

**MILITARY INTELLIGENCE** The number of military veterans pursuing college degrees is soaring, and UT Arlington provides an environment where they can flourish. p. 20

**RETHINKING HOW WE LIVE** A study by Richard Florida and his Creative Class Group suggests that knowledge, creativity, and innovation will dominate the local future economy. p. 24

**DESIGNING THE METROPLEX** The words and vision of the late architecture critic and UT Arlington benefactor David Dillon helped North Texas define its aesthetic identity. p. 28

# UTArlington

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON MAGAZINE | SUMMER 2012



## Conquering the Bully

UT Arlington researchers take off the gloves in the battle against bullying



#### **A LASTING LEGACY**

A few weeks after speaking at the first commencement ceremonies in College Park Center in May, James D. Spaniolo announced his retirement as president of UT Arlington. Since he became chief executive in 2004, the University's enrollment has increased 32 percent, total research expenditures have more than doubled, and private philanthropic support has reached an all-time high. President Spaniolo launched efforts to make UT Arlington a nationally recognized research university and boosted student success with the opening of University College. Other milestones of his administration include the development of the College Park District, anchored by College Park Center, and construction of the Engineering Research Building. "Our next president will join a university on track to become a major research institution," he says. Spaniolo plans to stay on as president until his successor is selected.

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After life-changing deployments to the **Middle East**, young military veterans are turning to UT Arlington to help them fulfill their career goals.

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UT Arlington anchors a study by Richard Florida and his Creative Class Group that aims to foster collaboration among major cities in the **Dallas-Fort Worth** region.



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Take a look at some of **North Texas'** most significant architecture, as described by late *Dallas Morning News* critic and UT Arlington benefactor David Dillon.

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Priscila Caçola has been helping children improve their motor skills since she was a teenager in **Brazil**.

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**Myanmar** is among the places where nurse Kaci Hickox '02 has battled disease outbreaks.

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Led by Danny Mekonnen '03, **Boston**-based Debo Band is gaining national attention.

**Message** from the President

**Passing the Baton**

by James D. Spaniolo

I recently announced my decision to retire from The University of Texas at Arlington. After serving as president for eight-and-a-half years, it seems like the appropriate time to pass the baton and let others continue the stewardship of our remarkable institution. I am so proud of where the University is today. UT Arlington's record-setting achievements demonstrate what we have accomplished together. No matter the measure, our institution has made great progress during the past decade.

We enrolled thousands of new students—on campus and online. We invited thousands of students to live on campus and experience a traditional residential environment. We opened new recreational spaces for students and developed robust, 24/7 activities and events to keep them engaged.

We reinvigorated our athletics program and moved it to the next stage, literally, opening up new vistas for competition and achievement. We created new traditions and honored long-established ones. We helped elicit the enormous pride our alumni have always felt for their alma mater.

We built amazing buildings that grace our campus at every turn. We added research laboratories and classrooms. We increased our external research funding by tens of millions of dollars and continue to build a thriving research enterprise that addresses some of society's most serious issues.

We built a college town from the ground up and helped reinvigorate downtown Arlington. We reached out to the city, our neighbors, and the community—and they embraced us.

Most importantly, we helped tens of thousands of students pursue their dreams. We helped put a college degree not only within their reach but into their hands.

UT Arlington is what it is today because of talented faculty and staff,

motivated students, passionate alumni, and dedicated friends and supporters.

Our leadership team—deans, vice presidents, and others—is superb, the best I've worked with anywhere. If I have been successful, it is because of our collaborative efforts. It has been a joy to work with such a talented team and to bring attention to their accomplishments. For all the challenges we face, we are fortunate to be part of the finest university system in the country.

UT Arlington is thriving and is well positioned for the future. The transformation we have ignited will guide the way for years to come, and our next president will join a university on track to become a major research institution.

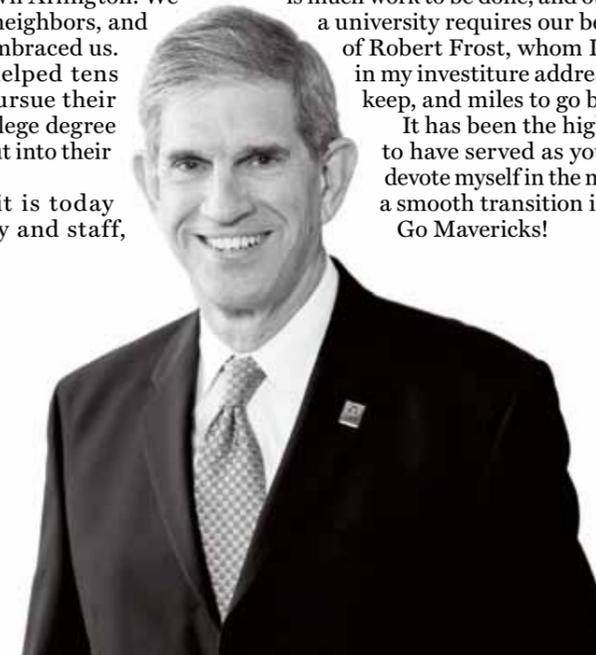
With the concurrence of Chancellor Francisco Cigarroa and The UT System Board of Regents, I will continue as president of UT Arlington until a successor is selected.

Meanwhile, we will stay focused on our mission. There is much work to be done, and our continued progress as a university requires our best efforts. In the words of Robert Frost, whom I quoted eight years ago in my investiture address, we "have promises to keep, and miles to go before we sleep."

It has been the highest honor of my career to have served as your president, and I will devote myself in the months ahead to assuring a smooth transition in leadership.

Go Mavericks!

As president of UT Arlington since 2004, James D. Spaniolo has overseen unprecedented growth in enrollment, research activity, and the physical campus.



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**ON THE COVER**

From psychology and education to criminal justice and social work, UT Arlington professors are giving hope to bullying victims. *Illustration by Noma Bar.*



# Facebook



**GREEK WEEK**  
Connecting with his inner Simba, Christopher Dinh donned the *Lion King* costume for a movie-themed talent show last spring during Greek Week. "I like to participate in all the craziness," says Dinh, a communications technology senior and Beta Theta Pi fraternity member. "Especially if it's representing the Greek community and shows that we aren't the stereotypes that Hollywood has created." The Betas collaborated on the skit with Delta Delta Delta sorority, including theatre arts major Raquel Wiseneske in the background. Greek Week is an annual celebration of UT Arlington's social fraternities and sororities. This year's events included a movie-themed fashion show, a service project for the Invisible Children program, a field day, and an awards ceremony.

# Email

## LOOKING BACK

I appreciate being able to receive *UT Arlington Magazine*. My time at what is now UTA occurred between 1956 and 1961. I graduated with the first degree-granting class in 1961. I noticed a photo of the current class ring in the spring 2012 issue. During the 1959-60 academic year, I was primarily responsible for helping design the first student ring associated with graduating from Arlington State College. For the 1960-61 school year, we established a student council where faculty members did not have a vote but did advise. Being able to create a functioning student council would not have been possible without Dr. Jack

Woolf becoming president after the sudden death of E.H. Hereford. Woolf placed no bureaucratic barriers between himself and the new student leadership group. I still have many vivid memories of my time at Arlington State College, helping to establish the first all-student government and the special effort President Woolf provided to ensure ASC would be as independent as one could be in the Texas A&M System of that era.

JAMES "SARGE" CHAPPELL '61  
*Houston, Texas*

## NAVAL BASE

I enjoyed reading the article "Love Shack, Baby" in the

spring 2012 issue. It reminded me of a very long time ago when Brazos House was called Davis Hall. I went to North Texas Agricultural College (now UT Arlington) in 1942 and later joined the U.S. Navy. After three semesters wearing the A&M military uniform, I was called in to the Navy. They sent me to NTAC (where I already was), and we lived in Davis Hall. So for two or three years, the "Love Shack" was used by the U.S. Navy. There are many stories there.

W.J. ROBERTS '44  
*Dallas, Texas*

## CATCHING UP

Being away from Texas, *UT Arlington Magazine* helps me stay connected with the University, alumni, and the Metroplex. I enjoy reading the magazine, as it has a variety of informative articles through the Campus Buzz section, especially those related to my field of social work. The spring 2012 edition is another informative, well-polished issue. I loved hearing about the opening of

College Park Center. Keep up the great work. Go Mavs!

MARK SLITER-HAYS '90, '96  
*Wheeling, W.Va.*

## MEDIA COVERAGE

Thanks for making me look way more important than I am in the article "Day Trippers" (spring 2012). My mother saw the article before I did from a copy that a family friend and fellow UTA alum showed her. That was fine with me because I wanted her to show my five siblings how successful I had become. I'm kidding, of course. I only have four siblings. All joking aside, what you did was shine a spotlight on the College of Liberal Arts and those who represent UTA in the media once they graduate. I am flattered and proud to represent the school.

JOE GUMM '01  
*Oklahoma City, Okla.*

## YOUR THOUGHTS?

Send letters to the editor to [utamagazine@uta.edu](mailto:utamagazine@uta.edu), or comment on magazine content at [uta.edu/utamagazine](http://uta.edu/utamagazine).

# YouTube

## A NICE RING TO IT

One of UT Arlington's newest traditions is the Official Maverick Ring Ceremony held each spring and fall semester. At the event, alumni and students receive their Official Maverick Ring from the president or the provost. Watch a video of graduates showing off their rings at [youtube.com/utarlingtonmavericks](http://youtube.com/utarlingtonmavericks).

# Flickr

## INTERNATIONAL FASHIONISTAS

Students from more than a dozen countries modeled outfits from their native lands last spring at the International Week Fashion Show. China, India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Nigeria, Russia, Peru, Japan, and the Philippines were among the nations represented. The show was part of UT Arlington's 35th annual International Week, which also included a parade of banners, food fair, talent show, soccer tournament, and cultural exhibits. With a theme of "Peace, Love, and Culture," the week celebrated the heritage of the University's more than 2,800 international students who hail from 116 countries. View more International Week images at [flickr.com/groups/utamagazine](http://flickr.com/groups/utamagazine).



# Tweets

@Mr\_Verde09 After 8.5 years at UTA, President Spaniolo decided to retire. He was the definition of a MAVERICK. You will be missed! #MavsNation

@ItsClassy\_Jazzy UT Arlington is my choice!

@The\_Sun\_Belt Welcome @UTAMAVS to the #SunBelt! UT Arlington will join the league in 2013.

@DallasDogLife Happy to support the students at UT Arlington who started this group - Maverick Animal Activists of UTA!

@Texas Monthly UT Arlington scored a commencement speaker with credentials from Columbia & Yale. He's also done a little acting.

@TheWingExpert Proud to hear that my University of Texas at Arlington Mavs made the Baylor Regional in baseball. #gomavs

@ArlingtonDaily UT Arlington senior defies the odds after growing up without a father.

@RobertWilonsky James Franco's UTA commencement speech was quite endearing and even inspirational. And way better than "Your Highness."

@timholt2007 At UT Arlington College Park Center watching my wonderful wife get her M.Ed. in science education!

@TSimonec I enjoyed this weekend immensely. The symphony was wonderful and so was The University of Texas at Arlington's choir.

@Readex UT Arlington Library to receive historical papers of Negro League baseball player, African-American newspaper publisher.

## LET'S SOCIALIZE

Check us out online and on your favorite social media sites. We welcome your comments, posts, and tweets.

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Follow our tweets for the latest Maverick news.

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Link in and tell us about your career achievements.

# Campus Buzz

UT ARLINGTON AND THE WORLD



## Ahead of the Game

Joining Sun Belt Conference expected to boost University's national exposure

Come fall 2013, Maverick athletes will display their talents as members of the Sun Belt Conference.

UT Arlington has accepted an invitation to join the Sun Belt, a move expected to elevate the University's athletics programs and increase its national profile. Conference play will begin in the 2013-14 academic year.

President James D. Spaniolo says the move will advance the University's goals of becoming a top-tier institution. "Along with the opening of College Park Center just a few months ago, this move to the Sun Belt is another sign of the growth not only of our athletics program but of our entire University."

UT Arlington becomes the 12th member of the Sun Belt for 2013-14, joining current members Arkansas State, Arkansas-Little Rock, Florida Atlantic, Louisiana-Lafayette, Louisiana-Monroe, Middle Tennessee, South Alabama, Troy, and Western Kentucky. Georgia State and Texas State also will join the conference in 2013.

Formed in 1976, the Sun Belt is a member of the 11-league alliance of the Bowl Championship Series. It was the first conference to sign a long-term contract

with ESPN and boasts the longest partnership between the network and any collegiate athletic conference.

"Our move to the Sun Belt will allow us to continue to showcase our athletics program on a national level and create further awareness for the University," Athletics Director Jim Baker says.

Sun Belt Commissioner Karl Benson says the recent athletic success enjoyed by UT Arlington and the opening of the 7,000-seat College Park Center made the University an appealing choice.

"The addition of UT Arlington is tremendous for the Sun Belt Conference, as the league will now move forward with 12 member institutions with two six-team divisions," Benson says. "UTA will help continue the rise of the Sun Belt Conference as a national contender in intercollegiate athletics."

UT Arlington, which competes in 14 NCAA Division I sports, will play in the Western Athletic Conference for the 2012-13 academic year. The University recently finished its final season in the Southland Conference, where it was a charter member since 1963.

*"Our move to the Sun Belt will allow us to continue to showcase our athletics program on a national level and create further awareness for the University."*

ILLUSTRATION BY PETER AND MARIA HOEY

Erica Castillo, Goldwater Scholar **Talk**

**As UT Arlington's first Goldwater Scholar, how do you plan to use the scholarship?**

I'd like to continue doing research in biomechanics. In engineering we deal with stress and strain with metals, but our bodies feel stresses and strains, too. When I was introduced to this idea, I liked it because it combined engineering and nature. Little by little, we're trying to understand ourselves. We are a complex machine.

**What are some of your research projects?**

My summer research project at Cornell (in 2011) was with the biomechanics group. We calculated the forces of cells on other cells. But biomaterials are soft and squishy, not hard like metal. The traditional ways of measuring properties are not very applicable to these materials. I was in charge of fabricating some of the materials. There are tools in charge of fabricating some of the materials. There are tools out there to measure this, but they are not accessible to all the labs around the country. We tried to do what the average biolab could do.

**Aren't you also researching sensors?**

Last spring in Dr. (Haiying) Huang's advanced sensor lab, I worked on a sensor for structural monitoring. We are trying to make a sensor to detect defects from a distance. We want to make it wireless with a photocell that can send a signal on measurements. It's still in the developmental stages.

**Double majoring in aerospace engineering and physics and minoring in mechanical engineering seems like a heavy load.**

I thought I wanted to do engineering, then I took physics and really liked it. The first month I struggled, but with Dr. (Barry) Spurlock's help and his motivation, I became confident that I could do it. I completed the minor and wanted to keep going. In today's world, I think if you broaden your area and combine different perspectives, it can help solve complex problems.

**What's the secret to succeeding as a first-generation college student?**

I've been very lucky. Some parents push their kids to get a job after high school or after a bachelor's degree. My parents are able to see the value in education. Through their support, I am motivated more. They've never said "you can't do that." I also have a brother at UNT, another at North Lake College in Irving, and one in high school.

**What do you want to do with all this?**

I always wanted to be a teacher and an astronaut. Those are two of my greatest passions. I know one day I'll be a professor. I see graduate school and research in my future. How I get there, I don't know. I like the journey. I also like looking into space and looking at airplanes and asking, "How can we fly?" I'm a very curious person. This is our world, and I think we should explore it.



## Crash Course Entrepreneurship

### MANA 3324

Creative business minds flourish in Susanna Khavul's popular entrepreneurship classes. "Many students want to own businesses, but others aren't so sure," says the assistant professor of strategic management, entrepreneurship, and innovation in the College of Business. "My classes are personal; they are about a unique entrepreneur in each person." Dr. Khavul, who notes that the cost of starting a business is dropping, stresses a customer-focused approach. "Students work on feasibility studies for new ventures. But this is not desk research or a flight of the imagination. Students seek out potential customers, understand their needs, and figure out how to serve them." Ideas are as diverse as the students themselves. A recent student with a social work background proposed a service to help families untangle the bewildering array of elder-care options. "This had significant traction with potential customers," says Khavul, who won the UT Arlington President's Award for Teaching Excellence this year. But not every idea is an opportunity, and students grill each other as the discovery process unfolds. "Students love it because the aim is to build a robust, more vibrant business that can stand up to scrutiny beyond the campus."



## Awards

### NAI YUEN CHEN

Prolific researcher Nai Yuen Chen has been named a member of the Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas. Dr. Chen, a distinguished research professor in the Materials Science and Engineering Department, is inventor or co-inventor of 126 U.S. patents on novel catalysts, oil refining, and petrochemical and biomass processes.



### SCOTT RYAN

School of Social Work Dean Scott Ryan has been selected an American Council on Education fellow for the 2012-13 academic year. The ACE fellows program prepares promising faculty and administrators for senior positions in college and university administration. Dr. Ryan joins 56 other fellows for next year.

### JEANNETTE CRENSHAW AND JUDY LEFLORE

College of Nursing faculty members Jeannette Crenshaw and Judy LeFlore have been named fellows of the American Academy of Nursing. Fellows are chosen each year from the nation's top researchers, policy-makers, scholars, executives, educators, and practitioners.

### PURNENDU DASGUPTA

Purnendu "Sandy" Dasgupta received the 2012 Dal Nogare Award for his contributions to the chromatographic process. He is the Jenkins Garrett Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry and a pioneer in ion chromatography, the process of separating and detecting ions for analysis.

## College Park will be a diner's paradise

College Park Center may be complete, but related grand openings are yet to come.

On Oct. 3, UT Arlington will formally dedicate College Park, a mixed-use development immediately north of the arena. The \$80 million project, which opens in August, features five restaurants, a residence hall, student apartments, a satellite campus police station, a 1,850-vehicle parking garage, and the Dan Dipert University Welcome Center.

Of the places to eat, the most notable could well be MAVS Sports Grill in 4,500 square feet of prime space on the north side of Moritz Plaza, across from the College Park Center entrance. It will offer traditional grill items, sliders, chicken tenders, and sandwiches.

Other College Park restaurants include GRIP Mediterranean Grill, where diners "grip" custom sandwiches wrapped in a 10-inch pita and choose

from a selection of salads and sides; Pie Five Pizza Co., specializing in personal-size pizzas assembled and baked in front of the customer; Cool-berry Frozen Yogurt with its 90 flavors of frozen yogurt and 20 varieties of smoothies; and Pho Xpress, which features healthy Vietnamese options.

Jack Burgher, an SRS Real Estate associate who's working on the College Park project, says prospective tenants are attracted to the sense of place that it creates.

"College students want a unique place to live, hang out, study, and grab a meal," Burgher says. "This kind of development is what helps make a university a place where people want to be."

College Park Center, the University's 7,000-seat special events venue, opened in February and is expected to draw up to 400,000 patrons during its first year of operation.



