

Magazine December 2008

# Austin College

Serve  
the  
World

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### WEB\*TRA

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- 4 Duhaime Performance Excerpts
- 7 Listen to Brandon's Music
- 12 GO Video
- 12 Reflection Papers of Select GO Fellows
- 31 How to Be Happier
- 31 Authentic Happiness Web site with tests, surveys
- 38 More Homecoming Photos

### 8 Balani Awarded Boren Scholarship

Junior Claire Balani has been awarded a National Security Education Program Boren Scholarship for study abroad.

### 10 Serve the World

Austin College's Global Outreach program awarded 10 fellowships in summer 2008, sending students to sites around the globe in service. Read their stories.

### 18 Marjorie Hass Named President of Austin College

The first woman president in Austin College history takes office July 1, coming from her current duties as provost of Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania.

### 22 Edward H. Phillips Honored with Internship

Alumni have provided gifts to fund the Edward Hake Phillips Scholar, a summer internship at the Sam Rayburn Library in Bonham, Texas. The internships honors Professor Emeritus of History Edward Phillips.

### 28 The Good Life

What is the good life? Do our lives have purpose? Philosopher Mark Hebert, director of Austin College's Lilly Theological Exploration of Vocation program, offers his thoughts on helping students find "calling" in their lives.

### 38 Homecoming 2008

See photos from October's Homecoming festivities on campus.

### On the Cover:

Anne Engelhart '10 was one of Austin College's Global Outreach Fellows who spent summer 2008 in international service.



**IN EVERY ISSUE:**

- 3** Faculty Notebook
- 7** Student Achievers
- 18** Around Campus
- 32** Home Team
- 40** 'Roo Notes
- 48** Calendar of Events
- 49** Every Picture Tells a Story  
The Story Behind the Photo

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**AUSTIN COLLEGE MAGAZINE**  
December 2008

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THE POSITIVE  
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Dear Friends of Austin College,

As I reflect on my role as president of Austin College these past 14 years, two aspects of the campus culture I am particularly proud to see enjoy such strong and continued development are service and leadership. In fact, my awareness of the phenomenal success Austin College graduates have enjoyed as leaders in a variety of professions in and beyond Texas made this opportunity particularly attractive to me when I first visited Sherman in 1993 as a candidate for the presidency.

I believe strongly that the liberal arts setting is one of the best places in which to develop these fundamentally important qualities of service and leadership. It may come as a surprise that small residential liberal arts institutions such as Austin College represent slightly less than 5 percent of the overall higher education sector. This is not only to say that we are unique but also that we have a specific opportunity, particularly in the face of the real crisis of leadership we have seen in the private sectors and as part of the current economic downturn.

What we offer is a holistic education that trains students in mind, body, and spirit. Add to that the element of diversity — with our current freshman class including 34 percent ethnic minority enrollment — as well as our international emphasis, and our graduates leave Austin College as responsible global citizens. Truly, our classrooms are not limited to Moody Science, Hopkins Center, Caruth Administration, and others. Instead, our classrooms extend to the more than 50 countries that our students explore on six continents.

This emphasis on such a learning atmosphere is a natural expression of my fundamental belief that education has a purpose beyond individual enrichment. Yes, we want our graduates to be successful, but as the story on pages 28-31 about “The Good Life” makes clear, our students appreciate that personal fulfillment is best realized through helping others. As Lilly intern **Keatan King** '09 concludes, “For me, a meaningful life can be found in the combination of being where you are needed and doing what you love.”

All this said, it is important to emphasize that at Austin College, service and leadership are not separate concepts. Rather, they are complementary. The term “servant leadership,” first coined by Robert K. Greenleaf, most closely represents what we do best at Austin College. As Greenleaf suggests, strong leaders realize that above all else they must serve first in order to lead well.

One of my goals as president has been to find ways to strengthen this emphasis at Austin College, as well as to find new forms for its expression. As I mentioned in my previous column, one such program is the new Global Outreach (or GO) program. While I was able to share briefly about one student's experience at an orphanage in Ethiopia, I invite you to learn about the experiences of all 10 students. Their stories are told in “Serve the World” in the pages that follow.

I find particularly meaningful the hope expressed by **Asra Ahmed** '09, whose GO fellowship took her to Lahore, Pakistan. “I wholeheartedly believe that this small intervention of mine will lead to big changes,” Asra said.

As Anna Laura and I anticipate the next chapter of our own lives, which have been blessed in innumerable ways, we look forward to hearing more stories like these, particularly in this area of servant leadership. We will be forever tied to the Austin College community, and from our new vantage it will be gratifying to see the continued positive impact of our students and graduates.

God speed to each and every one of you as you live these expressions in your own lives and extend the positive presence of Austin College throughout the world.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Oscar C. Page".

Oscar C. Page  
President

## Chemistry Faculty, Students Attend Conference

Austin College chemistry faculty **Andrew Carr**, **Karla McCain**, and **Bradley Smucker** attended the 64th American Chemical Society Southwest Regional Meeting in Little Rock, Arkansas, in October. Several of their students also attended and made presentations on research completed with the faculty and other classmates. Presenters were:

### Tyler Batey '11

"Improving the Synthesis of 3,5 - Diacetoxybenzotrile, a Key Organogelator Intermediate." Tyler Batey, Geethu, T. Kalangara, and Andrew J. Carr.

### Britain Bruner '09

"Synthesis and Characterization of Bis-Platinum(II) Complexes Bridged by 4',4''-(1,4-phenylene)Bis(2,2':6',2''-terpyridine)." Britain Bruner, Zacharie J. Seifert, Alexander L. Nichols, Wei-Hsuan Chen, Mohammad A. Omary, and Bradley W. Smucker.

### Ashleigh Castner '09

"The General Importance of Conformational Defects in Organogel Formation." Ashleigh Castner and Karla S. McCain.

### Paul Derry '11

"An Improved Synthesis of Tetrapyrazineplatinum(II) Tetrafluoroborate and Subsequent Reactions with Maleonitriledithiolate Salts." Paul Derry, Xiaoping Wang, and Bradley Smucker.

### Sean Y. McGill '12

"Kinetics of Gel Formation of Bisurea Organogelators Examined by Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR) Spectroscopy." Sean Y. McGill, Sunaina Suhag, Andrew J. Carr, and Karla S. McCain.

### Sunaina Suhag '11

"The Effects of Carbon Linker Length of Bisurea Organogelator on Gel Organization and Structure Examined by FT-IR." Sunaina Suhag, Sean Y. McGill, Kelly M. Wiggins, Andrew J. Carr, and Karla S. McCain.

