

UTA

**The University
of Texas
at Arlington
Magazine**

SPRING 2018



Meet the Class of 2021

*Excellence attracts
excellence. Get to know
UTA's outstanding new
freshmen. PAGE 30*



PERFECT PLACES
The Library Mall looked very different in 1967. Just ask these lovebirds. PAGE 42

VOL. **XLI**

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SPRING 2018

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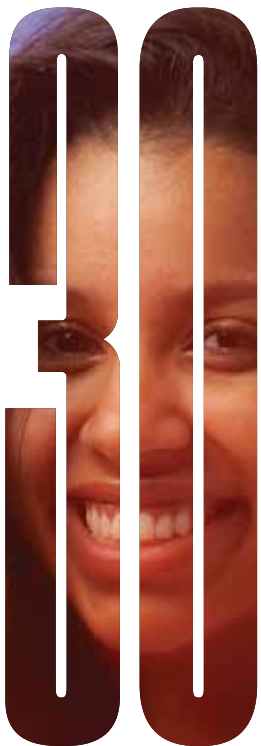
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FEATURES



Class of 2021

The fall 2017 semester brought a record-breaking freshman class to UTA. Meet some of the outstanding students who were attracted to UTA's reputation for excellence.



Pioneers of the 21st Century

As the School of Social Work celebrates its 50th anniversary, we take a look at how the school has grown to meet the times and make a huge impact on our communities.



20 Places on Campus You Didn't Know You Missed

Whether you've visited campus recently or not, you'll enjoy this hefty dose of nostalgia and Maverick memories.



Digitizing Our Histories

Preserving the histories of underserved groups is paramount for ensuring future progress. UTA's professors are leading the effort.



Just one of the CAPP Building's many cool features.

CAN STILL REMEMBER the smell of the Central Library's fourth floor, that wonderful old-book smell. I remember the seemingly endless rows of books and so many shelves wedged together that you had to turn a crank to widen the row and find the book you wanted. Most of all, I remember the suite tucked into a back corner of the fourth floor—the Writing Center.

I started working as a tutor at the Writing Center my sophomore year, and it very quickly became my favorite place on campus. For the first time, I was getting paid to work with words! Moreso, I was helping other students become better writers. I loved my coworkers and made lifelong friends. It's even the place where I met my husband.

There are other places I remember fondly, of course. Lipscomb Hall, where I lived my freshman year and met my best friend. The Pizza Hut (long gone) next to the Fine Arts Building where my friends and I regularly ate lunch. The old P.E. Building, where I took a volleyball class with friends. (I was terrible at it.)

Now as an employee, I've had the unique opportunity to reconnect with the University and the campus on a whole different level. I've gained new favorite places—the CAPP building is full of art and interesting nooks—and I've seen how my old favorites have changed. Some a little, some a lot. (Ransom Hall isn't a computer lab anymore!)

If you haven't had the chance to visit the campus in a while, you might be surprised at the incredible growth we've experienced, especially in recent years. Our

REFLECTING ON OUR CAMPUS MEMORIES

feature "20 Places on Campus You Didn't Know You Missed" will acquaint you with the campus, give you a little window into what the campus looks like now, and offer a peek at what it will look like in the near future. It also provides you with lots of great information about how you can reconnect with UTA.

We hope the feature and the rest of this issue inspire you to visit your alma mater, either for an upcoming event or just to take a literal stroll down memory lane. You'll find the University is always ready to welcome you back with open arms.

Amber Scott
(01 BA, English)
Editor

UTA

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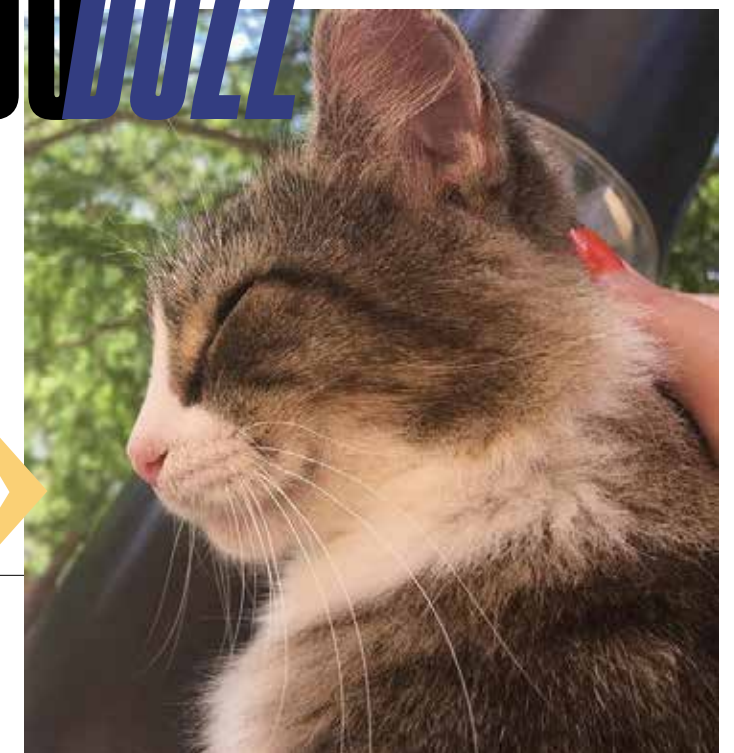
CAMPUS BUZZ

Connect with UTA across all social media channels with the handle @utarlington.



Proud to be an alum & thrilled to be speaking there next week. #Represent @LOUDPHILLIPS

From earlier today... just a little something to make y'all's night! #campuscat #fluffykitty #utarlington @linda_malat

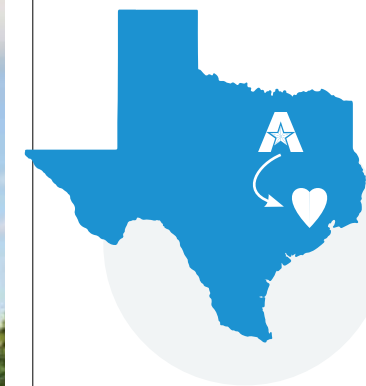


Greek BBQ with my favorite peeps! @VistaspKarbhari I hope you're ready for a year full of dancing, laughing and Moving Up! @KingDillianSLAY



I was once told I wouldn't graduate high school. Then it was feared I wouldn't make it past my first year of college here. Here we are a day away from graduation. Life is about defying odds. What are you against. #UTARlington #InsertLionKingQuoteHere

@KINGDOMSEEKER_



@UTAPolice sends 3 officers and a sergeant to support the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Police. Come home safe! @UTAPolice

It was a happy Labor Day after all visiting this little chipmunk of mine and seeing his world through his eyes. Sigh. What can I say? I'm a proud Maverick sibling!

@akivalam_





Updates from
the Mavericks
who shape
the UTA
community
near and far

Mav Roundup

HOMECOMING 2017 came to UTA this fall, bringing an abundance of Maverick spirit with it. The campus put on its blue-and-orange best—even our fountains got in on the fun! All that spirit seemed to do the trick: UTA women's basketball beat Incarnate Word, and the UTA men's team conquered Loyola Marymount in their respective Homecoming games. All together now: GO MAVS!



BEAT THE BUZZ

AFTER MALARIA STRIKES

Researcher examines the impact of the disease on the human body

Malaria kills more than 400,000 people annually, according to the World Health Organization.

But most studies about fighting malaria focus on the mosquito-borne parasite that causes the illness while ignoring the impact of the disease on the body, says Marco Brotto, the George W. and Hazel M. Jay Professor at UTA's College of Nursing and Health Innovation.

Early in 2017, Dr. Brotto co-authored a study in the *Malaria Journal* that shows how the right amount of diet and exercise can help lessen damage to the heart and skeletal muscles for those afflicted by the disease. The study's other co-author was Mauro Marrelli, an internationally renowned entomologist, parasitologist, and molecular biologist who was a visiting professor at the college in 2016.

Their study shows that people with moderate or high levels of malarial infection who maintain healthy diets and exercise regularly will be in a stronger position to vanquish the disease. They also will return to wellness sooner.

"People would not feel so tired and weak if they have targeted intervention," Brotto says. "The better shape you're in, the more prepared you are to fight infection."



BIG WINS

NATIONAL NO. 1s

UTA teams earn top rankings

Last April was a big month for teams from The University of Texas at Arlington. First, UTA's 17-member Maverick cheer squad took home top honors in the National Cheerleaders Association collegiate cheer competition. Then, a scrappy team of student gamers claimed first place in the Heroes of the Dorm National Championship on ESPN.

The cheer squad's first-place recognition came in the Small Coed Cheer Division I category. The team was judged on its execution of stunts, pyramids, tumbling, and overall sharpness during two days of intense competition against groups from all over the United States. The honor marks the squad's fourth consecutive title and fifth since 2010.

"This is the best team I've ever been on," says Morgan Rose, a sophomore nursing major and captain of the squad. "We have a great connection. I spend more time with them than my family, so they really are my family."

UTA's Esports Club was completing its Heroes of the Dorm run at about the same time. The March Madness-style tournament featured 64 schools from across the United States and Canada playing *Heroes of the Storm*, a multiplayer online battle arena video game. UTA was 29-0 during the tournament, ultimately defeating Louisiana State University in the finals in Las Vegas. The grand prize was free tuition for each team member's remaining collegiate years.



The No. 1s just keep coming. This fall, UTA's online Master of Education in curriculum and instruction was ranked No. 1 on *College Choice's* list of the nation's top 35 programs. Only three other Texas universities appeared on the list.

Postcard

Following Mavericks as they travel the world



At left, from left: Mara Alvarez-Delgado, Chrishawn Finister, Richard Valencia, Rebekah Chojnacki, Joslyn Krismer, and Melissa Brown stand in front of the Sibelius Monument. Part of the students' trip included a visit to the Helsinki University Library (above), the largest multidisciplinary library in Finland.



Finland and Sweden

WHO: Mara Alvarez-Delgado, Melissa Brown, Rebekah Chojnacki, Chrishawn Finister, Joslyn Krismer, and Richard Valencia, PhD students in educational leadership and policy studies

HOW: Through a spring 2017 study abroad course

WHY: "I had never traveled outside the country before. Having a university-planned trip with peers I trusted made it an easy first leap into the world of travels beyond the borders of the United States!" - M.B.

"Study abroad has been on my bucket list as a student. Addition-

ally, I was curious to see if the educational system in Finland was as great as everything I had heard that it was. Having some Scandinavian heritage also made the trip very special for me." - R.C.

"I was really interested in learning about how other countries serve children with disabilities. I was hoping to learn about any new programs or interventions used for students

with disabilities that could be used in our American schools." - C.F.

LESSONS THEY TOOK BACK HOME: "When you give students more choices, and you differentiate lessons and focus on actual education and overall student health, the students will perform well in school and have a better attitude and sense of well-being." - R.V.

"Support from society is crucial when making major changes in the educational system. The trust placed on teachers is paramount to student success, along with exceptional teacher preparation." - M.A.D.

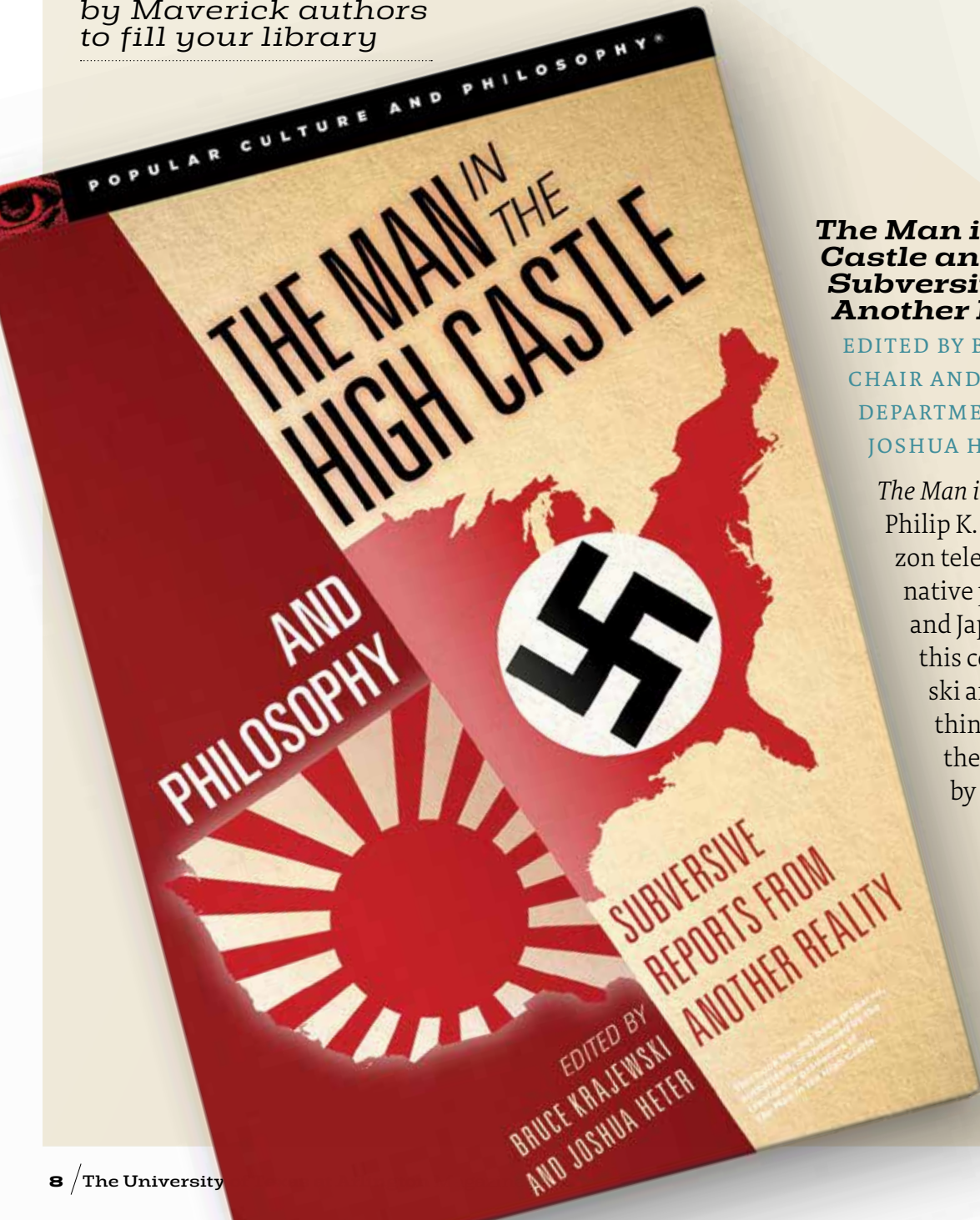
"I gained a better understanding of the possibilities for change in our educational system. I came home inspired and hopeful." - J.K.

Well Read

Fascinating books
by Maverick authors
to fill your library

WHAT ARE YOU READING?

Are you reading a book by a UTA author? Did you write your own tale of wit and wonder? Let us know at utamagazine@uta.edu.



The Man in the High Castle and Philosophy: Subversive Reports From Another Reality

EDITED BY BRUCE KRAJEWSKI,
CHAIR AND PROFESSOR IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, AND
JOSHUA HETER

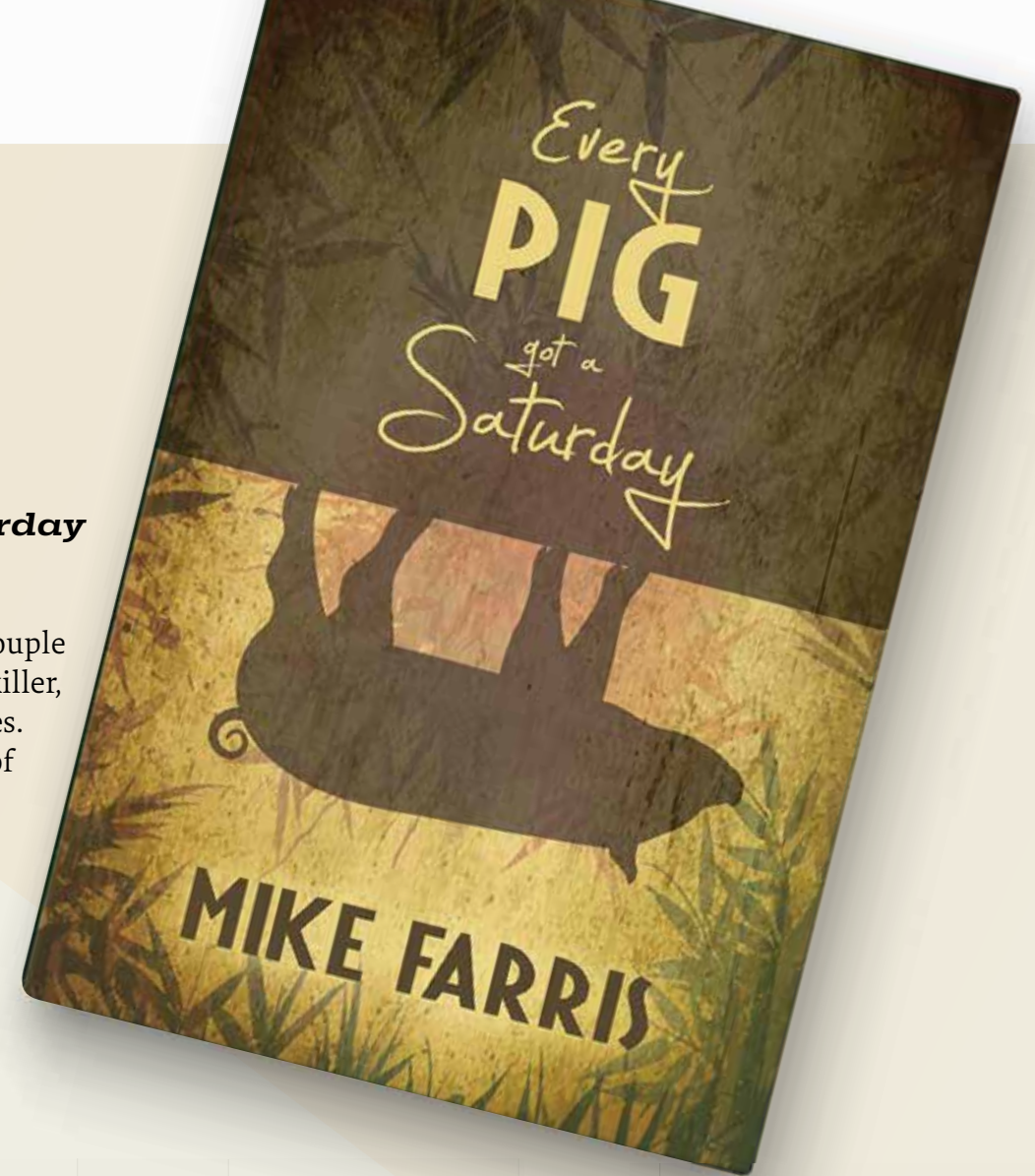
The Man in the High Castle, a novel by Philip K. Dick and a popular Amazon television show, tells an alternative present in which Germany and Japan won World War II. In this compilation by Drs. Krajewski and Heter, 22 professional thinkers take a deep dive into the philosophical issues raised by the story.

Every Pig Got a Saturday

BY MIKE FARRIS

'77 BA, POLITICAL SCIENCE

While on their honeymoon, a couple crosses paths with an escaped killer, resulting in tragic consequences. What follows is a deadly game of cat and mouse that takes them from Barbados to Dallas and back again.



