

# Launching A Top-Tier Campaign







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We Are UTSA—A Top-Tier Campaign publicly launched on April 12 to a surprise fireworks display.  
PHOTO BY MARK MCCLENDON

COVER PHOTO BY PATRICK RAY DUNN



# LETTERS

## Sombrilla Fall 2011

I really love and enjoy reading *Sombrilla*. I am a proud Roadrunner and appreciate learning more about our school and our surroundings. Keep up the good work. **LINDA MUKUMBUTA**  
*Junior*

## From the Trenches

As we return [from war], things are very much changed for us, whether we were injured or not. The mental and emotional toll is the hardest to get through. UTSA is truly going above and beyond to make our transition to civilian life as smooth as possible. I was featured in the article but it is not about me. I did this article to get the word out that our vets' bodies may be broken, but our drive for success is very much alive. We will never quit and UTSA recognizes this. This is how I truly feel from my experience at UTSA.

**TONY DOYLE**  
*Junior*

I was so pleased to see an article, "From the Trenches of War," that recognized one of the many service men and women we have on campus. Learning about how Tony Doyle is working to rebuild his life from a soldier to a college student and family man in such a positive manner should give inspiration to us all. I admire his courage and determination, and sincerely thank him and all the others who commit to serving our country, no matter what the challenge may be.

*Sombrilla* is a publication that seems to have its finger on the pulse of the university's life along with its people, and I find it something

I read from cover to cover. Keep up the fine work. **YVONNE CANTU**, *president, UTSA Parent Council*

With utmost respect I'd like to offer my thanks to Tony Doyle and all our veterans for your service and faith in our country. **PATRICK FOGARTY '91**  
*Houston*

By listening to and watching vets, whether from World War I or today, I have gleaned some of the best lessons of my education that will stay with me for my entire life. Thank you. **KEN FRAZER '85**  
*San Antonio*

You are all awesome and inspiring individuals that make our university a better place. **PATRICIA KEENUM**  
*Staff nurse, Student Health Services*

This is a great story. Thanks for highlighting the life and contributions of student veterans like Tony Doyle and other veterans. We have a responsibility to help veterans transition successfully back into society, including by supporting their collegiate success.

**MARICELA OLIVA**  
*Associate professor, UTSA*

I myself am an Operation Iraqi Freedom vet and would like to thank Tony Doyle and his family for the service and sacrifice they have made for this country. Mostly I want to tell you, Tony, that I admire your resiliency, and I wish you the best. I'm glad you made it home, and for those who didn't, we will keep them in our hearts and honor them through our achievements.

**MARCO TRUJILLO**  
*Sophomore*

## Faithfully Yours

Wonderful and inspiring research on local churches. Historic preservation is so much more than just preserving old buildings. Keep up the good work. This is so important. **CHERYL DAVANI**  
*M. Arch. '04*

Beautiful pictures! It inspires me and my friend to continue on our journey to visit sacred places in San Antonio. I will look more closely for those hidden jewels on the West Side. **DIANA ELIZONDO '91**  
*San Antonio*

"Faithfully Yours" captures the moment when we might pass by, or through, each of these sacred venues. The research for this story was thorough and thoughtful, the descriptions are compelling and revealing, and the photography is exquisite. It's a valentine to the shrines of San Antonio which are often hidden in plain sight. **DAVID DEERING**  
*Producer, Office of University Marketing*

## Call of Duty

This is a special family, and Marty is a special person. We who had kids who were in school with him could tell that he was driven to be the best at whatever he did. His classmates loved and admired him because of his kindness and ability to make others feel good about themselves. He was captain of the Piper football team, and at 140 pounds soaking wet, was a strong side defensive end and received All-District and All-Area awards. I salute you Marty and I am glad you passed my way. You truly are a leader.

**BILL NEELY**  
*San Antonio*

## There's an App for That

In Belton, Texas, we are piloting an entire middle school

campus of iPads that our students take home every night. Our demographics are 70 percent free lunch and similar to Edgewood's. Keep up that great work! **MARK DURFEE**  
*Troy, Texas*

## Tier One Spring 2011

When I went to UTSA for my graduate work, I was blown away by the level of education. Now, as part of the San Antonio community, I look forward to building professional ties between my employer and the university and tapping into the talent and brainpower. So, to me, Tier One has nothing to do with the number of programs or students, but rather the quality of programs and the contribution the university makes to the business community. By that definition we're already there! **BRAD WHITE '09**  
*San Antonio*

The College of Business has definitely given me skills and put me on the right path to success. I want to recognize it for the positive influence it has had on my career.

**JACCI JACKSON**  
*Senior*

## Marching Orders

### Summer 2011

I'm Alana Urbano's dad. She was born with music in her. Alana was getting an ear full of Jim Beal, rock 'n' roll and a big dose of the real West Side R&B. She was being molded before she was even born. While her mom, Peggy, was pregnant, she would play Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Benny Goodman, The Dorsey Brothers, Frank Sinatra...the list of old big band music goes on. Peg and I talked about exposing our daughter to this kind of great music. This is her actual beginning. We are so happy we did this for her!

**URBAN URBANO**  
*San Antonio*

## SOMBRILLA

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# EDITOR'S NOTE

## The Movement Starts Now

Maybe it was just a coincidence that a few months after a busload of UTSA students traveled through the South on a civil rights exploration, I also found myself enveloped in history.

I was in Atlanta for a conference. I had a little extra time so a friend and I walked in downtown Atlanta, down streets lined with crumbling brick buildings and graffiti-covered facades, en route to Ebenezer Baptist Church—where Martin Luther King Jr. was a pastor. It's a modest brick church, with a blue sign that looks eerily similar to that of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., where four girls were killed when a bomb exploded in 1963, and just one stop on the "journey of enlightenment" for the UTSA students (see story, page 18).

As I sat on a long, polished wooden pew, King's voice boomed out of speakers that must have been hidden somewhere. For just a moment, it was as if he was still alive, and I was one of his parishioners.

It gave me goose bumps. Then brought tears to my eyes. It was 1968 when King was shot at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tenn.—another one of the stops for our students on their civil rights journey. In the 13 years he led the modern civil rights movement, King is credited with accomplishing more toward racial equality than had been achieved in the three centuries before. But it's been 44 years since he was killed, and trip organizers said it's important that what King and countless others achieved isn't forgotten or taken for granted.

And it's critical that history doesn't repeat itself.

That's why the students traveled hundreds of miles by bus in the course of one week. That's why they sat for hours

in hotel rooms, discussing their thoughts about race and discrimination in today's America. That's why they ended their journey singing freedom songs as they wound their way along San Antonio's East Side streets for the largest MLK march in the country.

The lessons they learned will continue long after the trip ended.

As one student said: "Words cannot describe how I feel, pictures cannot capture the growth, the change or the empowerment that I feel inside. But my actions will be a true testament of how impactful this trip was, and how appreciative I am of those who contributed to it. I will wait no longer; the movement starts now."

Saludos,

*Lety*

Lety Laurel



"We are not makers of history. We are made by history."

—MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

With this issue we celebrate recent *Sombrilla* achievements. The Fall 2011 issue, which honored student veteran Tony Doyle, won five awards for photography, design and periodicals improvement. The previous issue was also recognized for outstanding photography and website design.

## Write Back!

We'd love to hear from you! How do you think we're doing? Got any comments about the stories you've seen here? Contact us at [sombrilla@utsa.edu](mailto:sombrilla@utsa.edu). Or mail your letters to *Sombrilla* Editor, Office of University Marketing, UTSA, One UTSA Circle, San Antonio, Texas 78249. Letters may be edited for length or clarity.





# Making History

We Are UTSA—A Top-Tier Campaign

UTSA  
embarks on  
its first-ever  
capital  
campaign

BY LETY LAUREL

One hundred and twenty million dollars could buy 315 Lamborghini Aventadors, which sell for almost \$381,000 apiece. It could buy a brand-new 64-gig iPad for every one of the 129,877 residents in the South Texas city of McAllen—with some left over.

Or it could provide 2,000 students like Dan Rossiter—a computer science major with a 3.9 GPA—a full ride at UTSA. The money could also be used to underwrite 120 endowed chairs like the one held by College of Engineering Dean Mauli Agrawal, a leader in his field.

UTSA officials are hoping the funds will secure scholarships, endowed chairs and much more.

# THE PASEO

A STROLL AROUND CAMPUS

photos by Mark McClendon

SPRING 2012 | SOMBRILLA



“People need to know the long-term importance of the campaign...”

60 to 70 percent of students who graduate from UTSA stay in the community and continue to contribute.”

CAMPAIGN CHAIR, JIM BODENSTEDT '96



In April, UTSA made history by embarking on the first capital campaign in the university's 43 years.

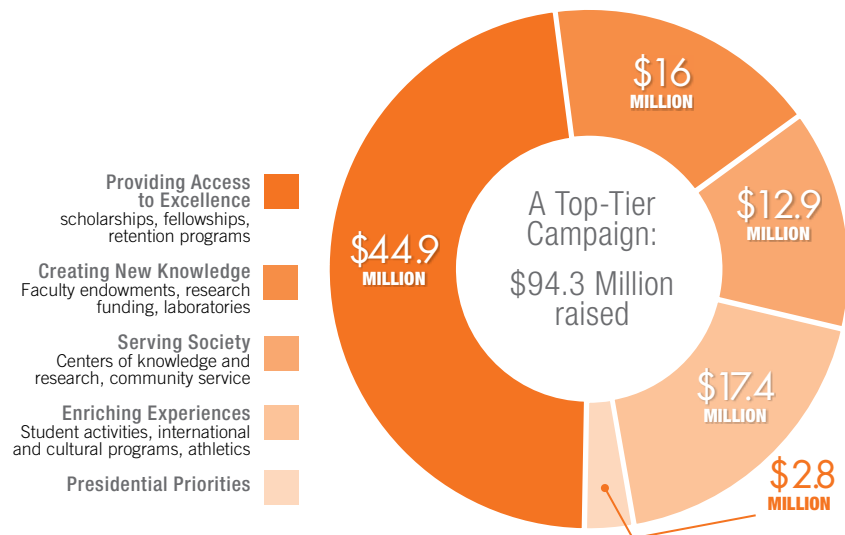
The goal is lofty: to raise \$120 million by 2015 to fund scholarships, aid faculty research, support new institutes and centers, and enrich the student experience. Officials went public with the campaign after reaching more than 78 percent of the goal.

First came a \$2.5 million gift from Valero Energy Foundation for graduate student research support. That was matched in full by the Texas Research Incentive Program, resulting in one of the university's largest corporate gifts.

Then came a mega-microscope. With \$1.2 million from the Robert J. Kleberg Jr. and Helen C. Kleberg Foundation, UTSA acquired the world's most powerful microscope, which can magnify objects 20 million times their original size.

"I knew we were on our way," said Marjie French, vice president for university advancement. "The Kleberg investment... gave us momentum. It gave us a shot in the arm and we could say people really believe in us. They want to invest in us in a big way."

But it was a surprise gift from the estate of a retired schoolteacher, Mary E. McKinney, that provided the biggest boost—up to \$28 million for student scholarships.



**WE ARE UTSA:** The campaign aims to raise \$120 million to support students, faculty and research, centers and institutes, and student life. So far, \$94.3 million—roughly 78 percent—has been raised.

"This has already begun transforming students' lives," French said.

When UTSA embarked on the path to becoming a Tier One university, joining elite research institutions in the country, it became apparent that more support would be needed. At the same time, state funding continued to slump even as operating costs increased.