In addition, Derry and Smucker's paper, "Tetrapyrazineplatinum(II) bis(tetrafluoroborate) acetonitrile hemisolvate," has been published in the journal *Acta Cryst.*

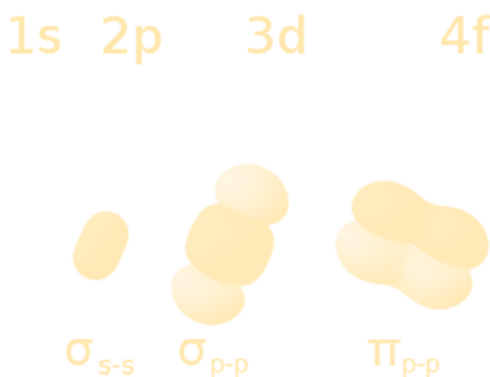
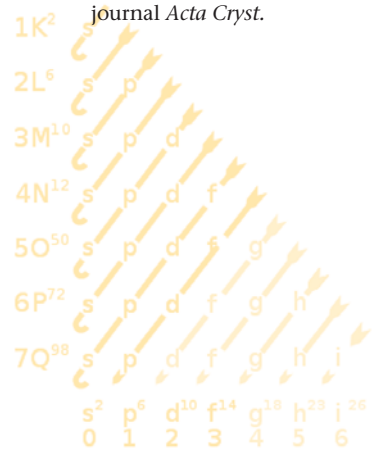
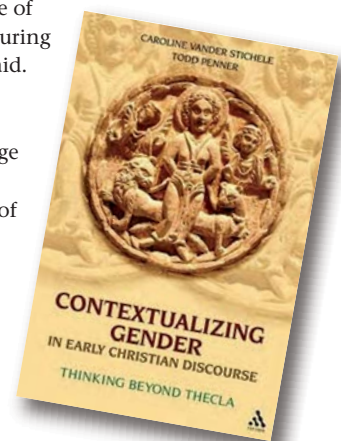
## Student Input Important to New Book by Todd Penner

Austin College's commitment to collaborative learning continues to be exemplified by joint faculty and student efforts on projects such as a new book co-authored by **Todd Penner**, chair of the Department of Religious Studies and director of the Gender Studies program. Penner's book, *Contextualizing Gender in Early Christian Discourse: Thinking Beyond Thecla*, written with Caroline Vander Stichele, a professor at the University of Amsterdam, will be released in spring 2009.

Penner said the book is "designed as an introductory discussion to the major themes of gender in early Christian literature." Penner, who said he wrote the book with his Gender and Early Christianity course in mind and will utilize the text in future courses, involved students from his Fall Term 2007 class in the process.

"As I lectured in class about the various themes, students were helpful in formulating the kinds of issues that needed to be raised in the book," Penner said. "My co-author and I actually reshaped the direction of the book based on the way that the class went in fall."

The collaborative work with Stichele and his students became one of the most rewarding aspects of the book. "I've had so many good ideas from students over the years and some of my best ideas come out when I'm lecturing in class about the material," Penner said. "I really enjoy the back and forth movement between teaching and research and have found Austin College and its liberal arts environment an ideal place to participate in that kind of dual interaction."



# The Sounds of Music

**W**hen the music teachers at his New Hampshire elementary school demonstrated instruments to his class, **Rick Duhaime** was captivated by the sounds of music. Decades later, he is still making those sounds — on the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, saxophone, and cello — having dedicated a lifetime to the performance and teaching of music. “I was immediately attracted to the sounds and knew I wanted to create them myself,” said Duhaime, Austin College professor of music.

Duhaime finished his undergraduate degrees at the University of New Hampshire in 1976, and earned a Master of Music degree from the University of Illinois in 1978, the same year he joined the music faculty at Austin College. In 1986, he also earned the first Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Multiple Woodwind Performance from the University of North Texas.

Duhaime, who has held the Mosher Professorship of Music since 1992, teaches applied music in woodwinds and cello, directs instrumental chamber music and jazz ensembles, and offers courses in orchestration, music theory, acoustics, conducting, and music education. The variety of courses he teaches, some beyond his field of musical expertise (such as the freshman Communication/Inquiry courses and JanTerm offerings including SCUBA certification in Cozumel), are the “refreshing experiences” that have kept Duhaime at Austin College. The College’s small size and distance from traditional centers of music also mean Duhaime needs to work to provide a broad range of professional experiences for himself and his students.

Duhaime has met the challenge by performing with professional colleagues in such musical groups as the Grand Avenue Trio and the Trio Eisenstadt, as well as appearing as conductor at the Dallas Museum of Art, on the commercial Crystal Records CD *Facets*, and on the Sherman Community Series concerts. Since 1990, Duhaime also has served as continuing faculty and orchestral principal with the Eisenstadter Sommerakademie, an international summer music institute held each August in Austria, where scholars, instrumentalists, and vocalists from across the United States and Europe combine their talents to study and perform

masterpieces of Western music. In addition to performances, Duhaime also enriches the local community through private teaching, adjudications, and music clinics at local public schools and community colleges.

Duhaime continually works to involve Austin College students in the same diverse experiences he seeks for himself, whether taking them to local and regional performances, or selecting students for the Austrian festival. As a regional coordinator for the festival, he is able to accept performers for the orchestra and chorus, and has included more than 35 professional colleagues and Austin College students over the years. “To provide the opportunity for our students to understand, prepare, and perform such music at a truly professional level, with my musical peers from across the world, is incomparable,” Duhaime said. “To reproduce the music of Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert, and others in the cities and concert halls where the masters worked is an experience that cannot be duplicated elsewhere.”

While Duhaime gains significant enjoyment from performing and teaching, he finds his greatest satisfaction in spreading his enthusiasm for “those sounds” — hardly diminished from his elementary school days — and watching appreciation for music develop in students of all ages and talents. “To show people how to enjoy the art of music as a lifelong activity, at whatever level of participation — from being patrons or informed audience members to continuing performers themselves — is where I have formed some of my most satisfying memories,” he said.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Rick Duhaime

## Professional Activities Sciences

**Kelly Reed**, associate professor of biology, is a co-author of an article published October 31 in the educational forum section of *Science* magazine. The article "Genomics Education Partnership" details the Genomics Education Partnership (GEP) formed in 2006 as a collaboration between faculty from various institutions and the Biology Department and Genome Sequencing Center at Washington University in Saint Louis. Austin College joined the partnership in 2007. The goal of the GEP is to provide opportunities for undergraduate students to participate in genomic research experiences within the framework of specific courses.

