

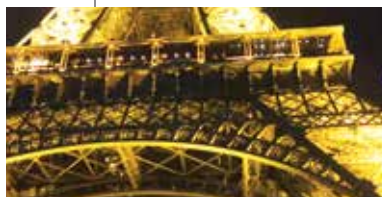
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Austin College



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FROM THE PRESIDENT

“It isn’t easy to put into words succinctly the special magic that unites Kangaroos.”



In my travels through Texas and around the country, I encounter two types of people: those who believe that Austin College is among the finest colleges in the country, and those who have never heard of Austin College. We are fortunate that our reputation is solid among those who know of us. Our talented alumni are tremendous ambassadors for us, and their accomplishments have built our reputation for excellence. **To know us is indeed to love us!** But as a small college, our reputational reach is limited, and we know that there are many high school students, parents, thought leaders, and even higher education mavens for whom Austin College is an absolute unknown.

I am certain that, like me, you often find yourself in situations where you have to describe Austin College “from the ground up.” It isn’t easy to put into words succinctly the special magic that unites Kangaroos.

I usually start by explaining that Austin College is a highly selective liberal arts college—the oldest one in Texas—with a strong commitment to both excellence and access. Our students are talented and diverse and look for an education that prepares them to lead and serve.

Each of these statements is true, but alone they don’t fully convey our spirit. Over the past several years as I have honed my Austin College “elevator pitch,” I’ve come to add an additional descriptive: An Austin College education is distinguished by its unusual combination of rigor, adventure, and warmth.

All together this makes for a compelling summary—one that invites my listeners to ask for more and to want to hear stories of how we embody those characteristics.

I explain that the **rigor** of our curriculum and the high expectations our faculty members place on both students and themselves, mean that our students are challenged to do their very best work. They become well-educated critical thinkers, able to compete in elite professional and academic spheres.

We provide **adventurous** learning platforms full of hands-on applications, including opportunities to travel the world, engage in research, manage our \$1 million Student Investment Fund, curate

an art exhibit, tour with a choir, engage with the community—and whatever else our students can dream up. The content of our curriculum is adventurous as well—every student encounters fields, perspectives, and intellectual tools that are unfamiliar and require courage to investigate. Moreover, the diversity of our community provides an adventure all its own as students eat, work, live, and play together.

Finally, learning at Austin College takes place in the context of a **warm** and supportive community of peers and mentors. Rigor and adventure are balanced and encouraged by these strong relationships. Taking risks is easier when your faculty members are cheering you on and when you know that you and your work matter to them.

As you recall your own experiences at Austin College, I am certain that you can find examples of rigor, adventure, and warmth. I encourage you to reflect on how those experiences affect you today. What have you taken from your college days that continues to shape your choices and direction? Think that through and then share that story. You are welcome to repeat my elevator speech or reframe it in your own words. And then go forth and tell it. Help us shrink the pool of those who do not know about Austin College and expand the pool of our admirers.

In this issue of our magazine, you will read about several of our alumni who are *living the liberal arts*. Although their career fields differ, each of them has taken up the challenge of bringing rigor, adventure, and warmth to the work that engages them. They model the ways that Austin College graduates touch the world and devote themselves to making it better.

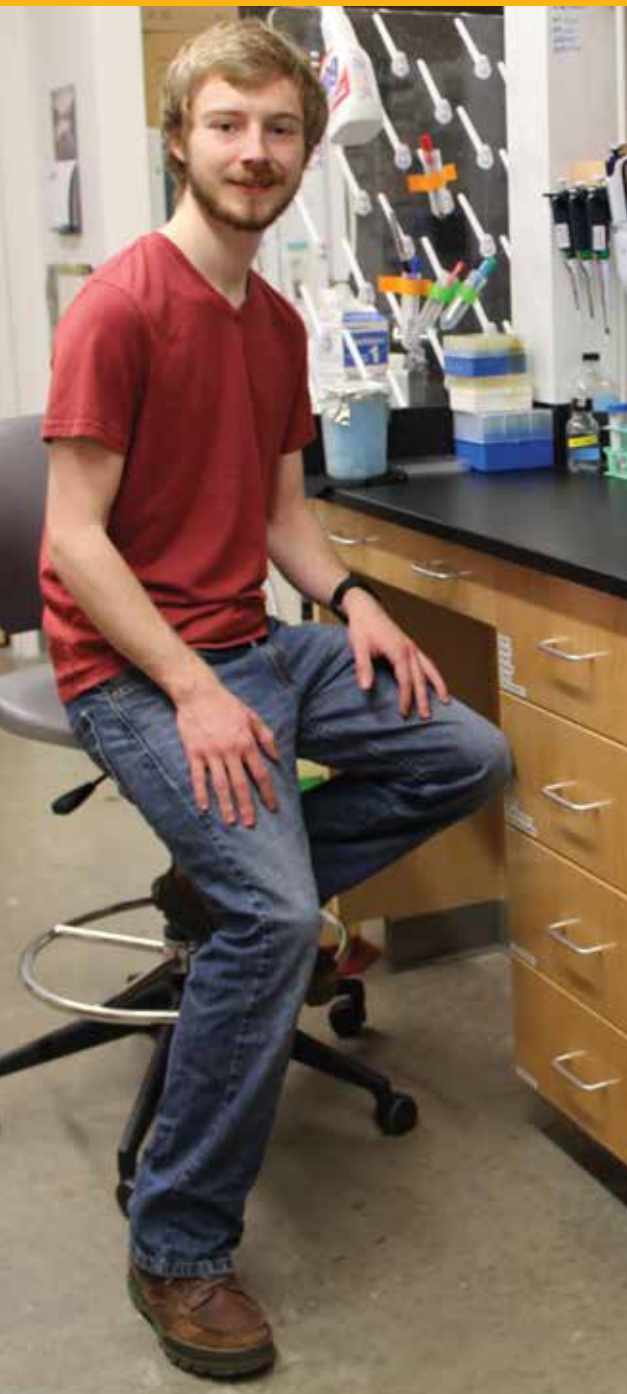
As always, we would love to see you on campus, and we invite you to check our website regularly for updates on what is happening at Austin College.

Warmly,

Majorie Hass

Transforming Lives through

Scholarships



Scholarships can transform the lives of Austin College students—like **Spencer Nystrom** '15. Without scholarships, an Austin College education wouldn't have been possible for him.

He flourished in his coursework at Austin College and discovered a passion for research. After his sophomore year, he was awarded a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship at The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center. His interest grew with the challenge. After completing his Austin College degree, the Phi Beta Kappa alumnus headed to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he is working toward a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences.

A life transformed.

Some 1,275 other transformations are in progress across campus as passions are discovered, paths are explored, and dreams are realized—because of scholarship opportunities made possible by alumni and friends like you.



TAKE PART IN A TRANSFORMATION
www.austincollege.edu/giving

SNAPSHOT



Looking Forward
Victoria McCartney '17 pauses in front of the Colosseum during the JanTerm 2016 course, "Rome: The Eternal City." Just as the students in the course explored the art, literature, and monuments of Rome's past as well as the modern, thriving Rome of today, Victoria stands with a backdrop of the ruins of ancient Rome and a bright, promising future before her.

PHOTO BY EDEN LLAMAS '18

Tuning Up: 50 Years and Counting



BY: Vickie S. Kirby

In fall 1966, Austin College professor **Cecil Isaac** gathered fellow musicians from the College and the surrounding community to play through Beethoven's First Symphony. A love for symphony music kept the musicians coming back each week. From that love of music and the dedication of Isaac to bring musical culture to the

community, the Sherman Civic Orchestra was born, with Isaac as conductor.

What is now known as the Sherman Symphony Orchestra has been making beautiful music ever since—this year celebrating 50 seasons. The Golden Season will be celebrated April 30 at its spring concert when more than 70 musicians, including two harpists and three timpanists, perform Holst's "The Planets" in Kidd-Key Auditorium at the

Sherman Municipal Building.

The Sherman Symphony Orchestra has had only two directors in its history. Founding conductor Isaac led the group until he put down his baton in spring 1992, after 26 seasons and 118 performances of the orchestra. (He continued to teach as a member of the Austin College music faculty until 1996.)

As much as Isaac enjoyed music, he also loved to teach and the symphony provided a perfect outlet. "I've hoped that my students would go on to be lifetime players—

maybe not professionally but at least wherever they are," Isaac said in an interview before leading his final symphony performance. "The orchestra has shown them that as a possibility. And it has provided an outlet to those in the community who wish to continue to play and continue to grow as performers."

Daniel Dominick serves as the symphony director today, as he has since coming to Sherman in 1992 to join the Austin College Music Department faculty and lead the symphony. In his nearly 25 seasons, he has continued the fine presentation of music by great composers. Dominick, too, is devoted to the orchestra, what it offers Austin College students, and the cultural options it offers the people of Grayson County and surrounding communities of North Texas and Oklahoma.

"Through the Symphony Orchestra, the local community is able to enjoy high-level, classical performance," Dominick said, noting that the full orchestra offers a different kind of musical experience than other bands or ensembles. The symphony also offers great opportunity for Austin College students, both in the chance to perform and the instruction that comes from playing alongside



“My participation in the Sherman Symphony has increased my musical knowledge and my playing techniques on violin. My favorite thing about being in the orchestra is that I get to work with other players to create something really beautiful. Having a full symphony orchestra for the College and community allows college students to work on music at a professional level and gives the community a new musical experience to embrace during concerts.”

COLE FLANAGAN '18

Past members of the symphony are encouraged to join the April 30 celebration; contact [Lori Allen](mailto:Lori.Allen@austincollege.edu) in the Music Department at [903.813.2251](tel:903.813.2251) or lallen@austincollege.edu for information.

other talented and dedicated musicians. And, of course, the presence of the Sherman Symphony Orchestra is a part of the cultural community that helps to attract and retain businesses and other opportunities for the region.

The orchestra regularly includes 65 players—all volunteers participating for the love of music—and 12 to 20 of those typically are Austin College students. Another 10 players come from other area colleges and a few high school students participate. Community members and area faculty make up the remainder of the orchestra. Professional musicians are hired if a particular musical piece requires instruments not performed by area musicians, but the orchestra is always based upon the volunteers; professionals only augment. And that’s just the way Dominick likes it. “I’d take a performer who loves to play and loves music over the professional just playing another gig any day,” he said.

The orchestra normally practices only two hours a week, with an extra evening’s practice and a pre-concert run-through on performance weeks. That means they have to be efficient with their time and select a program that is challenging and exciting but that can be perfected within their rehearsal time. The orchestra base can play almost anything, Dominick said.

The beautiful music continues—on April 30 and for many seasons to come. ■



Conductor **Cecil Isaac** is shown with students and well-wishers at the celebration of the 100th performance of the orchestra in December 1988. Isaac, professor emeritus of music, said he is pleased to see that the symphony continues to thrive all these years later. “It’s quite an accomplishment to have lasted for 50 years,” he said.



David Tarpley '68 was a part of the orchestra 50 seasons ago. “I was overjoyed when during my sophomore year, Cecil Isaac began talking about the plans for the new Sherman Civic Orchestra. The program from our inaugural concert in December 1966 reflects our small size and Cecil’s selections of lightly scored music to match. Contrast that with the program from November 1967. We had grown considerably in numbers that first year and could perform works for full orchestra.” David lives in Nashville, Tennessee, where he is an attorney working with the Legal Aid Society of Middle Tennessee and the Cumberslands. For the past 25 years, he has performed in the horn section of the Trevecca Symphony Orchestra in Nashville.



One of the programs **Daniel Dominick** is particularly pleased with is the Children’s Educational Concert presented each fall. More than 1,000 fifth graders from area schools attend the session that provides an introduction to the instruments and music of the symphony. A narration is designed specifically to educate, to inspire the children to take up an instrument, and to help them understand that classical music can be relevant to their lives. “Hearing live music is exciting,” Dominick said.

VIEWS
OF
JANUARY
TERM
2016



**“THIS IS BY FAR THE BEST
EXPERIENCE I HAVE EVER HAD.”**

— Lola Alexander '17

Pictured on Page 7: Lola Alexander, left, looks to the beauty of the sea and at lower right, holds one of the Smooth Hound Sharks she tagged and released while collecting data. Top right, Don Rodgers and Lindsey Womack pose during a January class visit to the Republic of China Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



ALONG GRAND AVENUE

JANTERM ADVENTURES AT HOME AND ABROAD

January Term is special. Taking only one course provides a change of pace, a chance to study a subject outside students' regular academic interests or to delve deep into one topic. The term also allows students to explore career options at sites they arrange—in Sherman, their hometowns, or around the globe.

Lola Alexander '17 took part in a Career Study Off Campus (CSOC) in marine ecology, traveling to Oceans Research in Mossel Bay, South Africa, to collect data about sharks, dolphins, and whales at sea. "This JanTerm opened my eyes to a new culture and new things," she said, adding that she found positive and negative aspects to such a career. "Meanwhile I met people that I will be friends with for life and had an amazing time. This is by far the best experience I have ever had."

The opportunity to include travel in coursework is part of the magic of JanTerm. **Don Rodgers**, associate professor of political science, could have selected from several books to provide background and history and used real-time online updates



to teach his course, "Taiwan's 2016 Elections."

"Taiwan has a vibrant election process with exciting and entertaining campaign rallies, festivals,

and parades," Rodgers said. "The 2016 election was particularly exciting because of the emergence of a strong social protest movement led primarily by college students that definitely influenced the process."

Allowing students to be in Taiwan in the midst of the January presidential election gave them insight and exposure

that even up-to-the-minute online video never could. "Taiwan will always hold a special place in my heart; I feel inspired by the people I met, and am now friends with, to engage in my community in the way that they have," said **Lindsey Womack '16**, one of 13 students in the class. "I met students and activists who have fundamentally changed their country through their actions of peaceful protests and by the sheer fact that so many of them cared so deeply about what was going on in their country. I could have never learned any of that or have been so affected if the class had stayed on campus."



Life-changing experiences like Lindsey's are expected during JanTerm. Other courses included travel to Austria, Belgium, France, Spain, Japan, Mexico, Italy, Dominican Republic, Cuba, New Orleans, and the Hawaiian Islands, as classes studied biology, art, politics, medicine, literature, languages, and cultures.

On-campus courses included study of all sorts of topics, like drawing comics, the economics of poverty, exercise and nutrition, math and strategy, Dostoevsky, and prohibition, as only a few examples. And, the Service Station hosted its annual JanServe during which students volunteer through Special Olympics and after-school programs.



JanTerm courses have been making magic since 1968.

New career directions, lifelong friendships, and even some marriages had their beginnings in JanTerm experiences.

JanTerm celebrates its 50th year in 2018; to share your own life-changing moments, write editor@austincollege.edu.

“
A Path
Appears
”

Nicholas Kristof & Sheryl WuDunn

2016 Austin College Posey Leadership Award Co-Recipients

Austin College recognized human rights activists **Nicholas Kristof** and **Sheryl WuDunn** as co-recipients of its 2016 Posey Leadership Award on March 22. The husband-and-wife team spoke on campus and met with student groups that day before giving a presentation at the Global Outreach Forum that evening in Dallas at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science.

The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalists have called women's rights the moral issue of this century. While writing for *The New York Times*, the two reporters saw the oppression and injustices endured by women around the world. They also found hope and inspiration in the stories of individuals who are attempting to make a difference. Hope inspired the founding of their Half the Sky Movement, dedicated to raising awareness about the widespread mistreatment of women and girls around the globe and to empowering those women and girls to create change in today's society. Kristof and WuDunn's latest initiative, *A Path Appears: Transforming Lives, Creating Opportunity*, features a book and a documentary that provide evidence-based research and solutions regarding the worldwide problems of sex

trafficking, poverty, and gender-based violence.

Kristof has written about economics, human rights, global health, and poverty on six continents. WuDunn, a business and banking executive, has written for and held management positions with *The New York Times*, as well as other outlets. After receiving a



Pulitzer Prize for their coverage of the Tiananmen Square movement in 1990, the couple founded the Half the Sky Movement. Since its creation, the organization's multimedia initiatives, including documentary screenings, games, and cutting-edge interactive elements, have reached millions of people. The Half the Sky Movement partners with TOSTAN, Women for Women International, BRAC, Heifer International, Grameen

Foundation, Save the Children, International Justice Mission, and many more notable organizations.