"There has been a steady decline in state funding going on for about 20 or 30 years now," said Provost John Frederick. About 28 percent of the university's more than \$400 million budget is funded through state appropriation. So when you see a decline in state support and an increase in real expenses, the only place you can make that up without help is by raising student tuition and fees.

"But we are fully understanding of the quandary it puts our students in in an economy that is struggling to come out of a recession. We know that families of students are struggling to make those ends meet and struggling to meet the cost of higher education."

So French and her team came up with a plan. University officials identified where money was needed most and set a goal of raising \$120 million. After extensive research, they determined that the majority of the funds would go to attracting and retaining outstanding faculty; offering more undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships; establishing and supporting more centers, institutes and programs; and enhancing student life.

Every penny donated to the university since 2009 has gone toward the capital campaign, and that will continue until 2015. Donors can decide where their money will go.

"Our job is to match the donor's interest with what we've identified as key strategic needs," French said. "Because if we created a fundraising program that worked within a vacuum, at the end of the day we wouldn't be creating the kind of impact that we need to have happen to achieve our goals."

Campaign chair Jim Bodенstedt '96 said the effort is a chance to create a strong university support network, build a culture of philanthropy and share the impact with the community.

"People need to know the long-term importance of the campaign to students and the community by what's learned and later accomplished by the people who attend school here," he said. "Sixty to 70 percent of students who graduate



**LEFT:** Scholarship recipients, carrying LED lights, formed a procession at the formal launch of the capital campaign on April 13. The lights were provided by GreenStar LED, which gives \$10 to UTSA for every light fixture sold.

**ABOVE:** Mayor Julián Castro's goal is that 80 percent of local young adults will be enrolled in a four-year university, a two-year college or a technical program by 2020.

from UTSA stay in the community and continue to contribute. We know they're not only helping for today, but they're helping for tomorrow."

At the campaign's end, UTSA will look more like a Tier One university, with even more faculty members who are leaders in their fields as well as equipment and facilities to better support cutting-edge research. And more students will get the financial support they need to have access to the best the university can offer.

"So I think the role a capital campaign can play is to help those students achieve their dreams of education by relieving a little bit of the extra strain that our costs might put on them," Frederick said. "The difficulty in any kind of economic recession is [that] resources dry up but our needs don't. This is an area where I think our friends in the community really make a huge difference."

And with the birth of UTSA football, a growing alumni base that now exceeds 88,000, and steady student enrollment, UTSA is becoming San Antonio's university, French said.

"The community wants us to be very, very good because we're transforming a lot of lives," she said.

But, Bodенstedt added, there is still more to do.

"Historically we haven't invested as much as a community in UTSA as we should," he said. "It's time that we do. Our future depends on it."

## Web Extra:

In April, UTSA launched the first capital campaign in the university's history. To watch a video about the goals of the \$120 million campaign, go to [giving.utsa.edu](http://giving.utsa.edu).



## Milestone Makers

Jeff and Loretta Clarke graduated from UTSA more than 20 years ago, yet they remain committed to ensuring that students have greater access to higher education, strengthening the university's capabilities and providing an environment where students want to be.

"We were both first-generation college graduates and the opportunities we have had are a result of going to college," said Loretta '87. And they are focused on providing other first-generation collegians with the same prospect.

"As long as there are great quality professors and there is a great curriculum and energy, then the kids can learn and that is what is going to make a difference," added Jeff '86.

The couple, who met at UTSA, credit their years at the university for the people they are today. After Jeff earned a B.S. in electrical engineering, he embarked on a 25-year career at Dell, where he is now vice chairman and president of the company's Global Operations and End User Computing Solutions. Loretta earned her B.S. in physical education, then taught at Esparza Elementary School in San Antonio while earning her master's in early childhood education. She later earned her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Texas at Austin.

"UTSA was a place where I sort of found myself," Jeff said. "I was trained well, taught well. I knew I could compete against anyone,

and I had the confidence to do so. The leadership skills I developed there paid dividends in my career."

So they give back to the university. They began by giving their time by serving as Alumni Association board members. Their first monetary gift was in 1992.

In 2003, they gave \$500,000, which they divided in half to create two professorships: The Robert E. Clarke Jr. Distinguished Professorship in Electrical Engineering, named after Jeff's father, and the Loretta J. Lowak Clarke Distinguished Professorship in Health and Kinesiology. At the time, it was the single largest alumni gift to the university.

After learning of the \$120 million capital campaign goal, the Clarks contributed \$1 million to establish two additional professorships, one in the College of Education and Human Development—named in honor of her mother, Henrietta Frances Zezula Lowak—and another in the College of Engineering named after Jeff's mother, Mary Lou Clarke.

As an educator, Loretta felt it imperative for her to support the College of Education and Human Development. Doing so also supports UTSA becoming a Tier One university.

"Having two endowed professorships in the College of Education and Human Development provides essential support for recruiting and retaining exceptional faculty," said Dean Betty

Merchant. "At a time when public schools and colleges of education in particular are receiving so little support, Loretta's personal and financial contributions to the college have significantly enhanced our ability to respond to the critical issues associated with education, health and wellness."

Jeff directs his gifts to the College of Engineering "to provide labs and the ability to hire the right professors to bring higher-quality students and develop and nurture them so the potential they have gets unleashed and realized in society."

The gift has been "nothing short of tremendous," said Mauli Agrawal, dean of the College of Engineering.

He also noted that Jeff's professional success pays dividends that are intangible but no less important to a university serving many first-generation college students.

"He is a tremendous role model for our students," Agrawal said.

As UTSA continues to grow in size, it is also maturing in stature. Students should have an opportunity to access the quality education that the university is becoming known for, the Clarks said.

"We feel that our education at UTSA was such a sound basis and foundation for all our successes both educationally and professionally," Loretta said. "We just want the same for all the kids who probably struggle to be able to afford school."



# SWEET DREAMS

ITC CEREMONY  
WELCOMES AMERICA'S  
NEWEST CITIZENS

BY K. RODRIGUEZ

**"This is still the land of hopes and dreams, and there is no other idea of a country like this, perhaps since the days of the Roman Republic."**

**—IRFAN AGHA—**  
PAKISTAN BORN U.S. DOCTOR

**I**NSIDE THE DOME THEATER AT THE Institute of Texan Cultures, a doctor from Pakistan speaks eloquently about the American dream.

A shaft of light illuminates Irfan Agha within the shadows and stillness of the 360-degree venue. Before him sit more than 200 men, women and children from 50 nations. Behind him, U.S. District Judge Xavier Rodriguez smiles proudly. Two colorful flags frame the moment. The naturalization ceremony is bathed in red, white and blue.

"Ladies and gentlemen," Agha said, "America is a unique country. It is a country where, in the words of William Ward, if you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you can dream it, you can become it. Only in this country could the scion of a broken family, at times subsisting on food stamps, go to the best universities of the land because he was smart, and eventually rise to become the president because he was able.

"Nowhere else in the world is this possible, I guarantee you. This is still the land of hopes and dreams, and there is no other idea of a country like this, perhaps since the days of the Roman Republic."

On Feb. 23, Irfan, his wife Fauzia and their two children completed a remarkable journey. They became U.S. citizens almost 15 years after leaving Pakistan with belongings packed in suitcases and aspirations filling their hearts.

Each year, more than 2,000 people become naturalized citizens at the Institute of Texan Cultures (ITC), a museum on the UTSA HemisFair Park Campus. Eight times a year, the museum turns into a federal courthouse with petitioners taking an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution.

As a setting for this ceremony, the Institute of Texan Cultures serves logistical and symbolic purposes. The Federal Courthouse next door lacks the space to accommodate the event, which draws an average of 200 petitioners, plus hundreds of their relatives and friends.

The ITC also offers a rich showcase of ethnic history. The museum tells the story of settlers from Germany and Spain, Mexico and France, and celebrates the cultural diversity of Texans, whose ancestral roots reach around the world.

The cultures on exhibit in the ITC mirror the faces of the new Americans. At a February naturalization ceremony, the roll call of nations included Egypt, Iraq, Mexico, New Zealand, Canada and the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as dozens more.

"We are a community partner," said JoAnn Andera, ITC director of special events. "When we do something like a naturalization ceremony, it brings home what our mission is. We are about people, and

UTSA is definitely about people. UTSA is a leader within our community."

The ceremony is a moving symphony of patriotism. A junior ROTC color guard enters with the American and Texas flags. A military band from Fort Sam Houston plays John Philip Sousa's *Stars and Stripes Forever*. A video shows images of broken and triumphant soldiers on 26 screens. The voice of the late John F. Kennedy intones, "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."


Judge Rodriguez leads the petitioners in an oath. A collective "I do" fills the Dome Theater. The judge congratulates the new U.S. citizens.

Amid the rain of applause there are smiles and tears. Each immigrant has come with a story, narratives that weave across nations to reach a single destination—a desire for citizenship. Claude Le Saux shared her journey with fellow petitioners. She left France in 1996 to complete post-doctoral studies at the University of Hawaii. Le Saux never went back.

She moved to Texas and raised a family in San Antonio. A 16-year-old daughter and a 12-year-old son attend St. Mary's Hall college preparatory school. Today, Le Saux is a professor of medicine and cardiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center. "After spending so many years here," she explained, "I wanted to become part of where I live."

Naturalization ceremonies at the ITC date to at least the early 1980s. Over the years, presiding judges have also administered the oath of citizenship in some unusual circumstances. Some immigrants became citizens on their deathbeds. In 1999, when U.S. Magistrate Judge John Primomo swore in 107-year-old Mexican immigrant Ruperta Urresta Hernandez at a Fort Sam Houston-area home, Hernandez became the oldest naturalized citizen in U.S. history.

Irfan Agha is only 44. Yet he felt the same pull toward naturalization as Hernandez had. As Lee Greenwood's *Proud to be an American* played on overhead video screens, his eyes and those of many others lifted to watch a slideshow of photos.

The ceremony completed, Dr. Agha and the other brand-new citizens left the auditorium to continue their pursuit of the American dream. 

**OPPOSITE:** Eight times a year, the Institute of Texan Cultures turns into a federal courthouse with petitioners taking an oath to defend the U.S. Constitution and become the newest American citizens.



*When I heard UTSA's name along with Harvard, Caltech and other German researchers who received the [international society for optics and photonics] Green Photonics Award, I was really excited. It was exciting to see that our research was on that level and we were all on the same stage. We hope this attracts more students to UTSA who are interested in researching photonics."*

**—Gangadharan Ajith Kumar,** who along with two colleagues from the UTSA Laser and Biophotonics Laboratory, Madhab Pokhrel and Dhiraj K. Sardar, was recently honored for developing the world's most intense infrared-activated, light-emitting phosphor

## BY THE NUMBERS

# No. 7

National ranking of the College of Engineering's graduate programs for Hispanics by *Hispanic Business Magazine*

## BY THE NUMBERS

# \$4.8 billion

Estimated earnings to the state economy by UTSA graduates who remain in Texas



# Perfect Timing

An email, a revolution and new technology merge to offer new possibilities to Egyptians

BY SHERRIE VOSS MATTHEWS

**A**N EMAIL TO CHRISTOPHER REDDICK, CHAIR OF the Department of Public Administration, resulted in an international partnership that could change the relationship between Egyptians and their government.



In the wake of Hosni Mubarak's overthrow, Associate Professor Christopher Reddick is assisting Egypt's effort at having its citizens gain greater access to data and services via e-government tools, making the government more efficient and responsive to its citizens' needs.

