

Sombrilla

The University of Texas at San Antonio **MAGAZINE** Summer 2005
Vol. 21, No. 3



CHANGING FACES

Defining diversity goes more than skin deep

Also in this issue: Center for Archaeological
Research finds stories in the ground



Sombrilla

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES

18 STORIES IN THE GROUND

UTSA's first research center, the Center for Archaeological Research, maintains a successful and stable facility while continuing to dig up exciting new tales across the city and state.

24 MORE THAN SKIN-DEEP

UTSA boasts a diverse campus in areas from ethnicity and religious backgrounds to academic majors and social interests. But why is diversity so important to higher education?

DEPARTMENTS

5 In the Loop

UTSA is gearing up for the President's Dinner in October; the College of Architecture celebrates 25 years; College of Sciences offers new graduate degree in physics; and more campus news.

11 Q&A

Recently appointed as dean of the College of Business, Lynda de la Viña discusses the importance of marketing the college.

12 Investigations

A study conducted by Viviana Rojas, associate professor in communication, shows why thousands of Americans are retiring in Mexico; plus more research activity at UTSA.

14 Roadrunner Sports

Give me an 'A'! Seven UTSA student-athletes have received Southland Conference Student-Athlete of the Year honors in eight sports for the 2003–2004 academic year.

16 Syllabus

UTSA students prepare for law school through summer institute.

28 Class Notes

The Alumni Association honors friends of the university and award the Alumnus of the Year at the Alumni Gala.

32 Looking Back

Bring your kid to work.

On the cover

The changing face of diversity at UTSA. See story, page 24.
Illustration by Robert Neubecker.

On this page

Soaking in the sun by the pool at the Oaks Apartments.
Photo by Mark McClendon.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Artistic opportunities



Photo of Yunhee Min by Mimi Kato

It took only two days to paint Yunhee Min's artwork onto the wall.

Compared to other pieces in the "Wall Painting" exhibit, on display now in the UTSA Art Gallery, Min's concept of five vertical stripes was relatively easy to execute: Paint a base coat on the entire wall, measure off and paint the stripes. Voila.

The challenge in the Los Angeles artist's painting came in matching the five colors she chose for the piece, says graduate student Mimi Kato, who served as the lead artist for Min's project. "She mailed paint chips from California. She really cares about color," says Kato, a Japanese student who expects to complete the M.F.A. program in 2006.

The first time the paint store mixed the five colors for Min's wall painting, they didn't quite match what the artist wanted. So Kato was tapped to go back to Sherwin Williams to get the colors custom mixed. Min may care a lot about her colors, but, Kato says, the paint mixers didn't care for them. They named two of the colors used in the painting Puke Green and—what's that medicine you take for your stomach? Kato laughs ... oh, yes—Pepto Bismol Pink.

Color preferences notwithstanding, the opportunity to work alongside the nine nationally renowned artists whose artwork is featured in "Wall Painting" has been the chance of a lifetime for Kato and the 13 other graduate students who've spent the summer working on the show. (One of the paintings, in fact, took months to complete. Local Chicano muralist Alex Rubio used a grid pattern to transfer his intricate painting to a wall-sized version, and students showed up daily to help him out with the painstaking process.) They mixed paint, cleaned brushes and chauffeured out-of-town artists. In exchange for the free labor, they've learned about the artists' concepts and techniques. Kato, who works in printmaking, photography and video ("I do everything *but* paint"), got a crash course in painting over the summer. The artists also visited the student studios to view and critique the students' work.

Frances Colpitt, who curated the show (Colpitt resigned as chair of the art department in August), says it took three years of planning to pull off "Wall Painting." But after the show closes on Oct. 16, the wall paintings will be sanded down and painted over—Gallery White—to prepare the gallery for the next exhibit. Just like the Tibetan monks who spend days creating intricate sand mandalas only to sweep them away, all that will be left of "Wall Painting" will be the memories and the experiences that the artist, the students and the viewers take with them.

"It's sad," Kato says, smiling, "but it's great, too."

— Rebecca Luther

Architecture college celebrates 25 years

It's a first in 25 years.

For the first time, administrators with UTSA's College of Architecture (COA) presented awards to outstanding alumni during a celebration of the 25th anniversary of its degree programs.

Alicia Trevino, a 1986 architecture graduate, and Charlie Kane, a 1994 interior design graduate, received the Outstanding Alumni Awards during a summer celebration. The more than 100 who attended the event included UTSA administrators, faculty, alumni, members of the COA Advisory Council and local design professionals.

Mike Greenberg, a columnist for the *San Antonio Express-News*, received the college's Livable City Award for his contributions to the public's understanding of environments built for healthier living.

COA, housed at UTSA's Downtown Campus, takes advantage of a unique intellectual, educational and design culture in the setting of South Texas and the borderlands region of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico. The school provides a laboratory for the study of the confluence of design, history, cultures and ethnicity. The architecture and interior design programs strive to equip students with the necessary skills and attitudes to be effective practitioners, with the ability to judge and with the confidence to ask the right questions.



Photo by Martin Rodriguez

Work designed by architecture students from all levels was displayed at the 25th anniversary celebration. The skyscraper to the right was designed by Kwok W. Lai, a fourth-year architecture student from Hong Kong.

Publish or perish

Journal editors bring recognition to university

TC Yih remembers well the day he received the first 50 pre-view copies of his new journal, *Nanomedicine*. “I was so happy,” he says. He loved the feel of the slick paper. He loved the cover design and the fact that it was blue, his favorite color. He’d even gotten used to the publisher’s idea of spelling *nanomedicine* in all lowercase on the cover, a design element he’d mistaken for a typo when he first saw the galleys.

And the best part: there, under the title *executive editor*, was his name—and The University of Texas at San Antonio.

In the academic world of publish-or-perish, academic journals often serve as the gatekeepers. There are thousands upon thousands of journals published in the United States alone, on topics ranging from pain management to pop culture, marketing to microbiology. UTSA has several faculty members serving as editors of academic journals on subjects as diverse as agriculture, Chinese studies and economics. These scholars are not only furthering intellectual developments in their chosen fields, but simultaneously furthering UTSA’s reputation in academia.

Yih, the chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, founded *Nanomedicine* with a colleague at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine who serves as the journal’s editor-in-chief. Their premier issue of the quarterly, which focuses on the application of nanotechnology—the manipulation of materials on a molecular level—in biology and medicine, was published in March.

Yih and his colleague and their publisher, Elsevier, which produces more than 2,000 journals internationally, knew that there was a market for *Nanomedicine*. But they also expected that starting a new journal in an emerging field would be something of a challenge. “At first, we thought we’d probably have to beg people to send us papers,” Yih says. To their delight, the response was “much better than we expected,” and they received enough submissions to get a head start on the next couple of issues.

Yih also acknowledges that having UTSA’s name next to that of a school such as Johns Hopkins on the journal will have nothing but positive associations for a growing university such as UTSA. He also cites an editorial board of “top-notch scientists and engineers.”

“I think that can be very helpful for our future development,” Yih says. “I hope we’ll have more things like this happening for UTSA.”

Bicultural-bilingual studies professor Thomas Ricento believes his journal, the *Journal of Language, Identity, and Education*, also has brought recognition to the university. The journal, which is published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, received an award from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals



Illustration by Robert Neubecker

of the Modern Language Association in 2002, the year it premiered. Ricento founded the quarterly journal in 2000 with a colleague from Arizona State; both serve as co-editors.

“I think it’s raised the visibility of the department; I think it’s enhanced our reputation,” Ricento says. “Our division does have a reputation for quality research, so I think this only enhances it.”

Ricento says the reward of being a journal editor is that it’s stimulating for him as a researcher to be at the forefront of intellectual developments in the field. Recent issues of the journal have focused on special topics such as gender identity and language, and English and Islam after Sept. 11.

The downside is that it’s very time consuming. Ricento is always either reading a new submission, sending submissions out to

reviewers, reading those reviews, writing letters detailing recommendations for a piece or reading revised submissions.

“It’s a lot of work, I must say,” he says. “If you read a 35-page article with care, it takes time. But I feel a responsibility to the people who submit things to us. ... Getting published is the key to tenure, so therefore we have to take it seriously in terms of the time we put in, and in terms of being fair and impartial.”

Anthropology professor Ben Blount also expects his editorship to be a full-time job; unlike Yih and Ricento, he’s at least not starting from scratch. Last year Blount was appointed as the next editor-in-chief of the *American Anthropologist*, the 100-plus-year-old journal of the American Anthropological Association (AAA). He officially begins Jan. 1, 2006, and his first issue will appear in September 2006, but already Blount is working to set up an editorial board and will begin receiving submissions in September.

Blount, who came to UTSA last year from the University of Georgia, was chosen for the editorship from five finalists after interviewing with a selection committee at the AAA’s annual convention.

“The most difficult question I had was the very last question, which was ‘Why on earth would someone in this stage of their career want to take on a job like this?’” Blount recalls. “My response was that part of it was to contribute to the development of the program here [at UTSA].”

Dan Gelo, dean of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts, agrees that Blount’s appointment is a boon to the Department of Anthropology, which is in the process of starting a doctoral program.

“The journal is the flagship journal in the discipline ... so it’s an enormous distinction for him to be made the editor,” says Gelo, who also is a professor of anthropology. “It’s exactly the kind of work that we need done here, particularly as we look forward to having a Ph.D. program in anthropology. Having the journal emanate from UTSA brings recognition and validates our new Ph.D. program and actually will provide very important opportunities for our students to gain experience working with academic journals and handling submissions and reviews.

“It’s sort of a nice index of where the university’s heading.”

— Rebecca Luther

Snapshot, Texas

From the photographic archives of the Institute of Texan Cultures

I.N. HALL, ARTISTIC PHOTOGRAPHER

In 1886, 52-year-old widower Ichabod Nelson Hall arrived in Cotulla, Texas, having come, directly or indirectly, from Ontario, Canada. His daughter Florence, then 22, may have stepped off the same International and Great Northern train as her father to take a position in the area schools, just beginning to open during that decade. An itinerant artist, Hall lived with her when not driving his photographer's wagon around southwest Texas within a triangle now roughly bounded by highway Texas 90, Interstate 35 and the Rio Grande.

"I.N. Hall, Artistic Photographer, Cotulla Texas" may be found on some photographs taken in the 1880s and 1890s. After 1903, his stamps also claim that he had won a gold medal from the Photographers Association of Texas as well as other prizes and diplomas in "Northern Cities during 40 years of experience." Little is known of Hall or his four decades of work prior to his arrival in Texas and, though he appears on the 1910 census, no photographic work of his can be dated later than 1906.



Whatever placed him in the brush country, I. N. Hall captured in gelatin silver the chaparral soul of ranches such as La Mota and San Pedro, people such as Amanda Burks and Louis Rothe and Sampson July, and towns from Del Rio to Dilley to D'Hanis. His subjects seem to stop themselves mid-story to turn to the photographer's lens. The aromas of mesquite and prairie grasses are hung and dried into each portrait, and his scenes and

vistas evoke the sound of grasshoppers, the yelp of dogs. An artistic photographer indeed, Hall is also an unsung recorder of Texas' settlement history.

— Mary Grace Ketner

Henry Rothe ranch house and residents, Medina County, c. 1900. Courtesy Frances Miller 96-473.

A focus on partnerships

College of Education names new dean

Betty Merchant has been named dean of the College of Education and Human Development. She has served as interim dean of the college since August 2004, replacing Blandina "Bambi" Cardenas who left to become president of the University of Texas-Pan American.

"Betty Merchant stepped in during the past year and has done an amazing job in leading the College of Education and Human Development," said UTSA President Ricardo Romo. "Her enthusiasm and love for education is infectious. She has big plans for the college and wants to see UTSA researchers make a national impact that stretches well beyond the borders of our own community."

Merchant's vision for the college centers on collaboration between the community and UTSA researchers. The researchers and the community, she says, can tackle problems as equal partners.

"We want to be respectful of the people we work with and their expertise," said Merchant.

"We want to ask, what are some of the questions you would like answered, what are the issues you face in the community, and how can we work together to find answers?"

Before pursuing a career in higher education, Merchant taught for 16 years in public schools, ranging from pre-school through high school, and in tribe-controlled Native American schools in the Southwest. She earned both her second master's degree and her doctoral degree in administration and policy analysis at Stanford University.



Auditorium named for Taiwanese businessman

The Business Building Auditorium on the 1604 Campus has been named after UTSA's longtime friend and benefactor Richard S. Liu.

An international businessman and philanthropist, Liu is chairman of Superior Holdings Limited. He established the Liu's Family Foundation U.S.-China Business Education Initiative in 1998 in the College of Business. The program features graduate student and faculty exchanges and executive educational opportunities between the College of Business and top universities in China. Liu has given more than \$3 million to support the program.

"I want to help a new generation of business students in the United States and China realize their dreams," said Liu.

A native of Taiwan, Liu received his undergraduate degree in business administration from the National Taiwan University. Unable at that time to afford the costs of graduate study abroad, he launched his business career in Texas.

