Photography is a hobby of mine; specifically, scenic photography. But, if you walk through our campuses with an inquisitive eye, you will discover a plethora of amazing art forms.

While in the UC last month, I noticed a photo-silkscreen wall-hanging just left of the Retama Auditorium as you enter from the breezeway connecting the MH Building. It’s probably been there ‘forever,’ but only recently did I purposely pursue the most interesting art pieces, hence taking note of the thought-provoking piece pictured here, in part.

The work is entitled I WANT by Tad Savinar of Portland, Oregon, and the descriptive plaque states that the art is “concerned with the ability to make choices…” The embedded inscriptions are intriguing, and made me consider ‘just what is it in MY life that needs to change; what do I really want; what must I give, sacrifice, and abstain from; what difference do I want to make, etc.’

Consider these inscriptions:

"I want to dream more; I want to observe more; I want to play more, love more; toil less, plant more; move less, dance more; tour less, explore more; assume less, question more; talk less, hear more; consume less, plant more; give more, take less; shout less, sing more; trust more, judge less;” etc…

Initially, I WANT seems on its surface rather self-centered, even narcissistic, but rather, like most good art, presents a challenge. It encourages us to consider perspectives of our lives, our attitudes, values, contributions, desires, relationships, and changes needed whether or not desired.

You might ask, “Since you brought this up, what impact did it have on you? What do you WANT?” Fair questions, and while I will attempt to address them here, I’d prefer to persuade you to go examine this piece of art and consider what personal message it has for you. If your immediate response is “none,” I would argue that you’re not being honest with yourself, you’re hiding from making changes you know are needed (and likely difficult), or you just plain don’t care, which is quite insightful in and of itself. But, really, we all could afford to confront changes that benefit not only ourselves, but our loved ones, colleagues, if not also a society with great needs and pain.

So, I have personal and professional "WANTS. " Professionally? I want to be more efficient; I want to… procrastinate less; recognize others’ contributions more, criticize less; leave a legacy of vision, caring customer service, professional management, and a productive and enjoyable workplace; be more organized; and, listen and show more compassion… for starters.

Personally? I want to write a book; I want to… procrastinate less (see a pattern?); influence my grandchildren more, leaving an eternal positive imprint on them; love my wife more sacrificially, like Christ loved the church; make dreams come true though our favorite charities (Make-A-Wish Foundation and St. Jude’s Children Hospital); make more friends and work to maintain those relationships; dance more; watch TV less, read and study more; sit less, exercise more; talk about traveling less, travel more; and teach…to name several.

Now, it’s your turn; what do you ‘want’ or want less of, and what’s your plan?
Walk the campuses, examine the art, and let them challenge you…to be a better you.

Kerry
Spotlight On…

William Lowak

In May 2011, William “Willie” Lowak joined the UTSA Police Department Access Services team as an Access Control Assistant I. Willie's primary responsibilities include repairing, replacing, and performing general maintenance of locks, hardware and access control systems. He cuts keys and programs card access for customers to various facilities on campus. Willie enjoys the opportunity to develop his skills while working for the Access Services Department.

In the spring of 2013, Willie was nominated by his peers for the Access Services Team Player Award. Willie and the Access Services team received the UTSA’s University Excellence Team Spirit Award as well.

Prior to joining UTSA, Willie worked with the Northside Independent School District. He began his career in carpentry and later transitioned to the locksmith field. Prior to working at the school district, Willie was self-employed, and specialized in building decks, fencing, and decorative welding. These are skills he continues to develop and services he occasionally provides.

Willie was born and raised in San Antonio and is a graduate of Samuel Clemens High School. He is married to Christine Lowak, who is a principal with the North East Independent School District. They have been married 17 years and have a 15 year old daughter, Jennifer, who participates in agriculture and basketball at Smithson Valley High School. Willie’s sister, Loretta, and his niece, Terin, are graduates of UTSA and his family is anticipating that his nephew, Sam, will also become a Roadrunner. He enjoys spending time with his family and friends, and loves to hunt deer and make venison sausage.

Thank you, Willie, for your commitment to providing quality customer service to the university and Business Affairs.

Willie will be receiving a Roadrunner meal card to use for either breakfast, lunch or dinner at the Roadrunner Cafe, compliments of ARAMARK. Our thanks to ARAMARK for their support!

Memorial Climb

On Saturday, June 29th, teams from across the country set out to summit their state’s highest point in honor of law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty. “Cops on Top” is a team of volunteers from the law enforcement and public service community, who undertake mountain climbing expeditions to honor the memories of those heroes who have lost their lives in the line of duty protecting others.