In summer 2007, Reed attended a workshop at Washington University to learn about the tools and strategies necessary to annotate genes in different *Drosophila* (Fruit fly) genomes. Based on that experience, she offered a biology topics course in fall 2007 and fall 2008 in which each student annotated (generated gene models) of their own 40 kb segment of the *Drosophila erecta* genome. The data obtained by Austin College students is being combined with that of students at partner institutions and the combined data is being used to compare dot chromosomes of several *Drosophila* species to answer questions related to chromosome evolution. The *Science* article highlights the scope of the GEP and presents assessment data to illustrate the effectiveness of this type of scientist-student partnership.

Reed also served as assistant editor for the book *Contemplating Cancer: Stories of Life, Love, Laughter, and Loss* and authored a story in the book, compiled through the Telling Our Stories autobiography writing program offered by **Jerry Lincecum**, emeritus professor of English, and **Peggy Redshaw**, professor of biology.

**Donald Salisbury**, associate professor of physics, worked as a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin from January through August 2008 during his sabbatical leave. While in Europe, he gave a talk in May in Copenhagen to the Danish History of Science Society. He also was an invited speaker at the Second International Conference on the History of Quantum Mechanics held in July in Utrecht, Holland.

Both talks dealt with contributions in 1930 to quantum mechanics and relativity by Belgian physicist Leon Rosenfeld. Salisbury also spoke in October on "General covariance, observables, and emergent time" at the Loop Quantum Cosmology Workshop held at Pennsylvania State University.

**Andra Troncilli**, assistant professor of physics, published "Tunable transport in magnetically coupled MoGe/Permalloy hybrids" in *Applied Physics Letters*. She worked on that project in collaboration with Goran Karapetrov from Argonne National Laboratory. A Richardson grant from Austin College funded Troncilli's research.



Troncilli co-authored the paper "Effects of varying defect geometry on the first order vortex melting transition in  $YBa_2Cu_3O_{7.8}$  Single Crystals" presented by Lisa Paulius of Western Michigan University at the Korean Superconductivity Symposium at GangWon Do, Korea, in July 2008. In collaboration with Pnina Ari-Gur from Western Michigan University, Troncilli is taking part in a project on an international collaboration for the development of new ferromagnetic shape memory smart materials. This project has been awarded a planning grant from the National Science Foundation. The grant will be used to visit the international research facilities and to establish contact with researchers in Russia and in Finland. Subsequently, a research proposal will be submitted to the Materials World Network program of the National Science Foundation.

## Humanities

**Daniel Dominick**, associate professor of music, will conduct the Sherman Symphony Orchestra in its May 2 concert, which is to be dedicated to Austin College president and first lady **Oscar** and **Anna Laura Page**. In that concert, Dominick will perform with the orchestra, as pianist, for Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue." Dominick led the orchestra in a more relaxed performance in November when members of the orchestra presented its annual concert for area fifth grade students. The presentation, written specifically for this concert, is designed as an introduction to the instruments of the orchestra and the types of music the orchestra plays. The group performed excerpts from works by Beethoven, Grieg, Mussorgsky, and others, with narration provided. The concert, Dominick explained, also gives students the chance to hear storytelling accompanied by music, as well as music that tells its own story.

**Todd Penner**, associate professor of religious studies, presented an invited series for adult education, "How to Use the Bible for Morality," at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Denton, Texas, from February 20 to March 12. He was an invited participant in "New Testament and Roman Empire: Resistance and Re-imagination" at Union Theology Seminary in New York in April, and he presented the paper "Gender and Biblical Scholarship" for the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies annual meeting at the University of British Columbia in June.

He travelled to Baylor University in October to present "Confessions of a Boundary-Crosser: The Eschatological Edge of Teaching, Research, and Practice" for the Center for Jewish Studies Conference "On the Boundary — HoweverWhereverWhomever." He also presented three papers at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature Meeting in Boston in November.

Additionally, two of Penner's essays were recently published: "Die Judenfrage and the Construction of Ancient Judaism: Toward a Foregrounding of the Backgrounds Approach to Early Christianity" was included in a collection of essays honoring Penner's doctoral adviser, *Scripture and Traditions: Essays on Early Judaism and Christianity [in Honour of Carl Holladay]*; and "The Territory of Corinth: Point of View and Poetics in the Acts of the Apostles" (co-authored with Caroline Vander

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Daniel Dominick

COURTESY PHOTO



Donald Salisbury

Stichele) was published (in French) in a collection of essays, *Regards croisés sur la Bible: Etudes sur le point de vue*, from a conference Penner attended in Paris in June 2006.

**Mark Smith**, professor of art, opens a one-person show of new work in a December – January exhibition entitled “In Search of Memory: Paintings by Mark Smith” at the William Campbell Gallery in the Fort Worth Arts District. Also, Smith is one of seven artists whose work is on display through January at The Art Museum of South Texas in Corpus Christi in a show titled “Fields of Color: Seven Contemporary Texas Artists.” The show includes a video and catalogue. Smith’s work is included in a group exhibition titled “Art Heist” in the Contemporary Arts Center of Fort Worth, Texas. That exhibit is a fundraiser in support of the Emergency Artists Relief Fund of North Texas.

**Laura Spear**, assistant professor of French, attended the Nineteenth Century French Studies Colloquium, “Empire, Identity, Exoticism,” at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, in October, where she participated in the panel on “Pierre Loti.” At the conference, she also presented the paper “Orient Express: An Acceleration of the ‘East’ in the Writings of the Train de luxe.” In addition, Spear attended the Foreign Language Film Conference II “Exile, Migration, and Identity” at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge in November. She participated in a panel on “Aesthetic Spaces” and delivered the paper “Recording Identity: Sunglasses in Jean-Jacques Beineix’s *Diva*.”

**Ivette Vargas-O’Bryan**, associate professor of religious studies, is the faculty adviser for **Devin Gonier ’09** on his 2008 Mellon grant project, “Healing Pluralism and Bodhisattvas in the Tibetan Region.”

She made presentations at several conferences this fall, including “Tibetan Buddhist Studies on the Border, Off the Border, No Border: Finding Itself within Academia and Negotiating a Place in Higher Education in Texas,” offered at the On the Boundary Conference at Baylor University on October 27. She also presented “Healers, Healing, and Modernization in Minority Religions of China, PRC, and the Tibetans” at the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies, Inc., annual meeting in Irving in March.

She presented a paper in response to four papers at the American Academy of Religion Annual Conference, “Religions, Medicine, and Healing Group,” in Chicago in November. Papers were prepared by faculty at Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Case Western Reserve University, Valparaiso University, and Northern Arizona University.