"Richard's vision and generous financial support have literally opened new worlds for our business students, faculty and community partners," said President Ricardo Romo.

Go to http://programs.business.utsa.edu/international/liu_foundation/ for information. To read a *Spring 2003 Sombrilla* article on the U.S.-China Business Education Initiative, go to www.utsa.edu/pub/sombrilla. Click on Past Issues.



RICHARD S. LIU AUDITORIUM

Aiming for the stars

UTSA to offer graduate degrees in physics

Through a partnership with the Southwest Research Institute (SwRI), UTSA will offer the region's first master's and doctoral degree programs in physics.

"The establishment of the physics Ph.D. at UTSA is a watershed event which puts in place the last pillar for providing the full spectrum of science and engineering education and research at UTSA," said Patrick Nash, chair of UTSA's Department of Physics and Astronomy.

The partnership, the first of its kind in Texas, is expected to serve as a model for similar collaborations at other UT System campuses. The collaboration will prepare graduates to make significant contributions to the evolution of space science and technologies, biophysics and cosmology.

SwRI is an independent, nonprofit applied research and development organization specializing in the creation and transfer of technology in the physical sciences and engineering. Since 1977, the institute has played a key role in NASA space physics and planetary missions with expertise in planetary and space science, instrument design and fabrication, and data system development. SwRI scientists have conducted research funded at almost \$400 million.

Under the agreement, eight scientists from the SwRI Space Science and Engineering Division will serve as adjunct professors for UTSA's Department of Physics and Astronomy when the program begins this fall. The scientists will develop and teach advanced graduate courses and supervise graduate students while remaining full-time SwRI employees. UTSA graduate students also will conduct research in SwRI laboratories.

"This will be the place for students who really want to be involved in spacecraft instrumentation," said David J. McComas, senior executive director of the SwRI Space Science and Engineering Division.

UTSA now has 13 doctoral degree programs: neurobiology; computer science; educational leadership; culture, literacy and language; electrical engineering; business administration; English; biomedical engineering; cell and molecular biology; environmental science and engineering; counselor education and supervision; chemistry; and physics.



Supporting scholarships President's Dinner to highlight "Rising Star of Texas"

On Tuesday, Oct. 11, UTSA President Ricardo Romo and Dr. Harriett Romo will host the annual President's Scholarship and Awards Dinner at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel in downtown San Antonio. With the theme "The Rising Star of Texas," the annual event will celebrate the milestones of UTSA's 36-year history and honor recipients of this year's Tom C. Frost and Gold Star awards.

The Tom C. Frost Award, a recognition given annually by UTSA to an outstanding citizen who has provided exceptional leadership to important community and business endeavors, will be given to international businessman and philanthropist Richard S. Liu. The university community honored Liu earlier this year with the dedication of the College of Business auditorium at UTSA's 1604 Campus as the Richard S. Liu Auditorium (see story, page 8). A great friend to all members of the UTSA community, he demonstrates the highest level of commitment to excellence in education and international relations.

Mrs. John B. Connally, former first lady of Texas, will receive the Gold Star Award, which is presented annually to an individual or organization that has forged extensive partnerships with the university and has supported UTSA students and faculty in extraordinary ways. In approving the designation of a large conference room at the Institute of Texan Cultures in honor of the Connallys in 1989, the University of Texas System Board of Regents noted: "The naming of this conference center (as the Nellie B. and John B. Connally Conference Center) recognizes that The University of Texas Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio owes its existence to the personal vision, effort and understanding of former Governor John B. Connally and the enthusiastic ongoing support of Nellie B. Connally as the state's First Lady."

The 2005 event looks to build on the success of last year's dinner, which garnered a record \$1.4 million for UTSA scholarships and academic programs. Tables are available at varying levels of sponsorship, as well as individual tickets for \$175. Reservations are requested by Oct. 3.

Co-chairs for the 2005 dinner are Jack Guenther and Kenny Wilson. The host committee includes Ruth Agather, Frank Burney, Robert M. Cavender, Betty Murray Half, Harriet Marmon Helmle, James Jonas, Jane Macon, Cappy Robnett, Peggy Walker, Mark E. Watson Jr. and Carri Baker Wells.

For more information or special arrangements, call (210) 458-4129 or visit online at <http://www.utsa.edu/presidentsdinner>.

—Bronwyn Wingo



President Ricardo Romo presents gifts to awards recipients at the 2004 President's Scholarship and Awards Dinner.

Bailey named UMKC chancellor

Guy Bailey, UTSA provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, has been named chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). A professor of English, classics and philosophy, he has served as provost at UTSA since 1998.

"Guy Bailey is an outstanding scholar, teacher and administrator," said UTSA President Ricardo Romo. "As provost, he helped shape UTSA as one of the next premier research universities serving Texas. He understands the complex role of a university in the community as a center of excellence in education, research and community service."

During his tenure at UTSA, more than 10 doctoral programs have been created, external funding for research has more than doubled and total enrollment has increased from 18,000 students to more than 26,000 students. Graduate enrollment has risen nearly 50 percent, and he has led efforts to recruit 200 faculty members during the last five years.

"It is a privilege to have served with my colleagues at UTSA during this period of rapid growth in both enrollment and academic programs," Bailey said. "I look forward to assuming the chancellorship at UMKC, and working with the team there to take the institution to the next level and strengthen its role as a metropolitan university."

In collaboration with his wife, Jan Tillery, an associate professor of English, classics and philosophy at UTSA, Bailey conducts research on language variation and change with special emphasis on the English of Texas and the American South. Since 1984, their research has earned more than \$1 million in external funding. He was named the Peter T. Flawn Professor of English Language and Linguistics last year.

Before joining UTSA in 1997, Bailey was dean of liberal arts at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. His appointment at UMKC is effective Jan. 1, 2006.

Rosalie Ambrosino has been named interim provost. Ambrosino has served as UTSA's vice president for student affairs since 2001.





Photo by Richie Budd

Wall painting exhibit on display

Fourteen graduate students in UTSA's master of fine arts programs spent the summer working to prepare for the "Wall Painting" exhibit, currently on display in the UTSA Art Gallery. The nine artists featured in the exhibit are known for painting directly on the wall. The exhibit, conceived as a painting show without canvas, provides viewers and students an opportunity to experience contemporary painting as well as the historical tradition of mural painting.

The students, all from Frances Colpitt's Art Gallery and Museum Practices class, worked alongside the invited artists to assist them in transferring their works to the walls of the gallery. The featured artists are Bernard Brunon, Francesca Fuchs and Aaron Parazette (Houston); Jane Callister (Santa Barbara, Calif.); Yunhee Min and Monique Van Genderen (Los Angeles); Jim Osman (New York); Alex Rubio (San Antonio); and Keith Sklar (New Haven, Conn.).

The show was curated by Colpitt, who left her post as chair of the Department of Art and Art History in August to accept an endowed professorship at Texas Christian University.

"Wall Painting" runs through Oct. 16 at the Art Gallery on the 1604 Campus.

Robbie Ramirez (left) assists artist Alex Rubio (lower right) on his mural for the "Wall Painting" exhibit.

iBravo!

Faculty, staff and student achievements

Undergraduate human resource students **Joanna Barrerra, Danae Bennett, Suzanne Ricketts, Sylvia Rodarte** and **Lorena Segovia** from the College of Business placed second nationally in a management case study competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of State; **Fred Bonner**, associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, was selected to participate in the 2005–2006 American Council on Education Fellows Program; **Tom Cannon**, assistant professor of marketing and director of the College of Business tourism management program, was appointed to a two-year term on the San Antonio Convention and Visitors Commission. Cannon also will serve as chair of the commission's budget and finance committee; **Jane Dunham**, assistant director of international programs, received the 2005 NAFSA (National Association of Foreign Student Advisors): Association of International Educators Hugh M. Jenkins Award for Excellence in Community Programming; **Rhonda Gonzales**, assistant professor of history, was named a winner of the American Historical Association and Columbia University Press Gutenberg-e Prize, which rewards excellence in scholarship in electronic publishing; **Suzy Gray**, executive

director of campus recreation, was selected to serve a three-year term on the editorial board of the *Recreational Sports Journal* of the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association; **Amy Jaspersen**, assistant professor of political science and geography, was awarded the 2005–2006 American Political Science Association/MCI Communications Fellowship; **Anne Jett**, associate director for training and development, was recognized by the San Antonio chapter of the American Society for Training and Development as 2004 Professional of the Year; **Steven Kellman**, professor of comparative literature, was elected to membership in the Texas Institute of Letters, which promotes and recognizes distinctive literary achievement in the state; **Paul LeBlanc**, assistant professor of communication, received the best quantitative paper award at the annual International Association of Business Disciplines Conference. Student **Margarita Rios** won the IABD best undergraduate paper award. The **Department of Communication** received an award based on the high participation rate of UTSA students in the conference; **Francisco Marcos-Marin**, professor of Spanish linguistics, received the Humboldt Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

With his grant, Marcos-Marin will travel to Germany to complete some of the research for the *Dictionary of Medieval Spanish*, which is currently being edited in Heidelberg, Germany; the **Prefreshman Engineering Program** received an award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Board on Pre-College Education for creating awareness of engineering career opportunities among female and minority students; President **Ricardo Romo** received the 2005 Aguila Award for education from the Aguila Awards Foundation, which honors role models in the Texas Hispanic community; communication major **Anthony Sampeck**, advised by Associate Professor **Kent Wilkinson**, was honored at the University of North Texas Student Conference for writing the top university undergraduate paper; **Dibyendu (Dibs) Sarkar**, associate professor and director of the Environmental Geochemistry Laboratory, received the 2005 Early Career Award in Research from the Southern Branch of American Society of Agronomy in recognition of his "outstanding contributions and accomplishment in agronomic research"; graduate student **Russell Stephenson** was named runner-up in the Emerging Texas Artist Program at the Texas State Arts and Crafts Fair.

A Chat with **Lynda de la Viña**

Lynda de la Viña was the first Mexican American woman to earn a Ph.D. in economics in the United States.

She was the first Hispanic appointed as a deputy assistant secretary for economic policy to the U.S. Department of Treasury. Now de la Viña adds another “first” to her accomplishments: she’s the first woman and first Hispanic to serve as dean in the College of Business.

When de la Viña was tapped to head up the College of Business last September (she served as interim dean for a year before being named dean in June), it was a homecoming for the Rio Grande Valley native. She had worked 19 years at UTSA before leaving in 1998. Since then, de la Viña has served as an associate dean and department chair of finance and international business at Johns Hopkins University, as well as working at the treasury department. Back in San Antonio, she’s been able to rejoin the board at OpTech, a high-tech company she co-founded in 1986 and to set out her goals for the college—to be re-accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business and achieve European accreditation, to become nationally recognized in discipline-based programs and nationally ranked for its flexible-format M.B.A. program, and to become a graduate school of choice for Mexican and Latin American students.

What has struck you about how the university’s changed between the time you were here last and now? Frankly one of the reasons I came back is because of all of the things that have happened since I left, partly due to President Romo’s leadership. Some things have evolved, and some things have taken a quantum leap. It’s been amazing. But mostly I think it’s something that was missing, which was believing that UTSA could be recognized nationally and internationally in education. I think for a long time—this is certainly true in the College of Business and UTSA—we were almost the best kept secret in San Antonio. We were looked at as a regional commuter campus. It’s the change in that view, that we’re no longer a secret, we’re no longer something that’s very parochial.

There is room for more than one great school in the UT System. I’m starting to see that. I truly believe that we can be the UCLA to the Berkeley up the street. People sort of get excited about the fact it’s not just a vision—there is a reality to it. I didn’t see that years ago.

What are the COB’s challenges? One challenge is that it’s not about substance, it’s about public relations and marketing. Most people are really surprised when I tell them things like we’re one of the 40 largest business schools in the country. Or when you tell them that with 4,900 undergraduates, we are the largest undergraduate program in the UT System, bigger than UT Austin. People just don’t know enough about how big we are or how good we are. We have to have with our strategic plan—that includes our vision and our goals and all those activities to get us there—a public relations and marketing plan to match that. And we have to have a development plan that supports all those efforts.

How does the public relations plan fit in with your goal of the COB’s being nationally ranked? This is a problem: You’ve got a huge



business school here in San Antonio that, in my opinion, should have already been ranked.

You know, when I was at Hopkins, Sellinger School was down the street at Loyola and they were ranked No. 25 in the country for flexible format MBA programs. I have a lot of friends at Sellinger and I will tell them that this school [UTSA] today is better than Sellinger. But they’re ranked; we’re not. Why? Is it because they’re significantly better? No, it’s because for years they have been on-message nationally about who they are. And we have to do that. I don’t want us to be outside that radar screen anymore.

We have to develop an identity. We have to develop the differentiation of this college from other business schools. We have to be sure we develop the messaging and all of those things have to be rolled out so that, within five years, we’ll hit national ranking, hopefully before that.

We have to make up our mind to do it. It’s not just going to happen miraculously.

What advice do you give COB students?