This year, 224 law enforcement and community members representing the state of Texas hiked the 8,749 foot Guadalupe Peak in far west Texas, thirteen members represented the University of Texas System Police Department with three from UTSA. Lt. Stephanie Padula, Officer Melody Piepho, and Detective Jovany Vega took part in the climb. Inspector Charles Patnode (former UTSA sergeant, now at the Office of the Director of System Police in Austin) also participated.

The annual “Cops on Top” memorial climb dates back to 2006 and is one of the largest memorial climbing events.

Worth Remembering

The Five W’s Of Life

Who you are is what makes you special. Do not change for anyone.

What lies ahead will always be a mystery. Do not be afraid to explore.

When life pushes you over, you push back harder.

Where there are choices to make, make the one you won’t regret.

Why things happen will never be certain. Take it in stride and move forward.
Kudos to Business Affairs Staff

Dear Kathryn (Pearson),

I wanted to pass on to you what a pleasure it has been to work with Tom Watson in a minor project (installation of an automatic door) in our offices. He is incredibly polite, great at follow through and always keeps me and my employees in the loop. So, I want to pass a big thank you to him for making this project go so well.

Have a great weekend!

Dr. Dianne P. Hengst
Director, Student Disability Services

Dear Dr. Romo;

The National Science Foundation (NSF) thanks The University of Texas San Antonio for participating in our Higher Education Research and Development Survey. For almost 40 years, NSF has provided information from our survey responses to federal, state, and academic decision makers.

I would especially like to recognize Carol Hollingsworth, Director of Grants and Contracts Financial Services, who provided this year’s survey response for The University of Texas San Antonio. The efforts of your staff involved a significant amount of work to provide the information requested on the survey. We appreciate these contributions to NSF’s measurement of academic R&D within the United States.

Again, thank you for your continuing participation.

John R. Gawalt
Director
National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
National Science Foundation

Thank you all for striving for excellence every day!

UTShare Update

The UTShare Change Leader community has representatives across all UTSA departments who serve as the department “change-champions”. Their role is to help the department staffs understand the changes that are coming with PeopleSoft UTShare HR/Finance as we transition from DEFINE. Change Leaders cascade communications and project information and also serve as a conduit for departmental questions to the PeopleSoft/UTShare project team. The list of UTSA Change Leaders is posted at http://www.utsa.edu/utshare/change/UTSAChangeLeaders.pdf.

Recently, the Project team met with our campus Change Leaders to discuss the new go-live plan and the impacts to the departments. Meeting through conference call and webinar, the Change Leaders learned about the full functionality for central processing areas (back-offices) for go-live, March 1, 2014. Using a sequenced approach, the functionality for workflow approval will be deployed July through September 2014. The Change Leaders used this forum to ask important questions of the Project team about central processing functions and most importantly, training. All staff will have full training; no departments will be left out. The Change Leaders Meeting presentation and meeting notes from June 28th are available on UTSA’s UTShare website. http://utsa.edu/utshare/change/ChangeLeaders.html

Training modules are being developed to support everyone’s transition to the PeopleSoft system and are anticipated to be delivered early next year. The UTShare training team will rollout on-line tutorials and previews to PeopleSoft beginning this fall. This ensures UTSA employees will have many different opportunities to become familiar with the new software and its functionality over time.

Your questions and comments for the UTSA PeopleSoft project team can be sent to UTShare@UTSA.edu. Please visit http://www.utsa.edu/utshare or contact Kari Peterson, Change Management Lead, at 210-458-8199 or kari.peterson@utsa.edu.
New AVP for Financial Affairs

Kerry Kennedy, Vice President for Business Affairs, is pleased to announce the appointment of Lenora Chapman as the Associate Vice President for Financial Affairs. Lenora provides leadership and management to the areas of Accounting Services and Financial Reporting, Budget Planning and Development, Capital Assets and Surplus, Disbursements and Travel Services, Fiscal Services, Grants and Contracts Financial Services, Management Reporting and Administration Services, and Payroll Management Services in addition to oversight of capital project and debt service financial accounting. She has a strong background in accounting, budgeting, finance and management and a proven record of increasing operational efficiencies to better serve students, faculty and staff.

Lenora has over 29 years in higher education financial roles. Most recently, she served for 6 years as the Assistant Vice President for Financial Affairs leading the Controller’s area. At UTSA, she has worked with the leadership on financial planning and budgeting, accounting and financial reporting, and developing financial management operational guidelines (FMOG’s). Lenora has a bachelor’s degree in Accounting from Texas Tech University and is a licensed Certified Public Accountant; she is a graduate of the WACUBO Business Management Institute and the Community Education Leadership Program. She is looking forward to continued partnerships and working with the university community as we transition financial and accounting processes to the UTShare PeopleSoft System.