## Class Act

Award-winning actor and education advocate James Franco inspired and amused a lively Graduation Celebration crowd at College Park Center in May. During keynote remarks at the annual event, the *Spider-Man* and *127 Hours* star told the Class of 2012 that college gave him the confidence to pursue his dreams. "Education gives you the opportunity of choice. Whatever choices you make, make them with confidence," he said. "Don't be afraid to change your life's course. Don't be afraid to reinvent yourself." *The Hollywood Reporter* selected Franco's speech for its "7 Great Hollywood Commencement Speeches to the Class of 2012" list. Watch a commencement video recap at [youtube.com/utarlington](http://youtube.com/utarlington).



## First of Many

More than 4,400 graduate in inaugural ceremonies at College Park Center

Making history never crossed Na Li's mind when she arrived at UT Arlington in 2007 to pursue a doctoral degree in computer science engineering. But the China native now holds a singular designation: She is the first Maverick to graduate in College Park Center.

"I was honored and excited about being the first to walk across the stage," she says. "It was also very rewarding to get through the tunnel and successfully complete the Ph.D. program after five years of hard work."

Spring 2012 graduation exercises were groundbreaking not only for being the first in College Park Center, the University's 7,000-seat events showpiece that opened in February to rave reviews. The ceremonies also featured a record number of graduates.

UT Arlington conferred more than 4,400 degrees, an increase of about 700 from May 2011. The total included 3,000 undergraduates, 1,309 master's candidates, and 97 doctoral scholars.

"Half of this spring's graduates are the first in their family to earn a college degree," UT Arlington President James D. Spaniolo says. "Imagine the doors they've opened with their resiliency and determination. Imagine the lessons they've learned about themselves and what they can achieve. And imagine where they're going."

Dr. Li plans to work in academia; her dissertation focuses on privacy and security issues in online and mobile social networks. Inspired by her mother, a high school teacher, Li has dreamed of becoming a college professor since she was a child. She taught a freshman-level programming course last fall and mentored undergraduate students in a National Science Foundation-funded research program.

"These experiences let me see clearly what I am passionate about," she says. "I am convinced that I should try to realize my dream."

## Grants

### ALAN BOWLING

The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant to UT Arlington researchers to study a new model for how motor proteins behave in the body. Mechanical and aerospace engineering Assistant Professor Alan Bowling is the lead investigator. Physics Assistant Professor Samarendra Mohanty and chemistry Associate Professor Subhrangsu Mandal are co-principal investigators.



### JENNIFER GRAY

The College of Nursing will use a federal grant to bolster recruitment of minorities to its Ph.D. program. Nursing Associate Dean Jennifer Gray is the principal investigator for the three-year award from the Department of Health and Human Services. The grant provides funds to recruit candidates from historically underrepresented groups and boost their success through mentoring, professional socialization, and enhanced academic advising.

### LUCA MADDALENA AND LUCA MASSA

Aerospace engineering Assistant Professors Luca Maddalena and Luca Massa have received a three-year NASA National Research Award to study novel injector designs to support combustion at hypersonic speeds. Their exploration aims to reduce air travel times and make space access more affordable. Drs. Maddalena and Massa are the only two collegiate researchers in the nation to garner the hypersonic grant.

## A patented method for solving big problems

Maximizing profits while minimizing costs is a top priority for organizations of every type. That may become a lot simpler, thanks to two UT Arlington industrial engineers.

Professor Bill Corley and Associate Professor Jay Rosenberger—both faculty members in the University's Center on Stochastic Modeling, Optimization, and Statistics—have patented a method to solve linear programming problems.

Linear programming is a mathematical modeling technique used to help make quantitative decisions in business, engineering, and other fields. Solving these problems enables a more efficient allocation of resources. In the telecommunications industry, for example, linear programming can route cars in transit to their destinations in the quickest manner.

"Linear programming is the most widely used compu-

tational model in the business and scientific worlds," Dr. Corley says. "It will now become much more important. That's the bottom line. We drastically improved more than 60 years of research for computing with this ubiquitous decision model."

The patent uses a process called Constraint Optimal Selection Techniques to reduce the number of calculations needed to make an optimal decision, thus making it thousands of times faster to solve problems that have huge numbers of solution variables and restrictions. Such enormous problems previously could take weeks of computer time or exceed memory limitations.

"It will also give answers to currently unsolvable nonlinear decision problems by approximating them with enormous linear programming problems," Dr. Rosenberger adds.



## The power of learning

Education reform should be the great civil rights challenge of our time, former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush said during his Maverick Speakers Series visit in March. "Don't let anybody tell you that some kids can learn and some kids can't," said the founder and board chairman of the Foundation for Excellence in Education, which works to help students reach their learning potential. "Imagine living in a country where we actually think that some subgroups can't achieve the kind of results that we desire for everybody." Bush's lecture was the first Maverick Speakers Series presentation in College Park Center, UT Arlington's 7,000-seat special events venue that opened in February. Visit [uta.edu/maverickspeakers](http://uta.edu/maverickspeakers) for video clips of Bush and past speakers.



## Molecular Detectives

Artificial nanopores aid disease discovery

Tiny technology is having a big impact on cancer detection. Electrical engineering Assistant Professor Samir Iqbal and his interdisciplinary research team are building nanopores made of silicon to detect "bad molecules" that may indicate cancer and other diseases.

"We know many variants of certain chemicals and the abnormal amounts of others. These chemicals tell us if someone is subject to certain diseases," Dr. Iqbal explains. "Now we will be able to detect these variants at extremely small amounts and in a portable system format. We'll be able to detect even a few hundred copies of bad molecules to identify risks of diseases like cancer. That is very, very early detection."

To detect the bad molecules, Iqbal's team runs blood-derived samples through the nanopores, which are about 1,000 times smaller than a human pore or hair, and measures the reaction between them and the ions of blood. Then they compare the data with other non-reactive nanopores to determine abnormal levels of particular chemicals.

Through the research, scientists hope to determine similar differences at the molecular level, before the bad variants of new molecules cause devastating effects. This would help identify what cancer and other diseases look like at the molecular level.

The researchers also believe the nanopore technology detection could gauge air or water quality.

"It's thrilling that we can have a small, broadly applicable platform that will be usable in a variety of areas," says Purnendu "Sandy" Dasgupta, the Jenkins Garrett Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Richard Timmons, Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, is also working on the project, which has received funding from the National Science Foundation.

## Department of Kinesiology Faculty



### PRISCILA CAÇOLA

Kinesiology Clinical

Assistant Professor Priscila Caçola has been helping children improve their motor skills since she was a 15-year-old ballet teacher in her native Brazil. Getting a bachelor's degree in physical education seemed natural, but she knew she wanted to go further. So in 2006, after earning a master's degree in motor behavior, Caçola left her job as a rhythmic gymnastics coach in her hometown of Curitiba, sold her few belongings, and headed for the United States. She had money for an English-language course and the determination to enter a doctoral program. She came to UT Arlington in fall 2011 after completing her Ph.D. in motor neuroscience at Texas A&M University. Her research focuses on cognitive processing problems that cause about 6 percent of American school-age children to have significant coordination difficulties. Dr. Caçola is enrolling children for a project called the Little Mavs Movement Academy. Her goal: find ways to help them overcome the social isolation that often accompanies developmental delays. "I'm actually trying to combine the methods that research shows have been successful one on one and put them in a group setting," she says. "I want to give these kids the opportunity to work with other kids like them."

## Press

### WILLIAM ICKES

A *Time* magazine article quoted psychology Professor William Ickes in a story about how siblings influence behavior. "The guys who had older sisters had more involving interactions and were liked significantly more by their new female acquaintances," he said.



### LIPING TANG

Bioengineering Professor Liping Tang was featured in a *Science News* story about how applying force to polymers in water can generate enough energy to drive chemical reactions. Dr. Tang is a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

### ANDRE PIRES DA SILVA

*U.S. News & World Report* featured an article on research into the nematode, or roundworm, being performed by biology Assistant Professor Andre Pires da Silva and colleague Diane Shakes at the College of William & Mary. The work could aid worldwide disease prevention by discovering new methods of roundworm population control.

### DAVID NARRETT

American History TV aired a class discussion featuring history Associate Professor David Narrett's lecture on the French and Indian War. The C-SPAN series highlights professors and writers speaking about the people and events that comprise the American story.

## Research quells breast milk contaminant fears

For years doctors have extolled the benefits of breastfeeding infants while remaining concerned about the potential for mothers to unwittingly pass on environmental contaminants in their milk. Now, UT Arlington researchers have discovered that the risk might not be as great as feared.

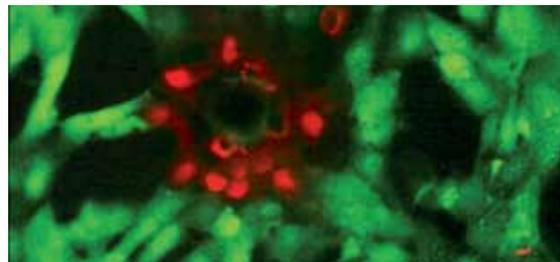
Purnendu "Sandy" Dasgupta, the Jenkins Garrett Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and his team have found evidence that breastfed babies can metabolize the environmental contaminant perchlorate, thus decreasing their potential for exposure.

"Both Centers for Disease Control researchers and our lab have previously observed that there is a higher concentration of perchlorate in breast milk versus formula. Although the merits of breastfeeding far outweigh any risk posed by this, it has caused some mothers concern," Dr. Dasgupta says. "Our results suggest that nature has already devised a way to at least partly take care of it."

Dasgupta's team did not find similar evidence of perchlorate metabolism in a small number of samples from formula-fed infants. But, he explains, "formula-fed babies get much less perchlorate anyway, so the risk is not as great."

Perchlorate occurs naturally in the environment and in rocket fuel, fireworks, some fertilizers, and road flares. Evidence suggests that it can block the uptake of iodine to the thyroid and disrupt the production of hormones necessary for normal neurological development. Reports of high levels of perchlorate have not been widespread, but in 2011 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced that it would develop regulations to protect Americans from potential health problems.

An article in the *American Chemical Society Journal of Environmental Science and Technology* details the researchers' study.



**LASER THERAPY** A team of physics researchers has developed a way to treat cancer without damaging healthy surrounding cells. Professor Ali R. Koymen and Assistant Professor Samarendra Mohanty, along with postdoctoral researchers Ling Gu and Vijayalakshmi Vardarajan, use magnetic carbon nanoparticles to destroy cancer cells through laser therapy. "Because these nanoparticles are magnetic, we can use an external magnetic field to focus them on the cancer cells. Then we use a low-power laser to heat them and destroy the cells beneath," Dr. Koymen says. "Since only the carbon nanoparticles are affected by the laser, the method—which is nontoxic—leaves the healthy tissue unharmed." The carbon nanoparticles produced for the study varied from five to 10 nanometers wide.



## Finding Fauna

Biologists to visit Indonesia in quest for new amphibian and reptile species

Biology Assistant Professor Eric Smith is a man on a mission. His goal: discover and catalog all the new amphibian and reptile wildlife he can find deep in the Indonesian jungles.

Dr. Smith and his team of researchers received a three-year, \$725,000 National Science Foundation grant to explore the Indonesian portion of the Pacific Ring of Fire, which includes the highlands of Sumatra and Java.

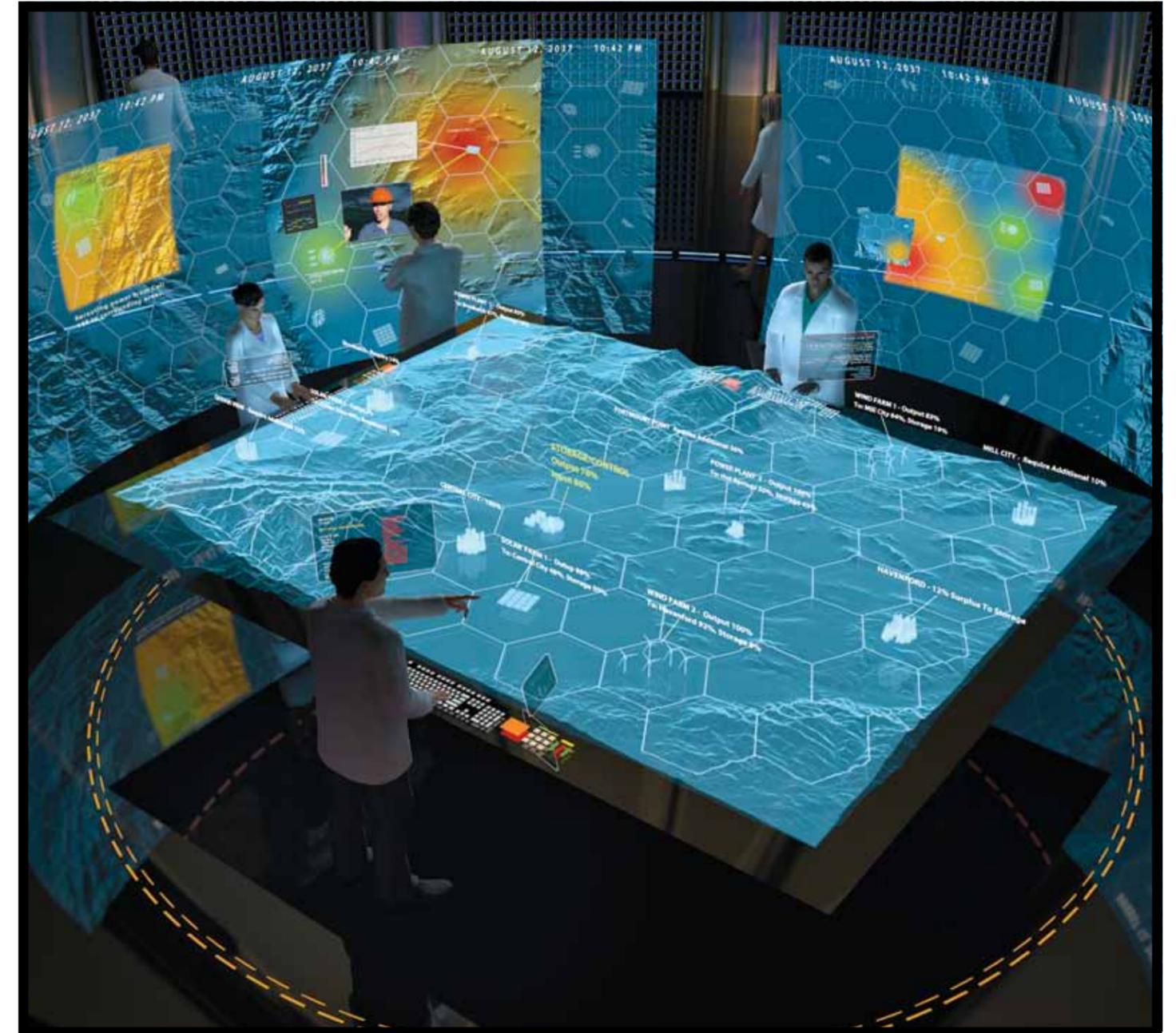
"It's a huge place, and it will take a long time to explore what is there," Smith says.

Discovering new species increases our understanding of how animals evolve to fit their surroundings—knowledge that has led to many scientific advances. It also provides a catalog useful in conservation planning and in tracking the global biodiversity crisis.

"The amphibian and reptile fauna of Indonesia is as poorly known as U.S. fauna was more than 100 years ago," says Jonathan Campbell, chair of the Biology Department. "This research is timely and crucial. It undoubtedly will lead to the discovery of many species new to science, demonstrate that Indonesia is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world, and provide thousands of specimens for analysis."

Smith's team includes scientists from the Indonesian Institute of Sciences, the Bandung Institute of Technology, and Brawijaya University in Indonesia; students from UT Arlington and Broward College in Florida; and researchers from other universities. They will return part of what they find to UT Arlington for study and leave some specimens behind for Indonesian researchers, fueling collaboration for the future.

"I'm extremely excited about this research in Indonesia," says team member Michael Harvey, a UT Arlington alumnus and Broward College associate professor. "Very few herpetologists have worked in Sumatra, and we expect to find some rather spectacular new species."



As energy demand rises, the electrical grid in the United States is steadily pushed to its limits. More efficient technology like smart grids can help ease that burden, but no one knows how much demand these grids can take. Electrical engineering Professor Qilian Liang plans to find out. Dr. Liang received a National Science Foundation grant to determine the upper boundary of a smart grid's threshold. A smart grid is a digitally enabled electrical grid that collects information about usage and demand and then acts on it to improve the efficiency, reliability, and sustainability of electricity services. "The capacity limit on a smart grid is enormous," Liang says. "We want to use the Internet, cellular phone systems, sensor networks, everything available to inch closer to that upper boundary so

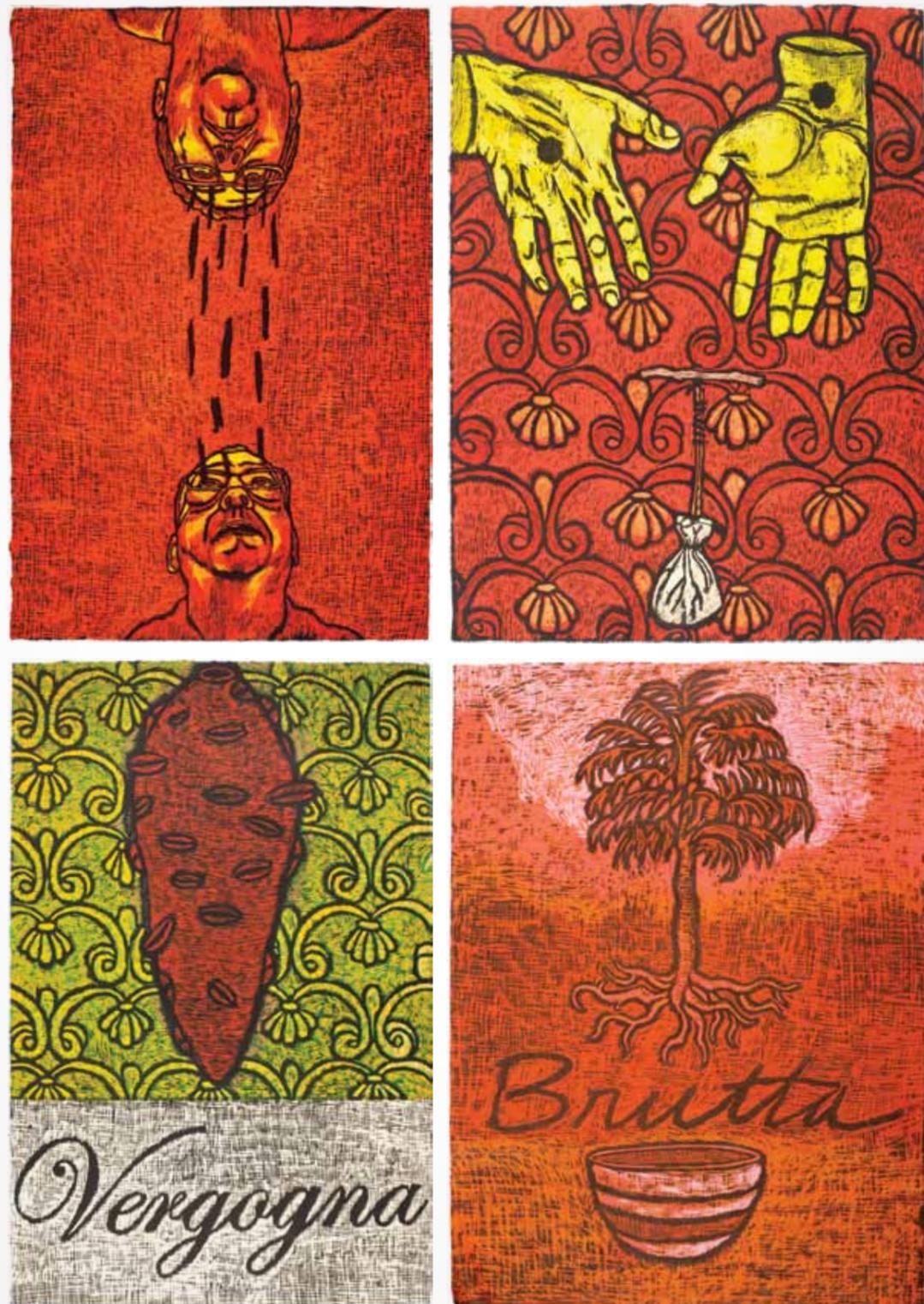
we can find out what the limit is in terms of information transmission." One study conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy concluded that upgrading to smart grid capabilities could save \$46 billion-\$117 billion over the next 20 years. Liang says that knowing their threshold will help people determine how large a grid they should build and maintain in their cities. "We also need to know energy expectations due to population increases in the future to better plan for those people," he says. "We will develop a planning tool for future grid needs as part of this grant." Engineering Dean Jean-Pierre Bardet believes that Liang's work will prove crucial as the need for electricity grows. "Meeting those needs is not just a U.S. challenge," he says. "It is a worldwide challenge."