I think they have to broaden their vision. There’s a huge world out there, they have to experience some of that world. So they really have to think about doing those internships or fellowships or whatever, in Washington, in New York, in China. They have to broaden their vision because then they can bring back so much more to San Antonio.

I look at some of the Chinese exchange students and what they have left behind, knowing that their investment of three months or a semester or in some cases a year, is going to pay back to them the rest of their professional lives in China. And our students need to understand that they have to do that as well.

When I was in Washington, I brought one of the first students from UTSA to be one of my interns at Treasury. He worked in Treasury, in the economic policy area, with students from MIT, Harvard and Princeton. What he found was that he could compete, that those students from all of those schools were really smart and had different life experiences, but they weren’t any better or even better prepared than he was. And he discovered that, and all of a sudden Washington now was not that scary to him.

Your professional accomplishments include a long list of “firsts.” Do those “firsts” make you a role model for students? I never think about being first. I just try to do the best I can. In graduate school it was more about survival; I didn’t feel like I was representing everybody in the country. On the other hand, because I went through graduate school due to a Ford Foundation doctoral fellowship for Mexican American students, that was so important for me to succeed, because Ford Foundation had invested a lot of money in me to become hopefully what I am today. Ford had that vision for minorities, and so I hope that their investment is something they see has had a very high rate of return.

But in terms of doing my job, I just do my job. I don’t want to use that as leverage. I think you go a lot further just by substance and talent. For me, I’m going to do a good job no matter what, not because I’m representing anybody in particular, but because it behooves me to do a good job for the university, for the students, for the faculty, for everybody.

— Rebecca Luther

Flying South

American retirees are heading south and it's not just for the winter

A typical day in Lake Chapala, Mexico, may include a game of racquetball, a yoga class, a trip to the local market, dinner with compadres, or an afternoon simply sitting and chatting on a neighbor's front porch.

In recent years the warm weather and sunny climate of Mexico and its low cost of living have been attracting Americans. The U.S. Census Bureau does not track where American citizens go when they leave the United States, but it is believed that the largest contingent of the 4 to 6 million Americans living abroad reside in Mexico. The U.S. State Department estimates that one million civilian Americans live there. And many of them are retired citizens over the age of 55.

"Today's granddad is mobile," said Viviana Rojas, assistant professor of communication at UTSA. "Most of the people moving are of late ages—near or past the age of retirement."

For two years Rojas has been researching the international migration of American retirees to Mexico—a topic that has received little attention. This year, Rojas and Thankam Sunil, a UTSA assistant professor of sociology, are analyzing results of the study, which included three trips to Mexico during which they collected more than 200 surveys and conducted two dozen in-depth interviews with American retirees living in Guadalajara City and two eastern coastal towns near Lake Chapala. Between 8,000 and 15,000 Americans live on the shore of the lake, while an estimated 50,000 live in the Guadalajara area, Rojas said.

The study is unique in that it contradicts popular reasons for migration. Most immigrants migrate to richer countries, usually for employment opportunities, and they are of a young age. But Rojas' research shows that the Americans in the

study are older, are moving to a poorer country and are not looking for work.

"The U.S. is a magnet for immigrants. Why would Americans want to leave the U.S.? Particularly someone later in life," Rojas asks. "Everything is different—the culture, the language, the food, the friends and family. Why would they leave something they know?"

Four simple reasons, according to results from the survey: the cost of living, the environment, the sense of community and

"They have more spending money and savings. They feel financially secure," Sunil said. "They can own or rent a home. They can go to social gatherings. And they can eat out once or twice a week—just enjoy life. A lot of these people measure their happiness in terms of having a good social network."

Many of the respondents in the study live in quasi-retirement communities near Lake Chapala. These communities clustered around Mexico's largest lake offer seminars for foreigners—complete with health care information, banking information and entertainment opportunities—and even place ads in newspapers to recruit residents.

Christine Potters, a native of the United States who has lived in Guadalajara City since 1999, is an editor for *Living at Lake Chapala*, an online magazine for community members and prospective residents. She is one of many who help new residents adapt to life in Mexico.

"I'm quite happy here. I have a community of friends, neighbors and business associates. I have many Mexican friends," Potters said. "I haven't crossed the border for a year. I keep in touch [with friends and family] primarily by e-mail, telephone and Instant Messenger."

Mexico is not the only country enticing Americans. Similar communities are popping up in the Philippines, Panama and Costa Rica. Rojas and Sunil are furthering their research to include Americans living in the Philippines.

"These communities are attractive to Americans. They network within their community and become socially integrated. They are all relatively the same age and they connect on that level. Generally we don't see this in our own society [in the United States]," Sunil said. "We don't even know our neighbors."

—Lori Burling Alves



Illustration by Mark A. Rue

the quality of life. Ninety-one percent of respondents said living in Mexico allows more leisure spending than living in the United States. Nearly 60 percent of respondents said health care was more affordable in Mexico and almost 81 percent said housing was more affordable south of the border. Bottom line—Americans living in Mexico are able to afford a better life than they could in the United States.

Cajal institute receives \$6.3 million

UTSA's Cajal Neuroscience Institute has been awarded a three-year, \$6.3 million Research Center in Minority Institution grant from the National Institutes of Health. The grant will fund research projects, the hiring of new neuroscience and cell and molecular biology faculty, and equipment and administrative support.

Among the funded projects is a study in proteomics, a new biosciences field that analyzes the proteins in cells, tissues or organisms and could lead to discoveries to prevent brain cancer. Another project focuses on the understanding of molecular systems in the brain related to learning, aging, synapse formation and long-term memory.

"The grant will go a long way to improving the research infrastructure at UTSA and support our goal to become a premier research university," said Guy Bailey, UTSA provost and executive vice president.

A portion of the grant will also fund the hiring of additional faculty to support a proposed doctoral degree program in computational biology and the purchase of a new laser scanning microscope, which has become essential in biological laboratories.

Led by Joe L. Martinez Jr., the Cajal Neuroscience Institute is one of only three in the world named after Santiago Ramon y Cajal, a Spanish researcher recognized as the founder of neuroscience. Since its inception in 1988, the institute has generated more than \$17 million for research projects.

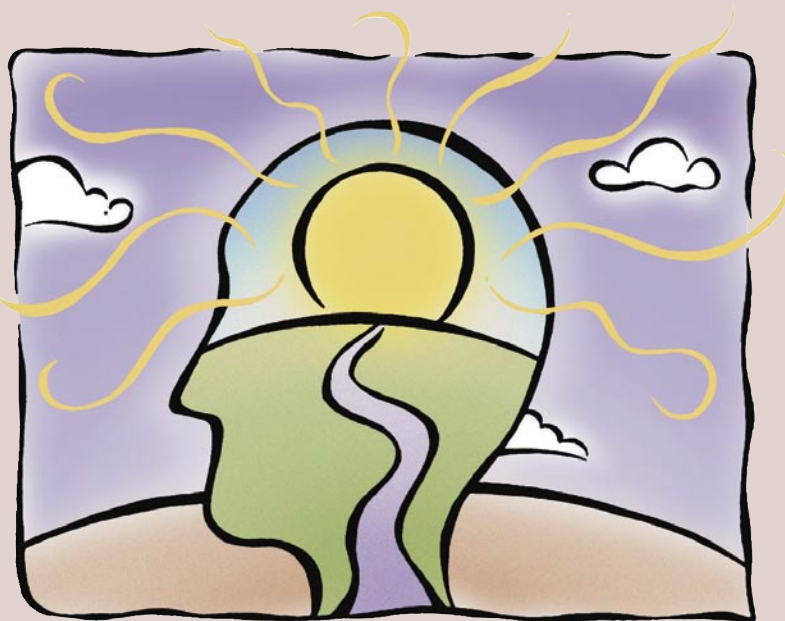


Illustration by Mark A. Rue

San Antonio Area Foundation awards UTSA record funding

Ten UTSA faculty and staff members have been awarded more than \$178,000 in grant funding by the San Antonio Area Foundation (SAAF). During the past five years, SAAF has awarded more than \$600,000 to 39 UTSA researchers.

Since its inception in 1964, the foundation has awarded more than \$65 million in charitable distributions and overseen \$110 million in assets. SAAF combines gifts from individuals, families and corporations into grant awards and funds projects in education, medical services, health care, environment, arts and culture, community and social services, animal services, historic preservation, visual services and research and biomedical research.

Grant recipients include Bonny Johnston, Institute of Texan Cultures; Jennifer Ganz, interdisciplinary studies; Raul Reyna, Prefreshman Engineering Program; Steve Tomka, Center for Archaeological Research; David Hanson, history; Thomas Coyle, psychology; Carlos Garcia, chemistry; Jeffry Nyman, mechanical engineering and biomechanics; Jilani Chaundry, biology; and Martha Lundell, biology.

Minority research program awarded \$3.6 million

UTSA's Minority Biomedical Research Support (MBRS) program received \$3.6 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to fund a second round of research projects over the next four years. The funding supplements the original \$10.4 million awarded, bringing the total to \$14 million for 20 faculty research projects.

"As an Hispanic-serving institution, UTSA is a leader in training the scientists of tomorrow who will provide a well-educated and technologically advanced workforce to support San Antonio's growing \$13 billion health care and biosciences industry," said President Ricardo Romo.

MBRS' Support of Continuous Research Excellence (SCORE) program award encompasses several disciplines, including biology, chemistry, earth and environmental science, physics and mechanical engineering. The program seeks to increase the participation of individuals from minority or underrepresented groups in scientific research by developing the biomedical research capabilities of faculty and students.

To accomplish this goal, researchers must increase their number of journal publications and increase their number and size of non-MBRS grants.

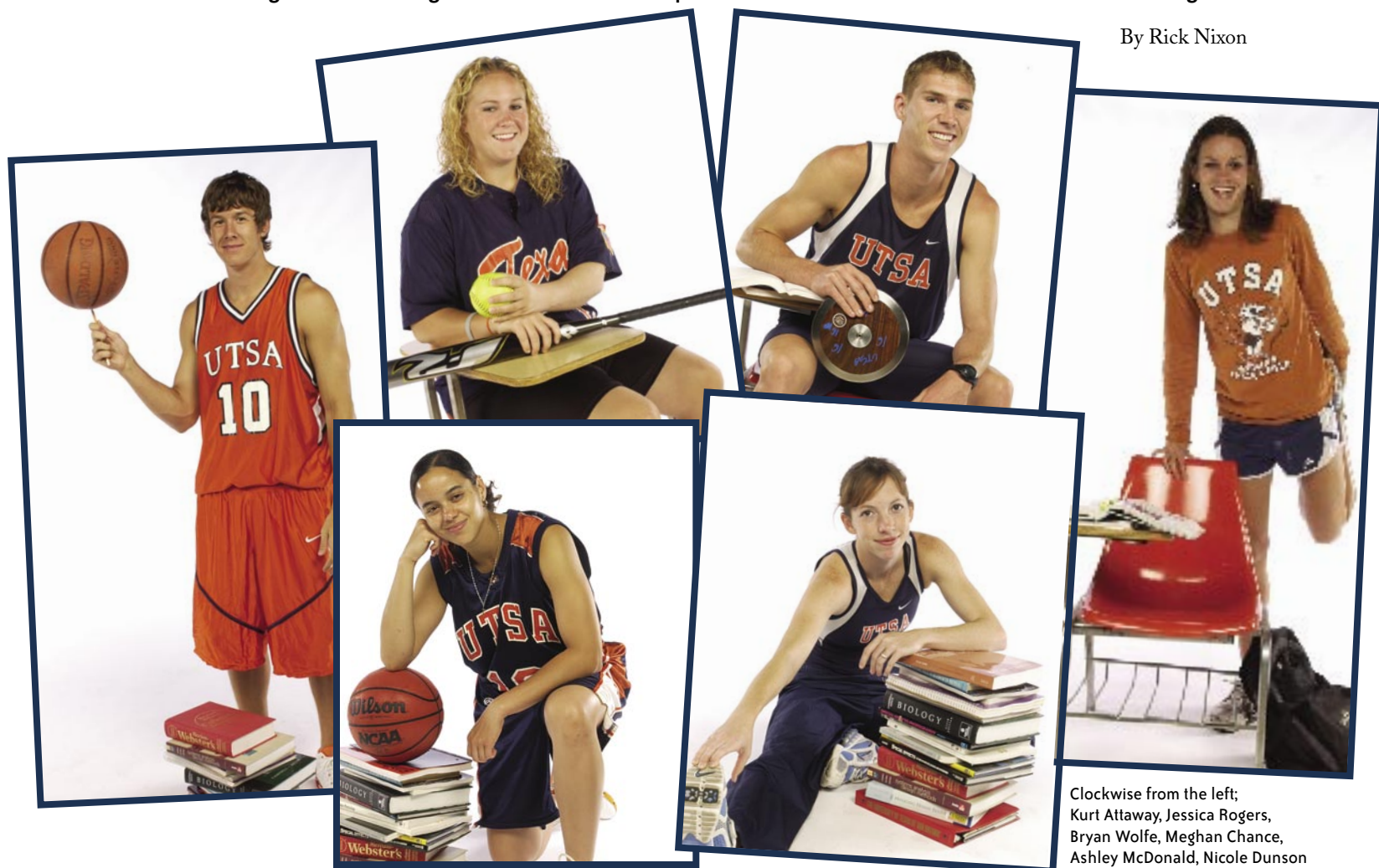
"I am very pleased with NIH's additional funding to support the multidisciplinary research efforts of our minority faculty and students," said Andrew Tsin, SCORE program director. "Through NIH's support, we will continue to build on our reputation and expand our research capabilities."