In 2009, Hisham Abdelsalam searched through the scholarly work of researchers and experts on the potential of e-government, a system that uses internet-based technology to enhance interaction between citizens, business owners and government. Abdelsalam, an associate professor at Cairo University in Egypt and director of the Decision Support and Future Studies Center, wanted to explore how technology might offer Egyptians greater access to local, regional and national government information and improve governance of the country.

Reddick's *Handbook of Research on Strategies for Local E-Government Adoption and Implementation: Comparative Studies*, a two-volume collection of studies on the impact of e-government in 21 countries, led to Abdelsalam's note to Reddick, asking if he would participate in his project, LoGIn2EGYPT.

The project, headed by Abdelsalam and his center, examines how the country could increase access by Egyptians to government data and services through websites and mobile phones. LoGIn2EGYPT is funded through a grant from the International Development Research Centre in Canada and is sponsored by the Egyptian Ministry of State for Administrative Development.

The project team already had researchers with backgrounds in engineering or information technology who were focused on the technical side of the program. But Abdelsalam was seeking something more.

"We needed a distinguished researcher who would help us see the other side of the program—the impact and usefulness [or] weaknesses of the e-government applications," he said. "Dr. Reddick, with his scholarly articles in e-government maturity, was the right person to help,

**"Throughout Egyptian society, voices are...calling for a law ensuring freedom of disclosure and access to information. There have been a notable number of journal articles, TV...talk-shows and conferences going around this critical issue."**

Hisham Abdelsalam, associate professor at Cairo University in Egypt and director of the Decision Support and Future Studies Center

and he kindly agreed to do so, giving us the chance to achieve all of our project's objectives."

Reddick now serves as consultant for LoGIn2EGYPT and has developed surveys and assisted in the research and writing of several academic papers for the project. In the summer, he traveled to Egypt for a two-day workshop, where he explained how e-government tools could assist the wider populace as well as the country's leaders in developing a more efficient and effective system of government.

The project's timing turns out to have been ideal. The 2011 Egyptian Revolution, in which dissidents overthrew president Hosni Mubarak, was an opportunity for change and transparency in the country, Abdelsalam said. There was a shocking amount of organized corruption under the Mubarak regime that was exposed, he added.

"Throughout Egyptian society, voices are...calling for a law ensuring freedom of disclosure and access to information," Abdelsalam said. "There have been a notable number of journal articles, TV...talk-shows and conferences going around this critical issue."

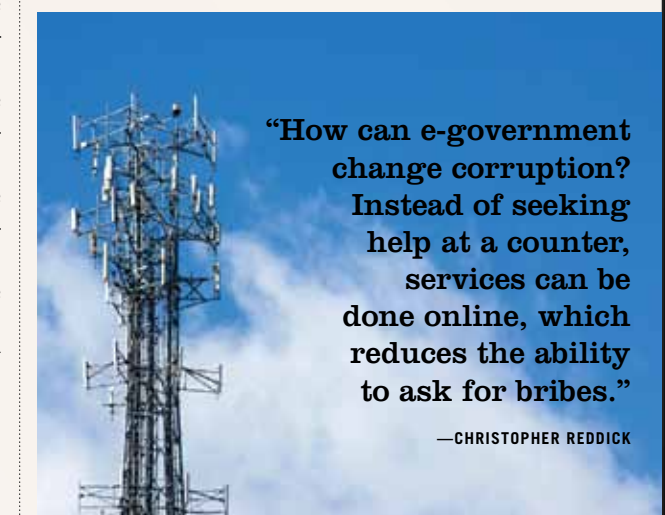
The recent uprisings have led to the possibility of more open government than Egyptians have experienced during the 40 years of Mubarak's rule. Team members hope they will be able to acquire database records from some government agencies so they can begin to build prototypes of online web-based systems that Egyptians can use to request information, similar to the U.S. website [www.data.gov](http://www.data.gov). There is no open records law in Egypt, so the LoGIn2EGYPT team will have to rely on their ability to persuade governmental authorities to release the data.

"How can e-government change corruption? Instead of [seeking help at] a counter, services can be done online, which reduces the ability to ask for bribes," Reddick explained.

Because 70 percent of Egyptians have access to mobile phones, "this could be the next wave of e-government," he said.

However, there is still a lot of research to do before usable e-government tools can be developed, Reddick said. The next step will be further surveys of national government officials, Egyptian citizens and the business community to examine the feasibility of open government data for Egypt. Abdelsalam and Reddick await word on a second grant from the International Development Research Centre. If they receive funding, the next phase of the project will begin, which will ultimately lead to a prototype website that will allow the average Egyptian citizen access to government data.

Reddick said such a site would benefit all Egyptians, and the government itself. "To be a democracy, you have to be open," he said. 🐦



**"How can e-government change corruption? Instead of seeking help at a counter, services can be done online, which reduces the ability to ask for bribes."**

—CHRISTOPHER REDDICK



"Last year, we expanded our research programs at UTSA by recruiting top faculty and by focusing on our five areas of research strength: health, cyber security, energy, sustainability and human development. When our students have access to scholars who are at the top of their fields, they have the power to transform their lives so they can make a positive and significant impact on our state, our nation and our world."

—President Ricardo Romo on the university's 6.8 percent increase in research spending in FY 2011 over the previous year. The \$56,833,860 total represents a 75.8 percent increase from the amount spent on research five years ago.

## BY THE NUMBERS

# 1,435

The total number of faculty members for the 2011 academic year, including 614 professors who are tenured or are currently on tenure-track



# RELIGIOUS INSPIRATION

## CHURCHGOERS TAKE A LEAP OF FAITH TO A HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE

BY CINDY TUMIEL



**A**MERICA'S OBESITY epidemic cannot be fixed with crash diets. Most experts agree that families need to make lifestyle changes, meaning fewer fast-food meals and sugary soft drinks and more fruit, vegetables and water. It also means less television and computer time and more walking outdoors.

That message has been in the news for years, yet obesity and its complications remain a major public health concern. The problem is especially alarming in Hispanic communities, where as many as 45 percent of children are overweight or obese. San Antonio doctors are finding children as young as 10 with metabolic irregularities, diabetes and early signs of heart disease.

Lifestyle changes are tough to make, but the stakes are high. Children who develop diabetes at a young age will spend a lifetime coping with an illness that can lead to complications like kidney disease, heart attacks, blindness and amputations.

"To take on obesity, you have to motivate the whole family, the whole community, to reach the children," said Meizi He, UTSA associate professor of health and kinesiology. She is testing a novel approach to reverse and prevent obesity in the Hispanic community by utilizing that community's deep religious faith.

"By going to the churches, we reach the parents, we reach the grandparents, we reach the whole community," she said.

Both He and Deborah Parra-Medina, a professor of epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Sci-

ence Center at San Antonio, worked with two West Side San Antonio churches last year to develop and test a new model of obesity prevention. With grant support from the San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI), they combined biblical teachings about health and stewardship with 21st century science about nutrition and fitness. The program harnessed families' spirituality and faith to tackle the challenge of lifestyle change.

Preliminary measurements from a six-month pilot study show encouraging results. Children and adults became more aware of the importance of good nutrition, they exercised more, ate more fruit and vegetables and fewer sugary drinks, and their abdominal fat measurements declined.

Turning to churches is not a new idea. Faith-based organizations have long had a role in African American communities as important forums promoting social justice and political change. More recently, churches have emerged as major venues for delivering health messages in these communities as well. But there were few such efforts in Latino communities, He found, even though 90 percent of Hispanics are members of a church or faith-based group.

He's earliest steps, with funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, explored ways to do this. Interviews with West Side pastors and congregation members in 2010 revealed that people did perceive a link between religious faith and health, and that they thought culturally sensitive messages could be effective in combating childhood obesity. Next, using funding from SALSI, He and colleagues worked with two other churches to develop and test Building a Health Temple, an integrated program of Bible-based messages about



**"IF WE ARE OVEREATING,  
NOT WATCHING OUR WEIGHT AND  
NOT EXERCISING, WE ARE NOT  
BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF THE  
GIFT THAT GOD HAS GIVEN US."**

**—REV. JOSE MONTANEZ**  
PASTOR OF THE CENTRAL CHURCH OF GOD

health. The program combines these messages with exercise sessions for children and adults, health screenings, and nutrition and cooking classes.

"The Bible calls upon us to take care of ourselves and our bodies because we are temples of the Holy Spirit," said Central Church of God pastor Jose Montanez, head of one of the participating congregations in last year's pilot project. "If we are overeating, not watching our weight and not exercising, we are not being good stewards of the gift that God has given us."

His West Side church is in an area marked by high rates of poverty. He estimated that one-third of his 350-member congregation is overweight or obese.

The pastors who participated each appointed a steering committee to work with the researchers in developing messages specifically tailored to their congregations. Together they developed themes covering two sermons and six lessons for both the children's Sunday School and adults' Bible study sessions. These were then integrated with a health improvement program that began with measurements that included weight, waist circumference and body mass index, also called BMI, a clinical measure calculated us-

ing height and weight.

Families received lessons from the researchers about nutrition, health and meal preparation, and members joined church-based physical activity sessions. Participants also got pedometers to keep track of their everyday walking totals, which proved a popular and easy way to motivate people to walk more, the researchers said.

"It was a very well-rounded program," Montanez said. "It was a spiritually based approach and it was very well received."

Study participants reported success. Overall, they became more knowledgeable about health issues and more conscious of the long-term effects of a bad diet and sedentary lifestyle.

There were not dramatic changes in weight or BMI, but He's team found significant decreases in waist circumference, an important clinical measure that correlates with reduced heart disease risk and general good health. The formal program lasted six months and researchers measured lifestyle changes to evaluate the program's impact. He was pleased with the findings and hopes to convince another local philanthropic group to support expansion of the program to other Hispanic churches.

"They learned the key messages that incorporated biblical messages and health," said He. "We saw positive changes and now we hope we can take that program to more people."

A devout Christian herself, He found the project to be a way of implementing her own faith and its teachings about helping others.

"This is my passion—preventive programs to help people," she said. "I have it in my heart to do this. I can't do just pure research. I want to help people live healthier lives."

*"That ability to concentrate on the life of the mind, that's the most precious and attractive thing that perpetuates our studies. It allows the thinking and inventiveness to continue from one generation to the other. Our students now have a place to go and just think about the contributions that came before."*

**—Dan Gelo, DEAN OF THE  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL AND  
FINE ARTS, speaking at the Feb.  
8 ribbon cutting for the African  
American Reading Room in the  
John Peace Library**



### //IN BRIEF//

#### Poetic Perfection

Carmen Tafolla has been named San Antonio's first poet laureate. Tafolla, a senior lecturer in the Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, is an acclaimed writer and award-winning author of children's literature.

In 1976 Tafolla published *Get Your Tortillas Together*, a project she collaborated on with two other poets. She was the head writer for *Sonrisas*, a bilingual children's program, and published *Curandera*, a collection of poems, after earning her doctoral degree in bilingual education from the University of Texas at Austin. *Curandera* is still used as a textbook in high schools and colleges.