Vargas-O’Bryan wrote “Legitimizing Demon Diseases in Tibetan Medicine: The

Conjoining of Religion, Medicine, and Ecology,” to be published in a 2009 *Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies* (IATS); “Demon Diseases and Tibetan Medicine: The Interface between Religion and Science” for the book *As Long as Space Endures: Essays on the KRLacakra Tantra*, to be released through Snow Lion Publications in January 2009; and “Tibetan Medicine Revisited in the West: Notes on the Integrative Efforts and Transformative Consequences Occurring in Massachusetts, USA” for a *Modern Tibetan Medicine* volume published in 2008 in the Needham Research Institute Series.

### Social Sciences

**Tom Baker**, professor of education, attended the annual conference of the Texas Council for the Social Studies in San Antonio, Texas, October 24–26.

**Jeffrey Czajkowski**, assistant professor of economics, presented two papers at the Southern Economic Association 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., November 21–23. The first paper, co-authored with **Kevin Simmons**, associate professor of economics, and an economist from UT Pan American, analyzes the various factors that influence coastal versus inland hurricane fatalities. This research extends work done over the summer with **Emily Kennedy ’09**. The other paper, “A computational approach to dynamically modeling the destructive risk embedded in hurricane evacuation decisions,” was co-authored with an economist from Texas A&M.

**Julia Shahid**, associate professor of education, presented “Passage to India: A Journey from India to the Classroom” in November at the National Council for the Social Studies annual conference in Houston, Texas. She shared how she used experiences from a 2007 Fulbright-Hayes travel experience to develop curriculum for elementary students. 🐾



PHOTO BY WICKIE S. KIRBY

Ivette Vargas-O’Bryan



PHOTO BY JASON JONES

Julia Shahid



# Journeying Many Paths

**B**randon McInnis '09 might be found recording music on his equipment at home for interested SONY Music representatives, but he isn't a music major. McInnis, who became a certified nursing assistant in high school, might be found volunteering as a first-response medical staff member for a large convention in Dallas, but he doesn't major in any science. When McInnis meets a fork in the road, he considers it an exciting opportunity rather than a perplexing decision. Austin College's emphasis on broad, liberal arts education has presented him many opportunities.

"I feel like I'm walking five different roads, which shouldn't be possible," McInnis said. "It's possible at Austin College and great preparation for the real world." The very fact that Austin College would open many paths to him is why he ultimately decided to attend. McInnis developed a passion for music, especially vocal performance, after earning a role in a middle school musical. He eventually earned all-state honors in vocal performance and was offered a "tempting scholarship package" to attend Baylor University.

"I knew that if I did that, I would only ever do music and voice," said McInnis, who plans to pursue a career in medicine, specializing in vocal chord injuries. "I chose Austin College because the ultimate goal for me was to be a physician." Austin College has allowed McInnis to continue his passion for music through involvement as assistant director of the A Cappella Choir and as a member of The Quartette, a men's a cappella group.

Austin College also enabled him to pursue pre-medical studies and introduced McInnis to his major area of study, Japanese. "You start with the language, and it opens up this window into a culture," he said. "Then, you study abroad and go through a door to see a different world entirely." In fall 2007, McInnis studied abroad in Tokyo through the Institute for the International Education of Students (IES) and completed internships in interpreting and translation for a variety of business groups and conferences in the U.S. and abroad.

McInnis has had the good fortune of witnessing his many paths converge on occasion. While studying in Tokyo, McInnis met with a former head of the Japanese Fulbright program to discuss continuing his Austin College honors thesis on the Japanese healthcare system through Fulbright study. McInnis has completed a Fulbright application in hopes that his love of Japanese and his career aspirations in medicine can continue as one road for additional study through that program.

While volunteering as an interpreter at an annual anime conference, McInnis met an editor for an American music magazine who showed interest in the fact McInnis had written and recorded his own music (some of it in Japanese). The editor put McInnis in contact with representatives of SONY Music in Japan, who wanted to hear his music. McInnis sent sample tracks of his work and is awaiting word from SONY.

McInnis readily admits that walking so many different paths can require a lot of time and energy. "I don't sleep, let me tell you," he said. Sleep or no sleep, the availability of so many opportunities is what McInnis thrives on. "You have to see an opportunity and grab it," he said. "Just go for it all the time."



COURTESY PHOTO

Brandon McInnis

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Listen to Brandon's Music

## Junior Earns Boren Scholarship for Study in China

**Claire Balani '10** has been awarded a National Security Education Program (NSEP) Boren Scholarship for study abroad and is spending the 2008–2009 academic year in China. Claire, a political science and international relations major, is studying Chinese culture and ethnic minorities this fall at the School of International Training in Kunming of the Yunnan Province. In spring 2009, she will complete intensive language study in Beijing with the International Education of Students, focusing on improving her Mandarin language skills.

“Throughout my time in Yunnan, I hope to understand the real challenges facing Chinese, if not global, society today, from environmental degradation, to rural poverty, to health epidemics,” Balani said. “I want to examine the relationship between China and Southeast Asia, particularly Burma, by examining these important social issues through the eyes of immigrants, migrant workers, and visiting students. Hopefully, I can use what I learn throughout my time abroad in a position that could influence relations between China, Southeast Asia, and the United States, either through the government, think tanks, or non-governmental organizations.”

Boren Scholarships provide up to \$20,000 to U.S. undergraduate students to study abroad in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests and underrepresented in study abroad, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. The scholarships fund study that focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields deemed critical to U.S. national security. Applicants identify how their study abroad program, as well as their future academic and career goals, will contribute to U.S. national security. NSEP draws on a broad definition of national security, including not only the traditional concerns of protecting and promoting American well-being, but also the challenges of global society, including sustainable development, environmental degradation, global disease and hunger, population growth and migration, and economic competitiveness.



COURTESY PHOTO

Claire Balani

## Students, Faculty Begin Look at “Mass Violence in the Twentieth-Century World”

Austin College history students **Austin Tooley '09**, **James Hannan '09**, **Victoria Sheppard '10**, and **Elizabeth Elliott '09** accompanied **Hunt Tooley**, associate professor of history, to the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, in October. Hunt Tooley was chair and moderator of one of the conference sessions. The students attended sessions and workshops, choosing at least one session on the theme of Austin College's History Department Mobley Project “Mass Violence in the Twentieth-Century World.”

The four students offered their perspectives on the conference at a campus presentation in late October. Faculty and students will undertake a number of research initiatives through the Mobley Project. Tooley hopes students will be prepared to participate in an upcoming Phi Alpha Theta history honor society graduate and undergraduate conference.