— Kris Rodriguez

Student-Athletes Earn an “A”

The challenge of balancing dedication to their sport and commitment to their education brings rewards.

By Rick Nixon



Clockwise from the left:
Kurt Attaway, Jessica Rogers,
Bryan Wolfe, Meghan Chance,
Ashley McDonald, Nicole Dunson

Kurt Attaway has seen his name in lights. Basketball in hand, he dribbled his way onto center stage before 15,000 fans and a national television audience.

But there are no screaming fans in the library. No cheerleaders. No pep band. Not even Rowdy, the Roadrunners' mascot.

Too often, the “student” half of “student-athlete” is an afterthought. Yet with students competing in 14 sports in the 11-member Southland Conference (SLC), UTSA has arguably reached dynasty status this past year—in the classroom. A record number of student-athletes have found a way to balance athletics and academics, defying stereotypical expectations of their roles on a college campus. During the 2004–2005 academic year, Attaway was one of seven UTSA student-athletes earning Southland Conference (SLC) Student-Athlete of the Year honors in eight sports.

“It’s an incredible honor for eight of our teams to have student-athletes named as the best individual in their respective sport who combines athletics and academics,” says UTSA Athletic Director Lynn Hickey. “We usually feel fortunate to have one or two in a given year, but to have eight is off the chart.”

The awards, presented annually to the top student-athlete in each conference-sponsored sport, are voted on by the head coaches, sports information directors and academic/compliance administrators from each SLC school. The award winner must have earned at least a 3.5

cumulative grade point average to meet the minimum academic requirement. Athletic standards include superior achievement, having brought significant recognition to the institution and having competed in at least two seasons. The final component of the award is the service requirement, for which the award winner must have demonstrated significant contribution to the campus or community through service.

While Attaway earned the honor for men’s basketball this spring, the academic hit parade started during the fall semester when cross country runner Ashley McDonald won the award. McDonald, a junior from San Antonio, also compiled a perfect 4.0 grade point average in accounting and has made the Dean’s List each semester at UTSA.

“I admire anyone who has had to work for everything in life,” says McDonald, who earned all-SLC honors by finishing eighth at the 2004 SLC Cross Country Championship. “Every single person is capable of so much. A few years ago I couldn’t even finish running a half of a mile. Today, that’s nothing for me. Dedicate yourself to something meaningful to you, and it will bring you great things.”

Softball’s Jessica Rogers won the award for the second straight year, while Bryan Wolfe was the only conference student-athlete to win the award in two sports—indoor and outdoor track and field.

Rogers was recently chosen as one of 11 student-athletes for the 2005 Academic All-District VI University Division Softball Team selected by members of the College Sports Information Directors of America. She

was also named the SLC Player and Hitter of the Year and first team all-conference, and she has compiled a 3.82 GPA as a kinesiology major.

Wolfe followed the same discipline in the classroom that he has used to be one of the top multi-event performers in the conference.

"Blending school and athletics is all about getting down a set schedule," said Wolfe, a junior from Raymondville, Texas, with a 3.71 GPA in actuarial science. "You need to fall into a rhythm throughout the school year and have set times to focus on athletics, set times to focus on school, and set times to focus on your social life. An education is only as good as you make it."

In addition to McDonald and Wolfe, fellow distance runner Meghan Chance won the award for women's indoor track and field. Chance carries a 3.96 GPA in psychology. A junior from Reagan High School in San Antonio, Chance speaks at Community Baptist Church.

Golfer Matt Johnston, a sophomore from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, also won the award.

"In high school I began to realize that I needed to get a good education if I wanted to achieve the things that I hope to in life," says Johnston, who has a 3.6 grade point average in business. "When I came to the university in the states, I realized what an incredible opportunity I had, to get an education and do what I love (golf) at the same time."

Women's basketball was represented on the prestigious list by senior Nicole Dunson, who made her Roadrunners debut in 2004–2005 after being sidelined by injuries the last two seasons.

"I only have one chance at life to gain wisdom so that is exactly what I am doing and will continue to do in the future," says Dunson, who has a 3.92 GPA and has been on the Dean's List every semester at UTSA. The biology major and health minor is also involved in numerous organizations on campus, including acting as a student leader for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, of which Wolfe, Attaway and Chance are also members.

"Wisdom is power," the Corpus Christi, Texas, native continues. "Both of my parents work in public education institutions, so they have always stressed the importance of academics, even before I was old enough to attend school."

Attaway, a point guard from Flower Mound, Texas, helped lead the Roadrunners to the 2004 NCAA Tournament as the SLC Freshman of the Year. He says the light illuminating the importance of education came on for him in kindergarten.

"Blending athletics with academics is a struggle, but it comes down to dedication," says Attaway, a sophomore psychology major who has posted a perfect 4.0 GPA in his first two collegiate years.

"I truly believe both are equally important so I dedicate most of my week to both," Attaway continued. "I think the biggest reason I have successfully blended the two is sacrifice. Staying at home and studying when your friends go out during the week has allowed me to stay ahead in the classroom and on the court."

Rick Nixon is assistant athletic director for media relations at UTSA.

Sports Briefs

BASEBALL CAPTURES SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE TOURNAMENT TITLE

UTSA's baseball team came all the way back from a disappointing 0-11 start to win the 2005 Southland Conference Tournament title. The Roadrunners won their first title since 1994 and advanced to the NCAA Regional in Waco, Texas, where they lost to Baylor and Stanford.

UTSA completed a perfect 4-0 run through the SLC tournament with a 4-1 win over Lamar on May 28 to be crowned champions. Junior Ryan Crew hit three home runs in the tournament at Natchitoches, La., and was named MVP.

SOFTBALL LEADS NATION IN HOME RUNS, AGAIN! The UTSA softball team captured the NCAA home run title for the third consecutive year, according to the final 2005 season statistics released by the NCAA.

UTSA slugged 103 home runs in 60 games for an average of 1.72 home runs per game. The Roadrunners broke their own Southland Conference record of 101 hit last year, when they also set an NCAA standard with a 1.87 average. In 2003, UTSA won its first home run crown with 80 homers in 55 games (1.45 average).

UTSA also now has two of the five 100-plus home run seasons on NCAA record, along with Arizona in 2001 (126) and 1995 (100), and this year's Michigan club.

In addition to the home run title, UTSA also posted the NCAA's top slugging percentage of .575.

TICKETS ON SALE VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL EVENTS Tickets are now on sale for both the 2005 NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Championship and the Women's Basketball 2006 San Antonio Regional. UTSA will serve as the host institution.

The Volleyball Championship will take place on Dec. 15 and 17 at the Alamodome. Tickets are available by purchasing an all-session pass for \$45 through TicketMaster, or by purchasing a Local Contributor Package through the San Antonio Local Organizing Committee. Call (210) 820-2104.

The San Antonio Regional will be held on March 25 and 27 at the SBC Center. An all-session ticket good for both days of the regional is priced at \$42. Children (12 and younger) and high school/college students with identification can purchase an all-session ticket

for \$25. Tickets can be purchased at the SBC Center Box Office at One SBC Center Parkway. Tickets also are available by visiting the nearest Ticketmaster Ticket Center, by calling (210) 224-9600, or online at Ticketmaster.com.

DUPREE GARNERS SECOND ALL-AMERICA HONOR

UTSA junior Ryanne Dupree earned her second straight All-America certificate with a school record-setting performance in the women's heptathlon at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in Sacramento, Calif.

Dupree broke her own school record in the seven-event competition with 5,575 points, bettering her previous career best of 5,465 set in winning the Southland Conference title in May. With her second All-America showing, Dupree becomes just the third female athlete in school history to garner multiple All-America accolades outdoors, joining Tameka Roberts and Jody Dunston.

KEEP UP WITH UTSA ON THE WEB

Go to www.goUTSA.com for the latest in Roadrunner sports news, stats and schedules.

Learning the Law By Leigh Anne Gullett

Pre-law academy sharpens skills, creates connections



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Dwayne Shorter is 20 minutes late for Richard Gambitta's two-hour civil liberties class. He has an excuse for being late to class—group work for another professor put Shorter behind schedule. His reason is irrelevant.

"You want to be a lawyer, don't you," Gambitta asks. "And when the judge says, 'I want you in court at 10 a.m.'?"

"You're in contempt, Mr. Shorter."

Gambitta softens his barked reprimand with a smile, but the message is sent. This is what each student is preparing for at UTSA's Summer Law School Preparation Academy. Set up in 2002 to emulate the law school experience, the summer academy pushes students through two summers of rigorous course work. The academy's mission is two-

fold: get academy graduates admitted to law school and prepare them to excel in law school.

"We give them more assignments than they could possibly handle, and that's to prepare them to do things efficiently and effectively, and recognize what it's like not to be able to possibly get everything done and to cope with that," says Gambitta.

Gambitta expects academy graduates to have sharpened their analytical and critical reading abilities and writing skills. He expects them to have learned how to think. Classes at the academy are taught in the Socratic

method: the instructor asks students a series of leading questions to trigger rational thinking and generate new ideas.

In Shorter's civil liberties class, the Socratic method is employed, and Gambitta is masterful. Twenty minutes after Shorter arrives, the entire class is entangled in a carousel-like discussion with no end in sight. The discussion centers on freedom of religion and separation of church and state. Once-clear answers turn murky as Gambitta adds questions and scenarios, even creating a fictional religion,

“Gambitta-ism,” complete with squirrel sacrifices and ganja.

Shorter loves the interaction. “[The academy] made me feel like I’m not getting challenged as much in my normal classes,” says Shorter. “It made those classes more tedious. Just the whole format—the lecture thing—I don’t like just sitting down, listening. I’d rather be engaged.”

Glancing over his shoulder to make sure Gambitta isn’t within earshot, Shorter drops his voice to a whisper and adds, “Everybody said, ‘Oh, it’s going to be hard. His class is really hard.’ I like the way it’s set up.”

Shorter, Gambitta says, is an exceptional student. Only a sophomore, Shorter is in his second summer with the academy, which normally admits juniors and seniors. Outstanding academic credentials and recommendations from other professors gained Shorter early admittance to the program, but it isn’t always about the “cream of the crop” for the academy.

“We take some chances with students who various professors have faith in although their credentials may not be that stellar,” says Gambitta. “We dip down sometimes in GPA if we think the student has potential.”

Angelita Hernandez-Woodward knew her grades weren’t exactly stellar, but she really wanted to go to the academy. She worked hard to impress her professors, then tried another tactic: she begged.

Her strategy worked, and Hernandez-Woodward, now an academy graduate, plans to attend law school at Penn State, one of 10 law schools to accept her. “With my GPA, I really had no business applying to some of the schools I applied to, or getting into some of the schools I got into,” she says.

But, thanks to the academy, she wrote a great personal essay. And every Friday the academy brought in admissions counselors from different law schools who talked about the process and helped her see it wasn’t just about numbers. More than anything, the academy gave Hernandez-Woodward confidence.

“I expect that while everybody else going into law school is just terrified, I have a really healthy respect for how hard it’s going to be, but I’m not intimidated,” she says.

With its legal and philosophical reasoning courses, logic puzzles, writing classes, guest speakers and heavy workload, the summer

academy gives students like Hernandez-Woodward a leg up on the competition.

It’s an advantage that hasn’t gone unnoticed.

The academy has taken students from Georgetown, Emory, New Mexico and Texas, but all have had South Texas roots. Lately, students with no local ties are asking for spots. Gambitta says he’s had inquiries from Stanford, Cornell, Penn, Johns Hopkins and Wisconsin.

“Somehow, it’s spread that the enhanced seminars here and the programs are good for minority admissions into law school,” Gambitta says. And while currently the

“Our mission is to help our students, of course, but we are becoming noted as a pre-law center of excellence. Having students from premier universities clamoring to enroll at UTSA adds to our prestige and competitive edge—both of which help our students.”

program is for UTSA students, he hopes someday soon to have the resources to admit students from other universities. To take that next step, the academy would need external funding to help provide things like housing for the students.

“Our mission is to help our students, of course, but we are becoming noted as a pre-law center of excellence. Having students from premier universities clamoring to enroll at UTSA adds to our prestige and competitive edge—both of which help our students.”

Already, the academy provides stipends and tuition scholarships to its students to help relieve financial pressures, and past students like Roland Garcia, now in Austin for law

school, have donated books back to the academy for future students.