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHEN DURKE

# Gallery Printmaking

**NANCY PALMERI**  
Looking within ourselves helps make us who we are. For art Associate Professor Nancy Palmeri, self-reflection is a constant theme. With a focus on printmaking and drawing, Palmeri thrives on the hands-on nature of her art as it examines family, religion, gender, and childhood. Printmaking involves transferring ink from a matrix or through a prepared screen to a sheet of paper or other material. Common matrices include metal plates, blocks of wood, and linoleum. "For me, it's important to maintain the unvarnished authenticity of the processes," she says. "Within these traditional media, I still find a heterogeneous world in which to balance form and content." Palmeri's work has received international recognition and is featured in the collections of the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University Art Museums, The Royal Museum of Fine Art in Antwerp, Belgium, the Istituto per la Cultura e l'arte in Catania, Italia, and numerous others. She received a fellowship for her work at the Frans Masereel Graphic Arts Center in Kasterlee, Belgium.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT  
"Astronomical Unit I" – color reduction woodcut, 2009  
"Uccidere me Correttamente" – color reduction woodcut, 2010  
"Brutta" – color reduction woodcut, 2011  
"Vergogna" – color reduction woodcut, 2011



## Two professors named Fulbright Scholars



Anthropology Assistant Professor Ritu Khanduri's research centers on colonial and contemporary India and the Indian Diaspora in the United States. History Associate Professor Alusine Jalloh focuses on reviewing African business history and the history of Sierra Leone.



The two academicians now share a bond: They were named Fulbright Scholars for 2012-13. Sponsored by the State Department, Fulbright awards enable professors to conduct research and are given on the basis of academic or professional achievement.

Dr. Khanduri will use her grant to conduct an ethnographic study in India of a cohort of new engineers as they train and launch their careers. "The Fulbright-supported research will take forward my interest in narratives about science, technology, and society," she says. "It will also shape my teaching, student mentoring, service, and community outreach in important ways."

Dr. Jalloh, director of UT Arlington's Africa Program, will continue his research while working on a book, *Muslim Fula Business Elites and Politics in Twentieth-Century Sierra Leone*. He will spend part of the next academic year teaching at Fourah Bay College in Sierra Leone.

"My research will contribute to closing the gap that exists in the historical literature on the interconnections among African minority business groups, governments, and political parties in post-independence Africa," he says. "I look forward to promoting cross-cultural understanding between the U.S. and Sierra Leone."



**GLOBAL REACH** UT Arlington is joining forces with Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications to help talented Chinese students earn graduate degrees. Beginning in fall 2013, the two universities will offer a joint master's degree in computer science and engineering with a focus on software engineering. Administrators anticipate that the program will bring 15-20 Chinese students a year to UT Arlington. "This is a wonderful opportunity for us to build partnerships not only with these students but with Beijing University and China in general," says Fillia Makedon, chair of the Computer Science and Engineering Department. "Software engineering is a global field that impacts everything and drives innovation."



## Street Smarts

Students remake unused Arlington city block into functional streetscape

Purpose and vision melded perfectly on an April Saturday in "Downtown Front and Center," a project conceptualized and executed by students from the School of Urban and Public Affairs and the School of Architecture.

Led by SUPA Assistant Professor Andrew Whittemore, the project studio students transformed a portion of Front Street between Center and Mesquite as well as the adjacent city-owned vacant lot into a pulsing thoroughfare for the University and Arlington communities.

The students used paint to turn streets into sidewalks, brought in plantings, and arranged games and seating. They invited health and fitness instructors and numerous artists. Local businesses sold food and products.

"I see this as part of UT Arlington's wider goal of providing students with a vibrant living environment as we enhance the University," Dr. Whittemore says. "We wanted to create an idea of what downtown Arlington could be and familiarize attendees with what it already has."

More than 40 vendors participated, including Potager Café, Bike Friendly Arlington, Friends of Arlington Animal Services, and the Grease Monkey Burger Shop and Social Club.

"Events like these have the potential to spark more economic development while encouraging local citizens to make it happen," Whittemore says. "It's a great way to connect downtown businesses with the student market, in short helping UT Arlington move even further past its image as a commuter school."

## Numbers

**5,300**

More than 5,300 students will live on campus when the College Park District residential and retail development fully opens in the fall. That represents almost 16 percent of the student population, the largest percentage of any university in the UT System. It's also a 60 percent increase since 2000.

**3,000,000**

Nursing, computer science engineering, and social work researchers have received almost \$3 million in grants to develop video games to train nurses, improve communication among caregivers, battle teenage substance abuse, and treat children with cerebral palsy.

**126,700**

Of UT Arlington's more than 163,000 alumni, about 126,700 live in Texas. Of that number, almost 112,000 live in North Texas and help the University create an annual economic impact of more than \$1 billion in the region.

**300,000,000**

Campus construction projects total almost \$300 million in the past three years. New structures include the \$78 million College Park Center, the \$116 million Engineering Research Building, and the soon-to-open \$80 million College Park District residential and retail development.

**12,000**

More than 12,000 students participate in 330 campus organizations. Categories include academic/honorary, Greek, cultural/international, professional, recreational, religious, and special interest.

## Service

### GREEK VOLUNTEERS

UT Arlington fraternity and sorority members annually donate more than \$60,000 and volunteer more than 10,000 hours of service to the community. One such project is Beta Theta Pi's Heroes for Hope, where fraternity members dress up as superheroes and visit with terminally ill children. Clad in Batman, Superman, and Spider-Man costumes, the students spent part of spring break 2012 cheering up kids at Methodist Children's Hospital in San Antonio.



### THE BIG EVENT

More than 1,000 students, faculty, staff, and community members participated in the 2012 Big Event, a day of service each April benefiting local groups. Volunteers worked on nearly 50 projects, including digging for fossils at the Arlington Archosaur Site, reading to children, cleaning up at area parks, and working with Boys and Girls Clubs.

### 'WORN' PROJECT

School of Social Work researchers are helping reduce the risk of post-traumatic stress disorder in women from war-torn countries through WORN, a project in which the refugees knit scarves. Assistant Professors Regina Aguirre and Diane Mitschke began their study with 47 women from Bhutan who exhibited PTSD. They discovered that those participating in WORN no longer met the criteria for PTSD. WORN is one of nine projects in the school's Innovative Community Academic Partnership.



## Energy Efficient

College Park Center achieves LEED Gold certification for embracing environment

You can add gold to College Park Center's sterling credentials. The U.S. Green Building Council has awarded Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification to UT Arlington's 7,000-seat special events showpiece.

LEED certification is an independent, third-party verification that a structure is designed and built using strategies that achieve high performance in environmental health, sustainability, water and energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

HKS designed the \$78 million center, incorporating recycled construction materials and many energy-saving features. The company's application for LEED certification received a perfect score, earning all 42 points for which it applied.

"The center emphasizes energy efficiency, natural light, and thoughtful landscaping in a new venue that defines the University's eastern edge," says Ralph Hawkins '73, HKS chairman and chief executive officer. "The project is proof positive that architecture and sustainability can coexist in a premiere venue."

More than 40 percent of the building material came from within 500 miles of campus, and nearly 30 percent was manufactured using recycled materials. More than 85 percent of construction waste was recycled.

"This is wonderful recognition that large, public spaces can be articulated in a way that embraces their environment," says UT Arlington President James D. Spaniolo. "We are pleased to be able to say that our university is helping set the standard for sustainable design."

College Park Center, which opened in February, is the centerpiece of the College Park District, a 20-acre, \$160 million development that includes a residence hall and apartments for 600 students and 27,000 square feet of street-level retail. The development will open fully this summer.

## University earns lofty sustainability ranking

UT Arlington advanced all the way to the final eight in the March Madness tournament—for sustainability, not basketball.

Held for the first time, the national contest sought the university with the best undergraduate program in environmental studies and sustainability. Schools submitted pictures, videos, and essays by students and faculty that detailed their efforts. Environmental science professionals reviewed the materials alongside other factors like freshman retention rate, student-to-faculty ratio, and the diversity of sustainability courses offered.

UT Arlington beat out Duke and Cornell, among others, to survive the first cut—when the "Sustainable 16" was trimmed to the "Environmental Eight"—but was eliminated before the final four.

"The quantity and quality of schools participating exceeded our expectations, making it a

very difficult decision for the judges in narrowing the field of finalists," said Lawrence Goldenhersh, CEO and president of tournament sponsor Enviance. "The schools should be proud of what they have accomplished in building elite environmental academic programs that are the envy of their peers."

Colby College, Colorado State University, Humboldt State University, Ohio State University, Purdue University, the Rochester Institute of Technology, and the University of California, Davis also made the Environmental Eight. Colby College in Waterville, Maine, was crowned champion and received \$5,000 for its environmental and sustainability department.

UT Arlington's sustainability initiatives include a community garden, car rental and bike programs, extensive recycling, and construction projects to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design benchmarks.



**DEGREES OF GREEN** Students seeking expert training in the business of sustainability now have a new option. UT Arlington has added a Master of Science in Real Estate Sustainability to its ever-increasing portfolio of related programs. Classes began in May at the Universities Center at Dallas and will start this fall at the UT Arlington Fort Worth Center. Designed for working professionals, the degree can be completed in as few as 12 months. Classes cover high-density development, sustainable investing, real estate analysis, adaptive reuse and redevelopment, and real estate funding and appraisal. The graduate degree is the second focused on sustainability that the University has added since 2010, joining the Master of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies-Sustainability.

## Alternative Spring Break Community



### PLANTING HOPE

Architecture major Chris Huskey's spring break destination checklist was a far cry from the typical college student's. As coordinator for UT Arlington's 2012 Alternative Spring Break program, he sought locations where he and 23 others could spend their week-long vacation making the world a better place. His research yielded three trips: one to Perryville, Ark., where six students worked on a farm that sends resources to impoverished Third World countries; one to Atlanta, where a group of nine spring breakers helped children at a battered women's shelter while the kids' mothers looked for jobs; and one to New Orleans, where another nine worked with Katrina's Kids, an organization that aids New Orleans children after Hurricane Katrina. "It's important to get out of your element and experience something different," says Huskey, who made the Atlanta trip. "It's one thing to have an education, but it's another to understand others and where they're coming from. It helps you appreciate what you do have and shows you what's really important."

# Sports Tennis

## MARIA MARTINEZ-ROMERO

As a freshman four years ago, Maria Martinez-Romero admits she was often frightened to take the court. But she never played scared. The Nules, Spain, native capped her career in April by being named the Southland Conference Women's Tennis Player of the Year. She completed the 2012 season 10-1 in conference play at the No. 1 singles position. "I didn't expect it at all because there are very good players out there," says Martinez-Romero, who led the Mavericks to two SLC championships and two runner-up finishes. "I learned to play for a team and not for myself anymore. I started liking it even more than just playing for myself." She completed her UT Arlington career with a 73-13 singles record and had 42 conference wins against only two losses. She went undefeated as a freshman and a junior, posting 11-0 records both seasons, and lost only one match in each of her sophomore and senior seasons. Martinez-Romero also excels in the classroom. She is on track to graduate in December with a double major in broadcasting and Spanish and was named the SLC's Student-Athlete of the Year for women's tennis.



# Champs

## PAUL MCCONNELL

Junior golfer Paul McConnell was selected to the All-Southland Conference first team. His 73.16-stroke average was fifth best in the SLC, and he won the Fighting Irish Gridiron Classic. McConnell led the Mavericks to an NCAA regional appearance, their fourth in the last five years.



## KRISTIE FOX

Former All-American Kristie Fox has been named head softball coach. Fox, 26, who spent the previous three years as an assistant at Texas Tech, was considered one of the top young assistant coaches in the nation. She worked primarily with the Red Raiders' hitters and infielders. As a player, she led Arizona to two national titles and was named All-American after her sophomore and junior seasons.

## MINDAUGAS CELEDINAS

Senior Mindaugas Celedinas was named the 2012 Southland Conference Men's Tennis Player of the Year. The Lithuania native was 5-0 in SLC play at No. 1 singles. Overall, he was 14-7 in No. 1 singles and 14-6 in No. 1 doubles with partner Soren Goritzka.

## PETE CARLON

Pete Carlon, senior athletics director for administration, was inducted into the Southland Conference Hall of Honor in May. He served as UT Arlington athletics director from 1996 through January 2012 and helped the Mavericks win 48 SLC championships and three Southland Commissioner's Cups.



## Earning Respect

Baseball team advances to NCAA tourney

Many considered the 2012 UT Arlington baseball team a major underdog. In preseason polls, Southland Conference sports information directors and coaches picked the Mavericks to finish eighth.

So coach Darin Thomas and his players went out and posted one of the best seasons in school history.

UT Arlington won the Southland Conference Tournament and advanced to its fifth NCAA regional berth and first since 2006. The Mavericks went 36-25, won seven of 11 SLC series, and dominated the conference tournament, going 4-0 and outscoring their opponents by 19 runs.

"We battled through a lot of things and have a lot of good young players," Thomas says. "We had an unbelievable year for the schedule we played."

That schedule included regular-season wins over Baylor, Texas A&M, TCU, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Mavericks finished the year with eight victories against teams ranked in the top 25 but stalled out in the NCAA Tournament, losing to Dallas Baptist and Baylor.

Junior right fielder Preston Beck, who batted .335 and led the conference with a .602 slugging percentage, was named to the All-SLC first team. His 71 RBIs set a single-season school record, and his 14 home runs tied for fifth best in a season. The Texas Rangers selected Beck in the fifth round of Major League Baseball's First-Year Player Draft in June.

"It's a huge honor to get drafted by a team like the Texas Rangers that you've grown up rooting for and whose games you've gone to over the years," says the 21-year-old Dallas native. "It feels good to be part of this organization and to be honored as one of the best players in the country."

Beck is the 38th UT Arlington baseball player either drafted or signed by a Major League organization over the last nine seasons.

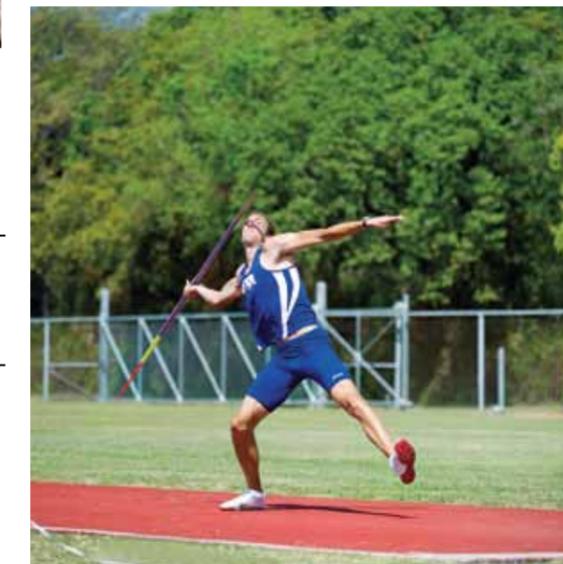
"He's up there with some of the best," Thomas says. "He's got one of the top outfield arms in the draft and a legitimate power left-handed bat."

Sophomore shortstop Ryan Walker and senior pitcher Lance Day earned second-team All-Conference honors. Walker led the team in batting (.360), runs (56), hits

(90), and stolen bases (14). Day, whose 12 wins were among the most in the nation, posted a 3.18 earned-run average in 121.2 innings.

In addition to Day, UT Arlington loses nine other seniors, including career saves leader Adam Boydston, as well as infielder Michael Guerra and outfielder Jordan Vaughn, both honorable mention All-SLC selections. But Walker, outfielder Matt Shortall, and infielder Travis Sibley form a solid corps that has Thomas excited about next season, his sixth as head coach.

"Our program took a huge step forward this year," he says, "and we've got a good group of guys coming back."



## Martin captures second in NCAA decathlon

One of the top all-around athletes in the nation is a UT Arlington Maverick.

Romain Martin finished second in the decathlon at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships in June. It was the highest placement by a Maverick since McClinton Neal won the 1991 NCAA 400-meter hurdles crown.

Martin surged from eighth to second on the final day to finish with 7,956 points. The 6-foot-7 France native capped the competition with a personal-record 4:33.29 in the 1,500 meters.

"Romain competed under extreme pressure at the highest level," track coach John Sauerhage said. "He didn't get

off to a great start on the first day, but he came back strong. It speaks to how talented and tough he is."

Martin had top-10 showings in all five events on the second day, including a personal best in the javelin. His throw of 64.16 meters (210 feet, 6 inches) topped his previous best by more than a meter and was worth 801 points. It was the second-longest throw of the 20 competitors.

With his second-place finish, the junior business major earned first-team All-America honors. He is the only UT Arlington athlete to reach the NCAA Track and Field Championships in a multiple-event competition.



**SOLDIERING ON**  
Ashley Seguin used the Post-9/11 GI Bill to earn her nursing degree. She's now an Army nurse in Fort Bragg, N.C.

