David Buisseret Named UTA Endowed Chair in Southwestern Studies/History of Cartography

Internationally-known scholar David Buisseret has been named as the holder of the Jenkins and Virginia Garrett Endowed Chair in Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography at the University of Texas at Arlington. The Endowed Chair is named after Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins Garrett of Fort Worth—whose support and enthusiasm for cartographic history helped lead to the creation of UTA’s Special Collections in 1974—and was made possible by a generous gift of the Sid W. Richardson Foundation of Fort Worth.

A graduate of Cambridge University in England, David Buisseret has a distinguished record of scholarship in History and the History of Cartography. He has authored and edited more than twelve books, including Discovering Western Civilization through Maps and Views; From Sea Charts to Satellite Images: Interpreting North American History Through Maps; Historic Illinois from the Air; and Historic Jamaica from the Air. In 1992, Dr. Buisseret spoke on the subject of Meso-American cartography at Entrada, a cartographic history conference on the Southwest that was held at the University of Texas at Arlington. Until his appointment as Endowed Chair at UTA, Dr. Buisseret served as Director of the Hermon Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography at the Newberry Library in Chicago, where he also edited Terra Incognitae, the Journal of the Society for the History of Discoveries. Dr. Buisseret will continue to edit that Journal from his new office at UTA.

Dr. Buisseret brings with him to UTA outstanding interpretive research and teaching skills, and will begin teaching at UTA in the Fall Semester. His courses include a graduate level seminar on the History of Cartography, and an upper division level course. In his new role as Endowed Chair, Dr. Buisseret will serve as a full Professor in the History Department, and will work closely with numerous programs, including UTA’s Center for Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography (where he will serve as an Associate Center Fellow) and UTA’s Special Collections, a nationally-recognized repository of historic maps and other archival materials. As Endowed Chair, Dr. Buisseret will teach courses and seminars at the graduate and undergraduate levels, conduct research, and participate in academic and community conferences. According to History Department Chair Kenneth Philp, who chaired the Endowed Chair Search Committee, “Dr. Buisseret was the perfect candidate—an internationally-recognized scholar with a background in both Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography: He will bring to our campus a knowledge of maps and history that will enrich students, colleagues, and the entire university community.”

Richard Francaviglia, Director of UTA’s Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography, stated that: “David Buisseret will help the Center’s mission of promoting research, teaching, and public programming about the greater Southwest and its rich cartographic history. Dr. Buisseret’s knowledge of the Caribbean and New Spain ensures a focus on the part of the world that is strongly represented in UTA’s Special Collections—the Southwest and its Gulf/Coastal heritage.” The Center expects to work closely with David Buisseret as it continues to promote the resources of the University of Texas at Arlington, and readers of Fronteras will learn more about David Buisseret in forthcoming issues of this newsletter.
News About the Region

Symposium to Commemorate
Sesquicentennial of Texas Statehood

A special event commemorating the 150th anniversary of Texas statehood—"The Challenge of Statehood: A Sesquicentennial Symposium on Texas Annexation"—will be held on Friday and Saturday, October 20-21, 1995. Speakers will include both academic and independent historians from Texas and other states, as well as Mexico, who will address a number of important topics, including:

★ Texas and the World: International Aspects of Texas Annexation
★ From Nation to State: Political Aspects of Texas Annexation
★ Inheriting the Past: Ethnic Aspects of Texas Annexation
★ The Shape of Texas: Geographic and Cartographic Aspects of Texas Annexation
★ Living in Early Texas: Social and Cultural Aspects of Texas Annexation

Texas’ attaining statehood meant an end to the Texas Republic (1836-45) and the creation of a distinctive state that has been considered Southern, Southwestern, and Western by different scholars. The focus will be on the social, political and economic implications of Texas becoming a state—a pivotal event that, many scholars believe, led to both the Mexican-American War (1846-48) and the American Civil War (1861-65). The conference will be held at the University of Texas at Arlington and is sponsored in part by the Texas Committee for the Humanities (with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities) and private sponsors in Texas, including the Summerlee Foundation of Dallas and the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. In addition to the eleven presentations in the five sessions, there will be a roundtable discussion at the conclusion of the meeting. A reception is also planned. For more information, contact The Center for Southwestern Studies, The University of Texas at Arlington, Box 19497, Arlington, Texas 76019; phone: (817) 273-3997.