SPORTS
Shooting for the Record: Adolph Toepperwein, Tom Frye, and Sharpshooting's Forgotten Controversy
BY TIM PRICE
'85 BA, ENGLISH

Former *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* sportswriter Tim Price tells the real-life story of the sporting-guns superstars who chased world records—and how it went wrong.



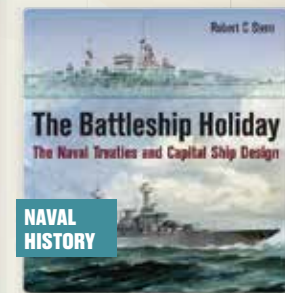
HISTORICAL FICTION
Full Circle: A Refugee's Tale
BY JOE VITOVEC
'74 BA, URBAN STUDIES

Joe Vitovec recounts the journey of a young man torn from his country during the course of two major wars. The protagonist ultimately lands in America but finds that freedom can come at a terrible price.



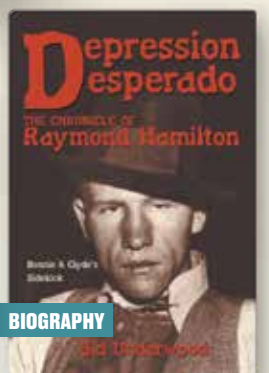
BIOGRAPHY
Arredondo: Last Spanish Ruler of Texas and Northeastern New Spain
BY BRADLEY FOLSOM,
LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Joaquín de Arredondo was one of the most influential and ruthless leaders in North American history. Bradley Folsom's in-depth biography takes a lively look at his life.



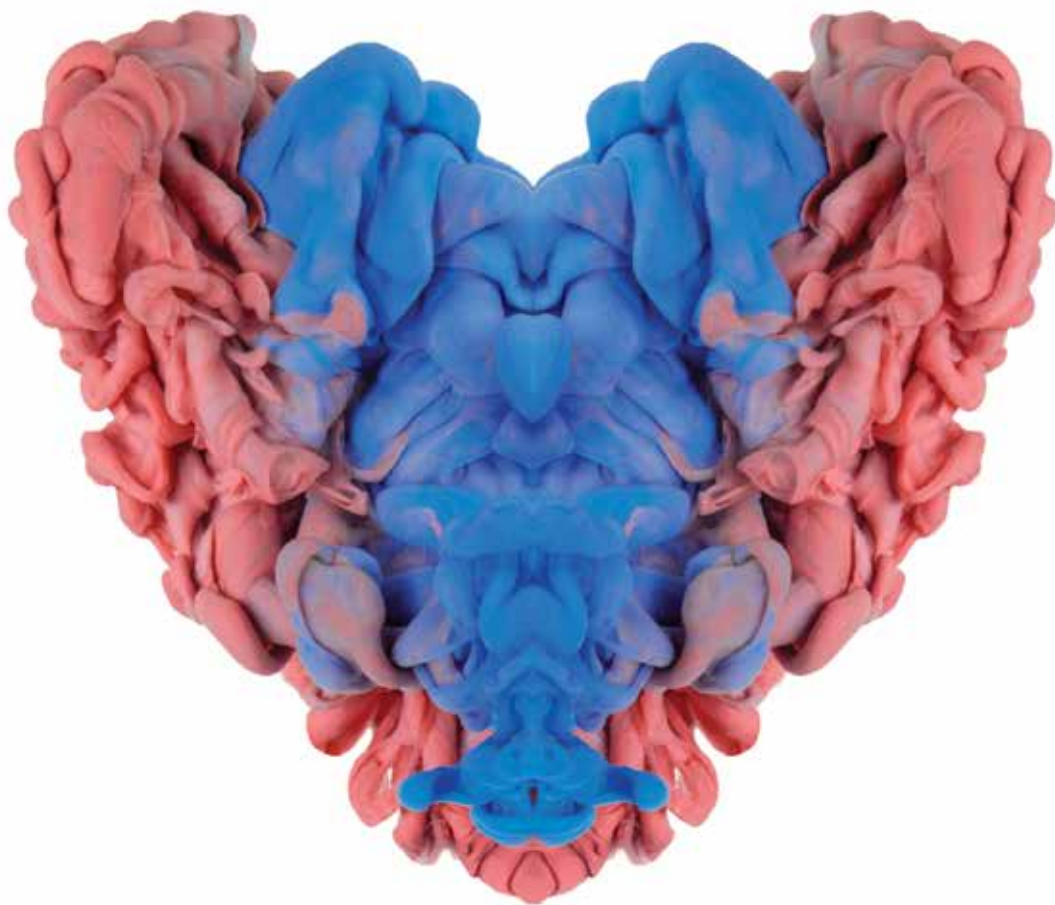
NAVAL HISTORY
The Battleship Holiday: The Naval Treaties and Capital Ship Design
BY ROBERT C. STERN
'83 MS, COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

In *Battleship Holiday*, Robert C. Stern investigates the treaties curtailing and restricting battleship construction after World War I, including a look at technical developments and how well these modern ships stood the test of war.



BIOGRAPHY
Depression Desperado: The Chronicle of Raymond Hamilton
BY SID UNDERWOOD
'71 BA, ENGLISH

Part of the Barrow gang, Raymond Hamilton was born in a tent in Oklahoma and died in a Texas electric chair. In this book, Sid Underwood details the life and death of the notorious career criminal.



BIOINKED

ENGINEERING BLOOD VESSELS

Innovative approach to printing blood vessels offers hope for kids

Printing blood vessels isn't quite as simple as opening a document and clicking "print," but Yi Hong, bioengineering assistant professor, is working on improving the process.

Through a \$211,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Hong is developing bioinks that can be used to create unique tissue-engineered blood vessels using a 3-D printer. These bioinks will allow doctors to create new blood vessels for children with vascular defects, which are difficult to treat with the methods used for adults. The more common artificial vascular grafts are not ideal because grafts do not grow at

the same rate as a child's body, making multiple surgeries necessary to match that growth.

While 3-D printed tissue-engineered blood vessels are being explored by other groups, Hong's approach could allow researchers to create viable, patient-specific blood vessels that are less fragile than current tissue-engineered blood vessels.

"The development of new blood vessels has been a daunting challenge," says Michael Cho, chair of the Department of Bioengineering. "Dr. Hong's approach offers a feasible alternative to overcome the challenges involved."



MAVERICK ECOSYSTEM

STARTUP A RUNAWAY SUCCESS

Alumnus leverages Maverick network into successful entrepreneurship

Local Arlington resident Scott Parsinen ('94 BA, Business) started his company, Cadmus Dental, by participating in UTA's StartUp Lounge, an innovation space that provides workshops and holds interactive discussions to help entrepreneurs move their business ideas or companies forward. Close to 400 students, faculty, and community members have passed through the StartUp Lounge's EpicMavs and EpicMavs Deep Dive entrepreneurship courses.

"Through EpicMavs, I was able to network with amazing fellow entrepreneurs and get the support I needed during the difficult startup process," Parsinen says. Cadmus has seen great success, and now Parsinen is developing additional opportunities for Cadmus and UTA.

"Under our Strategic Plan 2020 Bold Solutions | Global Impact, the University aims to be at the vanguard of nurturing budding entrepreneurs who will create products, services, and high-quality jobs in our community and contribute to the world through their intellectual talent and unwavering fearlessness," says President Vistasp Karbhari.

Talk

Miso Kim
Junior, Art/
Painting
Home country:
South Korea

When did you first become interested in art?

I've had an interest in art since I was young, and a big part of the reason was my artist parents. It is a blessing to have affectionate parents who always showed delicate and wise ways of self-expression.

What inspires you?

I believe everything can inspire me in many ways.

You attended the Yale University Norfolk Summer School of Art program. What was the selection process like?

The Yale program is highly competitive, and they only select 26 students each year internationally. That prestigious reputation was a big pressure during the application process.

How did you feel when you found out you were accepted?

Even though I was confident in my work, I could not believe I was selected to attend the program and receive the scholarship.

You're originally from South Korea but came to Arlington to study abroad as a high school freshman. What was that adjustment like? Did Arlington surprise you?

Studying abroad in America alone was and is always hard. Encountering and overcoming the language barrier were the hardest since I did not learn English before I came to America, unlike many other international students. Arlington in particular did not surprise me, but America in general astounded me in cultural ways. It was and is a valuable experience to communicate with various different cultures in one country.

What's next for you after you graduate?

I am planning on going to graduate school.

How is UTA helping support your future plans?

Faculty members are very supportive of me as a growing artist.

Do you think creativity is exclusive to artists? In other words, can anyone be creative?

In my personal opinion, anyone can be creative, but not many can actually execute and use their creativity to change something typical to something new.

Just for fun, what's your favorite color?

I value every color that exists on this earth.





DESIGNING WOMAN

BRUSH WITH FAME

Student wins Halle Berry website contest

Veronica Sanders has learned chances are worth taking.

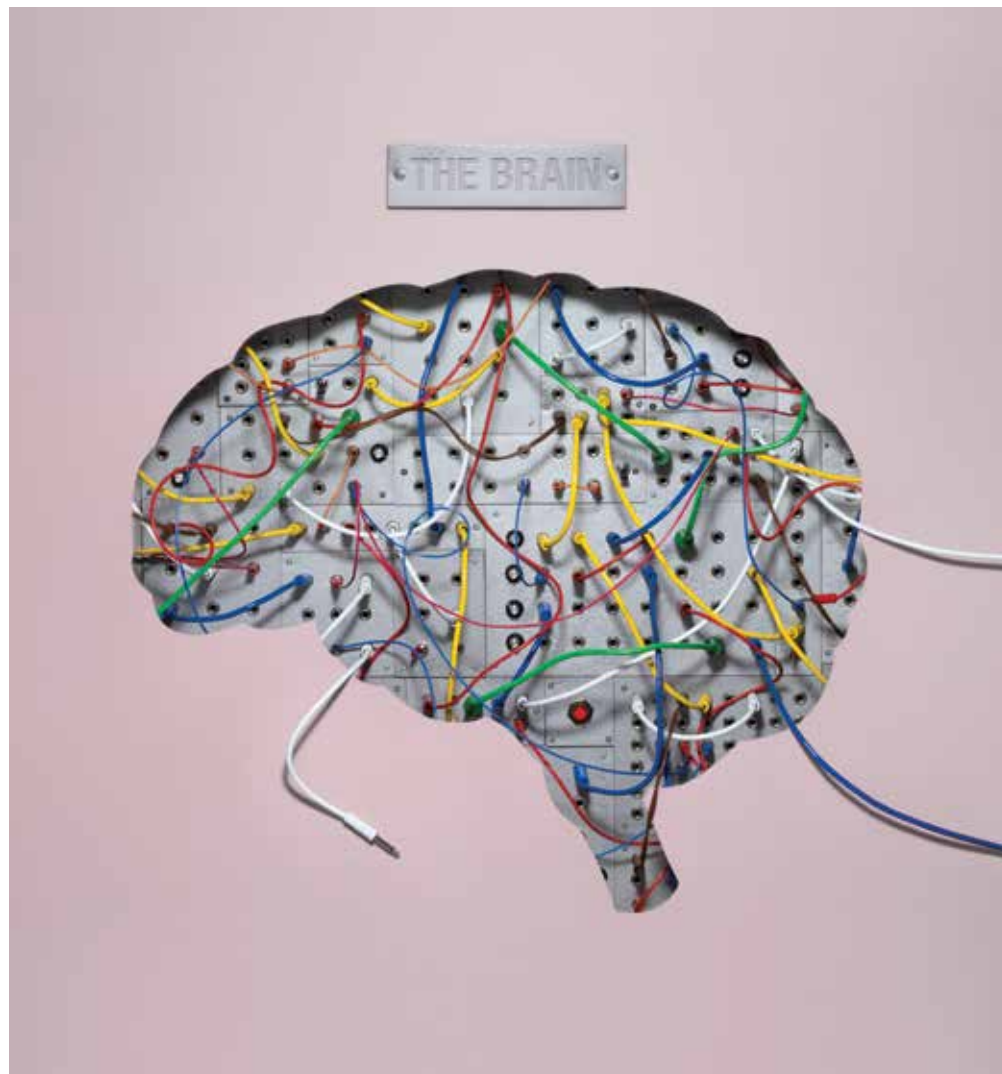
Sanders was a teenage mom with few career opportunities. Her husband urged her to go back to school, and at The University of Texas at Arlington, she discovered a passion for design.

As an interior design student and mother to three children, Sanders has little free time. But she is thankful for a few mindless moments spent on Facebook in late 2016, when a post from actress Halle Berry caught her attention. The movie star had just announced a contest to redesign her Hallewood website. Sanders entered.

A couple of months later, her phone rang. On the other end of the line, an unfamiliar voice asked if she was Veronica Sanders. Then she heard, "Congratulations! You won!" Sanders was confused. "I won what?" she asked. The answer took her breath away: "You won the Hallewood contest. This is Halle Berry!"

Berry flew Sanders to Hollywood, where the two collaborated on a site to debut in late 2017.

"Even though this is a big step in my career, I still feel like I've got work to do," Sanders says. She plans to pursue a career in restaurant and hotel design. "I want to design a space that's so beautiful, people from all over the world will come see it."



BRAINIAC

MAPPING NEW TERRITORY

Alumnus uses innovative techniques in neuropathology

Synapses began firing when Ronald Swatzyna ('97 MSSW; '04 PhD, Social Work) walked back into the social work building on UTA's campus. He was reminded of a paper he wrote on biofeedback 22 years earlier when he was earning his master's degree. With that visit, the U.S. Air Force veteran and firefighter was inspired to earn his doctorate.

Dr. Swatzyna is now director of electro-neuro analysis research at the Tarnow Center in Houston. He's using innovative techniques to identify and treat root causes of neurological conditions. These techniques include use of the

standard electroencephalogram (EEG), which records electrical activity or brain waves, and quantitative electroencephalogram (qEEG), which allows Swatzyna to create brain maps using advanced mathematical and statistical analysis.

He says that classes he took at UTA helped him connect big data to its application in linking neuronal abnormalities with presenting symptoms.

"Because of that and my many publications and presentations, I'm on the leading edge of personalized medicine linking neuropathology to symptoms, regardless of diagnosis," Swatzyna says.



TURTLE POWER

...and tortoise, too. Above, a Spiny turtle shell and, at right, an Impressed tortoise shell, both among many on display at the ARDRC.



Scene

Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center West Campus

It's hard not to feel a little creeped out in the Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center (ARDRC). Filled with rows of jarred dead amphibians and reptiles floating in preservation fluid, the center could challenge even the most stoic scholar. But spend some time with Carl Franklin, biological curator of the center, and you'll gain appreciation for what it really is: a rare look at a whole world of biodiversity. "It's a celebration of that diversity," he says. "It represents decades of scientific inquiry and discovery." Turn the page to get an inside view.

HERP

INSIDE VIEW

Home to the largest herpetology collection in Texas, the ARDRC surpassed 200,000 specimens from about 90 different countries this year after an extensive donation from the University of Louisiana at Monroe. The center is closed to the public, so enjoy this special sneak peek inside.

Herp History

1956
The center is founded as a small natural history specimen collection by William F. Pyburn, UTA professor emeritus.

1970s
Dr. Pyburn begins traveling to the jungles of Colombia. There, he collects unique specimens to bring back to the University that result in a number of scientific discoveries considered valuable to the field of herpetology to this day.

1980s
The collection undergoes tremendous growth, expanding from about 3,000 specimens to around 60,000 by the end of the decade.

1990s
The collection continues to grow, containing about 100,000 specimens by the turn of the century.

2004
The entire collection moves from the basement of the Life Science Building to the newly constructed Amphibian and Reptile Diversity Research Center.

2017
The University of Louisiana at Monroe donates 50,000 specimens, bringing the center's count of specimens to more than 200,000. The donation represents nearly every species of reptile and amphibian that exists in Louisiana.



LIVE FRIEND
The ARDRC is home to some live specimens, too. Pictured here is the center's **Texas indigo snake**, native to Texas and Mexico.



BABY BLUE
Known as a **monkey tree frog**, this small amphibian is found in the rainforests of Venezuela.



LEAPING LIZARD
The **dusky gliding lizard**, often called a flying lizard, is known for its ability to leap and glide long distances. This one was collected in Indonesia.



RUBBERNECKER
Another live friend at the ARDRC is this **snake-necked turtle**. The aquatic species is native to Australia and is known for its long, curving neck.



RATTLED
The **Western diamondback rattlesnake** is a venomous snake found throughout many southern states, California, and Mexico.



BIG SAL
The **Chinese giant salamander** is the largest amphibian in the world. It can grow to more than 5 feet long and weigh over 100 pounds.



LIVING LARGE
The biggest frog on Earth is the **goliath frog**. It occupies a small area of Cameroon, where this specimen was collected, and Equatorial Guinea.



SNAKE IMPOSTER
Tricky, tricky! The **legless lizard** is found throughout the world in a variety of habitats. This specimen was collected in Colombia.



ANNOUNCEMENT

LEADING EXCELLENCE

Renowned scholar, leader joins UTA

The Maverick family grew even stronger this summer with the addition of Teik C. Lim. Dr. Lim joined UTA as provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Lim previously served as dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Cincinnati. In his five years there, he helped guide the university through significant growth in enrollment, reputation, faculty size, corporate partnerships, research funding, and endowments.

"I would like to thank the search committee for recruiting an exceptional scholar, researcher, and advocate of collaboration and global engagement," says President Vistasp Karbhari.

In his role, Lim works closely with Dr. Karbhari to provide overall leadership for the campus. As provost and vice president for academic affairs, he oversees academic administration and student success programs.

"UTA's aspiration to become the model 21st-century urban research university, an institution on the move, and the outstanding team President Karbhari has assembled are what attracted me to this position," Lim says. "The University already has all the necessary elements to achieve its ambition. I believe my experiences position me well to collaborate with the deans and faculty effectively and to support UTA's commitment to access and excellence."

CHEMICAL REACTIONS

THE SCIENCE GUYS AND GALS

Ambassadors inspire STEM learners

One part class session and three parts explosive reactions, UTA's science ambassadors entertain and educate with experiments and the old "hand on fire" trick. As 200 elementary school students file into a UTA classroom, they eagerly await the show to come. Like a mad scientist's laboratory, the scene is set with colored beakers and containers labeled "flammable" and "volatile"—two words that fairly accurately describe the show.

You'll hear the same disclaimers on an episode of *MythBusters*. "Don't try this at home," the ambassadors stress, progressing through exciting displays of

chemical reactions, colored flames, and even some well-timed explosions.

Averaging about 110 shows each year, this program has engaged over 100,000 students, teachers, and parents through interactive learning since 2008. Not just some boring textbook, this program reveals how fun science can be.

"Our science ambassadors are student leaders from every background you can think of," says Greg Hale, executive director and chief mad scientist. "We want our audience to not just be excited about the science, but to see themselves reflected in the ambassadors."



DO TRY THIS AT HOME
CHEM-LUMINESCENCE

What you'll need:
Two light sticks (frequently seen at hardware or camping stores)
One drinking glass containing salt water and ice
One drinking glass containing hot tap water. **Safety note:** Don't use water that is hotter than the tap.

Steps:
1. Turn out the lights.
2. Bend one light stick (activating the chemical process to make it glow) and place it in the drinking glass containing salt water and ice.
3. Bend the second light stick and place it in the drinking glass containing hot tap water.

Observations: Which reaction happened faster? Which reaction glows brighter?