In addition to *A Path Appears*, Kristof and WuDunn have written three other bestsellers: *China Wakes: The Struggle for the Soul of a Rising Power* (1994); *Thunder from the East: Portrait of a Rising Asia* (2000); and *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide* (2009).



March 22, 2016

Austin College
Posey Leadership Award
Convocation

Global Outreach Forum

See photos at:
www.austincollege.edu/goforum

Class of 2016 Commencement Weekend Events

May 14-15, 2016



- May 14: Baccalaureate, 7 p.m.
Sid Richardson Center, Mason Complex
Speaker: The Reverend Felipe Martinez '88
Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, Indiana
- May 15: Commencement, 8:30 a.m.
Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court
Speaker: The Honorable Mike Rawlings, Mayor of Dallas

See additional events and details: www.austincollege.edu/commencement

An Evening of Inspiration

SAYING
THANKS
TO A
LEADER

When President **Marjorie Hass** welcomes guests to an event she affectionately has dubbed “Todd-A-Palooza,” smiles—lots of them—are in store. **Todd Williams** ’82 ended his service as chair of the Austin College Board of Trustees at the close of the November 2015 meeting, so an evening of recognition was in order; thus, Todd-A-Palooza. Smiles definitely were in abundance—as were laughter and tears, gratitude and appreciation, and even a bit of lighthearted ribbing. (Todd passed the chairmanship to **David Corrigan** ’81 but remains an active member of the Board of Trustees.)



Though comments about Todd’s leadership and the Williams’ generosity included heartfelt tribute, the night’s most poignant words perhaps came from Todd and his family. His young sons “stole the show” with extemporaneous comments about their dad and the role model he is to them. Todd’s wife, Abby, spoke about what she has seen of Todd’s heart in his dedication to Austin College. Then Todd was invited to the podium.

He recalled his own humble beginnings, when his parents told him he would attend college but he would have to figure out how to pay for it. “I benefited from high expectations, but also from the fact that I had to figure it out,” he said. “Austin College helped me figure it out in a huge, huge way.”

For the young people in the audience, he offered advice: “Never, ever, ever underestimate the power of an adult who believes in you; who has plans for you, doors they want to open to you that you didn’t even know were there.” He said that **Daniel Nuckols**, now the College’s John T. Jones Chair of Economics, encouraged him when he was a student at Austin College to consider graduate school at Wharton or Harvard. Todd said his first response, as a young man from a simple background, was “What’s a Wharton?” And then, a few years later, he walked in the front door of the prestigious school and completed an MBA there. He spoke of other Austin College faculty—**Ken Street**, **Light Cummins**, “**Fast Eddie**” **Phillips**—who also touched his life and encouraged him.

Interestingly, the man stepping down as chair of the Board of Trustees had little connection to Austin College for nearly 20 years after his graduation in 1982. Then, in 1999, Todd heard that his Austin College basketball coach, **Bob Mason** ’52, was sick. Friends contacted him about helping fund a presidential scholarship in Bob’s honor, which they quickly completed “because a lot of people loved Bob Mason just like I did.”

Bob died just a few months later, and Todd attended the service where he was overwhelmed to see that this man who never made large amounts of money or had worldly success had so many people at his funeral they couldn’t fit in the church. He listened as person after person spoke of Bob’s influence in their lives, each matching Todd’s own feelings. “I view funerals in some way like life’s final report card; and he had an amazing report card. ... I walked out of the church and asked myself ‘what am I doing with my life?’ I was 40 years old and had just made partner at Goldman Sachs. I had success. I had achieved the pinnacle of what I thought I wanted—to get myself out of those east Dallas circumstances. But that day, I said, ‘I am nowhere near where I need to be.’”

Part of Todd’s response to that epiphany was to become involved with the Austin College Board of Trustees. “People inspired me; people told me about things they needed, and I tried to see if I figure out how I could help in some way,” he said. “A man who so inspired me when I was 18 to 22 years old inspired me again in a much more powerful way at the age of 40, and he was no longer on this earth.”

Todd offered more encouragement: “Every student in here, please never forget this college; remember the difference Austin College makes in you. In your own way, find a way to give back to the College just like everyone in this room has given back. You will be immeasurably better for it.”

“Everyone else, please never underestimate the circle of your influence. We have a challenge before us in education; it starts in Pre-K and goes all the way through higher education. As you go to your own communities, I urge you to get involved, get engaged in the work of making quality education available.”

Teaching Excellence

Jacqueline Moore Named Texas Professor of the Year

Pictured: Jacqueline Moore was pleased to visit the famous Buddhist temple Borobudur in Indonesia after she presented a nearby lecture in 2011. She posed with students from her 2014 JanTerm course after elephant rides in Laos near the UNESCO city of Luang Prabang. She and 14 students explored the area during her “Empires and Revolutions: Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia” course.



Students of **Jacqueline Moore**, Austin College professor of history, have long known she is a great teacher. Announced in fall 2015 as Texas Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), Jackie’s dedication and expertise obviously have been recognized by others too.

“This means a great deal to me,” Jackie said, sharing the distinction—and her gratitude—with her colleagues. “I know that I am not the only good teacher at Austin College and that I am only standing in for the rest of the faculty in this regard, but it is an honor nonetheless.”

Jackie joined the Austin College faculty in 1994 and spent the next 20+ years teaching modern U.S., African American, and Asian history. When the award was announced, social media enabled widespread congratulations—the most cherished from her former students, such as these examples:

“On behalf of those lucky enough to number among your amazing legacy of inspired minds, thank you.”

– Andy Porter ’95

“I always tell people about the ‘in-class’ history education I received and then how we all went abroad during JanTerm to actually see everything we learned about. Very deserving. Congratulations, Ms. Texas Professor of the Year!”

– Martin Tijmes ’03

Criteria for selection for the prestigious honor included scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contributions to undergraduate education in the institution, community, and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former students. At Austin College, to be nominated for the award is in itself a teaching award—one of three announced each academic year.

“This honor feels like the cherry on top of my academic career, and I couldn’t ask for better recognition of my years of teaching,” Jackie said. “As I move into my career as a public diplomacy officer in the Foreign Service, I hope to be able to promote quality education on a global scale. While I won’t be teaching directly, I can help other teachers get training they need and promote international educational exchanges like the Fulbright Fellowship that helped re-energize my own teaching.” She spent the 2010-2011 academic year as a Fulbright Scholar, teaching American history in Hong Kong.

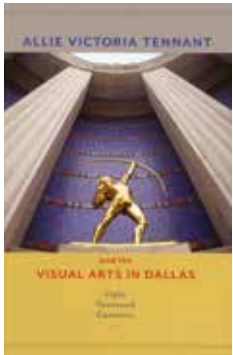
The professor credits Austin College with providing the leadership experience that qualified her for this career move. “For many years I have been preaching that a liberal arts education can best prepare our students to adapt to changing situations and careers, as well as to find solutions to the complex problems of the 21st century,” Jackie said. “Part of what made it possible for me to join the Foreign Service was my liberal arts experience. Among the core values of the Foreign Service are character, service, community, and diversity—all values nurtured in a liberal arts environment. This is definitely a new path for me now, but I move on confident that I will succeed (if I can only learn Chinese!).”

Faculty Authors

Light Cummins' Book Highlights Texas Artist

Texas native **Light Cummins** was in seventh grade when he attended the State Fair of Texas in 1958 and had his first introduction to the large golden warrior statue at the front of the Hall of State. Since that visit, Cummins has had a lifetime of association with the sculpture, "Tejas Warrior," and its creator, Allie Victoria Tennant.

Those connections led to the publication of Cummins' latest book, *Allie Victoria Tennant and the Visual Arts in Dallas*. Tennant's story, Cummins said, is also the story of the growth of Dallas culture to become a visual arts center—and of women's roles in that. Tennant was a civic leader in Dallas from the 1920s through the 1960s, spending as much time at a conference table as in her studio, Cummins said. She used her art and her leadership role to elevate women in Dallas and to help build Dallas into the cultural center it is today, he said.



This book was different than many Cummins has researched. As a historian, Cummins has spent hours poring through letters, diaries, books, and archives to learn about his subject. Tennant had a public presence but no personal papers, and Cummins said this book could not have been written without the Internet. He also wrote the book with student input. He teaches a senior-level research course, and he wrote a chapter each term along with the students. The process enabled him to provide insights to students on digital research and the use of digitized sources.

If Tennant were alive today, she would be well known, Cummins said. The final paragraph of his book, rather than "giving away" the story, highlights Tennant's contributions and entices the reader to explore the artist's full story.

Cummins wrote:

The net sum of Allie Tennant's artistic activities, club activities, and museum work from the 1920s through the 1960s places her in the first rank of Dallas women who helped to shape the contours of both the artistic and the civic development of that city and, by implication, such advancements across the entire Southwest. She was a successful artist, a club woman who promoted the visual arts in a wide variety of venues, and a civic leader who helped nurture what is today a major American art museum. She did these things at a time when Texas women were still attempting to find useful places for themselves in the public life of the state. Indeed, she found ways to play meaningful roles in such activities when those sorts of undertakings were not established female norms for her era. That accomplishment above all else is the legacy of Allie Victoria Tennant.

Cummins' effort was rewarded with the Texas State Historical Association's 2016 Liz Carpenter Award for the best book on Texas women's history.

Cummins holds the Guy M. Bryan Jr. Chair of American History at Austin College, where he has been a member of the faculty since 1978.

Read more about the Tennant book in his blog: <http://allietennant.blogspot.com>.

The Great War . . . Round Two

Hunt Tooley's book *The Western Front: Battleground and Home Front in the First World War*, published in 2003, has been released in a second edition, renamed *The Great War: Western Front and Home Front*. The description says, "Incorporating recent



research, Hunt Tooley rethinks the patterns of war, society, culture, and politics in the early 20th century. *The Western Front* is by no means merely an account of the war in the West."

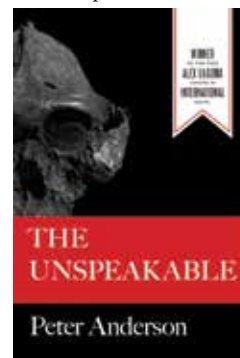
A writer with *The Independent Review* says of the book, "In my opinion, it is the best introduction we now have to the history of the Great War altogether."

Tooley, professor of history, has been a member of the Austin College faculty since 1991. He specializes in modern

European history and has written many scholarly articles and two books on the subject.

Honors for *The Unspeakable*

Peter Anderson, associate professor of English, was honored with the 2015 Literary Fiction Book Review Award for his novel, *The Unspeakable*. The award announcement



included a review, which called the book "in short, a stunning work that unflinchingly examines the complicity of the white man in racially segregated South Africa" and "a tautly engaging literary work written with incisive force; it is powerfully raw and rhythmically poetic."

Published in September 2014 by C&R Press, the book also won the Alex La Guma International Novel Award.

See an interview with Anderson and more information: www.literaryfictionreview.com/unspeakable.php.





Dr. Marjorie Hass receives the NAICU board gavel from former NAICU chair John M. McCardell Jr. of Sewanee: The University of the South.

President Hass Leads National Higher Education Board

President **Marjorie Hass** was appointed chair of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU) in February. Four new officers and 14 new members assumed responsibilities on the 40+-member Board of Directors at the close of the NAICU annual meeting in Washington, D.C. NAICU is the national public policy association for the nation's private, non-profit colleges and universities. Dr. Hass will serve a one-year term as chair.

"An outspoken advocate for the critical role a liberal arts education plays in our society, Marjorie Hass has a deep understanding of the issues our members face nationally and on their own campuses," said NAICU president David L. Warren. "Her experience and leadership, in combination with the other new board members, will be critical over the next 12 months

as NAICU and our members navigate this period of change and challenge for American higher education."

The goals of NAICU match many of those Dr. Hass has set for Austin College. "NAICU's mission of ensuring that students can access high quality education is vital," she said. "An educated citizenry drives democracy and strong economic growth. I am pleased to be able to work with my fellow college presidents from across the country in support of these values."



30 Years of Making Art and Touching Lives

The exhibit "**Tim Tracz: Collaborations—30 Years Making Art**" was one of the campus highlights of Fall Term 2015. **Tracz**, now the Craig Professor in the Arts, joined the Austin College faculty in 1986. He never expected to stay for his full career, but stay he did—and his students have been the lucky recipients of his expertise and his desire to help them find their way. His time on campus, though, is fast coming to a close as he will retire at the end of the spring term.

From darkroom photography and Polaroid material transfers, to PhotoShop and mixed media techniques, to encaustic (wax) works utilizing photo transferring, a sampling of more than 15 of Tracz's own approaches to making art were on display throughout the fall and at the Homecoming reception that served as an early retirement celebration.

"It's been a blast, and I'm grateful for the opportunity and support Austin College has given me to explore these media, as an artist and teacher, for nearly 30 years," he said.

Tracz had some highlight moments throughout his career, but his time with students, he said, has been by far the most important and satisfying part of his experience. Beyond interaction with faculty and students, one of the best things of his Austin College career was the move to the Betsy Dennis Forster Art Studio Complex. "One of the most difficult things about my retiring is to have to leave this amazing facility, which always seems brand new to me, even after almost eight years of working in it," he said. "It's a continual pleasure simply to be in our buildings every day."

As Tracz finishes his final term of teaching, he knows he has put many ideas and activities on hold while taking care of his students. As retirement nears, he is beginning to think about what projects can now come to fruition. Plus, he looks forward to travel, visiting family and friends around the world, some of the little jobs his wife has been saving for him. "I'll also be taking my experimental approach from art into the kitchen, hopefully getting edible results."

Good luck with every endeavor, Professor!

See more reflections from Tracz online: acmagazine.austincollege.edu.





Tribute to a Legend: Dr. Kenneth Street

The **Kenneth W. Street Advocacy Courtroom** was dedicated during Homecoming 2015, honoring the longtime faculty member whose name has long been synonymous with law and public service preparation at Austin College.

The campus community and alumni from many decades gathered for the standing-room-only event. **Jacqui Cooper '73**, **Dennis Gonier '83**, **Tom Hall '78**, **Curtis Henderson '84**, and **Alex Lazar '90** offered comments in tribute to Street and to the impact his teaching and preparation had upon their lives—and hundreds of other alumni. Many alumni made gifts to fund the courtroom project.

Audrey Rose '18, co-captain of the Austin College Mock Trial team, also acknowledged Street's legacy. "I am a direct beneficiary of your passion and vision," she said. "The experiences gained in the Advocacy Program extend far beyond this courtroom as we test the waters to see if law is our calling. Beyond the practical exposure, this offers us a place to hone skills that will serve us well, no matter our career path." The Advocacy program began in Fall Term 2014.

In her comments, **Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres**, vice president for Academic Affairs, said that she began hearing Dr. Street's name upon arriving at Austin College and that it didn't take long for her to realize the amazing foundation his teaching and leadership provided. "This man could have accomplished anything in his career; he chose to spend 40 years at Austin College, pouring his life into young people," she said.

Make a gift in support of the Advocacy program and/or in honor of Dr. Street at www.austincollege.edu/giving or contact **Allison Dawson '03**, interim vice president for Institutional Advancement, at 903.813.2419. Send a check to Austin College, Institutional Advancement, Suite 6G, 900 N. Grand Avenue, Sherman, Texas, 75090.



Austin College Named a Crusader: Sharing Expertise to Help Others

Analyzing problems and finding solutions are foundational to the liberal arts experience. Those skills were recognized last fall when Austin College received the Crusader Award from the Dallas nonprofit, Alley's House, for outstanding service to the agency. Faculty and students of the Psychology Department developed outcome measurement tools and ongoing assessments to help the organization with fundraising and programming.



MacFarlane accepts the award from Branaman

David Griffith, dean of Social Sciences, said it was an honor for Austin College to be selected for this award, which recognizes the hard work of **Ian MacFarlane**, assistant professor of psychology, and psychology students **Amberlee Partridge '15** and **Grace Anderson '16**. "This project represents Austin College's commitment to provide practical experiences to our students while helping to develop our community," Griffith said.