Hunt Tooley is the Andrew Pickens Mobley Scholar for 2008–2010 and selected the theme for the project, which will combine his own historical research, student and faculty presentations, conference participation, and guest speakers to “create a kind of intellectual awareness of the scope and nature of the historical and human dimensions of mass violence.”

Tooley's academic career has included a great deal of study of mass violence in 20th century Europe, and his courses have included focus on the Holocaust and Stalinist mass killing and forced migration. In addition to student research initiatives created through the Mobley Project, he hopes to complete a book he began some time ago on the topic of mass violence.



PHOTO BY KAITLIN MCCOY

Left to right, Victoria Sheppard, Elizabeth Elliott, Hunt Tooley, Jamie Hannan, and Austin Tooley shared their experiences.

## Senior Speaks on Behalf of American Youth

It isn't every day that U.S. college undergraduates have the opportunity to meet the presidents of foreign countries, much less discuss economics and foreign policy with them. Yet, that is exactly what **Lurissa Tucker '09** found herself doing over dinner with Peruvian President Alejandro Toledo at the Association for Peruvian Institutions in the United States and Canada conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

A Latin America studies major and public health minor at Austin College, Lurissa was the only U.S. American invited to present a speech at the international conference held in May 2008. Lurissa, who made the speech in Spanish, discussed the awareness of and involvement in third world countries among youth in the United States. "Basically, I had seven minutes to convince Latin American diplomats that not all young people in the U.S. are lazy and ignorant," Lurissa said.

Lurissa's involvement in service and study abroad made her an ideal candidate to make that point. She lived in Cusco, Peru, in 2007, volunteering at La Clinica de San Juan de Dios and researching the status of maternal and child health among the region's indigenous population. In March 2008, she was a part of an Austin College LISTEN (Letting Intensive Searching and Traveling Enlighten North Americans) delegation to Guatemala, focused on fair trade and collaborative work between non-profit, non-government agencies and the recipients of aid. In summer 2008, Lurissa completed an internship at the New Mexico Health Policy Commission, performing research on undocumented immigrant healthcare.

Lurissa's speech highlighted the change that occurs in many students who serve or study abroad. "We go forth with what we consider to be the

best of intentions, prepared to save the world with all of our wealth and knowledge," she said. "However, many young people in the United States, me included, return to our homes and societies changed. In our enthusiasm to 'change the world,' we are changed by the people we meet and the work we do. This is the real souvenir we bring home."



Lurissa Tucker

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

## Student News of Note

**Cicily Smith '08** spoke at the annual summer meeting of the Mathematical Association of America in early August in Madison, Wisconsin, presenting "Paracycles in Snell Geometries," highlighting mathematics research done during her senior year. The research involves the description of a new type of geometric object in a new category of geometries. Jack Mealy, Austin College professor of mathematics, said the presentation received an enthusiastic response. Smith is now doing graduate work in industrial engineering at Texas A&M University.

**Priscilla Lo '11** has been awarded a scholarship from the Jimmy Rane Foundation of Alabama. According to foundation information, Lo's selection was based on standout academic achievements and career goals as well as letters of endorsement. The scholarship is open to high school seniors or to college freshmen.

Lo, an Asian studies major with a minor in educational psychology, plans to complete the Austin Teacher Program at Austin College. "I've wanted to become a teacher since fourth grade and have explored this career through various volunteering opportunities and courses throughout my high school and college years," Lo said. "I really love working with kids — especially in a small setting. I love influencing their lives and teaching them new things that can help them as they grow into young adults."



Priscilla Lo

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

**Ethan Tanner '12** was awarded Eagle Scout rank August 9, highlighting training that began as a Cub Scout in first grade and transitioned into the Boy Scouts at age 12. Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable for a Boy Scout.

A major requirement of the rank is completion of the Eagle Project, an extensive service project that the scout plans, organizes, leads, and manages. Tanner's project was refurbishing an old kitchen in the Helping Hands Center in his hometown of Rockwall.

In addition to the survival skills the Scouts taught Tanner, "the most important thing I learned was the concept of leadership and 'followership,'" Tanner said. "Basically, there is a time for you step up and be a leader but there also is a time for you to know your place and be a follower."

At Austin College Tanner plans to pursue the five-year Master of Arts in Teaching track and put to use the things he learned in the Scouts such as "responsibility, loyalty, and a strong work ethic." 🐾

# serve THE



Stephanie Mathew in Peru

# THE WORLD

# L

*by Dara McCoy*

Life-changing opportunities available to Austin College students help them not only to discover that the world is bigger than themselves but also to develop their hearts as well as their minds to become true servant leaders. The College's new Global Outreach "GO" Fellowship Program provided just such an opportunity to 10 students during summer 2008. The inaugural class of Global Outreach Fellows spanned the globe, travelling to Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, and Russia to serve in orphanages, provide medical care, teach, assist with physical therapy, and give of themselves to the world around them.

"There is an Urdu saying, 'Umeed pur duniya kaeem hai,' which translates 'The world rotates on the axis of hope.' I hope for a brighter future for all nations whose young generation is in grave need of guidance," said **Asra Ahmed '09**, a psychology major, who founded a public health care intervention for young girls in the slums of Lahore, Pakistan, as a GO Fellow. "I wholeheartedly believe that this small intervention of mine will lead to big changes."

Students like Asra, who want to take action to improve the lives of others in the world, motivated **Todd Williams '82**, Austin College trustee, and his wife, Abby, to fund the program. "There are few things more inspiring than young students who want to change the world and have both the energy and sincere conviction that they can," said Williams.



**Asra Ahmed '09**

**Major:** Psychology      **Hometown:** Bedford, Texas

**2008 Outreach:** Lahore, Pakistan

**Countries Visited During College:** Pakistan

In summer 2006, **Asra Ahmed** took a month-long vacation to visit relatives in Lahore, Pakistan. One night she awoke to the sounds of weeping from an 11-year-old servant girl hiding under Asra's bed. The girl's mother had begged Asra's aunt to take the child as a servant to prevent the girl's father from prostituting her to finance his heroine addiction.

It was this heartrending memory that inspired Asra to start a public health care intervention project for young girls in the slums of Lahore during her GO Fellowship opportunity. Asra spent her time recruiting volunteers, selecting a sample population, and studying specific health problems in order to provide the most effective health care.

