

**WUNDERKINDS** A 12-year-old math whiz is following in the footsteps of other extraordinary UT Arlington students who earned degrees as young teenagers. p. 20

**SOCIALLY UNACCEPTABLE** Many people share more about themselves through social media than they do in person, but revealing too much online can come back to haunt you. p. 30

**HEALING TOUCH** College Park Center's sports medicine facilities provide world-class treatment for athletes while serving as a hands-on classroom for student trainers. p. 34

# UTArlington

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON MAGAZINE | WINTER 2012



## Game Changer

The College Park District is among the many visions turned into reality by retiring President James D. Spaniolo

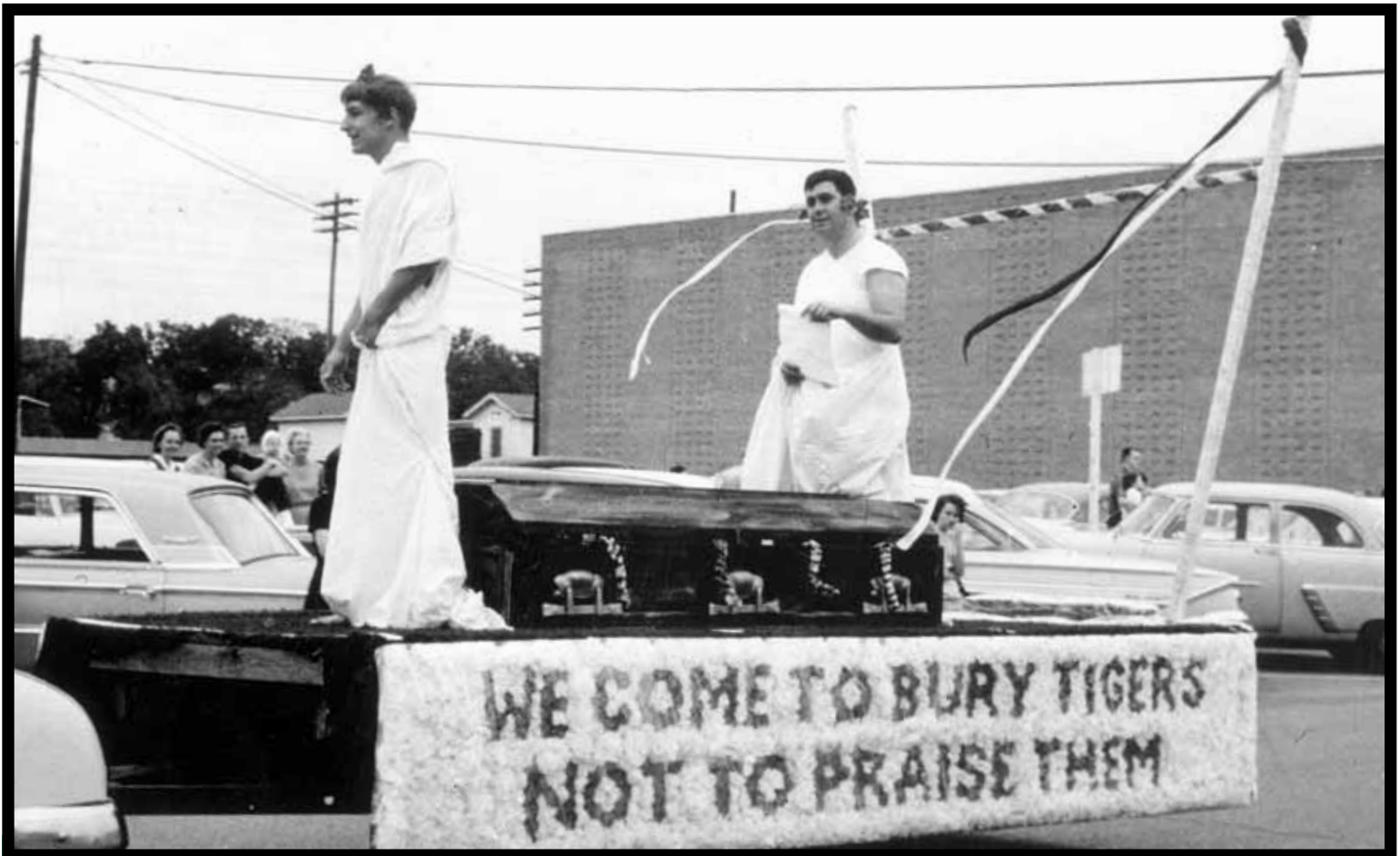


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## Past Homecoming 1965



When Arlington State College (now UT Arlington) students lined Main Street in 1965 to watch the Homecoming parade, their experience was a bit different from today's Mavericks. The celebration started in 1932 when the University was known as North Texas Agricultural College. For years Homecoming took place in the fall and featured a traditional parade with large floats, a bonfire, and a football game. After the University dropped football in 1985, organizers redesigned Homecoming to make basketball the featured sport, moved the

activities to the spring, and deep-sixed the parade. But this year the flatbeds and fall weather returned. UT Arlington's 2012 Homecoming was held in November and featured a parade through the College Park District. Other festivities included a street party before and after the men's basketball game against the University of Oklahoma, which drew a record 6,421 fans to College Park Center. Whether the togas make a reappearance for future parades is anyone's guess. *Photo courtesy of Special Collections, UT Arlington Library.*





**HOMECOMING HYSTERIA**

Excitement and confetti filled the air at the 2012 Homecoming parade in November. With College Park Center providing a striking backdrop, the procession featured more than 80 entries cruising down Spaniole Drive.



Features

**CULTIVATING GENIUS 20**  
A 12-year-old math prodigy is the latest in a line of brilliant students to begin their UT Arlington careers at a remarkably early age.



**MAVERICK PERSONIFIED 24**  
Many people will point to the **College Park District** as James D. Spaniolo’s most significant achievement. But the retiring president will leave a legacy that goes far beyond physical structures.

**TOO MUCH INFORMATION 30**  
Dubbed “oversharing” by sociology Professor Ben Agger, revealing too much about ourselves when communicating electronically can lead to unfulfilling relationships—and worse.

**TRAINING GROUND 34**  
From **San Francisco** to **Charleston, S.C.**, graduates of UT Arlington’s Athletic Training Education Program are showcasing the skills they learned as students.

Columns

**TALK 7**  
Having already landed roles in two major films, Junior Robert Hayes is eyeing a **Hollywood** career after he earns his communication degree.

**CRASH COURSE 8**  
An architecture design studio challenged students to think critically about the form, function, and future of bridges.



**FACULTY 11**  
Daniel Armstrong’s recent examination of a popular and controversial workout stimulant put his name in the mainstream media.

**FUTURE 13**  
Two aerospace engineering professors won a prestigious NASA research award to investigate novel methods of achieving hypersonic flight.



**GALLERY 14**  
Burl Washington ‘77 was one of the first artists to paint the history of the buffalo soldiers.

**COMMUNITY 17**  
Dressed as superheroes, fraternity members delivered toys to sick children in Texas and **Louisiana**.

**CHAMPS 19**  
Alumnus Derrick Obasohan played for the **Nigerian** basketball team at the **London** 2012 Olympics.

Alumni News

**WITH HIGHEST HONORS 39**  
The Alumni Association recognized graduates from as far away as **China** at the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Gala.



**ON THE FRONT LINES 40**  
During her more than eight years as a Navy nurse, Kelly Bowman ‘03 spent time in **Iraq** caring for wounded soldiers.

Email



**BATTLING THE BULLY**  
The last issue of *UT Arlington Magazine* had a great feature on bullying, picturing the right faculty campus leaders on the subject. This is important stuff. Bullying goes beyond the schools. During my 2000-01 faculty development leave, I visited Cary Cooper in England at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. He and his colleagues were doing early workplace bullying research. The late Andy Baum in UT Arlington’s Psychology Department had us complete a review of workplace stress for his *Handbook of Stress Science* (2011). We did a 10-year review of the science

and found that workplace bullying was one of the leading emerging sources of stress. Beyond physical bullying is the interpersonal abuse and growing lack of civility. Not good, not healthy! “Fighting Back” is the right thing to do.

JAMES CAMPBELL QUICK  
*Arlington, Texas*

**OFFERING HOPE**  
I just finished reading the summer 2012 issue of the magazine, and I wanted to say how impressed I am with my University. I had no idea of the depth of the research activity happening right there on campus! I especially appreciated the “Fighting

Back” article. As a mom to two young kids, I watch with dread the awful news stories about kids getting picked on mercilessly and driven to drastic action. Knowing that researchers at my alma mater are studying the issue and working to understand and hopefully lessen the impact of bullying makes me hopeful for the future and proud to call myself a Maverick.

LAURA MCCARTHY '01  
*Burleson, Texas*

**HIGH NOTE**  
I would like to congratulate your staff on the outstanding magazine you publish for alumni and the community. It is very well written and I look forward to reading it, as a parent of a UTA graduate. I especially enjoyed the article “Duty, Honor, College.” My son, Cpl. Jonathan Schmittou, graduated from UTA in 2009 with a music performance degree with highest honors and received many honors

and scholarships while he was there. After he graduated, he auditioned for the USMC Military Band and has been a percussionist for that fine organization for almost three years. We are very proud of him and very grateful for the fine education he received in the Music Department. We have the highest respect for Dr. Michael Varner, who was a huge influence on Jonathan.

DEBBIE SCHMITTOU  
*Plano, Texas*

**ART APPRECIATION**  
Thank you for the article on Nancy Palmeri. While I was a student at UT Arlington, my (now) wife and I took many classes with her. Aside from being a tremendous artist, she is also an amazing teacher and a wonderful mentor. It’s always great to open up the latest issue and see UT Arlington’s art community featured alongside articles on cutting-edge research and sports achievements. But it was especially nice to see Nancy’s work this time around.

ADAM WERNER '05  
*Fort Worth, Texas*

**RESIDENT ROMANCE**  
As a mom, reading about the time my son Dean and daughter-in-law Emily were in residence at the “Love Shack” made me smile. Up until they told me about being interviewed for the article in the spring 2012 issue, I had no idea of the hall’s nickname. I just love real-life love stories. To all the “Brazoonians” who met, fell in love, and married, may you have many more happy years together.

CYNTHIA PETERSON  
*Wichita Falls, Texas*

**YOUR THOUGHTS?**  
Send letters to the editor to utamagazine@uta.edu, or comment on magazine content at uta.edu/utamagazine.

Message from the Editor

Hungarian author Frigyes Karinthy debuted the idea of six degrees of separation in a 1929 short story. The concept that any two people are separated by no more than six intermediate connections gained popularity with the 1993 film *Six Degrees of Separation*, adapted from the play of the same name.

How does the theory play out in social media circles? Last year researchers at the University of Milan analyzed 721 million active Facebook users and their more than 69 billion friendships. They found that, on average, any two individuals are connected by just 4.74 acquaintances.

We tested the findings using the four feature articles in this issue.

Our cover story on retiring President James D. Spaniolo examines his nearly nine-year administration, which brought unprecedented growth in enrollment, research activity, philanthropic support, and the physical campus. President Spaniolo has more than 700 Facebook friends, one of whom is Ryan Haire.

A senior in the Athletic Training

– Mark Permenter

UT Arlington

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**ON THE COVER**  
Under the leadership of retiring President James D. Spaniolo, UT Arlington has vaulted into the national dialogue about top-tier research universities.





# YouTube

## MAVSMEET AFTERPARTY

Where can you put on pajamas and slippers, bowl a few frames in the dark, ride a zip line, and devour a Belgian waffle with unlimited toppings? The 2012 Maverick Stampede Welcome Week offered all these activities and more. The centerpiece of Maverick Stampede was the MavsMeet Convocation, which officially kicked off the fall semester. Held in College Park Center for the first time, the academic gathering drew thousands of students who spilled onto The Green at College Park lawn for the Mavs-Meet AfterParty. Other events that welcomed new and returning students to campus included Success U, Residence Hall Move-In Day, Wet 'n' Wild, Pajama Jam, MavSwap, Waffleopolis, Big Howdy Party, and Maverick Cookout. Watch a Welcome Week video at [youtube.com/UTarlingtonMavericks](http://youtube.com/UTarlingtonMavericks).



# Tweets

Many thanks to the great crowd at UTA College Park last night! Don't you ever secede! — [@sethmeyers21](#)

We had SO much fun at the UTA Homecoming parade tonight! #gomavs #beatou — [@UTarlingtonAXO](#)

Getting my acceptance to University of Texas at Arlington made my day!!! :D #collegebound — [@Riah\\_Baby20](#)

First day of class at UT Arlington today. =) — [@annalbnana](#)

Much luv UT Arlington dance team at last night's concert. — [@official\\_flo](#)

Awesome show UTA! Love Texas! Next stop Detroit. — [@KickMix](#)

New University of Texas at Arlington dormitory has washing machines that text students when the load is done. — [@DaveLieber](#)

I got into UT Arlington : ) — [@Nemosaysrawr](#)

@DorroughMusic killed it at UTA today! — [@LindseyBrown9](#)

I changed my mind. I wanna go to UT Arlington. — [@ASAPKayla](#)

It's learnin' time, y'all! See, don't I already sound more educated? (@ University of Texas at Arlington) — [@KadyJ09](#)

Just got that "Your UT Arlington Diploma Has Been Mailed" email : ) — [@ShaylaReiana](#)

Exciting what Scott Cross has done w/UT Arlington MBB program. One of top coaches in the NCAA. — [@ScottLacefield](#)

After I get my master's degree from UT Arlington, I want to work for the @dallasmavs or the @celtics. They are my favorite basketball teams. — [@Mrs\\_Tennessee](#)

Found where all the hipsters at UTA hide. #einsteinbros — [@beesmer](#)

# Trending

## COLLEGE PARK CENTER

The energy is electric at the College Park Center at UT Arlington! — [@DowntownArlTx](#)

Cool suites at #UTA. Premium season tickets include suite access @College Park Center. — [@markjoeckel](#)

Flo Rida ... and I got to touch his hand!!! So much fun! @College Park Center. — [@rahpatz](#)

Christian recording artist TobyMac fills College Park Center for Eyes on It tour. — [@isayitsallgood](#)

UTA doing it big with the College Park Center. — [@futureRT\\_tobi](#)

Oklahoma survives hard road game against mid-major UT Arlington 63-59. Great atmosphere at UTA's new College Park Center. — [@ChuckCarltonDMN](#)

It's going down tonight! 5pm, UTA College Park Center. Bring your crew and canned goods too! — [@osatoWTK](#)

We can promise you there will be more excitement and energy at the UTA College Park Center than the Death-star today. — [@phenhamm](#)

## LET'S SOCIALIZE

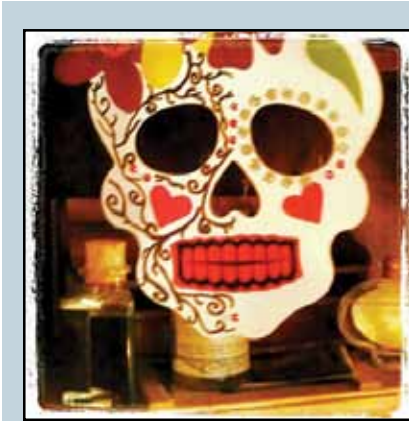
Check us out online and on your favorite social media sites. We welcome your comments, posts, tweets, and photographs.

**uta.edu/utamagazine**  
Enjoy an interactive experience and view Web-only content.

**facebook.com/utamagazine**  
"Like" us and get updates in your newsfeed.

**twitter.com/utarlington**  
Follow our tweets for the latest Maverick news.

**linkedin.com/in/utamagazine**  
Link in and tell us about your career achievements.



One of the 6 #calaveras I made for the @UTA\_LSH display at the UC. #UTArington #paper-source #diy #Diade — [@Silver-Blades1](#)

Looking forward to talking to @SheetalJPatel's class today over Skype at UT Arlington. — [@newmediaclay](#)

I definitely love #UTA and College Park. Thank you for having our very own frozen yogurt! — [@anamarie\\_08](#)

Fun way to spend a Friday night, watching UTA basketball with family. Thanks @ArtGarcia92. — [@aandro](#)

UT Arlington cited among schools offering lower-cost degrees — [@DallasBizNews](#)

My main college I'm trying to go to now is University of Texas at Arlington! — [@Bigshot2303](#)

I got to pie the president of one of the fraternities here at UTA! Hahahaha! — [@mayrenaisamar](#)

Shout out to Pie Five at UTA. It's the Subway of pizza. Go there. — [@ITweetHerWrong](#)

UT Arlington's own Hunter Pence with a sac fly and run scored in #WorldSeries play. — [@CJOffTheBench](#)





# Campus Buzz

UT ARLINGTON AND THE WORLD



## Urban Vibe

Multi-use College Park development ramps up college town zeal

The most ambitious construction project in UT Arlington history is now complete. On Nov. 19 the final phase of the College Park District, the mixed-use College Park facility, held its grand opening.

Practically a campus in itself, the College Park District creates a true college town environment in downtown Arlington where students, neighbors, and visitors can intermingle while enjoying entertainment, sports, and restaurants. Earlier this year, the area's centerpiece, College Park Center, opened to wide acclaim, along with its neighbor, The Green at College Park.

The last piece to the puzzle, College Park, features two state-of-the-art residential complexes, The Lofts at College Park and Vandergriff Hall, both of which opened in August. The facilities add about 600 students to the University's thriving residential population, which now numbers more than 5,000.

"The students are really excited to live here and are impressed by how nice it is," says operations management senior Chris Ehiogu, one of Vandergriff Hall's residential advisers. "When people come to games or special events, they'll get a glimpse of Vandergriff and The Lofts and see all the growth UTA is experiencing."

Students living in College Park are just a short walk from a number of restaurants located on the

ground floor of the building. These include Pie Five Pizza Co., which specializes in personal-size pizzas assembled and baked in front of the customer; Pho Xpress, a Vietnamese-style noodle house; Blaze's Sports Grill, a sports-themed eatery located across from the College Park Center entrance; GRIP Mediterranean Grill; Coolberry Yogurt; Digg's Taco Shop; and Smiling Moose Deli.

In addition, College Park houses an 1,800-vehicle parking facility for both the University and the city; a University police substation; and the 7,000-square-foot Dan Dipert University Welcome Center, named after the CEO of Dan Dipert Travel & Transportation Ltd., who contributed to its funding. The center serves as the new front door for UT Arlington, showcasing the University as a destination for prospective students, their families, and visitors. It is expected to attract more than 20,000 visitors a year.

"It's thrilling to see Arlington's first urban village take root on the UT Arlington campus," President James D. Spaniolo says. "Our students now have a destination where they can live, study, dine, and catch a show or a game. The College Park District is a beacon for everyone who wants to experience the excitement of a thriving college town."

*"Our students now have a destination where they can live, study, dine, and catch a show or a game."*

Anchored by College Park Center, the College Park District features a residence hall and apartments for 600 students, restaurants, parking structures, a welcome center, and a park.