Crash Course

ARCH 4556 Design Studio (Parallel Construction)

COLLEGE COURSES don't typically make national news, but in late spring, a College of Architecture, Planning, and Public Affairs course was making headlines in newspapers from places as far-flung as California and Washington, D.C. Students in architecture Lecturer Brad McCorkle's senior design/build program, Parallel Construction, spent the semester designing and building micro houses on a plot of land near campus.

Just how "micro" are these houses? One is only 360 square feet, while the other is 390 square feet. The two tiny houses use high-efficiency HVAC units and were sprayed with a high-rated insulation. The units also have metal skins that reflect a large amount of radiant heat. Metal roofs allow for rainwater harvesting and solar energy collection. McCorkle says the tiny houses have received some interest from nonprofit organizations and private individuals who have odd-sized residential lots.

Throughout the development of these tiny houses, students gained hands-on experience in all facets of the design/build process, from planning and budgeting to all of the factors that play into physical construction.

"Not only do our architecture students experience the complete process of taking a project from inception to completion, they also gain insights into those processes beyond what a paper studio can address," McCorkle says.



EXTRA CREDIT

Big Little House: Small Houses Designed by Architects, by Donna Kacmar, is the primary book McCorkle assigns to his students for the course. "It's a great resource for smaller homes designed by architects," he says. "It gives the reader some insight as to how the

creative use of space, light, and details can make a very small space seem much larger and more open, elevating the experience of the space. Some of the decisions students made in design and construction were based on some of the ideas in this book."



Gallery

Prince Varughese Thomas

A striking voice from the Indian diaspora

THE NEW YORK TIMES called the work of Prince Varughese Thomas ('92 BA, Psychology) "an endearing marriage of high and low." They were reviewing his diptych "For Regret," which was part of a larger collection about cultural dislocation at the Hammond Museum in New York.

The associate professor of art at Lamar University, who was born in Kuwait but became a naturalized U.S. citizen, often explores such cultural complexities in his art, primarily through photography, video, and drawing.

Thomas says his love of art was rekindled at UTA when he decided to minor in the subject at the end of his undergraduate career—he even stayed an extra year to earn the credits that he needed.

"My fellow students and I had such a passion and commitment to learning, making art, and being challenged by our professors and our peers," he says. "I am grateful for this period in my life because it instilled in me a work ethic that I hold even now. Those introductory steps in the arts still hold a strong foundation for how I conduct myself as a professional while continuing my education and creative exploration."



1. "PORTRAIT OF STEPHEN COLBERT"

LightJet print on metallic paper, from the *Newsmaker* series

2. RESURRECTION

Video still from a six-minute looped video using single-channel video, stereo, and binaural audio

3. "VALAIS, SWITZERLAND: MARCH 13, 2012"

From *The Space Between Grief and Morning* series, charcoal on Stonehenge paper

4. "GREAT GRANDMOTHER"

Giclee print on metallic paper, from the *Ancestors* series

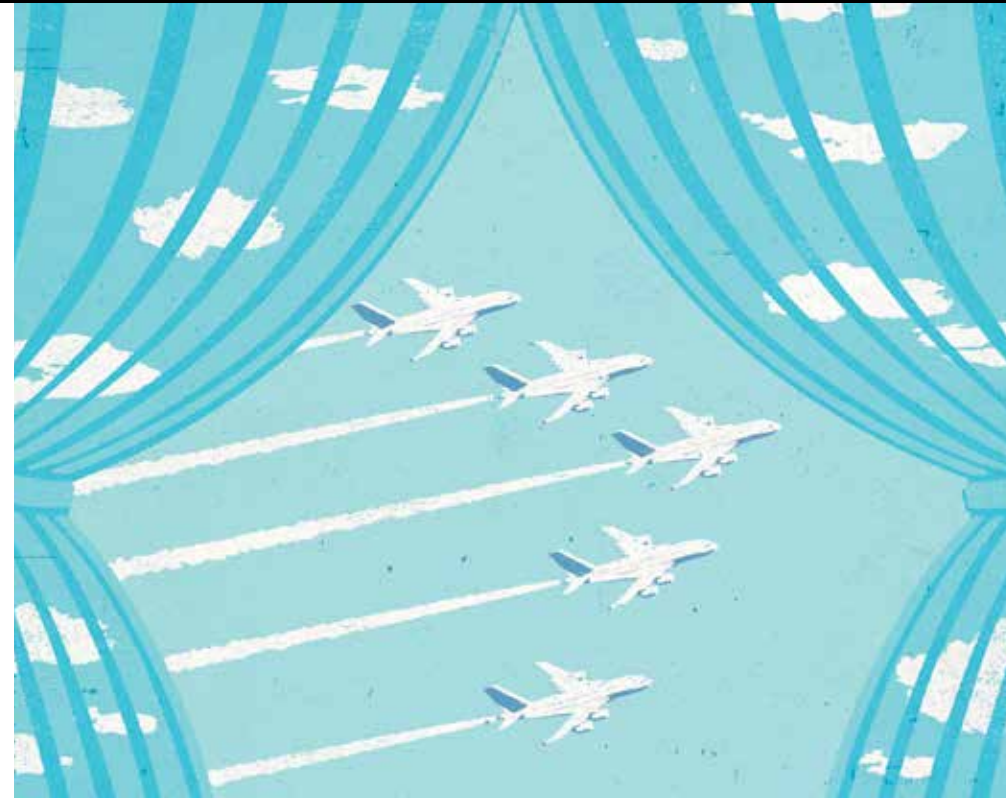
Collected

Camp Bowie Army Day from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram Collection



Last summer, Special Collections was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to continue digitizing film negatives documenting the transformation of Fort Worth during World War II. The images show young men in military recruiting stations, women selling war bonds, and more. “These images are a valuable

aid to understanding how Texans responded to World War II,” says Rebecca Bichel, dean of libraries. “We appreciate the Texas State Library and Archives Commission’s support in helping us provide access to this unique collection.” Above, soldiers of the 142nd Infantry walk through a simulated gas attack at Camp Bowie in Brownwood, Texas, on April 7, 1941.



SAFER FLIGHT

PLANE GAINS

Researchers help Boeing build better aircraft

The University of Texas at Arlington has received a \$600,000 grant from Boeing to test composite components. The researchers involved hope to develop protocol for determining when those components might fail. Industry officials believe the research could lead to longer-lasting aircraft.

Andrew Makeev, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering and director of the Advanced Materials and Structures Lab, will lead the project. Endel Iarve, a professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering who works in the UTA Research Institute’s Institute for Predictive Performance Methodologies, is the co-principal investigator.

“At the end of the research, Boeing and the Air Force want to understand and have confidence that our analysis can be used to predict the remaining useful life of composite airframe structures,” Dr. Makeev says.

Composite aircraft began dominating the commercial aircraft market with the production of the Boeing 787 and Airbus A350, and they will continue to do so thanks to expected upgrades of legacy

aircraft platforms. Looking forward, on the Department of Defense application side, Lockheed Martin has been ordered to produce more than 3,000 F-35 aircraft. Similarly, the U.S. Army and the helicopter industry are facing the challenge of replacing more than 6,300 military vertical lift aircraft.

Advanced polymeric composites are playing a major role in the design of high-performance and lightweight aircraft structures. However, the remaining useful life of these structures is uncertain due to the complexity of failure mechanisms and their susceptibility to manufacturing irregularities, which may be precursors to structural damage and impose risks that cannot be lessened exclusively by field testing.

“What Dr. Makeev is doing could have significant implications on aircraft design and certification,” says Erian Armanios, chair of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. “Developing a capability to predict composite airframe strength and durability is bound to have industry-wide implications.”



LEAF AND STEM

TRANSFER SUPPORT

UTA professor earns top grant for research

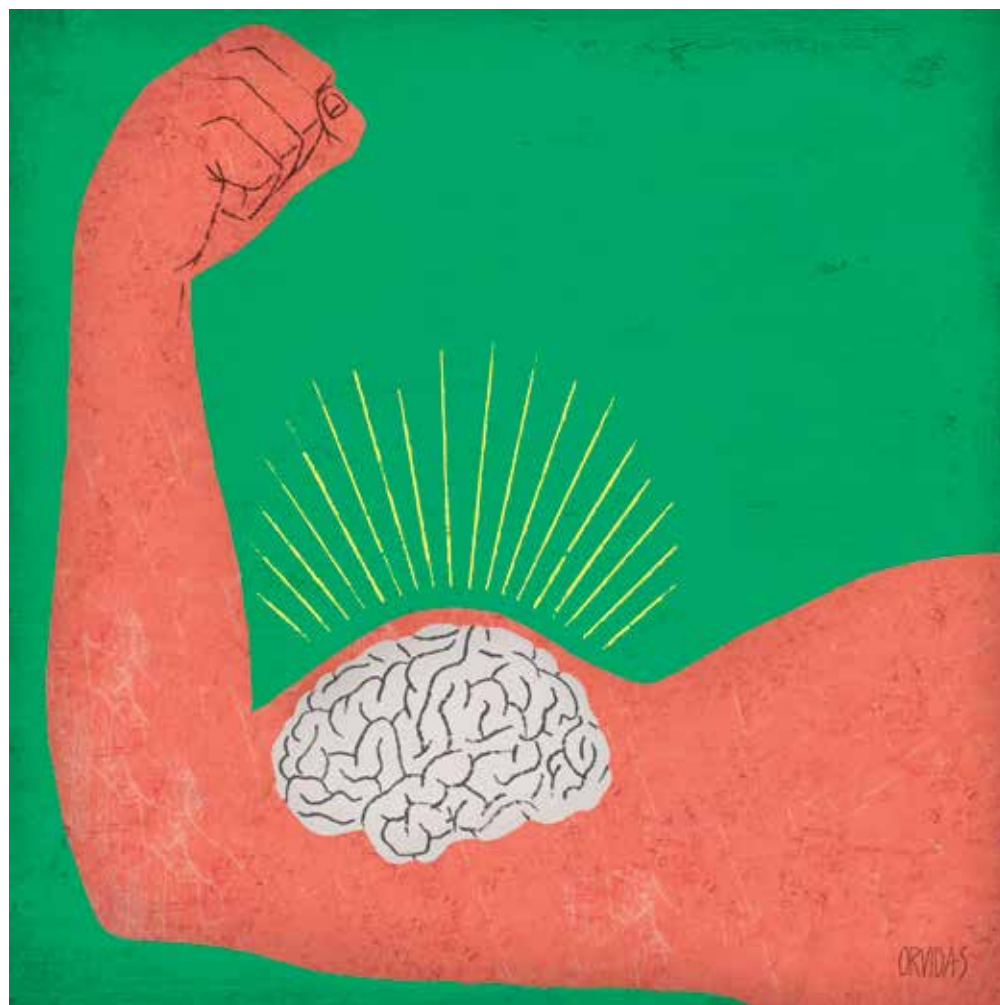
Yi “Leaf” Zhang made history when she became the College of Education’s first National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) grant recipient. The assistant professor received the award for her proposal to help community college transfer students more easily and quickly attain degrees in STEM fields.

Dr. Zhang’s grant is expected to total \$452,257 during the next five years. Hers is the only CAREER award for a Texas researcher funded by the NSF’s Division of Undergraduate Education.

“I hope to develop a community college transfer student typology or definition of distinct subgroups,” Zhang says. “From there, I’ll discover the relationships between reference group membership and transfer students’ STEM choice, performance, persistence, and STEM baccalaureate degree attainment.”

She also plans to provide a better understanding of how transfer students navigate their way to college and success in STEM fields.

“This could lead to the development of tailored support for transfer students,” Zhang says. “We believe the findings can also suggest effective intervention and prevention programs to help transfer students avoid taking missteps as they progress to obtaining baccalaureate degrees in STEM fields of study.”



LET IT FLY
AIRPORT GUIDANCE

UTA faculty member examines airport sustainability

Meghna Tare, executive director of UTA's Institute for Sustainability and Global Impact, has been named to the Committee on Economic and Social Sustainability for Airports by the Transportation Research Board. The board provides independent objective analysis and advice to the nation to help solve complex problems and inform policy decisions.

"I am the only representative from a university campus on the committee of 11 people," Tare says. "My participation will give us a greater understanding of the sustainability needs of airports and will open up new research collaboration and partnership opportunities."

UTA was recently recognized for earning the Sustainability Tracking, Assessment and Rating System Silver rating through the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education. The University has programs in areas such as energy efficiency, green purchasing, carbon management, waste reduction, and water conservation.

"Meghna's work at UTA improving our environmental footprint, along with her experience developing a sustainability action plan for DFW International Airport, have provided an excellent basis for this participation on a national level," says John Hall, vice president for administration and campus operations.

ILLUSTRATION BY KEN ORVIDAS

TRIVIA PURSUIT

NEW NEURO CHAMPIONS

Student team conquers Brain Bowl

A UTA team won the 2017 Brain Bowl, outsmarting the defending champions from the University of Texas at Dallas. The trivia event was organized by the Center for Biomedical Neuroscience at UT Health San Antonio.

The Brain Bowl, a premier event of Brain Awareness Week for the neuroscience community, includes three rounds of short-answer questions that increase in difficulty. The final round consists of a single complex challenge question, where teams wager points they have accumulated in previous rounds.

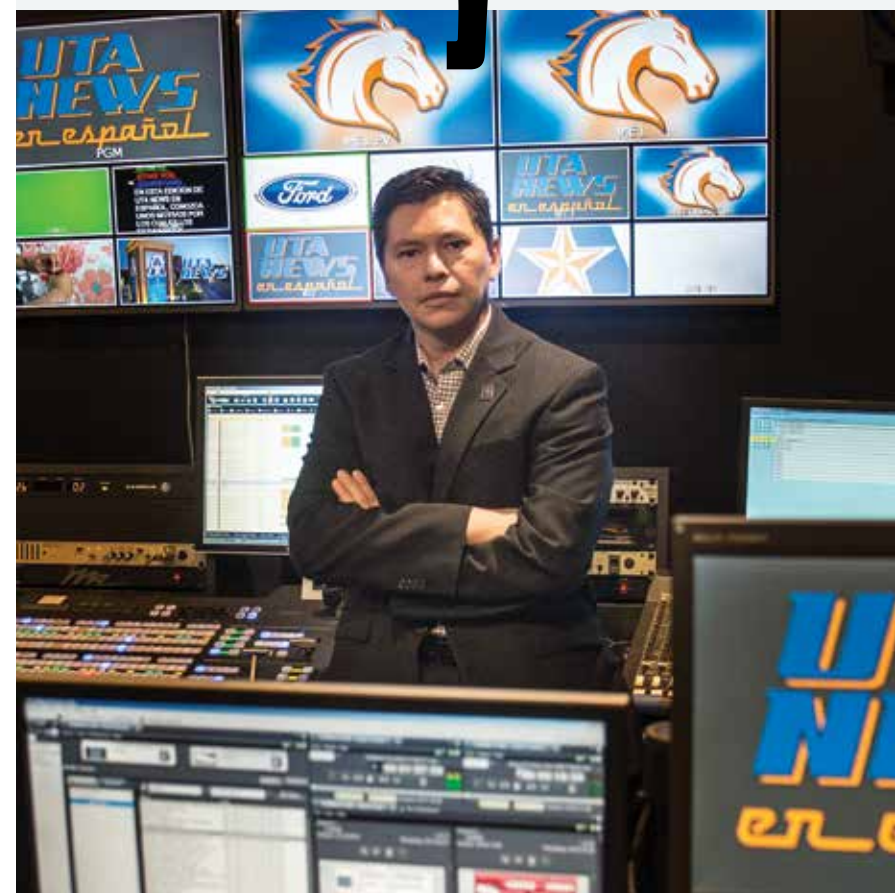
UTA's team included Brandon Butler, who graduated in 2016 with a degree in anthropology and biology; Josimar Her-

nandez, a psychology major; J.C. Holt, a biology and psychology major; and Ariel Elmore, a psychology graduate who began her doctorate in neuroscience this fall. The team mentor was Linda Perrotti, associate professor of psychology.

The questions asked during the Brain Bowl cover many fields of neuroscience research, including neurophysiology, neuroanatomy, neurochemistry, neuropharmacology, and more.

"UTA's team took on this challenge and beat out great teams from across Texas," says psychology Chair Perry Fuchs. "It clearly reflects on the leadership of UTA in the growing field of neuroscience."

Faculty Focus



Julian Rodriguez
Lecturer, *Communication*

What past accomplishment makes you proudest?

For the last eight years, I've been working nonstop on the development of a Spanish-language television newscast at UTA, a program unlike any other in the nation. We call this project UTA News en Español. I have succeeded in many ways and failed miserably in a few others, as expected. But in this constant tide of success and defeat, I've learned that this project is not only important because of what we have been able to achieve, but also how fast we have learned to recover from our failings. Today, UTA News en Español is nationally recognized and buoyed by major media corporations, supported by the Ford Motor Company, published in academic journals, welcomed at national and international media conferences, engaged in international media content exchanges, and celebrated at the highest levels by the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

currently working on the establishment of the Hispanic Media Initiative (HMI), a program in the Department of Communication focusing on the advancement of Hispanic media education, journalism, and research. HMI is the response of UTA News en Español's unparalleled success; it addresses urgent needs found in the media industry and secures the continued development of world-class education at UTA.

What are you most looking forward to?

I look forward to the progress of HMI. This program will continue to propel our students to unmatched levels, advance media research in historically neglected areas, provide an environment in which public-private partnerships thrive, and substantially increase UTA's national and international visibility while further enabling the University to continue to lead the way in Hispanic media education in America.

What are you excited about right now?

UTA News en Español has outgrown itself and now demands a higher ceiling; we are

JULIAN RODRIGUEZ believes that good journalism has the ability to change the world for the better. It's probably the biggest reason why he's passionate about his work as a communicator and a teacher. "Journalism is the maximum expression of the human condition, a generational opportunity to improve the quality of life of our society," he says. "Working with our younger generations is a privilege of unprecedented importance—you have in your classroom those who will steer the world away from harm and toward prosperity."

uta.edu/mag

TROPHY CLUB
In 2017, five alumni of the UTA News en Español program received 18 Lone Star Emmy awards.

REEF RESEARCH

SAVING CORAL

UTA professor leads study on coral immunity

During the past three decades, environmental changes—including global warming—have likely led to the sharp increase in coral disease in reefs around the world. Unhealthy coral reefs can't support the fish and other forms of life that make reefs such vibrant and diverse ecosystems.

Laura Mydlarz, associate professor of biology, is leading a new study aimed at quantifying how susceptible coral species are to disease by examining their immunity through a series of novel experiments and approaches. The project is funded by a two-year, \$220,331 grant from the National Science Foundation's Division of Ocean Sciences.