Alley's House provides a nurturing, stable environment to help teen mothers overcome obstacles and become thriving women through counseling, innovative learning, and workforce development. In 2013, **Rachel Branaman '01**, executive director of the organization, spoke with Austin College faculty

about a partnership that would help Alley's House increase fundraising abilities and better measure successes. The first step for MacFarlane and his students was understanding what the organization does and how that service could be measured.

The group's mission includes increasing the social and economic independence of teenage mothers. Partridge began work with an independent study to explore how the goals were being measured. She then took the lead in writing a survey tool that she and MacFarlane presented at the Southwestern Psychological Conference in April 2015. In summer 2015, Anderson began to work with MacFarlane on the project, observing the group's client workshops and coming up with assessments to test client knowledge before and after the sessions.

"This has been a wonderful partnership," MacFarlane said, "because we are able to provide a needed service to an organization doing critical work in the Metroplex, while our students are getting invaluable experience in real-life applications of concepts we discuss in class, plus a behind-the-scenes look at how nonprofit organizations operate."

MacFarlane and his team are now amassing data from the program and continuing to develop ways in which the nonprofit can benchmark its services. Branaman left Alley's House last fall; in a 'Roos-are-everywhere twist, Austin College alumna **Kirsten Brandt James '85** now leads the organization.

Grace Presbytery Gives \$250,000 to ACTivator Program



ACTivators assist in leadership at the annual Senior High Youth Connection, which brings several hundred Grace Presbytery young people and counselors together at Austin College each January.

A gift of \$250,000 from Grace Presbytery of North Texas in October 2015 provided half the funding necessary to endow the College's ACTivator youth ministry program, a key element of the College's Presbyterian outreach of the past 20 years and of strategic planning for the College's future.

"We are so grateful to Grace Presbytery for this gift and the continued opportunity to serve that it will provide to students at Austin College—and to the hundreds of young people and adults who enjoy the leadership of our ACTivator youth ministry team," said President **Marjorie Hass**. "The endowment of this program will provide another lasting connection in the long and supportive relationship between Austin College and the Presbyterian Church. We thank the leaders of Grace Presbytery for meeting the first half of the endowment for this program."

Austin College Chaplain **John Williams '84** began the College's ACTivator program in 1995. Since then, 520 Austin College students have planned and led 600+ ministry events involving more than 48,000 youth and adults. "Since the beginning of this program, Grace Presbytery has been our faithful, generous, flexible, courageous, eager, and encouraging partner," Williams said. "This significant and visionary gift is

the most recent chapter in the long and inspiring story of the relationship between the Presbytery and Austin College."

Joe Clifford, senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, also serves on the Austin College Board of Trustees and understands the long-term benefits of the gift. "Grace Presbytery's investment in the ACTivators is a blessing not only for Austin College but also for the Presbyterian Church (USA)," he said. "Our congregations and our Presbytery have benefited from the energy, intelligence, imagination, and love the ACTivators bring to everything they do. In turn, many ACTivators go on to leadership positions in the congregations they join later in life."

"Grace Presbytery is very grateful for the educational strength and ministry of Austin College," said Jan DeVries, General Presbyter of Grace Presbytery. "We have many Austin College graduates in our churches; we know the strength of the ACTivator program and the training it offers in terms of individuals discovering future ministries. This gift was representative of our deep commitment and appreciation to Austin College and the Office of the Chaplain at Austin College."



Remembering Dr. Nelson DeVega

The Austin College community was saddened by the death of retired faculty member Dr. **Nelson DeVega** on October 25, 2015, in Houston, Texas. Dr. DeVega joined the Spanish faculty in 1973 and retired in 1996 as professor of Spanish.

Members of the faculty commented on DeVega's passion for teaching, his booming voice and colorful personality, his humor, and his commitment to students. Maria Cecilia Salisbury, a former adjunct faculty member, said, "Nelson loved the culture that came with the language and loved for the students to learn about it. With unending energy and enthusiasm he encouraged the students to speak Spanish in every possible context and make use of every resource available."

Jennifer Hudson '90 wrote that Dr. DeVega had a major influence on her life, saying she often told others that he was the "impetus behind my entire professional career." She added that every major job she's ever gotten was because she speaks Spanish. Several years ago, she met with DeVega and some of his friends and family for brunch. "I don't remember exactly what we talked about, but I hope I told him how much he meant to me. I hope I told him he was a wonderful mentor and what a great influence he had on my life."

Austin College Thinking Green: An Update

think
AUSTIN COLLEGE. THINKING GREEN.



By **Dr. Peter Schulze**
Director
Center for Environmental Studies

Fossil fuels are incredible. Just one gallon of gas can propel my car from Sherman to Dallas. Imagine if you had to push a car from Sherman to Dallas. These products of ancient photosynthesis afford us luxuries previously unavailable to kings and queens, but as we all know, there are two problems. Every gallon of fuel that is burned cannot be burned again, and when we burn fuel we convert a valuable resource into pollutants.

Because fossil fuels are nonrenewable, society has no choice but to shift to renewable fuels. This will take foresight, determination, creativity, and effort. It is one of the great challenges of the first part of the 21st century. Austin College is doing its part.

The College's electricity usage is now almost entirely from renewable sources, nearly 100 percent wind-generated. The only exceptions are electricity in the few college-owned houses that are rented and the Village on Grand cottages where students pay their own utility bills. This represents a milestone in the progress of Austin College Thinking Green.

When we first tallied our greenhouse gas emissions in 2008, before beginning the shift to wind power, electricity accounted for 50 percent of the total. The shift to wind-generated electricity has cut those emissions by almost half in less than 10 years. (The College's greenhouse gas reports, climate action plan, and other documents are publicly available at reporting.secondnature.org). If all institutions cut their emissions that quickly, climate change would pose a much less daunting challenge.

Some expect a shift to renewable energy to be horribly expensive, but Austin College Thinking Green has actually saved money. That is because we save about five times as much from reduced waste as we pay extra for wind power. In other words, we buy electricity that is a bit more expensive, but we use substantially less per square foot than we did at the outset of this effort—thanks to efficiency upgrades and individual efforts to avoid waste.

How much more would you expect to pay for wind power? Students often guess 25 or 50 percent, but the College only pays about 2 percent more to buy clean, wind-generated electricity instead of the dirtiest, coal-generated electricity. I challenge you to think of another product where the price difference between the lowest and highest quality is only 2 percent.

Meanwhile, we have saved more than 2 percent, thanks to behavioral changes and technical upgrades that have reduced energy consumption per square foot. Annual weather variation, changes in the number of students on campus, and campus construction, such as the completion of the IDEA Center, can make it difficult to determine the effects of particular energy saving efforts. But everyone's efforts to avoid waste, combined with upgrades to campus systems and the operation of those systems, have resulted in less electricity use per square foot of campus buildings. Heating, cooling, and lighting systems are all more energy efficient, thanks to technical upgrades. For example, variable speed fans and more precise system controllers recently have been installed in the central power plant. And, just last fall, outdoor lighting was converted to lower energy (and yet brighter) light emitting diodes (LEDs). Indoor lighting is being converted as funds permit. Individuals can save energy in a similar manner in homes if they maintain their heat pump, clean or change furnace filters regularly, install and use a programmable thermostat and efficient light bulbs—and turn off the lights when leaving a room.

The shift to wind energy is only one recent accomplishment of Austin College Thinking Green. You are probably aware of the Green Building Council's LEED Gold certification of the IDEA Center, and that Princeton Review recognizes the College as one of the nation's green schools. You may not be aware of efforts led by students. Students lead, organize, and manage AC Unplugged, an annual energy-saving competition among residence halls, and GreenServe, an annual green workday in the spring. The students also voted themselves a modest green fee to be used for funding greening projects, such as installation of water bottle filling stations in residence halls. A student committee selects the uses for those funds. These are just some of the ways students contribute to Thinking Green.

On behalf of the environmental studies program, I would like to thank President **Marjorie Hass**, President Emeritus **Oscar Page**, and the members of the Board of Trustees for leading this effort; **John Jennings**, **David Turk**, and the other members of the Physical Plant staff for making the campus more energy efficient; all students involved in Austin College Thinking Green; and every member of the campus community who has contributed to these efforts.

Our Church Connections

A Legacy of Leadership



A large number of current and former participants in ACTivator programs gathered to celebrate 20 years of outreach. Many of the alumni who participated in the program as students now work in church ministry in one form or another.



The Legacy Continues: Family members of the honorees joining the celebration of leadership are, left to right, Mary Katherine Neale Marler, granddaughter of Sallie Majors; and Sara Bernice Moseley's children, Rebecca Moseley Gafford '72, Sara Caroline Moseley '66, and John D. Moseley Jr. '69.

Austin College hosted Dr. Heath K. Rada, moderator of the 221st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in November 2015. Among other events and interactions with several alumni, students, faculty, and staff during his two-day stay, he took part in a luncheon celebrating the 20th year of the ACTivators youth ministry team and met with a group of alumni who have completed the Presbyterian Church's Young Adult Volunteer program.



Rada and Sallie Majors Intern
Kailey Gray '17

Dr. Rada also joined several guests for the installation in Wynne Chapel of a display honoring Presbyterian pioneers who also had significant roles in Austin College history.

"The vision, courage, creativity, and leadership of Sallie Majors and Sara Bernice Moseley have greatly influenced religious life at Austin College and in the life of the Presbyterian Church (USA)," the display text reads. "Sallie Kennedy McLane Majors and Sara Bernice Moseley were two remarkable leaders, remarkable in fulfilling their respective calls to serve God," Rada said.

A leader in Presbyterian Christian education and youth ministry throughout Texas, Sallie Majors continued her ministry in Richmond, Virginia, training educators for the church. "One of my favorite PSCE stories is that this remarkable woman assisted President Charles Kraemer when the Poor People's March came through Richmond, on their way to D.C. where Dr. Martin Luther King would make his 'I Have a Dream Speech.' Dr. Kraemer had been the only person in Richmond who opened up space where these hundreds of people could pitch their tents and spend the night. They

were not welcome in city parks or on other campuses. But Sallie knew that was wrong, and she worked right beside Dr. Kraemer in welcoming and assisting the throngs who descended on the campus."

Of Sara Bernice Moseley, First Lady of Austin College under the leadership of Dr. John D. Moseley (1953-1978), Dr. Rada had words of thanksgiving. "If Presbyterians were to identify and elevate persons to 'sainthood,'" he said, "Sara B. would be among this great host of faithful, loving, devoted, and dedicated persons. To know her was to love her, for her grace and gentle spirit, and to give thanks for her leadership, not only alongside her husband who was president of this wonderful college, but also throughout the PCUS and the PCUSA. She was the first woman elder in her Presbyterian church in Sherman, the first woman to be moderator of our denomination, and the first chairperson of the General Assembly Council of the reunited PCUSA."

Austin College awarded Majors an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 1954. In 1999, the College established the Sallie Majors Internships through which selected seniors work with the College chaplain to lead the Religious Life program. The internship program was funded by **Robert M. Johnson** '53, the great-nephew of Majors. Johnson, now a senior member of the College Board of Trustees, joined the board in 1993 and served as chair of the board from 2007 to 2012.

The Austin College Board of Trustees established the Sara Bernice Moseley Scholars Program for Outstanding Presbyterian Students in 1995 to honor her many accomplishments. She also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Austin College in 1978.

The display text reveals that both Sara Bernice and John D. Moseley were mentored by Sallie Majors, who introduced them in 1935 and even helped plan their wedding.

APO Chapter Receives Honors



^ APO's 'Roo Boo' serves hundreds of children each year.

< Alpha Phi Omega officers

Though service really is its own reward, Austin College members of Alpha Phi Omega (APO) national service fraternity have received an award for service programming.

Members of APO have been volunteering at Austin College and the local community since 1970 when the Phi Xi chapter, made up of both male and female members, was established on campus. Members perform some 6,000 hours of service annually throughout Grayson County.

Their spirit of service was recognized in fall 2015 when the Phi Xi chapter received the Chapter of Excellence Award—Gold Level. And, this spring the group received a Youth Service Grant from the national organization that will allow them to add another project to their annual program.

The national Chapter of Excellence Award recognizes outstanding work in demonstrating the pillars of leadership, friendship, and service. Gold Level recognition indicates the group has gone above and beyond the requirements for the award, said **Ganesh Maniam '17**, Austin College chapter president. He added that the awards committee called the chapter exemplary of what it means to be a service fraternity.

'Roo Boo particularly was recognized by the awards committee as an outstanding contribution to the Sherman community. For 16 years, APO has organized and hosted

'Roo Boo as a free trick-or-treat alternative on campus each Halloween, inviting neighborhood children 12 and under, accompanied by parents, to take part in a variety of games and activities. In 2015, more than 1,300 people attended the event made possible by 250 campus volunteers representing 51 campus organizations. **Karisma Sheth '17** was the 2015 coordinator.



The chapter also provides service at several events within the local community from the Boy Scouts "Scouting for Food" event to the annual "Boot Scootin' Ball" fundraiser for a community's volunteer emergency services program. Members also take part in campus-wide projects like the Service Station's Great Day of Service, JanServe, and GreenServe.

The recent grant will allow the fraternity to host 'Roo Bash, a new spring outreach for children in need.

The Austin College Phi Xi chapter, founded in February 1970, has some 80 members, who are represented in nearly every organization on campus. The group also provides regular leadership development for its members.

ACCOLADES FOR 'ROOS



Madison Ross

Honoring a True Scholar-Athlete

Kangaroo football player **Madison Ross** '16 is the first Austin College athlete to twice earn First Team Academic All-America recognition. A running back, Ross was named Austin College's Pete Cawthon Outstanding Male Athlete in 2015, and this fall, he continued to build on his outstanding career. He finished the season as the leading rusher in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC).

Ross was named First Team All-SCAC and during the season, was twice named the SCAC Offensive Player of the Week. He completed his coursework in December as a Dean's List student and four-time SCAC Academic Honor Roll member.

It's How You Play the Game

The Kangaroo women's soccer team received a 2015 Gold Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Award from the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. The honor is given to teams that exhibit fair play, sporting behavior, and adherence to the rules of the game, as reflected by the number of yellow caution cards or red ejection cards received from referees throughout the season. Those receiving from 1 to 10 percent received gold awards. The 'Roos were the only SCAC team, and one of only 15 teams nationwide, to earn the gold award.

The NSCAA Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Awards are given to teams across all levels, including NCAA Division I, Division II, and Division III; the NAIA; and junior college ranks. Eight college teams received the Platinum Award for playing an entire season without receiving a yellow or red card; no SCAC schools were among the recipients.



A New Austin College Record in Volleyball

Rachel Fusselman '16 had a tremendous senior season for the Kangaroo volleyball team. She was named SCAC Defensive Player of the Week three times in the first six weeks of the 2015 season. At the position of libero, she broke the Austin College career record for digs and finished as the national leader in all of NCAA Division III in total digs in 2015. She completed the season with 820 digs—the only player in Division III with more than 800 digs. Fusselman became the first Austin College player to surpass 2,000 digs in a career, racking up 2,417.



Rachel Fusselman

Great Coaching

Early in the season, **Ed Garza**, head coach of the volleyball squad, earned his 500th victory leading the 'Roos—quite a way to celebrate 20 years at Austin College. Congratulations, Coach!



Ed Garza

500th VICTORY



See all schedules and results: www.acroos.com

Austin College is a member of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.



ACHIEVEMENTS BEYOND ATHLETICS

57 Austin College Fall Athletes on SCAC Academic Honor Roll

- 30 Football
- 1 Men's Cross Country
- 4 Women's Cross Country
- 8 Women's Soccer
- 8 Men's Soccer
- 6 Volleyball

To qualify, athletes must maintain a minimum grade-point average of 3.25 for the term and be a regular member of a varsity athletic team.

Making the Grade

The Austin College women's swimming and diving team was honored by the College Swimming Coaches Association of America as a Scholar All-America team. The 'Roos, coached by **Bob Filander**, were one of four SCAC women's programs to earn this honor that recognizes teams with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. The 'Roos boast a team GPA of 3.27.