After life-changing deployments to the Middle East, veterans are returning home eager to fulfill their career dreams. UT Arlington provides an educational foundation to aid the transition for this growing student population. BY JUDY WILEY

# DUTY, HONOR, *College*

Ellen Terry almost picked the middle seat that night. She was with a driver and an interpreter in a five-ton U.S. Army vehicle in Baghdad, transporting Iraqi soldiers to the base following a joint mission. A flash pierced the darkness and a loud boom rang out. Shrapnel from a roadside bomb hit the interpreter in the head and killed him where he sat—in the middle seat. The explosion blasted glass shards into Terry's face and drove shrapnel into her shoulder, but she survived. At the last minute, she had taken the seat by the door.

"During an explosion, there is nothing you can humanly do to protect yourself. I almost sat in that seat. I was already sitting in that seat and decided to move," the 2008 alumna says. "I had to make peace with the fact that I couldn't control what happened to that guy."

**“When you’re out on a mission, you can have the best plan in the world and it changes in an instant—as soon as a bullet is shot or something explodes.”**

**HONOR ROLL**

Sgt. Scott Torres, a business graduate who works in the finance industry, commanded a platoon of 45 Marines north of Baghdad. Alumna Ellen Terry, who received a Purple Heart, is pursuing a Ph.D. in psychology.

By the time young military veterans like Terry are sitting in air-conditioned university classrooms, many have lived through situations their classmates will never experience. They’ve dodged bullets on the front lines, tracked terrorists, watched friends die. And they’re ready to move on.

The number of ex-soldiers pursuing college degrees is on the rise, fueled by programs catering to their needs and generous government benefits. At UT Arlington the Post-9/11 GI Bill and the Hazlewood Act are assisting more than 1,200 veterans and their eligible dependents. The number has more than doubled since the bill passed in 2009. More veterans are likely on campus, but they’re not tracked if they don’t use the benefits.

Nationally, more than 600,000 veterans are expected to use GI benefits this year. The new GI Bill provides full tuition, a monthly housing stipend, up to \$1,000 a year for books, and the ability to transfer the benefit to family members. The Hazlewood Act, passed by the Texas Legislature, provides up to 150 hours of exemption from tuition and fees.

UT Arlington offers a benefits office, advisory council, and student organization to provide a welcoming environment where veterans can flourish academically and transition to the workplace.

“Many of those who have served in the armed forces have risked their lives defending our country,” says Michael Moore, senior vice provost and dean of undergraduate studies. “We’re grateful for their service and honored that they’ve chosen UT Arlington. We want to give these veterans every opportunity to succeed as they begin the next phase of their lives.”



**SERVING TO LEARN**

Terry, who received a Purple Heart, joined the military in 2001 with education in mind. She deployed to Kuwait for four months in 2003, then to Baghdad in 2004-05. After the explosion, she received 10 days off and served the rest of her deployment in Iraq, journaling extensively to help manage the trauma.

The Belize native, who will be the first in her family to earn an advanced degree, went into the Army because she wanted to get a Ph.D. in psychology. She’s on track to complete her doctorate at the University of Tulsa in 2014.

When her military stint ended, Terry chose UT Arlington to be near big cities without paying big-city prices. She finished her undergraduate work before the Post-9/11 GI Bill was passed, so she used the considerably smaller benefits from the old Montgomery GI Bill.

The promise of a college education also enticed veteran and graduate student Matthew Foster. “I wanted to go to school and didn’t really have any means to pay for it,” says Foster, who grew up in New Braunfels and chose UT Arlington when his wife got a job in Dallas. They live in Grand Prairie.

After graduating in December 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in interdisciplinary studies, Foster is pursuing a master’s degree in public administration, public budgeting, and taxation. He’s also the district director for state Rep. Rodney Anderson, R-District 106. Foster served in the Army from 2003 to 2007 and deployed to Iraq in 2005-06, working mostly on convoy security in Baghdad.

“It’s one of those periods where I went there and I did it and it was a life-changing event and helped shape a lot of the way I view things now,” he says. “When you’re out on a mission, you can have the best plan in the world and it changes in an instant—as soon as a bullet is shot or something explodes. It forces you to be very adaptive.”

As an undergraduate, Foster was active in the University’s Student Veteran Organization. “It gives us just a small little group of friends that automatically have a bond with each other.”

**GAINING PERSPECTIVE**

Networking with fellow ex-soldiers isn’t for everyone, of course. Sam Morton ’12, an Army National Guard veteran, was glad to exit the military. “I was done with it, tired of it,” says the journalism graduate who served as editor-in-chief of *The Shorthorn*, UT Arlington’s student newspaper, in spring 2012. He is an editor at Multibriefs in Las Colinas.

Morton never thought he’d go to Iraq when he signed up as a senior at Boswell High School in Saginaw. “The National Guard recruiter says, ‘Free college, you don’t have to go to Iraq. The last time the National Guard deployed was in World War II.’”

But there Morton was in boot camp at age 17, a month after he graduated. Six months later in Iraq, a close friend died when a roadside bomb exploded on a convoy.

“It was probably one of the hardest weeks of my life,” Morton says. “After that first deployment, it made me grow up and understand just how trivial a lot of things

in America are. A lot of the problems and drama are not that big a deal in the grand scheme of things.”

Morton deployed a second time and came home in 2009. He applied to UT Arlington because it was his mother’s alma mater and because he liked the campus after taking a tour. After an earlier experience at a community college, “it felt like an actual college campus,” he says. “I didn’t really look anywhere else.”

Like Morton, Scott Torres also gained a new perspective after serving in Iraq. A veteran of five deployments, the Marine sergeant commanded a platoon of 45 during a 2007 stint north of Baghdad.

“I was there as part of the infantry, actively looking for all the bad guys. There are life-and-death situations when you’re deployed into combat zones, but everything just seems to be more clear as far as what you’re doing in life, what your purpose is, what you’re going to do to live and survive the next week, the next month.”

Torres, a 2005 business graduate who works in the finance industry, says many veterans have a hard time re-entering a society where people worry about buying the latest iPhone or get angry when a driver cuts them off.

“People back here in the states stress out about things that don’t mean anything in the long run,” he says.

**MOVING ON**

Helping former soldiers adjust to college life is among the goals of UT Arlington’s Office of Veterans Affairs, a one-stop center for all phases of the veteran educational experience.

“What we’re trying to do here, and what’s happening at a lot of college campuses, is to create a good environment for veterans,” says Anita Perez, the University’s veterans benefits coordinator. “We have a really good student veterans organization, a good little core group that’s trying to bring people together.” To improve services for future students, the University’s Student Veterans Advisory Council has created an online survey.

The transition from combat to classroom was easy for Wade Isham, who graduated this spring with a bachelor’s degree in history. “I was actually ready for it. I did well in all my classes.” He has his sights on becoming a military historian.

From the time he graduated from Kerrville High School, Isham wanted to attend UT Arlington but “didn’t really have the grades or the maturity to come up here.” So he joined the Air Force. In four years of active duty, he did three tours in Iraq, mostly working security at airfields.

In a column he wrote for the Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* last July 4, he described a convoy through Mosul, Iraq’s second-largest city, to get mail and food for his compound. Such trips may sound routine, but they’re fraught with danger. His sergeant warned the soldiers to watch for snipers and explosives.

“Thoughts of car bombs and ambushes flood my consciousness,” Isham wrote. “The best sight is the Army gates ahead.”

Though she hasn’t been to war, Ashley Seguin says the Post-9/11 GI Bill allowed her to attend UT Arlington without having to work. She enlisted in the Army at age 18 but changed to the National Guard after she married



and became pregnant. She came to the University in 2007 and joined ROTC.

“After being here and being part of the ROTC program, I believe it’s one of the best in the country,” says Seguin, who graduated in December 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in nursing. She and her family live in Fort Bragg, N.C., where she’s an Army nurse.

Their military experiences and reasons for attending college differ, but UT Arlington’s veterans share a determination to succeed academically and professionally. Those who spent time fighting in a Third World country gained an appreciation for what they had when they got home.

Sam Morton puts it this way:

“Take it a step at a time. And don’t take what we have in America for granted.” ☺

**EASING THE TRANSITION**

Former *Shorthorn* editor Sam Morton ’12 deployed to Iraq a few months after graduating from high school. He was among about 600,000 military veterans nationwide to use GI benefits this year.



A study by Richard Florida's Creative Class Group suggests that knowledge, creativity, and innovation will dominate the local future economy. Collaboration is the key to maximizing the region's competitive advantages, and UT Arlington is poised to lead the way. BY O.K. CARTER

ILLUSTRATION BY QUICKHONEY

# BUILDING AN URBAN UTOPIA

Understanding what's called "North Texas" with its 16 counties and 6.7 million people doesn't come easily. Its population is larger than 35 states and its dollar churn is so vast that if it were a nation, North Texas would rank among the planet's 40 largest economies.

The area's capitalism-oriented leadership evolves from a political hot soup of counties and cities and a complex mix of corporate and nonprofit entities, many of which see themselves more as competitors than collaborators.

In that context, *planet* is the right word because the Metroplex's competitors are global—as much Singapore as New York City. Brazil, Argentina, and the Philippines seek dollars, jobs, and talent in the evolving knowledge-based economy alongside Boston, Chicago, and Silicon Valley. Mega-regions strive to outdo each other in economic development and quality-of-life attractions.

The Dallas-Fort Worth region is one of about 40 such mega-metro areas worldwide that dominates both human creativity and planetary economics. Though these regions hold only 18 percent of the world's population,

#### KEYS TO PROSPERITY

Thought leader and best-selling author Richard Florida believes the regions that perform best in technology, tolerance, talent, and territorial assets will attract the most creative workers.

they generate two-thirds of its economic activity and produce 90 percent of its technological innovations.

The modern age has morphed into a global village led by mega-regions coveting a slice of the economic pie. North Texas has done remarkably well in this competition—so far. But many regional leaders, including UT Arlington President James D. Spaniolo, predict a far more collaborative approach will be needed as world competition heats up.

“While North Texas was able to avoid the worst of the economic crisis that sent many of America’s metropolitan centers reeling, the region nevertheless stands at a critical inflection point,” Spaniolo said at a recent series of panel discussions hosted by UT Arlington and *The Dallas Morning News*. “Along with its many strengths and competitive advantages, North Texas still has a number of economic challenges. We will be more competitive and our economic future stronger by working together. Dallas is not competing against Fort Worth or Arlington, or Houston or Atlanta, for that matter. North Texas is competing against other increasingly large and powerful regions around the world.”

#### KNOWLEDGE IS ECONOMIC POWER

How can the “stronger together” idea be developed? Enter the Creative Class Group and its founder, Richard Florida, one of the world’s leading authorities on economic prosperity.

For the past year the Creative Class Group has partnered with UT Arlington to examine the region’s assets and challenges. The joint effort engaged representatives from the School of Architecture, the College of Education and Health Professions, and the School of Urban and Public Affairs, with input from major chambers of commerce, local elected officials, Vision North Texas, the North Texas Commission, and civic groups.

Florida, a UT Arlington distinguished research scholar and author of the urban development classics *The Rise of the Creative Class* and *The Great Reset*, believes the future economy will increasingly be dominated by knowledge, creativity, and innovation. “Think of it as the 4Ts,” he says. “The cities or regions that prosper will be those with the best performances in technology, tolerance, talent, and territorial assets because they will attract creative workers.”

Beyond the 4Ts, creative workers generally favor five attributes in the locations where they live: basic services, opportunity, values, leadership, and aesthetics. In short, a sense of place matters. But Florida cautions that catchphrases won’t get the job done. Decisions must be based on data.

Part of the UT Arlington collective effort since fall 2010 has involved analyzing and benchmarking the region’s competitive advantages and disadvantages. “We’re compiling a wide array of leading indicators and data-driven analysis that can help to inform a broad conversation about the path toward a sustainable, shared prosperity.”

The data show plenty of strengths—and some significant weaknesses.

On the positive side, the region has weathered the housing market downturn better than most areas, and five-year employment growth is strong. Residents are



diverse, relatively young (median age 28), and robustly entrepreneurial.

Challenges include a pronounced auto dependency, with its accompanying sprawl, and moderate human capital. Among regions with populations exceeding a million people, Dallas-Fort Worth ranks 27th in percentage of workers with a bachelor’s degree or higher. The region also lags in arts and recreation employment, which attracts creative class residents who become sources of entrepreneurial activity.

“The data we’ve collected are an X-ray of the region’s industry, talent clusters, and more,” Florida says. “We found that the region overall has done extremely well. It has a high rate of business creation and stable employment. A big international airport adds enormous value.”

Unlike most major metropolitan regions, North Texas is not dominated by one central city. Instead, it is multi-nodal, the two biggest divisions being Arlington-Fort Worth and Dallas-Plano.

“Though the cities in the region have a reputation for competing, in fact North Texas has talent and human capital that are complementary,” he says. “These strengths provide for a well-balanced talent pool for potential employers. Arlington-Fort Worth’s capabilities in transportation, engineering, mechanics, and electronics complement Dallas-Plano’s advantages in business and financial services, design, and computer software and information technology services.”

Of the regional weaknesses, Florida believes two are glaring.

“The first of the must-be-corrected check marks is

that university research and development is just not funded as well as some other areas. What links the world’s greatest high-tech and creative regions—from Silicon Valley to greater Boston to the North Carolina Research Triangle to Austin—is a nationally recognized research university, or multiple research universities. North Texas is rich in universities, but it needs to invest more to create a research enterprise of the first order. Failure to do so will hamper the area’s ability to compete on a national and international level.”

UT Arlington has been identified as one of Texas’ eight emerging research institutions. UT Dallas and the University of North Texas are also on the list. Last year the University’s total research expenditures reached an all-time high of \$66 million.

Florida’s second major concern is that much of the area’s talent is borrowed. “The area grew by poaching creative people from other regions. The trick is to grow your own and keep them.”

#### CHANGING THE WAY WE LIVE

Florida believes that the sprawling tendencies of the Metroplex likely will change. Technology, innovation, and capital access matter, but much of our built environment is unoccupied and inefficient.

“We waste too much time and create too much pollution trying to connect with people. There’s too much time and money spent on commuting,” he says. “The economic benefits of density outweigh other benefits and are necessary if the region is to be competitive.”

Steven Pedigo, a UT Arlington distinguished research scholar and the Creative Class Group’s research director, has been heavily involved in the Metroplex project. While he echoes Florida’s concerns, he sees a sea change in concepts of ownership.

“The focus on consumption has been that people buy cars and houses,” he says. “But it’s clear that, in part because career mobility is so necessary, knowledge-based economy residents tend to spend their money in different ways. Because of that, we have to reinvent the way we think of cities as a place of consumption. People will spend money for experiences—food, music, sports, travel, and art. People will be spending their money differently than they did in the past, and the region needs to adjust to this reality.”

As for mass transit, Florida predicts that its availability to employees and clients is becoming a deciding factor when major economic development entities choose a home base. Cities without mass transit may find themselves at a disadvantage.

With UT Arlington’s assistance, Florida, Pedigo, and other members of the Creative Class Group will study North Texas for another year. Then it will be up to the region to develop an action plan.

“It has to be the private and public sectors working together,” Florida says. “It will require participation by regional chambers of commerce, and universities will have to be a main driver. The most effective economic development is private-sector driven.”

President Spaniolo believes the data and trends will clearly identify the need for more partnerships among the public and private sectors and other stakeholders.

“We’re in the middle of figuring out what model of jobs, transportation, and living spaces make sense for North Texas,” he says. “We’ve broken some ground. This is a new model, a new way to look at the present and future. This is not really about UT Arlington or the city of Arlington but about the ways that a university like us can be a model, promoting collaboration and cooperation.”



“Though the cities in the region have a reputation for competing, in fact North Texas has talent and human capital that are complementary.”

#### A SHIFT IN CONSUMPTION

Steven Pedigo, the Creative Class Group’s research director, says residents of knowledge-based economies spend more money for experiences like travel, music, sports, and art.

UT Arlington's new David Dillon Center for Texas Architecture provides a forum for discussion about the past, present, and future of architecture in North Texas. In doing so, it strengthens the legacy of its namesake, a respected critic whose words and vision helped the region define its aesthetic identity. BY JESSICA BRIDGES

# Shaping a *Metropolis*

More than 30 years ago, architecture critic David Dillon asked a simple question: Why is Dallas architecture so bad? "Before Reunion Tower and the Hyatt Regency Hotel," he wrote, "Dallas' skyline consisted of a flying red horse and a glowing phallic column atop the Republic National Bank, which put it in roughly the same category as Omaha and Indianapolis. When Dallasites talked about their sublime skyline, it was more from wishful thinking than direct observation."

The city's skyline has changed dramatically since those provocative words appeared in a 1980 edition of *D Magazine*, thanks in part to Dr. Dillon's persistent, pointed reviews. During a long tenure at *The Dallas Morning News*, he wrote more than 1,000 articles, his words helping shape a metropolitan area and educate a populace.

When Dillon died in 2010, the Metroplex lost its

only dedicated architecture critic. Now UT Arlington is helping fill the void with the David Dillon Center for Texas Architecture. An initiative of the School of Architecture, the center supports faculty and students as they investigate the region's changing architecture and promotes discourse about urbanism in North Texas and beyond.

"Our goal is to serve as a catalyst for notable research and a depository for documents while also providing a forum for public speakers to address important issues of the day," says Assistant Professor Kate Holliday, the center's director and an architectural historian.

The center debuted in April with the well-received David Dillon Symposium at the Dallas Museum of Art and the Nasher Sculpture Center. The event explored the changing role of modern architectural criticism. *Vanity Fair* architecture critic Paul Goldberger gave keynote remarks, and panelists included Christopher

**FAIR COMMENT**  
The architecture in Dallas' Fair Park is among the subjects that critic David Dillon explored.





**CENTER OF DISCOURSE**

Architectural historian Kate Holliday directs the David Dillon Center for Texas Architecture, which promotes discussion about urbanism in North Texas and beyond.

Hawthorne from the *Los Angeles Times*, Alexandra Lange from *Design Observer*, and Thomas Fisher, dean of the University of Minnesota's College of Design and former editor of *Progressive Architecture*.

The symposium drew a cross-section of the community, promoting a discussion about the role of writing in understanding design, as well as the role of the media as architecture coverage shifts from newspapers to the Internet. "With the loss of local architecture writing in newspapers like David used to provide, it becomes harder to get news about neighborhoods and urban development," Dr. Holliday says. "Coverage now tends to focus only on the next big building."

Dillon joined *The Dallas Morning News* in 1981 after catching attention with his freelance writing. A graduate of Boston College with master's and doctoral degrees from Harvard, he wrote several books and hundreds of

freelance stories in addition to his newspaper articles. Colleagues credited him with helping shape civic debate on issues across the area, from underdevelopment in South Dallas to sprawl in the northern suburbs.

"David's body of work over nearly three decades influenced urban design and architecture in Dallas and throughout Texas to an extraordinary degree," says Robert Decherd, CEO of A.H. Belo Corp., parent company of *The Dallas Morning News*. "His expertise was recognized nationally."