Lenora is married to Dr. Scott Chapman, Scholar in Residence at Sam Houston State University and Editor of the American Mathematical Monthly. Lenora has two sons, Cameron and Jonathan. She enjoys spending time with her family, their dog Luke, traveling, and working out. Lenora and Scott enjoy entertaining at home and frequently host their family and friends.

HUB Program

As many of you know, Irene Maldonado, HUB Program Manager, submitted her letter of resignation from UTSA to pursue other opportunities. Irene’s last day at UTSA was July 2, 2013.

As the HUB Program Manager for the past five years, Irene has consistently encouraged departments to support minority and women-owned businesses. Because of Irene’s energetic and enthusiastic coordination with vendors, UTSA department staff, and the Purchasing Office Buyers, UTSA continues to rank among the top state agencies in HUB participation.

Irene was recognized for her outstanding service to the University as recipient of the 2013 University Excellence Extra Mile Award. In 2010, Irene received the Small Business Administration’s Minority Small Business Champion of the Year award.

During her tenure at UTSA, Irene developed and taught “How to Do Business with UTSA”, and “Purchasing from HUB Vendors” courses. Many will also remember Irene for her outstanding work on the SECC President’s Advisory Committee.

Irene has always been a true champion for small, minority-owned businesses, and we all wish her the best!

For the interim period, various experienced individuals in Purchasing and Distribution Services will be directly assisting to support the HUB program, including:

Yvette Medina, Purchasing Business Analyst: 458-4974, Yvette.medina@utsa.edu

Rita Sutton, PDS ASO II, 458-4063, rita.sutton@utsa.edu

Julie Gohlke, Buyer III, 458-5076, Julie.gohlke@utsa.edu

Concur Travel Arrangements

Business Affairs Division travelers must use Concur for all future airfare reservations.

Hotel and Car rental reservations can still be made using the various travel websites directly or through Concur.

Any exception to use the full-service travel tools requires advance approval by Kerry Kennedy. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Diana Macias-Ollervidez at 458-6915 or diana.ollervidez@utsa.edu. Thank you for your cooperation!
Texas Folklife Festival Support

Every year in June, the Institute for Texan Cultures (ITC) hosts the Texas Folklife Festival. Modeled after the 1968 Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington DC, the Folklife Festival brings Texans from dozens of cultures together in a three-day celebration of performances, costumes, and food. The Folklife Festival routinely hosts 40,000 guests on forty acres over the three days, with about forty different food vendors. Environmental Health Safety and Risk Management (EHSRM) supports the Folklife Festival behind the scenes, placing insurance coverage, preparing the grounds, performing safety inspections, and recycling the waste.

The EHSRM Risk Management and Life Safety Division works with The University of Texas System’s Office of Risk Management to place liability insurance coverage for craft demonstrators and food vendors. This insurance insulates the University and its festival partners, including volunteers, from costs associated with accidental injury, food poisoning, and liability associated with alcohol service. The Fire Prevention team prepares the grounds for the festival by placing temporary fences to protect guests from injury, marking potential trip hazards with warning paint, and installing fire extinguishers.

EHSRM sends a substantial contingent of inspectors on the first day of the event to perform detailed inspections of all the food vendor locations and all the craft demonstrators who use live fire, including blacksmiths and cowboy cooks. Follow-up inspections for quality control occur on the other two days of the festival. Other risk management reviews occur during the festival, such as the 2.9 inch Parrott cannon, brought by the 173rd New York State Volunteers Infantry, a group of Civil War re-enactors.

The EHSRM Environmental and Construction Safety Division provide recycling services during the event, which requires a presence throughout. In 2012, EHSRM staff (6-8 individuals) collected 5,840 pounds of recyclable material at the festival. One hundred and fifty recycling collapsible bins were placed throughout the ITC grounds and all material collected from the event were placed into three 30 cubic yard bins for transportation to GreenStar recycling.

UTSA displays the City of San Antonio’s “Green Events Authorization," which is required for all public events with more than 1,000 people participating. In addition to recycling, UTSA encourages carpooling, biking, walking and use of public transportation to the event.

EHSRM continues to strive to provide value-added service for the Texas Folklife Festival, and be a partner for festival and special event success year-round.

Shannon Marquess

Congratulations to Shannon Marquess on her promotion to Radiation Safety & Laser Coordinator under Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management (EHSRM) department.

Shannon first started off in EHSRM as a part-time Student Assistant in Recycling. In 2008, she joined the Lab Safety Division as a Safety Specialist I on a part-time basis while she completed her B.S. degree from UTSA in Environmental Science. Upon graduating, Shannon joined the Lab Safety team full-time and has since held the positions of Safety Specialist I and II. Shannon is also a veteran of the U.S. Army having served from 1996-2001 as a Communications and Electronics Repair.