Doing Something Remarkable

An Austin College men's basketball team trip to Costa Rica in summer 2014 saw victories on the court but even more important victories were to come. While in Costa Rica, team members volunteered with a nonprofit organization that assists underprivileged children.

Moved by the experience, teammates **Cody Meyers '17**, **Josh Dickerman '17**, and **Jeremy Swisher '17**, pictured below, determined to continue serving others. The young men all had witnessed the extreme toll of life-threatening illnesses upon families; they combined their interests and strengths to establish The Extra Step Foundation.

Partnering with Children's Medical Center in Dallas, the teammates have offered assistance to 30 families through funds raised in their own summer jobs and from donations from friends and families. Through the foundation, they have donated \$12,000 to families

struggling to meet their regular expenses and the medical costs of their children's illnesses. Financial help, however, is not the end of the young men's interaction; they offer moral support and other encouragement. "The kids are the motivating factor and the biggest reason that we created this organization," Cody said. "Putting a smile on the faces of these families that are struck with bad news on a daily basis has been one of the most satisfying experiences of my life."

Jeremy, who plans to become a physician and continue to help others, said that assisting these families has had profound impact on his life. "This experience with The Extra Step Foundation showed me that you do not have to wait on your dreams," he said. "You can really have an impact on people's lives at any stage in your own life. As John Green said, 'What's the point of being alive, if you don't at least try to do something remarkable?' This quote has served as my inspiration."

Josh, too, hopes the foundation is able to continue long term—but knows his own experiences working with the families will remain with him forever. "We aren't able to offer these families a lot of money, but their reaction to our donation is really special. I feel we are making a change in the community, and that's a great feeling."

For more information, see www.theextrastepfoundation.org.



For the Trophy Case

The Austin College women's basketball team was named SCAC Regular Season Co-Champion, tied with Trinity University at 11-3 in conference play. Athletic Director **David Norman '83** was all smiles as he showed off the team's trophy. Unfortunately, the 'Roos lost a heartbreaker 62-61 to Schreiner University in the semifinals of the SCAC Championship Tournament to end the team's season.

2015-2016 FALL AND WINTER HIGHLIGHTS

By Jeff Kelly, Sports Information Coordinator



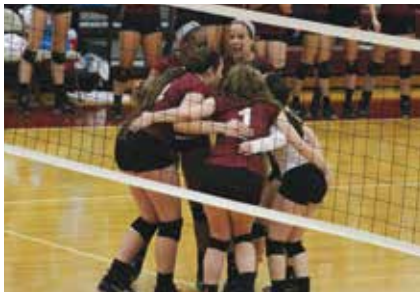
The **Austin College football team** completed a solid season in 2015, going 5-5 behind the strong play of running back **Madison Ross '16**, who led the SCAC in rushing. Ross was named a First Team Academic All-American for the second straight year. **Cooper Woodyard '17** was the SCAC Special Teams Player of the Year in addition to earning All-SCAC recognition at quarterback. Overall, 15 'Roo's earned All-Conference distinction, including nine First Team All-SCAC selections.



The **Kangaroo men's soccer team** wrapped up the 2015 campaign with an overall record of 5-13-1, with two members of the team earning All-SCAC distinction. Defender **Chase Gaskill '18** was an Honorable Mention All-Conference selection, as was forward **Thomas Quick '18**, who led the 'Roo's with six goals on the year. Quick also tied for the team lead with three assists on the season.



The **'Roo women's soccer team** went 3-14-2 overall in the 2015 season, as the team had a tough time putting goals on the board with just 14 tallies in 19 games. **Erin Eckart '18** was a Second Team All-SCAC selection for terrific play throughout the year.



The **Austin College volleyball team** finished up the 2015 season with a record of 26-16, with those 26 victories ranking as the most for the 'Roo's since winning 29 matches during the 2010 season. The 'Roo's placed a pair of players on the All-SCAC team, with **Rebekah Bowden '18** earning First Team honors while **Presleigh Watson '17** was a Second Team honoree. **Rachel Fusselman '16** became the program's all-time leader in career digs, and led the nation in total digs in 2015.



In the first season under new head coach **Bryan Garcia**, the **Kangaroo men's and women's cross country teams** made terrific strides throughout the 2015 season, with the men placing seventh at the SCAC Championships while the women finished fourth. **Eden Llamas '18** had an outstanding showing at the conference meet, which was held in Sherman, finishing 16th overall with a time of 26:27.5 on the 5K course. **Jeff Kubena '17** placed 35th to pace the men, coming in with a time of 34:59.2 on the 8K course.



The **Kangaroo women's basketball team** had one of its strongest seasons of the past 15 years, finishing the year with an overall record of 18-8 and winning a share of the SCAC regular season championship. The 'Roos fell to Schreiner in the SCAC semifinals, but led by conference Newcomer of the Year **Bryce Frank '19** and Defensive Player of the Year **Katie Gowdy '16**, Austin College ranked No. 8 in the South Region, marking the first time since 2009-2010 that the 'Roos cracked the regional rankings. Frank, Gowdy, **Kendall Heitmeier '17**, **Kali Vittallo '18**, and **Olivia Bailey '17** earned All-SCAC distinction.



The **Austin College men's basketball team** had perhaps the hottest start to a season in program history in 2015, coming out of the gates with a 10-0 record before ultimately advancing to the SCAC semifinals, where the 'Roos fell in overtime to Colorado College. The 'Roos finished the year with a record of 16-11, the best single-season win total since the program won 20 games in the 2009-2010 campaign. **Stephen Igbinosa '18** was named the SCAC Defensive Player of the Year; **Alan Sullivan '16** and **Brian Baehl '17** earned All-Conference recognition. Sullivan scored 40 points in a victory during the regular season, the most in a single game by a 'Roo since **Christian Morgia '99** scored 43 in 1998.



PHOTO COURTESY/JOE FILISCO, DPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

The **Austin College men's and women's swimming and diving teams** had strong seasons, with a combined fifth-place finish at the SCAC Championships. **Lauren Wheeler '16** wrapped up one of the most decorated careers in Kangaroo swimming history by earning All-SCAC honors for the fourth straight season and breaking the program record in the 100 butterfly. **Parker Adams '16** also earned All-SCAC honors in the 3-meter diving event, and **Collin Vu '19** broke his own program record in the 50 freestyle with a time of 21.69.



NEWS FROM THE FOOTBALL FIELD



Football to Make Switch to Southern Athletic Association

Beginning in 2017, the Austin College football team will compete as an affiliate member of the Southern Athletic Association (SAA). Both Austin College and Trinity University will join the SAA in football only, continuing membership in the SCAC across all other sports.

“We are so pleased that Austin College has the opportunity to reconnect with other NCAA Division III liberal arts schools in football,” said Austin College President **Marjorie Hass**. “We have 16 varsity athletic teams, and 15 will continue to enjoy robust competition with the schools in the SCAC. The last few years, we were challenged in that few of these fine schools have football programs. This admittance into the SAA provides a solution that is the best of both Division III athletic worlds; football competition in the SAA, with our other 15 varsity sports competing in the SCAC.”



SAA football competition in 2016 will include Berry College, Birmingham-Southern College, Centre College, Hendrix College, Millsaps College, Rhodes College, Sewanee: the University of the South, the University of Chicago, and Washington University (St. Louis), with Austin College and Trinity joining the following year.

“I’m very grateful that our administration has worked to make this possible,” said Kangaroo head football coach **Loren Dawson** ’91. Athletics director **David Norman** ’83 (MAT ’84) joined the coach in expressing excitement at the conference change. “This opportunity reinforces the overall commitment of Austin College to continue to provide the best student-athlete experience for all of our participants,” Norman said.

As an affiliate member of the SAA, the Austin College football team will be able to compete for an automatic bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament. The SAA is one of 25 conferences whose regular-season champion receives automatic qualification for the national championship field.

The SAA was formed in 2011 and began play in the 2012-2013 academic year, consisting of former members of the SCAC as well as Berry, which at the time was an independent program. The league is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, and includes Oglethorpe University as a non-football-playing member. Washington University (St. Louis) and University of Chicago also are affiliate members in football.

Named to the Hall of Fame

Bill Snyder, the architect of the “greatest turnaround in the history of college football,” became just the fourth person in the history of college football to be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as an active coach. The legendary Kansas State coach was officially enshrined in December as part of the National Football Foundation’s College Football Hall of Fame Class of 2015.

A five-time National Coach of the Year honoree and seven-time Conference Coach of the Year recipient, Snyder served as an assistant football coach and offensive coordinator for the Kangaroos in 1974 and 1975. He received Austin College’s Coach Joe Spencer Award for Meritorious Service and Lifetime Achievement in Coaching in 2007.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF KANSAS STATE ATHLETICS

Game On!



It's a competitive world. And Austin College student-athletes are preparing for life on the field, in the classroom, and into the future.

Our students are balancing tough courses and co-curricular activities with the demands of 'Roo sports. But our 16 men's and women's teams are ready for the challenge, thanks to donor support of Athletics Enrichment for equipment, uniforms, training, and travel.

**Your gift is a win for Austin College athletics.
Make your gift or pledge online at
www.austincollege.edu/giving**

ROOS FOR ROOS

For more information, contact:

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LIVING THE LIBERAL ARTS

BY: Leigh-Ellen Romm

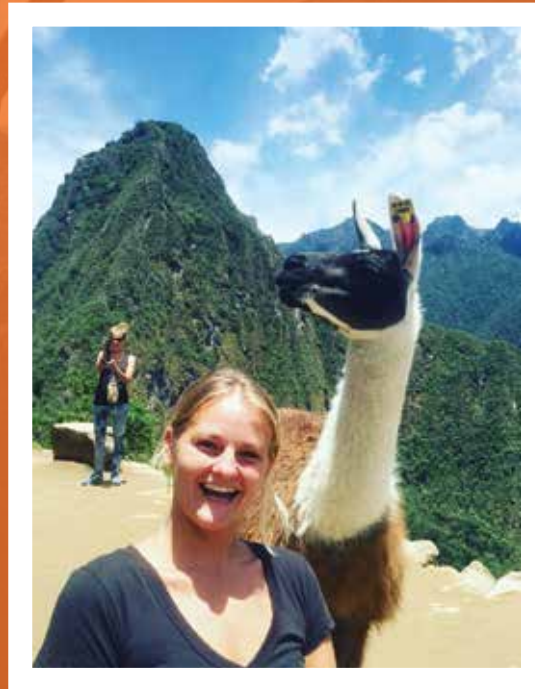
In today's society, questions abound about the value of higher education, particularly liberal arts education. Those who have experienced a quality liberal arts education have ready responses. They realize the value of their college experiences and understand the "takeaways" that enhance their lives. And, the people who work and live alongside those individuals witness the value, too.

But this article is not about proving the value of the liberal arts. It's about alumni who live out their liberal arts education every day: creative thinkers, outstanding communicators, compassionate leaders, and engaged citizens who know how to collaborate to analyze a situation and create solutions that work. Their educational experiences equipped them to be change agents in their world, and they have stepped into action.

This article tells the stories of five Austin College alumni who "walk the walk," living the liberal arts in their professional and personal lives—in different walks of life and a variety of settings. Working to better the world and themselves, these individuals bring healing, beauty, shelter, and hope to others.

Andrea Keith '08

Executive Director and Co-Founder of LaAsociacion CREAR



To learn more about La Asociacion CREAR visit www.asociacioncrear.org.

Andrea Keith is in her happy place. As executive director and co-founder of La Asociacion CREAR in Samara Playa, Costa Rica, she's found the beautiful balance of helping young people develop—and living on the beach.

"I was not a very adventurous kid," Andrea said. "I was terrified before my first JanTerm trip to Costa Rica in 2006. Then something magical happened, and I arrived here and I wasn't homesick; I was just in awe of how beautiful this place is. I remember thinking, why would I wake up and look at a polluted city, when I could look at this natural beauty?"

She decided to return for a study abroad semester at the National University of Costa Rica in Heredia in fall 2006. She stayed through that term, extended into JanTerm ... was approved to remain for the spring term ... and then, she stayed for the summer. She was essentially home.

"Costa Rica just works for me. I am in love with being able to speak the language I worked so hard to learn. At first I was young and making all kinds of mistakes—but learning from them. It all has contributed to making me who I am now."

"I have a busy mind so I need the slower-paced lifestyle. I need that quality of life where I work super hard and then I find time to relax and enjoy," Andrea said. "My main goal is to be happy, and Costa Rica just makes me really happy all the time."

She "works super hard" at La Asociacion CREAR, a non-profit organization serving the communities around Playa Samara and Guanacaste, Costa Rica. Costa Rican children are in

public school only three hours a day, 87 days a year. CREAR fills many hours with instruction in English, art, and technology. A recently developed Girls Empowerment program teaches girls skills that lead to confidence and build their worldview.

"Life in a rural town in Central America is challenging in a number of ways," Andrea said. "We don't have access to Wal-Mart or Hobby Lobby—so we really have to think outside the box when it comes to creating activities for the kids. We have to be flexible and open-minded, and understand that things are different here. We never seem to have everything we need, so we are always problem solving and looking at things from a different angle. It's what I sort of love and hate about my job. My friends and I always remind ourselves that it isn't life or death, so there really isn't any need to stress too much."

It may not be life or death, but to the young people she is teaching how to learn, how to break down barriers, and how to express themselves creatively, it comes close. High school graduation rates in Samara Playa have risen as a result of Andrea's team leadership and organization of visiting volunteers.

The Universidad Latina recently presented Andrea the 2015 Premio Yo Creo (I Believe) Award in recognition of young social entrepreneurs in Costa Rica. The application included a rigorous selection process with a presentation to a panel of five judges from Costa Rica. Upon winning, Keith received \$2,500 for her organization, membership in Youth Action Net, and a trip to Honduras for professional development.



Alexander Lazar was honored with an Austin College Distinguished Alumni Award at Homecoming 2015. >

Alexander Lazar '90

Research Physician, MD Anderson



The “Knowledge Doubling Curve” suggests that human knowledge is capable of doubling every 12 months. In the year 1900 it took 100 years. Dr. **Alexander (Faulkner) Lazar**, co-director of the Surgical Pathology Fellowship Program at University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, says abilities to communicate and think through complex situations, and constant willingness to retrain are needed to succeed.

“Things rapidly cycle,” Alex said, “so you have to be open-minded just to keep up. Regardless of the field, we are all working in a knowledge economy. Everything is information at some level. As a physician and pathologist, I’m studying information to make a diagnosis and to understand cancer—to see how it works. You do your gathering and then figure how to deliver what you now know—in a paper, at a conference, or talking with a colleague in the hall.”

Alex came to Austin College in 1986 knowing he wanted to pursue an M.D./Ph.D. He had already worked in biomedical research as a high school student and earned a scholarship to Austin College from the King Foundation. So, he took all the required math and science for medical school, but beyond that, he pursued a balanced load with majors in philosophy and political science. One-third social science, one-third humanities and one-third physical science equaled a valuable liberal arts education for him.

“I took evolutionary biology at Austin College,” he said. “That’s not particularly relevant to medical school but I was

interested in it. As I’ve progressed, I find I use those same kinds of models to determine how cancer works. Natural selection and genetic variation are key in the study. That unlikely background from my coursework at Austin College has been helpful in my work today.”

Alex also spent hours as co-director in Dr. Kenneth Street’s Social Science Lab. “A lot of surveys passed through the lab, and we did fairly complex statistical analysis, particularly during election years, handling polling of local candidates, including the mayor of Sherman and local congressional districts. That coursework taught me how to structure data, and I use that knowledge now with genomic data,” he said.

“On a broader application, I have to concentrate very hard at my work,” Alex said, “and it’s also important to be able to step aside and read and be open-minded to things that are interesting. I can fairly readily pick up something, learn more, and really enjoy many topics. The liberal arts education exposes you to more and allows you to develop many interests. And, that will help you stay sane and focused because you have the tools to approach all kinds of people and situations. For instance, I’m particularly interested again in the political process. It’s not my work, but it is intrinsic to who I am.”