Numbers on photos correspond with student identifications on page 17

**Cara Barnes '09**

**Major:** Chemistry      **Hometown:** Bryan, Texas

**2008 Outreach:** Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Countries Visited in College:** Cambodia, Ethiopia, Laos, Vietnam

During a 2008 JanTerm internship in Kamashi, Ethiopia, **Cara Barnes** fell in love. She couldn't help but want to use her GO Fellowship to once again serve orphans who "stole my heart and taught me so many things" in January, she said. This summer, Cara worked at the Adana Children's Center in Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia, through Blessing the Children International (BCI) to assist in a new project that aims to provide a school, orphanage, and foster care for the community.

Though Ethiopian bureaucracy slowed progress to a near standstill during Cara's visit, she did teach English classes to hundreds of poverty-stricken children and helped provide care and love for one 8-year-old girl removed from an abusive family. "This experience solidified my desire to work with children in poverty-stricken areas, which means I do not think I will ever finish this work," Cara said. "I have left a part of myself in Ethiopia, a part that can be found and feel fulfilled only through continuing to try to break the cycle of poverty that pervades my friends' lives."

**WEB\*TRA**  
magazine.austincollege.edu

GO Video  
Reflection Papers of Select GO Fellows



“I Have  
LEFT a  
PART OF  
MYSELF IN  
ETHIOPIA”

**Holly Boerner '09**

**Majors:** Sociology and Psychology

**Hometown:** Boerne, Texas

**Outreach:** Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia

**Countries Visited During College:** Ethiopia (three times) and Italy

Holly Boerner's GO Fellowship, spent serving through Blessing the Children International at an orphanage, was her third trip to Ethiopia as an Austin College student. The trip and its impact on her life cannot be better described by anyone than Holly. See the online magazine's WEBXTRA for Holly's reflection on her month-long stay serving the children of Debre Zeyit.

**Anne Engelhart '10**

**Major:** French and Art

**Hometown:** Southlake, Texas

**Outreach:** New Akraide, Ghana

**Countries Visited During College:** Ghana and India

When Anne Engelhart traveled to India during a 2008 JanTerm course studying medicine and the environment, she became aware of the poverty in that nation as well. She was determined to take direct action about world poverty by spending her 2008 summer GO Fellowship in Ghana, volunteering for a clinic providing medical care to malaria patients and pregnant women. "In the whole scheme of things what I did would just be a drop in the bucket, but I can say with all honesty that being able to contribute — even if only a little — has been one of the greatest honors of my life," Anne said.

The volunteer nurses who worked with Anne at the clinic gave her inspiration for her planned career. "Watching how they are with their patients shows me the kind of doctor that I want to be — inquisitive and gentle, and absolutely unyielding in my dedication to serve," she said.

**Rebeca Kim '10**

**Major:** Environmental Studies      **Hometown:** Sao Paulo, Brazil

**Outreach:** New Akraide, Ghana

**Countries Visited During College:** Ghana

Rebeca Kim worked through Global Volunteers to serve in New Akraide during her GO Fellowship. She came away with a deep appreciation for the opportunity to serve others and the conviction that her work did not end this summer. Rebeca was especially touched by the time she spent teaching and encouraging students at the New Akraide Presbyterian Junior High School. "This was a truly humbling and precious experience," Rebeca said. "Nothing is stopping me from bringing what I learned as a Global Volunteer into the United States and into Grayson County. Until I have peace in my heart that my job is complete, my mission is not yet finished."

**Stephanie Mathew '09**

**Major:** Sociology      **Hometown:** Carrollton, Texas

**Outreach:** Ayacucho, Peru

**Countries Visited During College:** Bolivia, Italy, Peru

Stephanie Mathew spent her GO Fellowship volunteering at a medical clinic, visiting imprisoned women, talking to nursing home residents, and playing with orphanage children in Ayacucho, Peru. She also served in a mental health facility, a rare service in Peru. All these experiences were especially impactful to Stephanie, who plans to pursue a medical degree and become a full-time medical missionary.

"I think what I've learned through this experience, as I think many of my other colleagues have, is that even though we set out to help others and to be of assistance in these communities in different ways, what we received in return was far greater than anything we able to accomplish for these communities," she said. "I know that my life and my world view have been forever changed, and I hope that in some small way the contribution of my time, helping hands, and knowledge made a difference."

**Ashley Overturf '11**

**Major:** Undecided (Biology or Spanish)

**Hometown:** Sherman, Texas

**Outreach:** Uspantan, Guatemala

**Countries Visited During College:** Guatemala and Mexico

Ashley Overturf, a sophomore at Austin College, was the youngest of the GO Fellows, but fewer years certainly doesn't mean less zeal for serving others. Ashley worked with HELPS International as a part of an 84-person medical team that provided medical, dental, and eye care; ran a pharmacy; and built stoves for the residents of Uspantan, Guatemala. The team served about 1,600 patients, and Ashley witnessed life-changing moments: the birth of a baby, the death of another, and the quality of life that improved patient by patient from the administration of simple (by United States standards) medical procedures and medicines.

"Guatemala gave me the chance to see poverty in a way that I have never experienced," Ashley said. "I have never seen the effects of a lifetime of neglected health issues and the ways in which the people just learn to deal with the pain because they know nothing else." It was just such horror that Ashley and her medical mission team alleviated, and the experience has inspired Ashley to pursue a career in medicine in hopes to continue to see pain disappear from her patients' eyes.





**John Mark Purcell '10**

**Major:** International Relations

**Hometown:** St. Petersburg, Russia

**Outreach:** St. Petersburg, Russia

**Countries Visited During College:** France and Russia

John Mark Purcell spent summer 2008 at home, but he wasn't lounging about his house and enjoying family cooking. John Mark utilized his GO Fellowship to work at The Harbor, a program designed to help Russian orphanage graduates lead successful lives and avoid the pitfalls of drugs, alcohol, and prostitution. John Mark also spent his time teaching English at a foster home program and volunteering at a Christian camp for disabled children.

John Mark discovered the different areas stretched and sometimes tested the service and leadership skills Austin College teaches, but found success in working through the challenges he encountered. "The dedication that the Austin College community has to involvement in service, not as an exception, but as the norm, has helped me reprioritize my life and goals," he said.

**Ben Walker '09**

**Majors:** Religion/Philosophy and Cultural Studies

**Hometown:** The Woodlands, Texas

**Outreach:** Cusco, Peru

**Countries Visited During College:** Canada, Mexico, and Peru

On his left wrist, Ben Walker wears a multi-colored bracelet woven from alpaca wool by a young Peruvian girl to remind him of his time tutoring and playing with children at Comedor Materno Infantil (Mother and Child House). The orphanage, run by a non-profit organization called Remar, became a place where Ben learned some tremendous life lessons during his GO Fellowship experience. Ben developed a new-found appreciation for his own life and opportunities from the sincere gratitude he witnessed for seemingly trivial occurrences: the gift of a new pencil that renewed a young teenager's zeal for learning arithmetic, new shoes that produced a "better-than-Christmas" excitement on children's faces, and a taxi ride that created wonderment in the eyes of a few orphans.