While the class rosters are not national yet, the guest speakers Gambitta brings in certainly are. Academy attendees have heard from law professors from faculties as far away as Berkeley and as nearby as St. Mary’s. The same week the Supreme Court handed down a decision allowing local government to seize people’s homes and businesses for private economic development, Gambitta brought in Gerald Torres to discuss the case. Torres is the H.O. Head Centennial Professor in Real Property Law at University of Texas School of Law. The speakers are just one more edge for academy graduates.

“What happens is students develop relationships with professors who come in from law schools,” says Gambitta. “They have a face and a name and a relationship they can follow up with e-mails. [The relationships] give students an advantage over the faceless application.”

It’s an edge Hernandez-Woodward found especially helpful, not hesitating to hound admissions officers during the application process. Beyond getting in law school, Hernandez-Woodward says the academy prepared her to take on anything once there.

“I’m not scared because it’s not the unknown anymore,” she says. “I know what it’s like for Dr. Gambitta to say, ‘Ms. Woodward, stand up.’ Then, it’s like machine-gun interrogation. I know what that is. I’ve been there.”

Gambitta loves that his students stand up to in-class interrogations. He loves when they’re able to defend themselves and hammer back every question he poses. “It does get intense,” he says. “That’s part of the beauty of it.”

With Gambitta firing questions, Shorter’s civil liberties class is still looking for answers and justifications in their freedom of religion and separation of church and state cases. Gambitta happily keeps the merry-go-round spinning, while the students look for new arguments to support their decisions. But, after two hours, one has to wonder—there really is no right answer, is there?

“No,” Gambitta says with a grin. “There really isn’t.”



STORIES IN THE GROUND

BY LAURIE KAISER



Gun flints and a bone-handled toothbrush found at the Alamo, a 6,000-year-old dart point from Natural Bridge Caverns and 15th-century ceramic pieces that were buried near a strip of state highway in Junction.

Staff members from UTSA's Center for Archaeological Research assisted at the Southern Texas Archaeological Association field school in northwest San Antonio. The excavations were being conducted in advance of the installation of a pipeline. Right, Steve Tomka has served as CAR director since 2002.

These are just a few of the thousands of artifacts that quietly reveal mysteries of Texas' rich history, thanks to the detective work conducted through UTSA's Center for Archaeological Research (CAR). Professional archaeologists, joined by several graduate students and a handful of undergrads, don hard hats, hard-toe shoes, safety vests and sometimes even snake leggings to undertake the excavations that shed light onto the lives of the farmers, bison hunters and nomads who once inhabited South and Central Texas.

Fascinating as the finds are, this isn't merely an academic pursuit for the archaeologists and those in training. The work they perform is integral to protecting historic sites before a business expands or a new road is built.

Since its inception in 1974, CAR has participated in more than 500 archaeological projects, large and small. The center has been awarded more than \$9 million in grants and contracts since 1998. Recently, the center received a two-year, \$2 million contract with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT).

Tucked into a corner of the university's West Campus in an unassuming, low-lying building, the center's modest appearance doesn't reflect the volume and scope of work it produces. At any one time, CAR Director Steve Tomka says, he and his staff are juggling about 40 projects—from monitoring the excavation of a trench for a company that wants to install a nitrogen pipeline to surveying a strip of riverbank in South San Antonio to prepare for more River Walk development.

Tomka, who has served as director since 2002 following a few years as interim director, is particularly proud of a 2003 excavation at Natural Bridge Caverns that resulted in the site's being included in the National Register of Historic Places.



"This status is granted only to some of the most significant sites in the state," Tomka notes.

Another of CAR's recent projects, a dig at Commerce and Camaron streets, unearthed one of San Antonio's original military posts, used in the 1700s. San Fernando Cathedral hired the archaeologists in the fall of 2003 when a parking lot was ripped up to make way for a new community center. The workers discovered more than 2,000 artifacts, including cow bones, pottery and gunflints. The findings pointed to Native Americans who were in the area at the time.

Other noteworthy projects include a study of 19th-century neighborhoods that were razed to make way for the Alamodome, a survey of the proposed Applewhite Reservoir and several excavations at the Alamo. All of the some 25,000 artifacts discovered at the Alamo in the eight or nine digs in recent years are housed at CAR.

In the Junction project, the CAR group surveyed an area where TxDOT wanted to correct a dangerous road by re-routing part of it. Fieldworkers found thousands of prehistoric artifacts spanning several archaeological time periods, including remains of bison, tools and a number of ceramic vessels.

"All the artifacts we find are remarkable to some degree," Tomka says, "since they will help us reconstruct people's movement across the region, their diet and climate during the period the site was used by prehistoric hunters and gatherers."

"All the artifacts we find are remarkable to some degree," Tomka says, "since they will help us reconstruct people's movement across the region, their diet and climate during the period the site was used by prehistoric hunters and gatherers."

Layers within a dig reveal different centuries. When fieldworkers dug only 2 feet in Junction, for instance, they unearthed clues to the life of the hunter/gatherer 800 to 1,000 years ago; burrowing down roughly 5 feet revealed a 2,000-year-old floodplain, Tomka explains. And what had sat on top of all that history for so long? A motel.

While the bulk of the work takes place in South and Central Texas, CAR has secured contracts for investigations and research in New Mexico, Mexico and South America. Founded as an independent research unit, CAR now falls under the umbrella of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts' anthropology department. Originally it was housed within the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

The center's birth stemmed from a study of dirt and water. In 1974, the Soil Conservation Service approached Thomas Hester, then an assistant professor of anthropology, about surveying 10,000 acres of land in Starr County. Hester knew the university needed a structure in place for contracting—and the staff to do it. So he and Richard Adams, then a dean, approached former UTSA President Peter Flawn with the idea for an archaeological center. Flawn not only gave his blessing to the center, he named it.

Their timing was excellent. Just a few years earlier President Richard Nixon had signed the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), which required agencies receiving federal dollars to get an archaeological survey prior to beginning a project.





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"This was the only good thing I liked that Nixon did," Hester, now retired from the University of Texas in Austin, says with a laugh. "Everyone then was talking about contract archaeology. ... Some might get on their high horse and say they won't do it, (adding that just a year earlier he was one of those people) but with contract work, you could have the money to build an academically based research program like UTSA now has."

When CAR was born, the university was still in its infancy. Of the some 500 students enrolled, most were older than traditional college students. In fact, many of Hester's early archaeology students had retired from the military.

"We built the program on the shoulders of retired Air Force colonels and World War II veterans," says Hester from his home in Utopia, Texas, "along with older students with grown children, amateur archaeologists, who wanted to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree."

At the time, Hester was 28 and just two years out of his University of California at Berkeley graduate program. "Because I was originally from Texas, these guys didn't give me too hard of a time," he says. "During one of our first projects down in Alice, Texas, they said they'd made me an honorary general so I could give orders."

Now, 130 undergraduates and 28 graduate students are enrolled in the anthropology department, representing almost an even split between archaeology and cultural anthropology, according to anthropology department chairman James McDonald. UTSA offers a master's in anthropology with a specialty in archaeology, and is working on establishing a Ph.D. program with a focus on ecological anthropology.

"One of the great successes and synergies between our department and CAR is the internship program," McDonald says. "Students always have a great experience. Some work in the lab with artifact processing and curating. Some students do archaeology in the field; some work with outreach and the Legacy program."

Indeed, students constitute about a quarter of CAR's 41-member staff, of which 26 are female. When participating in out-of-town projects, fieldworkers usually spend 10 days on and four days off. They begin the digs around 7 a.m. so as to escape some of the worst South Texas heat, and they use everything from backhoes to trowels to find their treasures.

Along with the actual fieldwork, staff also must complete an accompanying technical report that identifies the research questions—and answers them. The reports are then turned into the Texas Historical Commission, which can refuse a center's report. Fortunately, Tomka says, that hasn't happened to CAR, but he knows of other agencies that have experienced rejection.

Through the years, CAR's clients have been as disparate as the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, the City of San Antonio and architectural firms, such as Ford, Powell and Carson.

"What I find impressive about CAR is the ability to get very competitive contracts, both locally and outside of San Antonio, becoming one of the go-to firms for state contracts," McDonald says.

"We have extremely dedicated staff members who love what they do and are willing to work very hard day and night to not compromise their standards," Tomka says. "It is this dedication that continues to bring research projects our way."

Passage of the NEPA, along with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and the Texas Antiquities Code in 1969, created an industry Tomka refers to as cultural resource management. Over the past few decades, many universities established centers similar to CAR. However, in recent years more of the work has fallen to private firms, and some universities are dropping out of this

type of archaeological research. Texas A&M, for instance, recently shut down its anthropology center, and the Texas Archaeological Research Laboratory in Austin has pared down its contract work considerably.

"We've been really fortunate," Tomka says, referring to the contracts the center has been awarded from agencies such as TxDOT. "It allowed us to hire quality staff."

Along with doing the actual digs, CAR staff cleans, sorts and catalogues thousands of artifacts, which fill box after box on shelves filling a couple of rooms within CAR. A few of the more impressive artifacts sit on display in glass cases for visitors to view. Tomka's wife, Marybeth, serves as the center's lab coordinator and curator.

Tomka, who also teaches anthropology courses, brings an unusual perspective to his job in South Texas. Originally from Romania, Tomka immigrated to the United States in 1974 with his parents, who opened a tailor shop in Jefferson City, Mo. "After about a month at a sewing machine, I decided the tailor business wasn't for me," he says with a smile and just a hint of an accent.

Sparked by an anthropology course offered at his high school, Tomka quickly discovered the career he wanted to pursue. Even then he realized

that by learning a new language and immersing himself in a culture so different from his homeland, he was an anthropologist in the making. His original interest was South American archaeology. While writing his thesis and later his dissertation at the University of Texas at Austin, he visited Peru and Bolivia and "fell in love with the culture and the land."

In the future, he says he would like to complete a long-term project in Northern Mexico, perhaps continuing a previous study of the domestication of wild plants. "To have a good understanding of South Texas and its history, you must look at Northern Mexico."

"When time permits, I work on the National Science Foundation (NSF) proposal for this project," he adds.

Tomka says a grant from a foundation such as the NSF could provide a longer term project that moves at a slower pace but provides more depth for students. He says he has to keep a balance, however, of providing a steady workload for his staff.

"We have extremely dedicated staff members who love what they do and are willing to work very hard day and night to not compromise their standards," Tomka says. "It is this dedication that continues to bring research projects our way."★

Laurie Kaiser is a San Antonio writer who loves digging in the backyard for treasure with her two boys.

LEGACY CAMPS MAKE ARCHAEOLOGY COME ALIVE

Six-year-old Alexandria Fox pulls a small golden chest from the sand. Inside, she discovers a necklace that, with a little imagination, looks Egyptian.

For Fox and the 15 other children who participated in a dig outside the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR) on a recent June morning, finding buried artifacts—ancient or not—generated excitement and a spirit of inquiry mirroring that of real archaeologists.

"We found pottery and beads ... stuff from old times we don't use anymore," explains Jetty Crittenden, 8. "I thought it was pretty cool."

The children digging through sandboxes filled with simulated artifacts are participating in one of four summer camps CAR offers through its much-heralded Legacy program. Now in its 10th year, Legacy makes ancient history come alive in a very hands-on way for children and visiting adults alike.

Each year, about 2,000 students in first through 11th grade descend upon the UTSA campus to handle arrow points and tools, jewelry and ceramics during school field trips and summer camps.

"Kids love it because they can touch what they want," says Lynn Yakubik, the Legacy coordinator. Using a magnifying glass to examine a bison's skull or sandals found in a cave 2,000 years ago helps students connect to history in a way that seems more relevant than through textbooks alone.

They get to examine common items from pioneer days, such as a bedroom chamber pot or a ceramic pipe that they wouldn't see today. And Legacy instructors get the chance to slip in



other disciplines. For instance, they take students outside to see how far they can throw one of the 11,000-year-old spears as a mini-physics lesson, Yakubik says.

During the one-week summer camps, which had an Egyptian theme this year, students reconstructed pottery and made simulated Egyptian paper. They took field trips to the Witte Museum to view the Egyptian exhibit and learned how to write in hieroglyphics.

Even the youngest of the Legacy kids quickly learn that archaeology is more than digging things up; it's also about preservation and discovering how other cultures lived. Eight-year-old Eric Bishel explains the purpose behind the recent dig in the

sand: "It's to learn about ancient cultures and to see how different we are compared to history."

To satisfy the kids' cravings for a perennial favorite—the mummy—Tom Castanos, a former Legacy director, recently shared his expertise, spanning about 5,000 years, with the 6- to 8-year-old campers.

He helps the children understand why Egyptians thought humans did all their thinking with the heart, and therefore didn't see a reason to preserve the brains, by performing a little exercise. When the room gets really quiet, he yells "Boo!" and all the children jump. Then Castanos asks them, "Where did you feel that—in your head or your heart?"