CAMPUS

Robert Hayes, Actor and Communication Junior **Talk**



**You've had roles in a couple of major Hollywood films.**

My last movie was *American Reunion*. I played Bo, who is kind of an antagonist to the main characters. My big break, though, was *The Lucky One*. I played Victor, who is Zac Efron's character's best friend.

**What was it like when you found out you got a part in *The Lucky One*?**

I had just gotten back to my room in Arlington Hall after a workout at the MAC. My mom called and told me the news, and I just picked up my roommate and twirled him around the room for, like, a minute. Then I was yelling, running down the halls. I couldn't believe it.

**What sparked your interest in acting?**

When I was 8, I was involved in my church youth ministry. The youth director asked me to recite Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech for Black History Month. My mother, being the encouraging woman she is, convinced me I could actually memorize the entire thing rather than read it. And I did. It was interesting because I couldn't even see the audience, really. I got caught up in the words, in how to enunciate and deliver them well. And when I was done, people ran up to me, crying and emotional. It amazed me that I could provoke such a strong reaction in people.

**How remarkable to find your calling at such a young age.**

Absolutely. And honestly, I never looked into the future and pictured myself on the big screen. At that age, I could only think of being in local plays or something.

**Tell us about your first paid acting job.**

It was a G.I. Joe commercial. I was 12, and it's hard to explain what that felt like. I was even at a loss for words on the set. There are a whole bunch of lights on you, cameras, and people everywhere. I loved it.

**Most people in your shoes might have already packed their bags and headed to Hollywood. Why are you still at UT Arlington?**

Acting isn't a guarantee. Something could happen at any moment that would keep me from acting, but nobody can take my education away. With a degree in communication, I could still pursue any number of career opportunities that would allow me to do what I love best—connecting with people.

**Where does your belief in the value of a good education come from?**

It comes from my mom. I could never bring home less than an A. She was very strict, and like a typical kid, I didn't like it then. But now I see the purpose in it. She has taught me so much that not only matured me as an actor but as the young man I am today.

**What does the future hold?**

I see me finishing my degree. That's first and foremost. Then I see me going to Hollywood, pursuing my career full-throttle. I'm focused on my education right now. But once that's done and over with, I will be successful in acting. That's a promise.



# Crash Course

## A Bridge Too Far

**ARCH 4557** When Dallas opened the Santiago Calatrava–designed Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge earlier this year, it signaled the beginning of a new era for its predecessor, the Continental Avenue bridge. The 82-year-old structure will soon be converted into a pedestrian plaza, a transformation that architecture Professor Todd Hamilton decided to probe with his spring design studio, A Bridge Too Far. Hamilton believed the Continental’s redesign provided an opportunity to get his students thinking critically about the form, function, and future of bridges. Working in teams, the dozen seniors created new ideas and interpretations for the structure. “My thought was that it’s time for architecture students to revisit the bridge idea and decide if it has gone far enough or is there more to be seen and heard,” Hamilton explains. The students were encouraged to imagine such concepts as a bridge with urban housing and no cars and a “bridge of the forbidden” that cultivates a Las Vegas-like atmosphere.



## A \$12.8 billion impact on North Texas economy

Take UT Arlington out of North Texas and you’d have a big economic hole to fill.

An independent study by The Perryman Group concluded that the University has a \$12.8 billion annual economic impact on the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and fuels more than 122,000 jobs in the area. Statewide, the numbers grow to \$13.6 billion and almost 132,000 jobs.

UT Arlington’s impact, which includes spinoff research and alumni employed, reflects about 4 percent of the North Texas economy. Economic activity associated with the University leads to incremental tax receipts of about \$310 million a year to local governments and \$639 million to the state.

The report assessed data ranging from enrollment and ongoing operations to research activity and the workforce productivity of UT Arlington graduates, among other fac-

tors. Ray Perryman, president of The Perryman Group, says the study reinforces his earlier findings about the potential economic impact that additional Tier One institutions can have on Texas.

“When you look at the hard data, institutions like UT Arlington are major centers of employment and spinoff economic benefits,” he says. “They generate business activity and opportunities for their immediate region, and they are one of the state’s most important sources of talent and technology—critical components of a healthy economy.”

The University’s construction projects and campus improvements also generate a considerable economic stimulus. The report found that recent and ongoing construction has created a \$502.7 million economic impact and 5,861 person-years of employment in North Texas.



**TOP TEACHERS** History Associate Professor Elisabeth Cawthon is one of seven UT Arlington faculty members to receive the 2012 UT System Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award. The honor recognizes professors at UT System institutions who demonstrate extraordinary classroom performance and innovation at the undergraduate level. Other UT Arlington recipients are political science Professor Victoria Farrar-Myers, modern languages Associate Professor Christopher Conway, industrial and manufacturing systems engineering Associate Professor Jamie Rogers, curriculum and instruction Assistant Professor Kathleen Tice, English Senior Lecturer Jonathan Davis-Secord, and physics Lecturer Nilakshi Veerabathina.



## Fueling Discovery

Shimadzu agreement boosts research

Shimadzu Scientific Instruments and UT Arlington are partnering on a \$25.2 million endeavor aimed at transforming research capabilities throughout the UT System and Texas.

The UT System Board of Regents has allocated \$7.5 million from the Permanent University Fund toward formation of the Institute for Research Technologies at UT Arlington. The institute will comprise the existing Shimadzu Center for Advanced Analytical Chemistry, the new Center for Imaging, and the new Center for Environmental, Forensic, and Material Analysis.

An in-kind gift from Shimadzu last spring enabled the University to establish the Shimadzu Center for Advanced Analytical Chemistry. The center includes state-of-the-art chromatography, mass spectrometry, and spectroscopy equipment valued at more than \$6 million. The Institute for Research Technologies will be made possible by an additional \$18.5 million equipment purchase from Shimadzu.

“Shimadzu sees in UT Arlington an exciting energy, great vision, and the potential to transform scientific research and education,” says Shuzo Maruyama, president of Shimadzu Scientific Instruments in Columbia, Md.

The institute will offer students and faculty access to state-of-the-art Shimadzu equipment and software, some of which will be available in North America exclusively at UT Arlington.

The Center for Imaging will strengthen the University’s Genomic Core Facility by adding neurobiological and high-speed imaging systems and tomography platforms. It also will contain a cutting-edge brain-imaging device currently used only in Japan.

Researchers expect the Center for Environmental, Forensic, and Material Analysis to give scientists the ability to analyze particles from the nano scale to the macro scale.

## Awards

### MARIO ROMERO-ORTEGA

The Metroplex Technology Business Council has named bioengineering Associate Professor Mario Romero-Ortega a 2012 Tech Titan in the Technology Innovator category. He was honored for his work in developing better prosthetic arms that may allow injured military veterans and other amputees greater movement and restore their sense of touch.



### MAXINE ADEGBOLA

The National League for Nursing has selected Assistant Professor Maxine Adegbola as one of 32 Academy of Nursing Education Fellows for 2012. A College of Nursing faculty member since 2008, Dr. Adegbola’s areas of expertise include sickle cell disease, chronic pain, and genomics.

### ZOLTAN SCHELLY

Chemistry Professor Emeritus Zoltan Schelly has been awarded the 2012 Kerr Medal for his contributions to the field of electro-optics. Dr. Schelly joined the UT Arlington faculty in 1977 and became director of the University’s Center for Colloidal and Interfacial Dynamics in 1982.

### JONATHAN CAMPBELL

Biology Professor Jonathan Campbell has received the 2012 Henry S. Fitch Award for Excellence in Herpetology, a national honor given by the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Dr. Campbell is chair of the Biology Department and director of UT Arlington’s Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center.



## Grants

### CHENG LUO

Mechanical and aerospace engineering Professor Cheng Luo envisions a day when a cellphone can be folded like a wallet and a laptop rolled up and stored. Dr. Luo has received a National Science Foundation grant to develop a process called micropunching lithography to create lightweight, low-cost, and flexible polymer-based devices.



### CARL GRODACH

Urban planner Carl Grodach is the only urbanist in the nation to receive a research grant from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2012. An associate professor in the School of Urban and Public Affairs, Dr. Grodach will examine 30 U.S. cities of varying sizes and their correlation to the arts.

### CHRISTOPH CSALLNER

The National Science Foundation has awarded a grant to a computer science and engineering team to rid computers of software flaws. Under the leadership of Assistant Professor Christoph Csallner, the researchers will explore techniques that check for bugs in computer programs that interact with large databases.

### ANDREAS STAVRIDIS

Civil engineering Assistant Professor Andreas Stavridis has received a National Science Foundation grant to develop numerical simulation tools to predict the performance and strength of buildings in earthquakes. The research could lead to stricter building codes.

## New Research Institute brings ideas to reality

How can we better care for our aging population? Where is the technology to reduce dependence on nonrenewable resources? When will we discover effective treatments for devastating diseases?

These are just some of the questions that the scientists, engineers, and industry partners of the newly established UT Arlington Research Institute are working to answer. The institute aims to become a global leader in the research and development of advanced technology to help humanity.

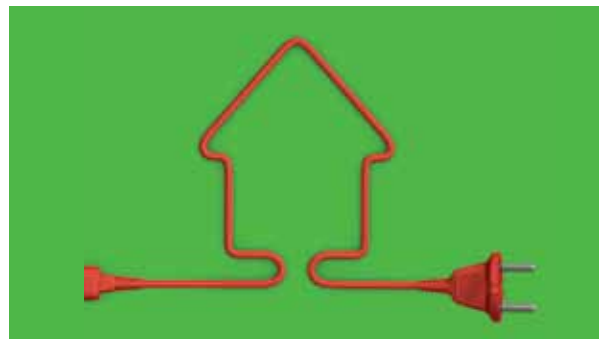
Under the direction of retired Army Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, the institute focuses on strengthening links between University research and the commercialization of technology. Goals include providing affordable solutions to complex problems for areas most in demand by potential private and public sector partners, such as advanced manufactur-

ing, applied robotics, medical technologies, energy, water, and the environment.

"We are working to become the hub for commercialization of research and university-industry alliance in the North Texas region and beyond," Lynch says. "We will be able to help businesses adapt and refine cutting-edge technology for commercial applications."

To facilitate its goal of producing \$100 million annually in research expenditures, the UT Arlington Research Institute plans to significantly increase its support staff.

"Our University is committed to strengthening its role as an engine that helps drive the North Texas economy," President James D. Spaniolo says. "The Research Institute will become a focal point for leveraging technology and innovation developed in our labs and classrooms to help our business partners achieve their goals."



**POWER OVER POWER** Right now, energy providers control the Web-based smart meter applications that help homeowners monitor and regulate energy consumption. But with a pervasive computing system developed by computer science and engineering Professor Sajal Das and doctoral student Giacomo Ghidini, consumers would have the power. Funded by a National Science Foundation Innovation Corps grant, the sensor and monitoring system records data that affects resource consumption, such as how many people are in a room, whether they're engaged in physical activity, and how many appliances or lights are on. The data is analyzed to determine how much energy is needed to cool or heat a home. Homeowners could access information about optimal thermostat settings, for example, via a smartphone and Web-based application.



## Kid Friendly

Lifelike robot aids autistic children

A 2-foot-tall robot named Zeno could offer hope for children with autism.

UT Arlington researchers have teamed with colleagues at the UNT Health Science Center, the Dallas Autism Treatment Center, Texas Instruments, and Hanson Robotics in Plano to rework Zeno and other lifelike robots to improve early detection of the developmental disorder.

Led by electrical engineering Associate Professor Dan Popa, researchers believe Zeno can help diagnose autism in infants and toddlers before traditional assessments that rely on speech and social interactions.

The goal is to create a human-robot interaction for early diagnosis and treatment of children with autism spectrum disorders. The work is funded in part by a grant from the Texas Medical Research Collaborative. Researchers aim to develop a robot that not only interacts with autistic children but measures a child's movement and indicates what therapies work best.

"It's more than just seeing how autistic children react when interacting with the robot," says Dr. Popa, director of the Next Generation Systems group at the UT Arlington Research Institute. "Eventually, we want to customize the robot to better fit individual needs of children with autism."

Pamela Rainville learned of the research from Dallas Autism Treatment Center officials. It sounded like something her 7-year-old son, Anthony, would enjoy and benefit from.

"It's always good for Anthony to be put in different situations, things outside his normal routine," Rainville says. "Any time he can be around other people, it's a good learning and growing experience for him."

## Chemistry and Biochemistry Faculty

### DANIEL ARMSTRONG

With more than 500 publications, 15 patents, and numerous national and international chemistry awards, chemistry and biochemistry Professor Daniel Armstrong long ago proved his strength as a scientist. But it was his recent examination of a popular and controversial workout booster called DMAA that put his name in the mainstream media last summer. DMAA is a stimulant known to narrow blood vessels and arteries, and some worry that its use could lead to injury or even death. Dr. Armstrong, who holds the Robert A. Welch Chair in Chemistry, investigated whether DMAA—known as 1,3-dimethylamylamine—in numerous supplements came from natural or synthetic sources. His team found that it's unlikely the DMAA in supplements derives from the geranium plant or its extracted oil, as companies sometimes claim. The study was featured in *The Wall Street Journal* business section, *Prevention* magazine, and on several websites. Armstrong believes the research could impact how the Food and Drug Administration regulates DMAA.





## Press

### YA'KE SMITH

CNN Headline News interviewed filmmaker Ya'Ke Smith about *Wolf*, a film he wrote and directed about child sex abuse in the church. Smith is the Morgan Woodward Distinguished Professor in the Department of Art and Art History.



### RAMON LOPEZ

Physics Professor Ramon Lopez was featured in a *New York Times* article about a common set of science curriculum standards being developed for U.S. schools. Dr. Lopez, who is on the committee writing the standards, says it's not likely they will make their way into Texas classrooms soon.

### DORA MUSIELAK

A *Los Angeles Times* story about an experimental aircraft attempting to fly at Mach 6 speed included comments from aerospace engineering Adjunct Professor Dora Musielak. Experts say that harnessing technology capable of sustaining hypersonic speeds is crucial to creating the next generation of missiles, military aircraft, and spacecraft.

### JASON SHELTON

Sociology Assistant Professor Jason Shelton was featured in a *USA Today* article that examined the impact of *The Jeffersons* in the wake of the death of actor Sherman Hemsley, who played George Jefferson on the 1970s sitcom. Dr. Shelton said the show was the first post-civil rights movement comedy on a major network to deal with African-American race issues.

## Testing center helping reshape Texas roads

Highways may soon be a lot more recyclable. Civil engineering Associate Professor Stefan Romanoschi is working with the Texas Department of Transportation to determine the durability of recycled materials for use in road construction.

Dr. Romanoschi will focus on the strengths and weaknesses of asphalt mixes containing recycled asphalt pavement and roof shingles. While TxDOT currently permits the use of both materials, there is little proof that they yield a better or longer-lasting road.

In preparation for the project, Romanoschi built an accelerated pavement testing machine that will be housed in the University's new pavement testing center in Fort Worth. The portable machine, which resembles a truck trailer car with an enclosed axle and wheels, can run a full-sized truck axle back and forth

over a pavement test section every six seconds. It allows researchers to simulate road stress and measure durability more efficiently than with current methods.

"TxDOT is constantly searching for ways to improve or lengthen roadway life," Romanoschi says. "Seeing how the recycled asphalt performs and how long it lasts could help them change the way the agency maintains roads."

The pavement testing center is the first of its kind in Texas and likely will attract new industry partners for University-led research, says College of Engineering Dean Jean-Pierre Bardet.

"We are seeing much more private sector involvement in highway construction," he says. "This center is the perfect way for businesses to determine which road materials work best and how long those materials will last."



## Breathing Easier

Researchers' patented device battles SIDS

When Hung Cao saw his baby boy behind the big glass window at the hospital, the UT Arlington graduate student thought, "How can I be sure he's fine?"

From that moment several years ago, a device was born that could save babies' lives through improved and rapid detection of breathing problems, including sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS).

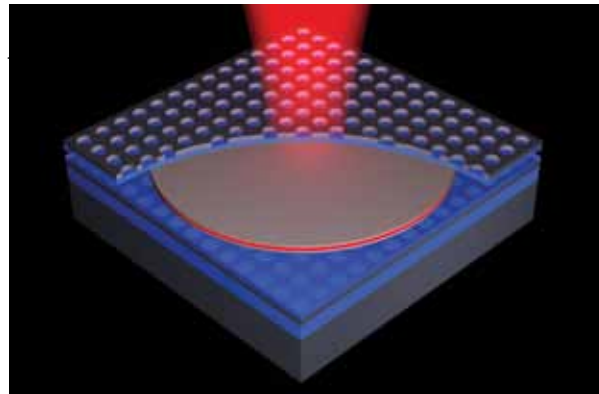
Cao, now a newly minted doctoral graduate, teamed with electrical engineering Professor J.-C. Chiao and Heather Beardsley, a research engineer at TMAC, to develop a wireless sensor system that can detect carbon dioxide exhaled by babies as they sleep. More importantly, the sensors know—quickly enough for intervention—when infants are not expelling carbon dioxide.

"This has the chance to save lives," says Dr. Chiao, who holds the Janet and Mike Greene and Jenkins Garrett professorships in the College of Engineering. "Our system is more accurate than current systems and should reduce false alarms that desensitize parents or caregivers."

The researchers have received a patent for the device, which can attach to a baby's crib or car seat.

The Texas Medical Research Collaborative recently awarded the research team a grant to develop and test a model, design a commercially viable carbon dioxide-based monitoring system, and manufacture a prototype. TxMRC is a consortium of UT Arlington, UT Dallas, the UNT Health Science Center, Texas Instruments, and the Texas Health Research & Education Institute. It funds medical technology projects to address critical health care issues.

TMAC is administering the projects on behalf of the consortium. UT Arlington is partnering with UNTHSC on the SIDS technology project.



**SMALL SIZE, BIG SPEED** Something smaller than the width of a human hair could make computers faster and more energy efficient, thanks to a team of electrical engineers from UT Arlington and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Led by professors Weidong Zhou of UT Arlington and Zhenqiang Ma in Wisconsin, the researchers have devised a 2-micrometer-tall laser for on-chip optical connections. The laser has a vastly lower profile than current versions, which could make it cheaper and easier for manufacturers to integrate high-speed optical data connections into the microprocessors powering the next generation of computers. The research findings, published in *Nature Photonics* in July, have received worldwide attention.