Kevin Peterson '01

Artist

To see more of Kevin's work, visit www.kevinpetersonstudios.com or www.thinkspacegallery.com.



Kevin Peterson's award-winning painting titled "Fire," with almost photographic details, makes you lean in a little to understand what's going on—lean in and feel the tension of a child, arms wide, on a backdrop of destruction. "My work is about the varied journeys we take through life," Kevin said. "It's about growing up and living in a world that is broken."

The painting was awarded the prestigious 2015 Hunting Art Prize, an annual competition sponsored by Hunting PLC, an international oil services company, and open to Texas artists. The prize awards \$50,000 to bring recognition and support to the career of a distinguished artist. Peterson has been a finalist for the Hunting Prize four other times. As a 2001 Austin College graduate, he learned his technical skills while majoring in art and psychology.

"Honestly, I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life after I graduated high school, and I don't think that is uncommon," Kevin said. "I feel like a liberal arts education is perfect for a student in that situation. You're going to be exposed to a bunch of different subjects, and you will have an opportunity to find what interests you the most."

"I was interested in working in the psychology or social work fields," Kevin said. "I also majored in art mainly because I always had a love for creating art. I was not sure at the time it was a viable career path, but I wasn't worried about that; I just did it because I loved it." Initially, Kevin did pursue social work as a probation officer in Austin for three years. Then life

handed him some perspective, and he determined his passion was worth pursuing.

Exploring and learning through the liberal arts teaches students self-awareness. That, plus confidence and a good dose of courage brought Kevin back to his paint brushes. "As a working artist, I would say 'success' is when you have a large enough audience that's sufficiently interested in your work to allow you to create whatever you want whenever you want."

Now, with a large following in his home city of Houston, he also exhibits in Germany, California, New York, and Florida. He works out of Winter Street Studios near downtown Houston in a renovated furniture factory.

"The nice thing about a liberal arts education is that you are exposed to tons of different disciplines," Kevin said. "Just being technically proficient in painting or sculpture is not enough to be a successful artist. You have to bring something new conceptually to the work. Of course, I did get technical training with an art major, but I also learned about psychology, sociology, philosophy, and history. I have no doubt that being exposed to all those different areas of study had a positive theoretical effect on my work."



Saranya Sundaram '11
Ph.D. Student, Palo Alto University



Saranya Sundaram, a student in the Palo Alto University Clinical Psychology Ph.D. program, now stands on the threshold of her dream. Just a few years ago as an entering freshman at Austin College, she considered looking behind other doors, and the diversity of the liberal arts education gave her the experience she needed to find her direction.

"My first consideration was to become a medical doctor," she said. "My parents are both doctors, and they encouraged me to give it a try. And, I did. While I did enjoy the classes, I couldn't really feel as passionate about the career as I wanted. I felt passion with psychology, so I decided to pursue that route."

Saranya was motivated to seek out research and clinical opportunities. She talked to mentors and psychologists for help and guidance. "I was able to create an independent research project with Dr. Helfrich from the ground up, work with a team and observe clinical skills," Saranya said. Michele Helfrich, adjunct assistant professor of psychology, advised Saranya on a project that examined the accuracy of eyewitness testimony between video versus picture lineups.

"She collaborated with me, but more so challenged me to take the lead and see what I could do," Saranya said. "It helped me learn several skills: being independent, yet collaborative, open-minded, and comprehensive."

With a clearer picture of her life's direction and practical opportunities, including an internship at Applied Psychology Group of Texoma, she was accepted into the prestigious

master's program in clinical counseling at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and completed her degree program there.

Saranya continues her studies now at Palo Alto where her critical and analytical skills help her to succeed. Using the same independent judgment that pointed her to clinical psychology, she said she hopes to narrow her specific career path from clinician, researcher, or professor. For now, she is gaining intensive research and clinical training in many populations.

Saranya has worked as a volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters and as a crisis counselor with the Suicide and Crisis Center of North Texas. She has come to care deeply about children, education, health, and the alleviation of poverty.

"I had no idea what I could do in the future with a liberal arts degree in psychology, but that's exactly what Austin College gave me," she said. "It helped me find that I could pave that path for myself. I experienced rigorous information, challenging professors, disheartening moments: these also are in my real world today. I can succeed in education, career, and as a person. I wouldn't be the same person I am had I not gone to Austin College."

Larry Sykes '66

Volunteer, The Bridge



To learn more about the work of The Bridge, see www.bridgenorthtexas.org.

Perspective can refine a person's focus and make solutions clear. **Larry Sykes** has put more than 800 hours of focus into volunteering at The Bridge in Dallas and in 2015, received The Bridge Builder Award for working to solve the problem of homelessness. After a 32-year career in banking and commercial real estate, Larry connected his experience with a future that needed it.

The Bridge is a homeless recovery cooperative that brings together volunteer groups, government agencies, and social services to end adult, long-term homelessness. By solving complex problems with innovative solutions, The Bridge provides assistance for employment seekers, housing seekers, and those who need shelter day and night. Volunteers have helped more than 1,200 people out of homelessness.

Larry began his volunteer work in 2005 at The Stewpot, a mission of First Presbyterian Church in Dallas and a partner with The Bridge. Working through the Community Voice Mail program, he helped clients obtain a phone number and personally recorded voicemail before the days of free cell phone programs. Users could pick up messages from any phone with a PIN code. Individuals without addresses were reachable by prospective employers, doctors, and family. "This gave them dignity and hope for their future even if they were sleeping under the highway bridge," Larry said. "They were connected."

Larry also has worked with the Texas Workforce Commission lab at The Bridge to help guests find employment. He now

spends time every week running The Bridge library. "My time in the library allows me to interact with guests and assist them in accessing resources that can help them move from The Bridge to their own places. Then they become our neighbors!"

Larry's service work began years ago. Larry and five other Austin College students traveled to England through the Winant Clayton program to work with non-profits. "I was in London at an organization that helped youth and seniors in a blue-collar area near the London Docks," he said.

Believing that social awareness can and should be taught in college, Larry said that during his college years, the emphasis was on service abroad rather than at home. "Many Austin College students went on to the ministry, the Peace Corps, teaching, medicine, law, and government service after college. Clearly, something happened during our time at Austin College because today we have 15 to 20 Austin College graduates from the mid-'60s involved with service to the Dallas homeless community. Austin College gave me the courage to try new careers and new ways of solving problems, which certainly has carried over to my social work."

> Larry Sykes was honored with an Austin College Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011.

“Professors like Patrick Duffey are the number one special thing to me about Austin College. The fact that I could be in class with such brilliant minds, have such close contact to intelligent and accomplished people that are so talented at what they do, made learning such a pleasure. It made college so stimulating and rewarding. Your dollar goes such a long way at Austin College because you are guaranteed to have close contact with incredible individuals that can inspire you and help you.”

— Andrea Keith '08

“What is special to me about Austin College is the sense of community. I still have significant friendships, not just with students but amongst the faculty and staff who were there while I was a student. Though I graduated more than 25 years ago, many of the faculty are still there and many maintain relationships with the College after retirement. Within this community, Austin College taught me to appreciate the touchstones of Western civilization along with critiques and alternative systems of understanding. More importantly, Austin College taught me how to think critically and express myself clearly over a wide range of subjects. These skills and framework I use every day in my job and enhance the understanding of enjoyment that I have of the world around me and allow me to engage competently with the significant issues and intellectual milieu of our time.”

— Alexander Lazar '90

“Austin College is an accepting place. It’s small but diverse. It’s a place you can start to figure out who you are and get an idea of what direction you want your life to go.”

— Kevin Peterson '01

“Austin College was my stepping stone to where I am today. I remember dreaming of getting my Ph.D. in clinical psychology. When I got into the Ph.D. program (four years, one master’s degree, and one job later), Austin College was the starting point of that journey. I experienced a lot of both great and challenging moments—moments where I needed either to step up or accept failure. Austin College didn’t just contribute to my education; it contributed to me as a person.”

— Saranya Sundaram '11

“The friends we made at Austin College are still some of our closest friends. Although some of our friendships today were not my close friends in college, our common experience at Austin College has brought us together on many occasions.”

— Larry Sykes '66



AT HOME IN THE RAINFOREST

BY: Andrew McMillan '16

Since 2008, 112 Austin College students have been selected as Global Outreach Fellows, serving nonprofit organizations in 40 countries around the world. During summer 2015, Andrew McMillan '16 was involved in conservation work and environmental education through service at Maximo Nivel in Puerto Maldonado, Peru.

The Amazon Rainforest: an intricate network of biodiversity, an ecosystem producing a vast range of services to life on this planet, and a place many claim as their home—a place that I called home for eight weeks during summer 2015. Living amongst the dense vegetation, surrounded by few people and untouched nature within the Peruvian Rainforest off the Madre de Dios River lent itself to so many lessons to be learned; one in particular took me further than the rest: how to listen.

Throughout our lives we are continually learning lessons about life that are supposed to benefit the way we approach different situations as we grow older. At some point as young adults we feel that we have things all figured out, that we are ready to handle any situation that is thrown our way ... until reality strikes.

At Austin College, we have the opportunity to experience discussion-based classes directly with our professors, actively engage in research projects with professors interested in the overall growth of their research as well as their students, and intensive studies preparing us for what lies ahead. This might

have contributed to the know-it-all mindset that I brought with me to the little community I called home: Casa Ita. In the big picture of my time in Peru working on jungle conservation, it took me about two weeks to “shut up and listen;” I thought I knew how to go about growing a local garden, what was best for trail maintenance, how to hold birds properly during research banding, and that list goes on.

However, the directors of the camp, Noe and Helmut, having grown up within the thriving bustle of wilderness, appeared to contain a “tid bit” of knowledge on all aspects of the rainforest. They could point out a bird by the sound of its call, know the scientific name of it and the common name; the species of plants that grew, their alternative uses, and what season they grew best; and navigate the land and river in the dark of night. Being exposed to such knowledge was not only humbling but also inspiring. For the remainder of my six weeks, my demeanor converted from a service experience mindset to a service **learning** mindset and gaining experience through the process.





Game-changer—a moment in time that causes the outcome of an experience to overturn. My “game-changer” moment occurred during week six of my stay, when a family of five from Boston, Massachusetts, came to visit the research camp where we lived. During the first day of the family’s visit, a morning canopy walk was scheduled that we volunteers were asked to lead. Weaving in and out of the trail to avoid fallen trees and oversized spider webs, and to find an easier path for their two children, our caravan stumbled upon a small tree full of Tanagers, a colorfully loud species of bird. Pulling out our binoculars, I was able to pick out five different species of the bird and guide our guests’ eyes to birds I was discussing with them. That moment, which might not appear to be grand for some, was spectacular for me. The directors of the camp were gleaming, and while the significance of what had just happened did not occur to me yet, when it did, I could not help but smile. Through my experiences in the jungle, I had learned by listening—well enough to teach another person what I was becoming passionate for.

As I look back, there is nothing I regret about my trip; rather, there are so many lessons I learned and valuable knowledge I gained. In the midst of my time, I had not realized the value of it all, or how it will apply in what I aspire to pursue, but when I take a step back and reflect on my experiences, I know for certain that the importance of listening goes further than one’s capability to learn; it reflects in one’s character. I know I can take what I have learned and apply it in my leadership opportunities, in my classroom experiences, and in my everyday life with my peers. Those are the lessons that will remain with me through all of the trials and successes of life. That is what I will remember most of my experience in Peru.



Andrew is completing a major in biology and a minor in art. He plans to complete an MBA and earn a doctorate in environmental studies, with the goal of becoming a college professor. He is a member of Austin College’s Service Station Board and of the Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow (STAT) ambassador program, among other activities. ■

'ROO NOTES

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William O. Walker Jr. has written the book *Gospels, Jesus, and Christian Origins: Collected Essays*, published by Polebridge Press. It is a companion volume to *Paul and His Legacy: Collected Essays*, which appeared last year. William is the Jennie Farris Railey King Professor Emeritus of Religion at Trinity University.

61

Charles Hendricks was the founding pastor of Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church and served as its pastor for 23 years. Now pastor emeritus, he was honored in 2010 with the dedication of the Charles Hendricks Educational Building. The facility provides needed space for the congregation, including a library and several classrooms. A fellow alumnus wrote in about the honor to Hendricks.

66

Larry Sykes received the 2015 Bridge Builder Award at the Breakfast for the Bridge in November. The award is given to an individual who has served as a champion in the advancement of services to the homeless of North Texas. The Bridge is a privately managed collaboration for reducing adult long-term homelessness. Read more about Larry's work on Page 30.

GOLDEN 'ROO WEEKEND SAVE THE DATE: MAY 13 - 15, 2016

The Class of 1966 will be formally inducted into the Austin College Golden 'Roo Society. Watch for more details this spring.

'Roo News



GLOBETROTTING 'ROOS



Alumni participating in the Global 'Roos tour of Switzerland and the Lake District of Northern Italy stopped for a photo inside the Duomo di Milano. Left to right, **Bob Peterson '72** & his wife, Pam, and **Linda Whitworth-Reed '73** and the Rev. **David Reed '74**. They also happened upon a humorous sign across from the Schweizerhof Hotel in St. Moritz, Switzerland, that obviously had to be photographed by the 'Roo Nation alumni.

67

Gary Parker was honored at the Barbershop Harmony Society's annual international convention in July as his quartet, Dealer's Choice, was inducted into the society's Hall of Fame. The quartet won the 1973 international championship in

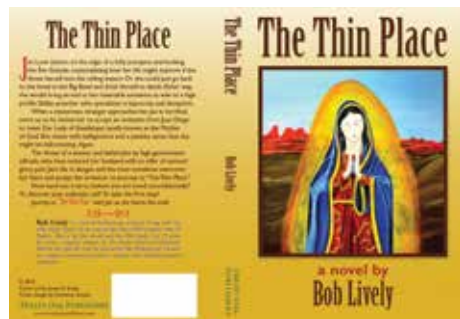


its first international competition, the only first-time winner in over 60 years. Gary sings bass in the quartet. A retired actuarial product development executive, he now serves as the bass section leader and on the music staff of the Dallas-based Vocal Majority Chorus.

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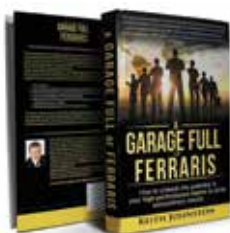
Dale Eichenberger was named to the Distinguished Alumni of Austin College at Homecoming 2015. See Page 45.

Robert Lively has written his first novel, *The Thin Place*, published in 2015 by Treaty Oaks. The book is the story of a self-absorbed woman's journey to a mountain in Northern Mexico where she encounters Our Lady of Guadalupe and is immediately transformed from narcissistic to holy. Lively, a retired Presbyterian minister living in the Hill Country, has published nine books of non-fiction.



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Keith Johnston has published a book on leadership, *A Garage Full of Ferraris: How to unleash the potential in high-performance teams to drive extraordinary results*. For the book, he interviewed 15



different leaders he had known throughout his life and incorporated their thoughts. Inclusions from the Austin College community are Dr. Oscar Page, president

emeritus; Suzanne Loaring-Clark Cook '70, Jerry Moore '71, Sarah Gunderson '81, and Jim Hernandez '83. Keith spent more than 30 years advancing organizations and developing leaders. With 16 years as an executive, he oversaw the development of over \$250 million in consulting business and helped his clients succeed by teaching them to effectively lead themselves. Keith's work has led him to 36 countries, giving him the opportunity to stroll through Red Square in Moscow and walk on the Great Wall of China. Today, he and his wife Sylvia enjoy the outdoors in the Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, Canada, where he finds time to coach football at a local high school and direct a youth leadership program.

72

Kay Layton Sisk (MA '74) was looking for inspiration to create a quilt for her grandson Grayson, son of Daniel '01 and Casey Carr Sisk '03, when she happened

IN TRIBUTE: A FOOTBALL LEGACY

The Austin College community was saddened to receive word at press time of the death of football legend **Donnie Duncan** '62, who died March 12 after a long battle with cancer. The news of his December 2015 National Football Foundation (NFF) Legacy Award already was included here.