*"The Institute of Texan Cultures is a key element in UTSA's community outreach efforts in San Antonio and across the state. As a scholar and museum professional with a proven track record of success, [Angelica M. Docog] is the optimal choice to lead the Institute of Texan Cultures in its mission to serve the community."*

—Jude Valdez,  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
COMMUNITY SERVICES,  
announcing the appointment  
of Docog as the institute's  
executive director



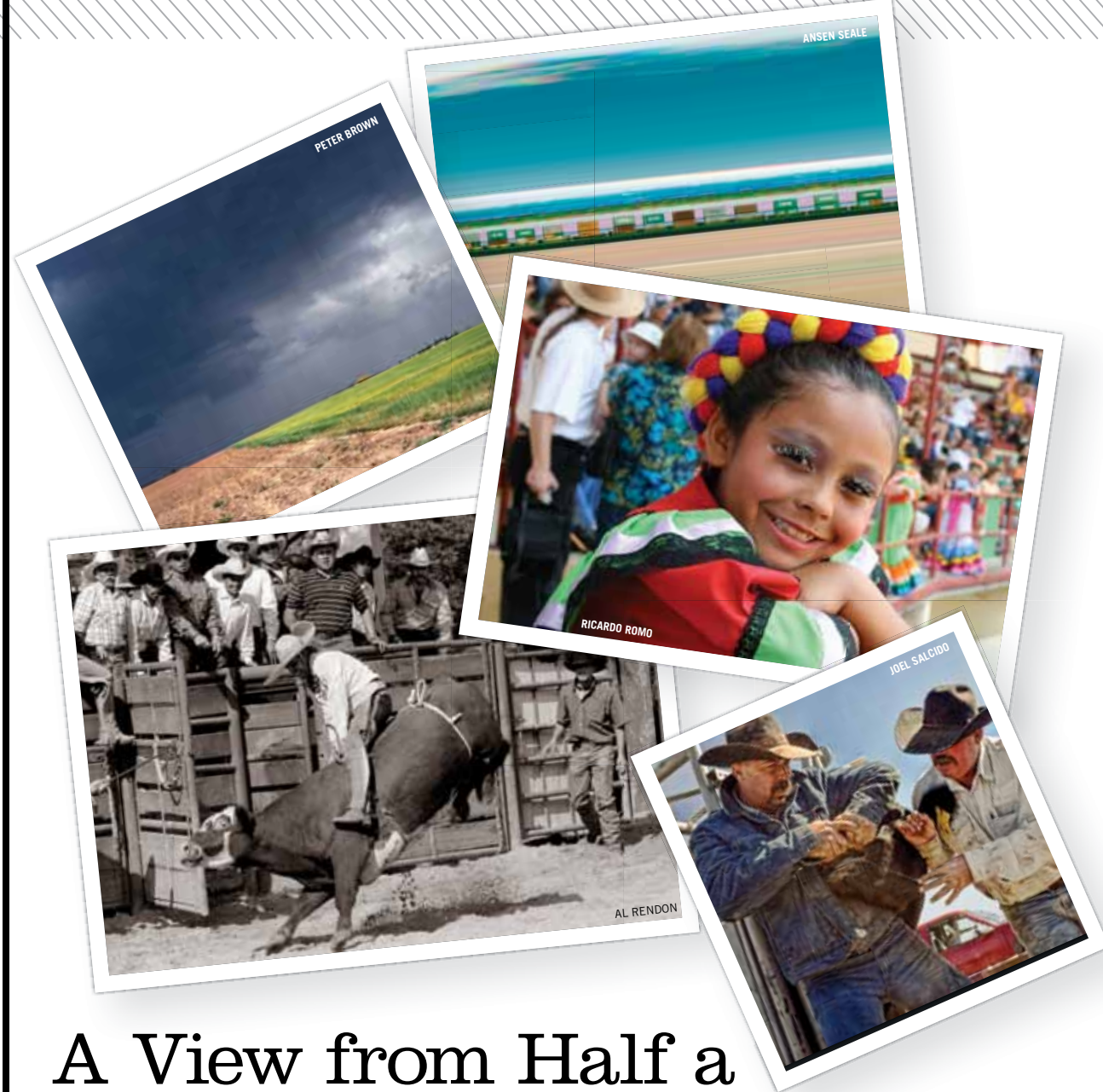
//IN BRIEF//

**Viva Italia**

UTSA has partnered with one of the oldest universities in Italy for a four-week summer course, The Classical World, to be based at the Università Degli Studi di Siena.

To be taught jointly by professors from both schools, the course will engage students in hands-on study of classical antiquity and explore major themes of the anthropology of the ancient world.

It is the first time that the school, founded as a public university in 1240, has allowed an American university to teach a course on the Siena campus for college credit toward an American degree without requiring an academic transfer.



## A View from Half a World Away

**F**IVE TEXAS PHOTOGRAPHERS, INCLUDING UTSA President Ricardo Romo, traveled to Shanghai last semester to display their work and unveil a view of Texas that many from the country have never seen.

At the invitation of the China Photographers Association, Peter Brown, Al Rendon, Joel Salcido, Ansen Seale and Romo showed their photographs of ranches, vaqueros and rodeos in the exhibit Infinite Horizon: Visions of Texas.

The exhibit was on display at the 14th annual China International Photographic Art Exhibition.

"The five photographers featured in this exhibit have an eye for South Texas," said Curator Arturo Infante Almeida, UTSA art specialist. "With patience and understanding, they have been able to capture small-town Texas in their lenses like nobody else. Their photos are poetic, and they will offer unique insight to all who see them on display."

Donald Lien, director of the UTSA Confucius Institute, facilitated the trip and said Texas is largely unknown to the Chinese, and similarly, China is a mystery to Texans.

"This trip to China was meant to improve communications and understanding between Chinese and Americans," he said. "One way to do that is to send pho-

tographers. Photos can tell us so much."

Following the exhibit, the five spent two days taking photographs of the region. The group's itinerary included a brief stop in Shanghai before heading to Lishui City. They spent a half-day in the rural town of Dhu Rong, where a village festival was underway, complete with outdoor theater and a performance of Chinese opera.

"I looked at the complexities of Chinese culture and society," said Romo. "It's an enormous country—80 percent rural—and we were all fascinated by the rural aspects. People go to Beijing and Shanghai. We went to a small town and got to see a play that's been performed for hundreds of years. I like to look at small communities and how they unite and celebrate together."

The trip also took the Texas photographers to the Great Wall, Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven, Tiananmen Square and the town of Wenzhou.

They returned with gripping images from the countryside—and the people—that they displayed at UTSA's Institute of Texan Cultures through May.

"Many Chinese are familiar with American customs and the American way of life, but the Texas culture is foreign to them," said Lien. "This exhibit and cultural exchange connected the two communities, bringing each culture to the heart of the other."



PATRICK RAY DUNN

//IN BRIEF//

**Asian Festival turns 25**

Amid crashing cymbals, pounding drums and popping firecrackers, participants greeted the Chinese New Year at the 25th annual Asian Festival at the Institute of Texan Cultures on Jan. 28.

This year, the Year of the Dragon celebration featured groups from across a variety of Asian cultures, including mainland China, Korea, Japan, the Indian subcontinent and the islands of the Pacific Ocean. The groups shared their heritage through food, music and dance, cooking demonstrations, martial arts demonstrations and crafts.





"All of us, well maybe a few of us, have had that experience of somebody liking you who has always liked you, but you don't like them. In fact, they get on your nerves. The real irony of life is that we run after people while someone else is running after us."

—Daniel "Omotosho" Black, discussing his book *Perfect Peace* at a Dec. 2 lecture hosted by the Department of English

#### BY THE NUMBERS

**06.01.12**

Roadrunners formally join the Western Athletic Conference. The university will be fielding 17 men's and women's Division I NCAA sports teams for 2012–13.



"We proved that UTSA finance students are top tier. We cannot only compete with some of the best business programs in Texas, but we can beat them. Our finance education gave us the tools we needed to succeed."

—Tiby Erdely, SENIOR FINANCE MAJOR, after his three-person team won first place in the CFA Institute Research Challenge, beating out 19 teams from the Texas, Louisiana and Oklahoma region in a global competition that tests business students' financial analytical skills. More than 3,000 students from almost 50 countries participated this year.

## SPORTS BRIEFS



An artist's rendering of the newly designed athletics field complex. Courtesy of HKS Sports & Entertainment Group

#### ATHLETICS

HKS Sports & Entertainment Group was selected to design UTSA's new athletics complex, which will be located at the 125-acre UTSA Park West Campus (approximately two miles west of Main Campus). The work will include soccer and track and field stadiums, as well as the initial utilities, road and parking infrastructure. The project will be completed in multiple phases with the first including the design and construction of a 1,000-seat soccer stadium, 1,000-seat track and field stadium and 500-space surface parking lot. The facilities will be used for public events, as well as serving as home bases for Roadrunners sports teams.

#### MEN'S BASKETBALL

UTSA finished the 2011–12 campaign with an 18–14 overall record and earned the No. 5 seed for the Southland Conference Tournament with a 10–6 league ledger, the program's most league wins since 2004–05. The Roadrunners now have registered 76 victories in the last four seasons

the Roadrunners. In league play, she upped those averages to a team-best 11.6 ppg and 8.5 rpg. Jones closed the campaign with a career-high 29 points and 11 rebounds against UT Arlington.

#### MEN'S GOLF

Sophomore Ryan Werre was named February's Southland Conference Player of the Month after registering a 71.67 stroke average and a pair of top-15 finishes, including tying for fourth with a career-best three-under-par 213 at the Rice Intercollegiate. The Redcliff, Alberta, native opened his spring season with four consecutive top-15 showings.

#### WOMEN'S GOLF

The Roadrunners won February's Islanders Classic by 40 strokes, giving the program multiple victories in a season for the first time in program history (UTSA won the Alamo Invitational title in November). Senior Summer Batiste and sophomore Taylor Newlin claimed the top spot on the individual leader board and Batiste was honored as February's Southland Conference Player of the Month following the event.



UTSA sophomore track team member, Kerry Thompson, participates in the Trinity University Tiger Relays track and field meet in March.

#### MEN'S TENNIS

The Roadrunners achieved the program's first-ever national ranking in February, and that came on the heels of a 4–3 upset victory at No. 36 Rice on Feb. 11. It was UTSA's first win against a ranked opponent since March 3, 2007, when the Roadrunners defeated No. 75 San Francisco.

#### MEN'S TRACK & FIELD



JEFF HUEHN, UTSA ATHLETICS

Head coach Aaron Fox led UTSA to an unprecedented seventh consecutive Southland Conference Indoor Championship in February. Led by a league-record-tying six individual champions, UTSA scored 134 points, which was the second-highest total in school history. The victory broke the Roadrunners' tie with Lamar, which won six crowns in a row from 1980–85, and the half dozen gold medals pushed the program's all-time total to 62, of which 38 have come during Fox's 10-year tenure.



**HER CHOICE OF WEAPONS ON THE LINKS:**  
Ping irons, Taylor-Made woods, Callaway driver and Odyssey putter.



**HER HERO:**  
Lorena Ochoa, a golfer widely considered Mexico's best ever. The first Mexican golfer ranked No. 1 in the world, Ochoa held the No. 1 LPGA ranking for three years until she retired in 2010.



**FABIOLA'S BFF:**  
Fellow teammate Paola Valerio, who supported and encouraged her to apply to UTSA and join the seven-person team.



**REPLACEMENT PARTS:**  
After her longtime pug named Chata ran off, she is getting used to the replacement dog, although she has yet to decide whether to name the new pet Camillo or Bruno.

## SPOTLIGHT Fabiola Arriaga

BY GUILLERMO GARCIA

FABIOLA ARRIAGA HAS A MEAN PUTTER, A MEANER DRIVER, and a driving will to win. The first player in UTSA golf team history to be named Southland Conference Freshman of the Year, the 20-year-old from Mexico "is a diamond in the rough with a lot of natural talent" who only now is beginning "to realize just how great she can be," said golf coach Carrie Parnaby.