Researchers Luca Maddalena and Luca Massa can only speculate about what a large hypersonic aircraft might look like. Their expertise lies not in the design of the futuristic vehicle, but in how to propel it at 3,500 mph. The aerospace engineering assistant professors have received a three-year NASA National Research Award to study novel injector designs to support combustion at hypersonic speeds. The work aims to reduce air travel times and make space access affordable. Drs. Maddalena and Massa are the only university researchers in the nation to garner the award. "This study on the effectiveness of new fuel injection schemes might lead to enabling affordable access to space for large hypersonic vehicles," Maddalena says. Hypersonic speed reaches

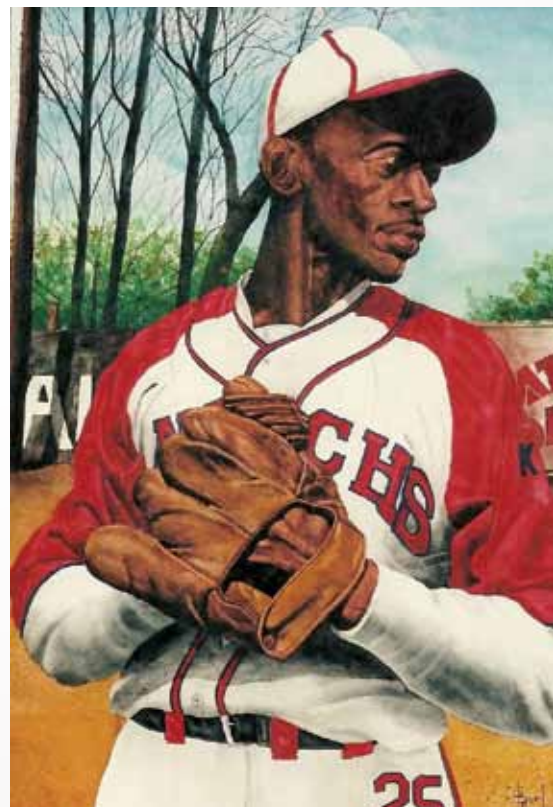
Mach 5, or about 3,500 miles per hour, and above. Hypersonic engines pull oxygen from the surrounding air whereas rocket propulsion engines carry their oxygen source on board, which limits an aircraft's payload. A commercial airliner travels between 500 and 600 mph, but hypersonic vehicles could shorten a trans-Pacific flight by six to eight hours. Maddalena and Massa say that fuel and oxygen at typical speeds inside a hypersonic engine don't have time to effectively mix and ignite, so they believe the key to achieving ignition and combustion is a proper design of the injectors. They're investigating new configurations in collaboration with NASA's Hypersonic Airbreathing Propulsion Branch at Langley Research Center in Virginia.



# Gallery African-American History

**BURL WASHINGTON '77** Little-known aspects of U.S. history shape much of painter Burl Washington's nationally recognized artwork. With a keen eye for detail, the UT Arlington alumnus and Fort Worth resident captures bygone events that made America great but often are omitted from history books. "When I was growing up, history was boring. Now it's just a gold mine," he says. "The more you dig, the more you find. It's inspiring." Washington, who works primarily with watercolor and watercolor board, often focuses on buffalo soldiers, African-American cowboys, and women of the West. With work on display internationally and with featured exhibits at the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville, Ga., and the National Buffalo Soldiers Museum in Houston, he is educating people with his artistic vision of history. "There's just a lot of our history that people don't know about, and I want to bring it to their attention. That's the whole thing. I want people to walk away from my art and be as inspired as I was when I made it."

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP**  
*"Bass Reeves, Behold a Pale Horse"*  
*"Pea Ball Champ"*  
*"Planting of Colors"*



## Cason named vice president for research



Carolyn Cason is committed to increasing UT Arlington's cross-disciplinary approach to research and to ensuring that the University's discoveries benefit society.

In her new role as vice president for research, Dr. Cason oversees UT Arlington's growing research enterprise and leads divisions that manage technology development, intellectual property, and the University's centers of research excellence.

A former associate dean in the College of Nursing, she had served as interim vice president for research since November 2011. She succeeds Ronald Elsenbaumer, who was named provost and vice president for academic affairs last fall.

"With our focus on biomedical technologies, Dr. Cason is ideally suited to lead the charge toward expanding our research influence," Dr. Elsenbaumer says. "She excels at building relationships and will further our efforts to organize faculty and student research teams to tackle the most pressing societal concerns."

Cason holds a master's degree in nursing from the UT System School of Nursing and a doctoral degree in educational psychology from UT Austin. She joined the UT Arlington College of Nursing in 1997 and is a co-founder and former administrator of the University's Smart Hospital, the Smart Care program, and the Genomics Translational Research Laboratory.

Her recent research has focused on diversity in the health care workforce and simulation learning environments in nursing education.

"Our goal," she says, "remains to become recognized as a university of research excellence and to compete with other top national institutions for public and private support."



**MELTING POT** *U.S. News & World Report* ranks UT Arlington seventh nationally for providing a racially and ethnically diverse campus. The magazine evaluated undergraduate enrollment based on proportion of minority students and the overall mix of ethnic groups. Schools were assigned an index from 0.0 to 1.0, with 1.0 the most diverse. UT Arlington's index was 0.69. In fall 2012 about 54 percent of the University's undergraduates identified themselves as African-American, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian/Alaska native, Pacific Islander/native Hawaiian, or multiracial.



## Mystery Solved?

Physicists aid likely discovery of Higgs

Summer 2012 will go down as a monumental time for physicists worldwide, including members of UT Arlington's Center of Excellence for High Energy Physics. Scientists at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN in Switzerland announced the discovery of a new particle in July and believe there's a good chance it's the Higgs boson, or "God particle," they've been seeking.

"Without the Higgs, how particles get mass was an unsolved mystery in science. I would classify this as one of the biggest discoveries in physics during the past 30 years," says Kaushik De, a physics professor and coordinator of the ATLAS group at UT Arlington. ATLAS is one of the experiments at the Large Hadron Collider.

But last summer's news doesn't mean the potential for scientific breakthroughs is fading. Scientists still need confirmation that the new particle is the Higgs.

UT Arlington professors and students will continue to participate in ATLAS, both through on-site work in Geneva and in the United States with the massive ATLAS Southwest Tier 2 Center for grid computing on campus. Faculty and students also are designing detectors for the International Linear Collider, a 31-kilometer electron-positron collider.

In October UT Arlington hosted the International Workshop on Future Linear Colliders. Organized by physics professors Andrew White and Jaehoon Yu, the conference drew hundreds of scientists to campus and featured a lecture by Nobel Prize-winning physicist Steven Weinberg of UT Austin.

"The Higgs announcement allows us to take the linear collider idea to the next level," Dr. Yu says. "With the ability to collide beams of particles 14,000 times every second at energies as high as 500 GeV (gigaelectronvolts), the linear collider could give us a host of new information about this new particle and help address other mysteries like dark matter and dark energy."

## Numbers

# 572,715

Atop the Park North and Park Central parking structures in the College Park District sit 1,638 photovoltaic panels. Through October, the panels had generated 572,715-kilo-watt hours of electricity since they began operating Sept. 27, 2011.

# 2,000

More than 2,000 Chinese students have graduated from the Asia Executive MBA program offered through the College of Business. The program is one of the largest of all foreign universities operating in China.

# 400,000

College Park Center is expected to draw up to 400,000 patrons in its first year of operation. Since opening in February, the 7,000-seat events venue has hosted UT Arlington volleyball and basketball games, concerts, and commencement exercises, as well as major sporting, cultural, and community events.

# 9,052

UT Arlington conferred a record 9,052 degrees in 2011-12. The breakdown: 5,768 undergraduate, 3,120 master's, 164 doctoral. The total represents an 18.4 percent increase over the 7,647 degrees awarded the previous year.

# 71,392,047

The University's total research expenditures for 2011-12 reached nearly \$71.4 million, an all-time high and more than triple the amount of 10 years ago. Fueling the rise is expertise in bioengineering, medical diagnostics, micro-manufacturing, national defense, and information technologies.



## Service

### UTA VOLUNTEERS

Tutoring children at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Arlington and promoting voting awareness were among the projects undertaken by UTA Volunteers this fall. The student group plans, promotes, and participates in volunteer and service programs that benefit the University and surrounding communities. Other annual activities include The Big Event, Mavericks on a Mission, the Hunger Banquet, and One Night Without a Home.



### MILITARY MUSTER

Injured service veterans learned about adapted sports and recreation at the Military Muster in August at UT Arlington. The event was co-hosted by the Movin' Mavs wheelchair basketball team, U.S. Paralympics, Paralympic Sport Arlington, and Wounded Warriors as an effort to address the mental, physical, and academic needs of military veterans making the transition to college life. Other University initiatives include a workshop series to help student veterans succeed in the classroom.

### COLLABORATIVE CARE

Improving holistic care for patients is the goal of a federal grant awarded to the College of Nursing. Using funding from the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration, the college will work with the School of Social Work to improve connections between nurses and social workers before they meet in the health care workplace.



## Poignant Voices

Conservationist Jeff Corwin highlights Maverick Speakers Series this spring

The fifth season of UT Arlington's marquee lectures, the Maverick Speakers Series, continues in the spring with astronaut Mark Kelly and the Animal Planet's Jeff Corwin.

Kelly, a retired Navy captain and best-selling author, speaks Feb. 19, 2013, in Texas Hall on "Endeavoring to Build a Better America." Tickets will be available Jan. 22. Kelly flew his first of four missions in 2001 aboard the space shuttle Endeavour, which he commanded on its final flight in May 2011.

He became the center of international attention after the 2011 assassination attempt on his wife, former Arizona Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. Kelly's identical twin brother is also an astronaut, and they are the only twins and only siblings to have both traveled in space.

Corwin, a TV host and nature conservationist, closes the season with "100 Heartbeats: A Global Movement" March 27 at College Park Center. Tickets will be available Feb. 28. Best known as the host of the Animal Planet show *The Jeff Corwin Experience*, he has worked to protect endangered species and ecosystems worldwide for nearly three decades.

For his conservation efforts, Corwin was named ambassador of climate change and endangered species on behalf of Defenders of Wildlife, a prominent conservation organization. His book *100 Heartbeats: The Race to Save Earth's Most Endangered Species* was published in 2010.

The 2012-13 Maverick Speakers Series kicked off in September with a lecture by legendary sportswriter and novelist Frank Deford. Other fall speakers were ABC News political commentator Cokie Roberts and comedian Seth Meyers (see story at right).

Free general admission tickets are available at [utatickets.com](http://utatickets.com). Visit [uta.edu/maverickspeakers](http://uta.edu/maverickspeakers) to watch video highlights of past speakers.

## New Libraries dean brings focus on service

Rebecca Bichel probably won't hunt you down if your books are overdue, but the new dean of the UT Arlington Libraries does plan to have a big impact at the University.

Formerly a Florida State University senior library administrator, Bichel brings an extensive record of library experience and leadership. She joined the University to capitalize on the opportunities that academic libraries like UT Arlington's provide for scholarly and community engagement.

"I am delighted to join the University," she says. "I am so impressed with UT Arlington's ambitious climb to Tier One status, and I look forward to supporting that goal by working with colleagues to shape a world-class library system serving students, faculty, and the North Texas community."

At Florida State, Bichel oversaw the development of a Learning Commons and Scholars Commons, with specific



facilities and staffing to support undergraduate and graduate students and faculty scholarship. She is credited with updating services, improving customer service, and developing services for patrons with disabilities.

As dean, Bichel leads a staff of about 115 employees and manages a collection of more than 1.2 million print volumes, 275,000 electronic volumes, and 72,000 serial titles. She also directs UT Arlington's Special Collections, including its renowned cartography holdings and extensive archive of historic photos, manuscripts, and other materials.



**COLLEGE PARK COMEDY** For one night in November, College Park Center transformed into an oversized comedy club. As part of the Maverick Speakers Series, *Saturday Night Live* star Seth Meyers entertained a sold-out crowd with an hour-long stand-up routine. "I hope Texas doesn't secede from the union," he joked. "I wouldn't want to look back on *Friday Night Lights* as a foreign film." Meyers, who is in his sixth season as head writer and 11th as a cast member for *SNL*, also answered about a dozen questions from the audience. His appearance capped off Homecoming week and the dedication of the College Park District, which took place earlier that evening.

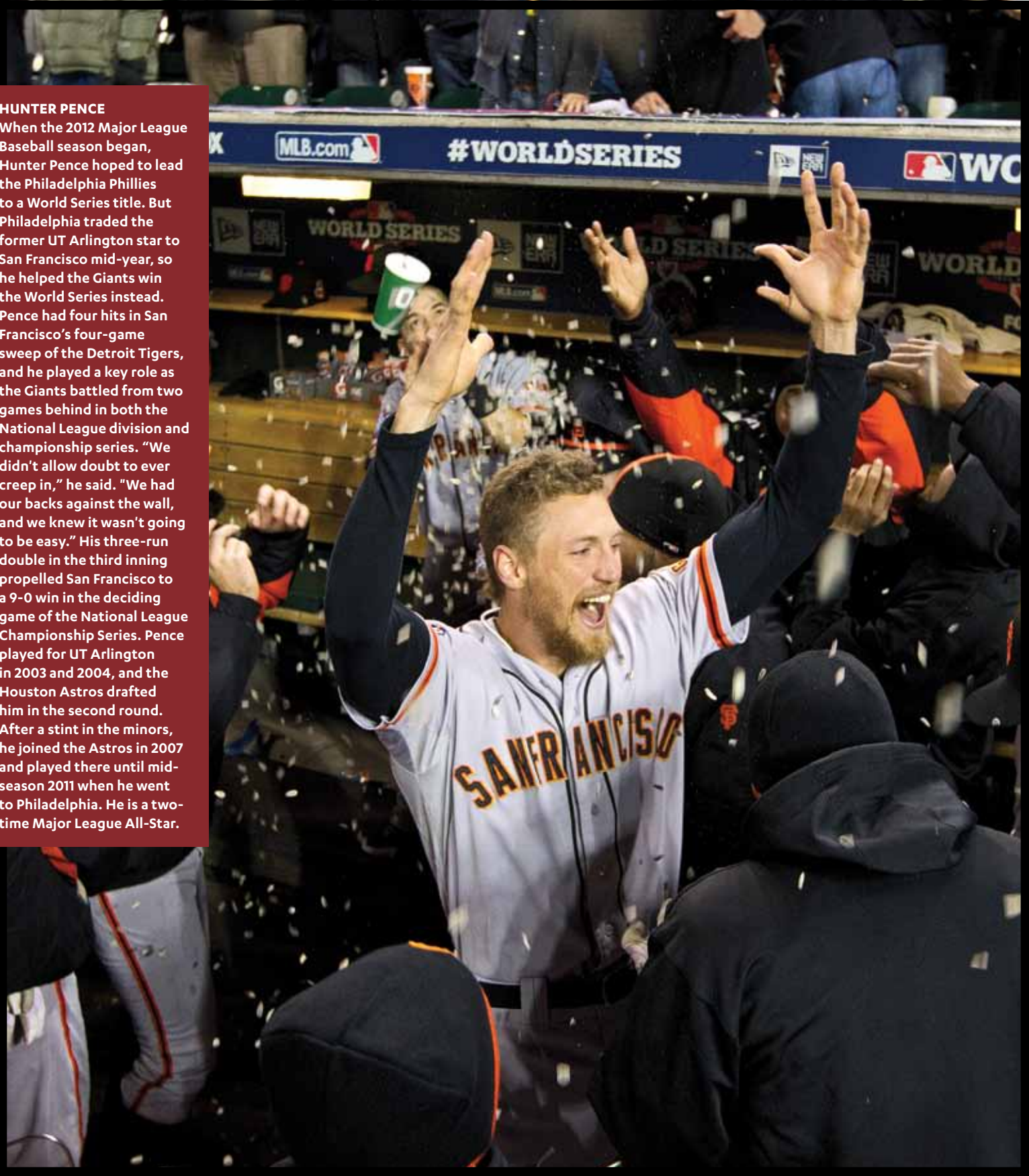
## Heroes for Hope Community



**HEROIC EFFORTS** A squad of superheroes charges into a children's hospital. Their steps are purposeful and determined, their smiles huge and warm. They're not here to do battle, but to bolster others for battle. For kids fighting serious illnesses from a hospital bed, a visit from a hero can make all the difference. Beta Theta Pi's Heroes for Hope program devotes time, energy, and money to make sure kids who need a morale boost get one. Fraternity members and friends dress as Superman, Spider Man, Batman, Wonder Woman, and an array of other characters and distribute toys and comics at area children's hospitals. During spring break, the group brings joy to kids from Texas to Louisiana. "It's beyond rewarding," says senior Chris Dinh, director of the program. "The kids at the hospitals and charity events are always so excited to see their favorite superheroes."



# Sports Baseball



**HUNTER PENCE**  
When the 2012 Major League Baseball season began, Hunter Pence hoped to lead the Philadelphia Phillies to a World Series title. But Philadelphia traded the former UT Arlington star to San Francisco mid-year, so he helped the Giants win the World Series instead. Pence had four hits in San Francisco’s four-game sweep of the Detroit Tigers, and he played a key role as the Giants battled from two games behind in both the National League division and championship series. “We didn’t allow doubt to ever creep in,” he said. “We had our backs against the wall, and we knew it wasn’t going to be easy.” His three-run double in the third inning propelled San Francisco to a 9-0 win in the deciding game of the National League Championship Series. Pence played for UT Arlington in 2003 and 2004, and the Houston Astros drafted him in the second round. After a stint in the minors, he joined the Astros in 2007 and played there until mid-season 2011 when he went to Philadelphia. He is a two-time Major League All-Star.

# Champs

**DERRICK OBASOHAN**  
Former basketball star Derrick Obasohan’s dream of playing in the Olympics came true last summer in London. The 6-foot-6 guard started every game and averaged 10 points as a member of the Nigerian team, which finished 1-4. Nigeria was in the same group as the Olympic champion United States squad with NBA superstars LeBron James, Kevin Durant, and Kobe Bryant. Obasohan will play professionally in China this year.



**CROSS COUNTRY**  
The men’s cross country team took four of the top 10 spots to win UT Arlington’s first Western Athletic Conference championship in any sport. Virgilio Martinez, above, placed fifth and was named WAC Freshman of the Year. Craig Lautenslager, Emil Blomberg, and Ryan Tilotta finished seventh, eighth, and ninth, respectively. Hannah Nilsson placed 12th as the women’s team finished fifth in the meet held in October in Ruston, La. John Sauerhage was named WAC Coach of the Year.

**JARED CONNAUGHTON**  
Former sprinter Jared Connaughton competed for Canada at the 2012 Summer Olympics. He advanced to the semifinals of the 200-meter dash and ran the third leg of the 4x100-meter relay. The Canadians thought they had earned a bronze medal in the relay but were disqualified because Connaughton stepped out of his lane. He earned widespread media praise for how he handled the disappointment.

# Building on Success

Under the guidance of coach Scott Cross, Mavericks seek to continue winning ways

Leading the Mavericks to a record 24 wins and a berth in the National Invitation Tournament last year has given men’s basketball coach Scott Cross a taste for more. “I think our success helps give our kids confidence that we can win a championship,” he says. “Our coaching staff is aware that players tend to relax after a successful year, so we’ve been even more intense and demanding on our guys.”