It was contagious. "I will never forget running around with the kids on our makeshift soccer pitch with cows, chickens, and free-roaming dogs around and sometimes between us," said Ben, who managed to buy "a real fútbol" and take the children outside the house for a game one day. "My time in Peru and my experiences with my children at the shelter gave me a new perspective from which to view the world," he said. "I saw the pain and hurt caused by poverty and illness, but I also found kindness, acceptance, and love in the same places."

COURTESY PHOTOS



“EVEN THOUGH WE SET OUT TO HELP OTHERS AND TO BE OF ASSISTANCE IN THESE COMMUNITIES IN DIFFERENT WAYS, WHAT WE RECEIVED IN RETURN WAS FAR GREATER THAN ANYTHING WE WERE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH FOR THESE COMMUNITIES”

# I FOUND HOPE

## Monica Martinez '09

**Major:** International Relations and Religion/Philosophy

**Hometown:** Mineola, Texas      **Outreach:** Rafiki, Nigeria

**Countries Visited During College:** China, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mali, Mexico, Nigeria, Senegal, Taiwan, Turkey

Like most of the GO Fellows, **Monica Martinez**, Austin College student body president, was overwhelmed by the disparity in living conditions between most of the people she knows in the United States and the people she served in Nigeria. Like most, she questioned how this could be. After serving a few weeks at the Rafiki Foundation orphanage, Monica built relationships with bright, young children like Barnabus, whose entire village, including his parents, was slaughtered by a nomadic tribe.

Monica didn't find the answers to the harsh realities of life and doubts anyone ever will, but she found something more powerful than answers. She discovered a commodity that nearly all the GO Fellows both gave and received during their service efforts. "I found hope," Monica said.



### About the Global Outreach Program

The Global Outreach Fellowship program was created in 2007 to cultivate the next generation of local, national, and global leaders by promoting innovative experiential servant leadership opportunities around the world. Students selected receive a fellowship (up to \$3,000 depending on the project) that will support their participation in a project or internship fostering engagement with community development issues while providing a meaningful appreciation of both the possibility and the obstacles in leading effective change in these areas. Fellowships are specifically meant to support servant leadership opportunities and are not meant to support “for profit” internships or opportunities.

Established through a grant from the Todd and Abby Williams Family Foundation of Dallas, the program is designed to support 250 students over the next two decades in efforts to gain experience while helping to bring change to the human condition within the world community.

The selection process will begin soon for 10-15 Global Outreach Fellows for 2009. Applications must be completed by March 2 and will then be evaluated by the Global Outreach Steering Committee. 🐾

#### Committee Members:

##### Peter DeLisle

Crane Chair of Leadership Studies and director of the Austin College Posey Leadership Institute

##### Julie Hempel

Associate professor of Spanish

##### Viki Reeder '84

Internship coordinator and assistant director of Career Services

##### John Williams '84

College chaplain and director of Church Relations

##### Todd Williams '82

Partner and managing director of Goldman Sachs & Co.

##### Abby Williams

Chair of Williams Preparatory School of Dallas

##### Holly Boerner '09

2008 Global Outreach Fellow



1. Rebeca Kim in Ghana
2. Cara Barnes in Ethiopia
3. Monica Martinez in Nigeria
4. Ben Walker in Peru
5. Holly Boerner in Ethiopia
6. Stephanie Mathew in Peru
7. Ashley Overturf in Guatemala
8. John Mark Purcell in Russia
9. Anne Engelhart in Ghana
10. Asra Ahmed in Pakistan

“I saw the pain and hurt caused by poverty and illness, but I also found kindness, acceptance, and love in the same places.”

# Marjorie Hass Selected as Fifteenth President of Austin College

**M**arjorie Hass, provost of Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pennsylvania, has been selected to serve as the 15th president of Austin College. She will begin her duties on July 1, 2009.

Her appointment was recommended by a search committee composed of trustees, faculty, staff, and alumni and student leadership, and was approved by the Austin College Board of Trustees on Friday, November 7, during its fall meeting. In accepting the appointment at Saturday's plenary session of the Board, Hass was accompanied by her husband, Lawrence Hass, professor of philosophy and theatre arts and director of the Theory and Art of Magic program at Muhlenberg College, and their two children, Cameron, 19, and Jessica, 14.

"Austin College's values are inspiring, and I am excited about so many things about this institution and its people," said Hass. "We are thrilled to be joining this warm and welcoming community."

She added, "My initial interest was piqued by the College's strong academic reputation, particularly in areas such as language learning and global awareness. As I learned more, I became deeply impressed by the extent to which faculty are taking advantage of the College's location to support environmental and regional studies, and by the way the College is using its internal commitment to service, leadership, and ethical decision-making to mark its excellence with distinction. Austin College has been nationally recognized as a college that changes the lives of its students. I am eager to be a part of moving the College to its next level of success and ensuring that future generations of talented students have the opportunity for an Austin College education."

Hass was appointed Muhlenberg's first provost in 2004, after having served since 2003 as interim dean of the college and vice president for academic affairs. Before that, she was director of Muhlenberg's Center for Ethics, from 2000 to 2003. Hass began her career at Muhlenberg in 1993, teaching in the philosophy department, and earned tenure in 1998 and promotion to full professor in 2006. She specializes in the philosophy of logic, the philosophy of language, and feminist philosophy, and earned her Ph.D. in philosophy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1993 and her B.A. and M.A. degrees at the same institution in 1987 and 1989.

"As testament to its increasing national stature," said **Robert M. Johnson** '53, chair of the Austin College Board of Trustees, "the College attracted a strong field of outstanding candidates for its leadership position. The selection of Dr. Hass is affirmation of our confidence that she is a rising star ideally suited to define and realize what we know will be a continued bright future for Austin College."

This sentiment was echoed by **Dick Agnich**, chair of the search committee and vice chair of the Board of Trustees. "Margie Hass has already accomplished much in her dynamic academic career," he said, "and we are excited to have her come and lead Austin College, where she will achieve even more." Agnich added, "She understands and respects

the things that make Austin College a special place. At the same time, she will not be afraid to make changes and lead in whatever directions are necessary for Austin College to thrive in the coming times, whether these times are difficult or easy ones."