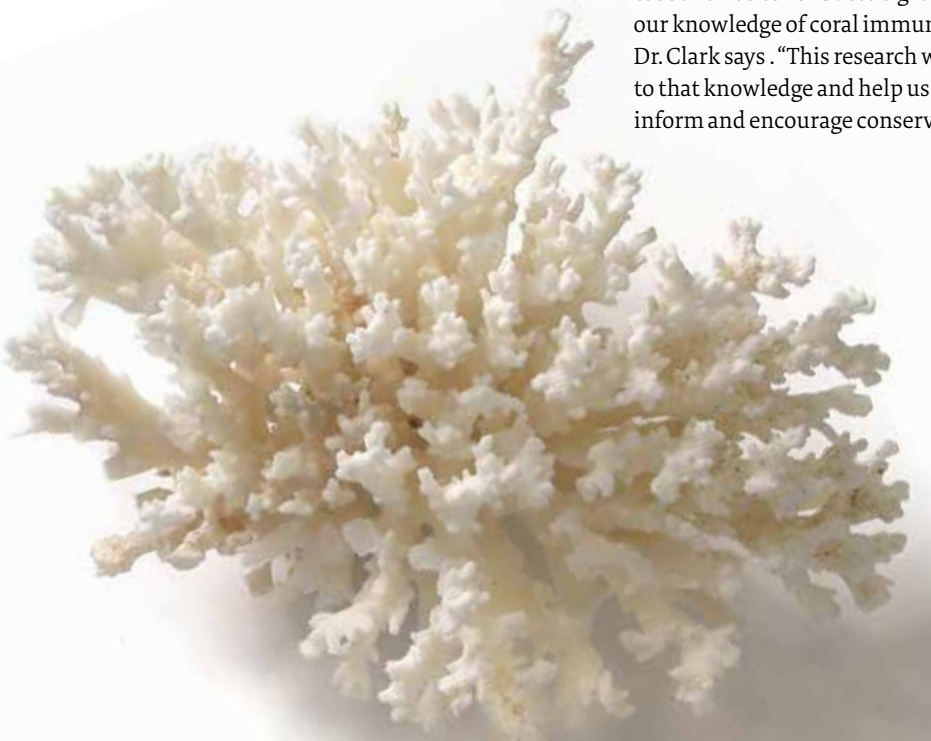
The project will focus on coral reefs in the Caribbean off the U.S. Virgin Islands. The site was chosen due to the high diversity of coral found there and the presence of white plague disease, which can cause rapid tissue loss in coral, affects many coral species, and can cause partial or total colony mortality. The project will use immune-challenge experiments that will quantify novel components of the innate

immune system of coral coupled with the application of a trait-based model.

"Coral diseases don't affect all coral species in a reef the same, and some coral are more susceptible to certain diseases," Dr. Mydlarz says. "A reef is made up of many different species of coral. If a disease kills off one species of coral in a reef, that's going to greatly affect the reef community as a whole. We want to learn why some coral species are more tolerant of certain diseases."

Clay Clark, professor and chair of the UTA Department of Biology, says the project is an example of the important work Mydlarz is doing to shed more light on the ties between climate change and the delicate ecosystems that have been adversely affected by that change. He notes that her research puts important focus on global environmental impact, which is one of the four pillars of the University's Strategic Plan 2020 Bold Solutions | Global Impact.

"Dr. Mydlarz has been studying for years how environmental changes are affecting the ability of coral to fight disease and has contributed a great deal to our knowledge of coral immunity," Dr. Clark says. "This research will add to that knowledge and help us to better inform and encourage conservation."



WORD POWER

WINNING STORYTELLER

Undergraduate student receives prestigious award

It's no surprise that Frederick Tran, who received his degree in critical languages and international studies in December 2017, can craft a good story. His prowess with words was recognized earlier this year with a UT System Regents' Outstanding Student Award in Arts and Humanities for short fiction. The honor fosters excellence in student performance, rewards exceptional students, stimulates the arts and humanities, and promotes continuous quality in education.

His winning story, "Airstrikes," is a short-fiction piece about a doctor who suffers a terrible loss while serving with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) in Yemen. News stories about bombings of MSF hospitals in Yemen were Tran's inspiration for the story.

This year, he was one of two students recognized by the selection committee, comprised of experts in creative writing from outside the UT System. Tran is the third UTA undergraduate to be honored.

"I couldn't have written this story without the knowledge I gained in the College of Liberal Arts—whether that be the writing styles I studied in Russian literature, the techniques we learned in creative writing, or the French I was fortunate to pick up through the language courses," Tran says. "[This award is] a testament to the outstanding faculty we have here at UTA."

Chat

with **Nafees Alam**
('02 BBA, Business Administration)
Entrepreneur, DRG Concepts



Did you always want to go into business?

My entrepreneurial interests started early, in the fifth grade. My friends and I pooled our comic books and then "leased" them out for other kids to read and enjoy. We developed a whole card system and tracked it—and we were profitable!

All throughout my studies at UTA, I was always extra interested and inspired when I learned about business leaders who had brought their unique ideas to the market with success. After great experiences with major corporate brands following graduation, the spark of entrepreneurship that began at a young age was ignited into great opportunities for me with leadership at DRG Concepts.

Tell us more about your company.

DRG Concepts is the only independent restaurant operating company in Dallas with multiple successful brands: Dallas Fish Market, Dallas Chop House, Wild Salsa, and Chop House Burger, all with original locations in downtown Dallas. We are centered on providing really deli-

cious food in beautiful settings that our guests want to come back to time and time again. We are known for revitalizing areas with great energy wherever we open our locations—and for being a catalyst to bring more to areas where we do business.

What do you count as your biggest professional successes?

I am honored to have helped build a company that now provides 400-plus employees with opportunities and ways to provide for their livelihoods and families while growing as professionals. It is so rewarding personally to be able to contribute to our employees' successes and to help lead a business that is making life better in the community with food and experiences that our guests enjoy again and again. I am additionally honored to be working to make this company's growth possible and help take care of the company as a vital business that has a leadership position in Dallas, in Texas, and in the American economy.

To what do you owe these successes?

Throughout my studies and work, I have deliberately spent time connecting with business leaders whom I meet and respect. This is a very important part of

my career that is continuing to shape how I proceed in business. Sharing best practices and the camaraderie among business leaders provides so much benefit, and dedicating time to learn from others and share insights as business leaders is key.

Do you have advice for anyone considering entrepreneurship?

If you decide to be an entrepreneur, you need to be prepared to give it some time. Give it some time, and give it all you have. Starting and running your own business is not a six-month gig to success. It takes time to grow your ideas and realize success.

Nafees Alam was honored as a distinguished alumnus at the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards last November. Learn more about all the honorees on page 56.



AT THE CONTROLS

PHILANTHROPIC GAMING

Alumnus has raised nearly \$1 million for charity

Don't try to convince UTA Library employee and former student Britt LaRiviere that spending 72 hours playing a video game isn't productive. His marathon gaming sessions bring in serious money, yet he keeps none of the profits for himself.

"At last check, we've raised more than \$720,000," he says. "It's absolutely crazy. One million is within reach. I never thought it would be."

In March 2008, LaRiviere, then a UTA journalism student, was tasked with blogging for a class. He chose to blog about gaming and was intrigued by a technology in its infancy at the time:

online video streaming. With his brother and a few buddies, he hosted a 72-hour-long gaming marathon, streaming video while they played *The Legend of Zelda*.

They didn't want their efforts to be a waste of time, so they organized the gaming marathon like a telethon.

The number of players and viewers has steadily grown in the almost 10 years since their debut, when they raised \$1,100 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "TheSpeedGamers"—as they are called now—have quite a following and quite a future.

"I'm still having a lot of fun," LaRiviere says. "There's no end in sight."



SPOTLIGHT

MAVERICK SPEAKERS

Alumni return to headline annual lecture series

The Maverick Speakers Series got a little more Maverick this year, with a 2017-18 lineup that has featured two alumni: Lou Diamond Phillips ('85 BA, Fine Arts) and Roland Fryer ('98 BA, Economics).

Phillips has enjoyed great success as an actor, director, writer, and producer. The *La Bamba* and *Stand and Deliver* star returned to UTA in September to talk about his career.

After graduating from UTA, Dr. Fryer went on to earn his PhD in economics from Penn State University. He's currently the Henry Lee Professor of Economics at Harvard University. His lecture covered his research into fixing education in America.

Local entrepreneur and privately funded space explorer Anousheh Ansari made her Maverick Speakers Series appearance in October. She detailed her journey to space—from her early life as an Iranian refugee to developing her own company, Prodea Systems, to reaching the International Space Station.

If you haven't had a chance to enjoy a Maverick Speakers Series lecture this season, Michael Pollan, best-selling author and sustainable food advocate, will visit UTA in late February. In March, Gretchen Carlson—broadcast news anchor, journalist, and TV host—will close out the 2017-18 season. Learn more at uta.edu/maverickspeakers.



BRAIN BOWL QUIZ ANSWERS
(see page 22)

1. Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA)

2. Primary visual cortex, also known as V1



BATTERS UP

MAVS TAKE THE PRO FIELD

UTA faces Baylor on March 6 at Globe Life Park

A new favorite spring tradition for UTA baseball fans is watching the Mavericks host a marquee opponent at Globe Life Park, home of the Texas Rangers.

On March 6, the Mavs will host powerhouse Baylor University in a 6:30 p.m. matchup.

"It is always a great opportunity for our student-athletes to compete at Globe Life Park,"

says Coach Darin Thomas. "For years, our relationship with the Rangers and the Arlington community has been wonderful, and we are fortunate to have the chance to play at Globe Life. We have had some great crowds and have put a tremendous product on the field since 2013."

This marks the sixth consecutive year that the Mavs have

played at the home of the Rangers, with UTA facing off against the best foes in the region, including University of Texas, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, TCU, and Oklahoma.

Last year, UTA posted a 5-1 win over fourth-ranked Texas Tech in front of 4,259 fans. It marked UTA's second win at Globe Life in the last three years,

as the Mavs earned a walk-off win over Texas in 2015.

"It's a great place to play," Thomas says. "You don't have to get your guys ready to play. We always bring in quality opponents, and it is always a great crowd. Any time you can do that, it's a plus for your program."

For ticket information, visit utamavs.com.



A+
**SMART
SPORTS**

Student-athletes earn top academic honors

A total of 122 UTA student-athletes were honored recently by the Sun Belt Conference as members of the conference's Commissioner's List and Academic Honor Roll.

The Commissioner's List recognizes student-athletes who maintained a 3.5 or higher grade-point average during the 2016-17 academic year, while the Academic Honor Roll awards those student-athletes who maintained a GPA between 3.0 and 3.49.

"Certainly, we are proud of the achievements of our student-athletes in competition," says Jim Baker, director of athletics. "But our commitment to academic success, earning a UTA degree, and being fully prepared for the next phase of life is a top priority for our athletics program."

The 2016-17 season was extremely successful overall: Not only did more than half of UTA's student-athletes earn Sun Belt academic honors, but the athletics unit also finished just four points away from winning the Bubas Cup, the Sun Belt Conference's annual all-sports championship trophy—earning UTA a third-place finish out of all Sun Belt Conference teams.

UTA's 220 student-athletes concluded the spring semester with a 3.1 cumulative grade-point average, marking the fourth-straight year UTA's athletes have averaged over a 3.0.



**SERVICE
CHAMPS**

The UTA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee was honored for its volunteer work in the Arlington community, earning the Sun Belt Conference SAAC Community Service Champion award for 2016-17.

SNAPSHOT

HIGHLIGHT REEL

As we head into a new season, let's take a look back at UTA Athletics' recent achievements and accolades



BASKETBALL—MEN'S

The defending Sun Belt Conference (SBC) champion men's basketball team was the overwhelming favorite in the preseason poll of SBC coaches. Sun Belt Conference Student-Athlete of the Year senior forward **Kevin Hervey** and senior **Erick Neal**, one of the nation's top point guards, earned spots on NBC Sports' 2017-18 Mid-Major Preseason All-America teams.



BASKETBALL—WOMEN'S

The Lady Mavs basketball team picked up votes in the **USA Today Sports Coaches' Poll**, a first in program history in the preseason poll. Sun Belt Conference coaches picked the team as the preseason favorite for 2017-18.



BASEBALL

After winning the Sun Belt Conference Western Division Championship, **Darin Thomas** was named Sun Belt Coach of the Year.



SOFTBALL

The Maverick softball team had 11 players named to the

National Fastpitch Coaches Association's **All-Academic team** for the fourth consecutive year.



GOLF

Women's golf debuted with a team of six players, including standout freshman **Ava Schwientek**, who led the team in all five fall events.



VOLLEYBALL

Maverick volleyball wrapped up its fall season in November, the first with new coach **J.T. Wenger**.



TRACK AND FIELD

The UTA men's track and field team swept the SBC's cross country, indoor, and outdoor titles in 2016-17, the second time since 2014 the team claimed the **"triple crown."** The men's cross country team finished as runner-up at the fall Sun Belt Conference championships while the women's squad placed eighth.

Coach **John Sauerhage** snagged a trio of conference Coach of the Year awards to give him a total of 31 during his tenure at UTA.

COSTA RICA ADVENTURE

B-BALL ABROAD

UTA women's basketball enjoys team-building and season prep in a new locale

Since returning from a summer tour of Costa Rica, the UTA women's basketball team is still basking in the experience of the eight-day, four-game adventure to Central America. The journey south catapulted the team into the 2017-18 season, with chemistry being as tight as ever approaching tipoff last November.

During the summer tour, UTA played four games over four days with matchups against the University of Ottawa and the Costa Rican National Team. The early-year action gave the coaching staff and players a chance to build in aspects of practice they would usually not get to take advantage of until October.

Outside of the gym, the days were packed with experiencing San José, Costa Rica. The team took part in a city tour, explored the local marketplaces and visited waterfalls in the rainfor-

est. One special day included a visit to a local orphanage, where the team and its coaching staff were able to experience a day in the life of local kids while giving back to the community.

"It was really exciting to be able to experience the team in a different setting," says senior Rebekah VanDijk. "We see each other every day in school and in the gym, but to see my teammates in that environment was really inspiring."

After returning to Arlington, VanDijk has looked back at everything gained from the trip and knows that the team was able to grow together and set themselves up for a special 2017-18 season.

"The trip has already helped us—in practice, the intensity has been really high," she says. "Being able to play other teams propelled everyone to be really excited for what is to come."

The team visited La Paz Waterfall Gardens Nature Park in San José. From left: Crystal Allen, Cierra Johnson, Coach Krista Gerlich, Miranda LeJune, Shelby Richards, and Rebekah VanDijk.



PEAK ATHLETES

LESSONS ON THE MOUNTAIN

Student-athletes embrace leadership on Colorado trip

On a leadership retreat to the glorious mountains of Colorado over the summer, eight UTA student-athletes from the baseball, softball, and track teams spent seven days whitewater rafting, hiking, and camping.

"This was a valuable life-skills experience for our student-athletes," says Tim Kennedy, student-athlete development specialist. "I got to witness them get taken out of their comfort zones, make the needed adjustments, and press through their challenges."

Some of those challenges included hiking up to high altitudes and climbing and camping in inclement weather.

"I learned there are better ways to handle adversities in your life," says Tori Shelton, a senior on the track team. "At the end of the day, you need to evaluate what you did and the possibilities of making it better the next time. I am just thankful that Tim took us on this trip so we could discover these things about ourselves."

Fostering relationships was a tremendous byproduct of the leadership retreat, and those bonds are sure to live on well after their athletic careers conclude.

"You won't look back at your ERA—you are going to remember the relationships you made," says sophomore Logan Austin, a pitcher on the baseball team. "That is what I am going to remember the most. I went in not knowing anybody, and I made some friends that will be lifelong."



The 2017 fall semester ushered in the biggest, most academically advanced class in UTA's history. Read on to learn a little more about this new generation of students—and meet a few of them, too.

*BY AMBER SCOTT
PHOTOGRAPHY BY
TREVOR PAULHUS*

**MEET THE
CLASS OF**

2021

THE ENTERTAINER

COLE PERRINE

Undeclared Major

Born and raised in Arlington, Cole is a man with a camera and a mission to spread happiness. He got into making fun, quirky films in high school and is passionate about the medium now.

"The world we live in needs all the joy it can get," he says. "There's a lot of discontent surrounding us, and I've always loved telling jokes and making the people around me laugh—so I figured, why not use film to spread any good I can outside my circle?"

Cole, who graduated in the top 20 percent of his class, says the decision to go to UTA was an easy one. Not only did his dad, aunt, and uncle graduate from UTA, but he also received a Presidential Scholarship that outshone offers from rival universities. He's confident that UTA will provide him with a strong foundation for professional success—which he hopes one day will lead him to a career in the TV or film industry.

"Anything anyone can do to defy the norm is excellent in its own way, because it's not about the result alone," he says. "Nothing can get done without emotion and drive to make a change. I've seen excellence all around UTA in the students, the programs offered, and the growing campus as more students choose to be Mavericks."

The class of 2021 was mostly born in 1999, making them the tail end of the millennials. Check out more fun facts about these newest freshmen.

KIDS THESE DAYS

OUT OF SYNC

For them, Justin Timberlake has always been a solo act.



HERE'S A CERTAIN energy that takes over any university in the fall. Bundled up in cozy attire, students bustle about on college campuses cradling hot coffee and beaming bright smiles. That's the idea, anyway. Here at UTA, we do fall a little differently. Think T-shirts and iced coffee. But the bright smiles are the same. Everyone gets into the spirit of new beginnings. This is especially true for our incoming freshmen, who are taking those first major steps toward independence, ready to take on college life and then go on to change the world.

UTA's fall 2017 incoming freshman class also represents a major milestone for the University—it is the largest in our history, with 3,346 new students from across the United States and around the world. This constitutes a 12 percent increase over the 2016 fall semester.

The new class is also the most academically accomplished, with 65 percent of entering freshmen having graduated in the top 25 percent of their high school class. A record 261 new students were accepted to UTA's Honors College, an increase of more than 60 percent over

the year before. The average SAT score of incoming students also rose.

"UTA's growing reputation as a leading academic university and a path to success has resulted in more high-achieving and highly motivated students choosing us," says Troy Johnson, vice president for enrollment management. "The overall academic excellence of the entire freshman class is an important indicator that UTA is a rising star."

So just who are the dynamic students who make up our record-breaking freshman class?

MEET (SOME OF) UTA'S CLASS OF 2021.

THE DREAMER

TAIWO-BAYONLE OLAYIWOLA

Aerospace Engineering Major

Bayonle has stars in her eyes and speed in her feet. The stars are courtesy of a favorite TV show she watched when she was little—a space-focused cartoon that sparked her interstellar interests. The speed? Well, she just loves track and field. When it came time for her to choose a college, she wanted a university that would give her an avenue to explore both interests.

“I knew UTA had a great engineering program,” she says. “I also thought I had a good chance to walk on to the track team, which is fantastic in its own right.”

Bayonle, who ranked in the top 10 percent of her graduating class, was one of 1,200 students statewide chosen to join NASA’s High School Aerospace Scholars program. Of that group, she was one of 200 selected for an onsite experience at NASA’s Johnson Space Center.

Her involvement with NASA made an impression—so much so that she plans to work there after graduation. Bayonle hopes to inspire other women with her success and show them that they can do anything.

“My generation is going to change the world for the better,” she says. “They just need opportunities for success and excellence. When I came to UTA, I saw excellence everywhere.”