New Southwestern Studies Courses To Be Offered

Three new courses on Texas and the Southwest have been added to UTA’s curriculum. They are: • The History of the Southwest: A multicultural history of the southwestern United States from Pre-Columbian times to the present; cultural adaptation to environment; cultural contact and conflict; political, social, and economic change. • Texas to 1850: The multicultural heritage of Texas from the Pre-Columbian period to early statehood. The course focusses on cultural contact; social, economic, and political change. • Images of the Southwest: Examines the changing culture, architecture, and landscapes of the American Southwest as depicted in literature, art, film, television, and advertising, including the role of popular culture and commerce in creating and marketing a distinctive regional “Southwestern style.” Students interested in history, geography, advertising, popular culture, and art will find this course to be quite stimulating, and course assignments include viewing and interpreting Southwestern films including Stagecoach and Thelma and Louise, and sampling Southwestern cuisine.

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Francaviglia, Director, Center for Southwestern Studies, The University of Texas at Arlington, Box 19497, Arlington, Texas 76019, or phone (817) 273-3997.
Digging Into North Texas' Past
by Jeffrey R. Hanson

The past two summers have been exciting and rewarding for anthropology students at UTA. Under the aegis of the newly-established Center for Research and Fieldwork in Anthropology (CRFA), which has worked closely with UTA's Center for Greater Southwestern Studies, and the Center for Environmental Design Research (Landscape Architecture), over 50 undergraduate and graduate students have participated in an archaeological field school at three prehistoric Indian sites in Tarrant County, Texas. Two of the sites are located along Village Creek, just west of Kennedale, in areas adjacent to tremendous population growth and development. The third site is located along the shores of Eagle Mountain Lake, outside of Azle.

The mission of the field school has been fourfold: 1) to begin an active research program dedicated to the documentation and preservation of archaeological sites within the Metroplex; 2) to further scientific knowledge regarding human adaptation to the Cross Timbers in North Texas; 3) to integrate UTA and community interests in environmental and historic preservation; and 4) to provide students with "hands-on" field experiences which cannot be duplicated in the classroom.

Despite the relentless Texas heat and the constant battle with a never ending army of fire ants (killer bees, please stay south!), the excavations at sites 41TR134, 41TR136, and 41TR148 have yielded thousands of artifacts. Included in the artifact assemblages are chipped stone tools such as arrowheads, dart points, and spear points, scrapers, drills, abraders, and hammerstones. From the style of projectile points recovered thus far, it is estimated that the sites at Village Creek were occupied from roughly 1500 B.C. to about A.D. 1200. At Eagle Mountain Lake, erosion of the site's shoreline has exposed projectile points dating as far back as late PaleoIndian times (ca. 7000 B.C.). Radiocarbon analysis from an excavated hearth yielded a date to about A.D. 700, which may indicate one of the more recent occupational periods there.

From the material so far excavated and recorded from Village Creek and Eagle Mountain Lake, it appears that throughout a period of several thousand years small groups of hunters and gatherers moved through these portions of the Eastern and Western Cross Timbers on perhaps a seasonal or intermittent basis. Attracted to the plant and animal resources (deer, turkey, fish, acorns, pecans, just to name a few), one possible scenario is that these areas were used as a kind of game preserve, where the Indians exploited the flora and fauna in a manner consistent with a balanced ecosystem. At site 41TR136, however, this picture may need to be modified in the light of recent findings. The recovery of prehistoric pottery along with the discovery of post holes (which could indicate the remains of structures such as houses or arbors) suggest a somewhat sedentary or permanent prehistoric population. Further research is currently addressing the validity of these models of human ecological adaptation, and will strengthen our understanding of the place these and other archaeological sites in Cross Timbers ecology and the cultural heritage of the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Linton's note: The summer of 1994 and 1995 marked the beginning of serious, sustained archaeological research in the Village Creek area near Arlington. The sites are in the Cross Timbers, two belts of scrub oak and post oak forest that extend from Oklahoma into Texas, and mark the westernmost extent of timber at the eastern edge of the Great Plains. The Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography has provided funding to support Dr. Hanson's research and for the presentation of Village Creek survey results at professional meetings. Linton will provide updates as this important work continues.
Due to the veil of state secrecy early dropped over the geographical knowledge of its New World empire by Spain and the paucity of published detailed Spanish maps until the late eighteenth century, the accepted interpretation has been that the Spanish contribution to the mapping of the Gulf of Mexico was minimal. This view further holds that what Spanish contribution eventually there was resulted only after strong imperial challenges from France and England in the region. In his elegant new volume, *Flags Along the Coast*, Jack Jackson, an independent scholar, author, historian, and artist from Austin, rightly seeks to dispel these traditional misconceptions somewhat by pointing out the significance of the Spanish cartographic contribution and some of the Spanish models for other European maps.