Despite being just out of her teens, the native of Torreon last year held the team's second-lowest stroke average, 76.25, on her way to becoming only the second freshman in university history named to the Southland Conference first team.

Arriaga dropped ballet and first picked up golf clubs at age 9, about the time that her twin brother decided he was no longer interested.

"I didn't like it very much at first, but for my dad's sake, I kept at it. What I really got to enjoy was the competition, which really motivated me to do my best," she said.

Although she loves to dance, visit friends in Austin and Dallas, and listen to music—"anything except ranchera"—she doesn't have much free time.

A second-year communications major on full scholarship, Arriaga has played in each of the team's tournaments since joining the team in 2010. The avowed vegan was on the Mexican National team in 2009 and 2010 and competed in the National Athletic Olympics in 2010 after winning the U.S. Girls' Qualifier in 2009.

"The strongest part of my game is the mental side," Arriaga noted. "If I am 'there' mentally, I will do well. So for me, the major part is the preparation, getting into my respiration routine and getting over the jitters, getting calm and prepared for what I need to do."

Parnaby said that Arriaga "has a great mental approach and has the capability to be one of the best players in college golf."

Arriaga's goal is simple: "Win all the tournaments that I can. I want our team to get strong and become a Top 25 nationally ranked team, which we are capable of doing."



photos by Mark McClendon



# The Movement

By Vincent T. Davis

A chill hung in the morning air as 40 UTSA students boarded a bus that would carry them back in time.

Their route would take them to cities where crowds of invisible faces once marched against injustice, where levees had burst, where the voices of four little girls were abruptly silenced and where the nation's most prominent leader of non-violent protest was slain.

From Jan. 10–14, the group traveled on a civil rights exploration tour, called The Movement: An Exploration of Civil Rights. The journey included stops at the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans, the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., and the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis. It ended in San Antonio with the 25th Anniversary Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative March on Jan. 16.

## WEB EXTRA:

Follow the students' comments on [facebook.com/movement2012](https://facebook.com/movement2012)

Watch a student-narrated photo slideshow chronicling the civil rights journey at [utsa.edu/sombrilla](http://utsa.edu/sombrilla).

UTSA students take to San Antonio streets during the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative March at the conclusion of their civil rights exploration tour.





**LEFT:** Marcheta Evans, associate professor in the College of Education and Human Development, reflects on the trip. **ABOVE:** Xavier Johnson pauses in front of a portrait of King located in the basement of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., where four youngsters were killed in a bombing. **FAR RIGHT:** *Praying in the Park*, the statue in Birmingham's Kelly Ingram Park, shows pastors leading their congregation in non-violent opposition to racial injustice.



## “We planted the seed and it'll continue to grow.”

Yvonne Peña, director of Student Leadership Development

and the PBS film, *Freedom Riders*. On the road to Memphis, they saw *Prom Night in Mississippi* and learned freedom songs and spirituals from *Soundtrack for a Revolution*.

At night, they would gather at their hotels to discuss the day's events and hear presentations by guest speakers.

The tour planners added a New Orleans stop because the Crescent City represented an example of people fighting for their rights in neighborhoods swept away by Hurricane Katrina.

In that deluged city, the students stood next to new levees and met residents whose lives were forever altered by the sweep of swift water. They listened to Ward “Mack” McClendon as he spoke about opening the community center called the Lower Ninth Ward Village, where residents could learn to depend on themselves.

As the bus passed through swamplands spiked with moss-draped trees en route to Birmingham, the travelers learned about the tragedy of four little girls who lost their lives while at church at the hands of a bomber.

Then they entered that same church, the 16th Street Baptist Church, where Denise McNair, Cynthia Wesley, Carole Robertson and Addie Mae Collins were killed when a bomb exploded on Sept. 15, 1963.

Student Iliana Sanchez and her fellow riders sat in crimson-colored pews where civil rights leaders and activists once assembled. The faces of the four girls beamed from two banners high above the pulpit.

“There is no doubt this trip will change us all,” Sanchez

later wrote about the experience on a Facebook page dedicated to the Movement 2012 tour. “It's what we do after we return to our homes that will define our lives.”

Lemere struggled to make sense of how someone's rage could end with the killing of children.

“It was mind-boggling,” he said. “I couldn't think of why it happened.”

At the nearby Kelly Ingram Park, trip participants walked where firemen had blasted demonstrators with high-pressure water hoses and police unleashed dogs on protesters. They stood in the shadow of statues of jailed children. They inched their way between snarling dogs of steel that lunged from facing walls.

But it was Memphis that the students found the most moving. Inside the National Civil Rights Museum, many of them were speechless. The 12,800-square-foot museum encompasses the Lorraine Motel, where an assassin's bullet felled Martin Luther King Jr. 44 years ago.

The students looked through a plate glass window into Room 306, where King spent his last night. They looked from the bathroom of a rooming house facing the motel where the crosshairs of a rifle were set on the civil rights leader, who had come to the city to protest the working conditions and pay of striking sanitation workers.

“Standing in the actual spot of Dr. King's hotel room brought tears to my eyes,” Dezranique Stansberry wrote on Facebook. Darnell Thomas said the tour opened his “eyes, ears and heart more than a book, documentary or television special could have.”

Back in San Antonio, on the final leg of their emotional journey, the students joined a crowd of more than 100,000 at the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative March.

They wore T-shirts with “The Movement” emblazoned across the front and sang freedom songs as they wound their way along the East Side on Martin Luther King Drive. To a certain degree, it was the closest thing to feeling what people on the movement's front line must have felt as they marched for equality down main streets and country roads, Anderson said.

The experience made La Kendria Ellis recognize her potential. “To see young people fight for what they felt made me a better person and gave me wisdom,” she said. “It made me realize how many excuses our generation makes.”

Marcheta Evans, associate professor in the College of Education and Human Development, said the journey was an experience she will never forget.

“The most rewarding part is knowing that the future is in great hands,” she wrote on Facebook. “And as students, you will never forget on whose shoulders you are standing.”

Martin Luther King Jr. and Rosa Parks are some of the most recognizable figures of the Civil Rights Movement. But there are so many more heroes that were invisible for most students until the tour, Peña said. And that bothered them.

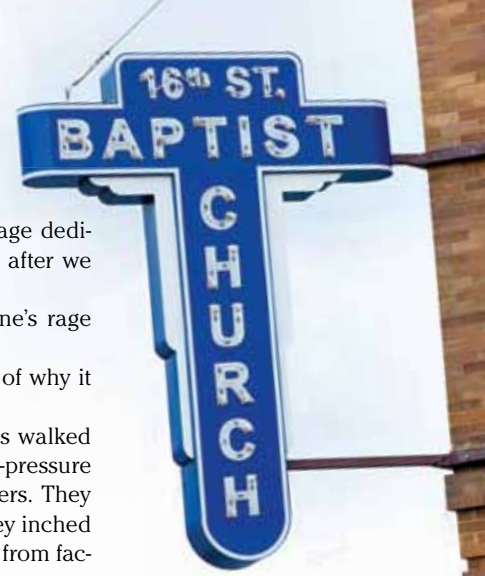
“They said, ‘If we don't know about this person in our education, then the next generation won't know,’” Peña added.

So the participants made a promise to trip organizers and to themselves. They signed a contract that lays out how they plan to use the lessons learned and support another person on the road to discovery.

As Justina Williams posted on Facebook:

“This journey may have ended, but I feel like the true movement has just begun. No longer can I accept the status quo and let fear stop me from making a change. The Movement was like the strike of [a] match and I vow to never let this flame burn out.”

Samantha Flores catches a few minutes of sleep as the bus rolls onto the next tour stop.



**ABOVE:** This iconic sign is from the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala.

**BELOW:** DeMarcus Lewis raises a fist in salute as he walks in front of a statue of the slain civil rights leader who championed non-violent confrontation.





Marilyn Lanfear, painter, sculptor and storytelling artist, recently had her work featured at the Beeville Art Museum in an exhibit titled Marilyn Lanfear: The Struggle of Memory Against Forgetting.

ANSEN SEALE STUDIOS

# ART Evolution

BY KATE HUNGER

Honoring the traditional approaches to studio art, object- and image-making, the Department of Art and Art History over the last eight years expanded its size and focus, creating an artist class that ranges from the traditional sculpting and oil on canvas to absurdist performance art with the goal of keeping the artist and the community active and engaged.



To spend an afternoon with Marilyn Lanfear is to experience the same rich sense of anticipation one feels when diving into an absorbing novel: It won't be dull, and the journey will be worth pondering long after the last page has been turned.



Lanfear—painter, sculptor, woodworker, collector—is as much a storyteller as an artist, and the materials she uses to tell her stories depend completely upon which ones best achieve her vision.

"I don't just keep painting with oil paints and then get better and better," she said. "I usually get my idea and then I have to learn how to make it visible. If I need to learn to carve, I have to learn to carve. But the trouble is, I have to learn how to do it as if I've been doing it for years and years."

In 1976, Lanfear was the first B.F.A. graduate at UTSA, and in 1978 she was one of five students awarded an M.F.A. That year, a total of 12 students received arts degrees. By contrast, 597 students have received a bachelor's or master's degree in the arts in the last eight years, an indication of how the Department of Art and Art History has expanded, according to department chair Greg Elliott.

"The growth rate in the department is enormous," Elliott said. "A lot of that, I think, is due to the fact that we have a program that still very much honors the traditional approaches to studio art—object-making and image-making—but the faculty here and the program itself are committed to staying extremely current."

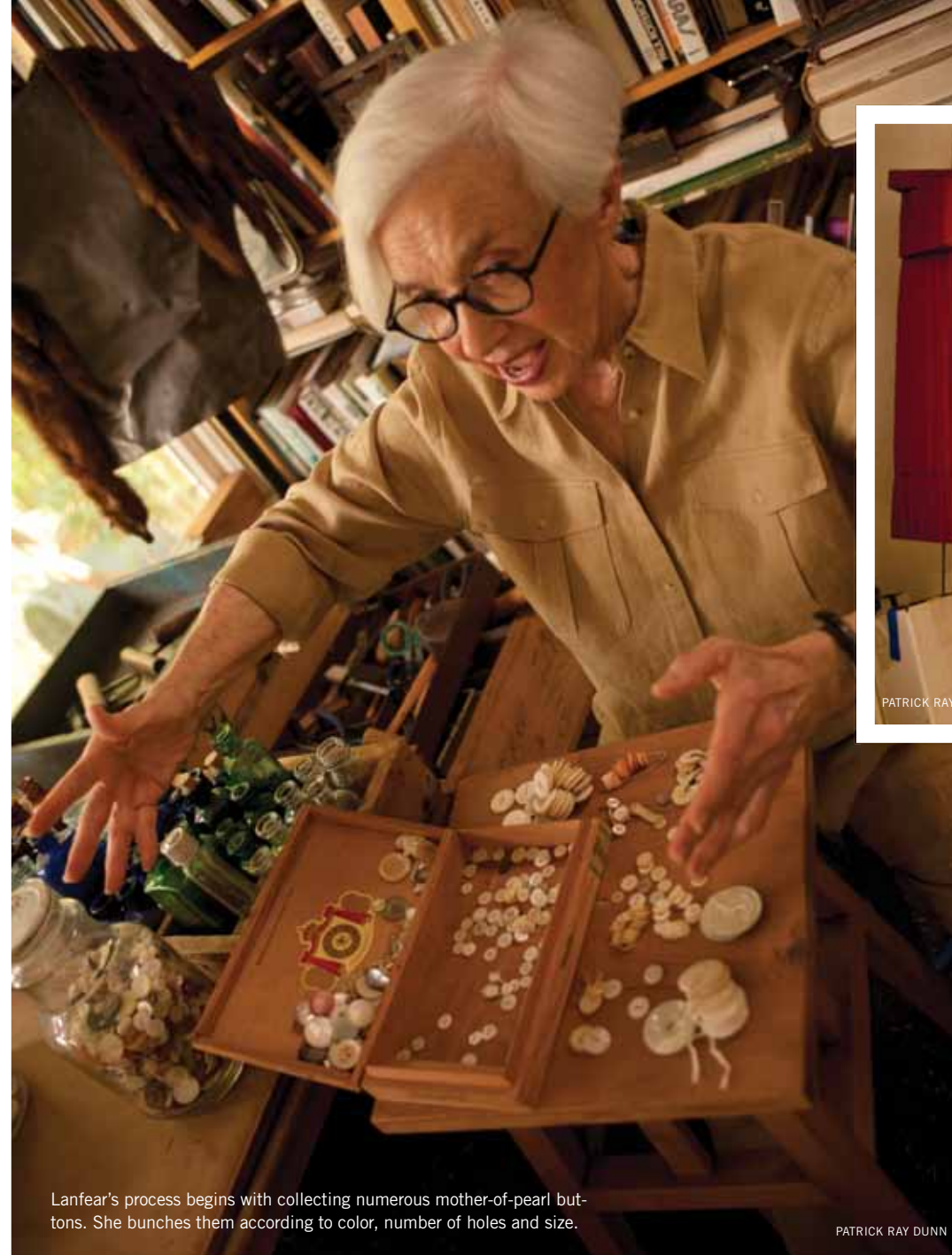
Art isn't just the traditional bronze, oil paint, ceramics and lithography anymore, he added. Today's art also involves performance and installation and videos. Graduates continue to create and stay relevant, he said.