Last year Dillon's wife, Sally, donated his papers to Special Collections in the UT Arlington Library.

"The archive includes a huge range of material," Holliday says. "It's a treasure trove filled with reporter's notebooks, research materials, published materials like his books and articles, edited manuscripts, interview recordings, correspondence with editors and readers, and more. The information it provides will be invaluable to students, scholars, and the community at large."

Holliday is working with students to put online selections from that archive, including a listing of all of Dillon's reviews for the *News*. In addition, the website [uta.edu/architecture/research/dillon](http://uta.edu/architecture/research/dillon) will contain material gathered for the center's projects, such as the Oral History of Texas Architecture and DFW Hypercity, which uses GIS and GoogleEarth to present historic maps and model reconstructions of the Metroplex.

Dillon's *News* articles include a range of reviews, seven of them excerpted here. They provide a scope of his vision and tone. From a concise summation of Cowboys Stadium to an extended, poetic riff on the region's highways, he covered the Metroplex in a way few could hope to match.

Though the region may not be able to replace his voice, the David Dillon Center for Texas Architecture celebrates his legacy. By preserving his writings and encouraging the next generation of scholars to produce their own, the center is helping the public think critically about the design—and future—of North Texas. ☪

► **Freeways,**

Dallas/Fort Worth, 1949-present, various architects

"Freeways are paradigms of form following function, far clearer and more instructive than buildings, particularly over-decorated postmodern buildings. Freeways are concatenations of curves, slopes, and tangents, enlarged diagrams from geometry textbooks. The roadways represent the triumph of the horizontal line over the accidents of topography, while the interchanges and overpasses are heroic minimalist sculptures, the modern equivalent of the Roman aqueducts." – June 3, 1990



◀ **Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Fort Worth, 2002, Tadao Ando**

"Walk into the lobby of the new Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth and space explodes upward and outward, toward a sculpture garden and reflecting pool that bounces light off walls and into corners. For a moment, the building dematerializes and all is earth, water, and sky. Inside and outside, nature and architecture appear to be one." – Dec. 8, 2002

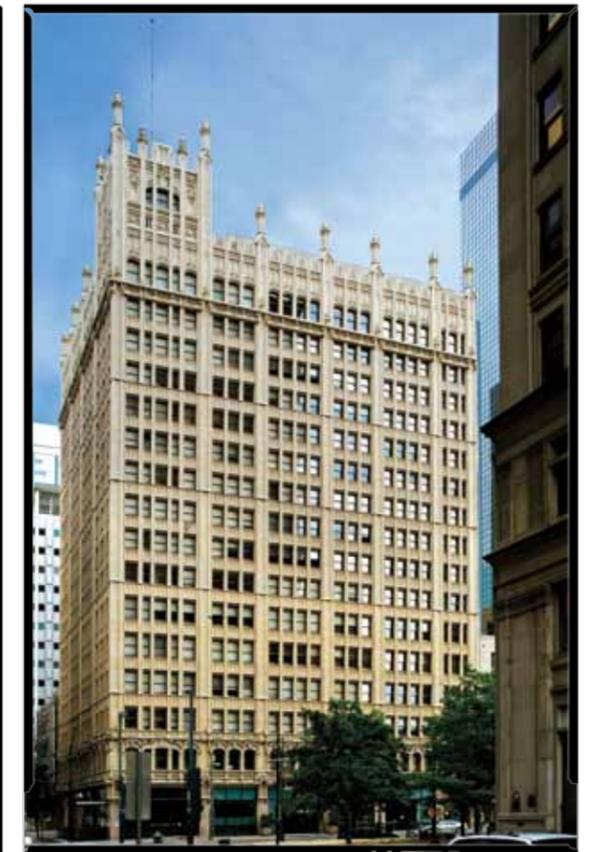
▼ **Grand Temple of the Black Knights of Pythias, Dallas, 1916, William Sidney Pittman**

"Dallas' first commercial building built for and by blacks, the Black Knights of Pythias Temple was home to doctors, dentists, lawyers, and other professionals. Behind the tall arched windows on the top floors was a large auditorium for meetings, concerts, and rousing parties." – Feb. 18, 1993



► **Sundance West**,  
Fort Worth,  
1991, David M. Schwarz

"If America's downtowns weren't in such sorry shape, Sundance West might not be getting so much attention. But they are, and it is, for the simple reason that it reaffirms vanishing urban values: lively streets, apartments over shops, multiple uses in a single building. Sundance West does these things in a slightly tony and precious way, but at least it pulls together the right pieces in one spot."  
— June 14, 1992



▼ **Fair Park**, Dallas,  
1936, George Dahl

"Fair Park deserves a better shake than either its supporters or its critics are giving it. It is not chic and trendy but populist and irremediably local. Within its 277 acres are vestiges of everything Dallas has been: railhead, retail and marketing center, agricultural hub, football capital of the Southwest. It is also the one thing big enough and compelling enough to change the future of South Dallas."  
— Aug. 2, 1992



◀ **Cowboys Stadium**,  
Arlington, 2009, HKS Sports &  
Entertainment Group

"Football may be the main attraction at the new Cowboys Stadium, but the structure itself, with its retractable roof, monumental arches and massive video screen, should provide plenty of visual entertainment during those long, dull pauses for network commercials and instant replays."  
— June 3, 2009

▲ **Kirby Building**, Dallas,  
1913, Barnett, Haynes &  
Barnett

"The building still has an interior shopping arcade running from Main to Pacific, one of those urban delights that downtown Dallas has forsaken in its frenzy over skybridges and tunnels. And it has a memorable lobby; not large, but, like the façade, surprisingly impressive. The combination of brass, cut-glass mirrors, ornamental plaster and decorative vaulting creates a sumptuous feel that anticipates the grand skyscraper lobbies of the 1920s and '30s."  
— Dec. 26, 1987



As bullying incidents become more widespread and vicious, UT Arlington professors are engaged in sweeping research and scholarly studies to curb the troubling trend. BY SARAH BAHARI

ILLUSTRATION BY NOMA BAR

# Fighting Back

Jon Carmichael was 13 with bright blue eyes and sandy-blond hair. He loved football, his horse named Handsome, and a stray dog he called Daisy. Small for his age, Jon was bullied relentlessly by classmates. Media reports detailed how fellow students called him names and flushed his head in toilets. One day at school, his parents say, he was stripped nude, tied up, and dumped in a trash can. Not long after that, in March 2010, the young teen hanged himself in a barn near his family's home on the outskirts of Cleburne. Long an unfortunate staple of school yards, bullying has reached an epidemic, fueled in part by

the Internet and social media. Bullies who once ruled the lunchroom now use Twitter and texting to torment classmates while cloaking themselves in anonymity.

Asher Brown, a 13-year-old Houston boy, shot and killed himself after his parents say he was bullied at school for being gay. Tyler Clementi, an 18-year-old freshman at Rutgers University, jumped to his death from the George Washington Bridge after a sexual encounter with a man was secretly recorded and streamed online. Phoebe Prince, a 15-year-old in Massachusetts, hanged herself in a stairwell after months of being bullied.

While suicide cases are extreme, experts agree that the problem has become acute. "Bullying has been around for a long time," says Alejandro del Carmen, chair of the Criminology and Criminal Justice Department, "but we are seeing higher levels of sophistication and aggression."

From psychology and education to criminal justice and social work, UT Arlington professors are working to evaluate health problems of bullying victims, help schools craft better policies, determine why some kids bully, and advance our understanding of bullies in the workplace.

*“It is important to figure out the motives of the bullies to address and prevent the problem.”*

**SICK OF THE ABUSE**

Estimates of the extent of bullying range widely. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, about 28 percent of students ages 12 to 18 said they were bullied in 2009, the last year for which NCEES figures are available.

Parents are asking schools and communities to address bullying, and UT Arlington has responded. In March the University partnered with the White House to host a conference on bullying prevention and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. The event, one in a series coordinated by the Obama administration, featured impassioned remarks from Attorney General Eric Holder and Valerie Jarrett, senior adviser to President Obama.

Every day in the United States, 160,000 children miss school out of fear of attack or intimidation, the National Education Association reports. Psychology Associate Professor Lauri Jensen-Campbell is exploring whether these students also miss school because their physical health has declined.

“We know chronic stress can lead to real and serious health problems,” she says. “We wondered if bullying affected their immune system, leaving them more susceptible to colds and flus, and even affected their long-term health.”

Dr. Jensen-Campbell and a team of researchers interviewed about 300 students, mostly sixth- to eighth-graders at public and private schools in Arlington, and determined that roughly one-third were victims of bullying (defined as repeated aggressive behavior). Using saliva samples, the researchers monitored the students’ cortisol levels.

In healthy children, cortisol peaks about 30 minutes after waking and falls throughout the day. Bullied children show flattened cortisol awakening response, which accompanies poorer health outcomes. This blunted awakening response could make children

less able to handle threats to their immune system, resulting in more health problems. Children who are bullied show the same cortisol awakening response as someone suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, Jensen-Campbell says.

This year she plans to revisit the students, most now in high school, to determine whether cortisol levels remained abnormal for those who were bullied in junior high. She also is launching a project studying the hippocampus—the part of the brain that plays a crucial role in memory—of college students who were bullied.

“A lot of people will hear about bullying and say this is just kids being kids. This research tells us that this is not true,” she says. “Bullying is a very serious problem with very serious health effects.”

**ZERO TOLERANCE**

As a clinical psychologist, Jon Leffingwell has seen the emotional toll bullying can take. Children become depressed, withdrawn, angry, helpless, and, in extreme cases, suicidal.

Dr. Leffingwell, an associate professor of education, instructs teachers how to prevent bullying in the classroom. Formerly a consultant for school districts on the subject, he notes that research shows bullying intensifies when the economy struggles, which may have helped catapult the issue into the national spotlight.

“There’s more anger, more frustration,” he says. “More kids might have trouble at home due to myriad problems, and they take that out on other kids. The weak tend to pick on the weaker.”

Bullying spans all socioeconomic classes and races, adds education Professor Mary Lynn Crow, a clinical psychologist who counsels bullied children and their parents, as well as bullies themselves. Those most likely to be bullied include children with disabilities, children who are gay or lesbian or perceived to be, children

who are passive or have few friends, children who are small for their age, or children who are just different.

Bullies frequently come from families or neighborhoods where violence is common, Dr. Crow says, and some have been bullied by peers or adults. Bullying does not occur in isolation, and prevention increasingly focuses on urging bystanders to stand up for victims.

Leffingwell and Crow advise bullied children to stop blaming themselves and to talk to someone. Out of embarrassment, many children keep the bullying a secret, which often makes it worse. Leffingwell urges school administrators to set a strict policy that prohibits bullying and encourages teachers to implement the rule in their own classrooms.

He believes schools should be proactive, offering lessons in conflict resolution and problem solving as early as grade school. Bullying is a learned behavior, which means bullies have the ability to change.

“Teachers and administrators have to say upfront that they will not tolerate this sort of behavior,” Leffingwell says. “Bullying is minimized when everybody in the school works together, and it needs to start at the top.”

**INSIDE THE BULLY’S MIND**

Why do some children bully? Low self-esteem? Anger? Frustration? Abuse?

A team of criminal justice professors wants to tap into the mindset of the bully. Working with community groups, the professors plan to identify bullies of both sexes who attend schools in North Texas. The professors will survey the bullies to determine what fuels their behavior. The department conducted a similar study on why teenagers join gangs.

“A lot of research focuses on the victims of bullying, but we know little about what drives the bully,” Dr. del Carmen says. “It is important to figure out the motives of the bullies to address and prevent the problem.”

Schools and communities could use the data to

design anti-bullying programs, provide counseling, and identify students who are at risk of becoming bullies. As teenagers across the country are being prosecuted for bullying, the issue has captured the attention of the criminal justice world.

“We criminologists are being challenged to step up and find ways to prevent these acts of bullying, which endanger our communities,” del Carmen says.

Adolescents aren’t the only targets.

A growing number of researchers are studying the phenomenon of adulthood bullying, which can include tactics such as verbal abuse and threatening conduct. About 35 percent of employees in the United States report being bullied at work, according to the Workplace Bullying Institute.

Social work Professor Ski Hunter is leading a project to determine how rampant workplace bullying is in higher education. She and colleagues are surveying social work departments at universities across the country. Dr. Hunter became interested in the topic after encountering a workplace bully.

“Bullies create a hostile work environment and are very damaging to workplace morale,” she says. “They choose their targets and harass, intimidate, and humiliate.”

Unlike school-aged bullies who often victimize classmates for being unusual or different, workplace bullies pick on the intelligent and well-liked, those who are good at their jobs.

“They want to bring people down,” Hunter says. “They are driven by jealousy.”

The data that Hunter and her colleagues collect will help employers, just beginning to recognize the problem, to develop policies to deal with bullies.

“The bully flaunts power and authority, belittles and hurts people. The targets experience real and long-lasting effects. The problem can no longer be ignored.”

Hunter and fellow UT Arlington professors are making sure it won’t be. ☺

*“A lot of people will hear about bullying and say this is just kids being kids. This research tells us that this is not true.”*

**HELP AND HOPE**

Psychology Associate Professor Lauri Jensen-Campbell is exploring whether bullying leads to a decline in physical health, causing students to miss school. Education faculty members Jon Leffingwell and Mary Lynn Crow, both clinical psychologists, advise bullied children to stop blaming themselves.



**NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT**

UT Arlington partnered with the White House to host a conference on bullying prevention in March. Featuring remarks by Attorney General Eric Holder, the event was one in a series coordinated by the Obama administration.

# AlumniNews

THE WORLD AND UT ARLINGTON

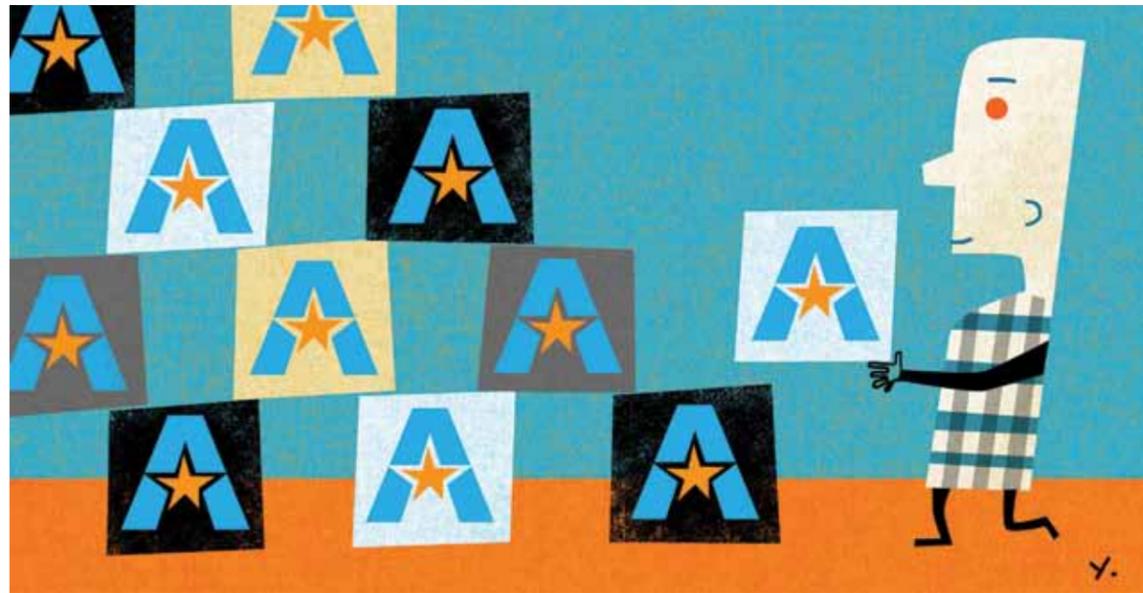


ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES YANG

## Building Loyalty

Student Alumni Association lays the groundwork for dedicated graduates

As president of the Student Alumni Association in 2001-02, Ricardo Lopez gained a lifelong appreciation for the difference alumni make on campus.

“I saw firsthand the positive impact alumni can have on students,” he says. “Being a member of the SAA was one of the best experiences of my life.”

Now a competitive strategy analyst at Raytheon, Lopez '02, '07 makes giving back to UT Arlington a priority. Not only is he a regular donor, he also serves on the Alumni Association national board of directors, is a guest lecturer for the Leadership Center, and speaks at campus events throughout the year.

In other words, he's fulfilling the SAA's goal of nurturing successful graduates with a strong loyalty to their alma mater.

Many of today's students show the same promise.

Not every student can balance classes and extracurricular activities while organizing Oozeball, one of UT Arlington's biggest and most popular traditions, but Karen Blair is managing just fine. The SAA president, a senior double major in public relations and advertising, is committed to doing whatever she can to keep the University strong.

“As a legacy student, I have a lot of spirit and pride in my school,” says Blair, whose mother, father, and brother all graduated from UT Arlington. “The Student Alumni Association is a great way to get involved.”

Established in 1989, the SAA imposed membership limits until 2001, when the group began including any student interested in joining. Today it's the largest student organization on campus, with more than 2,000 members.

The group's mission is to assist students in their journey to graduation through close work with the Alumni Association. Along the way, members develop leadership skills, network with alumni, make friends, and become regulars at campus events. The Maverick Marauders function as the SAA's governing body, and membership is selective.

“We are looking for students who have a strong desire to play an instrumental role in helping UT Arlington achieve its goals while supporting the Alumni Association,” says SAA adviser Melissa Wells, the association's assistant director for constituent groups and scholarships. “They are the backbone for getting our mission accomplished.”

Blair believed that becoming a Maverick Marauder would help her make a difference on campus. It has done that and more.

“I plan on joining the Alumni Association as soon as I graduate,” she says. “I have seen the benefits of being a member and what good the Alumni Association does for UT Arlington. I want to make sure I'm helping the University grow.”

*“I saw firsthand the positive impact alumni can have on students.”*

## Rocketing to success



Dakeesha Wright is a numbers person. A proposal manager for Hamilton Sundstrand, a company that designs and manufactures aerospace systems for commercial, regional, corporate, and military aircraft, Wright '03 had an affinity for math and science at an early age.

“I was always good in those subjects,” she says. “I got interested in engineering in high school after taking classes at a local college.”

Wright bucks the numbers trend for her profession. She was among 1,859 U.S. women—and one of only 123 African-American women—to earn a mechanical engineering degree in 2003. As of 2006, an estimated 1.4 million men worked in science and engineering fields compared to 187,000 women, including

only 11,000 African-American women.

She joined Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne, eventually becoming a senior systems engineer responsible for maintaining rocket engine systems. Her work focused on the RL10, the world's highest performing, most reliable upper-stage rocket engine.

“I worked with a machine that is used to power vehicles into space. Testing rocket engines is one of the coolest jobs to have!”

She traces her career successes to her undergraduate studies at UT Arlington. “Everything I accomplished at UTA I can relate to currently working in the field.”

Though a recent career move has her focusing more on the business end of things, Wright hopes to stay in engineering.