This is a book in two parts. Part I traces the Spanish exploration of the Gulf, culminating in the map done by Juan Enríquez Barroto, a pilot of the Armada Barlovento (Wardward Fleet) in 1686-87 which while now lost survives in a copy by another pilot, Juan Bisente. Jackson correctly points out that captured and stolen versions of the charts by Barroto, who was seeking signs of LaSalle, Bisente, and other Spaniards over time undoubtedly provided much needed Gulf Coast information to the French like Iberville and other European imperialists. These maps also influenced the work of cartographers like the French Premier Geographe du Roi, Guillaume Delisle, which in turn affected so many others, including Mount and Page in London. Part II discusses the French exploration and mapping of Louisiana, focusing on the work the engineer Valentin Devin, who arrived in Louisiana in 1719 and worked in Mobile until his death in 1735. The author indicates that surveys and maps of “professionals” like Devin eventually took French Gulf Coast cartography well beyond their Spanish counterparts. Part II concludes with a valuable extensive cartobibliography of Devin and Devin-derived maps.

Jackson accomplishes his task admirably with solid research, a flair for style, and a refreshing clarity of language. The volume is thoroughly illustrated with excellent examples of the major cartography of the Gulf over a quarter of a millennium, contains informative endnotes and a lengthy bibliography. *Flags Along the Coast* was beautifully designed and printed by David Holman at the Wind River Press in Austin.

For more information, you may contact the Book Club of Texas, P.O. Box 49987, Austin, Texas 78765, or phone (512) 478-3126.

- review by Dennis Reinhartz
Associate Professor of History and Center Fellow

Center Fellows Travel & Research

The 1994-95 academic year witnessed continued travel and research pertaining to Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography: *Brooks Ellwood* conducted an archaeological excavation in Giddings, TX to determine authenticity of the burial site of William Longley, and he also attended the Texas Antiques Meeting in Austin. He and Douglas Owsley of the Smithsonian Institute have written a chapter entitled “Locating and Excavating Historic Burials” to be included in “Archaeological Investigations of Historic Burials and Cemeteries” to be published by Greenwood Pub. Group, Inc. *Robert Fairbanks* conducted research at the Housing Authority for a project entitled “Public Housing for Mexican-Americans: The Dallas and Houston Experiences.” This research will be published in the *Journal of Urban History*. *George Green* attended a board meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in Austin, TX. He is a member of the board and program chairman for the convention. He also attended the Texas AFL-CIO Convention and interviewed delegates on tape and obtained donated records for the Texas Labor Archives. *Jeff Hanson* went to Lubbock, Texas, to attend the Plains Anthropological Society annual conference. He presented a paper entitled “The Archaeology of Village Creek: A Preliminary Report.” *Sam Haynes* travelled to Albuquerque, NM to attend the Western History Association meeting. *David Narrett* used a Faculty Development Leave to work on his book on “The Frontier Republics: Vermont, Texas, and the Nation.” *Dennis Reinhartz* travelled to Mackinac Island, MI to attend the annual meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries and he directed the meeting of its governing council. *Doug Richmond* attended a conference of Mexican/North American historians in Mexico City at which he was a discussant for “Historia Diplomática.” He served as commentators and chair for “The Role of Medicine in Mexican History” at the 73rd annual meeting of the S.W. Historical Assoc. in Dallas, and he chaired the Scholarship Committee of the Southwest Council of Latin American Studies during 1994-95. *Kenneth Roemer* attended sessions on Native American Literature at the Modern Language Association meeting in San Diego, CA at which he chaired the committee of the Division on Native American Literature. He is currently editing the first *Dictionary of Literary Biography* volume on Native American writers, which includes many Southwestern authors.
Arizona’s History Depicted in New Book

Arizona has a long, fascinating, and complicated history. Author Thomas E. Sheridan (an anthropologist and curator of ethnology at the Arizona State Museum) begins ARIZONA: A History at a prehistoric mammoth kill site in the San Pedro Valley about 11,000 years ago and traces the state’s history into the very recent past. Sheridan has written a multi-faceted history focusing on the state’s three major peoples—Native Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Anglo Americans. He does not shy away from the controversial issues surrounding the acquisition of water and land for agricultural development, mining, and urbanization. ARIZONA: A History is a comprehensive multi-cultural economic/social/political history written by an author who is concerned about the state’s quality of life. For more information, contact The University of Arizona Press, 1230 N. Park Avenue, Suite 102, Tucson, AZ 85719. Phone: (602) 621-1441.