Take Jimmy Kuehnle, who graduated with an M.F.A. in 2006. He doesn't shy away from attention. In fact, his most recent work is hard to miss. The performance artist and sculptor designs and fabricates inflatable nylon suits and wears them in public. The response he gets to the absurdity of his suits is the point behind the work.

Kuehnle, now an assistant professor at the Cleveland Institute of Art, made his first inflatable suit, *Kiss the Sky*, for a Houston performance while he was a graduate student at UTSA.

Button work is a staple in Lanfear's art collection. This image, from *Uncle Clarence's Three Wives*, portrays one wife who died in 1937.

ANSEN SEALE STUDIOS



Lanfear's process begins with collecting numerous mother-of-pearl buttons. She bunches them according to color, number of holes and size.

PATRICK RAY DUNN

"I filled it up with air and I had a big extension cord and an air blower and ran all around and asked, 'Hey I need electricity. Can you help me?' I would unplug and then run down the street to the next person to see if they would give me electricity to stay inflated. It was really fun."

Then there's Nate Cassie, whose latest project is called *Vacancy*, in which he curates one-night exhibitions held in vacant spaces made available for the show.

At a recent exhibition, he wore a "Head Curator" nametag as he consulted with "clients" perched on his barber chair. As he discussed their style options, Cassie pulled out a camera to take before and after shots. The mirrors on the wall were warped, ensuring that no customers would get a clear view of their new 'dos.

"I have always wanted to have a barbershop," he said. "I like [that] it has this intimacy and a communal aspect. It's part of your head that you are exposing to somebody and if you are a man of a certain age, maybe you are losing some hair up there. There's a lot there [to work with]."

The department's graduates stay busy, whether it is creat-



PATRICK RAY DUNN

**"We've got a huge presence in a very active art community here and that's not accidental. It's been a mission of the department for 20 years; our students were not going to study it, they were going to go out there and participate before they graduate."**

—Greg Elliott  
Department chair, art and art history

ing multimedia art objects with buttons like Lanfear, crafting absurdist inflatable suits like Kuehnle, or teaching and creating art, like sculptor Cassie.

"We get lots of show flyers. I've got a big drawer full of them," Elliott said. San Antonio has a tradition of celebrating art on the first Friday of every month with an art walk in galleries south of downtown. "It is not uncommon for every First Friday that I've got 10 to 12 shows to go to and eight of them will be somebody from UTSA."

And UTSA's visibility is growing every year, he added. "We've got a huge presence in a very active art community here and that's not accidental. It's been a mission of the department for 20 years; our students were not going to study [art], they were going to go out there and participate before they graduate."

#### EVOLUTION OF AN ARTIST

From an early age, Lanfear knew she wanted to be an artist. Born in Waco, her family moved to Corpus Christi when she was in the sixth grade. After earning her M.F.A. from UTSA,

Lanfear left San Antonio for New York City to pursue her dream of working in what she calls "Mecca," and later moved to Oregon, where she taught art at Lewis and Clark College in Portland and at the University of Oregon. She later moved back to San Antonio to be near her family.

Her love of drawing grew into an embrace of many art forms. Lanfear has worked with buttons, fabric, wood, lead, stone and handmade paper. Her work has been exhibited around the country and internationally. In 2010, she was named Artist of the Year by the San Antonio Art League & Museum, which exhibited her work. Most recently her work was featured at the Beeville Art Museum in an exhibit titled Marilyn Lanfear: The Struggle of Memory Against Forgetting. Her work is also shown at the McNay Art Museum and the San Antonio Museum of Art.

Some of Lanfear's best-known works are garments sculpted in lead. More recently, she created four large, intricate, hand-sewn pieces made of mother-of-pearl buttons that evoke the glimmer and fractured beauty of a mosaic. The first piece depicts her widowed grandmother putting her three

When Lanfear becomes inspired to tell a story, she must learn the best way to tell that story, even if it means acquiring a new skill. Before this project (shown at left), Lanfear had never before carved wood.



Jimmy Kuehnle sees an evolution in his exploration of interactivity and vulnerability from bike pieces to the inflatables. “I thought, ‘What can I do that would be big and absurd but I could move easily, I could put on a bicycle?’ And so the inflatables started.”



Jimmy Kuehnle and Sayako Tsunekage explore an interactive inflatable installation in Albion, Mich. *Photo courtesy of Kjell Hahn*  
**INSET:** Kuehnle walks inside his inflatable suit, *You Wear What I Wear*, in Albion, Mich. *Photo courtesy of Mimi Kato*

young children in her bed at night. The other three are a triptych, *Uncle Clarence's Three Wives*, shown at the San Antonio Museum of Art in 2007, portraying one wife who perished in the New London, Texas, school explosion of 1937, another to whom her uncle was briefly married during World War II, and the third, the mother of Lanfear's cousins.

The triptych took three years to complete, with many volunteers helping sort, wash and sew buttons onto the piece.

When she had the urge to create a practical piece of art, Lanfear learned to carve wood to make cabinets with doors carved to resemble curtains, each cabinet painted a specific color in old-fashioned milk paint and bearing items honoring a family member's interest or special quality: 92 thimbles for her grandmother who lived to be 92; a bird for her hunter father; and bottles of sand from beaches all over the world for herself.

She also has created what she calls “Chairpersons,” furniture to be worn by people, chosen to represent members of a family. The idea for the chairpersons came to her when she realized “how much people look like their chairs.” A grandmother's chair might be soft, she ex-

plained, whereas “the Shaker farmer has a simple, reserved chair much like his person.”

While Lanfear's work tells a story, Kuehnle's is meant to surprise.

Before coming to UTSA, Kuehnle taught English in Japan. Upon his arrival in San Antonio, he was welcomed by the arts community and the department, where he found a mentor in Professor Ken Little.

“San Antonio itself is an ideal place for an emerging artist,” Kuehnle said.

After earning his M.F.A. in 2006, Kuehnle returned to Japan on a Fulbright Grant. He made *Big Red*, a 24-foot-wide, 15-foot-long, 16-foot-tall inflatable suit with red cones atop a grey cube.

Even though the suits are huge and take up to four weeks to complete, the nylon material is extremely light, so the suits typically weigh less than a bowling ball.

Before suits, Kuehnle created bicycles that often garnered second looks. With frames spelling out words such as “art” or made from unusual materials such as Lexan, normally used in sports helmets and aircraft canopies, the transparent transportation was an instant attention-getter. He also sewed the suits he wore during the bike

rides, including a plain canvas ensemble intended to be drawn on by passersby.

Kuehnle sees an evolution in his exploration of interactivity and vulnerability from bike pieces to the inflatables.

“I thought, ‘What can I do that would be big and absurd but I could move easily, I could put on a bicycle?’ And so the inflatables started.”

Exhibiting around the world, he has been an artist in residence in New York, Michigan and Finland. He plans to create more inflatables and is involved in a project aimed at inspiring improvements in urban design with the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative.

Cassie's work also continues to evolve. Born in New Jersey and raised in the Midwest, Cassie earned his M.F.A. in 1995. Sculpting was the focus of his formal training, but nearly 20 years after graduate school, his playbook is wide open. He paints, creates performance pieces and has made suites of copperplate etchings and woodblock prints. One of his paintings and a suite of woodblock prints and copperplate etchings are in the McNay Art Museum.

With *Vacancy*, the latest project that he put together with his wife, Ethel Shipton, he wanted to

experiment with one-night shows. The first *Vacancy* was held in January in a 1,200-square-foot apartment. Nine artists exhibited in a range of media. The short life of the show doesn't detract from the value of the project, he noted.

“You should also be able to make your own rules and have fun and do stuff like putting your energy and time into a one-night show,” he said. “Why not? I mean it's absurd but it provides a venue that is open for a lot of projects that artists maybe wouldn't undertake in a more formal setting.”

Cassie is interested in the idea of community, from abstract ideas of how it works to what it means to be part of one. To further explore that, he put together a catalog and an exhibition of other artists' drawings of birdhouses and beehives, two community centers in the natural world.

While an artist in residence at Art Pace, Cassie won a fellowship in visual arts from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. He teaches art appreciation and digital photography at St. Philip's College and painting at the Southwest School of Art.

#### THE STORY BEHIND THE ART

On a recent spring day, Lanfear tucked a new piece of linen in a converted quilter's frame. Her days of teaching behind her, Lanfear now moves from

project to project, telling one story after another through her work.

The studio behind her house is like a timeline of her work. Hanging from the ceiling are the clothes she constructed out of paper she made herself in 1995 to tell the story of her father almost dying from pneumonia when he was 5. Along the wall are wooden cabinets sculpted to look like curtains that open to reveal secret passions within. A nearby tabletop holds a collection of poison bottles she exhibited in 2009.

Stacked along the walls are the beginnings of Lanfear's next project. There are buttons of all sizes and colors, some gathered in large jars, others separated in egg cartons from the local grocery store.

In the middle of the room is the quilter's frame, the square of linen pinned tight.

Just plain and white now, the linen will soon hold an image from yet another story that Lanfear wants to tell. Just what that story will be is still a secret she holds close.

But she knows one thing. It will be done in buttons, because that's the kind of story it must be.



In the *Vacancy 02 Beauty Salon* performance artshow, Nate Cassie was a “head curator,” and actually cut clients' hair.

Nate Cassie works with his wife, Ethel Shipton, on one-night exhibitions in vacant spaces. The project, called *Vacancy*, “is not strictly a gallery because it's only a one-night thing. It has an aspect of being a piece as well, kind of an experiment.”