Returning starters Kevin Butler and Jordan Reves combined for nearly 20 points a game last season and are providing senior leadership. Yahoo! Sports selected the 6-foot-10 Reves as the Best Defender in the Western Athletic Conference heading into the 2012-13 season. Junior Shaquille White-Miller, who started 31 games at point guard, is also back.

The Mavericks brought in six transfers and a pair of freshmen to counter the loss of leading scorers LaMarcus Reed and Bo Ingram. Top newcomers include 6-2 guard Jamel Outler, a transfer from Texas Tech, and 6-5 forwards Greg Gainey from South Plains College and Vince Dillard from Colby (Kan.) Community College. “Jamel Outler should be a big-time scorer and sharp-shooter for us,” Cross says. “He should help offset the scoring and shooting that we lost from last season.”

UT Arlington moves to the WAC this year, and pre-season polls put the defending Southland Conference champions in the middle of the pack. “The competition will be much tougher in the WAC,” Cross says. “We know we’ll have to step it up and be ready to play every night.”

The WAC sent four teams to the postseason last year. New Mexico State won the conference tournament and represented the league in the NCAA Tournament. Utah



State and Idaho went to the College Insider Tournament, and regular-season champ Nevada, now in the Mountain West, received an NIT bid.

Louisiana Tech and San Jose State are the other WAC holdovers. They are joined by UT San Antonio, Texas State, Denver, and Seattle. The Mavericks begin WAC play Dec. 29 against New Mexico State at College Park Center and will compete in the Sears Bracket Busters event in February for the second consecutive year. The WAC Tournament is March 12-16 in Las Vegas.

# Women’s team ready for challenge

Experience abounds for the women’s basketball team as the Mavericks lost only one senior from last year’s squad.

Coach Samantha Morrow anticipates big improvements after suffering through a 7-21 campaign in 2011-12. “We want to put a great product out there and have our fans come watch us play. We’re going to be a different team this year.”

Eleven players returned. Only leading scorer Bianca Sauls is gone from a team that finished 5-11 in the Southland Conference. Guards Sabreena DeNure and Kiara Parker, who started 43 games between them last season, are the only seniors. Junior forward Briana



**Briana Walker**  
led the team in rebounding last season.

Walker led the team with 5.8 rebounds per game.

The Mavericks added three junior college transfers and three freshmen. Aron Garcia, a 6-1 forward from Hill College, and Laila Suleiman, a 5-3 guard from Redlands (Okla.) Community College, are two of the top newcomers.

“Our new players bring more intensity and more competition to the court,” Morrow says. “They’re challenging our returnees for playing time.”


UT Arlington joins the Western Athletic Conference this season. After a rugged nonconference slate—George Washington, Michigan State, Oral Roberts, Memphis, Okla-

homa State—the Mavericks open WAC play Dec. 29 at New Mexico State. The first home conference game is Jan. 10 against UT San Antonio at College Park Center.

“The WAC is a much more challenging conference, no doubt,” Morrow says. “The travel will be different for us, but they have to travel here, too. I believe we are committed to standing up to the challenge.”

The WAC tournament is March 12-16 in Las Vegas. All conference teams participate, with the top six seeds receiving a first-round bye. The winner advances to the NCAA Tournament.





# Cultivating Genius

**Twelve-year-old Ewin Tang is the latest in a line of wunderkinds to begin their UT Arlington careers while other students their age are still in elementary school or junior high. History suggests he'll continue to amaze.** BY SHERRY W. NEAVES

Ewin Tang's classmates tend to overlook the slight, bespectacled youth sitting in the front row until he answers the professor's queries—all correctly. Then they ask their own questions. "Who is this guy?" "Why is he here?" And always, "How old is he?" At 12, Ewin, the son of bioengineering Professor Liping Tang, is the youngest student on campus and among the youngest in UT Arlington history. Since taking his first college courses at age 10, he has completed 20 hours, including classes in calculus and differential equations, all with a 4.0 GPA.

"Other students just seem kind of amazed," he says. "They ask about my age, what I'm majoring in. Some of them actually take pictures of me. They're pretty cool with it, though; they really don't bother me a lot." Although the age gap usually prevents Ewin from forming close friendships with his classmates, many are eager to work with him once they recognize his abilities.

Ewin's college career began after he completed every math course available in his K-12 private school. His intellect had already prompted school officials to move him from third to seventh grade, but it was soon apparent that he needed more. After he scored 1920 on the SAT at age 10, his parents and school officials explored college enrollment.

Dr. Tang acknowledges that having an immensely bright child can be challenging. "There

**WHIZ KID**  
When not outshining classmates in his UT Arlington math courses, 12-year-old Ewin Tang works in his father's nanotechnology lab.







#### FAST STARTERS

Andi Baritchi, above, earned bachelor's and master's degrees at age 18. Now 31, he's one of the nation's foremost cybersecurity experts. Jocelyn Zee, 26, is a physician in Fort Worth. She graduated with a microbiology degree at 17.



are no books, no guidance on exactly what to do. This (college for someone so young) is a totally gray area.”

The Tangs met with then-Provost Donald Bobbitt and later with Senior Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies Michael Moore. Ewin's first classes, an online course in history and an on-campus calculus class, were tests he passed easily.

“I think it makes a difference that I'm here,” Dr. Tang says. “Ewin has a place to go and a built-in support system.”

In addition to his University coursework, Ewin works part time in his dad's nanotechnology laboratory. He is developing a probe to detect bacterial infection, something that would greatly assist in diagnosing diseases. His career plans involve science or engineering, but he hasn't yet settled on a specialty.

“Our main concern when we began this was his social life,” says Dr. Tang, who notes that Ewin attends a private high school with students his own age for some courses and activities. “Academically he is fine, but we want him to stay in school and stay with kids his own age, to have friends his own age. So far it's working out pretty well. Thanks to Dr. Moore, he's having a very good experience.”

Ewin spends part of Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the private school, where he takes classes and participates in soccer, basketball, cross country, and the Science Olympiad. He also attends UT Arlington on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and does research in his father's lab Tuesday and Thursday. As if that's not enough, he works with a private tutor, studies Chinese, and plays the piano and erhu, a traditional Chinese instrument akin to a violin.

While it might seem that Ewin's case is unique, Moore and his predecessors in the Provost's Office have seen others. Because such students don't meet traditional enrollment requirements, they are evaluated case by case.

“Typically, there is a detailed conversation with the parents about the challenges and rigors of college work as well as a thorough review of the student's academic history,” Moore explains. “Obviously, we are looking for exceptional young men and women who show the ability to excel in the classroom as well as handle the collegiate environment.”

Over the past two decades, several of these exceptionally young and brilliant students have used UT Arlington as a springboard to success.

#### SAFE AND SECURE

Andi Baritchi began his UT Arlington career at age 15. A math and science genius like Ewin, he completed everything his high school had to offer by ninth grade. College was the obvious next step, and soon Andi and his parents were meeting with then-Provost (and current president of Prairie View A&M University) George Wright.

“He's in large part responsible for where I am today,” Baritchi says of Dr. Wright. “He was willing to take a chance on me.”

After graduating three years later with both bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science and engineering, Baritchi initially struggled to find his place.

“I fell into security because I'm naturally very cu-

rious,” he says. “I have to push all the buttons and understand how things work.”

His curiosity and desire to break things didn't mesh with the corporate world. He worked as a software engineer and a security engineer, but quickly became bored.

In 2007 he joined IBM as a senior security consultant, helping major corporations around the world keep hackers at bay. He thrived in consulting and soon was promoted to manage IBM's payment security consultancy. Today, Baritchi is a principal at Verizon Enterprise Solutions, where he manages and delivers security consulting engagements globally.

As the digital world continues its almost instantaneous 24-7 evolution, those who protect information must be at the cutting edge. Baritchi prides himself on staying abreast of the latest threats and vulnerabilities to protect his clients. He says the only way to maintain your security is to periodically engage in penetration testing, the practice of simulating an attack. It may be fun, but it's not the end-game.

“Clients hire us not just for our hacking skills but for our broad security expertise. They want a partner who will show them where they've gone wrong and help them bolster their defenses.”

Baritchi says information systems are vulnerable primarily for two reasons. First, they are overly complex. Second, programmers often have a “so long as it works” attitude. Features and deadlines are the top priority while security is treated as an afterthought rather than being properly ingrained at the design stage.

Then there's the human element. People are just too trusting.

“Don't give out your passwords or sensitive information to someone who reaches out to you,” he warns. “You never know who's on the other end.” This doesn't mean you should be afraid to shop online or use a credit card. “Just be careful. Only do business with reputable vendors.”

When he's not protecting clients from security breaches, Baritchi spends his time traveling, road racing, and helping homeless dogs.

#### A HIGHER CALLING

Courtney Pace Lyons, who also came to the University at age 15, deals with a different kind of security. She's an ordained minister, pursuing a doctoral degree at Baylor University.

Early college entrance is a tradition in the Pace family. Courtney's mother, Janyce Johnson Pace, started classes here at age 16, and her dad was in college at age 17. Courtney graduated from UT Arlington in 2004 at age 19 with a computer science and engineering degree.

“I liked the math side of computer science and engineering, but not the programming. Through my involvement with the Baptist Student Ministry at UTA, I came to understand the calling to ministry I first felt as a teenager. Now I realize I am called to teach, to help students learn to think critically and ask questions. I want to equip ministers to understand and interact with the world in new ways.”

Since her UT Arlington days, Lyons has served as a youth pastor and hospice chaplain, married and had a son, and worked with her husband to start a church

in Bellmead, a small community near Waco. Her doctoral studies focus on 20th-century African-American religious history, especially the civil rights movement, and the history of women in the church.

“I feel called to preach,” she says. “I enjoy preaching, and that's what drew me in to studying the social justice movements of the 20th century.”

This fall Lyons taught Introduction to Christian Heritage at Baylor, speaking to classrooms filled with young students who sometimes remind her of those long-ago days at UT Arlington. She remembers her undergraduate career fondly but laughs a bit at how much she still had to learn.

#### DOCTOR'S ORDERS

Learning comes easily for Jocelyn Zee, a third UT Arlington prodigy turned successful professional. After enrolling at age 13, she graduated in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in microbiology and today is a hospitalist (a physician whose practice is entirely within the hospital) at John Peter Smith in Fort Worth. Only 17 when she entered medical school, Zee's training began with a warning about her age.

“I was told by one of the deans about another student who started young and didn't make it through. He had some concerns about me starting out as well, but it hasn't been a problem. I have been called Doogie Howser a few times, but other than that, no major age-related setbacks.”

Of course, medical school has its challenges. Dr. Zee remembers well the osteopathic manipulative medicine course she took her first year, where students learn to diagnose and treat musculoskeletal complaints with physical manipulation.

“We had to practice on each other,” she says. “Let's just say that even in a class of 135, we all got to know each other very well—and the various soft tissue treatments (massages or adjustments) each week were an added bonus.”

She's no stranger to the intensive care unit or the emergency room.

“In the ICU, I work with residents and medical students responding to calls for critically ill patients. We also work with patients who present to the ER or are already on another floor but are deteriorating or coding—what most folks will recognize from TV shows as seeing patients on the monitor who flatline while medical staff shout ‘code blue’ or ‘clear.’ ”

Zee gives much credit for her success to her older sister, Jacqueline Howard, who also entered UT Arlington early and graduated at age 18. Howard's major, criminal justice, took her into law enforcement after a master's degree in law and ethics from the University of Baltimore and a Ph.D. in public affairs from UT Dallas.

After working for the Arlington Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Dr. Howard is now a senior crime analyst with the Arlington County Virginia Police Department, where she focuses on crime forecasting and research and investigation of crime data.

And what about the future of UT Arlington's latest wunderkind, Ewin Tang? “I haven't come up with anything that is really ingenious yet,” he says.

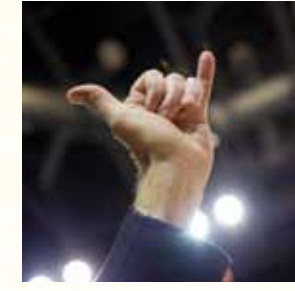
Be patient; he's only 12. ☺

*“Other students just seem kind of amazed. They ask about my age, what I'm majoring in. Some of them actually take pictures of me.”*





**MAKING HIS MARK**  
As UT Arlington's seventh president, James D. Spaniolo guided the University's transformation into one of the nation's most dynamic centers of higher education.



# Maverick *Personified*

**With a clear vision and collaborative spirit, James D. Spaniolo has helped UT Arlington reach unprecedented milestones during his eight-plus years as president. The retiring leader believes the next president will join a university poised to achieve even greater accomplishments.** BY DANNY WOODWARD

FROM DAY 1, JAMES D. SPANILOLO didn't like his odds. Among the five finalists for UT Arlington's presidency in 2003, he was the only one who lacked a Ph.D., who had ascended no higher than dean, whose university appointments could be counted on one finger.

Even he voted himself least likely to succeed Robert Witt, now chancellor of the University of Alabama System. Listen to what candidate Spaniolo told the student newspaper that October: "I'm in awe of the other four candidates' qualifications. I knew coming in that I was a long shot. That said, that's not a concession speech. I want to be president of UT Arlington."

In the end, the underdog landed on top. The University went with the maverick.

Now, nearly a decade later, Spaniolo is preparing to retire after what may be the seminal presidency

in University history. Research expenditures more than tripled to \$71.4 million last year, repositioning a commuter school into a research dynamo. In his time at the helm, more than a dozen buildings have been constructed or renovated, including the landmark Engineering Research Building and the striking College Park Center. Enrollment, on-campus residency, and graduation and retention rates are all at historic levels.

And the man who was least likely to be UT Arlington's president retires as one of its best, putting the University into the national dialogue about top-tier institutions.

His decision met swift and stunned reaction when announced in June. The Fort Worth *Star-Telegram* labeled it "a surprise retirement." A nearly morose *Dallas Morning News* editorial said, "A coach typically doesn't bow out during a winning streak."



For many, the question was why? For posterity, here's the answer:

“Part of it is where I am in my career—at a stage where the horizon is not unlimited anymore. I think you have an opportunity to make a contribution, and it's a limited window. At some point, you just start to plateau. The longer you stay, the more set in your ways you get, and you run the risk of not being open to new ideas. I just have a voice in the back of my head that says this is about time.”

If those closest to him were shocked that Spaniolo is leaving, they weren't surprised by the way he's doing it. While he has contributed much—from rebuilt campus infrastructure to a re-imagined future—much remains to be done, such as a fundraising campaign that's in the developmental stages.

“He felt strongly that we needed a new president with the energy required over the next several years,” says Ralph Hawkins '73, chair of the Development Board. “I was sad to learn of his retirement, but his logic as always had the University in mind rather than his own career.”

There is no set date for Spaniolo's departure; he will continue until his successor is in place.

For some, that won't be long enough. After a recent meeting, a prominent faculty member approached the president and asked if he'd reconsider. Spaniolo told him no. “But I appreciate the sentiment. The fact that people want you to stay is a good thing. It's better to leave when they still want you there and not when they're pushing you out the door.”

No one's pushing. The man who faced long odds will leave to long faces.

“I guess I assumed he would always be there,” says Elaine Marsilio Krift '06, who covered Spaniolo when she worked at *The Shorthorn*. “President Spaniolo has made such a significant mark on the University that it is difficult to picture UT Arlington without him.”

**“My pledge to you is that we will be strong and vibrant and relevant during my tenure, and we will work together to make it so.” \***

When Spaniolo became UT Arlington's seventh president in February 2004, it was a different place than it is today. He challenged and pushed the University to achieve things it never had, to move from best-kept secret to best of the best.

He saw a university whose faculty numbers didn't match its aspirations, so he replaced those who had left plus hired 100 more. He saw a university that could transform students' lives, so he enrolled almost 33,500 of them—34 percent more than when he arrived—and graduated twice as many. He saw a university short on traditions, so he created some—the Maverick Speakers Series, Graduation Celebration, MavsMeet Convocation, Parent and Family Weekend, Academic Excellence Week, the Official Maverick Class Ring. He saw a university short on revenue, so he redesigned the Development Office and engaged record numbers of alumni, and the endowment grew to a once-unimaginable \$89.3 million.

He saw a university that needed an identity, so he

created a new narrative and boosted Maverick pride. He saw a university that could excel athletically on a national stage if given better facilities and a better chance, so he built a \$78 million basketball palace and joined the Sun Belt Conference. He saw a university that could grow stronger by leveraging partners, so he built bridges to peer universities, businesses, foundations, legislators, and city leaders.

“There's been a transformation of UT Arlington since President Spaniolo arrived,” says Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck, who in November announced that a street running through the 20-acre, \$160 million College Park District would be renamed Spaniolo Drive. “The foundation was laid by previous presidents, but Jim picked up the ball and scored.”

He did it quickly and thoroughly.

Kelly Elsenbaumer attended in 1998 and recently returned to visit her father, Provost Ronald Elsenbaumer. “She walked around the campus and hardly recognized it,” Dr. Elsenbaumer says. “The Maverick Activities Center, the new Engineering Research Building, the Chemistry and Physics Building, new student housing all over campus, and, of course, the new College Park District have forever changed UT Arlington.”

Count the new buildings and programs, tally the alumni engaged and traditions initiated, and you still won't have a comprehensive list of Spaniolo's achievements. It's more than a complex web of bricks and mortar. It is futures shaped and opportunities revealed through education.

“People may point to physical structures, and that's important,” says former Provost Donald Bobbitt, now president of the University of Arkansas System. But more important is that “Jim created a tone that bolstered the self-confidence of the campus that we could compete with anyone, that we were as good as any campus anywhere. That's what will last a long time, even after Jim leaves. It permeates the campus.”

Spaniolo couldn't accomplish all of this by focusing on just one thing. He couldn't change the momentum by

erecting some buildings or beginning a few programs. It took work far beyond Arlington's borders.

“Jim paid close attention to all the issues, both academic and infrastructure, that are important,” says Teresa Sullivan, formerly the UT System's executive vice chancellor for academic affairs and now president of the University of Virginia. Dr. Sullivan chaired the presidential search committee that brought Spaniolo to the table in 2003. “UT Arlington was already on a good trajectory, and he improved it further. He was also a great public face for the University and gave it good visibility in Austin.”

And everywhere else.

“President Spaniolo is by far the best brand ambassador UT Arlington could ask for,” says Vice President for Communications Jerry Lewis. “He tells the University's story with passion and conviction, and you know it's coming from the heart. He has been the driving force in raising the University's profile, improving its reputation, and overcoming long-held misperceptions and stereotypes.”

“President Spaniolo embodies everything it means to be a Maverick. He's bold. He's clever. And he's always the first person to roll up his sleeves and get to work.”

**“It's not the president's personal vision. It's our shared vision that emerges from conversations and consultation with all those who care about our university.” \***

Not everything has been smooth sailing for Spaniolo, nor for UT Arlington, these last eight-plus years.