The award, presented in New York City, honors extraordinary contributions to the NFF. "Duncan made an impact at every level, starting as a high school and college player before becoming a successful Texas high school football coach," the NFF president announced. "He would go on to be a prominent assistant for two national titles at Oklahoma, the head coach at Iowa State, and an executive director of two bowl games. Duncan did an incredible job as Oklahoma's athletic director, and he was absolutely key to the foundation of the Big 12 Conference. ... We are proud to honor his dedication to the game with an NFF Legacy Award."

Duncan was an outstanding athlete at Austin College, inducted into the Athletic Hall of Honor in 1971. He was named to the College's Distinguished Alumni in 1998 and received the Coach Joe Spencer Award for Meritorious Service and Lifetime Achievement in Coaching in 2004. He has been a great friend and supporter of the Athletics program at Austin College.

to see a quilted 'Roo wall hanging in Wright Campus Center that was created by students in a JanTerm course several years ago. She expanded the idea into a hand-applied and hand-made quilt with a kangaroo doing activities that her son and daughter-in-law enjoy.



74

Mark Miller was named among the "Best San Antonio Lawyers" in the *San Antonio Scene* magazine in June 2015.



The publication surveyed area attorneys to select top professionals in more than 70 different practice categories. Miller, a partner with the Jackson Walker firm, was included in the area of intellectual property law.

Dr. **Larry Reaves** received the Tarrant County Medical Society Gold-Headed Cane Award in fall 2015. The award "shows the warm love, personal regard, esteem, and respect of the physician," who is chosen by secret ballot and described as "the doctor's doctor." Physicians must be a member of the society for 20 years



to be considered. In the 1600s in England, doctors carried canes that included a cavity filled with an aromatic substance that counteracted offensive odor and was thought to prevent

contagion. One famous gold-headed cane was carried by and passed down to outstanding practitioners for over 130 years. It now is displayed in the Royal College of Physicians in London. Various medical schools and societies give a Gold-Headed Cane award for excellence. Reaves is a board-certified plastic surgeon. He also has been recognized as a Texas Super Doctor and a Fort Worth "Top Doc."

[ACCOLADES]



HONORING LEADERSHIP



Ron Kirk '76 was honored with a 2015 *Dallas Business Journal* Outstanding Director Award in September 2015. The program recognizes directors, boards, and committees that demonstrate leadership and business savvy in guiding companies to success and honors those who take time to help steer Dallas companies and charities.

Kirk is a director of the board of Texas Instruments, Inc. Presented in partnership with the National Association of Corporate Directors, North Texas Chapter, and sponsored by Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Ernst & Young, the directors were recognized in a special publication of *Dallas Business Journal* and honored at an awards dinner at the Ritz-Carlton in Dallas.

Kirk, who serves on the Austin College Board of Trustees, is a former mayor of Dallas and former U.S. Trade Representative. He now is senior of counsel in Gibson Dunn & Crutcher's Dallas and Washington, D.C. offices.



The Austin College legacy is a deep and strong tradition of a pioneering institution that enjoys a place in early Texas history and remains a recognized leader in higher education for innovative programs, a strong faculty, and dedicated students.

You may never meet the young men and women who will benefit from your gift, but your investment will have far-reaching value in the lives of graduates who in turn touch the places they live and serve. For any size estate gift, a variety of planned giving options can be tailored for you, your family, and the College.

Including Austin College in your estate plans will support the educational mission and financial well-being of the College and its students for generations to come.

For any size estate gift, a variety of planned giving options can be tailored for you, your family, and the College. Sharing your plans for an estate gift qualifies you for membership in the **John D. and Sara Bernice Moseley Covenant Society**. We welcome the opportunity to assist you in your estate planning matters. To learn more, contact **Suzanne Crouch, CFRE, Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of Estate Planning**, at 903.813.2059 or scrouch@austincollege.edu.

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Christena "Tena" Alcorn is performing in HBO's *The Leftovers* and started season



two of *American Crime* in July 2015, having been part of the first season. Tena has worked in film and television for many years, first in Los Angeles, California, and now in Austin,

Texas. She's pleased to connect with Austin-area alumni at caalcorn@gmail.com.

Chris John and his family live in Breckenridge, Colorado, where he



volunteers as president of the Western Colorado Council Boy Scouts of America. Last spring, Chris received the Silver Beaver Award, the highest distinguished service award at the council level.

Chris also is a principal and vice president with LGL Leadership, a national leadership development firm. Chris is an avid outdoorsman—cycling and hiking in the summer, and back country skiing in the winter.

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Danny Buck was named to the Distinguished Alumni of Austin College at Homecoming 2015. See *Page 45*.

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Kim Powers is creating a buzz with his latest novel, *Dig Two Graves*. "I wanted



to write about something I know a little bit about: life on a college campus (similar to Austin College in many ways), and something I know nothing about: raising a child," he said. "What happens when that child is

kidnapped, and her father, a classics professor now, an Olympic Decathlon champion in his past, has to perform the 12 Labors of Hercules to get her back?" Kim had great fun throwing a launch party for the book in New York City. In

keeping with the theme of the book, he hired 10 models to represent the different events of the Decathlon. And, among the guests of honor: none other than Kim's



ABC colleague Diane Sawyer. Kim said that alumni might recognize descriptions of some campus sites in the book, but he guarantees a lot of surprises. Find an excerpt and reviews of *Dig Two Graves*

at kimpowersbooks.com. One of those reviews is from fellow 'Roo and best-selling mystery writer **Deborah Crombie '76**: "Kim Powers is a bright, new, intelligent voice in crime fiction. His characters are drawn with great empathy and understanding, and *Dig Two Graves* is a gripping, can't-put-it-down read that will delight readers from the beginning to its satisfyingly twisty end. A must read!"

J. Lee Wittington has written his second book, *Biblical Perspectives on Leadership and Organizations*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in August 2015. He joined the faculty of University of Dallas in 2000 and is a professor of management, focusing his teaching and research in areas of leadership, organizational leaderships, and spiritual leadership. He previously served on the faculty of Texas Wesleyan University and The University of Texas at Arlington. He has received several honors for his teaching and research.

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Carlton Schwab represented Austin College on September 27, 2015, at the inauguration of Greg Fenves as president of The University of Texas.

83

Sue Masica was named to the Distinguished Alumni of Austin College at Homecoming 2015. See *Page 45*.

See news of
recent weddings
in 'ROO-MATES
on Page 41

'Roo News



Pictured, left to right: Preston Conrad, Jeff Harkinson, Darwin McKee, Phillip Diehl, Dave Pernell, Barry Johnston, Ashley Winn, and Greg Hill.

SIG TAU REUNION ON THE RIVER OF KNOWLEDGE

By Greg Hill '74

Summer fishing on Alaska's wild rivers can be mighty appealing in deep winter, when the days are short, temperatures low, and the snow deep. That's when the dream was born to unite eight Sigma Tau Epsilon alumni who graduated from Austin College between the Summer of Love and the Fall of Vietnam. Sig Taus **Phillip Diehl '73** and **Greg Hill '74** have sung with the Lone Tones, a noted Austin doo-wop group, since 1980. A Lone Tones performance at a recent Sigma Tau Epsilon Hill Country reunion brought them together with **Jeff Harkinson '70**, **Barry Johnston '72**, **Darwin McKee '73**, **Ashley Winn '73**, **Dave Pernell '75**, and **Preston Conrad '75**.

This group traveled from homes in California, Indiana, Washington, and Texas to meet at Greg's house in the primeval forest outside Fairbanks in July 2015, during the height of Alaska's glorious summer and fishing season. After the first of several sumptuous fresh salmon dinners at Casa Hill, the group journeyed to Skinny Dick's, an Alaskan roadhouse halfway between Fairbanks and the Nenana River, to refresh and reminisce. A fishing guide met the group for the jet boat trip to a cabin situated on a small tributary teeming with Arctic grayling, who soon learned to fear the approach of seasoned Sig Tau anglers.

Next came visiting Denali (aka Mt. McKinley) in the Alaska Range, the tallest mountain in North America, and the powerful freight-pulling sled dogs used by the Parks Service in winter in lieu of motorized vehicles. Then on to raft the mighty Klutina River, near the Wrangell Mountains, which has Class III rapids and contains king salmon weighing up to 60 pounds and more.

The rapids were conquered, and large salmon were caught, smoked, and frozen for shipping south. Fortunately the travel party included a biochemist and glaciologist to elucidate the magnificent geography. Grizzlies, beavers, moose, eagles, and caribou were observed in the wild. Museums, muskox, the Trans-Alaska pipeline, and a surprising number of Eastern European visitors also were spotted. The anglers' liberal arts education was utilized throughout the trip as robust discussion and debate led to creative solutions for most of the world's pressing issues. And suitable jewelry was purchased for the women wise enough to wed Sig Taus, whom the fish fear and whose fellowship apparently cannot be conquered by time.

85

Kirsten Brandt James has been named executive director of Alley's House, a Dallas nonprofit agency that works to empower teen mothers and their children. Kirsten spent 22 years as executive director of Junior Players in Dallas, a youth arts organization that served more than 6,000 youth, so has extensive expertise in fundraising and nonprofit knowledge.

86

Amy Anderton is now director of world languages for Dallas ISD, which offers seven foreign languages in 26 middle schools and



32 high schools. Amy and her staff provide support for nearly 200 teachers of Spanish, Spanish for Native Speakers, French, Chinese, Latin, American Sign Language, German, and Japanese. After graduating, Amy taught

for 12 years in Dallas ISD, earning a master's degree in educational administration from Texas A&M-Commerce in 2001. She moved to Virginia and spent the past 14 years in different districts as a German and ESL teacher, most recently as the world language and ESL coordinator in Stafford County, Virginia. Amy is in the dissertation stage of a doctorate in organizational leadership from Grand Canyon University.

88

John Bristow was reassigned from the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., to become the defense attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Juba, Republic of South Sudan, in May 2015. Previous assignments have included Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and the United Kingdom.

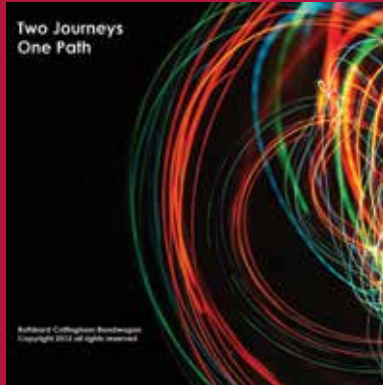
89

Tim Newsom was recently honored by Texas Tech University School of Law as a recipient of the Bob Black Bar Leaders Award. The award is given to the Texas Tech law alumnus who in the past year served as president of a local bar association. Tim served as president of the Amarillo Area Bar Association for 2014-2015. Tim is a partner with the Amarillo law firm of Lovell, Lovell, Newsom & Isern.



90

Sandy Richards Barber was named Regional Citizen of the Year at the annual Texoma Council of Governments event in September 2015. The award is presented annually to one exemplary citizen from



Wade Cottingham



Robert Rothbard playing handpan

TWO JOURNEYS . . . ONE PATH

Robert Rothbard '78 and **Wade Cottingham '77**, as Rothbard Cottingham Bandwagon, released their first album, *Two Journeys One Path*, in July 2015 on iTunes, Spotify, cdbaby, and bandcamp. Rothbard played handpans and percussion, and Cottingham supplied keyboard, percussion, effects, and vocals. They managed this with 600 miles between them, Wade in Texas and Robert in Missouri. Never in the same place, they sent tracks and comments back and forth for over three months to complete the project.

Wade teaches piano and keyboards percussion at Lakewood Piano Lab and Robert is a staff writer at Barnfinds.com. The two had not seen nor spoken to each other since the 1970s when they graduated from Austin College. Then, in 2010, Robert began shooting art shorts and emailed Wade to ask if he would be interested in producing audio tracks for him. That went well. The next project, Rothbard Cottingham Bandwagon, came from that interaction.

"Rothbard Cottingham Bandwagon" is now planning other albums and will continue their productions online. Wade still lives in North Texas and Robert lives north of St. Louis, Missouri. During college, they performed as the Rufus Cottingham Quintet, as pictured, left to right, Mark Jordan, Rocky Rothbard, John Bell, Joe Cox, and Cottingham. A slightly different group entertained at several football halftimes during the mid-1970s.



COFFEE HOUSE SOUND—The Rufus Cottingham Quintet consisting of Mark Jordan, left, Rocky Rothbard, John Bell, Joe Cox and Cottingham will present a concert Friday from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the Austin College Student Union Ballroom lounge. All proceeds from the concert will go to the fund for the Cappella Choir's European tour this autumn. Admission is \$6 at the door.

Cooke, Fannin, or Grayson counties. Sandy has served as executive director of Fannin County Children's Center since 2001. She



also serves as president of Bonham Rotary Club, is a coordinator of Great Days of Service in Bonham, and still finds time to direct children's plays at Creative Arts Center. She and her husband, Bill '89, have three daughters, Cassidy, Katie, and Jessica. Katie '17 and Jessica '16 are current Austin College students.

Alexander (Faulkner) Lazar was named to the Distinguished Alumni of Austin College at Homecoming 2015. See Page 45.

Carl Dethloff (MAT '92) became the superintendent of San Angelo ISD in July 2015, leading 25 campuses with an enrollment of 15,000 students. He was promoted from assistant superintendent of human resources and staff development, having been with the system for six years. Now in his 23rd year as an educator, he previously served as principal of three different campuses in College Station. Carl earned his doctorate at Texas A&M University. He is a member of First United Methodist Church, where he serves on the Board of Trustees, and is also a board member of San Angelo Civic Ballet. He and his wife, Judy, have two daughters, Abbey and Caroline. When his new position was announced, Austin College professor emeritus of education **John White** was on hand. "It demonstrates the benefit of the Austin College experience that I had a professor 25 years later travel 10 hours to come to the board meeting," Carl said. John White is pictured with Carl and his family.



Mark Flowers has been elected to Capital Partner with Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson. He practices in the area of property taxation law and manages the firm's office in Odessa, Texas. Mark received his J.D. in 1997 from the Texas Tech University School of Law. He is president of the board of directors of the Ellen Noel Art Museum and a member of the board of the Odessa Chamber of Commerce. He lives in Odessa, Texas, with his wife, Rhonda, and children, Megan and Zach.



Michelle Vettors, pastor at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church of San Antonio; **Charlotte Harper** '89, assistant to the Texas Attorney General; and **Lori Beer Nance** '93, chaplain at Presbyterian Mo Ranch, dedicated a bench at Presbyterian Mo Ranch and Conference Center in memory of the late **Laura Leah Petmecky** '90 in June 2015. A member of the 1987 summer staff at Mo-Ranch, Leah died in an automobile accident that summer. Several staff members from that era were on hand for the dedication, including **Stan** '55 and **Carolynn Hall Cobbs** '55.

'Roo News



HIKING THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Fourteen states, 2,189.2 miles. Roughly 5 million steps. Up and down mountains to the equivalent of 16 ascents of Mt. Everest. Snow, ice, rain, sticky mud, miles of ankle-twisting and foot-bruising rocks, lightning, fog, blazing heat, sunburn, drought, Lyme disease, norovirus, ravenous mosquitoes, biting flies, mice running across his sleeping bag and burrowing into his pack, rattlesnakes blocking the footpath, moose blocking roads, and bears trying to "yogi" his food. All while carrying a 25- to 40-pound backpack and walking up to 22 miles per day. Sleeping in a tent, one of the 256 shelters built by volunteers, or the occasional hostel or hotel, and going into nearby towns about every five days for resupply and a hot shower.

These were some of the challenges faced by **Bryan McCullough** '84 while hiking the Appalachian National Scenic Trail this year. Starting in mid-March at Springer Mountain, near Amicolola Falls State Park, Georgia, he finished his thru-hike on the peak of Mount Katahdin in Baxter State Park in Maine on October 8, 2015. During the hike, he walked through Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Shenandoah National Park, Harpers Ferry and the C&O Canal National Historical Parks, and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreational Area, as well as eight national forests.

The Appalachian Trail was conceived by Benton Mackay in 1921 and finally finished by Myron Avery in 1937. It was to be a place where Eastern city people could go to get back to nature, escaping the bustle and stress of everyday life. In 1948, Earl Schaffer, a WWII veteran newly discharged from the service, finished the first thru-hike. At the time, there were no guidebooks about the trail. In 1955, Emma Gatewood became the first woman to thru-hike the Trail. The youngest successful thru-hiker was only 5 years old when he finished in 2013.