—Laurie Kaiser

MORE THAN SKIN-DEEP

By Lesli Hicks

Meet Robby Buckley, a junior physics major at UTSA's 1604 Campus. He is the younger of two sons of an intact, middle-class Anglo family living on the city's Northwest Side. So far, his description doesn't conjure images of the diversity the three-campus South Texas institution celebrates.

So let's not stop there. His stay-at-home mom, Suzanne, drives him to class in a van equipped for his electric wheelchair and the portable ventilator and liquid oxygen tank that help him breathe. You see, Buckley has muscular dystrophy and as a child he appeared in several telethons with his father, John, a West Point graduate and professional at financial-services giant USAA. The Buckleys and MDA telethon celebrity spokesman Jerry Lewis dream of a cure for the hereditary disease that progressively weakens muscles.

Traditional measures focus on ethnicity, but UTSA tries to expand diversity's definition

Given his medical situation, the 2002 O'Connor High School valedictorian who achieved a 4.0 GPA can't be dismissed as a student with unfair advantage in an age of political correctness. He has natural abilities in an era more willing to embrace them—no matter the package in which they come.

"I am especially thankful to be living in this time," he said in his speech to graduating high school classmates. "Twenty years ago, someone like me would probably not be sitting on a stage like this."

Now UTSA is grateful to have him. He is one of many unofficial ambassadors of the pro-diversity movement sweeping college campuses in recent years. Advocates believe a varied student body leads to a better world. UTSA's motto "Come here. Go far." now includes the corollary "Our diversity is our identity."

"Although we are designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution, and very proud of what it represents, diversity at UTSA isn't only about being Hispanic/Latino/Latina," says Rosalie Ambrosino, UTSA's vice president for student affairs, which includes the Office of Institutional Diversity.

Nationally, statisticians have measured diversity by employing simple math. For example, in spring 2005, UTSA had a minority population of 14,307 students, nearly 57 percent of the 25,243 people enrolled. Not bad at all in a city with a comparable ethnic ratio. Yet such numbers are not the complete equation. Case-in-point: 55 percent of UTSA's students in the same period were female, three

were older than 70, and most were studying business. All of which is to stress that color alone does not a diverse institution make. It's more than skin-deep, Ambrosino says.

"It also means reaching out to our African-American, Asian-American, international community, urban, rural, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, straight, young, older and physically challenged members," she says.

Intellectual diversity

Minds alone should matter at UTSA, longtime faculty members say.

"During my 25 years as a member of the UTSA faculty, I have seen the university grow into a diverse educational community," says Diane Abdo, an English instructor and adviser to the independent campus newspaper, the *Paisano*. Respect for religion is also one of many indicators in evidence.

"This diversity adds a richness to the classroom and to campus life—from the non-traditional Turkish student who invited the composition class to her Christmas tea party, to the What a Woman/What a Man contest sponsored by the African-American student organization," Abdo says.

Félix D. Almaráz Jr., Peter T. Flawn Distinguished University Professor of Borderlands History at the Downtown Campus, says diversity among disciplines is another gauge of an institution's richness. The Texas Legislature formed UTSA in 1969, and his first day of class was in 1973.

"There were five graduate courses listed on the schedule starting at 7:30 in the morning—two in



Illustration by Robert Neubecker

business, two in education and one in history: the Greater Southwest, under my direction, with an enrollment of 13 students,” he said. The university’s small faculty, including a chemist from India and a Chinese engineer, greeted both male and female students who had planted UTSA’s diverse seeds.

Stefanie Arias, editor-in-chief of the *Paisano*, says the administration and faculty’s search for a deeper understanding of diversity, including the intellectual kind, is a model for other organizations of higher education.

“Our editorial board is the perfect example of diversity. Not only are we racially diverse, but we bring diverse opinions, beliefs and lifestyles together to make a newspaper,” Arias says. “We are all involved in organizations outside of the *Paisano* and represent a variety of majors. This shows how diversity can produce good students and good organizations, and, as a result of those, a good university.”

Indeed, UTSA is a kaleidoscope of students with varied scholarly pursuits. In the spring reporting period, its College of Business attracted 5,537 students, while Liberal and Fine Arts enrolled 5,176. The College of Sciences served 4,640 students to the College of Education and Human Development’s 4,153. The College of Engineering enrolled 1,620 students, and the College of Public Policy tallied 875 students while the College of Architecture drew 768. Another 2,460 remained undeclared.

Another *ism*

Racism and sexism were early but not the only threats to diversity. Age has been one of the other *isms* that institutions of higher education have considered in their outreach. How has UTSA matured in that category? Just over 50 percent of UTSA’s student body is between the ages of 17 and 22. Still, 29 percent are between 23 and 29 years old, and 13 percent are between 30 and 39. Students between ages 40 and 59 constitute 7.2 percent of the student population, and they are joined by 43 students ages 60 and older. By any measure at UTSA, they are hardly over-the-hill and contribute generously to the institution’s cross-generational discourse. The past, after all, is scaffolding for the present.

Martha Hicks, who earned her bachelor’s degree in sociology from UTSA in 1978 and returned to earn a master’s in public administration in 1988, was one of those “older” or nontraditional students at the university’s genesis. Named “Alumnus of the Year” in 1993, she recalled what it was like walking onto the fledgling campus on what was a two-lane loop in 1975, a campus where cedar trees outnumbered students.



It took the push of educators and later employers—and time—to recognize the dullness of sameness and the brilliance of difference.

“I was a stay-at-home mother and military officer’s wife for years,” she says. “By then, our three daughters finally were old enough for me to finish my education—I earned an associate’s degree from San Antonio College in 1956, the year I married—and there I was on that first day: a 39-year-old Girl Scout leader with a few gray roots, both delighted and terrified to be there.”

After 20 years working in San Antonio’s business community, conducting economic research primarily for real estate clients, Hicks is semi-retired and now an avid volunteer alumnus. At 69, she is living proof that UTSA students past and present are its oaks.

“It’s a veritable United Nations,” she observes. “Consider the intellectual capital each student

infuses into the campus. No matter what they look like, how they vote, how old they are or where they come from, UTSA is better—better yet, world-class—for their presence.”

A whole, new world

UTSA student Erin Gutierrez-Harbor embodies that presence. Her German mother fell in love with a summer migrant worker at the family’s Michigan farm and today, after 36 years of marriage, they have three married children: a daughter teaching in an inner-city Michigan school; a son who has played with the National Football League nine years and is a restaurateur; and Gutierrez-Harbor, who teaches world history at Lanier High School on San Antonio’s West Side.

Working toward a master’s degree in history, Gutierrez-Harbor cherishes diversity in her adult life. She is married to an African-American man who manages a restaurant, and they have a son from her husband’s first marriage and a 3-year-old boy—making her the matron of what social scientists call a “blended” family. Education and understanding are generational linchpins.

“From very modest beginnings, my parents have given their kids all they have in order to get us all through college,” she says of her father, now a junior-college instructor teaching criminal justice and diversity, and mother, a postal carrier.

Back in her late teens, “occasionally because of my looks, I would hear comments made about other races because no one assumed me to be anything other than Anglo,” the statuesque dark blonde says. “It was at this point my eyes were opened to other people’s lack of acceptance of diversity.”

She appreciates UTSA’s stance on the issue and believes her younger son will check a box next to “multicultural” when completing his college application, a time where acceptance will be even greater. “It is not in spite of his heritage that he is going to do amazing things, it is because of it,” Gutierrez-Harbor says.

Defining diversity

Welcome mats are proliferating gradually. Since schools were separate and unequal before a shove from the U.S. Supreme Court, affirmative action has forced the dismantling of organizations once the province of people with white skin, predominately males. It took the push of educators and later employers—and time—to recognize the dullness of sameness and the brilliance of difference.

The University at Albany in New York spent two years chiseling its definition to stress commitment to inclusion. In tones analogous to the declaration of a Colonial break with King

George, the institution's policy proclaimed: "A just community is always on guard against injustice, always asserting its dedication to justice." Its categories of diversity include "culture, ideology, politics, religion, citizenship, marital status, job classification, rank, income, socio-economic, geographic and regional difference." Those, according to the statement, are "artificial divisions or barriers."

UTSA President Ricardo Romo says painstakingly communicating an educational organization's *viva-la-difference* philosophy is crucial. Sometimes it requires many words, sometimes few. And often the classic sports analogy works best. "We uphold the principle that a level playing field is the foundation upon which to build a diverse and inclusive institution," he says.

Still, there remains a chasm between diversity as "ideal" and "fact" and there is little unity in diversity across environments, says Yale Law professor Peter Schuck. Students might experience a diverse environment at the college level, but still encounter discrimination in the outside or "real world." Uncle Sam keeps going to bat, but there are only so many innings before the fans of diversity must step up to the plate.

"Government's role is not to promote diversity but to protect individuals against discrimination on the basis of immutable characteristics and to combat public and private monopoly power that reduces people's freedom of choice," he says. The rest depends upon us, including UTSA students, teachers, alumni, employees and retirees.

"We should design public policies and institutions in ways that promote informed individual and family choices that can yield more authentic, legitimate, sustainable and socially valuable patterns of diversity," says Schuck, author of the 2003 book *Diversity in America: Keeping Government at a Safe Distance*.

Sometimes it requires many words, sometimes few. And often the classic sports analogy works best. "We uphold the principle that a level playing field is the foundation upon which to build a diverse and inclusive institution."

Ambrosino and her team are working to promote the social value of a diverse campus. Among the university's cultural awareness programs are a series of pride months that focus on historically underrepresented groups: Latino Heritage Month, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender Pride Month, Diversity Month, Black Heritage Month and Asian Pacific Islander Month. Religious celebrations on campus include observances of Dia de los Muertos and Rosh Hashanah. The Office

of Student Activities hosts programs such as the Black Heritage Ball and the bilingual La Despedida graduation celebration. UTSA is a diverse campus, Ambrosino says, but the university needs to work to ensure that we understand and value what that means.

"We have a number of very successful celebrations of diversity and educational programs, but the most important way we seek to embrace diversity is through our day-to-day interactions with each other and the fact that increasingly it is a part of life at UTSA, not just 'talking the talk,' but also 'walking the walk.'"

"Sadly, there are still those who feel marginalized in some way, who don't feel included, and we still have work to do as a UTSA community," Ambrosino says.

Robby Buckley's father says dialog is a major component of that work.

"Some people are more open-minded to accept differences, while some hold on to stereotypes longer," John Buckley says. "We try to answer questions people have concerning his health/condition, feeling it is better to be open and relaxed in heading off misconceptions."

"At the college/university level, students become more aware that each of them is heading in different directions with different goals, toward different specialties or professions and there are countless positions in society to fill."★

Lesli Hicks is a San Antonio writer and pursuing a master's degree in history at UTSA.

ETHNIC STAMPS OFTEN DON'T STICK

To categorize is human, but categorizing humans often is academic.

Civilizations from ancient to modern left evidence of this. And Fèlix D. Almaráz Jr., Peter T. Flawn Distinguished University Professor of Borderlands History at UTSA's Downtown Campus, has observed this tendency during his time in academia, including 31 years with UTSA.

Ethnic classification is a classic example.

"Shortly after the 400th anniversary of the voyage of Christopher Columbus in 1892, extending to the beginning of the 20th century, scholars in eastern universities created the nomenclature Latin-American," Almaráz says, adding: "In time, the hyphen was dropped."

By the administration of the 34th president, Dwight Eisenhower, in the 1950s, the descriptor Hispanic American became popular, and gradually just Hispanic was used, he says. In the transitional 1970s, many younger people rejected those designations for one tied to social and political activists: Chicano. Today, some community members prefer Latino/a or Tejano/a, says Almaráz, who describes himself on multiple levels personally and professionally.

In so doing, he demonstrates why the term "diversity" should capture much more than ethnicity.

"I am a human being, who, by the dignity of my birth has an Hispanic surname; I am an educator, who chose history as the medium of *instrucción*; I am an historian, who, by virtue of my scholarship, is an author," he explains.



Sometimes communities shed labels, possibly pejorative, for new ones. The Black community of the 1960s evolved into African-Americans, and people of various Asian societies—China, Japan, Taiwan—became Asian-American or Chinese-American, Japanese-American or Taiwanese-American. Homosexual men and women adopted four descriptors or an acronym: gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender or GLBT. Many men and women with what were once referred to as disabilities now prefer to be described as physically challenged.

The categories can mirror individual choice, but more often reflect political fluidity, says Yale law professor Peter Schuck, who has lectured and written extensively about

government's role in understanding diversity.

"These labels are often chosen for political reasons, have little to do with the underlying demographic reality, and mask enormous diversity within each grouping," he says.

—Lesli Hicks

Time for our stars to shine

The UTSA Alumni Association hosted the 2005 Alumni Rising Star Gala on Saturday, Sept. 10, at the Westin La Cantera Resort. This was the sixth year for the event, which has been successful in raising money for student scholarships.

A highlight of the event was the announcement of the Alumni Association's most prestigious awards. The Alumnus of the Year Award honors an alumnus who has made significant contributions to society and whose accomplishments and career have brought significant credit to UTSA. The Distinguished Service Award is bestowed for the contributions, loyalty and respect individuals give to UTSA and the community. This year, the Alumnus of the Year Award went to Ken Mercer '80, and the Distinguished Service Award went to John and Debbie Montford (see profiles below).