There was the 2006 removal of the Hall of Flags in Nedderman Hall, a monument to the University's diversity that came down amid protests about displaying the national flag of Vietnam. Vietnamese-Americans and Vietnam War veterans protested, and at least one lawmaker threatened to block funding for the Engineering Research Building. Spaniolo did the only thing he thought he could: Remove not only the Vietnamese flag, but all 123. The colorful display has been replaced by

**“Jim created a tone that bolstered the self-confidence of the campus that we could compete with anyone, that we were as good as any campus anywhere.”**

**CHANGE AGENT**  
President Spaniolo offered words of wisdom to students at the 2012 Graduation Celebration, one of several traditions he established.



**Timeline** Major milestones of the Spaniolo administration



\* From President Spaniolo's Investiture speech April 12, 2004



*“You get great results from a great team only if there is also a great leader.”*

banners representing each nation. Spaniolo calls the situation the greatest regret of his presidency.

“I’m sorry that that was the only option, given the attitudes that existed,” he says. “Not that I would have done it differently, I just regret that there was no acceptable choice that involved leaving the flags. In some situations, there isn’t a good decision, just a least bad one.”

Most times, the issue hasn’t been flags but finances. Early in Spaniolo’s presidency, the University faced a \$16 million cut in state appropriations. In both Arlington and Austin, he worked diligently to ensure that those cuts never happened.

He tackled the football question, assuaged the community about natural gas drilling on campus, navigated four legislative sessions and unprecedented economic challenges, and through it all made sure the University thrived like never before.

“No matter whether things were going tremendously well or we were in a difficult situation, his demeanor did not change,” Dr. Bobbitt says. “I’ve never met anyone more calm and self-confident than he was. He’s a remarkable, ethical leader that you don’t find very often.”

If there is blame to place for anything, Spaniolo says it’s on him. Where credit is due, he says, his colleagues deserve it.

“The leadership team we have, including the vice presidents I work with every day, are the finest group of people I’ve ever worked with,” he says.

It’s a leadership team that evolved dramatically during his presidency. In eight years there have been three provosts, and almost every cabinet position turned over at least once. Spaniolo created two vice president positions (communications and human resources) and elevated the expectations of the development, alumni, and athletics operations. In doing all this, he altered the University’s priorities. What mattered most would be performance.

“Jim is charmingly self-deprecating and will defer credit for many things to those with whom he worked,”

Sullivan says. “Don’t be fooled: You get great results from a great team only if there is also a great leader.”

Elsenbaumer, beginning his third decade at UT Arlington, says he has never seen a team so in sync and so singularly focused.

“As a leader, his most significant accomplishment was assembling an incredible leadership team. As you can see, much gets accomplished in that kind of environment. Indeed, the synergies created by the deliberate multiple accomplishments made by the team over time will have a lasting impact on the institution.”

There is still one big thing to accomplish. Progress has been made, but it won’t be complete by the time Spaniolo leaves office.

North Texas is the largest metropolitan area in the United States without a Tier One research university. The entire state has only three. Spaniolo has championed efforts to change that, to elevate as many universities as possible, including his own. He was instrumental in the Legislature passing House Bill 51 and in voters approving Proposition 4 in 2009, which made more funding available as universities accomplish Tier One-related metrics.

Finishing what Spaniolo started is up to the next president.

“Clearly, Tier One is a marathon, not a sprint, and we’re talking a decade or more,” he says. “We’re just a few years into that. And we’re making significant progress. If the next president serves for up to a decade, it will be inescapably clear that we are on our way.”

Actually, it’s maybe a relay. While others run the anchor leg, it was Spaniolo who came flying out of the blocks.

“Having been in the Tier One conversation right from the beginning, I can tell you that Jim was a unifying force who brought the institutions together,” Bobbitt says. “Jim knew it would only happen if everyone pulled on the same end of the rope. All those universities owe him a great deal that the Tier One bill even got passed. His smooth and calm voice made that happen. It’s easy

to put walls up to say it’s us against that university or the city or the state, but Jim never did that. It’s remarkable how collaborative he was.”

**“We will meet the challenges that face us, tell a new story about UT Arlington, and make a brighter future for generations to come. In the words of Robert Frost, we have promises to keep and miles to go before we sleep—and miles to go before we sleep.”** \*

Spaniolo’s calendar has long been stacked, his BlackBerry exhausted, his iPad gridlocked, his life dedicated to the University. Now? The miles are almost done.

“It’s the first time I’ve had time to reflect on what I want to do next,” he says. “I want to have some freedom to come and go.”

That freedom includes time for himself and his family, especially his twin 1-year-old granddaughters in Washington, D.C. But Spaniolo, 66, won’t disappear. Although he has no plans to be a university president elsewhere, nor a CEO, he does want to engage in philanthropy or work with a private foundation. He’s also open to board service, although he intends to be selective about how he spends his days.

“University administration is extremely interesting and gratifying—especially if you’re as good at it as Jim is—but it is also all-consuming,” says sociology Associate Professor Dana Dunn, who was provost from 2003 to 2007. “It’s hard to have a private life or personal time. My first thoughts were for Jim as a person and how nice it will be for him to take a real vacation. I always urged him to travel to Italy, the home of his ancestors. Now maybe he’ll do that or the many other things he’s had to neglect to give his all to the University.”

Spaniolo will have little involvement in the search for his successor. He’ll offer advice if asked but believes the new president should be free to blaze a unique trail, just as he was able to do eight years ago.

“If he or she is smart, they’ll study pretty carefully how Jim did everything he did and try to adopt the



same philosophy and style,” Bobbitt says. “I know I did. The table is set for the next president. The groundwork is there for Tier One.”

Which means the next president will arrive at a pivotal time for UT Arlington.

“Jim has laid a strong foundation and set the course,” Dr. Dunn says. “He has established the momentum. I expect the new president will not alter our course in dramatic ways, but rather bring an expertise to support the continuing evolution of UT Arlington as a major research university. A new president will have to hit the ground running.”

For Spaniolo, the running soon will be over.

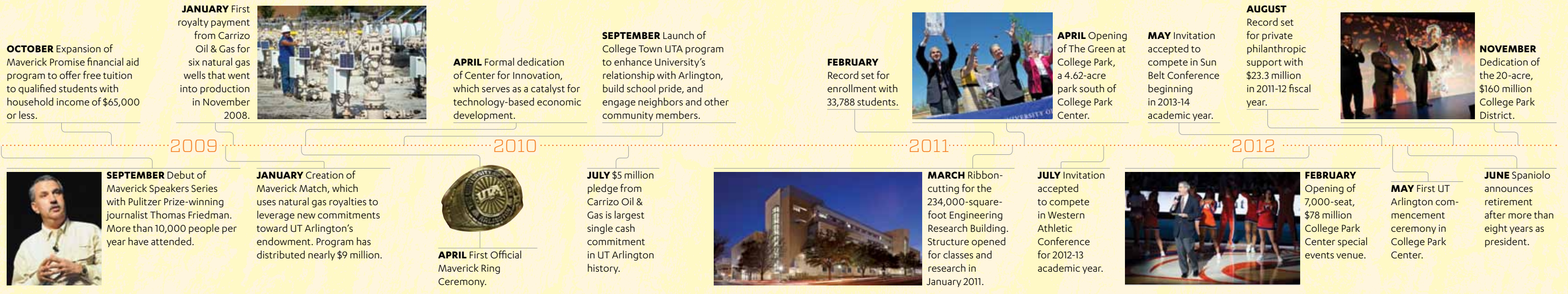
“In my heart, I hope that I will have contributed in whatever way to UT Arlington achieving its destiny—becoming a truly great university that serves the needs of students and families and the citizens of Texas in a way that makes a difference in all of those lives.”

And maybe there is one thing left for him to do.

“I hope,” Dunn says, “I get a postcard from Italy in the not-too-distant future.” ☺

#### ARCHITECT OF PROGRESS

The opening of College Park Center on Feb. 1, 2012, was a highlight of the Spaniolo presidency. A street running through the College Park District now bears his name.







**People often reveal more about themselves when communicating electronically than they do in person. Although the tendency to overshare is usually innocent, it can have consequences both personally and professionally.** BY JUDY WILEY AND MARK PERMENTER

**A**ngry? Hate your boss? Hung over? Lonely? Many of the 1 billion people on Facebook and 500 million active Twitter users are all of these and more. And they don't think twice about telling the world. Anyone who visits social media sites sees it every day: the constant chatter about everything from what people ate for breakfast to who hooked up last night to how the job's going. On dating sites, users describe themselves in intimate, sometimes exaggerated detail or post risqué photos as they search for companionship.

ILLUSTRATION BY STUART BRADFORD



**“Facebook is useful for catching up with friends distant in time and space, sharing stories and photos. But it’s a petri dish of narcissism, and people should unplug from it.”**

We just can’t stop talking about ourselves. “There are a lot of things people will say under the guise of electronic media that they wouldn’t say in person,” says Ben Agger, a professor of sociology and humanities and director of UT Arlington’s Center for Theory. “People may reveal more about themselves when they type instead of talk. Self-revelation becomes routine when you can’t see someone’s eyes. No one blushes or holds back.”

That willingness is the topic of Dr. Agger’s book *Oversharing: Presentations of Self in the Internet Age* (2012, Routledge). He uses pornography as a metaphor for what’s happening. Matters that used to be private, both sexual and nonsexual, now commonly appear in public. This oversharing, he says, creates a “pornographic public sphere” where everyone tells all, but few connect. “The Internet is a breeding ground of grandiosity as people crow about themselves and express their opinions,” Agger writes. “It also breeds the search for intimacy, even if this is electronic and not face to face.”

#### FAULTY CONNECTIONS

Agger calls oversharing a product of the search for connection. Unfortunately, electronic connections are often “flimsy and largely unfulfilling” and rarely lead to real relationships, or what he calls community.

Agger is no Internet-hating Luddite. As he sipped coffee at a Starbucks near UT Arlington, he had a smartphone at hand, which he used periodically for texts involving family matters. Send him an email and you’ll probably get a response in a half-hour or less.

But he does call for moderation, especially among young people. He believes public discourse is declining as society, or at least the online segment, is more interested in gossip and day-to-day minutiae than real issues. Even in news coverage, the many online blogger/reporters make it easy to mistake opinion for fact.

“It is good that everyone wants to be part of the conversation, but they need to be studious and analytical. And the conversation, as I’m calling it, needs to be about important matters.”

Whether you jeopardize your job by criticizing your boss in the conversation ultimately may be decided by the courts. Meanwhile, plenty of people post photos of themselves in compromising situations or complain about work without a thought to career implications.

News reports are full of cases where people were disciplined or lost their jobs over Facebook.

A teacher in Georgia says she was forced to resign after her bosses saw an expletive on her Facebook page and photos of her holding beer and wine. Employees for an airline were disciplined after they joked on Facebook that their planes were crawling with cockroaches. A New England Patriots cheerleader was fired because she posted photos on Facebook of a boy who passed out and then was covered with graffiti, some of it anti-Semitic, by pranksters.

Tales of employer snooping are widespread. The National Labor Relations Board sees so many social media-related cases that it has put out three reports in the past year covering various incidents and addressing workplace policies. Earlier this year, U.S. Rep. Eliot Engel of New York introduced a bill that would prohibit employers from requiring or requesting that employees provide user names and passwords to their social networking sites.

The surge in employment-related situations prompted the UT Arlington Career Center to create a workshop, Managing Your Digital Dirt, to educate students about the pitfalls of a reckless online presence. Career Center staff members conduct the seminar for campus groups. University College features the workshop as part of its Success Series, a suite of programs to aid students at various levels of their academic careers, including those students nearing graduation.

“Students need to understand that what happens in the fun of college life may not necessarily stay in what they categorize as college life,” University College Executive Director Dawn Remmers says. “Their cyber-tracks can follow them to the workplace, and employers can make judgments about potential employees based on those fragments floating in cyberspace.”



#### ONLINE RESTRAINT

Rebecca Neilson, director of Graduate Business Services and a Goolsby Leadership Academy faculty member, urges students to avoid creating digital dirt that may hurt their chances of being hired.

#### POST WITH CAUTION

A 2012 CareerBuilder survey found that 37 percent of companies use social networking sites to research job candidates. Managers at a third of those businesses said they’ve discovered information that caused them not to hire a candidate, including inappropriate photos, discriminatory comments, and posts bad-mouthing previous employers.

As vice president of Marshall Career Service, Jim Ashworth ’73 places senior-level accounting and financial professionals with major corporations in North Texas. High-ranking executives aren’t exempt from bonehead mistakes, he says, citing one who posted a graphic handbook (with photos) about sexual positions.

But employers don’t browse online profiles just to dig up dirt. Almost 30 percent of managers in the CareerBuilder survey said they’ve hired candidates because of things they saw on Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn. Darren Nelson ’07, ’08, director of recruiting for Dr Pepper Snapple Group, says his company discourages the use of anything other than candidate résumés, interviews, and references in making hiring decisions. But he understands why some corporations Google their top prospects.

“Hiring the best talent is a daunting task, and there’s a great deal of risk involved,” he says. “Hiring managers in general may want to minimize that risk with as much information as possible, such as forum posts, Facebook pictures, LinkedIn pages, or any other public information that can be obtained through the Internet.”

Agger would like to see more employers adopt the Dr Pepper Snapple policy of avoiding potential and current employees’ social media pages because they’re personal. But he concedes that “prospective employers, if they’re snoopy, will cross the line to look at your off-hours activities.”

What you think is your own business may not be at all, although cases are still working their way through the courts. One lawsuit in federal court in Virginia involves a sheriff firing six public employees in 2009 when he noticed that one of them had clicked “like” on his political opponent’s Facebook page.

When it’s a potential employer, you may never know whether your Internet sharing kept you from being

hired. Employers will simply say they chose a more qualified candidate.

That’s a message Rebecca Neilson ’00 drives home to scholars in the University’s Goolsby Leadership Academy, a select cohort of junior and senior business majors. Neilson, who earned a master’s degree in human resource management from UT Arlington, is director of Graduate Business Services in the College of Business and teaches a leadership course as a member of the Goolsby faculty.

“We emphasize that how they portray themselves in social media circles can derail their possibilities of getting a job or perhaps keeping a job,” she says. “They need to keep their personal and professional lives separate and understand what is and is not appropriate to let their bosses and co-workers know.”

Agger believes oversharing presents dangers to both individuals and society. In the opposite of his “pornographic public sphere,” he writes that “people wouldn’t simply lay themselves bare as they satisfy their voyeuristic and exhibitionistic tendencies, but they would read, study, and debate deep issues such as world overpopulation, global warming, domestic poverty, and the loss of neighborhood, among other issues.”

He’d like to see parents wait until kids are well into their teens before giving them cellphones and then cut off usage at bedtime. As for adults, he suggests meeting potential partners in person instead of relying on online dating, “which resembles a meat market and discourages real commitment.”

“Facebook is useful for catching up with friends distant in time and space, sharing stories and photos. But it’s a petri dish of narcissism, and people should unplug from it,” he says. “Secretly, we all know that it’s boring, but like many addictions, we can’t live without it.”

Twitter gets an even harder slap: “We should resign from Twitter because tweeting our every location, activity, and random thought is pathetic and dumbs down the culture.”

Agger advises to keep some mystery in your life. “We will all be healthier and happier for tuning out and turning off the technologies of oversharing,” he says. “Only then can we begin really to share—to be intimate, to love, and to open ourselves to love.” ☺

**“Their cyber-tracks can follow them to the workplace, and employers can make judgments about potential employees based on those fragments floating in cyberspace.”**

#### WHERE’S THE LOVE?

In his book about oversharing in the Internet age, sociology Professor Ben Agger says most social media connections are flimsy and rarely lead to meaningful relationships.







#### WRAPPER'S DELIGHT

Student trainer Jessica Lair served a clinical rotation with the women's basketball team and hopes to work in the NBA one day.

# Training Ground

**In addition to providing a first-rate game-day experience, College Park Center boasts one of the most advanced sports medicine facilities in the nation. It's here that students work behind the scenes to prepare players for success and themselves for careers in the growing athletic training field.** BY SARAH BAHARI

**J**UST STEPS FROM the sleek arena floor, Roy Rudewick stands in the middle of UT Arlington's Sports Medicine Center surrounded by premier, state-of-the-art rehabilitation equipment. Hydrotherapy swimming pools. Underwater treadmills. Adjustable treatment tables. Rows of taping stations.

"This center rivals those of the top universities across the country," says Rudewick, associate athletic director of sports medicine. "It's a top-notch facility."

The bustling center, tucked inside the new 7,000-seat College Park Center, serves dual roles. It provides world-class care and treatment for student-athletes while serving as a hands-on classroom for student trainers.

When it opened in February 2012, the Sports

Medicine Center became the unofficial nerve center of UT Arlington's esteemed Athletic Training Education Program, which prepares students to work in the management, prevention, and rehabilitation of injured athletes. One of a handful to be accredited in Texas, the program enrolls 50-60 students each year and boasts nearly 100 percent job placement.

UT Arlington's investment in the center, more than half a million dollars, comes at a prime time in the athletic training field. Spurred by a growing awareness of sports-related injuries, demand for athletic trainers is expected to soar 30 percent from 2010 to 2020, much faster than many other occupations, according to the U.S. Bureau for Labor Statistics.



*“In the past decade, there has been a big evolution in the health and care of student-athletes.”*

“In the past decade, there has been a big evolution in the health and care of student-athletes,” says Rudewick, a 1989 UT Arlington graduate. “When moms and dads send their kids to school, they want to know they will be taken care of. They want to feel comfortable their children will get the best care possible.”

#### HELPING ATHLETES SUCCEED

Volleyball players stop by to have ankles taped before practice. Basketball players come for treatments to control swelling or rehab muscle strains. While professional and student trainers monitor their progress, in a nearby doctor’s office an orthopedic surgeon evaluates injuries.

The Sports Medicine Center’s proximity to the arena floor makes it a fast-paced hub of appointments, drop-ins, and examinations. At some point, nearly all of the University’s 200-plus student-athletes representing 14 NCAA Division I men’s and women’s teams will seek treatment, advice, or assistance here.

In one corner, athletes settle into one of two hydrotherapy pools set at varying temperatures for different injuries. A third, larger pool features a treadmill, cameras, and resistance jets that allow athletes to begin rehabilitation more quickly as trainers observe and guide their recovery.

The 4,000-square-foot center is also home to eight treatment tables, six taping stations, a locker room, a study area, and numerous pieces of equipment, from portable electromagnetic wave machines to fitted boots that help reduce swelling.

Athletic trainers at UT Arlington spent several years in the design phase, touring facilities around Texas and the United States, talking with other trainers, and evaluating what worked and what didn’t. They knew they wanted a sharp contrast to the cramped room in Texas Hall with one treatment table, two taping stations, and an ice machine.

“It is night and day different,” says Ryan Haire, a

senior studying athletic training who has worked in both places. “As a student, having the opportunity to work in a facility of this caliber is incredible. I never imagined I would get this sort of hands-on training.”