PATRICK RAY DUNN



MARK MCLENDON

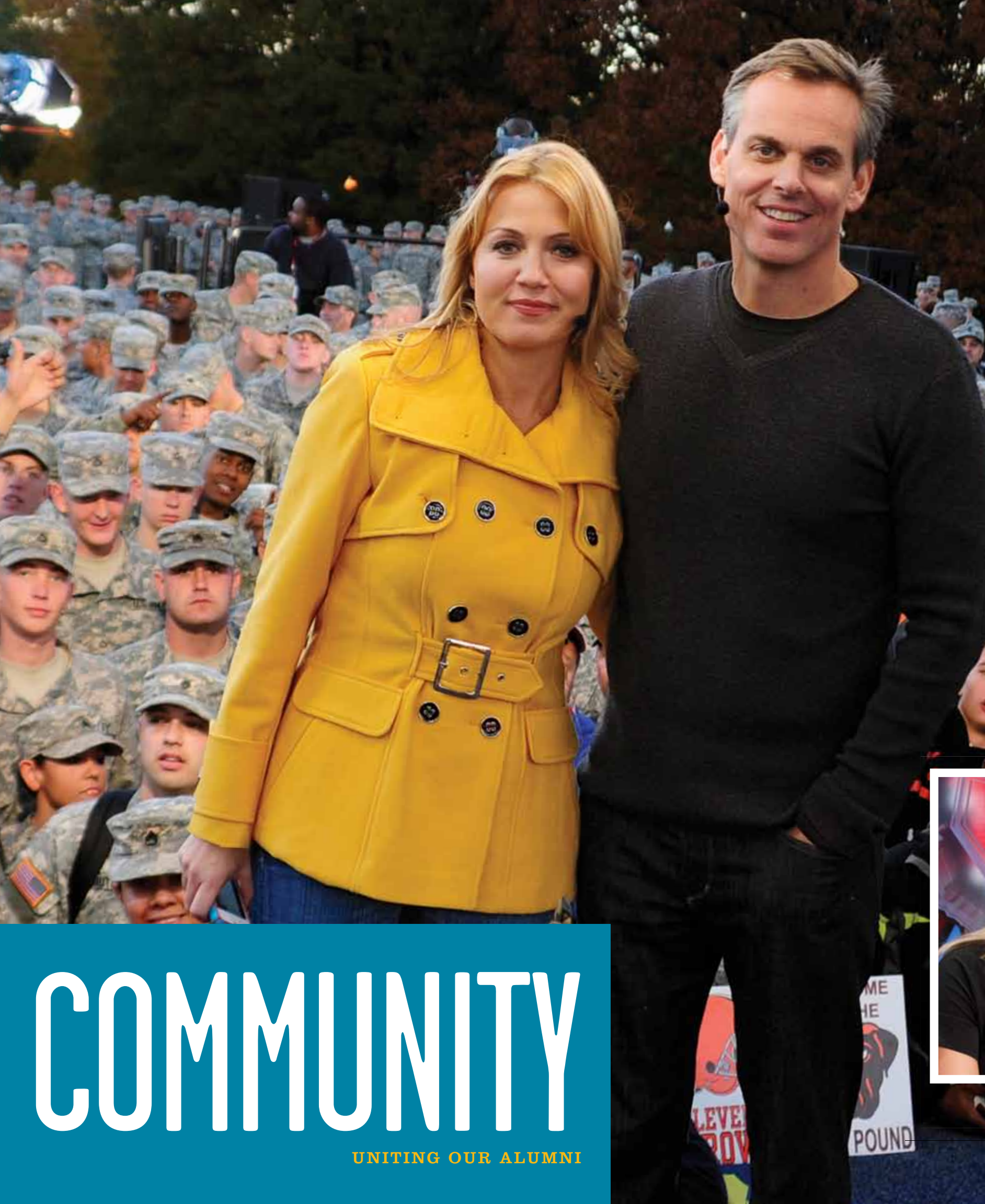
## New Sculpture and Ceramics Graduate Studio Building

Student sculptors and ceramicists at UTSA are working in a brand-new facility. The \$3.5 million College of Liberal and Fine Arts' Sculpture and Ceramics Graduate Studio building was finished in April 2011. Some \$250,000 for equipment and furnishings came from the dean's office.

The 13,500-square-foot space includes 18 studios—nine each for sculpture and ceramics—as well as two faculty offices, a 3-D design classroom, a steel fabrication studio, and a forge studio and foundry.

“They form a really advanced, really well-rounded metal-working facility,” said Greg Elliott, chair of the Department of Art and Art History. “I have never been in a welding shop that also has as much digital connectivity as ours does. It's a little bizarre that right next to the anvils we have a plasma screen with a data port. It is as common to see someone with a hammer on that anvil as it is to see a laptop on that anvil.”





# COMMUNITY

UNITING OUR ALUMNI

## Living, loving, talking sports

BY LETY LAUREL

MICHELLE BEADLE '02 STILL giggles about her job at ESPN. On a recent Tuesday, she looked around the Bristol, Conn., newsroom and realized she was sitting next to three Harlem Globetrotters.

"It's so weird," she said quietly into the phone as she sized up the 7-foot-8-inch Tiny Sturgess, recently named the tallest professional basketball player in the world. "There are days when you will be sitting by your computer and someone famous will walk by. Or Arnold Palmer will be sitting in the cafeteria. It's like a weird Disney World for sports fans. It's kinda fun."

This life-long sports fan, who once cried as a teen when her beloved Spurs lost to Portland, has worked as a co-host at the network's *SportsNation* since 2009. She is also the co-host of *Winners Bracket*, part of the new ESPN Sports Saturday on ABC.

She still can't believe her luck. "I am always knocking on wood," she said. "For me it was just a spur-of-the-moment career decision that I threw myself in as quickly as I could and I had some

really good opportunities that led me here. It's hard and you audition your butt off and you hear 'no way' more often than you hear 'yes.' But for me it has been really fun."

After graduating from high school, Beadle attended the University of Texas at Austin. Just a few courses shy of graduating, she left school to do odd jobs across the continent. For a while she lived in Pensacola, Fla. Then she traveled to Canada to help breed Great Danes. She waited lots of tables along the way.

Three years later she returned home and decided to finish her communications degree at UTSA.

"I had no idea what I wanted to do," she said. "The TV thing wasn't even something I had ever thought about. I wasn't outgoing in school. I was kind of quiet and sarcastic. So I think a lot of people that I went to high school with find this funny, what I'm doing now."

An internship with the San Antonio Spurs gave Beadle her first experience in front of the camera. It didn't go well.

"When I tell you it was horri-

ble, I'm not even doing it justice," she said. "I looked like someone who didn't even know her name was Michelle."

She took a cameraman's advice to heart and it's served her well ever since: relax and be yourself. The internship led to sideline reporting for local channels then eventually Fox Sports Net.

"And that was it," she said. "I was like, this is an awesome, fun way to make a living."

The girl from the 'burbs who had never even been to a rodeo started reporting on professional bull riding for TNN, now known as Spike TV. She had other jobs along the way, including stints with Animal Planet, Travel Channel, Major League Baseball and the NFL. But it was her job with College Sports Television, now called CBS College Sports, that finally took her to New York City, the place that she'd dreamed of calling home for years.

Since then, Beadle has worked for the YES Network, the New Jersey Nets and *People Magazine* and has been a Red Carpet reporter for the Golden Globes, Grammy Awards, SAG Awards and the Tony Awards. She has appeared on *The Today Show*, *The Early Show*, *Extra*, *Access Hollywood* and *Entertainment Tonight*.

When she's not chatting about sports on national television, Beadle likes to watch wrestling and "girlie" shows like *Gossip Girl*. She admits to getting a kick out of the violence of mixed martial arts, a new obsession. But there's nothing like getting together with her girlfriends, ditching the sports-talk and bonding.

"I really don't live sports," she said, adding that much of the appeal of covering sports are the stories behind the stats. "I feel like to do my job well, I can't just know sports. You've got to be a good human. You have to know what's going on." 🐾



OPPOSITE: Beadle and co-host Colin Cowherd on location for Veteran's Day at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall in Washington, D.C.

ABOVE: Michelle Beadle '02 on set at *SportsNation* in Bristol, Conn. Courtesy of ESPN.



*"Life is a journey and the Camino parallels one's life-journey; the path can be challenging and rewarding at the same time. The lessons I learned could only have been learned by walking the Camino. ... I survived what I thought was impossible."*

—Norma Cantu, UTSA ENGLISH PROFESSOR, at her Dec. 7 lecture "Walking on the Path: El Camino de Santiago"



### //IN BRIEF//

#### Solar Power (To the People)

With the flick of an electronic switch, solar panels recently installed on two Main Campus buildings began generating energy and savings.

A \$1.08 million federal stimulus grant, UTSA's first for clean energy, will mean a solar photovoltaic project that is expected to reduce the university's carbon dioxide emissions by up to 273,661 pounds annually, generate 237 megawatt hours of energy and also realize nearly \$86,000 a year in energy cost savings.

Already, the Downtown Campus' Durango Building is having its solar panel array installed. Also slated are 10 electric vehicle charging stations, eight on the Main Campus and two at the Downtown Campus.





# Opportunity of a Lifetime

Alumni Association scholarship recipient hopes to change the world, beginning with his home country

BY GUILLERMO GARCIA

**A**RINZE CHUKWUNONSO BENNARD Alva—"call me Chukky"—smiles broadly when asked his impressions of South Texas. After all, the 17-year-old native of Nigeria has been a Texan for the past year-and-a-half, since relocating here to accept a scholarship and work toward his dream.

Alva hopes to earn an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering, as well as master's and doctoral degrees, before returning to Lagos.

For a teenager who had never been away from family or out of his hometown, the journey halfway across the globe was the trip—and opportunity—of a lifetime.

"Before coming here, I never could have imagined that the things I was reading about in textbooks I would be able to actually see with my own eyes. It has been amazing," he said.

Through a first-time UTSA donor's collaboration and the Alumni Association's endowment surpassing \$1 million, a match was created that essentially doubled Alva's scholarship. This academic year, some \$120,000 in scholarships was distributed; nearly \$50,000 more than the previous year, said Jim Mickey, associate vice president for alumni programs and marketing.

While still lonely and missing his parents and three younger siblings, Alva is wide-eyed when talking about things that most of us take for granted—electricity at the flip of a switch and modern highways.

"You get used to the idea that the electricity is always there, 24/7," he said, contrasting the

situation in his homeland, where service can be spotty and power outages frequent.

"I can still not imagine how big Texas is," he said. "Getting around the state is quite a challenge"—especially when he doesn't have access to a car.

The easy-going, constantly smiling young man may give the appearance of a happy-go-lucky teen, but he is driven to make good on what he acknowledges is "an opportunity that very few people in my country will ever have."

Alva speaks purposefully about the career path he has chosen for himself: "My motivation is to be the best, because that is how I will make a positive impact on my society. My country is suffering from poverty and political and social unrest, and what you hear mostly is: 'All will be well.'"

"But we can no longer afford to sit back and wait. If I am to do something about it, I will have to do something to improve the situation in my homeland, because my country really needs to change and I hope to be part of that change. If I don't succeed, here at the university or in what I want to do afterward, it will be to the detriment of the next generation. I won't be a part of letting down the youth in my country."

It is heady stuff for a homesick teenager who has maintained a perfect 4.0 GPA while working as a research assistant in the Department of Mechanical Engineering's Computational Reliability and Visualization Lab.

Alva is as comfortable talking about applied physics as he is about research into experimental nano reactors.

He chose UTSA after applying to 16 U.S. universities and being admitted to four "because coming here granted me the opportunity to fulfill my lifelong dream. The day I received my admissions letter was one of the happiest moments of my life."