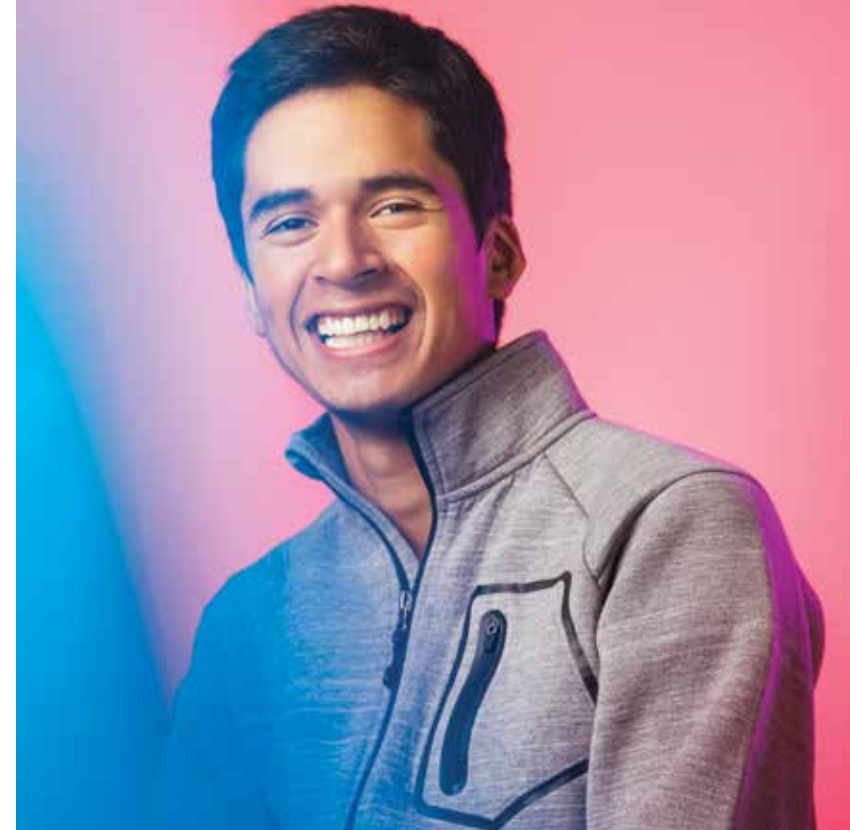
“My generation is going to change the world for the better.”

KIDS THESE DAYS

SCREEEEEEEE

They’ve likely never heard the screech of a dial-up modem.

CLASS OF 2021



THE PIONEER

ISAAC TORRES

Mechanical Engineering Major

Isaac spent his childhood in a small community in the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range, which runs through northeastern Mexico.

“It’s a beautiful place surrounded by nature,” he says. “However, there is a lack of health services, and education is scant. Children must migrate to other places—the U.S., most of the time—to start working to sustain themselves and their families who stay behind.”

Isaac immigrated to the U.S. with his father when he was just 15 and entered high school unable to speak English. But in three years, he not only taught himself the

language, he also excelled in his studies, graduating No. 5 in a class of 426.

“Being constant and fearless were the key features that helped me learn the language and succeed in school,” he says. “I had fun with friends while learning at the same time.”

After graduation, Isaac plans to earn his master’s and PhD. After that, he wants to help students like him pursue degrees in higher education.

“I would like to give back to the Maverick community by funding scholarships,” he says. “I want to be able to take them away from the worries of college debt.”



THE HEALER

ELIZABETH HOANG

Microbiology Major

Like most good things in life, Elizabeth's career plans were decided over a pie.

She was about 8 when she visited the medical practice of a family friend and got a firsthand look at the work he did, not only as a doctor, but also as a church volunteer who gave aid to those in need. While Elizabeth was there, a couple dropped by to deliver a pie in appreciation for his kindness and generosity. She decided then that she'd become a doctor.

"Although I might have been just thinking of the delicious rewards at the time, it's always been my dream to help other people," she says.

Elizabeth was salutatorian of her graduating class. She says that hard work and a dedication to her studies were instilled in her by the incredible work ethic of her parents.

"When one parent was finished with school, they would work to provide for the family while the other went to school," she says. "My family had to move from apartment to apartment out of convenience for the one job that supported us. I didn't want my family to go through the same thing, so I am making a promise to be successful for not only myself, but for them as well."

"I want to bring joy to children while helping them be healthy, too."



THE NURTURER

DEBORAH ESTRADA

Nursing Major

Deborah's baby brother was sick, and her family's normal doctor wasn't available. But Deborah didn't worry at all—a nurse practitioner was there to help them. Her skill and genuine care assured Deborah that her brother would be fine. And while she had always planned to go into the health care field, it was that day in the doctor's office that Deborah's dreams were fully clarified.

"That nurse practitioner was so confident in her work and very kind and reassuring," she says. "I realized I wanted to be like her, and I still do. I want to bring joy to children while helping them be healthy, too."

As the No. 37 graduate in a class of about 420, Deborah had a lot of options when it came time to choose a college. She was leaning toward a rival university until she visited UTA. A campus tour convinced her that this was the place where she could learn to be the best in her field.

"I could see that UTA had a positive community that keeps students involved and brings out the best in them," she says. "Because of this, I feel like we as students have the opportunity to open up and find out who we really are." **UTA**

ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY PEGGY FREDRICKSON

KIDS THESE DAYS

ALL SMILES

They've never lived in a world without emojis.

PIONEERS OF THE 21ST CENTURY

As UTA's School of Social Work celebrates its 50th anniversary, faculty and students are spearheading a culture shift and forging new paths in research, learning, and social justice. BY ANTWAN WILLIAMS

TYPICALLY, YOU WOULD relegate robotic and wireless technology to the realm of engineers and scientists. In most cases, you'd be correct. However, in the School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Arlington, groundbreaking and innovative interdisciplinary research has become a core part of the school's identity. The key is collaboration, and social work professors—working closely with colleagues all over campus—have become pioneers in their creative approaches to addressing society's pressing issues.

"Collaborations with other disciplines to address social needs are part of our multidisciplinary approach to research at UTA," says Holli Slater, coordinator of research for the School of Social Work. "It's cutting edge, and it's taking a holistic approach to improving health and the human condition."

MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH

Domestic violence is a pernicious issue that threatens the health and safety of one in four women and one in seven men in the U.S. every year. Researchers in



the School of Social Work, in collaboration with researchers in the Colleges of Engineering, Education, and Science, are working toward a solution.

Right now, the researchers are quantifying an individual's awareness of their rising anger. Pinpointing the brain signals associated with anger could eventually lead to the development of a wearable device that detects when the brain waves associated with anger begin to increase. The device would signal to the wearer that an outburst is imminent, giving him or her the opportunity to exercise learned techniques to calm down or even leave the situation.

Peter Lehmann, professor of social work, notes that mitigating instances of domestic violence could be extremely beneficial for society as a whole.

"Interpersonal violence is a serious social problem that impacts millions of women and children in this country on a daily basis," he says. "It's an incredible social problem that has psychological, emotional, and financial costs to every community in this country."

“Collaborations with other disciplines to address social needs are part of our multidisciplinary approach to research at UTA.”

Elsewhere, UTA's social workers are engaging with various and wide-ranging departments on campus to help support aging and underserved populations.

Noelle Fields and Ling Xu, both assistant professors in the School of Social Work, are collaborating with Julianne Greer, assistant professor of theatre arts, and UTA Research Institute research scientists Kris Doelling, Mike McNair, and Jeongsik Shin to help improve the psychological well-being of adults. They're doing so with the help of a 2-foot-tall robot named NAO that performs Shakespearean sonnets, tells stories, dances, and answers questions. The researchers believe interacting with NAO will allow older adults—who often suffer higher rates of loneliness, anxiety, and depression—to experience more social connectivity, thereby lessening feelings of isolation and mitigating depression.

Another project aims to help the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas to assess the needs of the American Indian population in North Texas. Maria Scannapico, professor of social work; Paul Conrad, assistant professor of history; Barbara Raudonis, associate professor of

nursing; and Kelly Visnak, associate University librarian, will create and conduct a needs assessment of the urban-based American Indian population of North Texas, where there is a virtual absence of scholarship on their medical, social, and cultural situation, despite general awareness of an urban Indian health care crisis.

Both the NAO project and the partnership with the Urban Inter-Tribal Center of Texas received Interdisciplinary Research Program grants from UTA in 2016. The grants were awarded to proposals that reflected innovative ideas addressing high-priority issues in society.

"All these awards represent important research innovations and could create a real impact in society," says Duane Dimos, vice president for research. "By taking advantage of the multiple perspectives offered by interdisciplinary research, the winning teams have proposed new ways of attacking real-world problems, again demonstrating the commitment of our faculty to the highest level of scholarship."

TEACHING OUTREACH

Each semester, the School of Social Work, through its Office of Field Education, places social work students with more than 600 agencies and organizations throughout Texas and across the country. This equates to more than 600,000 volunteer hours annually.

"As part of the requirement to complete their degree, our Bachelor of Social Work students must complete 480 hours of supervised field education training, while our Master of Social Work students, depending on their academic backgrounds, must complete 480 or 960 hours of supervised field education training," says Diane Mitschke, associate professor and MSW program director. "Our students don't have to wait until they graduate to make a difference. Through their field internships, they're already making a difference in the communities and organizations they serve throughout Texas."

Dr. Mitschke is also a part of the effort to volunteer and give back to the community. Since July 2012, she has volunteered every Sunday to manage a local nonprofit health clinic that provides low-cost physical and mental health care to resettled refugees from Myanmar.

Mitschke manages social service and

case management functions for the refugee clinic, which is housed in the Agape Clinic in East Dallas. In addition, she and Beverly Black, social work professor and Jillian Michelle Smith Professor in Family Violence Research, recently collaborated to address teen dating violence by educating resettled refugee youths in Dallas about healthy relationships.

COMMUNITY-FOCUSED

According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in five children ages 13-18 has or will have a serious mental illness. Further, about 50 percent of students age 14 and older with a mental illness drop out of high school.

"Trends suggest that many more children need treatment and can benefit from earlier treatment to prevent or ameliorate the impact on their development," says social work Professor Alexa Smith-Osborne.

To that end, UTA's Center for Clinical Social Work has partnered with the Arlington Independent School District to provide free treatment for students who show signs of mental health disorders or issues. Dr. Smith-Osborne directs the clinic, which includes a staff of licensed clinical social workers and master's-level interns.

"This collaboration serves an important need for many of our students and families," AISD Superintendent Marcelo Cavazos says. "Providing this opportunity for counseling is one step to improving the future of our students."

In another youth-focused initiative, Courtney Cronley, associate professor of social work; Larry Nelson, associate professor of kinesiology; and David Hopman, associate professor of landscape architecture, plan to design and test a project called GOE! (Gardening and Outdoor Engagement) that aims to increase the physical activity and improve the mental health of youths who are homeless and at high risk of negative mental, physical, and behavioral health outcomes.

The long-term goal is to develop an evidence-based curriculum that could be replicated in other communities nationally. The project will use advanced data collection technologies already available in the School of Social Work and the Department of Kinesiology, and



Daphne Woods, master's student in social work, is an intern in the play therapy room of the Center for Clinical Social Work.

it will utilize UTA's Urban Farm, sponsored by the Department of Planning and Landscape Architecture, as the test site.

A GROWING RESEARCH HUB

In addition to faculty research, the school is home to two research centers: the Judith Granger Birmingham Center for Child Welfare (CCW) and the Center for Addiction and Recovery Studies (CARS).

Established in 1983, the CCW serves as a research and resource center for Texas, the Southwest, and the nation in the advancement and dissemination of knowledge to improve the conditions of vulnerable children and their families.

The school's other center, CARS, provides evidence-based, trauma-informed services in prevention, intervention, and recovery support services for addiction. Founded in 1995 and located on the UT Southwestern Medical Center campus, CARS offers a unique program that helps pregnant mothers who are addicted to opioids.

"Women and their babies who have neonatal abstinence syndrome and are facing withdrawals receive resources through recovery support, parenting classes, and products that help reduce the stress of withdrawal," says Debra Woody, associate dean for academic affairs and director of CARS. "The purpose of the Pregnant/Postpartum Intervention Program is to identify women who, because of their

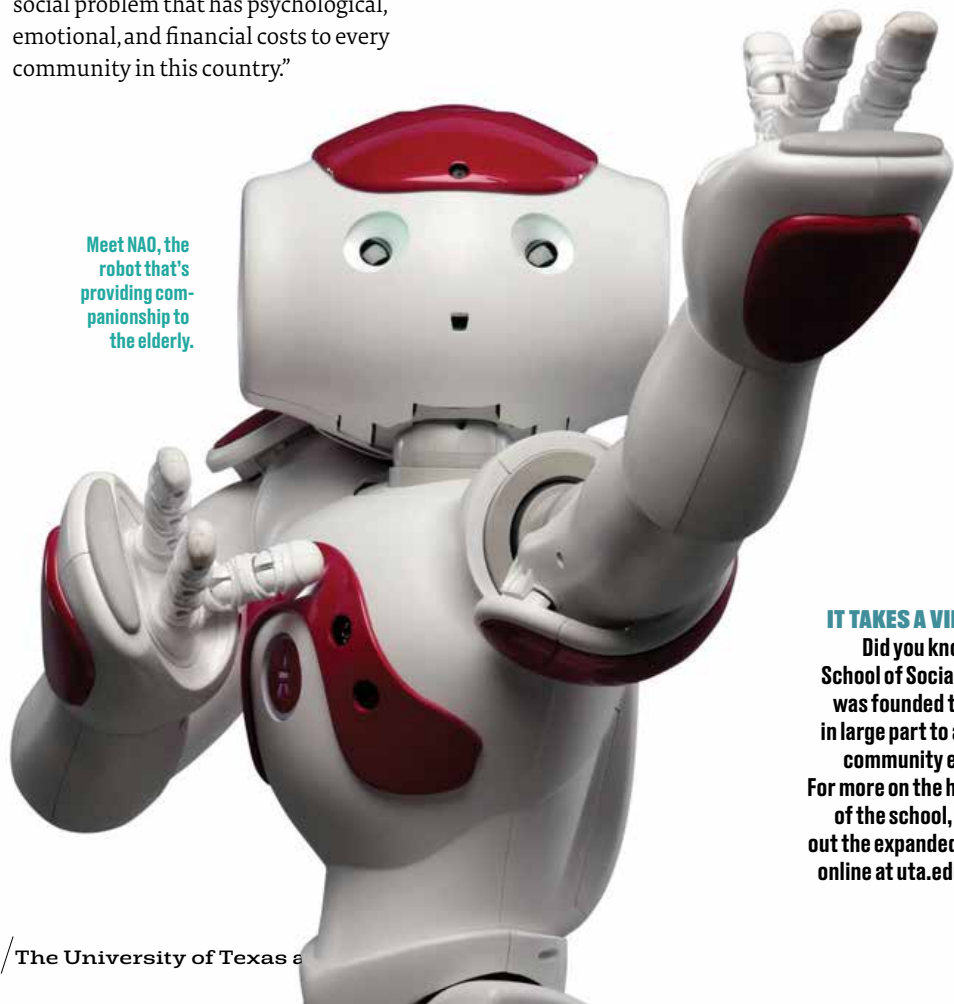
addiction, are afraid to come forward. We help them find doctors for prenatal care, treatment, and case management."

MODELING SOCIAL JUSTICE

The School of Social Work's approach to serving society through innovative research, collaboration, and strategic outreach is modeled by Scott Ryan, School of Social Work dean. Dr. Ryan is a member of the Bikers Against Child Abuse International (BACA) nonprofit organization. Last summer, he rode his motorcycle and conducted a cross-country bike tour to advocate for abused children. Along with social work Professors Anne Nordberg and Michael Killian, Ryan partnered with BACA to conduct a research study examining the impact the bikers have on helping children and families.

"I wanted to show our students that making lives better for others is a concept they should embrace now and continue throughout their careers," Ryan says. "As we celebrate our 50th, I want our faculty, students, and alumni to support the community that helped create our school and to continue our holistic approach to interdisciplinary research and experiential learning. This is our way of thanking the countless organizations and individuals in Texas that helped make our school a top-ranked social work program and one of the largest in the nation." UTA

Meet NAO, the robot that's providing companionship to the elderly.



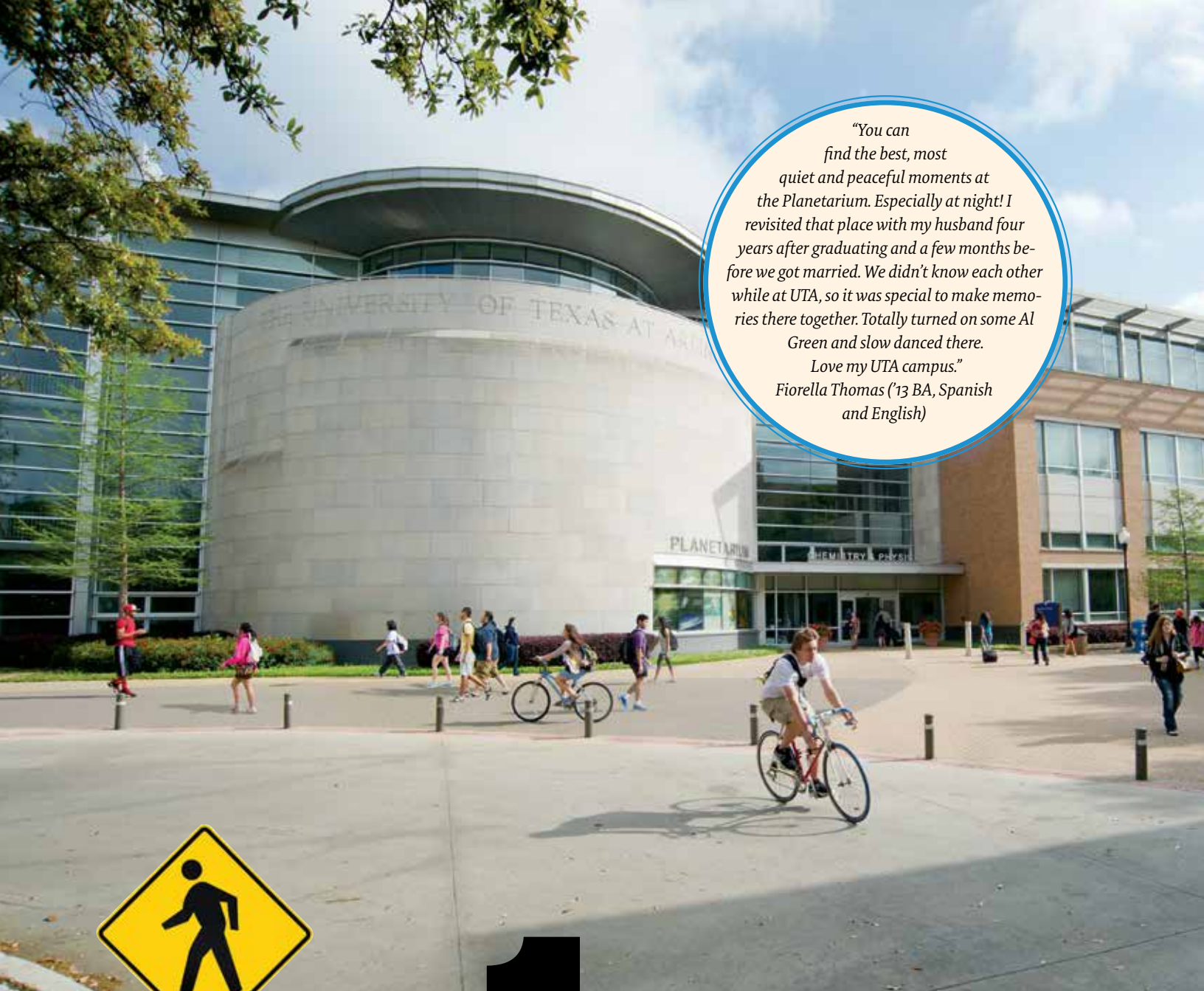
IT TAKES A VILLAGE
Did you know the School of Social Work was founded thanks in large part to a huge community effort? For more on the history of the school, check out the expanded story online at uta.edu/mag.