“I wanted to get more into the inner workings of an organization, and this position gives me global insight into how we do business,” she says. “But I want to stay tied to engineering in some way. On the business side, I actually rely on my engineering background quite frequently.”



**WEST COAST MAVERICKS** UT Arlington pride is alive and well in California. Alumni in the San Francisco area showed their Maverick spirit at a mixer hosted by the Alumni Association in March at the Brick House Café. Of the University's more than 163,000 alumni, about 5,000 live in the Golden State. Texas is the only state that is home to more UT Arlington graduates.



## Beacon of Hope

Robert Lynch steers post-Katrina recovery

There were those who questioned whether New Orleans would ever recover from Hurricane Katrina. Alumnus Robert Lynch wasn't one of them.

When the massive storm struck the city in 2005, Dr. Lynch was director of the South Central Veterans Affairs Health Care Network, overseeing hospitals in Louisiana and seven other states. Due to the catastrophic flooding caused by infrastructure failure in New Orleans, he had to evacuate more than 600 patients and employees from the city's VA hospital.

“Nobody was prepared for a disaster of that magnitude,” he says. “Nobody was prepared for the levees to fail or for the entire city to be evacuated. It took a lot of heroic efforts by a whole lot of people to get everyone out safely. The devastation was tremendous. It was a very chaotic time, but people rose to the challenge.”

Lynch graduated from UT Arlington in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in biology, then enrolled in medical school at UT Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas. In August 2007 he became CEO of Tulane Medical Center in downtown New Orleans. Under his leadership, the facility has played an important role in the city's rebuilding.

“The city needed hope following what happened, and that's one thing we've tried to provide,” he says.

With so many other New Orleans hospitals crippled or shuttered, Tulane has become the area's main medical training facility. Those taught there are sent into the community to alleviate the significant shortage of medical professionals caused by Katrina.

“At Tulane we're trying to help heal the city, and we think we're leading the way,” Lynch says. “The people who are here now are people who want to be here, and they're making a difference. I think the future for New Orleans is bright.”

## Snapshot



### AUSTIN MIXER

Bill Fleming '74 and Gary Anderson '77 attended an alumni networking event in February at the Iron Cactus Mexican Grill in downtown Austin.



### LOS ANGELES MIXER

More than two dozen alumni in Southern California gathered in March for a mixer at Border Grill in downtown Los Angeles.



### ALUMNI PICNIC

Pat Driessen '84 and her husband, Klaus Driessen '71, '76, joined fellow alumni and their families at the Alumni Association's Annual Picnic in the Park in March at Doug Russell Park. The event featured an appearance by Blaze, UT Arlington's mascot.



### SAN ANTONIO MIXER

Scott Bureau and his wife, Cathy Bureau '92, attended an alumni gathering in February at the Iron Cactus Mexican Grill on the River Walk in San Antonio.

## Events

### MAVSMEET

Alumni are invited to help welcome new Mavericks to campus at the annual convocation that kicks off the 2012-13 academic year. 4 p.m. **Wednesday, Aug. 22**, College Park Center. More information: [uta.edu/mavsmeet](http://uta.edu/mavsmeet)



### SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

The event recognizes outstanding students who have received Alumni Association scholarships. **Monday, Aug. 27**, E.H. Hereford University Center. More information: [utaalumni.org/scholarships](http://utaalumni.org/scholarships)

### ALUMNI GALA

The Alumni Association hosts the 47th Annual Distinguished Alumni Gala recognizing graduates for their professional achievements, service to the community, and loyalty to UT Arlington. 6:30 p.m. **Saturday, Oct. 20**, E.H. Hereford University Center. More information: [utaalumni.org/distinguished](http://utaalumni.org/distinguished)



### HOMECOMING 2012

Catch up with former classmates as Homecoming moves to the fall. A street festival, parade, and men's basketball game against the University of Oklahoma highlight the schedule. **Thursday-Monday, Nov. 15-19**, College Park Center. More information: 817-272-2594



## Hoops Pioneer

Alumnus Kaleb Canales is NBA's first head coach of Mexican-American descent

Kaleb Canales didn't set out to make history. But the 2001 UT Arlington graduate broke a racial barrier when he was named interim head coach of the Portland Trail Blazers in March.

Canales became the first person of Mexican-American descent to lead an NBA franchise. At 33 he's also the youngest coach in the league.

"I am very blessed and fortunate to get this great opportunity," he says. "It's very humbling."

Humble is a fitting word to describe Canales' beginnings with the Blazers. He started as an unpaid video intern before becoming the team's video coordinator in 2005. Portland promoted him to assistant coach in 2009.

"I wouldn't change a thing," Canales says of his unconventional route to one of the elite jobs in pro sports. "It was very important to start in the video room and build my NBA foundation."

Canales was a student assistant at UT Arlington and later a full-time assistant coach for one year. He also was an assistant high school coach in his hometown of Laredo.

His road to the top is not unprecedented. Neither Detroit coach Lawrence Frank nor Miami's Erik Spoelstra played big-time college ball, and both began their NBA careers in the film room.

Canales has an admirer in UT Arlington basketball coach Scott Cross.

"I couldn't be happier for Coach K taking over the Trail Blazers," says Cross, who worked with Canales. "This just proves that if you dream it and believe it, you can and will achieve those dreams."

## Passion, practicality drive nursing graduate

Alumna Kaci Hickox takes a reasoned approach to almost everything. She's enthusiastic about nursing, but her career choices follow a logical order. "I always felt a strong desire to work overseas with vulnerable populations, and nursing seemed to be a perfect avenue," she says. "On top of that, I knew there was—and still is—a nursing shortage and that I would have job security."

It just made sense to pursue a two-year postgraduate fellowship in applied epidemiology with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Las Vegas.

Think of the CDCP's Epidemic Intelligence Service as the CIA of public health. EIS teams respond to crises such as the West Nile virus and the pandemic H1N1 influenza outbreak. Hickox '02 will work with the country's top epidemiologists to analyze and improve health and disease surveillance.

Her first overseas project came in 2004 with the International Medical Corps after the tsunami in Indonesia. "While the work there was difficult and challenging, both professionally and emotionally, it also made me feel alive in a new way," she says.

After Doctors Without Borders turned her down, she enrolled at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and received a Tropical Nursing Diploma. She also graduated from Johns Hopkins University's

dual program for a Master in Public Health and Master of Science in Nursing.

Her perseverance paid off. She landed that position she wanted with Doctors Without Borders in Myanmar in Southeast Asia, where she spent two years managing three primary health care clinics. In 2010 she was working on a measles outbreak in northern Nigeria when the Doctors Without Borders team conducted a medical investigation. Children were dying in one village, and the team discovered the cause to be acute lead poisoning from poor gold mining practices.

"After that experience and others like it, I realize that we need to find better ways to improve health surveillance and outbreak response in settings with poor resources," Hickox says. "My training in the EIS with the CDC will allow me to learn the gold standard of this kind of work."



Kaci Hickox works with the nation's top epidemiologists to solve health crises.

## New Orleans, Louisiana Alumni



How do you beat the summer heat? Danny Mekonnen '03, founder of the critically acclaimed Debo Band, has an answer. Listen to any of the tracks on the self-titled album. Moments, even the broiling hot ones, are meant to be celebrated, not endured. Mekonnen, a saxophonist, founded the band in 2006, three years after moving to Boston. "Debo" is an Amharic word for communal labor or collective effort, and that's precisely what Debo Band is. Mekonnen and 10 musically like-minded friends began exploring 1970s Ethiopian music: funk- and jazz-influenced, heavy on the groove. Their energetic sound found a home with Next Ambiance, an imprint of indie label Sub Pop. Reviews of the

band's live show have been universally positive, and the group has taken its act pretty much everywhere, from New Orleans to Seattle to Ethiopia. While Mekonnen, an Ethiopian-American, grew up listening to the kind of music Debo Band performs, his interest in creating the sound himself was sparked by a 2003 trip to Ghana with the UT Arlington Africa Program. "It re-opened my ears to the music of Africa," he says. "I got more and more interested in returning to my roots." Debo Band scored big this year at South by Southwest in Austin, one of the largest music gatherings in the United States at nearly 2,000 bands. *SPIN* magazine rated the band's performance a highlight of the six-day festival.

# Spotlight



## CARLISLE SOCIETY

Trey '88 and Shana Yelverton are members of the Carlisle Society, which recognizes benefactors whose cumulative giving to the University exceeds \$50,000. The society is named for Col. James M. Carlisle who, in 1902, founded Carlisle Military Academy, one of the early predecessors of UT Arlington. The Yelvertons were among 35 new members for the 2010-11 fiscal year.

- Academic Partnerships, LLC
- Marvin and Shirley Applewhite
- Architecture Alumni Chapter
- AT&T Foundation
- Ann H. Benham\*
- Randy and Nancy Best
- Bradshaw Family Trust
- Drs. Gerald J. and Carolyn L. Cason
- William J. Commer
- Ernst & Young, LLP
- Fluor Corporation
- Robert Gaitan and Barbara Peet
- The Bryant and Nancy Hanley Foundation, Inc.
- Hogg Foundation for Mental Health
- Honor Society of Nursing Sigma Theta Tau Int'l, Delta Theta Chapter
- HVJ Associates, Inc.
- Ingenia Polymers
- ISM-Fort Worth, Inc.
- Jeffrey A. Leuschel
- Luminant Mining Company, LLC
- Luminant Power
- Methodist Health System
- John David Moritz
- Moritz Partners LLP
- Kenneth B. Newell
- Joe and Barbara Penshorn
- Alan and Bonnie Petsche
- Lynne B. Prater
- Research In Motion Limited
- Jeffrey and Lisa Smith
- James D. Spaniolo
- Lawrence W. Stephens
- Mary and Reuben Taniguchi
- Dennis and Tamara Wilkerson
- Trey and Shana Yelverton

\* denotes donor is deceased

## IHS donates software valued at \$4.4 million

The burgeoning geoscience industry requires expertly trained professionals. A recent in-kind gift from IHS is ensuring that UT Arlington graduates have the skills to succeed in this highly competitive field.

IHS, a global information and analytics provider, granted a software license worth an estimated \$4.4 million over three years to the College of Science. The gift will give students and professors access to the latest in petroleum industry technology.

The company granted the license to the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. The software it covers is widely used in the petroleum and natural gas industry for seismic interpretation related to exploration and production. The agreement provides software for 25 computers.

"The goal of the IHS Educational Gifts program is to put leading-edge geosci-

ence software in the hands of students and faculty for educational and research purposes," says Bill Stephenson, IHS vice president of sales, Americas. "It also gives them software experience with the tools that are used in the global energy marketplace."

College of Science Dean Pamela Jansma believes the Earth and Environmental Sciences Department will benefit greatly from the gift.

"UT Arlington geoscience students, especially those in our petroleum-focused Master of Science program, are the real winners here," she says. "This is a great tool, and IHS's generosity will ensure they'll be experienced in using this critical software when they graduate."

The American Geological Institute estimates that employment in geoscience-related occupations will grow 23 percent from 2008 to 2018.



## Team Chemistry

Shimadzu's \$3 million in-kind gift creates center to advance research on disease

Cancer killed 572,000 Americans in 2011. Research to combat the deadly illness and other ailments took a leap forward this spring when Shimadzu Scientific Instruments donated \$3 million in equipment to establish the Shimadzu Center for Advanced Analytical Chemistry at UT Arlington.

The center contains \$6 million worth of state-of-the-art chromatography, mass spectrometry, and spectroscopy equipment. The instruments will be used to research the prevention and treatment of diseases such as cancer and malaria, as well as to develop nanofabrication materials for industry.

"Shimadzu's gift creates a resource accessible to North Texas researchers whether they are university-based or in private enterprise," College of Science Dean Pamela Jansma says. "It's a great example of the benefit of having a growing research institution nearby."

The Shimadzu Center's central location in the Chemistry and Physics Building allows College of Science and College of Engineering researchers to access the enhanced capabilities for trace qualitative and quantitative analysis. Chemistry Associate Professor Kevin Schug has been named the Shimadzu Distinguished Professor of Analytical Chemistry and will oversee the laboratory.

Research initiatives aided by the Shimadzu instrumentation include Dr. Schug's use of mass spectrometry equipment to analyze cuticular lipids that can reveal age in a species of mosquito known for spreading malaria. Bioengineering Associate Professor Jian Yang will apply the instruments to create polymers that improve cancer detection, and chemistry Associate Professor Subhrangsu Mandal will use the center to better analyze cancer-causing chemicals.

"UT Arlington has a dynamic science program that is focused on the future," says Shuzo Maruyama, president of Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, a world leader in the analytical instruments industry. "It will be a pleasure to work with Dr. Schug and the entire UT Arlington team."



## Boosting discovery

The battle against cancer and other diseases received a boost recently with a gift from Mike '69 and Janet Greene. The couple established an endowed professorship with a \$125,000 commitment that will double through the University's Maverick Match program. Electrical engineering Professor J.-C. Chiao, center, has been named the Janet and Mike Greene Endowed Professor in the College of Engineering. Dr. Chiao's research includes a study on prostate cancer metastasis and a sensor implant that aids people with acid reflux. Among his numerous honors is the 2011 O'Donnell Award in Engineering from the Academy of Medicine, Engineering, and Science of Texas.

# Fresnel Technologies Giving



## RICHARD CLAYTOR AND NELSON CLAYTOR

Optics research has yielded breakthroughs in medical imaging and communications, and UT Arlington's capacity to explore this growing field is expanding, thanks to a \$500,000 endowment established through a gift from Nelson Claytor. The commitment creates a distinguished professorship in the College of Science in honor of Nelson's father, Richard Claytor, for his role in shaping Fort Worth-based Fresnel Technologies, a leading manufacturer of molded plastic lenses and related optical components. Richard, who holds 28 U.S. patents, now serves as the company's vice president. "Our hope is that this commitment leads to more and more visible support for optics in this region," says Nelson, Fresnel's president and a longtime member of the College of Science Advisory Council. He and the company committed \$250,000 to create the professorship in the Physics Department. The sum doubled through Maverick Match, which leverages UT Arlington's natural gas royalties to bolster the University's endowment. "Where there are strong networks of companies in a technology such as optics there are also strong universities," Nelson says. "There's interaction between industry and the professors, and there are students coming out of the program who want to be hired locally."

## Class Notes

**1954**

**Jan Collmer** ('54 AS, Science and Engineering; '63 BS, Mathematics) wrote *Go Start Something! Live Life on the Edge*. A longtime Dallas civic leader, he worked at Texas Instruments before moving to Varo, where he started a semiconductor unit. He founded Collmer Semiconductor in 1979 and sold it in 2005.

**1969**

**Ronald D. Addison** (BA, History) is director of Texas operations and state counsel for Madison Title Agency. Based in Dallas, he is responsible for managing the agency's southwest client portfolio. **Michael S. Greene** (BS, Mechanical Engineering) is the 2012 recipient of the Pat Wood Power Star Award at Gulf Coast Power Association. The award is presented annually and recognizes significant contributions toward the advancement of competitive energy markets in Texas. Greene is a retired TXU/Energy Future Holdings executive and a UT Arlington Distinguished Alumnus. **Gary Trietsch** ('69

BS, '74 MS, Civil Engineering) was named Transportation Giant of the Year by the Texas Chapter of the International Chinese Transportation Professionals Association. He is a vice president at Dannenbaum Engineering in Houston and a member of the College of Engineering's board of advisers.

**1970**

**Gary W. Cumbie** (BBA, Business Administration) was re-elected chair of the Fort Worth Transportation Authority board of directors. He is a donor relations officer for the Tarrant County College Foundation.

**1974**

**Elaine Hart** (BBA, Business Administration) is chief financial officer for the city of Austin. A certified public accountant, she has more than 30 years experience in the financial industry, including 20 with Austin. **Sally K. Snow** (BSN) was honored in May as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. She is in trauma program manage-

ment at Cook Children's Medical Center in Fort Worth.

**1976**

**Leslie Doss** (BS, Electrical Engineering) has been named to the board of directors for Tootie Pie Co., which bakes and sells handmade pies.

**Terry Riddle** (BS, Criminal Justice) is a partner at CBS Insurance, which received the Business Salute award in Abilene. He is a multi-line agent and has developed an emphasis in the oil and gas industry.

**1977**

**Mike Farris** (BA, Political Science) has written two new legal thrillers, *Wrongful Termination* and *Rules of Privilege*. An award-winning screenwriter, literary agent, and entertainment attorney in Dallas, he also wrote *Kanaka Blues* and *Manifest Intent*. **Brett Watts** (BFA, Art) performs as a singer, cowboy poet, and guitarist throughout Texas, the United States, and Europe.

**1978**

**Mark Petersen** (BBA, Finance) is head of distribution/retail at Behringer Harvard in Dallas. He develops and directs retail distribution strategies for the company's product portfolio, including sales of alternative and direct investments.

**1979**

**Felix Wong** ('79 BA, Sociology; '83 MCRP) is planning director for the city of Mansfield.

**1981**

**Donna Dempsey** (MPA, Professional Accounting) is president and CEO of Easter Seals North Texas. She has served as both executive vice president of administration and applied behavior analysis case manager in her three years at Easter Seals. **J. Lee Whittington** ('81 MBA, '97 PhD, Business Administration) co-wrote *Leading the Sustainable*

*Organization: Development, Implementation and Assessment* with **Greg Bell** ('08 PhD, International Business and Management) and Timothy Galpin. Drs. Whittington and Bell are members of the College of Business faculty at the University of Dallas.

**1982**

**Debra Goulding** (BA, English) is an assistant principal at Morton Elementary School in Arlington. **Monte Murphy** (BM) is the senior logistician for Applied Research Associates in Crystal City, Va. He retired as a colonel in the Air Force in 2010. **Ram Srinivasan** ('82 MS, '84 PhD, Electrical Engineering) is senior vice president of engineering for Mevio, an Internet entertainment network.

**1983**

**Ramona Curtis** (BA, Communication) was named Citizen of the Month for January by the Cen-Tex African American Chamber of Commerce in Waco. She is director for leader development and civic engagement at Baylor University. **Patricia Newton** ('83 BA, Communication; '12 MFA, Art) had a screening in May of her works, including *Pursuit*, *New BethleHam*, *Texas*, and *Erase*, at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. *Pursuit* played at the 28th Annual Boston LGBT Film Festival in May.

**Sandy Trexler** (BA, Journalism) has announced two entrepreneurial ventures, including a weight loss system for women. She is special projects coordinator for the Cooper Institute in Dallas.