Like all students, Haire participates in clinical rotations, which are an integral part of the curriculum. By graduation, students will work 1,500 clinical hours. In addition to assisting UT Arlington athletes, students are placed at high schools across North Texas, Southern Methodist University, the Fort Worth Cats baseball team, the Texas Brahmas hockey team, and private sports medicine centers.

In addition, clinical rotations at Mission Arlington and the University’s Health Services promote a knowledge of general medical issues like asthma, high blood pressure, and diabetes that can arise in athletic training.

Last year Haire worked with the men’s basketball team, shadowing professional athletic trainers, taping knees and ankles, and running rehabilitation exercises with players. This fall he served as an athletic trainer with the Trinity High School football team in Euless, a regional and state powerhouse.

For senior Jessica Lair, a clinical rotation with the Maverick women’s basketball team helped reassure her that she’d chosen the right field. She recalled the rush of spending games on the sidelines, feeling like a part of something big. She wants to someday work in the NBA.

“You are helping athletes succeed. They come to you when something is wrong and put their trust in you,” Lair says. “You’re part of a close-knit team. It’s an incredible feeling.”

#### LEARNING BY DOING

Clinical rotations are crucial, but professors also stress classroom instruction. Students enroll in pathology and pharmacology, musculoskeletal rehabilitation, and the biomechanics of movement, among other courses. The combination of clinical rotations and classroom instruc-

tion helps build a strong educational foundation that supports a variety of career paths, says Paul Krawietz, director of the Athletic Training Education Program.

In 2003 UT Arlington became one of the first in Texas to receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

“We truly have one of the top programs around,” Dr. Krawietz says. “We provide an active, hands-on learning environment. We have excellent faculty, excellent students, and, now, excellent facilities. We have a lot to be proud of.”

Opportunities for research abound. During her junior year, Lair worked with a professor to evaluate age and gender differences in baseline balance testing. She recently presented the results at the National Athletic Trainers’ Association conference in St. Louis.

Professors in the program study mild traumatic brain injuries and concussions, methods for injury preventions, efficacy of modalities—or physical therapy agents—in the treatment of injuries, heat illnesses, and more.

After graduation trainers work in all sectors of athletics, from storied high school football programs, big-time colleges, and professional franchises to hospitals, the military, and the performing arts. Alumnus Jeff Ferguson is director of football operations and sports medicine for the NFL’s San Francisco 49ers. He earned his master’s degree in 1995 and served as head athletic trainer for the Maverick track and field teams as a graduate student.

Many others pursue graduate degrees, often in physical therapy or occupational therapy. After completing his bachelor’s degree at UT Arlington in 2008, Kelvin Phan earned a master’s degree from Old Dominion University in Virginia. He now works as an assistant athletic director and coordinator of clinical education at the University of Charleston.

He recalls getting his first taste of athletic train-

ing when he was assigned to work with the Maverick baseball and softball teams. He quickly learned that reading about an ankle sprain or torn anterior cruciate ligament and responding to one are entirely different experiences. He tries to bring the same tenets of education he received at UT Arlington to the students he teaches.

“On the field, things don’t always happen just like the books say,” Phan says. “Classroom instruction is important to develop a knowledge base, but you also have to know how to solve problems and think outside the box, and you learn that by doing.”

When Kristin Salinas graduated in 2008, she felt prepared for her job as an athletic trainer at Clear Lake High School in the Houston area, where she works with coaches, students, and physicians to treat and prevent injuries. She first knew she wanted to pursue this career when she attended a Houston Rockets game as a girl and spotted an athletic trainer working with a player.

But it wasn’t until she enrolled at UT Arlington that she learned the ins and outs of the profession. Immediately, she knew she’d made the right choice. “I’m not a behind-the-desk kind of person. Athletic training keeps you on your toes. You have to be creative. There’s nothing textbook about it.”

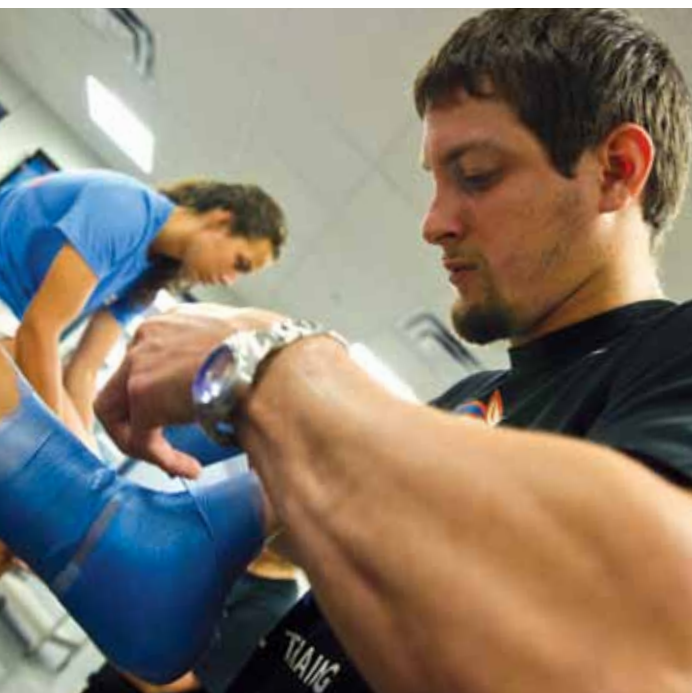
When workplace issues arose her first year at work, Salinas sought guidance from her former professors.

“They were there for me,” she says. “The professors are there for you while you’re in school, while you’re looking for a job, and even after you leave. It’s a very cohesive group.”

In recent months, Phan and dozens of other athletic training alumni have returned to visit College Park Center and tour the new Sports Medicine Center. They all share a common sentiment.

“They feel very proud,” Rudewick says. “And they usually admit to being a little jealous. They wish this place had been around when they were in school.” ☘

*“They come to you when something is wrong and put their trust in you. You’re part of a close-knit team.”*



#### HANDLED WITH CARE

The state-of-the-art Sports Medicine Center features hydrotherapy swimming pools and rows of treatment and taping stations. Roy Rudewick, center, associate athletic director of sports medicine, says the facility helps keep student-athletes healthy while meeting the soaring demand for athletic trainers.



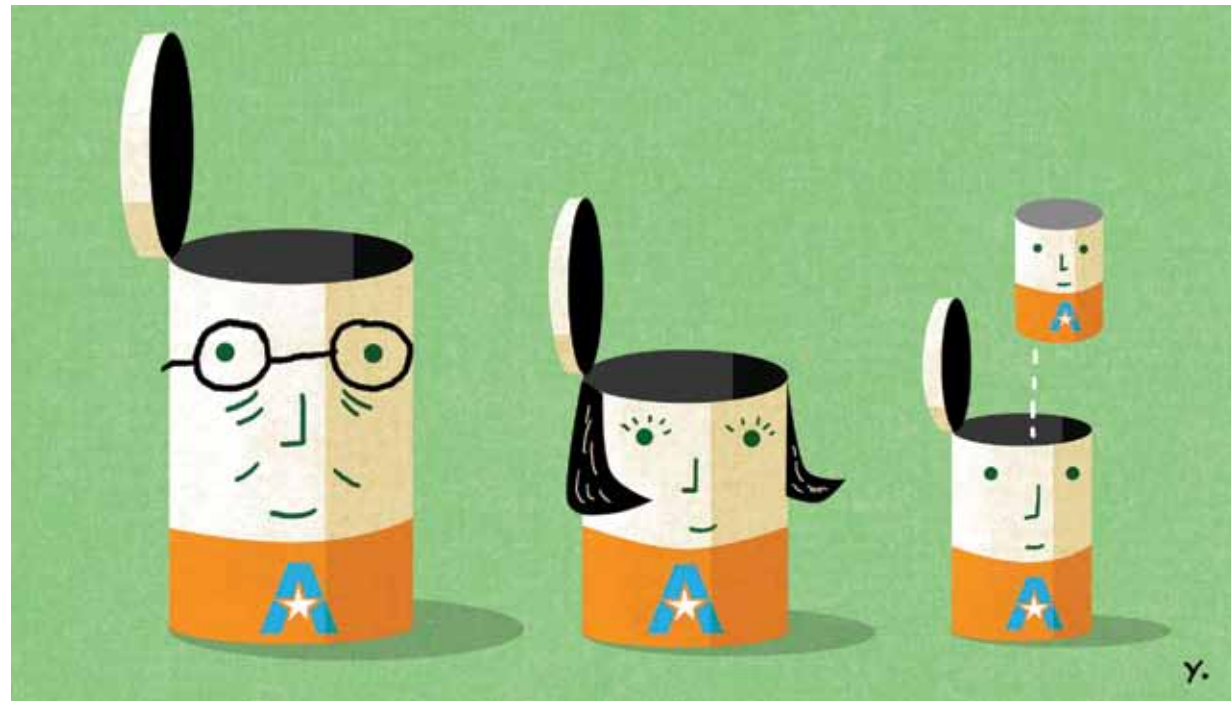


ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES YANG

## All in the Maverick Family

How one UT Arlington degree can launch a multigenerational legacy

Some families hand down heirlooms from generation to generation. Others keep recipes, stories, traditions. Still others create legacies.

Beginning with George Arthur Hendricks, Class of 1942 at North Texas Agricultural College, the Hendricks family has claimed four multigenerational UT Arlington graduates.

“My parents were from Fort Worth, and I was familiar with the school from frequent visits from my childhood,” says Randall “Randy” Dean Hendricks ’72, George’s son. After hearing about his brother Barry’s ’65 experience at Arlington State College, Randy knew UT Arlington was the school for him. “I got an excellent education there,” he says. “I enjoyed the classes and became quite comfortable in the business school.”

When son Eric ’02 transferred from Baylor to UT Arlington, he not only carried on the Hendricks family’s Maverick tradition, he added to it. Eric met his future wife, Alicia Rodriguez Hendricks ’01, on campus. Alicia herself is a second-generation UT Arlington graduate; her father, Armando H. Rodriguez, earned a degree in mathematics from the University in 1970.

Alicia and Eric hope their two young children continue the family legacy.

“UT Arlington has so much to offer, and it has become a top-tier institution in the state,” Alicia says. “It’s far from the commuter campus it used to be, and I know it will give the kids the foundation they need in order to become successful in whatever ventures they choose.”

Distinguished Alumnus David Hunn ’78, ’80, ’92, chief scientist and director of the technical staff at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, can attest to the foundation that UT Arlington provides. Dr. Hunn is a second-generation UT Arlington graduate, and his son and daughter have both enrolled in the University’s joint degree and honors programs.

“It’s great to see them on this campus,” he says. “They have definitely flourished here.”

As an adjunct professor in the College of Engineering, Hunn not only has kept tabs on the University’s growth, he has seen firsthand how students develop into leaders.

“UT Arlington does more than just stuff facts into your head,” he says. “Students are prepared for life through the building of leadership skills and self-confidence. Continuous learning is encouraged. It’s why I’ve always been proud to be associated with this university.”

*“Continuous learning is encouraged. It’s why I’ve always been proud to be associated with this university.”*

## With Highest Honors

University recognizes Distinguished Alumni for outstanding achievements

Seven alumni and President James D. Spaniolo were honored for their professional achievements and service to UT Arlington at the annual Distinguished Alumni Gala in October.

Shirlee Gandy ’70, Charles Goodman ’64, David Hunn ’78, ’80, ’92, Curtis Kayem ’66, and Wayne Watts ’76 received the Distinguished Alumni Award. Baker Jiang ’12 received the Distinguished International Alumni Award, and Dale Martin ’78 received the Distinguished Alumni Service Award. The Honorary Distinguished Alumni Award went to President Spaniolo, who announced his retirement in June (see p. 24).

Jiang earned an Executive Master of Business Administration degree after working with Walmart China for more than 15 years. He advanced from store deputy general manager to vice president of hypermarket operations with Walmart China, which has 369 Walmart and Trustmart stores in 170 cities and generates more than \$8 billion in sales annually. As regional operations director of the Northern China region from 2007 to 2011, he led a turnaround from deficit to profitability.

Gandy is a real estate investor, developer, and community leader with a passion for public service and historic preservation. After earning a bachelor’s degree in political science, she became a political consultant. She later shifted her focus to work with nonprofits on behalf of women, children, and those with mental health issues. Her revitalization of two historic properties in downtown Fort Worth—now the Ashton Hotel and the Ashton Depot—earned her Downtown Fort Worth Inc.’s Trailblazer Award.

Dr. Goodman had a long career in electric utility research and development at Southern Company before retiring in 2007. After receiving his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering, he earned advanced degrees at Tulane University. He began his career as a senior research engineer in 1971 with Southern Company, which owns electric utilities in four southeastern states and also provides optic and wireless communications. Advancing through leadership positions, Goodman was promoted to senior vice president of research and environmental policy.

Dr. Hunn is the chief scientist and director of the technical staff at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. After earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in mechanical engineering, he received his Ph.D. in materials science and engineering, all from UT Arlington. For the past several years, his research has focused on development of lightweight armor and novel blast mitigation strategies for military vehicles. In 2009 he was selected Inventor of the Year by Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control. He has received 12 patents, with seven pending.

Kayem earned a bachelor’s degree in political science, but his career took a turn when he went to work in the business owned by his father. Today he’s president

of that business, Tex-Isle Supply, a pipe and steel company that was one of the first American businesses to develop a relationship with Japanese steel mills and tubular manufacturers. The company began in Houston, expanded twice, and now has offices in Dallas and South Texas. In 2011 the company added Tex-Isle Coating, which provides pipeline stringing operations and pipe stocking and distribution.

Dr. Martin earned his bachelor’s degree in chemistry and went on to earn a dental degree. He has practiced pediatric dentistry in the Fort Worth area for more than 25 years. He also

has a law degree and has served as assistant regional counsel for the Social Security Administration and the Department of Health and Human Services. He is on staff at Cook Children’s Hospital, Harris HEB, and the Texas Pediatric Surgery Center, and he serves as a volunteer with the Children’s Oral Health Coalition for Tarrant County.

Watts is senior executive vice president and general counsel at AT&T. He earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration at UT Arlington before receiving his law degree at SMU. He joined Southwestern Bell Telephone Co. in 1983 as an attorney in Dallas. He became general attorney for Southwestern Bell Publications in St. Louis, then transferred to the mergers and acquisitions staff of SBC’s legal department. In 1989 he was named vice president-general attorney and secretary for Southwestern Mobile Systems in Dallas.



Honored at the 47th Annual Distinguished Alumni Gala were, clockwise from top left, Dale Martin ’78, Shirlee Gandy ’70, Wayne Watts ’76, Charles Goodman ’64, David Hunn ’78, ’80, ’92, James D. Spaniolo, and Curtis Kayem ’66. Not pictured is Baker Jiang ’12 of China, who received the Distinguished International Alumni Award.

## Events



### MARK KELLY

The astronaut and best-selling author discusses “Endeavoring to Build a Better America” as part of the Maverick Speakers Series. 7:30 p.m. **Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2013**, Texas Hall. Tickets available Jan. 22 at utatickets.com. More information: uta.edu/maverickspeakers

### “FIDDLER ON THE ROOF”

The Maverick Theatre Company presents the Tony Award-winning musical, directed by Anne Healy. **Feb. 27-28 and March 1-3, 2013**, Mainstage Theatre. More information: uta.edu/theatre



### AFRICAN-AMERICAN ALUMNI BANQUET

Sponsored by the African-American Alumni Chapter, the 23rd annual event recognizes deserving graduates with the Outstanding African-American Alumni Award. 6 p.m. **Saturday, March 9, 2013**, E.H. Hereford University Center. More information: utablackalumni.com

### JEFF CORWIN

The conservationist and host of the Animal Planet TV show *The Jeff Corwin Experience* discusses “100 Heartbeats: A Global Movement” in the final lecture of the 2012-13 Maverick Speakers Series. 7:30 p.m. **Wednesday, March 27, 2013**, College Park Center. Tickets available Feb. 28 at utatickets.com. More information: uta.edu/maverickspeakers



# Alumni Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq



Kelly Bowman plans to cool her jets for a while after an early career best described as a baptism by fire. The 2003 nursing alumna joined the Navy while a UT Arlington student and spent eight months as an emergency room nurse before deploying to Iraq. There she realized how her college training prepared her for battlefield chaos and helped her develop coping skills. “In Iraq you’re alone (with the patient) in that aircraft. It’s just you,” the former flight nurse says. “It makes you appreciate the little things, like a crash cart that’s fully stocked. So when you get to a hospital, you don’t get too flustered about anything. My professors

believed I was capable of handling certain situations, and they put me in them.” In a shift during her senior year, three of her four patients coded and “people were dying and bleeding internally, but it was OK to carry on.” Bowman later trained Marine corpsmen on new standards for casualty evacuations to medical ships in the Middle East. After stints at Bethesda, Md., and Camp Pendleton, Calif., naval medical centers, she is leaving the military and returning to North Texas for a civilian nursing career. “I gave the military a lot of my life,” she says. “I’m ready to put down roots.”

# Snapshot



**2012 ALUMNI GALA**  
Lillie Biggins '75, Karen Blair, and Chase Wilson at the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Gala in October. Biggins, a 2007 Distinguished Alumna, served as master of ceremonies.



**SCHOLARSHIP DINNER**  
Haywood Gordon '07, junior Brandon Esianor, and Provost Ronald Elsenbaumer at the annual Alumni Association Scholarship Dinner in August. Esianor received the African-American Endowed Scholarship.



**FORT WORTH RECEPTION**  
Jaymin Darbari '12 and his wife, Shweta '12, at a Fort Worth alumni celebration at the UT Arlington Research Institute.



**LOCKHEED MARTIN EVENT**  
David Gray and Craig Happel '82 at a corporate alumni event hosted by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics in September. Lockheed employs more than 800 UT Arlington graduates.



## Select Company

First lady lauds wheelchair athlete Gabe Diaz de Leon for overcoming obstacles

Alumnus Gabe Diaz de Leon seldom slows down for anyone or anything.

That's one reason Michelle Obama asked him to join her in London for the Summer Olympics. She led a delegation of Olympians and Paralympians as part of her initiative to encourage children to be active. The two hung out together during U.S. basketball and field hockey games.

“It was a pretty big honor,” Diaz de Leon says of spending time with the first lady at the Olympics and the “Let’s Move! London” event for American military children and American and British children. Once those games ended, the San Antonio native stuck around for the Paralympic Games as a coach for the U.S. track and field team.

Diaz de Leon was paralyzed in 1984 while serving as an Army military police officer in Honduras. After his discharge, he turned to sports. He spent four years on UT Arlington’s Movin’ Mavs wheelchair basketball team, playing on national championship squads in 1991 and 1992. He has since played on five U.S. Paralympic teams and five U.S. World Championship teams.

“I heard about the Paralympic Games and decided to make it a goal to go to them in Seoul in 1988,” he says.

He did, and by 1992 he set a world record and earned a gold medal in the javelin at the Barcelona Games. In addition to his javelin gold, Diaz de Leon won a silver medal in the discus in 1992 and bronze medals in the shot put and discus in 1988, 1996, and 2000.