PLACES ON CAMPUS YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU MISSED **(And Some You Need To Get To Know)**

IF YOU HAVEN'T visited UTA in a while, you're missing out! The spaces you loved back then are still here—well, most of them, anyway—and campus growth has brought plenty of new places you may not have seen yet. Read on to

revisit the campus, take a peek at future changes, and find ways you can engage with UTA today. Remember, our campus spans 420 acres, so we couldn't possibly cover everything here! Come back for a visit soon and see it all for yourself.



*"You can find the best, most quiet and peaceful moments at the Planetarium. Especially at night! I revisited that place with my husband four years after graduating and a few months before we got married. We didn't know each other while at UTA, so it was special to make memories there together. Totally turned on some Al Green and slow danced there. Love my UTA campus."
Fiorella Thomas ('13 BA, Spanish and English)*



COOPER STREET TRAFFIC?

2 "The best experiences I had at UTA were dodging traffic on Cooper Street. There were no bridges then!"
Larry Kemp ('80 BBA, Business Administration)

1

THE PLANETARIUM

Best time to visit: Showtime!

One of the three largest in Texas, UTA's Planetarium features a 60-foot dome projection surface and a fully digital projection system with advanced software that can project stars, planets, galaxies, and virtually anything else onto the dome as it looks in the real sky. The Planetarium is available for field trips and offers a variety of shows for the public, including pre-recorded programs, live presentations, and Q&As with Planetarium astronomers. Check out the schedule at uta.edu/planetarium.



3

THE MAC

Best time to visit: Before the spare tire appears.

The Maverick Activities Center is a state-of-the-art recreation facility that opened in 2007. As an alumnus, you can keep your Maverick fitness level high by purchasing a membership card and working out whenever the MAC is open. Learn more at uta.edu/campusrec.



4 PHONE HOME

"I have lots of memories at UTA, but one of the more out-of-the-ordinary ones was in the library phone booth. It was oddly gratifying to take a call during a study session and have an otherwise outdated piece of history still fulfill a purpose."

Joseph Clark ('13 BBA, Accounting)



5 MEET CUTE

"The Writing Center holds many great memories for me. It was my first job. The atmosphere was very relaxed, yet I felt I helped out a lot of students. Best of all, I met my husband when he began working there as well. Fourteen years and three children later, I still think of it fondly."

Umma Ali ('99 BA, Psychology)

6

CENTRAL LIBRARY

Best time to visit: Finals week, so you can relish your post-college freedom.

There's just something about getting lost in stacks of books. If you haven't visited the Central Library in a while, you might be surprised at some of the changes. The entire first floor is now home to the FabLab and Einstein's Bagel Co. On the sixth floor, Special Collections regularly hosts exhibitions that are open to the public. Alumni can visit the library between 7 a.m.-midnight, but an ID is required to gain entry.



*"The couches on the top floor of the library were a great napping spot."
William H. Craft ('91 BA, Journalism)*



← **NEW FAVES** →

10 CAREER CENTER

Best time to visit: When you're ready to take your career to the next level.
The new Lockheed Martin Career Development Center is a hub for students and alumni seeking jobs and the marketable skills today's employers require in the workforce. Learn more at uta.edu/careers.



UNIVERSITY CENTER

Best time to visit: At the first stomach rumble.
The E.H. Hereford University Center is not only home to the Food Court Plaza, but also the Connection Café, Starbucks, and a small food market that's changed names over the years. It's also got a post office, a bank, a ballroom, and a ton more.

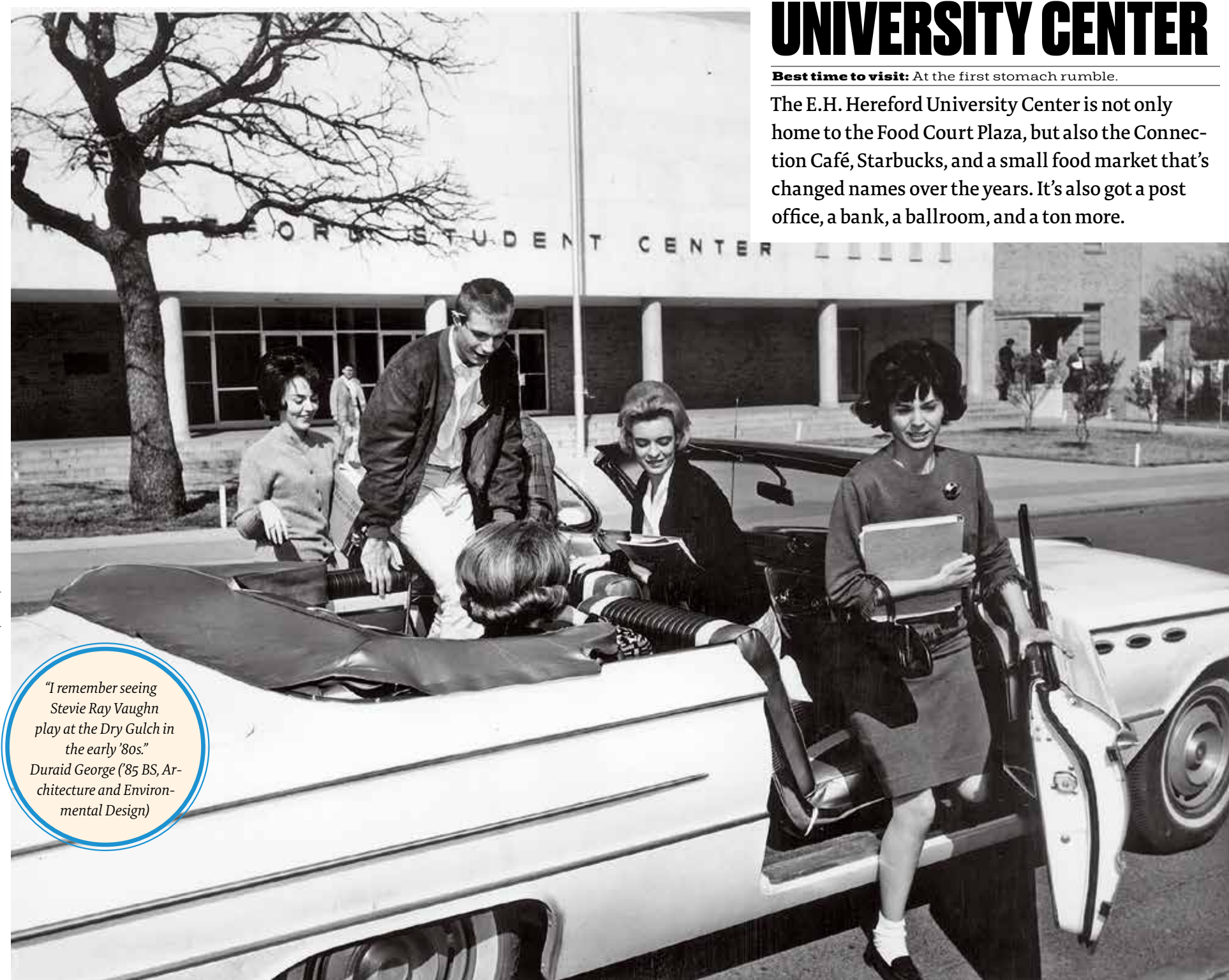
7 COLLEGE PARK CENTER

Best time to visit: Basketball season.
College Park Center is UTA's special events arena. It's home to Maverick basketball and volleyball, and as of 2017, the WNBA Dallas Wings. If basketball's not your thing, the center hosts events throughout the year. For the full schedule, visit uta.edu/collegetpark.



9 THE DRY GULCH

Best time to visit: 1983 (Fire up your time machine!)
Once upon a time, a portion of the University Center basement was dedicated to a bar, the Dry Gulch. In accordance with the legal drinking age at the time, the Dry Gulch served students 18 and older. The bar hosted musical and comedy acts as well as student performances and parties. The bar closed in 1992, and the space is now occupied by *Shorthorn* offices.



"I remember seeing Stevie Ray Vaughn play at the Dry Gulch in the early '80s."
Duraïd George ('85 BS, Architecture and Environmental Design)

8 THE GREEN

Best time to visit: Lunchtime in spring.
The Green at College Park is a focal point of the City of Arlington's Center Street pedestrian trail. An urban oasis and green space, The Green features a large lawn, seating, native grasses and adaptive plants, and a dry creek bed that helps manage rainwater runoff.

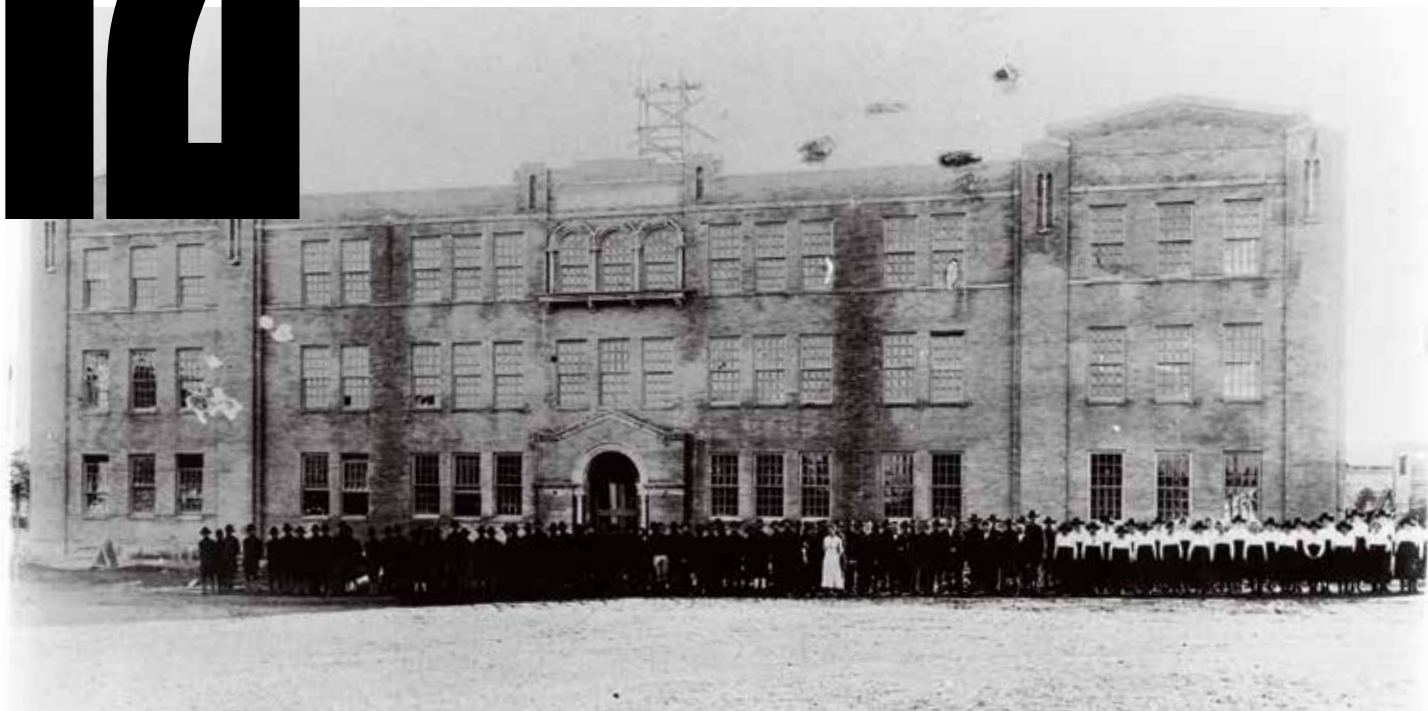
12

RANSOM HALL

Best time to visit: We don't recommend popping in here. But next time you're on campus, swing by for a photo op against some beautiful old architecture.

Constructed in 1919, W.A. Ransom Hall is the oldest building on campus. Back then, it was the administrative building for Grubbs Vocational College (one of UTA's previous names). Today, Ransom Hall is home to University College,

a one-stop shop for academic advising and many other services that foster student success. Next time you're checking out a show at the Planetarium (a neighbor of Ransom Hall), be sure to have a look at this piece of UTA history.



CAR TALK

13

"Well, the Business Building parking lot may not be my favorite spot, but it was certainly where I spent the most time! I always had 8 a.m. classes, and I would arrive by 6 a.m. and sit in the car to study. I used a flashlight to see the books and cassette tapes for my language classes."

Linda Dipert ('01 BA, Marketing)

LIBRARY MALL

Best time to visit: During the holidays.



14

Almost always bustling with activity, the Library Mall is one of the prettiest spots on campus. Come

back for a visit in late November or throughout December to see the entire mall decked in its holiday best, with lights circling the trees and hanging from branches. Bring some hot chocolate and make it a fun family outing!



15

ARCHITECTURE COURTYARD

Best time to visit: Whenever you need a break.

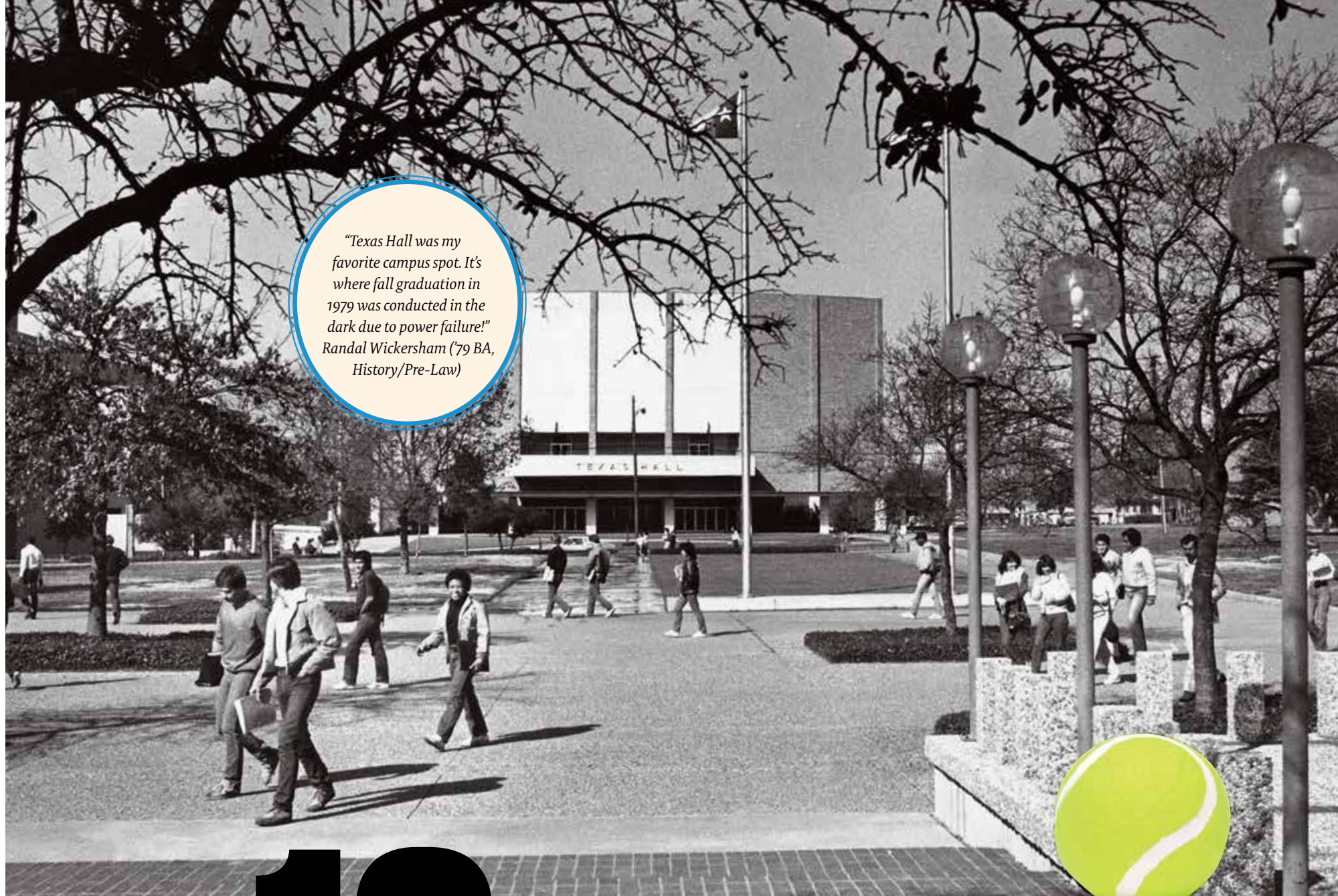
The striking green tile entryway of the Architecture Courtyard opens onto an extended patch of vibrant grass, shaded, tree-lined benches, and a beautiful fountain. It's no wonder this has been a favorite study spot for generations of Mavericks.



UNIVERSITY HALL

Best time to visit: Next time you're in the area and want to take a little detour.

16 This unassuming building looks out over the Library Mall and features a number of hidden gems, including a 30-foot-long snake skeleton, an assortment of other reptile specimens, and cozy couches perfect for students who want to catch a nap between classes or have a quick study session before a big exam.



"Texas Hall was my favorite campus spot. It's where fall graduation in 1979 was conducted in the dark due to power failure!"
Randal Wickersham ('79 BA, History/Pre-Law)

SEIR BUILDING

17 If you've driven up Cooper lately, you've seen the steady progress of construction on the new Science and Engineering Innovation and Research Building, a \$125 million development on the southern edge of UTA's campus. Opening in 2018, the SEIR Building will be the signature facility for life and health science research at UTA. The new building will feature state-of-the-art technology and advance re-

search by using the modern concept of research lab neighborhoods to drive cross-disciplinary collaboration. Each of the 12 research lab neighborhoods will accommodate multiple teams in a wide range of fields, from biology and bioengineering to computational research and nursing. From the outside, the building will provide a new, iconic southern entry to campus. To learn more about the SEIR Building and its development, visit uta.edu/seir.



FUTURE FAVORITES

18 NEW DIGS UTA has seen a surge of enrollment over the years, so the campus is growing to encompass it all. Construction is underway on a new parking garage, residence hall, dining hall, and student center on the west side of campus, all to be unveiled in 2018.

19

TEXAS HALL

Best time to visit: The next Maverick Speakers Series.

Fun fact: The first performer ever to play Texas Hall was Louis Armstrong in 1965. Since then, it has hosted a number of legendary acts, like Neil Diamond, Aerosmith, Rihanna, and many, many more. Until 2012, before College Park Center opened, it even hosted Maverick basketball. Student-athletes called the stage home court and played their hearts out. Now, Texas Hall is back to its entertainment roots, and you can experience it by attending events like the Maverick Speakers Series.

TENNIS COURTS

20 "One of my favorite places was the tennis facility. I played on those courts growing up and always got a thrill being there, playing or just visiting. So many hot days and warm nights spent on those courts!"

Norry Niven ('85 BA, Art/Film)



DIGITIZING OUR HISTORIES

The stories of generations of progress can disappear when those who experienced them die. At UTA, researchers are working to ensure those voices will never be lost so that future generations can continue to benefit from the historical record.

BY HILLARY GREEN ILLUSTRATIONS BY PETER HORVATH

H

IS LEATHERY HANDS rub together as he struggles to remember. Visions of the past are fleeting in his mind. He recalls brief images of playing cowboys and Indians or cops and robbers with his brothers. When he was

a child, sprawling Dallas suburbs were still rural communities. He can't recollect what he did for work before he had kids, but his voice lights up when he reflects on the love and joy he has for his grandchildren. He remembers the first typewriter he purchased for my grandmother, a writer, but gets a distant look when he recalls fears over the Vietnam War draft.