**1984**

**Lindsey Boullt** (BGS, General Studies) gives private guitar lessons in California. He recently released a CD, *Composition*. **Craig Fujii** (BA, Journalism) is an emergency-room nurse practitioner at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu. Before changing careers, he was a foreign

correspondent photographer for the Associated Press and worked for the *Los Angeles Times* and *The Dallas Morning News*. As a student, he was *Shorthorn* photo editor. **Steve Koriath** (BA, Radio-TV) is content director for WBTV-TV in Myrtle Beach, S.C. He oversees all aspects of news broadcasts and content for the station's website. Previously, he was news director for WBRL-TV in Columbus, Ga., and KTEN-TV in Denison, Texas. In a 28-year career he has held news director and producer positions at TV stations in Tucson, Dallas, and Chicago. **Anne Thomas** ('84 BSN, '87 MSN) was selected for induction into the Fellows of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners. She was recognized for her work in establishing health clinics and her contributions to education. She is dean of the School of Nursing at the University of Indianapolis.

**1988**

**Andrew Novobilski** ('88 MS, '00 PhD, Computer Science Engineering) is provost and vice president for academic affairs at Gannon University in Erie, Pa. He had been dean of the College of Sciences and Mathematics and a computer science professor at Arkansas State University since 2009. Previously, he was assistant provost for research and engagement, chief research officer, and professor and chair of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. **Todd Redfean** (BA, Communication) is a chiropractor at the Carlson Chiropractic Center in McKinney. He ran his own clinic in Plano for seven years and worked in Ireland for three years. **Kenneth Zuercher** ('88 BA, German; '04 MA, Linguistics; '09 PhD, Linguistics) is assistant professor of advising and academic development at Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates.

**1989**

**Daniel Akin** (PhD, Humanities) is in his ninth year as president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. **Linda Donnelly** (BA, English) teaches freshman and junior English in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

**1990**

**Jimmy Ball** (BA, Journalism) is art director/senior producer with [x]cubeLABS, one of the world's top application development companies, with U.S. headquarters in Dallas. He just completed a two-year term as president of the Dallas/Fort Worth chapter of AIGA, the professional association for design. He received three 2011 American Graphic Design Awards from *GD USA* magazine, which named him one of its "People to Watch in 2012." **Justin Regan** (BA, Journalism) is vice president of the Houston market for Service King Collision Repair Centers. He was a member of the baseball team at UT Arlington. **Aveewan Yun** (BS, Biology) has joined the network of physicians at BodyLogicMD of Dallas as a bioidentical hormones expert.

**1995**

**John Derrick** (BBA, Finance) is research director for U.S. Global Investors in San Antonio. He manages the day-to-day operations of the investment team. **Keith Melton** (BS, Information Systems) is public works and transportation director for the city of Arlington. He was interim director for six months. In 2011 he received the Public Works Leader of the Year award from the Texas Public Works Association.

**1993**

**Daniel Schweickart** (PhD, Electrical Engineering) has been named a fellow by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. A research engineer in the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, he was recognized for contributions to insulation systems and the development of design guidelines for aerospace applications. **Jim Wilkinson** (BBA, Finance) is executive vice president for communications at PepsiCo. He joined PepsiCo from Brunswick Group LLC, where he had been managing partner since 2009. Prior to Brunswick Group, he was chief of staff for Treasury Secretary

Henry Paulson, serving as senior strategist and counselor and working on financial policy and crisis management. Wilkinson also served as senior adviser to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, director of strategic communications for Gen. Tommy R. Franks '71 at U.S. Central Command, and White House deputy director of communications.

**1994**

**Herb Beckwith** (MS, Accounting) was honored by the *Fort Worth Business Press* as CFO of the Year in January. He is senior vice president and CFO of Justin Brands and a member of the College of Business advisory council.

**1995**

**John Derrick** (BBA, Finance) is research director for U.S. Global Investors in San Antonio. He manages the day-to-day operations of the investment team. **Keith Melton** (BS, Information Systems) is public works and transportation director for the city of Arlington. He was interim director for six months. In 2011 he received the Public Works Leader of the Year award from the Texas Public Works Association.

**1996**

**Lisa Gray** (BS, Microbiology) has been certified as a registered microbiologist in pharmaceutical and medical device microbiology by the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. She is a microbiologist at Reckitt Benckiser in Fort Worth. **Don Harrelson** (BS, Civil Engineering) was named Engineer of the Year by the DFW Mid-Cities Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. He is an associate civil engineer at Baird, Hampton & Brown Inc., a Fort Worth-based engineering and surveying firm. **Lee Koch** (MA, Urban Affairs) is president of Arts Council Northeast in Bedford.

**Huseyin Ozgur** ('96 MPA, '98 PhD, Public and Urban Administration) is professor and chair of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at Pamukkale University in Denizli, Turkey. **Vasu Rangadass** ('96 PhD, Computer Science Engineering) is a principal with net.orange in Dallas, which received a \$1.9 million grant from Texas' Emerging Technology Fund to support the development of its Clinical Pathways Management Solution software. The program enables health care providers to more easily analyze, monitor, and act on information for better patient care and treatment. **Keith Walsh** (BBA, Marketing) is assistant general counsel at the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission. Previously, he was an attorney for the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development. He was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma at UT Arlington.

**1997**

**Elizabeth Hostin** (MEd) is principal at Jobe Middle School in Mansfield. **Edward Marshall** (MBA, Business Administration) is director of the homeland security sector for B3 Solutions, which provides information technology and program management for the federal government. He held various contracting, teaching, acquisition, and program management positions while on active duty with the Army, where he served 20 years before retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

**1998**

**Howell Dennis** (BA, Journalism) is news editor for the *Crowley Post-Signal* in Crowley, La. **Kim Lemaux** (BBA, Management) completed 30 years with the Arlington Police Department. She became Arlington's first female deputy police chief in 2001 and has served as deputy chief over the east and west districts and

central investigations. **James J. Sellers** (MBA, Business Administration) was honored as part of the 2012 Class of the *Fort Worth Business Press* 40 Under 40 awards and received the Alumni Award for Early Career Achievement from the College of Business. He is president of Mansfield-based Sellmark Corp.

**1999**

**Michelle L. Harris** (BA, Psychology) is an assistant principal at Atherton Elementary School in Arlington.

**2000**

**Ken Hada** (PhD, English) co-wrote *The River White: A Confluence of Brush and Quill*, a tribute to Arkansas' White River.

**2001**

**Nancy Weisskopf Stickels** (MEd) is principal at South Hills High School in Fort Worth.

**2002**

**Kaci Hickox** (BSN) has been appointed to a state health department position in Las Vegas. She begins a two-year fellowship this summer with the Epidemic Intelligence Service through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. See story on p. 40. **Catherine Johnston** (MSSW) is the 2012 Alumni Ambassador for the Social Work Department at Texas A&M-Commerce University, where she received her bachelor's degree. The honor recognizes career achievements and is the highest award an A&M academic department can bestow on a graduate. She is a licensed clinical social worker with private practices in Bonham and Van Alstyne. **Abhijit Kaisare** ('02 MS, Mechanical Engineering, '07 PhD, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering) is a senior design engineer with Anveshak Technology and Knowledge Solutions in Pune, India. **Patinya Samanuhut** ('02 MEng, '11 PhD, Mechani-

## Notable



**MARCIA HAWKINS**

Dr. Hawkins ('87 BBA, Finance; '00 PhD, Transatlantic History) is the 19th president of Union College in Barbourville, Ky., and the first woman to lead the institution. She formerly was the associate director for advancement at the National Institute for Technology in Liberal Education and president of the Texas Independent College Foundation.

**TREY YELVERTON**

Yelverton ('88 BA, Political Science) was promoted to city manager of Arlington in February. He had been deputy city manager since 2006, overseeing the departments of economic development, community services, parks and recreation, police and fire, and others.



**MESHONDA COLE**

Cole ('01 BA, Interdisciplinary Studies) is the 2012-13 Teacher of the Year in the Dallas Independent School District. She has been with the DISD for 10 years and teaches sixth-grade math at Kennedy-Curry Middle School.

**CURTIS FRODGE**

Frodge ('06 BS, Mechanical Engineering) is a robotics engineer at NASA, where he has worked on Robonaut 2, the first humanoid robot in space, and Centaur 2, a mobility platform for Robonaut 2.

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cal Engineering) is an assistant professor of engineering at Ubon Ratchathani University in Thailand.

**2003**

**Annie Jones Evans** ('03 BS, Economics; '05 MA, Urban Affairs) is executive director for Southfair Community Development Corp. in Dallas. **Linda M. Jackson** (BSN) was honored in May as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. She is a labor and delivery nurse at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth.

**2004**

**Kapil Mani Dixit** (BFA, Art) submitted work for an auction to benefit the Help Nepal Network. Most of his 17 paintings, inspired by Leonardo da Vinci's *Mona Lisa*, Frida Kahlo's *The Two Fridas*, and Vincent van Gogh's *The Bedroom*, were sold, with proceeds given to the charity. **Dan Dukes** (MEd) will be principal at Craig Middle School in Abilene this fall. He served two years as principal of the Model Secondary School for the Deaf, a national special education school in Washington, D.C. He received his doctoral degree from George Washington University in May. **Sam Nix** (BA, History) was among the featured speakers at the Sharing the Dream Banquet, an annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in Arlington. He is principal at Carter Junior High in Arlington. **Yen Nguyen** ('04 BSN, '08 MSN) was honored in May as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. She is a registered nurse at Baylor Medical Center in Irving. **Shahi Riaz** (MS, Mechanical Engineering) is lead engineer/technologist at GE Aviation, which provides commercial and military jet engines and components.

**2005**

**Angela M. Bates** (BA, Journalism) is social catering manager for the W Hotel in Dallas, responsible for

developing and managing all social events. She was a member of *The Shorthorn* staff at UT Arlington. **Nikhil Lakhakar** ('05 MS, '10 PhD, Mechanical Engineering) is a reliability engineer at Cascade Engineering Services, which provides aerospace and medical engineering solutions and laboratory services. **Ashley Sheffield Noell** (BA, English) is academic affairs coordinator at Horry-Georgetown Technical College in Myrtle Beach, S.C. **Jeffery S. Woodruff** ('05 BS, Mechanical Engineering) is a manufacturing engineer with Downhole Solutions in Conroe.

**2006**

**Jayme Gonzalez** ('06 BS, Aerospace Engineering; '07 MS, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; '10 MBA, Cohort MBA) is an engineering specialist at Bell Helicopter Textron. She is working on the autopilot design for the 525 Relentless commercial helicopter and is the autopilot lead for the UH-1Y and AH-1Z military models. **Corey Gossett** (BFA, Art) displayed his work *There's No Sun Shining Through* at Gallery 76102 in the UT Arlington Fort Worth Center during February and March. **Brent Lagesse** ('06 MS, '09 PhD, Computer Science) is a scientist at BBN Technologies, which provides research and development services in Cambridge, Mass. **Emmanuel Mbah** (PhD, Transatlantic History) received the 2012 Junior Scholars Excellence Award at the Poverty and Empowerment in Africa conference. He is a history professor at the City University of New York, College of Staten Island. **Holly McCannies** (MEd) is director of curriculum and instruction in the Mansfield Independent School District. **Kim Sasser** (MA, English) received her Ph.D. from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland in August 2011. She is an undergraduate adviser and adjunct

lecturer in the UT Arlington Department of English. **Nikki Slack** ('06 BA, '10 MA, English) is teaching in the English program in Busan, South Korea. **Betsy Williamson** (BFA, Photography) exhibited *Rewriting Art History* at the Mercantile Coffee House in Dallas during May and June as part of the McKinney Avenue Contemporary's community outreach program. She is a mixed media artist who teaches studio art in the North Texas area. *Rewriting Art History* focused on the presentation of art history in book form as well as in the classroom.

**2007**

**Jyotirmay Gadewadikar** ('03 MS, '07 PhD, Electrical Engineering) received a three-year, \$377,000 Early Career Faculty Scientific Leadership Award from the Department of Homeland Security. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Advanced Technologies at Alcorn State University. **Mark Puig** (MEd) is superintendent of the Luling (Texas) Independent School District.

**2008**

**Justin Bosworth** (BS, Civil Engineering) was named Young Engineer of the Year by the DFW Mid-Cities Chapter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers. He is a graduate engineer at Wier & Associates, an Arlington-based professional services company. **Vijay Dixit** (MS, Computer Engineering) is an engineer at Garmin in Olathe, Kan., an international leader in GPS-based personal navigation devices. **Safwan Mahmud Khan** (MS, Computer Science) is pursuing a doctoral degree at UT Dallas. **Abanish Singh** (PhD, Computer Science Engineering) is a postdoctoral fellow in the Goldstein Lab at the Duke University School of Medicine's Institute for Genome Science and Policy. **Ann Hui-Yen Wang** (PhD, Linguistics)



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is an assistant professor in the Department of English at Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. **Rodney White** (MEd) is principal at the Young Men's Leadership Academy in the Fort Worth Independent School District.

**2009**

**Bess Alvarez** (BA, Criminal Justice and Criminology) has been admitted to the master's program in the Department of Communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She received a teaching assistantship with a stipend and tuition waiver. **Enrique Baez** (BS, Civil Engineering) is a resident engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Afghanistan. He is responsible for 30 projects valued at approximately \$200 million. **Robert Earley** (MS, Health Care Administration) was elected vice chairman of the board of directors for Leaders and Executives Advocating Diversity. He is chief executive officer of the JPS Health Network in Fort Worth and previously was a

member of the Texas House of Representatives. **Michael Giannetti** (BBA, Finance) was promoted to partner with the Fort Worth firm of New York Life Insurance Co. He has worked in the financial services industry for six years. **Vineeth Shetty Kolkeri** (MS, Electrical Engineering) is an iPhone wireless engineer for Apple Computer. **Jodiann Phillips** ('09 BSN, '11 MSN), nurse manager in the emergency department at Baylor University Medical Center in Dallas, has received her Nurse Executive, Advanced-Board Certified credentials. One of the first graduates from the College of Nursing's Academic Partnership online MSN program, she is now an academic coach for the program. **Antwoin Smith** (BSN) was honored in May as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. He is a nurse at the Baylor Medical Center in southwest Fort Worth. **Adam Stein** ('09 MA, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is working toward a Ph.D. in educational leadership and policy studies at UT

Arlington. **Joshua Wood** (BA, English) received his master's degree in English from the University of North Texas in May. **Julie Zhu** (MA, Communication) is an assistant professor of communication at the University of Massachusetts in Boston. She received her Ph.D. in May from the University of Maryland.

**2010**

**Nadia Ayala** (MEd) is an assistant principal at Woodrow Wilson High School in Dallas. **Iris Bechtol** (MFA, Art) is an adjunct faculty member at Eastfield College in Mesquite. She teaches art appreciation, 3D design, and sculpture. Her work was featured in *Big and Bright: New Work from Texas* at the Southwestern College Art Gallery in Chula Vista, Calif. **Stephen George** (MA, Linguistics) is working toward a Ph.D. at the University of North Texas. **Zoheb Hassanali** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is a multimedia journalist at WACH-TV in Columbia, S.C. Previously, he was a news/sports reporter at KTVO in Kirksville, Mo. **Tiffany Hauck** (BA, English) had her first nonfiction piece, "Marking Time," published in the April 2012 *Hippocampus Magazine*. **Todd Hill** (BA, Political Science) is government affairs manager for the Housing Policy Council of the Financial Services Roundtable in Washington, D.C. The council comprises 32 companies that are among the nation's mortgage finance leaders. **Jeff Hobbie** (MA, Linguistics) teaches English as a second language in the Intensive English Program at Southern Methodist University. **Ashley Hodo** (MSN) was honored in May as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses. She is a nurse at Texas Health Harris Methodist in Fort Worth. **Bongani Mlambo** (BFA, Art) had his work featured in January on the blog *Ebony Delights*. A Dallas-based artist, designer, photographer, and

filmmaker, he has directed six short films and been cinematographer or photography director on more than 20 others. **Francisco Moreno** (BFA, Art) was featured in the *New American Paintings MFA Annual*. He is an MFA student at Rhode Island School of Design. **Wendy Okolo** (BS, Aerospace Engineering) received a National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship, funded by the Department of Defense. The fellowship covers tuition and required fees for three years, plus a \$30,500 stipend for the first year, \$31,000 the second year, and \$31,500 the third year. She is a student in the B.S. to Ph.D. program in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at UT Arlington.

**2011**

**Nikhil Aphale** (MS, Biomedical Engineering) is a research associate at Becton, Dickinson and Co., a medical technology company in Boston. **Felicia Bolton** (BA, Broadcast Communication/Spanish) is a reporter at KOSA-TV in Odessa. **Jason W. Brown** (BS, Aerospace Engineering) is a weight engineer at RECARO, which specializes in ergonomic seats for automobiles, aircrafts, and homes. **Misty Cannon** (MEd) is principal at Clay Academy in Dallas. **Sean Cooper** (MA, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is a senior lecturer in the Center for International Education at Salisbury University in Salisbury, Md. **Erick Fernandez** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is weekend technical director for Univision. **Matthew G. Fisher** (MA, Speech Communication) is communications manager of multimedia for the American Heart Association national office in Dallas. **Heather Frith** (MEd) is an assistant principal at Rouse High School in Leander. **John Harden** (BA, Broadcast Communication) writes a science/health feature story

each month for *The New York Times*. **Kunal Kale** (MEng, Mechanical Engineering) is a design engineer at Unique Industrial Product Co. in Houston. **Michael Mansbridge** (BA, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages; BS, Biology/Linguistics) made a poster presentation on "Bind accessibility and online anaphora processing" at the CUNY Conference on Human Sentence Processing in April. **Angela Martin-Winegar** (BA, Sociology) published a children's book, *A Very Backwards "What If" Book*. **Jesus J. Martinez** (BM) received a scholarship from Southern Methodist University to work on his master's in music. The \$18,000 scholarship requires him to write music and perform in ensembles. He is on the music band/percussion staff at Creekview High School in Carrollton. C. Alan Publications published his work *Dimensions of a Dream*. **Decklan Miller-McGee** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is a helicopter camera operator/videographer for SKY Helicopters in Garland. He provides aerials for KDFW-TV and KTVT-TV. **Erikka Neroes** (BA, Public Relations and Communication Studies) has accepted a position in the Public Affairs Office of the Department of Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System. During her final semester, she served as an intern in state Sen. Wendy Davis' office. **Shana Owen** (MEd) is an assistant principal at Navarro Elementary School in Corsicana. **Eric Pacheco** (MEd) is an assistant principal at West Junior High School in Richardson. **Alanna Quillen** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is weekend anchor/reporter for KMID-TV in Midland. She was a member of *The Shorthorn* staff at UT Arlington. **Alan Siggers** (BA, Art) was accepted into the Maryland Institute College of Art's M.F.A. program. **Andrew Talley** (BM) was accepted into Carnegie Mel-

lon University as a graduate student in the Master of Music Performance program. He received a two-year fellowship that begins this fall. **Alexandra Torres** (MEd) is an assistant principal at Adams Middle School in Brentwood, Calif. **Laura "Beth" Henary Watson** (MPA, Public and Urban Administration) received her Institute for Organization Management certification in nonprofit and association leadership from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. She is executive director of the Mineral Wells Area Chamber of Commerce and began her second term on the Texas Association of Business board of directors. **Paul Windle** (BFA, Art) had his work featured in a *New York Times* article about a notorious mob hangout in East Harlem.