The program also included a reception, a seated dinner, live and silent auctions, and live music featuring Ditto and the Dots. A portion of proceeds will benefit the UTSA Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.

2005 Gala co-chairmen were Renée Crittenden-Garcia '96 and Yvonne Fernandez. Howard and Betty Halff '76 were honorary chairs.



KENNETH

A. MERCER '80

Kenneth A. Mercer is a senior systems analyst and planner at USAA. Mercer earned his UTSA business degree, with a concentration in accounting, in 1980. After graduation, he became

involved in both the Alumni Association and the UTSA Roadrunner Club, which named him Roadrunner of the Year in 1992. Mercer was recognized for his investment of time, his loyalty and his leadership that mobilized friends, co-workers, family and other alumni to purchase season basketball tickets during that year's membership drive.

Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 2002, Mercer was appointed to the House Higher Education Committee, where he had the opportunity—and the challenge—to enlist support for one of his greatest passions. He has worked with UTSA students, alumni and members of the development board on the critical budget decisions that affect higher education. At the request of UTSA students, Mercer authored and carried to the floor House Bill 1650. The bill, allowing UTSA to restructure student fees in order to expand the University Center programs and services, passed. The bill also allowed UTSA to add programs for the Campus Recreation Center.



JOHN T. AND DEBBIE MONTFORD

"The custom is for alumni from an institution to step forward to support their alma mater.

It is unusual and gratifying when someone from the community, with no particular ties, provides extraor-

inary support," UTSA President Ricardo Romo says of John T. and Debbie Montford, this year's recipients of the Distinguished Service Award.

John has had a distinguished business career leading Fortune 1000 companies. He is a recognized public servant for his tenure in the Texas Senate, and he was named chancellor emeritus for his work as the first chancellor of the Texas Tech System. He also has served on many boards throughout the city and state.

Over the past two years, John, Debbie and their volunteer team of colleagues have raised more than \$2 million for UTSA scholarships through the President's Dinners. Debbie co-chaired "Great Conversation!" this year, raising another \$124,000 for UTSA's Honors College. At that event, President Romo announced the establishment of a \$10,000 Honors College endowed scholarship in honor of the Montfords, recognizing their support of UTSA.

74 Katherine Schroeder Chapman, M.A. in education, was honored by the Texas Bar Foundation with the Outstanding Bar Journal Article Award of 2004 at the foundation's annual black tie dinner in Dallas. Her article "Do You Remember Herman Marion Sweatt?" was published in the May 2004 *Texas Bar Journal*. Chapman practices elder and education law in Fort Worth as well as counsels lawyers and students on their legal careers.

Dora Gomez Garcia, M.A. in bicultural-bilingual studies, retired from Northside Independent School District after teaching for 32 years. E-mail Dora at arciadorag@netzero.com.

Sylvia Ann Cantu Marcus, M.A. in education, is vice president of the board of directors for Parent Child Inc. in San Antonio.

75 Mary Colbert Earle, M.A. in Spanish, is a visiting fellow for the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest, Austin, Texas, for spring 2005.

76 David L. Triesch, B.B.A. in accounting, married Jane Freeman Deyeso on June 11.

77 Guadalupe Cisneros Ruvalcaba, B.A. in early childhood education, M.A. in bicultural-bilingual studies '81, is director for adult and community education for the San Antonio Independent School District.

78 Susana Hernandez, B.A. in Spanish, M.A. in Spanish '81, retired from the Harlandale Independent School District where she was a Spanish teacher. She is now involved in real estate.

Ross G. Meriwether, B.B.A. in accounting and his wife, **Charlene O. Meriwether**, B.A. early childhood education '78, M.A. in education '84, are owners of D'Vine Wine in Granbury, Texas.

80 Ricardo Castillo, B.S. in biology, is a lab coordinator for the University Health System in San Antonio. E-mail Ricardo at richard.castillo@uhs-sa.com.

81 Joseph Glenn Charles, B.S. in biology, has served as head of the science department at Dr. Joaquin Gonzalez Jr. Middle School in Laredo, Texas, for 15 years. Joseph was named to the Who's Who of American Teachers in 1994, 2002 and 2005.

Bertha Villarreal Colunga, M.A. in bicultural-bilingual studies, retired from

North East Independent School District after 30 years in the district as a teacher, staff developer and consultant.

82 David C. Boyers, B.S. in biology, is vice president at Southwest Securities Private Client Group. He is a chartered life underwriter and a chartered financial consultant.

Betty Niell Dowdy, M.A. in education, and husband James celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year. They were married Aug. 26, 1955, in McKinney, Texas.

Sandra Mattick, B.B.A. in accounting, is finance director for the City of Boerne.

83 Darrel Baker, B.B.A. in accounting, has retired from Texas Instruments Inc. in Dallas.

Edward T. Hernandez, B.S. in biology, is the owner/partner of Synergy Training and Consulting in San Antonio.

Ty Tracy, B.S. in biology, is senior territory manager for Fort Dodge Animal Health. Ty was awarded the Top National Veterinary Pharmaceutical Sales Award and received the President's Award the last two years. Ty and wife Sharon announce the birth of a daughter, Claire Grace, on March 30.

84 Joseph P. Ebert, B.S. in geology, is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army and is currently deployed in Afghanistan at Bagram Airfield, where he is director of public works. Joseph is a former member of the Alumni Association board of directors. His son, Karl, will enter UTSA this fall. Joseph and wife Joy live in Lakehills, Texas.

Janet Frerich, B.B.A. in management, is the office manager at Redondo Manufacturing in San Antonio.

Jose A. Martinez Jr., B.B.A. in finance, is the owner of Allstate Financial Services Agency in San Antonio. E-mail Jose at A042066@Allstate.com.

Robert Lynn Mundy, B.A. in history, was selected by the National Christian Schools Association as the 2005 Teacher of the Year. Robert has taught at Christian Heritage Schools in San Antonio for 19 years.

85 Gregg Timmons, B.B.A. in accounting, is vice president of sales for BoarderWare Technologies. **Laura A. Yzaguirre**, M.A. in education, is an adjunct professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies in UTSA's College of Education and Human Development.

86 Brian St. John, M.F.A., received the 2005 Onderdonk Prize from the San Antonio Art League and Museum for his oil painting "Early Morning." Brian is a professor of art at St. Mary's University.

87 Edgar Fischel Jr., B.B.A. in management, is a system administrator at Hartford Insurance in San Antonio. **Thorne Robalin**, B.B.A. in finance, is first vice president at Raymond James in San Antonio. Thorne and wife Mariela have two sons: Brandon, age 10, and Nicolas, age 7.

88 Michael Alan Martin, B.B.A. in management, is a team leader with Progressive Insurance. Michael and wife Kristi live in The Woodlands, Texas. They have two children: Sarah Anne, age 5, and Jackson Barrett, age 3.

89 Susan Cheal, M.F.A. in art, was promoted to associate professor with tenure in the School of Visual Arts, Drawing and Painting Program, at the University of North Texas.

Le Green Schubert, B.F.A. in art, was featured in the Culturas arts section of the *San Antonio Express-News* for her exhibition "Eagles to the East: Birds in Flight." The exhibit, which was part of Contemporary Art Month, consisted of banners, billboards and a mural in the boarded-up windows of the Friedrich Building. The banners ran along the major East Side commercial arteries, East Commerce and N. New Braunfels from St. Paul's Square to New Braunfels Street, past Martin Luther King Square to the IH 35 intersection. For more information on the exhibition, go to www.cera-inc.org. The exhibit was celebrated at the Carver Community Center on July 16 with a family-day festival and picnic.

90 Gladys A. Cosio-Burger, B.F.A. in art, M.A. in bicultural-bilingual studies '04, is a dual language teacher for the San Antonio Independent School District.

Barbara Hernandez Menchaca, B.A. in geography, is head coach of cross country and track at Harlandale High School in San Antonio. Barbara announces the birth of a son, Justin, on Dec. 22, 2004.

91 R. Michael Flores, B.A. in political science, was one of 40 college and university senior faculty members and administrators from across the nation selected for the 2005-2006 American Council on Education

(ACE) Fellows Program. The program focuses on identifying and preparing senior leadership for the nation's colleges and universities. Participants in the ACE Fellows Program spend time working with a college or university president and other senior officers at a host institution, attending decision-making meetings, and focusing on issues of concern. He will be looking at possible placement at LaGuardia Community College in New York City; Miami Dade College, Florida; and the University of Houston. Mike is currently dean of institutional effectiveness and community development at Palo Alto College in San Antonio.

Darlene Catherine Kersey, B.B.A. in accounting, and husband Randy announce the birth of a daughter, Hope Catherine Kersey, on June 22, 2004.

Beverly W. McCarthy, M.S. in math, a teacher with Northside Independent School District, received the Siemens Award for Advanced Placement, given by the Siemens Foundation to promote and reward exceptional achievement in science, math and technology.

92 Mark E. Goldstein, B.S. in biology, is medical sharing coordinator for South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio. Mark is a diplomat of the American College of Healthcare Executives. He received the 2004 ACHE Federal Excellence in Managed Care Award as well as the 2003 Reserve Officer of the Year Award and was promoted to major.

Daniel Hinojosa, B.B.A. in marketing, is a manager at USAA in San Antonio.

Mark D. Nine, B.A. in anthropology, is an intake specialist for the State of Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in Austin.

94 Diana N. Calloway, B.B.A. in marketing, and her husband, **Michael L. Calloway**, B.B.A. in management '95, have one son, Michael L. Calloway III, born Oct. 9, 2002.

Amanda Flores-Witte, B.A. in American studies, is director of communications at Alameda Alliance for Health in Alameda, Calif. Amanda and husband Larry announce the adoption from China of a daughter, Maylee Elizabeth, who was born July 14, 2004. **Val A. Gonzales**, B.A. in sociology, has been promoted to national account manager for the Gambrinus Company in Chicago, Ill.

Edwin Arthur Hobbs, B.B.A. in management, is project manager III for McLeod USA in Tulsa, Okla.

Kevin McBrearty, B.A. in psychology, is a self-employed licensed professional counselor in San Antonio. E-mail Kevin at McBKevin@msn.com.

95 Rebecca Anne Boone Brown, B.A. in history, is a high school teacher at Salem Sayers Academy in Adkins, Texas.

Royce S. Cook, B.A. in English, is the varsity tennis coach and an English I pre-AP teacher at Highlands High School in San Antonio. Royce was promoted to senior master sergeant after his deployment and service in Iraq.

Ann-Marie Moore George, B.A. in English, is the registrar at Hallmark Institute of Aeronautics in San Antonio. Ann-Marie married Christopher D. George on Dec. 11, 2004. E-mail Ann-Marie at blackana90@hotmail.com.

Odell Miller III, B.B.A. in personnel/human resource management, is a major in the U.S. Marine Corps. He will complete his M.B.A. from Avarett University in the fall.

Joey Mukherjee, B.S. in computer science, is a group leader at Southwest Research Institute in San Antonio.

Joseph A. Ortega, B.S. in civil engineering, is an engineer II at Pape-Dawson Engineers Inc. in San Antonio. He received his professional engineer's license in January. **Lorenza B. Salazar-Semien**, B.B.A. in information systems, is the owner of We Promise You a Rose Garden Flower Shop in San Antonio after a 14-year career in accounting.

Laura Resendez Sanchez, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, married Trinidad Sanchez on Aug. 7, 2004.

Cindy Kay Skiles Slavin, B.B.A. in personnel/human resource management, and husband Paul announce the birth of son, Paul David Slavin II, on Dec. 11, 2004.

96 Tonia Martine Black, B.A. in criminal justice, has one son, Mykal, age 3.

Christina Strangle Mendiola, B.S. in biology, married Jerry Mendiola on Nov. 27, 2004.

Melissa Gonzales Ramponi, B.A. in English, M.A. in English '99, married Luca Ramponi on Jan. 21 in Telluride, Colo., where they now reside.

Carlos A. Rivera, B.S. in kinesiology and health, is head softball coach at Mineola High School in Mineola, Texas, where he was the 2005 Coach of the Year and led the team to become 2005 district champions.

97 Michael R. Garrison, B.A. in communication, is a director of channel satellite for Packeteer.

Cynthia Ann Geerdes Goss, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, married Jason W. Goss on Nov. 20, 2004.

Roberto Ramirez, B.A. in criminal justice, is a captain in the U.S. Air Force and circuit trial counsel and special federal prosecutor at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio.

Martha Trevino, B.A. in communication, former WOAI TV reporter, has launched a pet Web site, mypetsnetwork.com, that includes a virtual pet store, classifieds with pictures of pets available for adoption. The Web site was featured on WOAI's morning show.

98 Kimberly A. Kerr-Knott, B.S. in biology, is a captain and M.D. in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. Kimberly graduated from Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences Medical School in May 2004.