Earlier this year, I had the opportunity to interview my grandfather for an oral history project. He suffers from Alzheimer's, but some memories remain untouched by the disease. His recollections give a sense of what life was like for him, an average citizen coming of age in post-World War II America. While interviewing him, I realized I was preserving not only his past, but also the perspective of an entire generation.

In an admittedly much smaller way, I was working at something researchers at UTA are exploring in depth every day. Going far beyond simple memory collection, UTA's oral history projects are protecting and promoting often-ignored voices in several distinct areas. Through projects like the Texas Disability History Collection (TDHC), Preserving HERstory: Mapping Women's History in Texas, and Maverick Veterans' Voices, researchers are transcribing, and digitizing oral his-

tories to ensure the preservation of traditionally marginalized communities.

ARCHIVING ACCESSIBILITY

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, nearly one in five Americans has a disability. As Sarah Rose, associate professor of history and director of the minor in disability studies, points out, many people with disabilities don't know their own history. Enter the Texas Disability History Collection.

UTA has been a leader in disability rights, adaptive sports, and accessibility for over 50 years, but Dr. Rose saw a gap in the disability history record. Working with UTA Libraries' Special Collections and Digital Creation teams, Rose began to identify and collect photos, articles, and interviews related to disability history. UTA Libraries houses thousands of photographs, letters, interviews, and more predominantly from Texas. The

full collection also includes thousands of photos, negatives, and clippings from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram archives.

Through the TDHC, researchers are currently sifting through existing records to add to the collection. The TDHC is also actively working to expand the UTA Libraries collection.

Starting in 2013, students in Rose's disability history classes and her graduate history students also began to collect oral histories about disabled people's lives and the fight for equal access. Taylor Long, a senior history major with a double minor in women's and gender studies and disability studies, is focusing her internship on the experiences of transgender people with disabilities. Long's oral histories focus on the interaction between gender identity and disability.

"Trans people and people with disabilities are often left out of the traditional historical narrative," Long says. "I'm excited to archive these stories to include them in the larger scope of American history."

The TDHC website, funded through a \$25,000 Texas State Library and Archives Commission/Institute of Museum and Library Services grant, launched in October 2016. As the only disability history archive in the Southwest, the collection is playing a critical role in preserving the ongoing struggle to achieve disability rights and accessibility. Rose and her colleagues are now expanding the project beyond UTA and Arlington by reaching out to disability organizations across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and Austin.

The opportunity for a national audience to utilize the collection to explore historical perspectives on disability is integral to the future of disability rights.

"Texans have long helped lead the fight for disability rights," Rose says. "Their decades of advocacy are a key part of why students with disabilities now have the right to attend college like their peers, why sidewalks are accessible, and why people with disabilities have the right to live in the community rather than be trapped in nursing homes or institutions. They helped remake the world full of possibilities for future generations."

DIGITIZING HERSTORY

One of the newest digital archival proj-

ects on UTA's campus is Preserving HERstory: Mapping Women's History in Texas. Led by Sonja Watson, associate dean for the College of Liberal Arts, and Kenton Ramsby, assistant professor of English and digital humanities, HERstory highlights Texas women who have helped shape the public sphere in politics, business, science, education, and more.

"We're focusing on all women in Texas," Dr. Watson says. "We want to incorporate as many women from different backgrounds, cultures, and ethnicities as we can."

To ensure the archive is as inclusive as possible, HERstory has partnered with the Spanish translation and interpreting program at UTA to translate all documents into both English and Spanish. The HERstory project hopes to empower women of all races and cultures to participate in academia and digital histories.

A College of Liberal Arts seed grant allowed the project to get underway, and Watson was able to hire graduate students to research current archives for the Preserving HERstory collection. As with other oral history projects, Watson and her team are utilizing the Special Collections archive.

In addition to collecting and archiving the data, Watson and Ramsby are planning a digital gaming component.

"This will be a great way to enhance education of students at the K-12 level," Watson says.

The current prototype will allow students to use their smartphones to learn about fascinating and notable women from the very same communities they live in now. By accessing this data in a new, interesting way, future generations of Texas students will have a dynamic opportunity to learn about the women who helped shape this state.

VETERAN VOICES

UTA has always been committed to supporting the women and men who serve our country. A partnership between UTA Libraries and the College of Liberal Arts is ensuring that the stories of UTA veterans are remembered.

The mission of Maverick Veterans' Voices is to honor and preserve the experiences of the men and women of the UTA community who have served in any

DIGITIZE YOUR OWN HISTORY

Interested in memorializing a history for future generations? It's easier than you might think!



Who do you want to interview? Select your subject.



What do you want to know? Develop a list of questions that will create a full picture of the individual's life story.



What technology do you need? Determine what audio and visual collection tools you will use.



What materials will help the story? Identify photographs, letters, and newspaper articles that will support the oral history.



What's next? Establish what you want to do with the oral history. Will you share it at a family reunion? Host it on your website? Submit it to an archive?



branch of the military. Oral histories and biographies have been collected from UTA alumni, faculty, staff, students, and family members.

Rex Latham, an alumnus of Arlington State College (one of UTA's previous iterations) and an Army veteran, has played an influential role in identifying fellow Corps of Cadets alumni to interview.

Latham served in the Dominican Republic, Vietnam, and Thailand from 1965-69. He was awarded the Silver Star medal for heroic actions and joined the Central Intelligence Agency after leaving the Army.

"This project is an important way to preserve the military or military-related personal experiences of the men and women of the UTA community," Latham says. "I hope my own shared military experiences and lessons learned will be useful—or at least entertaining."

Since the project began, Digital Projects Librarian Jeff Downing and his team have interviewed at least three Corps of Cadets alumni each year during the UTA Military Science Hall of Honor ceremony using video equipment originally funded by the College of Liberal Arts.

Many veterans have spoken about the mundanities of life aboard a ship or on a military base. Despite being halfway around the globe or in combat situations,

daily life continued, just as it did at home.

On some occasions, however, the Maverick veterans recalled their experiences in combat. In his own recorded history, Wendell Nedderman, sixth president of UTA, remembered seeing kamikaze pilots at Iwo Jima and Okinawa when stationed in the Pacific during World War II.

"You think there's a possibility that it someday may be you, but also maybe not," he said. "So I didn't worry about it. I was in pretty good shape."

Family members of military members also have been interviewed for the project. They reflect another side of the military experience—those who remain at home while their loved ones face danger. The site also features an in memoriam section dedicated to the Mavericks who made the ultimate sacrifice defending their country.

Downing speaks to the importance of Maverick Veterans' Voices and other digital history projects at UTA when he points out that when people are gone, their stories go with them.

"Recording their stories is important to the historical record of what actually happened," he says. "The recordings become primary source material that can then be used not only by UTA faculty and students, but by researchers worldwide." UTA

CLASSIFIED

All the latest professional updates from our talented alumni all over the world.

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS

The University of Texas at Arlington honors exemplary alumni who have represented the University through professional achievement, community engagement, and loyalty to their alma mater. Each year, these alumni are recognized at the Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet held on the UTA campus.



ROGER KRONE
(’81 MS, Aerospace Engineering)
Chairman and CEO, Leidos



RAJ K. NOOYI
(’78 MS, Industrial Engineering)
Vice President & Global Head (Retd.),
Supply Chain Centre of Excellence,
Tata Consultancy



TERESA WHITE
(’88 BBA, Business Administration)
President, Aflac U.S. Operations



MIKE RHYNER
(’81 BA, Journalism)
Sports Radio Personality, The Ticket



DISTINGUISHED HONORARY ALUMNI
FRANK & JANE ALEXANDER
Owner, Franklyn Alexander, DDS, Inc.
Owner, JAM Music & Sound



DISTINGUISHED RECENT GRADUATE
NAFEES ALAM
(’02 BBA, Business Administration)
CEO, DRG Concepts

1969

Ralph M. Cox (BS, Mechanical Engineering) retired as a senior principal from Tompkins International, a global supply chain consulting firm.

1978

Kelcy Warren (BS, Civil Engineering) received the Blue Ribbon Medal of Excellence for Alumni Success from Kilgore College. He attended night classes at Kilgore while working his day job in the East Texas oilfields.

1979

Kathy Schoonover-Shoffner (BSN, Nursing) is the director of the Nurses Christian Fellowship and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Christian Nursing*.

1982

Jim Fant (BBA, Business) has been named executive managing director of acquisitions for Westmount Realty Capital LLC in Dallas. Prior to joining Westmount, he spent 12 years as senior vice president at Addison-based Behringer.

Tobi Jackson (BA, Physical Education) has been elected president of the Fort Worth school district’s Board of Education.

UTA is a great university, and my master’s degree helped open doors throughout my life, including an executive position by age 30.

— **BETH BARRETT**
(’07 MS, GEOLOGY),
Consulting Project Manager at Strategic Project Management LLC

1984

Rhonda Harris (BS, Civil Engineering) was awarded the Water Environment Association of Texas Lifetime Achievement Award. She is a member of UTA’s College of Engineering Board of Advisors and vice president of Tata and Howard.

Catherine D. Van Zandt

(BSN, Nursing) has earned the designation Certified Nurse Educator. She is a professor with Navarro College’s associate nursing degree program.

1985

William Gladbach

(BS, Civil Engineering; ’97 BS, Architecture) has been appointed managing director of the western region of Manhard Consulting, a civil engineering and surveying firm.

Anthony Horton

(BS, Management and Economics; ’92 MS, Accounting and Finance) was named to the board of directors for EXCO Resources Inc. He is chief financial officer and executive vice president of Energy Future Holdings Corp.

1986

Debbie O’Brien

(BA, Music) won the 2017 Bayard H. Friedman HERO Award for most outstand-

ing secondary school teacher in North Texas schools.

Kevin G. Sneed (BS, Architecture) has been named a fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Sneed is partner and senior director of architecture with OTJ Architects in Washington, D.C.

1989

Doris Jackson

(BSN, Nursing) was included in the International Nurses Association’s *Worldwide Leaders in Healthcare* publication. She is a specialist ICU nurse, cardiac nurse, and a legal nurse consultant for Jackson & Associates.

1990

Brian Burke

(BBA, Business) has joined PacWest Machinery as branch manager for western Washington.

Virginia Lynch

(MSN, Nursing) was recognized for her efforts in forensic nursing when she received the John R. Hunt Award in 2016 at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Las Vegas. She serves on the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Initiative in Humanitarian and Human Rights.

1991

Brett Cottrell

(BA, Communication) has been named pastor of the London First Baptist Church in London, Arkansas.

David Lee

(MArch, Architecture) has been hired as senior project manager for Dallas architecture firm th+a. The award-winning firm specializes in education and health care spaces.

1992

Bryant Wyatt

(PhD, Applied Mathematics) provided the keynote talk for the Research Council on Mathematics Learning 2017 Conference in Fort Worth. He is a professor of mathematics at Tarleton State University.

1993

Steve Macdonald

(BA, Journalism) was honored with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his accomplishments as Future Operations

FILL US IN

You never call. You don’t write. We miss you! Email us at classnotes@uta.edu and let us know what’s keeping you so busy.

CLASS NOTES

deputy director of the Navy Supply Corps from 2014 to 2017. He is now an executive officer with the Naval Sea Logistics Command in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.

1994

Karen Hunnicutt (MSSW, Social Work) is a social worker for Kalispell Regional Medical Center's inpatient rehabilitation in Kalispell, Montana.

Tim Wadham (PhD, Comparative Literature) is the author of *The Queen of France*, a Junior Library Guild selection.

1995

Eric Tiritilli (MA, Political Science) was named senior counsel at Lamson Dugan & Murray

LLP in Omaha, Nebraska. His practice focuses on counseling and defending companies in matters of employment and traditional labor law.

1996

Matt Childs (BS, '99 MS, Civil Engineering) has joined HawkeyePedershaab Concrete Technologies as vice president of sales for North America. Childs was president of the American Concrete Pipe Association for the last 12 years. He is credited with expansion of the association.

James Ferrara (MArch, Architecture) is building a classic villa, inspired by Italian architect Andrea Palladio, in Oak Cliff. Ferrara studied Palladio while a student at UTA.

1997

Riyad Alsaied (BS, Management Information Systems) was named executive director of technology for the Rockwall Independent School District. Previously, he worked for the Dallas ISD where he was the Food Services Department Director of Technology.

Brandon W. O'Donald (BS, Civil Engineering) has been named a new practice leader of land development in the Fort Worth area for Pape-Dawson Engineers Inc. His local experience includes the American Airlines Center and Victory Plaza, Baylor Scott & White Medical Center, five new Mansfield Independent School District elementary schools, and more.

1998

Charlene Parham (BA, Exercise and Sports Studies) is principal at Crownover Middle School in Denton.

Holly Reed (BFA, Art) wrote the lyrics and music for *Come Find Me*, a Christmas musical presented at the Brookfield Theatre in Brookfield, Connecticut.

2000

Rakesh Narayanan (MBA, '01 MS, Management Information Sys-

tems) has been appointed vice president of supplier commerce—Asia Pacific for Sabre Travel Network. He was previously regional director for Sabre Airline Solutions in Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent with responsibility for sales and account management.

—SEAN KIMIAGAR ('13 MS, GEOLOGY),
Geology Analyst at Upstream A&D

2001

Sandi McDermott (BSN, '06 MSN, Nursing) has been appointed to the advisory board of the Texas State Alliance of YMCAs. She is director of Tarleton State University's outreach center, which is located on the Navarro College Midlothian campus.

Kenneth Sheets (BA, Political Science) was appointed to the Texas Military Preparedness Commission by Texas Gov. Greg Abbott. He is a civil defense attorney at Payne and Blanchard LLP and is a former member of the Texas House of Representatives.

2002

Zach Cazares (BA, Kinesiology) is principal of Bonner Elementary School in Tyler.

Jenny Harstrom (BA, Interior Design) has been named principal of Lewis Elementary School in the Forney Independent School District. Previously, she was an associate principal/academic

ing, internal controls, and operations. With nearly 12 years of accounting experience, Datla previously served as chief accounting officer of Approach Resources Inc., a Permian Basin-focused oil and natural gas exploration and production company based in Fort Worth.

CARD-CARRYING MEMBERS

Beyond the immediate popularity and credibility you get after graduating from UTA, there are a number of benefits for involved alumni. From discounts to the Maverick Activities Center, UTA Bookstore, and more, alumni receive several great perks, all summarized when you sign up for the new alumni membership card. Check out alumni.uta.edu/benefits to get yours today!

officer at Mabank Intermediate School. She has more than 13 years of experience in education and school administration.

2004

Calandra Eddington (BSN, Nursing) has been admitted to the International Nurses Association. She is a case manager at the Medical Center of Arlington and is on call at Tarrant County College in Fort Worth.

Jakki Opollo (BSN, '08 MSN, '12 PhD, Nursing) received the Outstanding Nursing Graduate award from the Ethel Ransom Humanitarian and Cultural Club in November 2016.

2005

Uma Datla (MBA, Accounting) has joined RSP Permian Inc. as its chief accounting officer. She will be responsible for all aspects of RSP's accounting functions, including financial report-

ing, internal controls, and operations. With nearly 12 years of accounting experience, Datla previously served as chief accounting officer of Approach Resources Inc., a Permian Basin-focused oil and natural gas exploration and production company based in Fort Worth.

2006

Sayda Major (MSN, Nursing), a nurse practitioner at Parkland Health and Hospital System, was named the 2016 Texas Nurse Practitioners Preceptor of the Year at the 28th annual TNP conference in San Antonio.

2007

Jason Bass (BS, Civil Engineering) has joined MWM DesignGroup as a project manager in the land development group. He has 10 years of experience in a variety of land development projects spanning both public and private market sectors.

2008

Nick Nelson (MLA, Architecture) was honored by the *Fort Worth Business Press* as one of the 2017 "40 Under 40" class. The award recognizes successful young professionals who are outstanding in their industries and communities. Nelson is associate principal at Pacheco Koch.

2009

Holland Sanders (BA, Public Relations) has created Holland Collective, a broad-based marketing and public relations agency. Previously, she was head of public relations and marketing at the Fort Worth Opera.

2011

Ross Korkmas (MS, Health Care Administration) has been named a "40 Under 40" honoree by *Arkansas Business*. The chief operating officer at Medical Center of South Arkansas, he joined MCSA in 2013.

Arun Mohan (BS, Computer Engineering) is a petty officer 2nd class in the U.S. Navy and is serving on one of the world's most advanced ballistic missile submarines as an electronics technician.

Peter Singer (MBA, Human Resource Management) is the chief compliance officer at GIACT Systems, a payment fraud reduction company. He is responsible for overseeing all compliance and regulatory activities. Previously, he was the director of compliance at RealPage, where he led the anti-money laundering team and oversaw all compliance-related initiatives.

2012

Janice Michelle Duncan (MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) was named the 9-12 Division Teacher of the Year by Tennessee's Hawkins County School System. She teaches ninth grade physical science, ecology, and honors physical science at Cherokee High School.

Andrew Feghali (BS, Mechanical Engineering, '16 MBA) is CEO of Aeroblaze Laboratory, a company he created in 2016 that ensures that interior materials of planes meet fire safety regulations.

2013

Elizabeth Bigler (BS, Architecture) was awarded the Construction Industry Association's 2016 Magnolia Award. The Magnolia Award annually recognizes outstanding women in construction. She is a project engineer at McCarthy Building Companies Inc.

Sean Kimiagar (MS, Geology) is a geology analyst in Upstream A&D for Detring Energy Advisors.

Lynn Malkawi (BBA, '16 MBA, Management) wrote an opinion piece for the June 18 issue of *The Jordan Times* that cites reasons for optimism about the economy in Jordan. Malkawi works in public service.

My experience at UTA provided me with a lifetime of success. I am endlessly grateful for the professors, administrators, programs, and opportunities that UTA shared with me.

—RICKI A. CHASE ('94 BS, '96 MS, BIOLOGY),
Director of Compliance for Lachman Consultant Services

PLAN TO MAKE AN IMPACT

GIFTS TO SUPPORT UTA come in all shapes and sizes. Estate and planned gifts are often as unique as the individual donor and require keen attention to detail to get them right.

Fortunately, the University has hired a new senior director for gift and estate planning to help you think through certain types of gifts that benefit you and make a lasting difference at UTA.

Kurt Bartley, FCEP (Fellow in Charitable Estate Planning), joined the University this past spring from Regis University in Denver, Colorado, where he gained years of experience in the intricacies of estate gifts. His experience will help you get the most out of your assets.

Email Kurt at kurt.bartley@uta.edu to learn how you can start planning your legacy.

Stephanie Spahis

(BSN, Nursing) is a cardiology nurse at Children's Medical Center of Dallas. Previously, she worked in the neonatal ICU at Medical City Dallas.

2014

Amanda Baskett

(MEd, Curriculum and Instruction) is the director of Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology in Conyers, Georgia.

Jeremiah Bentley

(BS, University Studies) has been named vice president of marketing and customer engagement for Texas Mutual Insurance Co. in Gainesville, Texas. Bentley joined Texas Mutual in 1998 and has served in a variety of roles across the organization.

Lashanda Putman

(BSN, Nursing) was recognized as a top nurse by the International Nurses Association. She serves patients at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. The Shepherd Center specializes in spinal cord and brain injury rehabilitation along with medical research as the top rehabilitation hospital in the nation.

Maria Moreno Quinones

(BSN, Nursing) serves as a member of the board of the Dallas chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses.

Josh Rader

(BS, Exercise Physiology)

As a first-generation American and college student, I can attest to the substantial upward mobility I experienced as a result of my UTA degree.