**2012**

**Jared Holt** (BFA, Art) received a full scholarship to the M.F.A. program at the University of Connecticut. **Collin Hover** (MFA, Visual Communication) will begin a tenure-track assistant professor position at the University of South Dakota this fall. He published a chapter in *Biologically Inspired Computing for the Arts: Scientific Data through Graphics*. **Audie L. Johnson** (MEd) becomes an assistant principal this fall at Pearland (Texas) High School. **Wanda McClure** (MEd) becomes principal this fall at Amana Academy, a public charter school in Alpharetta, Ga. **Aubree McFadden** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is a producer for the *Nightlight* shows on KLTU-FM in Dallas. **Monica Nagy** (BA, Journalism) works for *The Eagle* in Bryan-College Station as part of the Texas Associated Press Managing Editors Association's Buster Haas Minority Internship Program. **Kristy Phillips** (MA, Communication) is marketing/sales coordinator for Heise Media Group in Bakersfield, Calif.

**Briefly**

**ONLINE COMMUNITY**

The Alumni Association website works seamlessly with social networking platforms, allowing you to link Facebook, LinkedIn, or Twitter member pages to your profile page. It also features a Career Center and a tool to find former classmates. Visit [utaalumni.org](http://utaalumni.org) and click on "First-Time Login" to create a personal, password-protected member profile.



**FRAME IT**

Display your UT Arlington diploma in style. In partnership with Churchill Classics, the Alumni Association offers more than a dozen framing options for the sheepskin you worked so hard to earn. You can even customize your frame. Alumni Association members receive a 10 percent discount on frames. Visit [utaalumni.org](http://utaalumni.org) and click on "Shop" to make your selection.

**SHOW YOUR COLORS**

Looking for ways to express your Maverick pride? Check out UT Arlington's one-stop online shopping mall for hundreds of T-shirts, polos, caps, accessories, and other merchandise. The website includes links to the Alumni Association store, UT Arlington Bookstore, athletics store, Planetarium gift shop, and more. Go to [uta.edu/shoponline](http://uta.edu/shoponline).

**JOIN A CHAPTER**

For information on joining an alumni chapter, contact the Alumni Association at 817-272-2594 or [uta\\_alumni@uta.edu](mailto:uta_alumni@uta.edu). To see a list of chapters, visit [utaalumni.org/alumnigroups](http://utaalumni.org/alumnigroups).

## In Memoriam

### 1940s

**Fay Lillian Nation Van Dam** (41 AA, General Studies), 90, Dec. 16, 2011, in Arlington. Ms. Van Dam was an administrative assistant in the UT Arlington College of Engineering for more than 50 years. The Fay Van Dam Outstanding Staff Award was established in her honor in 1991 to recognize a member of the college's support staff. **Eddie Williams** (47 AA, General Studies), 84, March 1 in Arlington. Mr. Williams opened Eddie Williams Man's Shop in downtown Arlington in 1946 and managed it until he sold it in 2000. A musician, he had his own television show on Channel 5 in Fort Worth. In 1998 the Arlington Historical Society honored him as one of the driving forces of the 1950s.

### 1950s

**William Casey Long Sr.** (57 AA, Mechanical Engineering), 76, Dec. 5, 2011, in Ferris. Mr. Long was president of Long Machine Tool Co. in Ferris.

### 1960s

**William A. Skelton** (64 BBA, Business Administration; 75 MS, '82 PhD, Computer Science), 89, Nov. 15, 2011, in Bedford. A professional engineer, Dr. Skelton was an engineering supervisor at LTV/Boeing and taught at UT Arlington from 1988 to 1992. **Betty Jeanne Pettit** (66 BA, '71 MA, English), 88, March 11 in Arlington. Ms. Pettit taught at Arlington and Bowie high schools in Arlington.

### 1970s

**Joe Donald McMinn** (70 BBA, Accounting), 72, April 17 in Arlington. Mr. McMinn retired in 2001 after 42 years as an accountant with the Baptist Foundation of Texas. **James L. Bearden** (72 BA, Political Science), 60, Nov. 9, 2011, in Fort Worth. Mr. Bearden had a long career in private investigation and security before earning a law degree and opening a practice in Arlington. He

was a former member of the UT Arlington alumni board of directors and a former president of the Fielder Museum. He was an assistant scoutmaster for many years. **Eddie Lynn Cheatham** (72 BS, Civil Engineering), 64, Jan. 11 in Colleyville. Mr. Cheatham was a professional engineer and a professional surveyor. He founded Cheatham and Associates, an engineering consulting firm in Arlington. **David Joe Linan** (72 BS, Civil Engineering), 62, Jan. 25 in Fort Worth. Mr. Linan had worked for the Army Corps of Engineers since 1974. **Curtis L. Oppermann Jr.** (72 BS, Civil Engineering), 65, March 25 in Amarillo. Mr. Oppermann was a professional engineer for the Texas Department of Transportation for 31 years, serving the Fort Worth and Dallas districts. He received the American Council of Engineering Companies Award for Excellence while working as project manager on the George Bush Turnpike for KBR (formerly Kellogg Brown & Root). **Bobby Andrew Herrell** (73 BA, History), 70, April 11 in Fort Worth. Dr. Herrell served as a Baptist minister for 34 years at churches in Arlington, Fort Worth, Saginaw, Hurst, Canton, and Palestine. He specialized in helping struggling churches. **Jerry G. Swaner** (73 MS, Industrial Engineering), 76, Dec. 11, 2011, in Arlington. Mr. Swaner worked for the Department of Defense and the Internal Revenue Service, where he earned a presidential citation from President Jimmy Carter for his work in productivity enhancement. **Myra Gail Middleton** (75 BA, English), 60, April 8 in Mansfield. Ms. Middleton taught English in the Mansfield Independent School District for 30 years. **Ronald Steven Springer** (76 BS, Criminal Justice), 64, Nov. 20, 2011, in Weatherford. Mr. Springer held numerous positions with the Arlington Police Department before retiring as

a patrol sergeant in 2006 after 38 years of service. He became a Tarrant County deputy sheriff in 2007 and served as a courtroom bailiff. **Pat Williams Gordon** (78 MSN), 80, Feb. 27 in Fort Worth. Dr. Gordon taught nursing at Texas Christian University and UT Arlington, retiring in the mid-1990s.

### 1980s

**Stephen Bennett Nolen** (87 BS, Criminal Justice), 54, April 27 in Arlington. Mr. Nolen was an emergency medical technician for CareFlite and MedStar. **Neil J. Licalsi** (88 BBA, Accounting), 46, March 25 in El Paso. Mr. Licalsi was the district manager for Farmers Insurance in El Paso.

### 1990s

**David E. Cabrera** (94 MSSW), 41, Oct. 29, 2011, in Kabul, Afghanistan. Lt. Col. Cabrera was a clinical social worker with the Army's Medical Service Corps. In his 15-year military career, he traveled to Hungary as a chief of mental health, to Iraq as a behavioral health officer for a Stryker Brigade, and to Germany, where he served as deputy director of Soldier and Family Support Services for Europe Regional Medical Command. **Debra Bass-Chambless** (97 MSN), 60, Aug. 4, 2011, in Cedar Hill. Ms. Bass-Chambless was a clinical instructor in the UT Arlington College of Nursing from 2005 to 2008. She was a geriatric nurse practitioner, working in various nursing homes in the Dallas area.

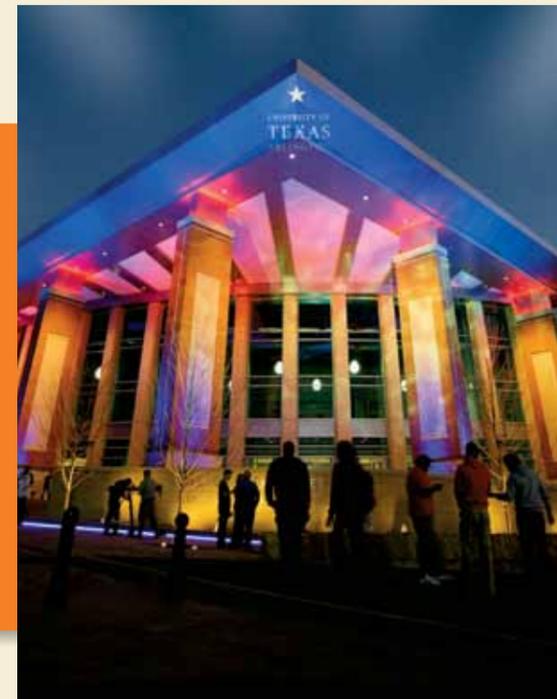
### 2000s

**Michael Ray Eskridge** (00 BA, Journalism), 49, April 10 in Burleson. Mr. Eskridge was sports editor at the *Burleson Star* for 11 years and was a member of *The Shorthorn* staff at UT Arlington. **Dustin Vincent** (09 BA, Interdisciplinary Studies), 25, Nov. 3, 2011, in Kirkuk Province, Iraq. A first lieutenant, Mr. Vincent was a member of the 1st

infantry division in the Army at Fort Riley, Kan. He received the Army Achievement Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal with one campaign star, National Defense Service Medal, Global War of Terror Service Medal, and Army Service Ribbon.

### Faculty and Staff

**Lucille Cardenas**, 69, Dec. 10, 2011, in Arlington. Ms. Cardenas was an instructor at the UT Arlington English Language Institute from 1997 to 2011. Previously, she was a professor in the Intensive English Program at TCU, where she was also an assistant dean of students. **Roger Allyn Dickinson**, 82, Feb. 9 in Arlington. Dr. Dickinson served as dean and marketing professor in the UT Arlington College of Business from 1975 to 2007. He taught at Rutgers University before coming to UT Arlington. **Neil H. Dishon**, 87, Jan. 20 in Arlington. Dr. Dishon began working for UT Arlington Student Health Services in 1971 and served as chief of staff from 1978 to 2006. He started his medical career as a civilian physician in San Antonio at Kelly Air Force Base. Before coming to UT Arlington, he worked at the University of North Texas as a staff physician. **Stanley Berry Garner**, 86, Nov. 20, 2011, in San Marcos. Dr. Garner became chair of the UT Arlington English Department in 1970. After retiring from UT Arlington in 1987, he taught in Portugal on a Fulbright Fellowship in 1988 and finished his career as a visiting professor at Texas State University. **Frank C. Gladden**, 90, Dec. 6, 2011, in Arlington. Mr. Gladden was a microbiology professor at UT Arlington from 1959 to 1987. **Betty Jane Hinshaw Williams**, 87, March 12 in Arlington. Ms. Williams retired as assistant business manager at UT Arlington in 2003 after 47 years of service. (See more *In Memoriam* at [uta.edu/utamagazine](http://uta.edu/utamagazine).)



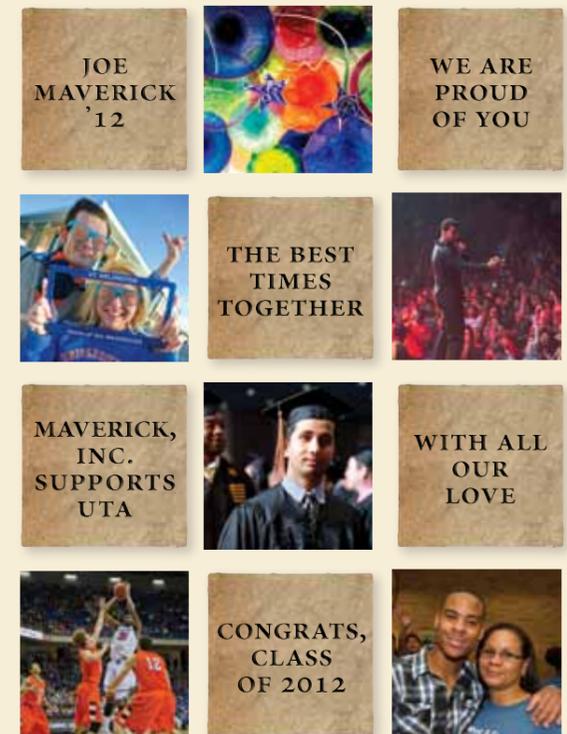
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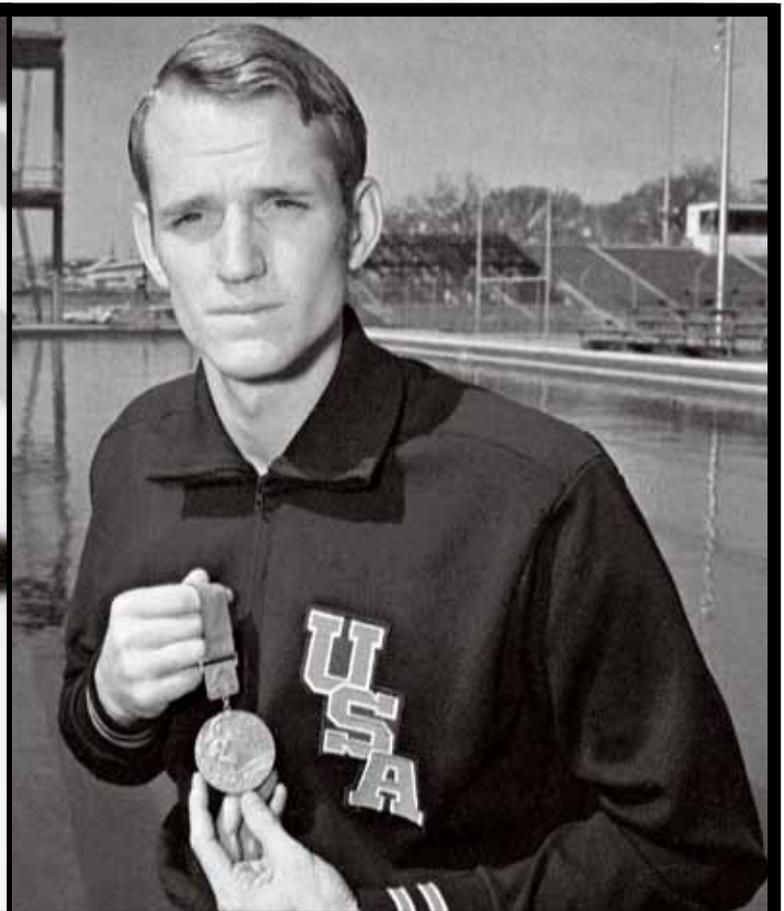
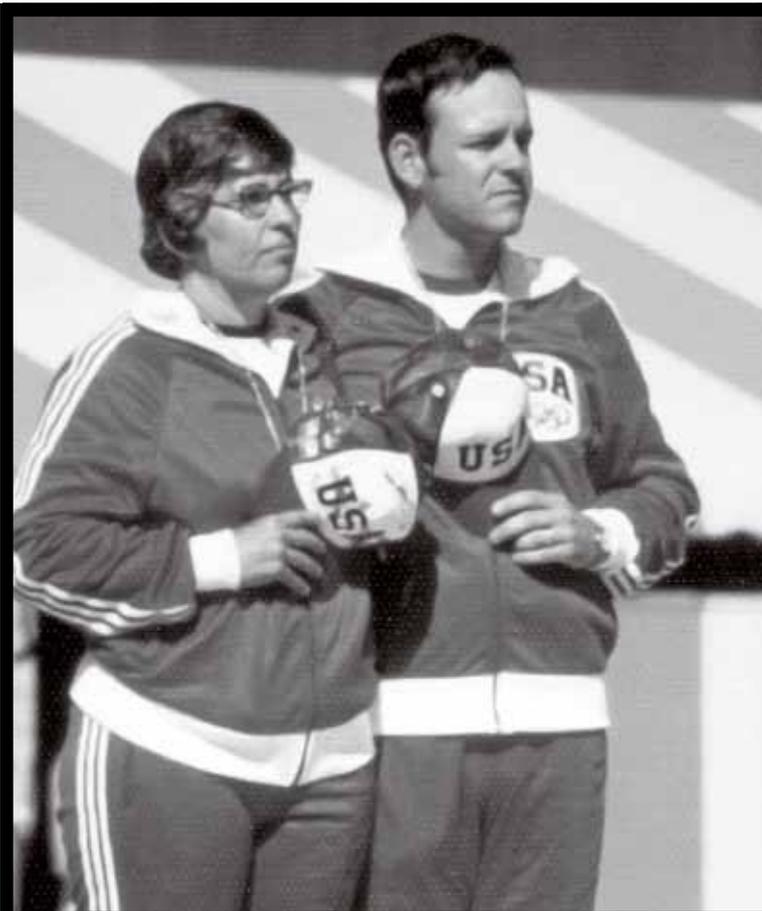


**VIRGINIA GARRETT**

Noted philanthropist, map collector, and UT Arlington supporter Virginia Garrett died April 21 in Fort Worth. She was 91. Over several decades, Ms. Garrett amassed a collection that included 375 atlases and 900 maps, dating from the 1500s until 1900 and reported to be one of the largest collections of its type in private hands. Not only were she and her husband, the late Jenkins Garrett, zealous collectors, they were also generous benefactors. Together, they accumulated one of the state's most comprehensive collections of Texas historical artifacts, focusing on Texas and the U.S. War with Mexico. They donated the collection to UT Arlington in 1974. The initial donation spanned more than 10,000 items, including books, broadsides, newspapers, graphics, manuscripts, sheet music, and currency. They also donated Ms. Garrett's atlas and map collections to the UT Arlington Library's Special Collections, making it a research center for studying the history of Texas and the Gulf of Mexico region. Today the Jenkins Garrett Library and the Virginia Garrett Cartographic History Library comprise two integral parts of Special Collections. UT Arlington has built on these gifts by creating the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and sponsoring the biennial Virginia Garrett Lectures on the History of Cartography. A founding member of the Texas Map Society, Ms. Garrett was a longtime member of the Texas State Historical Association and the Friends of the UT Arlington Library.



## **Past** Olympians Lanny Bassham (1976) and Doug Russell (1968)



Count UT Arlington alumni Doug Russell and Lanny Bassham among the select group of athletes who've experienced the thrill of winning an Olympic gold medal. At the 1968 Summer Games in Mexico City, Russell upset legendary swimmer Mark Spitz in the 100-meter butterfly. His 55.9 set an Olympic record and fell just 0.3 seconds shy of Spitz's world record. Russell, who set five NCAA marks and won nine national championships at UT Arlington, earned more gold in 1968 as part of the 400-meter individual medley relay. He held or shared three world records and was named an All-American 18 times. Bassham, a 1969 UT Arlington graduate, shot his

way to a gold medal in the small-bore rifle competition at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal. A scoring controversy delayed the results for five hours, but officials eventually ruled Bassham the winner on a tiebreaker. During the medal ceremony, he invited runner-up Margaret Murdock, also of the United States, to join him on the gold medal platform. The gesture remains one of the most magnanimous in Olympic history. Bassham also earned a silver medal in the 1972 Olympics in Munich. He was a favorite in 1980 but was denied the chance to compete when the United States boycotted the Moscow Games.