His retirement in 2004 was short-lived, and he returned in 2008 to win the “A” Division of the American Wheelchair Bowling Championship. A member of the Athletes with Disabilities Hall of Fame, he coaches the seated throwing athletes for the U.S. World Championship teams and participates in disabled youth sports camps and the Wounded Warriors Project.

In her speech to the “Let’s Move! London” delegation, the first lady described how Diaz de Leon overcame his injury to emerge as one of the world’s top wheelchair athletes. She concluded: “That’s my guy, Gabe. And today he’s focused on inspiring and coaching other wounded warriors.”

## Weather is business for alumnus Martin Lisius

The air becomes ominously still. The incessant buzz of insects quiets. The gray clouds start to gather and swirl as sirens sound in the distance.

Texas residents, especially those in North Texas, know the drill. Find cover in a windowless, fortified area and wait for the storm to pass.

But Martin Lisius '86 takes a different approach. Threatening clouds and tornado sirens are his bread and butter. As founder of Tempest Tours, a storm-chasing business based in Arlington, he guides people on twister safaris. Groups schedule tours at [www.tempesttours.com](http://www.tempesttours.com), meet at a base hotel for orientation, then depart on a several-day hunt with tornadoes as targets.

Sounds scary, but Lisius says there's little risk. “We don’t get into dangerous situations. We get close enough to shoot great pictures, but we never get in a tornado’s path.”

Extreme weather is a passion Lisius has turned into a popular and lucrative business.

“I got a lot of requests from regular folks who wanted to chase with me, but they couldn’t take off work when a chase was coming up. I started



Tempest Tours so people can see our schedule a year in advance and arrange for time off, just like they would a cruise or any other tour.”

To date, Tempest Tours has intercepted 160 tornadoes. The growing company has been featured in *Entrepreneur* magazine, on CNNMoney, and in Subaru’s *Drive* magazine, and an episode about Tempest Tours aired on The Weather Channel.

Lisius is glad to continue teaching a healthy respect for nature—and to celebrate it with like-minded customers. “Our guests are weather geeks like us. They love weather and are more interested than afraid.”



**HORSEPOWER** Neer Patel, president of the Alumni Association National Board of Directors and a 2006 graduate, shows off his personalized UT Arlington license plate. Offered through the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, the plates are available at [myplates.com/go/uta](http://myplates.com/go/uta). A percentage of each sale benefits student scholarships.



## Spotlight



### LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

Dave Parker, vice president of external affairs at AT&T, presented a check for \$300,000 to President James D. Spaniolo at the Leadership Summit in September. The donation will support the University's high school-based college readiness offices called GO Centers.



### FRANK DEFORD RECEPTION

Frank Deford, Marsha Baylor, and Michael Baylor '69 at a reception before Deford's Maverick Speakers Series Lecture in September.



### DIPERT WELCOME CENTER

Dan Dipert, state Sen. Wendy Davis, and Linda Dipert '01 at the grand opening of the Dan Dipert University Welcome Center in September.



### COKIE ROBERTS RECEPTION

Linda Simmons '77, Cokie Roberts, Tom Simmons '72, and Becky Upchurch '01 at a reception before Roberts' Maverick Speakers Series Lecture in October.



## Smart Start

Shirlee and Taylor Gandy create \$1 million scholarship for first-generation students

Shirlee Gandy was the first in her family to graduate from college. Now she and her husband want to help other first-generation students achieve their dreams of earning a degree.

The Shirlee J. and Taylor Gandy First Generation Scholarship Program will benefit UT Arlington sophomores on the basis of merit and financial need. The endowment was established through a \$500,000 commitment from the Gandys that will double in value through the Maverick Match program, which leverages the University's natural gas royalties to encourage philanthropic commitments.

Shirlee Gandy, president of RPM Commercial in Fort Worth, earned her bachelor's degree in political science from UT Arlington in 1970 and serves in a leadership role on the University's Development Board. She has specialized in historic preservation of commercial property, including the Ashton Hotel, the historic Santa Fe Depot, and the Santa Fe Freight Building—now the home of the UT Arlington Fort Worth Center.

Taylor Gandy has been an owner and investor in commercial real estate in Fort Worth as a partner in Baron Investments and Ron Investments for the past 20 years. Previously, he practiced law for 30 years. He has been active at Texas Wesleyan University and is a former chairman of Downtown Fort Worth Inc. The couple recently led the campaign to establish the JFK Tribute in downtown Fort Worth.

Shirlee Gandy says they were moved to create the scholarship because of their strong belief in UT Arlington's academic mission. "In my opinion, education changes lives, builds confidence, and develops individuals with strong critical thinking skills. We wanted to make this financial commitment to help first-generation students achieve their goals."

More than half of UT Arlington students say they are the first in their family to attend college, and about two-thirds of undergraduates receive financial aid. In recent years the University has increased advising, tutoring, and counseling to serve such students.

## University shatters fundraising record

Fueled by donations to boost innovation and technology in the College of Science, philanthropic support for UT Arlington reached a record \$23.3 million in gifts and commitments for 2011-12. The total represents a 55 percent increase over the previous year.

The University also benefited from philanthropists who established endowments to support faculty and research in the College of Engineering and School of Architecture and who established endowments for student scholarships.

The total value of new gifts and pledges has nearly tripled over the past five years. The 2011-12 record also includes 55 new endowments, up from 41 the previous year. Membership in UT Arlington's 1895 Society, which recognizes donors who give \$1,000 or more annually, increased more than 10 percent.

"It's clear that philanthropic support for The University of Texas at Arlington is on a steep

trajectory," Vice President for Development Jim Lewis says. "We are very grateful to our donors and friends and look forward to ensuring that their gifts help shape the University for generations to come."

Many donors saw the impact of their gifts doubled through the Maverick Match program, which uses natural gas royalties to leverage new commitments toward the University's endowment. The program, which matches gifts of \$25,000 or more, has distributed nearly \$9 million since it began in 2009.

Among the notable gifts last fiscal year was a three-year software license worth an estimated \$4.4 million from global information and analytics provider IHS to the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences. A \$3 million equipment donation from Shimadzu Scientific Instruments established the Shimadzu Center for Advanced Analytical Chemistry in the College of Science.



**STILL BLAZING TRAILS** Myrna Pickard's legacy extends beyond a name on a building. The College of Nursing's founding dean, for whom Pickard Hall is named, has included UT Arlington in her estate plans. She and her late husband, Bob, wanted to make a difference in the university that meant so much to them. "Bob was an alumnus of Arlington State College (now UT Arlington), and I was a university dean," says Dr. Pickard, a charter member of the Edward E. Rankin Legacy Society. "So it was fulfilling to both of us to include a gift to UT Arlington in our estate plans." Established through a living trust, their commitment will benefit the College of Nursing.

## School of Architecture Giving



### RALPH AND SUSAN HAWKINS

The man who helped bring us Cowboys Stadium and College Park Center is doing his part to ensure that the next generation of architects leaves its own legacy. Ralph Hawkins, chairman and chief executive officer of architectural firm HKS Inc., and wife Susan recently committed \$1.5 million to the School of Architecture. A portion of the funds doubled in value through the Maverick Match program, which leverages natural gas royalties to boost the University's endowment. "I received a tremendous opportunity at UT Arlington, and I want others to share those opportunities," says Hawkins, who earned a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1973. A longtime supporter of the University, he is chairman of the Development Board. Besides the two Arlington venues, HKS has designed numerous professional and college sports complexes nationwide. The gift will be used in part to develop a strategic vision for the School of Architecture. "We are in a strong position now, but we need to be nimble to stay current with practices of the future," architecture Dean Don Gatzke says. "We need to look at who we need to be. We need to be a focal point for architectural issues in the future."



# Class Notes

## 1961

**C. Roland Haden** (BS, Electrical Engineering) was named to a three-year term as president of the Wingfield Family Society in June. He also will serve as the Lord of the Manor of Wingfield, an official English title. Dr. Haden is a UT Arlington Distinguished Alumnus.

## 1966

**Jerry Newell** (BS, Mechanical Engineering) was named to the board of directors at Klotz Associates, an engineering, architectural, and environmental consulting firm based in Houston. He is vice president at Klotz and has been involved with water, wastewater, and transportation projects in Texas for nearly 40 years. **Donald Stevenson** (BA, History) is chief administrative judge in the Plano Municipal Court.

## 1968

**Jim McClellan** ('68 BA, Political Science; '70 MA, History) was proclaimed a Living Legend by the city of Alexandria, Va., for his work in education and human rights. A 1997 UT Arlington Distinguished Alumnus, he is dean of liberal arts at Northern Virginia Community College.

## 1970

**Dick Hill** (BA, History) has completed 38 years as a police officer for the city of Arlington and was the 1996 Arlington Police Department Officer of the Year. He is a member of the UT Arlington Athletic Hall of Honor, finishing as the all-time leading pass receiver for the football team. **Carol D. King** (BBA, Accounting) has published three novels and several poems after retiring from an accounting career. **Gayle Turbiville Lee** (MSSW) co-wrote *AWetizm: A Hidden Key to Our Spiritual Magnificence* with her nonverbal autistic daughter, Lyrica Mia Marquez. They are receiving global

recognition, sharing their message through television, radio, and the Internet.

## 1971

**Kristy Libotte Keener** (BFA, Art) won a Gold Hermes Creative Award for graphic design for a transportation aviation cover for the North Central Texas Council of Governments, where she is the graphic design coordinator.

## 1974

**Gary Russell** (BA, Exercise and Sport Studies) retired after a 37-year career in the Hurst-Euleless-Bedford Independent School District. He was a high school math teacher, junior high and high school counselor, and district coordinator for counseling and guidance. **Laurel Mayo** ('76 BA, '92 MA, French) is a faculty development specialist in Classroom Support Services at UT Arlington.

## 1977

**Lee Krystinik** (BS, Geology) was voted 2012-13 president-elect by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. A 1999 UT Arlington Distinguished Alumnus, he is principal of Fossil Creek Resources in Arlington.

## 1978

**Vinsen Faris** ('78 BA, Political Science; '93 MPA, Public and Urban Administration) is in his 25th year as executive director of Meals on Wheels of Johnson and Ellis counties.

## 1979

**Marsha Matlock Campbell** (BA, History) is program manager at Sabre Holdings in Southlake. **Robert Campbell** (BS, Biology) is an emergency room physician in Mineral Wells. He was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at UT Arlington.

## 1980

**Fred Buckingham** ('80 MS, '93 PhD, Mechanical Engineering) is CEO and chairman of

the board of directors for Alternative Petroleum Technologies, based in Reno, Nev. He has more than 35 years experience developing and deploying hybrid liquid fuel technology. **Debra Meeks** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Plaza Medical Center of Fort Worth. **Robert P. Shepard** (BBA, Management) was elected to a third term for District 6 on the Arlington City Council.

## 1981

**Zoie Ohmes** (BM) is a 2012 Impact Grant Recipient in the Arlington Independent School District. Recipients are educators with creative ideas and innovative projects. She teaches at Webb Elementary School. **Zachary Thompson** (BSSW) is director of Health and Human Services in Dallas.

## 1982

**Glenn Garoon** (MBA, Business Administration) was recognized as the Appraisal Institute's Volunteer of Distinction for July in Region VIII, which consists of Texas and New Mexico. He is the owner of Glenn Garoon Real Estate in Fort Worth and was a lecturer in the UT Arlington Department of Finance and Real Estate from 2004-2008. **Mike Guyton** (BS, Electrical Engineering) was elected secretary for the board of directors of Leaders and Executives Advocating Diversity, a nonprofit organization in Fort Worth. He is vice president of customer relations for Oncor Electric Delivery.

## 1983

**Don Taylor** ('83 BS, '85 MS, Industrial Engineering) spoke at the UT Arlington College of Engineering Distinguished Speaker Series in March. He is department head of the Grado Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Virginia Tech.



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**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

## 1985

**Curt Culbertson** (BA, Physical Education/History) guided the Arlington Martin High School baseball team to the state tournament in 2012. The Warriors advanced to the semifinals before being eliminated. He was a member of the UT Arlington baseball team from 1983-1985. **S. Vance Renshaw** (BS, Biology) is facility medical director for the north Fort Worth location of First Choice Emergency Room, a freestanding emergency room system. He was named a Top Doc in Emergency Medicine by *Fort Worth, Texas* magazine in 2011.

## 1987

**Nola Schrum** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Baylor Medical Center in Irving.

## 1988

**Ha Duong** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at

Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. **Judy LeFlore** (BSN) received the Excellence in Dallas Nursing Award from *D Magazine*. She is an associate professor in the UT Arlington College of Nursing and director of the Pediatric, Acute Care, and Neonatal Nurse Practitioner programs. **Anthony Odiorne** (BBA, Finance) is one of seven people appointed to the Governing Board of the Texas Indigent Defense Commission by Gov. Rick Perry. He lives in Georgetown and is an assistant public defender at West Texas Public Defender.

## 1989

**Larry Beaver** ('89 BA, Criminal Justice; '00 BA, Spanish) is principal at Berry Elementary School in Arlington. Previously, he was an assistant principal at Remyse Elementary School in Arlington. **Angie Moss** (BBA, Accounting) is an audit partner at Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier LLP in Fort Worth. Previously, she was audit department head

for the Travis Wolff regional accounting firm in Dallas. **Debra Rundles** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Medical Center of Arlington.

## 1990

**Suzanne Dudek** ('90 BA, History-Elementary Education; '00 MEd, Educational Administration) is a 2012 Impact Grant Recipient in the Arlington Independent School District. Recipients are educators with creative ideas and innovative projects. She teaches at Amos Elementary School. **Cynthia Kling** (BA, History) was named Texas Region VII Secondary Teacher of the Year. She teaches art and drawing and serves as prom coordinator and one-act play assistant director at Athens High School in Athens, Texas. **Bruce Winders** (MA, History) is a historian and curator at the Alamo in San Antonio.

## 1991

**Shannon Lynd** (BA, English) was selected Teacher of the Year at Arlington's Pope Elementary School, where she teaches first grade.

## 1992

**Shelly Cole Hye** (BFA, Art) opened Elm Street Studio, an art gallery, creative studio, and event venue in Keller. **Jeanne Pakele-Curtis** ('92 MEd, Speech; '01 MEd, Educational Administration) is principal at Miller Elementary School in Arlington.

## 1993

**Mark McClellan** (BBA, Finance) was elected to the school board of the Wylie Independent School District in Abilene. He is a consumer loan officer at First Financial Bank in Abilene and a former golf club pro.

## 1995

**Serena Connelly** (MSSW) was appointed to the North Texas Food Bank board of directors.

She is vice president of the Harold Simmons Foundation. **Kathleen Helms** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Lifecare Hospital in Fort Worth. **Michael Nagra** (BSN) is chief of the clinical modeling branch in the manpower division, program analysis and evaluation, of Army Medical Command at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. His article "Human Capital Strategy: Talent Management" appeared in the October-December 2011 *US Army Medical Journal*. **Mendy Stogsdill** (MSSW) is a social worker for Cancer Services Network in Abilene. She has more than 20 years experience as a social worker in hospital and hospice settings.

## 1996

**Gary Manns** (MEdT, Education in Teaching) is elementary principal of the English-track Semiconductor Manufacturing International Corporation School in Shanghai, China. National Semiconductor funds the SMIC schools in China. **Valerie T. Smith** ('96 BA, History; '99 MA, Sociology) is dean of the Division of Mathematics, Behavioral, and Social Sciences at Bunker Hill Community College in Boston. Bunker Hill is the largest community college in Massachusetts. **Matt Varnell** ('96 BM, '04 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Sherrod Elementary School in Arlington.

## 1997

**T.L. Arnold** (BBA, Finance) is senior executive vice president and chief credit officer at OmniAmerican Bank in Fort Worth. **Kelly Hastings** ('97 BA, English; '02 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Young Junior High School in Arlington. Previously, she was an assistant principal at Martin High School in Ar-

lington. **Sheryl Skaggs** (MA, Sociology) is an associate program head for sociology in the School of Economic, Political, and Policy Sciences at UT Dallas. **Duane Thurston** (MEd, Education in Teaching) is principal at Orr Middle School in Mansfield. **John Van Zanten** (MBA, Business Administration) was promoted to partner at the Whitley Penn LLP accounting firm in Fort Worth.

## 1998

**Matthew Cashion** (BBA, MS, Accounting) is director of financial reporting for Athlon Energy LP, an independent oil and natural gas company based in Fort Worth. **Jennifer Hickman** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth. **David Mabry** (MA, English) was selected Teacher of the Year by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at Arlington's Nichols Junior High School, where he teaches eighth-grade history.

## 1999

**Brenda Allen** (BBA, Accounting) is a 2012 Impact Grant Recipient in the Arlington Independent School District. Recipients are educators with creative ideas and innovative projects. She teaches at Ditto Elementary School. **Amy Conner** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital in Rockwall. **John Dees** (BA, Interdisciplinary Studies) is principal at Peete Elementary School in Tyler. He had been an assistant principal in the Grand Prairie Independent School District since 2007. **Alan Dettlaff** ('99 MSSW; '04 PhD, Social Work) was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor at the Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University

of Illinois at Chicago. **Patrick Hofer** (BA, English) was selected Teacher of the Year at Arlington's Roark Elementary School, where he teaches third grade. **Jo Ann Coe Regan** (PhD, Social Work) is an accreditation specialist for the Council on Social Work Education in Washington, D.C. **Christopher A. Roberts** (BA, History) is head football coach at Polytechnic High School in Fort Worth. For the past three years, he was offensive coordinator/assistant track coach and advanced placement government/economics teacher at the school.

## 2000

**Laral Coe** (BS, Interdisciplinary Studies) is a 2012 Impact Grant Recipient in the Arlington Independent School District. Recipients are educators with creative ideas and innovative projects. She teaches at Knox Elementary School. **Barry Creamer** (PhD, Humanities) is vice president of academic affairs and professor of humanities at Criswell College in Dallas. **Tracy Good** (BA, Communication) is project manager at Intelligent Discovery Solutions in Washington, D.C.

**Robert G. Johansen** (MEd, Education in Teaching) is principal at Wood Elementary School in Arlington. Previously, he was principal at Bray Elementary School in Cedar Hill. **Jeongyi Lee** (MA, Linguistics) is a lecturer of Korean in UT Arlington's Department of Modern Languages. **Ben Myers** (BS, Economics) is executive vice president and editor of Urbanation, a high-rise condominium market research firm in Toronto. **Jeff Provence** (MEd, Educational Administration) is principal at Boles Junior High School in Arlington. He had been principal at Lamar High School in Arlington since 2006. **Charles "Chase" Tenney** (BA, History) teaches American history and is offensive coordinator for the

# Notable



## RODNEY WHITE

White ('07 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at the Young Men's Leadership Academy, which opened this fall in Fort Worth. YMLA is the first single-gender school for boys in the Fort Worth Independent School District. It has sixth- and seventh-graders and plans to add a grade level each year.