Today, there are guidebooks detailing every mile of the trail and the towns nearby; numerous books have been written about it and how to prepare for it, inspirational movies have been filmed about thru-hikers and their journeys. Each spring, about 2,500 people attempt a thru-hike but only about one in four are successful.

Those that visit the Trail take home pictures and memories of expansive vistas, wildlife (those bears, as well as deer, grouse, owls, and loons), the relaxing and healing feeling of wilderness solitude, and the friendships made with other campers and hikers. The film, *A Walk in the Woods*, takes place on the trail.

91

Jay P. Walters was named a “Lawyer of the Year” for Oklahoma City in the 2016 *Best Lawyers of America*. Only a single lawyer in



each practice area and in a designated metropolitan area is named a “Lawyer of the Year.” A shareholder with GableGotwals firm, he was honored

for his work in the category of Native American law. He also was recognized in Best Lawyers and Oklahoma Super Lawyers for his work in areas of business litigation.

92

Lance Haynes has published his first novel, *One More*. He describes it as literary fiction about the testing of the human spirit in the



midst of a huge solar flare. Action drives the story of a man traveling 2,000 miles to home as power and communications fail around the world. The protagonist is pushed beyond his limits into a place where the fundamental essence of

his humanity is tested. Lance has had the idea for the book for a few years. When the oil business dropped off dramatically, (he manages leasing, drilling, and production) he found himself with extra time on his hands and began writing. Three months later, the book was finished.

95

Ed Richardson now serves as the coach for the Austin College Advocacy Teams, which includes mock trial and mediation teams. Ed joined his father to form the Richardson Law Firm in Sherman in 1998 after graduating from Texas Tech University School of Law, where he participated in mock trial and negotiations competitions.

96

Tom Garrison received Austin College's Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Service Award at Homecoming 2015. See Page 45.

97

Karina Stiles-Cox is the chair-elect for the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Women's Faculty Network, formed in May 2015 by The University of Texas at Brownsville (UTB) and The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA). The organization seeks to empower female faculty members by advocating for opportunities to advance women's

[ACCOLADES]



NAMED HOWARD HUGHES MEDICAL INSTITUTE INVESTIGATOR



Squire J. Booker '87 is one of 26 of the nation's top biomedical researchers announced in May 2015 as Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigators. The investigators were selected from a group of 394 eligible applicants and are supported by HHMI for an initial five-year appointment. The 26 investigators represent an HHMI investment in biomedical research of \$153 million over five years. Booker is a professor of chemistry, biochemistry, and molecular biology at Penn State University. In his research, he is bringing to light

how enzymes accelerate some of the most reluctant chemical transformations inside cells. What he is learning has opened up new opportunities to improve human health. Booker is particularly interested in how enzymes use cofactors, such as metal clusters or simple metal ions, to increase their catalytic capabilities. His lab team is well known for its work with so-called radical S-adenosylmethionine enzymes—proteins that use iron-sulfur clusters to generate highly reactive molecules that, in turn, initiate a mind-boggling array of chemical reactions. Booker wants to elucidate the mechanism behind some of those reactions, including many involved in the synthesis of natural products with antibacterial or anticancer properties. His team has also unraveled details of the enzymes-catalyzed reaction that attaches a chemical group called a methyl to bacterial RNA, a modification that makes the microbes resistant to several classes of antibiotics. Booker's team is now working to generate inhibitors of this reaction.



professional development in teaching, research, and service while balancing their personal, career, physical, and mental demands. Karina is director of the writing center in UTB's

Learning Enrichment Center. The WFN, initiated at UTPA in 2013, grew out of a \$3.1 million National Science Foundation ADVANCE grant, designed to encourage more women, particularly Latinas, in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields.

98

Cary Hendricks has been named senior director of Laity Lodge Family Camp, an interdenominational Christian family camp



in Kerrville, Texas. After two successful years in leadership at Laity Lodge Youth Camp, he began the new role in September. Read about Cary's work on the Director's Desk blog: [Ifamilycamp.org/family-camp-blog](http://familycamp.org/family-camp-blog). Cary also is working on a master's degree in theology at Fuller Theological Seminary.

Amy Meschke Porter has written *Their Lives, Their Wills: Women in the Borderlands 1750-1846*, published by Texas



Tech University Press. The book is a winner of the Lou Halsell Rodenberger Prize in History and Literature. An associate professor of history at Texas A&M—San Antonio, Amy teaches courses on early America, women, and Texas.

Additions to the
'Roo family:
see Joey's on Page 43

FROM THE ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT



If you did not get a chance to make it to Homecoming 2015, you really missed a great event, and we missed you! We had a record number of almost 1,200 alumni and guests attend the various events over the weekend. In addition to the Distinguished Alumni Awards

dinner on Friday night, our 'Roos Who Serve events were a highlight of the weekend and alumni, including reunion groups, had a great celebration Saturday night at the new Texoma Event Center. I had my 30-year reunion, and I'm pretty sure the Class of 1985 closed down the dance floor! So now the Alumni Board will begin to plan Homecoming 2016, and we hope to have even greater attendance and success.

Another project the Alumni Board is undertaking this year is the Re-Connect project as we attempt to locate our fellow classmates who have fallen off the radar of the College for one reason or another. So if you get a call or an email from an Alumni Board member in this effort, we hope you will help us make sure that all of our alumni are connected to the great things happening at Austin College. Remember that many of us graduated before email even existed, so to make sure we have current contact information for decades of alumni is a daunting task—but one that we can definitely help accomplish.

We also want to make sure that our alumni know about the 'Roo Visors Mentoring Program. This is an easy way for you to mentor a current student or recent graduate of the College. Please visit www.austincollege.edu/campus-life/career-services/roovisors/ for more information or to sign up to participate in the Austin College Career Advisor Network.

Join fellow alumni and friends in perpetuating the Austin College education as the unique, impactful experience we all had. Make a gift—of any size—before the end of the College's fiscal year in June. I hope to see many of you at AlumNights or other events, and please make plans now to attend Homecoming 2016. You won't want to miss it. Thank you for your support of 'Roo Nation!

Kirsten Brandt James '85
Alumni Board President

'ROO-MATES

03

Anthony Swift and Kenna Elizabeth Williams '04 were married May 15, 2015, (5.15.15) at a private outdoor ceremony in the Texas Hill Country.



The couple lives in Washington, D.C. where Anthony is an attorney and the director of the Canada Project at the Natural Resources Defense Council, and Kenna is a vice president at Sherry Matthews Advocacy Marketing.

09

Jamie Hannan (MAT '10) and Katie Senor '12 were married at St. Philip Presbyterian Church in Houston, Texas, on October 24, 2015, with a reception at No Label Brewery in Katy, Texas.



The wedding party included **Sahar Mehdi '11, Sunaina Suhag '11, Michael East '10, and Clay Tignor '10.** The wedding was officiated by the Reverend **Keatan King '09.** **Steven Phillips '13** was the photographer. Jamie is a regional youth development director for the YMCA

of Greater Houston. Katie is working on her master's degree in social work at the University of Houston and is a case manager for Humble-Area Assistance Ministries.

10



Michael Todd and Athena Padgett '13 were married at St. Mary's in Sherman on April 18, 2015. The reception was held in Mabee Hall at Austin College. The wedding party included bridesmaid **Courtney Kenisky '13;** groomsmen **Scott Straley '12, Josh Saunders '12, and Kyle Lintelman '10;** and ushers **Blake Barnes '13, Justin Martin '12, and Arron Mewbourn '10.** Athena is completing graduate work at the University of Oklahoma-Tulsa, preparing to become a physician assistant. Michael is the owner of Northeast Texas Distributors.

98



Camille LeBron Powell has been installed as pastor of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Tucker, Georgia. She began work there in February 2015 after more than 11 years as associate pastor

at Second Presbyterian Church in Little Rock, Arkansas. Camille and her husband,



Jonathan, live in Decatur with their two children, Lily, 8, and Jackson, 5. Jonathan works for AT&T Mobility.

01



Tiffany Elsass Brantley was named Teacher of the Year for 2015 at Highland Lakes Elementary and Most Innovative Teacher of the Year. Both honors were awarded in fall 2015 at the district level at Marble Falls

ISD in Marble Falls, Texas.

Kevin Peterson was awarded the prestigious 2015 Hunting Art Prize, winning \$50,000 for his oil-on-panel painting, "Fire." The painting was chosen from more than 1,600 entries and 100 finalists. The Hunting Prize is exclusively a painting and drawing competition for artists living in Texas. Kevin has been a finalist five times in the past eight years; his entry was featured on the Hunting Art Prize keepsake poster in 2008. Kevin and his family live in Houston, Texas, where he works out of Winter Street Studios. Read about Kevin's journey as an artist on Page 28.

02

Kurt Esslinger has been appointed as a Presbyterian Church (USA) Mission Co-Worker to the Republic of Korea. Initially, he served as site coordinator for the PC(USA) Young Adult Volunteer Program in Daejeon along with his wife, Hyeyoung Lee. In that role, the couple connects U.S. young adults to service centers working with populations in Korea struggling with poverty. They also plan bi-weekly discussions and monthly travel/study trips so that they can learn about Korean Church faith and community,

LIVING A PASSION FOR ART, DESIGN, AND TECHNOLOGY



Chris Perez '02 is the video producer for "Our Desired Future," a multimedia project to educate Texans on the interconnections between water above and below ground. Our Desired Future is a project of the Texas Center for Policy Studies, and was made possible with a grant from the Shileld-Ayres Foundation. Chris is the founder and CEO of Left Right Media and *Citygram Austin Magazine*. Left Right Media is a digital publishing and design agency that specializes in designing interactive tablet and smartphone apps using Adobe software. The agency is a design partner of Adobe, and works closely with them to develop concepts and solutions with their publishing software for clients all over the country. Left Right Media started with *Citygram*, Chris' vision for a digital lifestyle magazine in Austin. It covers the heartbeat of the city—the creative energy of artists and makers, along with the eclectic restaurant scene and innovative tech community. Chris started the magazine from the ground up, curating the writers, taking the photos, editing, designing the issues for the app, marketing, and even throwing events.

Chris earned a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and worked for nine years as an engineer with IBM, where he was the lead inventor for three U.S. patents and received many accolades for his accomplishments. According to Chris, he now lives the fairy tale most people envy: he does what he loves. His business partner wrote: "His passion for art, design, and technology drive him, and his talent carries him. It's also contagious, and great for his team. Because we work in an industry that is always evolving and targets a younger, tech-savvy generation, we hire young designers. To them, Chris is a mentor, a teacher and a leader. His way of exposing potential and confidence in everyone he works with is something very special."



Korean culture, history, and what Koreans are doing to fight poverty. This past year, Kurt was given a second role as staff in the Reconciliation and Unification Department of the National Council of Churches in Korea. They maintain a relationship with Christians in the North through the Korean Christian Federation of North Korea and together they work for an end to the Korean War as well as peaceful and respectful reconciliation and reunification. Kurt helps them connect church councils, denominations, and individual believers around the world to the

movement for reconciliation on the Korean peninsula through translating Korean articles, statements, and communications into English as well as networking. Kurt is pictured with his wife and their son, Sahn Esslinger Lee. Read more: <https://hyeyoungkurtkorea.wordpress.com> and www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/missionconnections/rev-kurt-esslinger-and-hyeyoung-lee/.

Lindsey Ankele Fournie has been living in Dubai for the past seven years. During her first five years there, she continued to work for Chemonics International, a D.C.-based international development firm. She remotely managed local governance projects in Eastern Europe and, in her final year with the firm, an education project in Zambia. In December 2013, Lindsey made a major career change and began her own business ... a blow dry bar. She and her hairdresser decided there was a need for one so they took a chance. Their salon, "Be Bar," has been open for over a year and going really well.



02

Douglas '00 and Kelli Gerber Lowe welcomed Lochlyn David Lowe on June 11, 2015. He joins brothers Dougie and Breckenridge.



10



Neal Spradlin and his wife, Libby, welcomed their first child, daughter Norah, on June 2, 2015. The family lives in Lubbock, Texas, where Neal is an assistant district attorney, and Libby is an administrator for Texas Tech University's Office of Planning and Assessment.

97



Ben and Nancy Ayoub Jackson welcomed son Luke to their family on December 10, 2014. He joins his brother, James, and sister, Cathy. The family lives in Dallas, Texas.

Patricia Lindley Bain and her husband, Jason Thumlert, welcomed their first child, daughter Wilhelmina James Thumlert, on August 17, 2015.



The family lives in Austin, Texas, where Patricia is a family law attorney with GoransonBain and Jason is a principal with Endeavor Real Estate Group.

11



Abbey Hayes Echols and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of their daughter, Ellie Mae, on August 13, 2015. The family lives in Sherman, where Abbey is the children's director at First United Methodist Church and Matthew is the general manager at Fastenal.

99



Dianne and **Justin Miller** welcomed Theresa Faith Miller on April 25, 2015. She joins her sisters Karen, Julianne, and Elizabeth. Justin is the city administrator for the City of Lakeville in Minnesota.

05

Greg and Allison McBee Dawson '03 welcomed their son, Maxwell Green, on February 3, 2015. Greg is a librarian at SMU Bridwell Library, and Allison currently is serving as interim vice president for Institutional Advancement at Austin College. She has been associate vice president for Institutional Advancement



and executive director of leadership gifts at the College since February 2014.

13

PJ and Jessica Carlson Fuller welcomed their daughter, Hadley Grace, to the family October 1, 2015. In December, PJ completed his master's degree in



occupational therapy at Texas Woman's University. Jessica teaches third grade at Metropolitan Elementary School of Creativity, Innovation & Design. The family lives in Corpus Christi.



Rachel Sims and her husband, Kalin Seamans, announce the birth of their daughter Riley, born September 9, 2015. They family lives in Oak Cliff, and Rachel works for JPMorgan Chase.



03

Kimberly Faith Hall Church was awarded a national teaching award in summer 2015 by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP). She received the Intercultural Student Experiences Language Matters Award, given to a high school teacher who has achieved outstanding success in getting students to speak Spanish "through exemplary motivation and creative methods." The award also recognizes a teacher's work to provide authentic immersion experiences outside the classroom for students to apply their speaking skills. Kimberly is a high school Spanish teacher at Wakeland High School in Frisco, Texas, with 11 years of classroom experience. She has taken three student groups to Intercultura Costa Rica, the same language school where she studied during a JanTerm at Austin College. She also has taken students to Puerto Rico to study Spanish and history. Her students performed a salsa dance at the Meyerson Symphony to open for Arturo Sandoval, and performed a merengue and a salsa at the World Salsa Congress. The AATSP award is just one in a list of honors she has received in her work teaching students and guiding them in service projects. She is pictured with her husband, Jason, and their three sons.



08

Andrea Keith is the co-founder and program director for La Asociacion CREAR in Playa Samara, Costa Rica, a nonprofit organization dedicated to supplementary education for the youth of El Torito and Samara. Andrea received the 2015 Premio Yo Creo (I Believe) Award from the Universidad Latina in recognition of young social entrepreneurs in Costa Rica. Read more on Page 26.



09

Wesley Johnston has taken a position with a new company called MedCore Partners. He has worked for a general contractor for the past four years to learn the ins and outs of commercial real estate from that angle. The new company is responsible for

healthcare and medical real estate projects so he expects to learn about a whole new side to commercial real estate.

11

Saranya Sundaram enrolled in a Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at Palo Alto University in fall 2015. Read more about Saranya on Page 29.



Natalie Taylor graduated in May 2015 from University of Alaska Fairbanks with an MFA in creative writing and a focus in creative nonfiction. She is living in Fairbanks and teaching English at UAF Community and Technical College.

12



Christopher Donovan graduated with his juris doctor in May 2015 from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. He is an associate with Brewer, Attorneys and Counselors in Dallas.

13

Caitlin Graves is an administrator and prevention specialist for the Risk Intervention and Support Education office at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas. In May 2015, she completed a master's degree in higher education administration at Kent State University.