W.G. Yates & Sons Construction Co. and the Alumni Association teamed up for the \$2,500 per year scholarship. Separately, Alva also received the Honors College' Presidential Honors Scholarship.

"Our intent is to create a relationship between the student and the donor," and in that way also create a connection between the student and the Alumni Association, said Mickey, who introduced Alva to the construction firm's leaders at an off-campus dinner.

Plans call for continuing significant increases in the alumni endowment fund, which will mean more scholarships being issued to more students like Alva, Mickey said.

Some \$150,000 in scholarships will be distributed next academic year, more than doubling the \$72,000 awarded in each of the 2009 and 2010 academic years, he added.

Since 1982, when the association awarded its first \$250 scholarship, about \$985,000 in scholarships has been awarded.

Alva, who notes that "here, professors like it when you ask a lot of questions and they encourage your curiosity," wants to pattern his life after a comment attributed to Albert Einstein: "Try not to become a man of success, but rather to become a man of value." 

## CLASS NOTES

### 1974

\\ **GASTON KENT**, M.B.A., is now president and CEO of John Tracy Clinic for deaf children. He was recently interviewed by the *Wall Street Journal* as part of a special series about Encore Careers.

### 1976

\\ **JESUS "CORKY" RUBIO**, M.B.A. in business, has published a book entitled *I'm From Eagle Pass/Soy De Ygle Pass*, a compendium of essays and reflections on life in a small town on the Texas border during the mid-20th century. Corky was the second president of the UTSA Alumni Association in 1981 and Alumnus of the Year in 1984.

### 1986

\\ **LINDA ZEIGLER**, B.A. in education, is the interim superintendent of schools of the South San Antonio Independent School District.  
\\ **RICK RAMIREZ**, B.B.A. in finance, B.B.A. in accounting, has been promoted to assistant vice president for operational accounting at Security Service Federal Credit Union.

### 1987

\\ **GARY MORSCHES**, M.B.A., has been appointed managing director of CME Group's energy business. Morsches will be responsible for leading the firm's global energy complex, which provides benchmark products across the energy spectrum.

### 1980

\\ **DONALD "DON" SCOTT**, M.A. in educational management, published *The Grandfather Stories* in 2009 and *A Basketball Coach in a Football State* in 2010. He began coaching and teaching in 1957, first in Beeville and later in San Antonio.

### 1989

\\ **MICHAEL WUENSCH**, B.S. in mechanical engineering, has worked in engineering design for 16 years. He has been with Stanley Proto for five years—first as a tool designer, then as product manager for wrenches and torque products, providing technical training and introducing new and innovative products into the industrial tool market.

### 1994

\\ **ROBERT DART**, B.A. in history, is a detective with the San Antonio Police Department. He joined the police force in 2001 and has been airing traffic reports on the city's ABC affiliate since November 2006.

\\ **CAROLINE E. DONALD**, M.M. in music, has been named a Cambridge Who's Who Professional of the Year in elementary education. She has nearly 25 years of experience in elementary education and for the past four years has taught primarily music to students in kindergarten through sixth grade.

## IN MEMORIAM

For a list of Roadrunners who are no longer with us, please go to [utsa.edu/sombrilla/memoriam](http://utsa.edu/sombrilla/memoriam).

### 1995

\\ **BEN LECOMTE**, B.B.A. in marketing, is a long-distance swimmer who in 1998 was credited with being the first man to swim across the Atlantic Ocean without the aid of a kickboard. He plans to swim across the Pacific Ocean this year, to help raise funds for cancer research.

### 1997

\\ **MOJGAN SAFAVI**, B.S. in biology, is a dentist who has teamed up with her husband, \\ **FERIDOON AMINI**, '96, B.S. in computer science, to launch DentalSpots.com, which works to link employers and job seekers in the U.S. dental industry.  
\\ **MARGARET CRAIG**, M.F.A. in art, is chairwoman

of the Southwest School of Art's painting, drawing and printmaking department.

### 2000

\\ **RANDALL "RANDY" WALLACE**, M.F.A. in sculpture, is an instructor at Trinity University. He recently exhibited his work in Austin and has exhibited at Artpace in San Antonio.  
\\ **MARY REILLY-MAGEE**, M.A. in English, owns Love to Swim and Tumble Schools in San Antonio and Schertz and is president of the United States Swim School Association.

### 2002

\\ **ROBERT "MATT" GOLIGHTLY**, B.A. in communications, is a comedian based in Austin. His performances cover topics such as dating, politics and popular culture. >>



## DASHING FOR DIPLOMAS

A record number of runners and teams turned out for the 28th annual Diploma Dash City Championship Race on a chilly morning on Feb. 25. Some 2,460 people, including 700 UTSA students, took part in the largest 5K chip-timed race that featured a new, certified racecourse around Main Campus.

This year, there were 600 more partic-

ipants than last year, and race organizers said they were impressed with the turnout for the nearly three-decade-old tradition. The race generated more than \$30,000 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund and other alumni programs.

To date, the alumni endowment has grown to more than \$1 million, and the association has awarded more than \$985,000 in scholarships.

"The UTSA Alumni Association has made great strides from hosting an inaugural 5K with 600 runners to this year's nearly 2,500. Making Diploma Dash the largest chip-timed race in the city was a team effort by participants, volunteers and sponsors to support our scholars."

—**Anne Englert**, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI PROGRAMS



BY THE NUMBERS

6

Number of UTSA graduates who made this year's *San Antonio Business Journal* list recognizing 40 city leaders under the age of 40. They include: Leroy Alloway, Stephanie Bocanegra Suarez, Gabriela Gonzalez-Carmon, Jeff Coyle, Kevin Harris and Emily Jones.

BY THE NUMBERS

6,000

Number of people expected to graduate from UTSA this year. They will be joining the more than 88,000 alumni spread across 50 countries around the world.

2003

**SANTIAGO ALANIZ**, B.A. in criminal justice, B.A. in political science, is an associate in the Houston office of Fisher & Phillips, a national labor and employment law firm.

2010

**DANIELA SACRAMENTO CARDENAS**, B.A. in psychology, B.F.A. in art, recently exhibited her work *Transición (Transition)*, at Bismarck Studios in San Antonio. **KIM SPRADLIN**, B.A. in communications, is a San Antonio businesswoman who appears on the current television series *Survivor: One World*.

2011

**JOLEEN BELTRAMI** recently earned a Ph.D. in applied statistics after earlier earning a master's degree in statistics from UTSA, where she taught in the mathematics and management science and statistics departments. Beltrami teaches in the mathematics department at the University of the Incarnate Word.



Leroy Alloway serves as spokesman for the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority. Courtesy photo

ROAD TO SUCCESS

LEROY ALLOWAY, M.P.A. '03

Leroy Alloway embodies the adage that you can't keep a good man down. Born with 80 percent hearing loss in both ears, he was told he'd never be able to become a productive member of society. Undeterred, he set out to prove the naysayers wrong.

"It was a nice gauntlet for someone to have thrown down," he said, recalling a childhood speech therapist's letter to his parents. "I was stubborn enough to not let it define who I am, and I just had to prove [the therapist] wrong."

And he has. Alloway, 32, was recently recognized by the *San Antonio Business Journal's* 40 under 40 awards, which highlight people who are not only successful in their careers but who also contribute to the community. He serves as director of community development for the Alamo Regional Mobility Authority, the agency charged with, among other things, improving traffic flow on U.S. 281, Loop 1604 and other major area roadways. One recent project is the \$130 million U.S. 281/Loop

1604 interchange project that is expected to shave 40 hours of motorists' commuting time annually.

Alloway serves as Alamo RMA's spokesman, helps oversee the ongoing environmental impact statements on U.S. 281 and Loop 1604 and spearheads community outreach.

Armed with a master's degree in public administration from UTSA, Alloway joined Alamo RMA in 2006 and quickly became the agency's public voice.

The son of a retired Air Force senior master sergeant now in the civil service at Randolph AFB, and a cosmetology instructor, the Seguin native began his public service work as aide to former San Antonio City Council members Bonnie Conner and Art Hall. It was Conner who first dispatched the then-22-year-old to monitor Metropolitan Planning Organization meetings. The die was cast: "I realized this was a chance to make a lasting, positive impact on the community."

Alloway has his work cut out for him in a city

that is lagging behind other major Texas cities' infrastructure investment. In the past six years, San Antonio has invested roughly \$300 million on infrastructure, compared to Austin's \$4 billion. In the next 25 years, San Antonio is projected to spend roughly \$1 billion on improvements, in contrast to Dallas' \$20 billion.

As if limited resources aren't challenging enough, Alloway must convincingly argue the benefits of toll roads in a city where some residents vehemently oppose them. A separate challenge is to assuage concerns about the environmental impact to the Edwards Aquifer.

But Alloway is up for the task, describing his job with enthusiasm. He derives particular gratification from hearing from happy motorists: "One gentleman wrote that for the first time he'd been able to get home after work before his wife and get dinner ready for her and his kids. Knowing you've helped give a person that time back—that's where you get your reward." —TONY CANTÚ



Courtesy photo

//IN BRIEF//

Tsin Honored at White House



Andrew Tsin, professor of biochemistry and physiology, was the only Texan among the nine people who received a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from President Barack Obama at the White House in November.

The award recognizes the role that mentoring plays in the academic and personal development of students studying science and engineering, particularly those who belong to groups underrepresented in those fields. Tsin, a nationally recognized biochemist with a 30-year record of mentoring minorities, received \$25,000 from the National Science Foundation.



CREATING NEW KNOWLEDGE

Doug Frantz, Ph.D.  
Researcher

Game Changers

Not only do UTSA faculty focus on academic success in the classroom, but they also bring students into the laboratories and into the field where, together, they are changing the world.

New treatments for cardiovascular disease are developing in UTSA laboratories. UTSA faculty chemists focus on turning cancer cells benign. And UTSA is home to innovative researchers hunting the causes of Alzheimer's and other diseases.

The We Are UTSA campaign will fund endowments to attract the world's finest faculty and support cutting-edge research. For more information on the We Are UTSA campaign, visit [WeAreUTSA.com](http://WeAreUTSA.com).

WE ARE  
UTSA

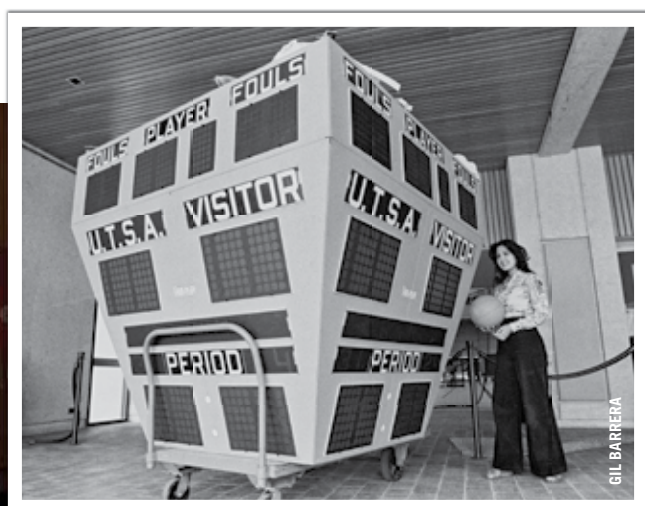
A Top-Tier Campaign

We are research. We are change. We Are UTSA.





*A Top-Tier Campaign*



GIL BARRERA

## NOW & THEN

It was March 1977 when the first electronic scoreboard arrived at UTSA. Today, a more modernized one, complete with sponsors, hangs above crowds that gather in the Convocation Center.



JEFF HUGHES, UTSA ATHLETICS