## JONI MCCOY

McCoy ('76 BA, Physical Education/English) was inducted into the Texas Girls Coaches Association Hall of Fame in July. She was head volleyball coach at Arlington Martin High School for 23 years, posting 677 wins and earning one state title. She retired in 2004.



## DANIEL P. HUGHES

Hughes ('83 BA, Political Science) was promoted to brigadier general in the Army. He serves as the Army's director of systems integration, overseeing efforts to modernize tactical communications used by the infantry, armor, and aviation. He served in the Persian Gulf War in 1991.

## TAMMARA WEBBER

Webber ('05 BA, English) published her fourth novel, *Easy*, which reached No. 19 on *The New York Times* e-book fiction bestseller list in July.



football team at Salado High School in Salado, Texas.

## 2001

**Diane Atkinson** (BA, Criminal Justice) is director of events for Pony Xpress Printing, one of the nation’s top promotional and apparel companies, based in Dallas. Previously, she was vice president of merchandise for the Texas Rangers Baseball Club. **Lisa Jackson** (’01 BA, ’03 MS, Psychology) is head women’s tennis coach at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She spent the last seven years as an assistant coach at LSU, helping the school earn four NCAA tournament appearances. She was recognized in 2007 as the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Southwest Region Assistant Coach of the Year. **Michael Wyant** (’01 BS, Interdisciplinary Studies; ’10 MEd, Curriculum and Instruction-Science) is a 2012 Impact Grant Recipient in the Arlington Independent School District. Recipients are educators with creative ideas and innovative projects. He teaches at Bailey Junior High School.

## 2002

**Russell Ghorishy** (BS, Mechanical Engineering) is vice president of Ryan Corp. in Newport Coast, Calif. **Chad Harkey** (BA, Political Science) is assistant vice president for risk management at Texas Bank and Trust in Longview. Previously, he was an assistant vice president and senior compliance officer with J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. in Dallas. **Mark Kammlah** (MEd, Educational Administration) is principal at Williams Elementary School in Arlington. **Chuks Onwuneme** (BS, Computer Science Engineering) launched Personify, a Seattle-based startup that uses mobile technology to help people give back to their

communities. He previously worked at Nokia in Dallas. **Koonnamas Punthutaecha** (PhD, Civil Engineering) received the Thai government’s highest civil servant award for his extensive work in civil transportation in rural roads. He is head of the maintenance management development system division for the Bureau of Maintenance in the Department of Rural Roads in Thailand. **Pete Unseth** (PhD, Linguistics) co-wrote an issue of the *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* using the theme “Language Use in Melanesia.” He is an associate professor at the Graduate Institute of Applied Linguistics in Dallas.

## 2003

**David Dillard** (MEd, Curriculum and Instruction) is principal at Bebensee Elementary School in Arlington. **Elizabeth Dinh** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is a general assignments reporter for KOMO 4 News in Seattle. **Shawn Duhon** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Carroll Senior High School in Southlake. Previously, he was an associate principal at Northwest High School in Justin and an assistant principal at Dawson Middle School in Southlake. **Jeff Langhammer** (BFA, Art) was selected for the “Forty Under Forty” awards by the *Fort Worth Business Press*, which annually names its top 40 businesspeople under age 40. He is CEO and cofounder of Illfusion Creative, a Fort Worth marketing agency. **Jessica Lavy** (BA, History) received the AWARE (Arlington Will Award and Recognize) Foundation Award of Excellence from the Arlington Independent School District. She teaches at Seguin High School. **Christy Tidwell** (’03 MA, ’11 PhD, English) is an assistant professor of English at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

## 2004

**Devin Bowlin** (BA, Interdisciplinary Studies) is an assistant principal at Little Elementary School in Arlington. Previously, he taught fifth and sixth grade at Morton Elementary School in Arlington. **Shah-veer Dhalla** (BS, Biology) is principal at Gunn Junior High School in Arlington. Previously, he was an assistant principal at Arlington High School. **Janet Dodd** (MA, French) is a lecturer of French in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Southern Methodist University. **Chris Englert** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Orr Middle School in Mansfield. **Cherie James** (BSN) received the Orthopedics Excellence in Nursing Award from *D Magazine*. She also was recognized as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She is a registered nurse at Methodist Charlton Medical Center in Dallas. **LaQuana Price** (BA, English) is pursuing a master’s degree in project management at St. Edward’s University. For the past eight years, she has worked as a child support officer and investigator in the Office of the Attorney General of Texas. **Maryann White** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Swift Elementary School in Arlington. Previously, she was an assistant principal at Blanton Elementary School in Arlington. **Willie Wimbrey** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Lillard Intermediate School in Mansfield.

## 2005

**Hetal Bhatt** (MS, Civil Engineering) is a traffic engineer for the city of Arlington. **Lisa Mann** (’05 BA, Speech; ’11 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Arlington High School. **David B. Palmer** (BS, Architecture) is a

project designer for Baskerville, an architectural firm in Richmond, Va. **Yan Wing Sit** (BBA, Marketing) is a global sample and program deployment officer for Avery Denison Corp. in Hong Kong. **Alan Tolleson** (BFA, Art) is vice principal at Uplift Education’s Summit International Preparatory School in Arlington. Previously, he was dean of students and taught art at SIPS, which is ranked No. 3 in *Newsweek*’s list of the nation’s Top 25 Transformative High Schools.

## 2006

**Stephanie Baird** (’06 BS, Interdisciplinary Studies; ’09 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) received the pre-K-through-first grade award from the Arlington Independent School District AWARE Foundation Award of Excellence. She teaches at Starrett Elementary School in Arlington. **Ben Bholan** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Ferguson Junior High School in Arlington. Previously, he was an assistant principal at Bowie High School and Boles

Junior High in Arlington. **Kristen Eriksen** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Keller Harvel Elementary School in Keller. Previously, she was an assistant principal at South Keller Intermediate School. **Rosa Orosco Newberry** (’06 BA, Advertising; ’12 MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Carter Junior High School in Arlington. **Steven Thomas** (BA, History) is head basketball coach at South Hills High School in Fort Worth. He played basketball at UT Arlington from 2002-2006 and ranks third in career scoring and fourth in rebounding.

## 2007

**Diana Beaty** (MSN) is a pediatric nurse practitioner in orthopedics at Children’s Medical Center Dallas. **Holly Behl** (BA, Spanish) operates Preciso Language Services, a translation consultancy based in Grand Prairie. She is a master-level licensed Spanish court interpreter in Texas. **Matt Geske** (BA,

Political Science) is director of governmental affairs for the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce. A member of the UT Arlington Alumni Association National Board of Directors, he previously was manager of government relations for the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. **Jennifer Stephen** (MSN, Nursing Administration) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She is health care education coordinator at Cook Children’s Medical Center in Fort Worth.

## 2008

**Inelda Acosta** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is principal at Crow Elementary School in Arlington. Previously, she was an assistant principal at Carter Junior High School in Arlington. **Brian Chen** (PhD, English) is an assistant professor and first-year writing coordinator at OCAD University, a school of art and design in Toronto. **Tiffani Owensby** (MA, Teaching in Mathematics) received the 2012 Faculty Excellence Award at Northwood University in Cedar Hill. She is chair of the Mathematics Department.

## 2009

**Kim Danek** (BBA, Accounting) was promoted to tax accountant at Sanford, Baumeister & Frazier LLP in Fort Worth after receiving her certified public accountant certification. **Stephanie Kreiling** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth. **Szu-Yen Liang** (PhD, Linguistics) was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the National Security Agency for the UTA StarTalk Program, which trains teachers as Chinese language instructors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Dr. Liang is a senior lecturer of Chinese in the Department of Modern Languages

at UT Arlington. **Ryan McCoy** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is the science coordinator for the Venus Independent School District in Venus, Texas. **Kelli Raibick** (MSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Eules-Bedford. **Megan Harris** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. **Brandon Howard** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Key Elementary School in Arlington. **Kayla Humphries** (BA, Broadcast Communication/Advertising) is a broadcast technician for Norwegian Cruise Lines. Her duties include taking videos of cruises, editing the footage, and producing it into commercials and DVDs for purchase on the cruise ships. **Jesus J. Martinez** (BM) was honored by the state of Texas with a resolution commending his composition “Threnody for 9/11.” He conducted the premiere of the work on the 10th anniversary of the terror attacks. **Patrick Modrovsky** (BA, Broadcast Communication) received a Lone Star Emmy Award as a producer of *DQ Big Game of the Week: The High School Spotlight* for Fox Sports Southwest. **Ashley Montgomery** (BA, Public Relations) works for TracyLocke, a creative ad agency in Dallas. **Patricia Mwanza** (BSN) is director of nurses at Baraton Healthcare in Houston. **Rona Ng’ethe** (MSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at the Texas Health Center for Diagnostics and Surgery in Plano. **Luke Saa-vedra** (BA, Criminal Justice and Criminology) is an Army second lieutenant stationed in Germany. He was commissioned to active duty through the UT Arlington Army ROTC

as well as providing website design, printing, and signage.

## 2011

**Linda Beaverstock** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Eules-Bedford. **Megan Harris** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital in Fort Worth. **Brandon Howard** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Key Elementary School in Arlington. **Kayla Humphries** (BA, Broadcast Communication/Advertising) is a broadcast technician for Norwegian Cruise Lines. Her duties include taking videos of cruises, editing the footage, and producing it into commercials and DVDs for purchase on the cruise ships. **Jesus J. Martinez** (BM) was honored by the state of Texas with a resolution commending his composition “Threnody for 9/11.” He conducted the premiere of the work on the 10th anniversary of the terror attacks. **Patrick Modrovsky** (BA, Broadcast Communication) received a Lone Star Emmy Award as a producer of *DQ Big Game of the Week: The High School Spotlight* for Fox Sports Southwest. **Ashley Montgomery** (BA, Public Relations) works for TracyLocke, a creative ad agency in Dallas. **Patricia Mwanza** (BSN) is director of nurses at Baraton Healthcare in Houston. **Rona Ng’ethe** (MSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at the Texas Health Center for Diagnostics and Surgery in Plano. **Luke Saa-vedra** (BA, Criminal Justice and Criminology) is an Army second lieutenant stationed in Germany. He was commissioned to active duty through the UT Arlington Army ROTC

program. **John Parker Scheideman** (MS, Accounting) is a tax associate at KPMG in Fort Worth. **Kimberly Stelwagen** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Hill Elementary School in Arlington. **Riqui Wartes** (BSN) was honored as one of the Dallas/Fort Worth Great 100 Nurses for 2012. She works at Baylor All Saints Medical Center in Fort Worth. **Francesca Washington** (BA, Broadcast Communication) is a reporter for the East Texas news team at KTRE-TV in Lufkin.

## 2012

**Derrick Crowder** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) was named Teacher of the Year at Cypress Creek High School and Secondary Teacher of the Year for the Cypress Creek Independent School District. His “Generation Green” project received national and local media coverage. **Lori Dunham** (BBA, Real Estate) is a permit coordinator in the design/engineering department for Time Warner Cable in Coppell. She works with cities, contractors, and utilities on expansion of the company’s network. **M. Kate Helmes** (BFA, Art) had her work featured in the Cohn Drennan Contemporary art gallery’s 2012 Summer Group Exhibition in Dallas. She creates fabric sculptures. **Jason Holt** (BA, Linguistics) is president of Global Metaphase LLC, a language service provider in Arlington. **Katie Palmquist** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Keene Elementary School in Keene, Texas. **Andrea Robins** (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) is an assistant principal at Boles Junior High School in Arlington. **Leslie Similly** (PhD, English) is a visiting assistant professor at Oklahoma State University. **Ginger Slavens** (BBA, Marketing) works in sales for Home Depot in Arlington.

# 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 and click on “First-Time Login” to create a personal, password-protected member profile.



## WEAR YOUR PRIDE

Looking for ways to show your Maverick spirit? Check out UT Arlington’s one-stop online shopping mall for hundreds of T-shirts, hoodies, 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.

## DAZZLING DEGREES

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 and click on “Shop” to make your selection.

## JOIN A CHAPTER

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

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**ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**  
 THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON



## In Memoriam

### 1950s

**Floyd B. Turner Jr.** ('58 AS, General Studies), 73, June 27 in North Richland Hills. Mr. Turner retired from IBM after more than 30 years of service.

### 1960s

**Robert O. Isham** ('62 BBA, Business Administration), 73, July 28 in Decatur. Mr. Isham was the owner of Rare Books Documents Art in Decatur. He was past president of both the Wise Regional Health System board of trustees and the Decatur library board. **Edward Anthony "Tony" Goodwin Jr.** ('64 BS, Medical Technology), 78, Aug. 3 in Fort Worth. Dr. Goodwin served in hospital administration in South Florida and in Texas at Galveston, San Antonio, Houston, and at Harris locations in North Texas. He was a co-founder of the Brazos River Conservation Coalition. **Harlan Huffman** ('65 BS, Industrial Engineering), 69, May 6 in McGregor, Texas. Mr. Huffman was an engineer for LTV Aerospace and Defense in Dallas. **Erceal V. Doty Jr.** ('69 BA, Mathematics), 64, July 9 in Denton. Mr. Doty worked for General Telephone and Electronics (now Verizon) for 29 years before retiring in 1999. He also worked at XO Communications in Dallas.

### 1970s

**William J. Foley** ('71 BS, '74 MS, Geology), 68, April 28 in Arlington. Mr. Foley worked with Cities Service Oil and Gas and with Hunt Oil Co., both in Dallas. He was director of the North Texas Irish Festival in 1993-94 and worked with the festival in other capacities for many years. **Laura Holley Jackson** ('71 BA, Spanish), 72, July 14 in Waco. Ms. Jackson was a master teacher in bilingual education for many years and later became a real estate broker. **Therona Adele Anderson** ('73 BA, Sociology), 60, April 14 in Lake Worth. Ms. Anderson was the director of volunteer services at Knapp

Memorial Methodist Hospital in Weslaco, Texas, from 1981-83. She later taught elementary school and was a school librarian. **Marilyn Vickie Lane** ('75 BA, Sociology; '77 BA, English), 63, July 13 in Arlington. Ms. Lane worked in the medical branch at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth. **Tom R. Anable** ('76 BBA, Business Administration), 58, Aug. 18 in Fort Worth. Mr. Anable was a certified public accountant and a founding partner of Anable & Associates in Fort Worth. Previously, he worked in the accounting and tax industry with KPMG Peat Marwick, Coopers & Lybrand, Texas American Bank, Interfirst Bank, Leonard Enterprises, and Chapdelaine & Associates. **Frederick Raynor Daulton** ('77 MA, Urban Affairs), 74, June 22 in Arlington. Mr. Daulton was an FBI agent for 20 years. After retirement he continued to work in investigation and security. He was an active member of the Dallas chapter of the Society of Former Special Agents of the FBI. **Mary Lynn Larmer** ('77 BBA, Business Administration), 57, June 10 in Lantana, Texas. Ms. Larmer worked in human resource management in the insurance and banking industries. She was a partner in a private human resource services company from 1988-2004 and then became a special education teacher in the Lewisville Independent School District. **Herbert Wynn Drumm Jr.** ('77 BBA, Accounting), 57, March 28 in Waxahachie. After earning his certified public accountant designation, Mr. Drumm worked at Dallas Power and Light in 1977 and continued with the family of companies, Texas Utilities and Oncor Electric, until his retirement in 2011. **Cynthia Anne Marietta** ('78 MA, Urban Affairs), 60, Aug. 16 in Savannah, Ga. Ms. Marietta was the budget and research director for the city of Dallas before going on to manage finances for three

New Mexico state agencies. Most recently, she was budget and research department director for the city of Savannah. She was a certified public accountant.

### 1980s

**Donald E. Horton** ('82 BS, Electrical Engineering), 64, May 2 in Arlington. Mr. Horton was an embedded software engineer at Lockheed Martin. **Charles Richard Rushing Jr.** ('83 BS, Chemistry), 54, July 19 in Arlington. Mr. Rushing was senior chemist at Kelly Moore Paint in Hurst. **Mikel E. Semler** ('84 BA, Communication), 50, June 18 in Wichita, Kan. Mr. Semler worked 15 years as a service training manager with American Airlines. Since 1999 he was director of trade support and service for celebrity cruises for Royal Caribbean Cruise Ltd. **Susan Margaret Ponce** ('85 BA, Political Science), 49, May 16 in Houston. Honored as a UT Arlington Distinguished Alumna in 2006, Ms. Ponce was a lawyer and senior vice president for Halliburton, which provides products and services to the energy industry. During 22 years with the company, she developed the Environmental Law Practice Group, oversaw 15 offices worldwide as chief commercial counsel, and became the company's first chief ethics and compliance officer. **Laurence Stevenson-Grund** ('86 BA, Political Science), 48, March 19 in Frisco. Mr. Stevenson-Grund was an accountant in the hotel food and beverage industry. He worked at the Embassy Suites-DFW for 20 years before moving to Lombardi Family Concepts. **Brian Karl Walkup** ('86 BSN), 55, May 18 in Joplin, Mo. Mr. Walkup was a registered nurse at Arlington Memorial Hospital and Parkland Hospital in Dallas. **Roger Blake Ford** ('88 BBA, Finance), 48, May 15 in Arlington. Mr. Ford was a shelving engineer for TRS

International Manufacturing. Previously, he was manager of the southwest territory for Network Instruments.

### 1990s

**Janice Liane Lambert** ('90 MArch), 63, July 8 in Fort Worth. Ms. Lambert worked at The Projects Group in Fort Worth and was instrumental in redesigning the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History. **Louis Laster** ('90 BA, Psychology; '96 MSSW; '08 PhD, Social Work), 43, March 26 in Fort Worth. Dr. Laster was an adjunct professor in the UT Arlington School of Social Work since 2007. **Sue Scibek** ('92 MSN), 67, June 17 in Graham. Ms. Scibek retired as a nurse practitioner at the Young County Family Clinic at the Graham Regional Medical Center. **George Michael Mosher** ('94 BA, English), 55, July 24 in Fort Worth. Mr. Mosher was an attorney in Fort Worth and served as an administrative specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau. He received his juris doctorate from Baylor Law School.

### 2010s

**Edward Walter Planche** ('11 BA, Interdisciplinary Studies), 36, July 3 in Arlington. Mr. Planche was a math instructor at Starrett Elementary School in Arlington.

### Faculty and Staff

**Shirley Fleischer Binder**, 82, July 26 in Dallas. From 1996-2009 Ms. Binder worked at UT Arlington in various capacities, including overseeing enrollment services. **Kenneth Richard Halliday**, 65, July 16 in Athens, Ohio. Dr. Halliday taught mechanical engineering at UT Arlington from 1977-79. **Lanny Michael Solomon**, 66, July 12 in Kansas City, Mo. Dr. Solomon was an accounting professor at UT Arlington from 1978-98. **Cecilia Thompson**, 91, Jan. 16 in Alpine, Texas. Ms. Thompson taught Theatre Arts at UT Arlington from 1963-67.

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