Defending Northern New Spain in the 1700s

Hugo O’Conor (1734-1779) was among the most interesting of early borderlands political/military figures. In a classic example of how cultural and ethnic identities could be blurred on the frontier of Northern New Spain, the Irish-bom O’Conor became a Spanish citizen and respected military/political leader in the late 1700s. Although O’Conor has been relatively well documented, this book sheds new light on the condition of Northern New Spain in 1777 as it is a complete translation (and interpretation) of O’Conor’s report to Teodoro de Croix. Carefully edited and translated by Donald C. Cutter, The Defenses of Northern New Spain: Hugo O’Conor’s Report to Teodoro de Croix, July 22, 1777 also contains a facsimile reproduction of the original correspondence, and is highly recommended to historians and military historians of Texas and the Southwest. For more information, contact Southern Methodist University Press, Box 415, Dallas, TX 75275, or phone (214) 768-2435.

Blood and Treasure in the Civil War Southwest

To many people, the Confederate States of America (and for that matter, the Civil War) seemed to be confined to the Eastern and Southeastern United States. Those familiar with the Southwest, however, know that the Confederacy had a strong presence in the region in the mid 19th century. Donald S. Frazier’s Blood and Treasure: Confederate Empire in the Southwest tells the story of Southern/Texas expansion into the region, and will help place battles in Arizona and New Mexico in proper perspective. According to Frazier, they were to be but a prelude to the South gaining control of a huge area, including California, Sonora, Chihuahua, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah, as part of a Southern nation. This book will help the reader better understand how the Confederacy’s dream of expanding to the Pacific Coast was developed, and then shattered. For ordering information, contact the Texas A&M University Press, Drawer “C”, College Station, TX 77843 or call (409) 845-1436.

American Frontier Focus of Exhibit, Book

The Southwest is part of two major regions—the American West and el norte, or the northern frontier of Mexico. Two historians have written essays in an important new book, The Frontier in American Culture: Richard White interprets many different types of images about the frontier in the 19th century, including posters, books, and Wild West shows. Patricia Limerick continues the analysis of the frontier by interpreting its persistence in the 20th century, including places of popular culture such as Frontierland in Disneyland. Limerick also discusses the significance of the term La Frontera in reference to Mexican views of the frontier. Many of the illustrations in it appeared in a major exhibition at the Newberry Library in Chicago and this book was written to serve as a guide to that exhibit. The Frontier in American Culture is edited by James Grossman, and available from the California Princeton Fulfillment Services, 1445 Lower Ferry Road, Ewing, NJ 08618, or by calling 609-883-1759.
Meet the Center Faculty

In 1971, Brooks B. Ellwood published a seminal paper relating Archeomagnetic properties of ancient hearths from the southwest to sediments found elsewhere in the U.S. This early geoarcheological study developed in him a keen interest in the ancient peoples of the Southwest that he now incorporates in his studies of the National Park System and his forthcoming book on the subject. A geophysicist by training, in 1987 Dr. Ellwood formed the Center for Geoarcheological Studies at UTA to provide geophysical research support for archaeologival studies. This has led to many research projects, including the development of a cemeteries research program in Texas. One project, “Searching for the Grave of Hanged Texas Gunfighter William Preston Longley” was summarized in Fronteras, Spring 1995, and used supplemental funding from the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies (see Spring 1995 Fronteras). Ellwood’s awards include UTA’s Award for Distinguished Research, and the South Central Mineralogical Societies award for Distinguished Achievement in Earth Science. He is an author of many scholarly articles, and has been a Center Fellow since 1993.

Society for the History of Discoveries to Meet at UTA

Readers interested in exploration and discovery should note that the 1995 annual meeting of the Society for the History of Discoveries will be held at the University of Texas at Arlington on November 2-4, 1995.

For more information, please contact Dennis Reinhartz, Department of History, University of Texas at Arlington, Box 19529, Arlington, Texas 76019 or call 817-273-2907.

Center Fellows: Evan Anders, Associate Professor of History; Brooks Ellwood, Professor of Geology; Bob Fairbanks, Associate Professor of History; George Green, Professor of History; Sam Haynes, Assistant Professor of History; David Narrett, Associate Professor of History; Elizabeth Ordoñez, Professor of Foreign Languages; Dennis Reinhartz, Associate Professor of History; Doug Richmond, Professor of History; and Ken Roemer, Professor of English. Associate Center Fellows: David Buisseret, Endowed Chair in Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography; José Guiterrez, Associate Professor of Political Science; Jeff Hanson, Associate Professor of Anthropology; and Jay Henry, Professor of Architecture.