Cynthia E. Lugo, B.S. in civil engineering, M.S. in civil engineering '04, is a staff civil engineer at Chiang, Patel & Yerby Inc. in San Antonio. Cynthia married alumnus **John A. Lugo II**, B.M. in music '04, on July 4, 2004.

Celeste M. Rayon, B.S. in biology, is a quality assurance analyst for DPT Laboratories in San Antonio.

99 Mark W. Felhofer, B.B.A. in management, is a warranty manager for D.R. Horton in San Antonio. E-mail Mark at mark@felhofer.com.

Lori Wiek Hakspiel, M.B.A. in business, married Frank Hakspiel on Oct.

4, 2004. Lori is the proud owner of Fralo's Art of Pizza in Leon Springs, Texas. Fralo's received the San Antonio Readers Choice Award for Best New Restaurant 2004. Located just five minutes from the UTSA 1604 Campus, the restaurant employs several UTSA students.

Duane Miller, B.A. in philosophy, and his wife, **Sharon R. Miller**, B.S. in math '02, announce the birth of a son, David Julian, born June 9, 2004. Duane received an M.A. in theology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio in 2004, where he graduated summa cum laude. They are moving to the Middle East where Duane will pursue Arabic studies.

Steven Reyes, B.S. in biology, is a physician's assistant at Franklin Medical Center in El Paso, Texas.

Martha Tijerina, M.A. in Spanish, was named 2005-2006 co-chair for the Association for Women in Communications.

Gerri Brown Williams, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, M.A. in education '02, has been accepted into the doctoral program for education administration at the University of Houston. E-mail Gerri at gwilliams@eagle.academics.com.

00 Michelle Perez Casias, B.S. in biology, is a quality control team leader at the H-E-B San Antonio Milk Plant. She married Juan J. Casias Jr. in 2002.

Natalie L. Hall, B.B.A. in management, is an attorney with Cox Smith Matthews Incorporated in San Antonio.

John Michael Haller, B.S. in biology, is a doctor of veterinary medicine at Southern Arizona Veterinary Specialty

and Emergency Center in Tucson, Ariz.

Melissa Padilla, B.A. in sociology, is a high school motivational speaker for American Inter-Continental University-Houston Campus. Melissa received an M.A. in human resources and management from Webster University in 2003.

01 Carolyn Castillo Eastburn, B.M. in music, married Jeremy Eastburn on Oct. 2, 2004, and became stepmother to Gage Eastburn, age 10, and Gavin Eastburn, age 7.

Barbara Dean Hendricks, M.S. in management of technology, developed and is teaching the first Web-based Introduction to Mass Communications class at Northwest Vista College.

Her photograph "Mirages" was shown at Todos Los Sabados Gallery in September as part of the FotoSeptiembre USA Celebration in San Antonio.

Sharon A. Kaltenbacher, B.B.A. in accounting, is a supervisor at Valero Energy Corporation in San Antonio.

Bryan Kelly, B.F.A. in art, has opened Kelly's Art and Design Studio in Bracken Village in northeast San Antonio.

Matthew James Kosub, B.B.A. in information systems, M.B.A. in business '03, is an IT systems analyst at USAA in San Antonio.

Janette A. Nevels McAllister, B.S. in biology, married Timothy J. McAllister on Oct. 16, 2004.

Sarae Rodriguez, B.A. in communication, is a claims adjuster for USAA in San Antonio.

02 Jether Christian Farino, B.S. in biology, married Luan Nguyen on June 11.

Rebecca A. Vela Gonzalez, B.B.A. in information systems, is employed at Zimmer Nagel and Associates in San Antonio.

Heather A. Bailey Jimenez, B.A. in history, and husband Roberto announce the birth of a son, Cristiano Nicolas Alberto, on March 29, 2004.

03 Chad E. Broussard, M.A. in education, is assistant principal at Southwest High School in San Antonio.

Steven DaLuz, B.F.A. in art, is executive director for Regional Artist Consortium in San Antonio, an art gallery opened in March 2005. He orchestrated a national juried art exhibition in 2005 and had his works selected for the San Antonio Painting II 2005 exhibit at Blue Star Gallery in San Antonio.

Gloria P. Elizondo, B.B.A. in

accounting, is an accountant with Brooks Development Authority in San Antonio.

Paul Heriberto Flores, B.S. in mechanical engineering, is an engineer with ETA International in San Antonio.

Sophia Gonzalez, B.B.A. in finance, is a consumer loan specialist at USAA in San Antonio.

Glenn Hicks, M.S. in management of technology, is a technical marketing engineer for AuthenTec Inc. in Melbourne, Fla. AuthenTec produces fingerprint recognition sensors.

Sandra A. Ikenaga, B.A. in psychology, is pursuing a master's in holistic nutrition at Clayton College of Natural Health in Birmingham, Ala. Sandra lives in San Antonio.

Erika Marie McNeal-Reid, B.A. in psychology, is a child protective specialist with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in San Antonio.

Lee Beeler Rodriguez, B.A. in criminal justice, married alumnus **Victor Antonio Rodriguez**, B.A. in criminal justice '99, on Aug. 7, 2004.

Cristina Ruiz, B.A. in communication, is a creative marketing analyst for Security Service Federal Credit Union in San Antonio.

Merana R. Novosad Vera, B.A. in economics, is the owner of Elixir Dezyne in Houston, Texas. Merana and husband Noe announce the birth of a daughter, Raquel Morgan, on Sept. 27, 2004.

Daniel Steve Villarreal, M.A. in education, is pursuing a Ph.D. at UT Austin where he was recognized for his GPA, was a volunteer honoree, is a member of the Gamma Beta Phi Honor Society and was named to the Chancellor's List 2004-2005. Daniel is a second-class brown belt in judo. He was awarded a Warren Fellowship to study the Holocaust at the Holocaust Museum in Houston. His studies began in May.

04 LaMecia Chénettee Butler, B.A. in communication, is public relations coordinator for Scripps Networks in Knoxville, Tenn.

Marcella Angela Calderon, M.A. in counseling, is a caseworker for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services in San Antonio.

David Anthony Gonzales, B.B.A. in information systems, is an operations officer for Security Service Federal Credit Union in San Antonio.

Brianna Mont, B.A. in psychology, is a pre-college adviser for Communities in Schools in San Antonio.

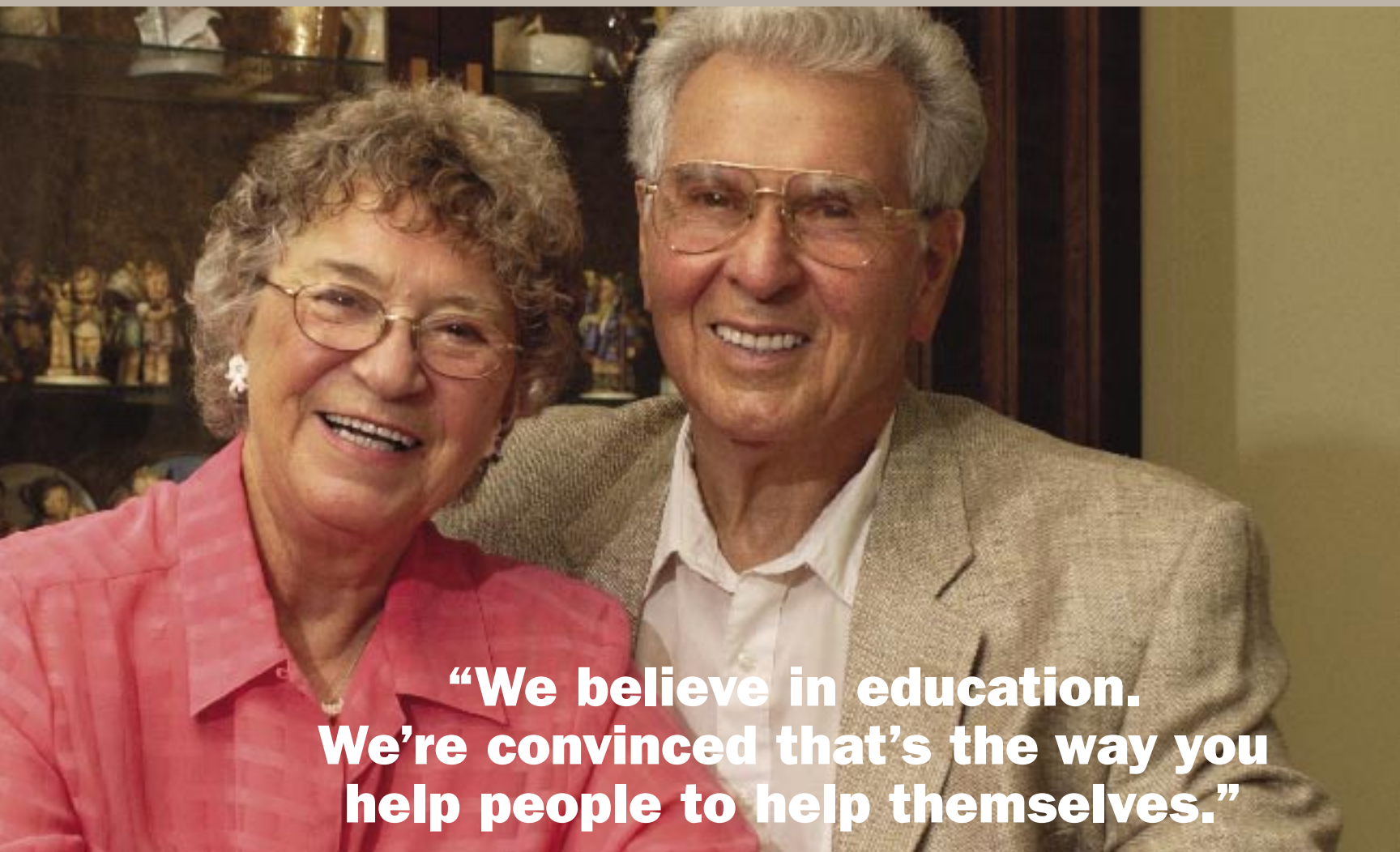
KEEP IN TOUCH

We want to know what you've been up to lately. New jobs, relocation, accomplishments, marriages—whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates.

E-mail: alumni@utsa.edu

Fax: (210) 458-7227

Mail: Office of Alumni Programs
The University of Texas at San Antonio
6900 North Loop 1604 West
San Antonio, TX 78249-0619
Online: www.utsa.edu/alumni/profile/



**“We believe in education.
We’re convinced that’s the way you
help people to help themselves.”**

Phil and Jean Piccione are justifiably proud of the 19 endowments they’ve established. So proud that they often talk to the people they meet when they go on cruises (they’ve been on 29 together) about the scholarships and faculty awards they’ve created. It’s another opportunity, they say, to encourage others to give and to show people that they can afford to give. “If they can afford a cruise,” Phil tells them, “somewhere down the line, they can afford to give \$1,000 or \$2,000.”

THE IMPORTANCE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

The Picciones actually give to several San Antonio universities and colleges including UTSA—even though they have no connection to any of them. Jean’s home state is Pennsylvania; Phil’s is Louisiana. They made their home in San Antonio after retiring from the U.S. Air Force. Jean, a colonel, once served as commandant of the Flight Nursing School at the former Brooks Air Force Base, and Phil, a lieutenant colonel, served as a pilot and flight instructor.

“We owe a lot to higher education. We reaped a lot of benefit from having completed college,” says Phil, adding that Jean was the first in her family to go to college and went on to earn a master’s degree. “It was beneficial to our military careers, it’s been beneficial ever since, and we hope that it’s benefiting others now.”

LEAVING A LEGACY

After retiring to San Antonio, the Picciones started calling local schools to learn more about them and how they could contribute. “This is part of planting roots in San Antonio,” says Phil.

A way of leaving a legacy. And that’s something they encourage everyone to consider.

“You do it for posterity. The Piccione family, from now until the end of time, will be awarding some kind of scholarship or a faculty award,” Jean says.

As UTSA grows, generous gifts such as the endowments created by Phil and Jean Piccione become even more important to the university and its students and faculty. To learn more about giving, contact UTSA’s Development Office at (210) 458-4130.

ON THE WEB:

www.utsa.edu/development

Looking back

Archaeological fun



In August 1993, the university participated in “Bring Your Daughter to Work Day” during which daughters, nieces and granddaughters of UTSA employees toured the campus. In this photograph, student Mary Vaughn shows the kids a jawbone of a bison or cow during the tour of the Center for Archaeological Research (CAR).

CAR began to reach out in a similar fashion to the community about 10 years ago through its Legacy: Hands on the Past program. The program is designed to provide information about archaeology and historic preservation to San Antonio students, teachers and the general public through tours and training seminars conducted by the Legacy staff at the CAR facilities. The program covers the basics of archaeology, the prehistoric cultures of Texas and historic San Antonio. As part of the program CAR holds themed summer camps for children. (See story on CAR’s research and outreach, page 18).

In addition to hosting activities at the CAR facility, Legacy staff members present talks at local schools and community events.

— *Hector Benavides*