—ANA HERRERA ('06 BSN, NURSING),
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse at Seton
Healthcare Family

is offering the FitSTEPS for Life exercise program for cancer patients at his fitness center in Abilene.

2015

James Clark

(MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) was named principal of the Irving Independent School District's Lady Bird Johnson Middle School. Previously, he was an assistant principal at Nimitz High School.

Brian Lumar

(MEd, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies) has been named the first African-American principal of Hahnville High School in Boutte, Louisiana.

Coretta Sigler

(BSN, Nursing) received an Outstanding Nursing Graduate award from the Ethel Ransom Humanitarian and Cultural Club

at the organization's 83rd anniversary gala.

2016

Leann Denney

(BSN, Nursing) was profiled in the May 16 issue of *Oklahoma Nursing Times*. She is a chemotherapy nurse navigator at the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Last Fermenga

(PhD, Physics) described how UTA gave him the opportunity to conduct research at the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland in an article in *Symmetry Magazine*. He now works with the technology firm Digital Reasoning in Nashville, Tennessee.

Lori Hanke

(BSN, Nursing) received Northwest Texas Healthcare System's Clinical Excellence Surgical Services award.

Austin Nguyen

(BA, Broadcast Communication) has joined KAGS NBC 23 in College Station as a multimedia journalist.

Wayne Snell

(MPA, Planning) has been hired as director of neighborhood and inspection services for the City of Lewisville.

2017

Priya Acharya

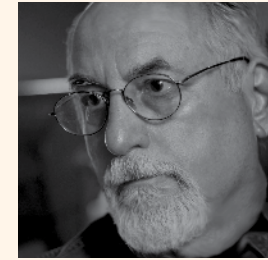
(PhD, Strategic Management) has been elected an associate by the board of directors of Wier & Associates Inc., an Arlington firm specializing in civil engineering and land surveying consulting.

Kylie Gulp

(BSN, Nursing) earned the Northwest Texas Healthcare System's Clinical Excellence Surgical Services award. She has worked at Northwest for two years.

IN MEMORIAM

Andy Anderson



70, March 17, Arlington. A beloved filmmaker and instructor, Andy Anderson has been credited with developing UTA's film and video program into a showcase degree. Anderson joined UTA in 1976 as a photography instructor. He was honored as the first Morgan Woodward Distinguished Professor and as a Minnie Stevens Piper Professor. He served as chair of the Department of Art and Art History from 1995-2005 and as a writer-in-residence. An active filmmaker, screenwriter, and director, Anderson was a professor emeritus when he retired in 2011.

Arnold Petsche



86, Sept. 27, Arlington. A longtime supporter of UTA and an honorary Distinguished Alumnus, Arnold Petsche was president of A.E. Petsche Property Co. and the retired president and chairman of the board for the A.E. Petsche Co. He founded the A.E. Petsche Co., an aerospace wire and cable distribution business, in 1966. The business grew to encompass 20 branches worldwide with sales exceeding \$200 million before it was sold in 2009. In 2012 Petsche donated \$1 million to establish the Arnold E. Petsche Center for Automotive Engineering at UTA. His son, Alan, and daughter-in-law, Bonnie, are both Distinguished Alumni and ardent supporters of the University.

Photograph by Leighton McWilliams (Anderson)

ALUMNI

1960s

Bobby Callan Greenlee

('62 BBA, Accounting) 82, May 20, Arlington.

Ellis C. Dawson

('63 BS, Electrical Engineering) 82, Dec. 22, 2016, Fort Worth. Dawson worked at Chance Vought (LTV) while attending night school at Arlington State College. He worked on special projects for General Dynamics (Lockheed Martin) and retired as director of F-22 Utilities and Subsystems after 40 years.

Kirby L. Duncan

('63 BA, English) 82, March 5, Nacogdoches. He taught for 40 years at Stephen F. Austin State University, where he was known as "Flunkin' Duncan."

David Gordon

('63 BS, Engineering) 78, April 30, Dallas. He was a professor at the University of Dallas for 40 years.

Rose Mary Herrell

('65 BS, Mathematics) 92, Sept. 28, 2016, Fort Worth. An aviation engineer, she was on the team that built the first control tower at San Antonio International Airport and various other airport facilities in Texas and Louisiana.

Ronny Hurl Moore

('65 BS, Aerospace Engineering) 73, March 24, Austin. He worked for NASA.

Gerald Gregg Morris Sr.

('65 BS, Electrical Engineering) 79, Oct. 4, 2016, Salisbury, Maryland. He worked in the aerospace industry with LTV Aerospace Corp. and NASA's Wallops Flight Facility, Goddard Space Flight Center, and Vandenberg Air Force Base.

Fenton Wayne Robnett

('65 BA, History) 73, Aug. 25, 2016, Garland. He taught in Dallas schools for 31 years. He established the Fenton Wayne Robnett Endowed Professorship in the College of Education.

Ron Arnold

('66 BS, Industrial Engineering) 74, May 17, San Diego. He worked as a nuclear logistics facilities engineer and retired from Lockheed Martin as an industrial engineer.

Jay Warner Jackson

('66 BS, Aerospace Engineering) 73, May 20, Bedford.

Billy Charles Pickard

('66 BBA, Business) 76, Feb. 20, Waxahachie. He was a self-employed building contractor.

Kenneth Charles Kautz

('67 BBA, Accounting) 72, July 31, 2016, Arlington. He specialized in real estate law.

A.J. "Jack" Ehrle III

('68 BBA, Business) 71, April 7, Dallas. He was a criminal defense attorney.

Edward Joseph Lunt

('68 BS, Mathematics) 71, Feb. 17, Fort Worth.

Sharon Haynes Axtell

('69 BA, Psychology) 70, Feb. 4, Dallas.

Mary Margaret DeArmond

('69 BA, English) 69, Jan. 1, Quitman.

John William Shelton

('69 BA, History) 71, April 20, Fort Worth. He played on the UTA basketball team.

1970s

Ziona Waldenberg Balaban

('70 MSSW, Social Work) 84, Jan. 24, Dallas. She was in the first graduating class of the Master of Social Work program. She worked for 20 years with the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas.

Lonnie Max Obeidin

('70 BA, History) 68, March 5, Fort Worth. He was an attorney.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

More than 220 alumni came together last summer to make a difference for several deserving UTA students. As part of the Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) scholarship campaign, alumni from each class of the last 10 years competed against each other to raise as many \$1,000 scholarships as possible.

"I gave because I know the financial burden of paying for school while attending can be over-

whelming," says Amanda Jordan ('16 MA, Communication). "It was my opportunity to help the next generation of Mavericks."

Ten UTA students were awarded GOLD scholarships for the fall semester.

"This scholarship helps me focus better on my dissertation by reducing a significant portion of the financial burden," says Prashanth Ravi, a mechanical engineering PhD candidate and a GOLD scholarship recipient.

"I am extremely grateful to the alumni donors for their generosity. It is gifts like the GOLD scholarship that encourage students to give their best to academics and remember upon graduation what UTA has given them during their time here."

To learn more about how you can impact students at UTA or make a gift, contact Rose Youngblood in the Office of Development and Alumni Relations at 817-272-2011.

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Jean McKnight
(’71 BA, Sociology) 69, *Feb. 19, Castlewood, Virginia.* She was the first female computer technician with IBM in Austin.

Johnnie “Toby” Stewart Jr.
(’71 AS, Electrical Engineering) 74, *Jan. 10, Arlington.* He worked in electrical engineering for TXU.

John M. Elliott
(’72 BA, History) 73, *Jan. 6, Arlington.*

Gerald Patric Lillard
(’72 BS, Geology) 67, *Jan. 20, Houston.*

Jimmy Thomas Jr.
(’72 BA, History) 70, *June 6, Fort Worth.* He played with the San Francisco 49ers for five years.

Mary Kate Anderson
(’73 BA, ’76 MA, German) 66, *March 28, Fort Worth.*

Scott Haynes
(’73 BA, Sociology) 68, *May, Fort Worth.* He worked in the Texas Governor’s Office as an ADA specialist. Later, he worked with the Texas Workforce Commission and Easterseals.

Tak Wai “Tom” Leung
(’74 BS, ’76 MA, Chemistry) 67, *Feb. 18, Webster.*

John Phillips Shasteen
(’74 BBA, Business) 74, *March 1, Gun Barrel City.*

Royce Brothers
(’75 BBA, Business) 76, *April 28, Crowley.*

Milton Nicks
(’78 BA, Sociology) 71, *April 1, San Angelo.*

Philip Bryan Garner
(’79 BS, Psychology) 60, *Oct. 20, 2016, Grapevine.* He worked for 25 years with Lockheed Martin Aeronautics. He donated 14 gallons of double red blood to Carter BloodCare.

Mary Lee Shelton Henshall
(’79 BSN, Nursing) 90, *Nov. 1, 2016, Burleson.* She earned her degree and was valedictorian at age 42. She retired from All Saints Hospital.

Harold Dick Smith
(’79 MS, Civil Engineering) 82, *Aug. 4, 2016, Arlington.* He retired from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

1980s

Kenneth Noble Craig
(’80 BS, Mechanical Engineering) 58, *Aug. 29, 2016, Midland.*

Lou Ann Mahaney
(’80 MS, ’84 PhD, Mathematics) 76, *March 11, Arlington.*

Stephen Craig Smith
(’80 BS, Biology) 58, *March 30, Durango, Colorado.* He was a dentist.

Michael David Wilson
(’80 BBA, Accounting) 60, *May 28, Matthews, North Carolina.* He was a CPA.

Derrick Jensen
(’83 BBA, Real Estate) 60, *April 7, Panama City Beach, Florida.* Attending UTA on a full football scholarship, Jensen played for the Oakland Raiders for eight seasons as a running back and tight end, including in two Super Bowl victories, and was a scout for the Seattle Seahawks for 22 years. The Seahawks team renamed its draft room for him.

Douglas Benton Arrington
(’81 BBA, Economics) 59, *May 22, Fort Worth.* He was a CPA.

Thelma Anne Jackson
(’81 BA, English) 78, *May 18, Wimberley.*

Charles Klein
(’81 MBA) 59, *Sept. 18, 2016, Dallas.* He practiced commercial real estate law.

Richard Emory McGary
(’82 BA, Political Science) 61, *Oct. 9, Richardson.* He was a litigation and products liability attorney.

Robert J. Chiore
(’85 MBA, Business) 64, *Feb. 27, Bedford.* He was a financial analyst for American Airlines.

Gregory S. Clute
(’86 BS, Electrical Engineering) 65, *May 29, Waxahachie.*

Thomas C. Rainone
(’86 BA, Television/Film) 53, *Nov. 28, 2016, Arlington.* He was a special effects production supervisor, director, actor, and music coordinator in Hollywood.

1990s

Steven Michael Shipe
(’90 BA, Interdisciplinary Studies) 49, *June 3, Arlington.*

Dwayne Allen Shaw
(’92 BS, Industrial Engineering) 50, *Nov. 21, 2016, North Richland Hills.*

Steven Edward Ganner
(’94 BS, Mathematics) 44, *April 28, Hurst.* He was a math teacher at L.D. Bell High School in Hurst.

Pamela James-Hurley
(’94 BA, Journalism) 63, *May 13, St. Paul, Texas.*

Patty Walenty
(’94 BA, Psychology) 44, *Nov. 30, 2016, Keller.*

John Mitchell Hallum
(’95 BS, Information Systems) 56, *Jan. 8, Dallas.* He was employed at Holy Trinity Catholic Church and had an acting career on stage and in film.

Brandon Allen Smith
(’95 BBA, Finance) 44, *Nov. 14, 2016, Memphis, Tennessee.*

L. Kevin McNelis
(’96 PhD, Business Administration) 59, *May 27, Las Cruces, New Mexico.*

Iniobong “Inio” George Obadiah
(’97 BSSW, ’05 MSSW, Social Work) 43, *March 30, Arlington.* She was a graduate student in the Psychology Department.

Jette Majbrith Buckingham
(’98 BA, English) 57, *Sept. 22, 2016, Dallas.*

2000s
Russell Franklin Lawson
(’00 BBA, Accounting) 75, *March 7, Dallas.*

Rosemary Lopez
(’00 BSN, Nursing) 52, *May 12, Grand Prairie.*

Brad Rogers
(’03 BS, Mechanical Engineering) 58, *March 20, North Richland Hills.*

Jennifer Elaine Lemin
(’04 BM, Music Education) 35, *March 28, Arlington.*

Japheth Osia Jaoko
(’05 PhD, Social Work) 46, *May 8, Lexington, Kentucky.*

Emily Jean Raif Sassenhagen
(’08 BSN, Nursing) 33, *May 4, Colleyville.*

2010s
Dan Cass Harper
(’10 BA, Philosophy) 29, *May 19, Temple.*

Cheryl Ann McCord
(’11 BS, Interdisciplinary Studies) 53, *May 16, Crowley.*

Gregory Dean Monson
(’12 BS, ’16 MS, Chemistry) 33, *Nov. 25, 2016, Euless.* He served seven years in the U.S. Navy, with four years as a surface ship nuclear propulsion plant operator at sea aboard the *USS Ronald Reagan* aircraft carrier. He was deployed in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Amanda Henson
(’14 BS, Biology) 25, *April 27, Fort Worth.*

Belinda Garcia-Bonner
(’16 MEd, Education) 44, *March 2, Arlington.* She was a second-grade teacher at Johns Elementary in Arlington.

Garrett C. Phifer
(’16 BA, Broadcasting and Telecommunications) 28, *Jan. 29, Arlington.* Phifer worked at iHeartRadio as a radio broadcasting engineer and in his free time produced his own music in his G-Phorce Productions studio.

FRIENDS OF UTA

Earle Grady “E.G.” Hamilton Jr.
97, *May 8, Dallas.* The Omniplan/Harrell+Hamilton Scholarship fund for graduate architecture students at UTA was named in honor of Hamilton, a renowned Dallas architect.

Robert Reid Lynn
90, *May 27, Colleyville.* A member of the College of Engineering Advisory Board, he retired in May 1991 as a senior vice president of research and engineering at Bell Helicopter.

FACULTY & STAFF

Martha M. Battle
87, *April 9, Bartow, Florida.* She was an assistant supervisor in the campus print shop from 1987-92.

Camille Ruttan Carruth
77, *March 27, Granbury.* She worked as a cashier for the UTA Police Department from 2015-17.

George Caldwell McDowell
103, *April 22, Houston.* McDowell studied engineering at North Texas Agricultural College before a 1933 appointment to West Point. The youngest officer on Gen. George Patton’s staff, he installed the first UNIVAC computer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Nai Yuen Chen
91, *March 30, Arlington.* He had been a Distinguished Research Professor in Physics since 2011.

Naomi Mae Ford
91, *March 1, Grand Prairie.* She was senior secretary for the associate dean of engineering from 1973-87.

Carol Ann Gentry
72, *Jan. 27, Lancaster.* She was a research associate for the Department of Psychology from 2004-10.

John Lee “Buddy” Gerik
69, *March 16, Arlington.* A U.S. Navy veteran, he worked in the Military Science Department from 1998-2017.

Roger Dale Kirby
(’97 MS, ’07 PhD, Mathematics) 70, *March 22, Fort Worth.* He taught mathematics at UTA from 1993-2016. A scholarship in his name supports the TexPREP Engineering Summer Program at UTA.

Evelyn Ray Briggs Martin
84, *March 10, Arlington.* The 1992 Employee of the Year was a secretary in the College of Engineering and the Physical Plant from 1973-97.

Edward Rehonic
84, *March 5, Grand Prairie.* He was a technical staff assistant in the Geology Department from 1986-92.

Bettie Lou Stephens
84, *March 12, Arlington.* She was a secretary in the Department of Finance and Real Estate from 1978-87.



The Explainer

portation costs, upward economic mobility, and food deserts.

In examining these indices through the lens of urban sprawl, we found that life expectancy is greater in compact areas, in part due to a lower prevalence of obesity and less vehicle miles traveled, which reduces traffic fatalities. Housing costs are higher in compact areas, but these increased costs are more than offset by lower transportation costs. The net effect is a slightly significant relationship between compactness and overall housing affordability. Upward social mobility is greater in compact areas, as measured by the probability that a child born into the lowest 20 percent on the income scale will rise to the top 20 percent by age 30. In an exploration of various causal mechanisms that may account for this phenomenon, we can conclude that it may be due to greater ease of access to employment in compact metropolitan areas. Food deserts are more prevalent in sprawling metropolitan areas, and sprawling census tracts within these metropolitan areas are more likely to be food deserts. This may be explained by income segregation within sprawling areas as well as declining downtowns and a shortage of customers within easy traveling distance in sprawling areas.

The main theme is that metropolitan sprawl has many more costs than previously recognized, and planners need to discourage sprawl in the interest of quality of life. [UTA](#)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Dr. Hamidi is a transportation planner and a smart growth advocate. Her research has been cited in more than 100 national newspapers and magazines, including The Wall Street Journal and The Washington Post. Her book, Costs of Sprawl, was co-written and researched with Reid Ewing, professor of city and metropolitan planning at the University of Utah.

Costs of Sprawl

BY SHIMA HAMIDI
 Director of the Institute of Urban Studies and Assistant Professor of Urban Planning

ACROSS THE NATION, particularly in the field of urban planning, the debate over metropolitan sprawl and its impact rages on. A decade ago, Smart Growth America and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sought to raise the level of debate by sponsoring groundbreaking research to quantitatively measure sprawl and its impact on quality of life. Their findings have been widely used in urban research, particularly in public health.

Along with Reid Ewing, professor of city and metropolitan planning at the University of Utah, I have looked at updating and refining these measures, developed measures for other geographies (urbanized areas and census tracts as well as metropolitan areas and counties), and explored the relationships between these measures and a host of other outcomes. We have found that urban sprawl is associated with lower walk and transit shares of commute trips, longer drive times, higher fatal vehicle crash rates, and higher incidence of obesity and certain chronic diseases.

Sprawl indices may be related to four topics of recent popular interest: life expectancy, housing and trans-



Look Back 1972

UTA's Homecoming traditions have evolved over the years, from revelry focused on football to the basketball-centered celebration it is today. However, some things never change. We still enjoy parades and pep rallies, Maverick spirit thrives unabated, and,

of course, Homecoming traditions have evolved over the years, from revelry focused on football to the basketball-centered celebration it is today. However, some things never change. We still enjoy parades and pep rallies, Maverick spirit thrives unabated, and, of course, Homecoming queens and kings are still crowned at halftime. Pictured here are the 1972 UTA Homecoming queen candidates, from left: Carol Takaba, Bernadette Sulak, Linda Montgomery (who won), Jan Kirby, and Melissa Hundt.

Our Cover Crew

Sometimes more is more. The students in our Class of 2021 feature were so inspiring, and the photography of Trevor Paulhus so colorful and fun, that we couldn't settle on just one cover design. Check out all of this issue's covers right here!



ISAAC TORRES



TAIWO-BAYONLE OLAYIWOLA



ELIZABETH HOANG



DEBORAH ESTRADA



COLE PERRINE

LOOK AHEAD

We just can't get enough of you. Take a look at the upcoming events below and see where UTA and your life can intersect.

FEBRUARY 20

Maverick Speakers Series
presents: Michael Pollan

MARCH 3

23rd Annual Benefit
Powwow

MARCH 6

UTA Baseball vs. Baylor at
Globe Life Park

MARCH 29

Maverick Speakers Series
presents: Gretchen Carlson

APRIL 21

Jazz Brunch at Main St.
Fort Worth Arts Festival

Dates subject to change.
Visit uta.edu/events for the
latest information.