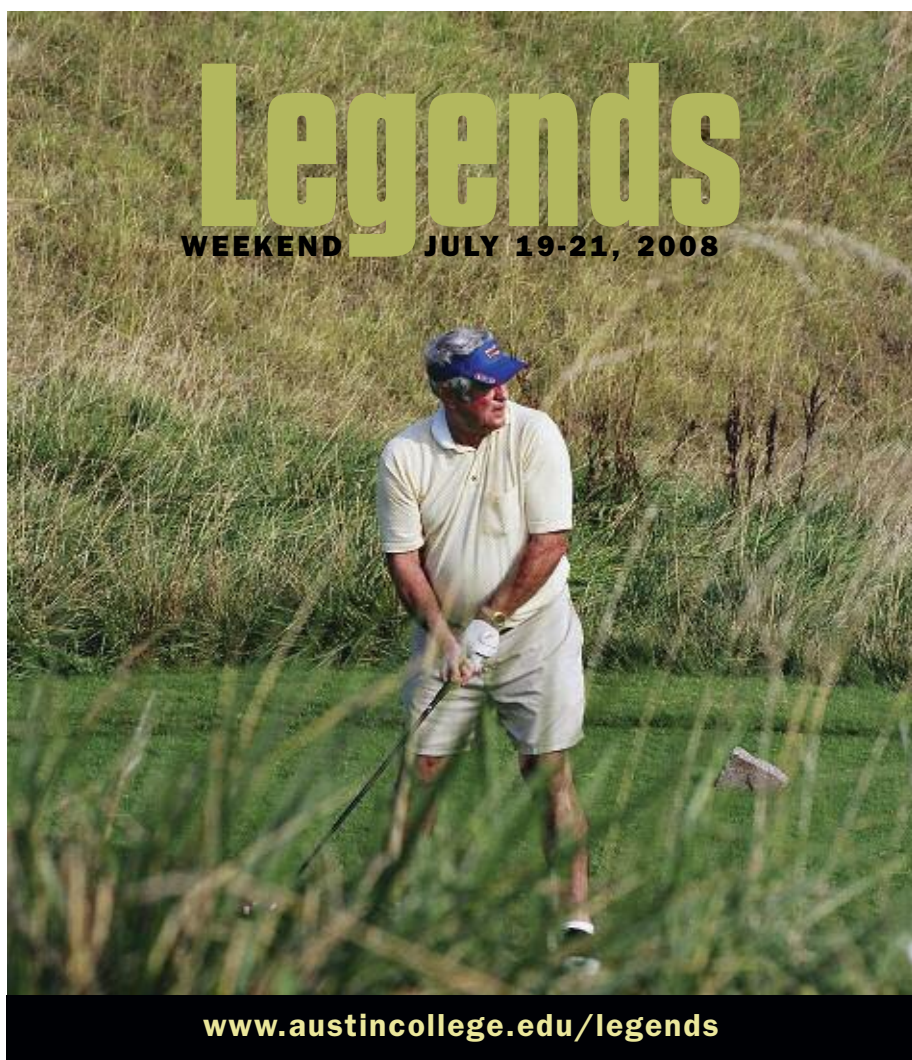
### What do you enjoy about being an Austin College trustee?

"I enjoy the interaction with students. I am chair of the Student Affairs Committee, and I relish the time spent with students. After the committee meeting ends, several of the trustees hang out at the Pouch Club chatting with students who happen to join us, and on occasion, playing a game of pool with them. I also get together regularly with some of the alumni who now reside in Washington, D.C."



*Jacqueline Cooper*

COURTESY PHOTO



**2008 Athletic Hall of Honor Inductees:**

Bo Brown '75  
 Jim Baird '93  
 Kenneth Tatum '89  
 Allison McKinney Tarpley '99  
 Dr. Kenneth Street (Honorary Inductee)

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

Butch Worley '76

Reunion of Champions, Saturday, July 19  
 Dinner and Awards Gala, Sunday, July 20  
 Austin College

26<sup>th</sup> Annual Slats McCord Tournament, July 21  
 The Golf Club at Castle Hills  
 Lewisville, Texas

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**April 2008**

- 1 Asia Week Begins
- 4-7 **A Cappella Choir Spring Tour**
- 3 **Friendswood United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.**  
 Friendswood, Texas
- 4 **Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m.**  
 Houston, Texas
- 5 **First Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m.**  
 Slidell, Louisiana
- 6 **St. Charles Ave Presbyterian Church,**  
**10:30 a.m. service**  
 New Orleans, Louisiana
- 7 **St. Philip Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m.**  
 Houston, Texas
- 7 2008 Law Symposium
- 21 Chamber Music & Jazz Concert, Wynne Chapel,  
 7:30 p.m.
- 24 Honors Convocation, 11 a.m., Wynne Chapel
- 24-26 Theatre Production: *Three Sisters* by Anton  
 Chekhov. Directed by Kathleen Campbell,  
 Arena Theatre, 7:30 p.m.
- 25-26 Austin College Undergraduate Conference
- 27 A Cappella Choir Concert, Covenant Presbyterian  
 Church of Sherman, 3 p.m.
- 30 Concert Band Performance, Wynne Chapel,  
 7:30 p.m.

**May 2008**

- 17 Baccalaureate, 7 p.m.
- 18 Commencement, 8:30 a.m.

See the Austin College Master Calendar for a full schedule  
 of campus happenings and updates to these events.  
[austincollege.edu/MasterCalendar.asp?2057](http://austincollege.edu/MasterCalendar.asp?2057)



## ▲ EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

This photograph from the Austin College Archives might make one think a visiting troupe of dancers had descended upon campus. Alumni from the era will remember the shot as something quite different. Recognize classmates or the location of this shot? Share your stories at the address below.

Alumni: Share YOUR Austin College photos for possible inclusion in [Every Picture Tells A Story](#). Send to Editor, Austin College, 900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H, Sherman, Texas 75090 or [editor@austincollege.edu](mailto:editor@austincollege.edu).

## THE STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO ▼

**Trev Teel** '78, is second from the left, in this shot at the Great Wall of China during a 1983 trip for alumni and students led by **Jim Ware**, now professor *emeritus* of philosophy and religion. Teel said that Ware grew up in Shanghai so offered a very interesting viewpoint for the trip. "This was a great trip," Teel wrote. "We were the first Western Tour group to visit some of the cities on the tour. In 1983, China was still a very closed city. We even saw women with bound feet in the southern cities." Teel said this was the first of nearly 50 trips he has made to China and that he has now visited 102 countries. "I credit Dr. Ware, whose JanTerm I took to Russia in 1976, with getting me interested in traveling overseas." Teel's friend Barbara Balvin is beside him. The others on the trip were students at the time — and still unidentified.



## AUSTIN COLLEGE AMONG TOP 5 COLLEGES FOR STUDY ABROAD



PHOTO COURTESY OF MARK MONROE

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