Samantha Matulis, who served as talent cultivation director for the Longview Economic Development Corporation, was pleased to be among those accepting the 2015 Excellence

Award for the Longview community. An added bonus was that the award was presented by another Austin College alumnus, **Carlton Schwab '81**, president of the Texas Economic Development Council, with whom she is pictured. In fall 2015, Samantha became human resources coordinator at General Cable in Marshall, Texas.



Genevieve Norman was part of a team that participated in—and won—AngelHack Austin's Hackathon in May 2015. At the event, teams had 24 hours to come up with an idea for an app, code it, design it, and pitch it. Her team created HeyBlink Me, a livestream speed dating app designed "to bring the butterflies back to dating," solving the pain points of online dating, including non-genuine canned text responses, fake and outdated profiles, security issues, and difficulty scheduling dates. The team went through 12 weeks of an accelerator mentorship program, then flew to San Francisco to pitch the idea to venture capitalists at Global Demo Day for funding. See the app: www.heyblink.me. Pictured with her team, Genevieve is second from the left. 🐘

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Legends
2016
JULY 8 - 10

WATCH FOR DETAILS

Graduated? New job? Just married?
Had a baby? Retired?

Write editor@austincollege.edu to be included in the next 'Roo Notes

ALUMNI AND VOLUNTEER AWARDS • November 13, 2015



Homecoming 2015 Honorees: pictured, left to right, Danny Buck, Sue Masica, Alex Lazar, Dhriti Stocks, Dale Eichenberger, Carol Daeley, and Tom Garrison.

Austin College honored four graduates with Distinguished Alumni honors during Homecoming 2015. The awards recognize those who have distinguished themselves in their professions and in their communities, exemplifying leadership and ethical standards in their interactions. Honorees model the accomplishment, spirit of service and broadened perspective fostered by the Austin College experience, and support and advocate on behalf of the College. First Decade Award recipients are selected on the same basis, but for accomplishment within 10 years of graduation. Austin College President Dr. **Marjorie Hass** and **Kirsten Brandt James '95**, Austin College Alumni Board president, presented the awards.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Danny L. Buck '78 (MAT '82) began a career in banking in 1981 and has served in various leadership roles at banking institutions in Houston and San Antonio. In 2007, he was named president and chief credit officer of The Trust Company, and in 2011, was named president and chief executive officer of Lone Star Capital Bank in San Antonio.

A. Dale Eichenberger '68 earned a master's degree in physics at Purdue University before beginning a long career as a system engineer with Texas Instruments and Raytheon. In 1997, his branch of TI was sold to Raytheon, where he was promoted to the elite Engineering Fellow position in 2002. He retired from Raytheon in 2011 following 39 years of service.

Alex (Faulkner) Lazar '90 completed a Ph.D./M.D. program at UT Southwestern Graduate School/Medical Center and residences and fellowships through the Harvard Dermatopathology Fellowship Program. Since 2005, he has served as director of the Department of Pathology for the Soft Tissue Fellowship Training Program and as associate professor in the Department of Pathology at The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center.

Sue Masica '83 earned a Master of Public Affairs degree at The University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs in 1985 before embarking on a lifelong career in government service. Initially a budget analyst at the Department of the Interior, she spent 10 years on the staff of the Senate Appropriations Committee. She joined the National Park Service in 1998 and has served in various executive positions in headquarters and in field leadership positions in Alaska and now in the Intermountain Region.

FIRST DECADE
AWARD

Dhriti Pandya Stocks '09 served as an AmeriCorps member for the Youth Volunteer Corps of North Texas, a program of the Volunteer Center of North Texas, and then was hired by the Volunteer Center. She later worked at Junior Achievement of Dallas, and since November 2014, has served as senior development writer for Children's Medical Center Foundation. She earned a Master of Public Affairs degree at the University of Texas at Dallas in December 2015.

HEYWOOD C. CLEMONS VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD

Tom Garrison '96 (MAT '98) is principal at Jesuit College Preparatory School in Dallas. He has been an active advocate for Austin College at his own school, bringing students to various special lectures on campus. In addition, he speaks to the Austin College incoming freshman class and their parents each spring about how to make the most of their upcoming freshman year and the transition involved. The award honors the late Heywood C. Clemons, longtime Austin College Board of Trustees chair, and the spirit of dedication and service that marked his leadership.

CINDY CURTIS BEAN SERVICE TO ALUMNI AWARD

Carol Daeley, a member of the College's English faculty from 1973 until her retirement in May 2015, was recognized for her continued involvement and service with alumni. She now lives in Santa Rosa, California. The award is named for **Cindy Bean '75**, who worked in the College's alumni office for many years.

There's No Place Like Home



By Shelby Brooks '17

“Some folks must question why I went to Austin College to become a farmer,” said **Thomas Locke** '04. “But really, Austin College helped lay the foundation that allowed me to identify what I needed to do in the world, and go do it. I will forever be grateful for that time in my life.” Eleven years after graduating from Austin College, Thomas is working as an organic farmer on his family’s farm in Allens Chapel (a short car trip from campus).

His livestock operation, Bois d’Arc Meat Co., includes turkeys, chickens, pigs, and cattle, all raised entirely on pasture. He sells to faculty and staff at Austin College in addition to friends, family, and neighbors, and as of 2016, he will be a regular vendor at the newly renovated Dallas Farmers Market. With a lopsided grin, Thomas admitted that he hadn’t always dreamed of working as a farmer. He loved spending holidays at the farm that



has been in his family since the 1850s, but he thought he’d be a white-collar employee somewhere.

At Austin College, Thomas, completing majors in sociology and anthropology, met **Gillian Grissom** '07. An economics major, Gillian was given the opportunity to complete a senior honors thesis. Her research and thesis focused on the health of small-scale organic farmers in Texas, thinking “it would be interesting to learn more about how sustainability- and health-focused growers were faring within the broader food system.”

Gillian and Thomas married in 2011, just before Gillian earned a graduate degree in public policy from Duke University. At the time, Thomas was working at Carolina Farm Stewardship Association (CFSA) where he helped farmers make the transition to organic. Not long after they were married, Thomas shared with Gillian his desire to move back to Texas and work on the farm. He realized

that he loved the work he was doing at CFSA, but he wanted not just to help farmers make the move to organic but to actually be a practitioner of a sustainable livestock operation.

The news came as quite a surprise to Gillian, but she “thought back to the growers she interviewed for her honors thesis, and what full lives they led.” So, Thomas moved back to Texas in August 2014 to expand the family farm into the Bois d’Arc Meat Company. He found a house to purchase in McKinney and created a partnership with his uncle, Gordon Locke, who lives at the farm. Gillian joined Thomas in Texas a few months later and recently transitioned to a new position in Dallas at Communities Foundation of Texas.



She still draws on her research from her Austin College days in conversations with Thomas about the farm, and Thomas and Gordon are preparing for the expansion of their customer base and the farm business as a whole. To learn more about Bois d’Arc



Meat Company, connect through its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/boisdarcmeatco and visit them at the Dallas Farmers Market (www.dallasfarmersmarket.org).

Thomas '04 and Gillian Grissom Locke '07—along with Thomas' Uncle Gordon—operate a sustainable, pastured livestock operation in Allens Chapel (near Windom). The farm has been in the family since 1850; they now raise cattle, heritage pigs, chickens, and turkeys, all pasture-raised and organic. The Lockes sell their products as Bois d’Arc Meat Co.

IN MEMORIAM ALUMNI

1938	Helen Orr Christian	April 9, 2015
1941	Martha Sue Cole Lay	February 2, 2016
1943	Wiley Warren	February 4, 2016
1949	John Coffin Jr.	November 9, 2014
1950	Margie H. Dussing	June 24, 2015
1950	Philip Morrow	October 16, 2014
1951	Betty Jane Robisher Bassett	December 8, 2015
1951	Paul D. Hanna	July 2, 2015
1952	Fred Brooks Jr.	March 21, 2015
1952	Roy Jackson	May 27, 2015
1953	Marianne Broden Bowers	October 18, 2015
1953	Russell Lomas	January 9, 2015
1954	James D. Craft	October 12, 2015
1954	Alice Bump Dunn	January 12, 2015
1954	Dixie Potts Ellis	October 15, 2015
1955	William H. Crenshaw	January 15, 2016
1956	Walter Arnold	May 10, 2015
1958	Anne McAlpine Cowan	February 28, 2015
1958	William C. Doyle	August 30, 2015
1959	George William Hill Jr.	February 9, 2016
1960	Jerry E. Apple	February 13, 2016
1962	Frederick William Kohlhausen Jr.	November 7, 2015
1963	Julie Lawrence Cochran	October 21, 2014
1963	Dewitt T. "Buddy" Greer Jr.	January 31, 2016
1963	Honey Altman Minshew	January 5, 2016
1963	Sally Jane Smith Walsh	June 8, 2015
1966	Robert Rix Martin	June 8, 2015
1967	Harold Hunter Jr.	December 5, 2015
1970	Joseph Peele McNeil Jr.	September 2, 2015
1973	Gregory Cross	June 23, 2015
1974	Pamela Sue Boddie	January 19, 2016
1975	Gottlieb Schmoker Jr.	January 31, 2015
1977	George Hugman III	February 2, 2015
1979	Belinda Sakowski	December 30, 2015
1984	Beverly Green	April 1, 2015
1984	Michael Craig Miller	February 13, 2016
1985	Dana Renee' Akins	October 26, 2015

Friends We Will Miss

James Harmon "Sandy" Beach III died August 5, 2015. The Austin College Biology Lab manager for 13 years, Sandy retired in August 2011.

Retired professor **Nelson DeVega** died October 25, 2015. See more on Page 14.

Margaret "Margie" Garner died November 25, 2015. She was the coordinator of collection management librarian at Abell Library from August 1998 through February 2004.

Virginia "Ginny" Davison Hall died October 2, 2015. The wife of Dr. Clyde Hall, professor emeritus of economics and business administration, Ginny was an active member of the campus community for many years.

Ann Nicholson died September 22, 2015. She was a nurse in Austin College Health Services from 1998 to 2008.

Goodbye to Dear Friends



The Austin College community was saddened to learn of the death on January 5 of **Honey Altman Minshew '63** in Sherman. She served on the Board of Trustees from 1988 to 2000 and since has been a faithful member of the Senior Board of Trustees as well as an active alumna and advocate for the College.

Honey previously served as president of the Austin College Alumni Board and in a variety of projects on behalf of the board. Named a Distinguished Alumna of Austin College, Honey offered her talents for work on the Austin College Sesquicentennial celebration, inauguration and farewell ceremonies for President Oscar Page, and the inauguration for President Marjorie Hass in 2009. Honey also volunteered her time in the establishment of the Collins Alumni Center at Austin College. She and her husband, Robert '63, have been dedicated supporters of the College, offering generosity and encouragement for many undertakings.

Honey began her career as an elementary school teacher, but later created Petite Fleur Interiors and Design and excelled in interior design projects in homes and businesses, locally and beyond. She was very active in the Sherman community, organizing a service program, sponsored by Sherman Service League, for girls at Sherman High School. She served as president of the Grayson Rehabilitation Center board, was a charter member of the Sherman Preservation League, and was active in many community organizations as well as her church. Her contributions were recognized by the Sherman Chamber of Commerce with the ATHENA Award.



Alumnus, senior trustee, and friend **Jerry E. Apple '60** died February 13. A longtime supporter of Austin College, he served on the Board of Trustees from 2000 to 2013 and has been a faithful Senior Board of Trustees member.

Upon graduating from Austin College, he began a successful career in the telecommunications industry with General Telephone Company/GTE, which eventually became Verizon. He served in various capacities all over the country: Oklahoma, Connecticut, Georgia, and Hawaii, as well as several locations in Texas. After 26 years, he ended his career in Irving, Texas. He had joined the National Guard in 1961 and proudly served his country for five years.

A former member of the Austin College Alumni Board, Jerry served as president of the Alumni "A" Athletics Association. A 2010 inductee into to the Austin College Athletic Hall of Honor, Jerry has been a devoted attendee at Kangaroo football games in the football stadium that bears his name. Dedicated supporters of several college initiatives, Jerry and Joy, his wife of more than 44 years, were involved in many church and community activities in Irving, Texas. He was a member of the board of the Greater Irving/Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce as well as Irving Health Care Foundation.

Memorials may be made to the Jerry and Joy Apple Challenge at Austin College.

“ In Other Words ”

The Value of Liberal Arts Education? Priceless.

BY: Catherine “Kiki” (Moore) McLean '85



Shortly after midnight on New Year's Eve, I was trying to get my children to bed. There was a great deal of excitement, and my 13-year-old son was acting particularly adult-like. As I kissed him good night, it dawned on me that 2016 would be a big year for him. I was caught off guard by the fact that he would enter high school this year and that time had traveled so fast. I woke up with a frenzy of thoughts about things like, where will he go to college and is he ready? All of a sudden, all those articles about the value of a college education became ones I wanted to read. After a brief panic attack, I took comfort in knowing that whomever my child turns out to be, whatever his needs or interests, he will be well served by a liberal arts education.

My father believed a person should be literate, know how to communicate one's thoughts, and have an understanding of the world around us. He believed in order to be those things, a person needs a liberal arts education. He didn't have that, but wanted it for me. Having had it, I want it for my son because it gives you the tools to shape your life, not simply your career. I learned inquiry, independence, and engagement at Austin College, and those notions have led to the most successful moments of my life.

Questioning everything is not a matter of doubting what is represented, but rather an exercise in learning more. After 18 years of following directions and accepting information provided to you in a traditional classroom, the liberal arts adventure begins by encouraging inquiry. Don't simply accept the events of history, ask what prompted them. Would outcomes have been different if circumstances were different? Study history and you learn not only what happened, but how your own actions might make or change history for yourself and others. My own professional path in politics has been more successful because I have been a person at the table willing to ask what history could teach us about a certain situation—or, in some cases, force questions people may not be ready to answer. Inquiry makes you thorough—a sought-after trait in professional environments.

The sense of community at Austin College taught me to respect independence and to pursue it for myself. A liberal arts education brings a community together through a

shared learning of the core humanities. With that common understanding, we are pushed to inquire and draw our own conclusions. Learning independent, critical thinking comes with the added skills of being able to represent and defend one's ideas, and the knowledge that standing alone doesn't have to be a fearful experience. In fact, being independent comes from confidence. That sense of independence made it possible for me to make important and, occasionally, unpopular decisions in my life. Those moments have included whether or not to accept a job offer. As a parent, I am willing to stand in the decisions I've made for my kids regardless of what the Smiths are doing.

The deep understanding of the larger world provided by a liberal arts experience compels a person to engage in the world. How could you not after you've learned about other cultures and about ordinary people who have made extraordinary things happen? Engagement is a tenet of how I live, not just how I work. I am an engaged advocate in my work, but I try to live every day engaged in my family and community. Sometimes that is about diving into a school project or volunteering at our church. Other times that act of engagement is as simple as asking another question or being willing to stand alone with an idea.

When, and if, my son asks my advice about college and what he should consider in making his choice, I will tell him that a liberal arts education is an investment in the rest of his life that will hold value in every aspect of his life. And when I read the next article about the “value” of a college education, I'll be confident in my knowledge that a liberal arts education is priceless. ■

Kiki McLean, who lives in Washington, D.C., is a public affairs and political strategist and veteran of six presidential campaigns. Her two children know Austin College will be their first college tour.

The content of this column expresses the perspectives of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views, position, or policy of Austin College, its administrators, or its Board of Trustees.

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*Paris et Cannes sont de belles villes!**

Marissa Brown '18 was one of 23 students immersed in French language and culture during January Term. After visiting Paris, students spent the remainder of their time in the heart of the French Riviera where they attended French classes every morning at the Collège International de Cannes. They spent afternoons exploring the rich cultural heritage and picturesque landscapes of southern France and nearby sites like Monaco, where Marissa stopped for this photo.

Seven of 10 Austin College students study internationally while at Austin College; so, three of 10 are missing out on life-changing, eye-opening experiences. Let's change that.

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*Paris and Cannes are such beautiful cities!