Contracts

Once again, the Business Contracts Office delivered on the Business Affairs Brand Promise—We are committed to helping you achieve your goals, through excellence in service, every person, every day, and every job.

Donald Ryan, Associate Director for Operations, Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS), credited the “herculean efforts” (his words!) of the Business Contracts Division in Purchasing and Distribution Services for the timely completion of a contract that benefits CIAS.

Richard Wollney handled completion of the contract for services to be provided by CIAS to St. Phillips College on an expedited basis, following an unexpected and immediate change in processes that moved contract review and negotiation from Research Administration to the Business Contracts Office. Working within an incredibly short time frame, the contract office staff kicked it into high gear and managed to coordinate the revised contract with ACCD Legal Services to get it approved.
Construction Updates

The University welcomes back the BSE, the AET and the UC fountains, thanks to SAWS 2013 revision of the Drought Ordinance. UTSA Facilities requested and received a variance from SAWS in order to operate the fountains.

Currently the Sombrilla Fountain is being evaluated for potential renovations and repairs prior to receiving its variance. Once available, the fountain will be limited to 8 hours of daily operation to comply with the SAWS 2013 drought ordinance.

Accessibility Improvements

UTSA is committed to providing a safe and accessible environment for its students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Improving accessibility is seen in the recent upgrade to parking at the Downtown Campus, Monterey Building. The parking spaces designated as ADA parking did not meet slope requirements, and there was not reasonable and clear unobstructed access to the building due to breaks in the sidewalks in excess of ¾ inch in height.

To renovate this parking area and bring it into compliance, the Office of Facilities removed existing sidewalks, asphalt, and ramps, and reinstalled properly elevated sidewalks and ramps of the proper slope and concrete finish to meet code. This new ADA compliant parking will improve access to the Monterey Building.
Year End Workshops

The Office of the Assistant Vice President for Financial Affairs and Controller has presented the fiscal year-end financial workshops.

The workshop PowerPoint presentation and year-end materials are available for download by clicking on the below links.

Year-end Workshop documents:

- FY 12-13 Year-end PowerPoint (PPT)
- End-of-year Deadline Calendar (Outlook Calendar Dates)

July 2013 Calendar Department (PDF)
August 2013 Calendar Department (PDF)
September 2013 Calendar Department (PDF)

Special notes:
Any cash, checks or credit card payments received at UTSA in August must be submitted to Fiscal Services before the close of business (5:00 p.m.) on 08/30/13 in order to record the credit in the current fiscal year.

Any petty cash expenses that were incurred in the current fiscal year must be submitted to Fiscal Services by 2:00 p.m. on 08/30/13 in order to record the expense in the current fiscal year.

For more information please contact the respective department listed in the PowerPoint presentation, or visit http://www.utsa.edu/financialaffairs/controller/.

Beat the Heat!

Summer + Texas = Extreme HEAT! What does that mean and why should I be concerned? With record temperatures already of concern in San Antonio (108 on June 29, 2013), hot weather is here to stay for the next few months. By definition, a heat wave is a prolonged period of extreme hot weather, and is often accompanied by high humidity. Extreme heat can be dangerous and life-threatening for people who don’t take the proper precautions or are vulnerable to these conditions.

So let’s understand what can happen to you. During periods of high heat and humidity, evaporation is slowed and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature. Most heat disorders occur because a person has been overexposed to heat or has over-exerted themselves in these conditions. Older adults, children, and those who may be ill or are sensitive to environmental conditions may succumb to extreme heat.

Additionally, conditions that can induce heat-related illnesses include stagnant atmospheric conditions and poor air quality. Consequently, people living in urban areas like San Antonio may be at greater risk from the effects of a prolonged heat wave than those living in rural areas. Asphalt and concrete store heat longer and gradually release heat at night, which can produce higher night-time temperatures known as the “urban heat island effect.”

To prepare for extreme heat, you should stay aware of upcoming temperature changes, identify persons around you who may be vulnerable to excessive heat and check on them often, and most importantly stay hydrated. Never leave children or pets alone in closed vehicles, stay indoors as much as possible and limit exposure to the sun, eat a well-balanced diet, drink plenty of water even if you do not feel thirsty (avoid caffeine/alcohol), dress in loose-fitting and lightweight clothing, and do not over exert yourself.

With a little planning, you can beat the heat and have a safe and fun summer! For more information, contact the UTSA Office of Emergency Management at BePrepared@utsa.edu or visit the UTSA Campus Alerts website at www.alerts.utsa.edu.

Business Affairs Promise

We are committed to helping you achieve your goals through excellence in service -- every person, every day, every job.