Agnich also applauded the search process, which he described as "very thorough and very open." In particular, Agnich was pleased with the active participation of the entire campus community, including students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the College.

"There's no question that Austin College has hit a home run with this appointment," said Peyton R. Helm, president of Muhlenberg College. "Margie is a brilliant and accomplished scholar, a gifted administrator and problem-solver, and a visionary leader. She has a knack for putting people at ease and for motivating them to act. She understands and respects the work of the faculty and enjoys the company of students. Most important, she is a woman of courage and integrity — who knows what's right and doesn't hesitate to do it. We are going to miss Margie here at Muhlenberg, where she has accomplished so much, but she is going to be a great president for Austin College."

In her role as provost, Hass initiated an innovative program that created new funding and faculty development opportunities for teaching methods that bridge the gap between theory and practice. As a result, faculty-student research collaborations, study abroad experiences, and service-learning opportunities at Muhlenberg increased in number, depth, and quality. In addition, through a combination of good planning and flexibility, Muhlenberg was able to increase the size of its tenure-track faculty over the past five years and create a number of new interdisciplinary programs.

An experienced and energetic spokesperson for the singular importance of liberal arts education for individuals, communities, and for global citizenship, Hass said she is eager "to bring Austin College's unique vision and distinctive strengths to the attention of a broader national audience. At the same time," she added, "any residential college needs a president who is prepared to participate actively in the life of the institution and its surrounding community. This will be a special delight for me at Austin College, and I look forward to being a part of the Sherman and greater Texoma communities."

"We all look forward to welcoming Dr. Hass to Austin College," said **Oscar C. Page**, who has served as president of Austin College since 1994 and announced this past March that he would step down June 30. "I am eager to begin working with her to achieve a smooth transition of leadership, and I know our senior administrative staff will be very supportive in this process as well."

In advance of beginning her official duties on July 1, 2009, Hass expressed excitement about meeting with students, faculty, staff, and alumni as opportunities allow.



Marjorie Hass

Robert M. Johnson introduces  
Marjorie Hass as the 15th president of Austin College



Lawrence, Marjorie, Jessica, and  
Cameron Hass at the announcement



## Thomas R. Williams Intramural Complex Dedicated

Austin College President **Oscar C. Page** called time out for an intramural basketball game and men's and women's lacrosse practices October 2 to begin the dedication ceremony for the College's new Thomas R. Williams Intramural Complex. Located on the west side of Porter Street, the facility is alongside other practice and competition fields for the College's athletics teams.

A gift from the Todd and Abby Williams Family Foundation of Dallas funded construction and landscaping of the 138,000-square-foot area that provides lighted field space to accommodate lacrosse, soccer, flag football, softball, and ultimate Frisbee competition, as well as two lighted outdoor basketball courts. The entry plaza includes a lighted walkway and benches and landscaping around the complex complements the overall campus plan and includes brick columns, a hedgerow, and more than 50 trees planted on the perimeter.

*Thomas R. Williams Complex at dusk*



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIREY

**Todd Williams '82** and other alumni made additional gifts to name various portions of the complex in honor of alumni and faculty. Williams and **Brian Ainsworth '85** spoke on behalf of the donors, remembering their late classmate **Andrew Campbell '83** and coach **Robert Todd Mason '52**, while offering encouragement and support for current Austin College students.

Williams said he and President Page were driving around the area alongside the football and baseball stadiums several months ago and Page mentioned the plans to create an intramural field on the site. Williams, noting that they had just driven from Richards to Williams streets, was reminded of his father Thomas Richard Williams. Personally touched by the symbolism, Williams pledged funds that would move Page's dream beyond his initial plans for ground preparation and leveling to the landscaped and lighted area dedicated this fall. **Tim Millerick**, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics, offered thanks to the alumni and friends for their generosity in providing better facilities for Austin College students involved in intramural and recreational activities.

Several Austin College alumni joined in funding the basketball complex, which honors Mason, longtime Austin College coach and athletic director who died in 1999, and a basketball court named for Andrew Campbell, who passed away after a battle with cancer shortly following his graduation. Members of the Campbell family were present to visit with many alumni as was **Ann Biggerstaff Mason '53** and her son Rick Mason.

Landscape architect for the project was Lynda Tycher of Dallas, with field design by the architectural firm of PageSoutherlandPage, also of Dallas. Contractor on the project was Plyler Construction of Sherman and lighting designer was **Richard Lentz '76** of Dallas.

## Quammen Speaks on Writing *The Reluctant Mr. Darwin*

David Quammen, author of *The Reluctant Mr. Darwin*, will speak at Austin College February 10, 2009, at 7 p.m. in Ida Green Theatre of Ida Green Communication Center. The event is part of the "Darwin 200" lecture series at Austin College celebrating the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of his influential book, *The Origin of the Species*. Quammen's book was selected as Austin College's 2008 summer read.

Quammen earned a bachelor's degree at Yale University in 1970. He has written numerous award-winning books and papers, especially in the field of nature writing. Quammen has held the Wallace Stegner Distinguished Professor of Western American Studies at Montana State University since 2007 and serves as a contributing writer for *The National Geographic*.

Quammen has written for several magazines through his career including *Outside* magazine, *Harper's*, *Smithsonian*, and *Rolling Stone*. He lives with his wife, Betsy Gaines, in Bozeman, Montana, a place he said he relocated to 33 years ago "for the trout fishing."



COURTESY PHOTO BY STEVE HUNTS

David Quammen

## Grant Promotes Emergency Preparedness

Thanks to a generous grant from Communities Foundation of Texas, Austin College has implemented additional safety and security preparedness capabilities to its existing emergency alert system. At just over \$113,000, the grant from the W.W. Caruth, Jr., Foundation, a supporting organization at Communities Foundation of Texas, will assure a multifaceted approach to campus safety by combining high-tech and low-tech systems to improve response times to a security threat.

The tragedy at Virginia Tech, just over one year ago, served as a grim example of the danger of campus violence and placed a high priority on improved public safety in the college campus environment. Austin College has taken seriously its need for quick response for the college and surrounding community in the face of imminent danger.

"The safety of our students, faculty, and staff is foremost in our minds, along with that of the many neighbors and schoolchildren in close proximity to our campus," said **Oscar C. Page**, president of Austin College. "The Caruth grant allows us to strengthen and broaden our ability to be responsible caretakers of those in and nearby our campus community."

Over the last year, the College's Crisis Response Team has engaged in a thorough review of systems and safety policies. Like campuses across the country, Austin College recently implemented a Web-based emergency alert system that allows up to nine contact points for each student, faculty, and staff member, including communication via email, voicemail, and text messaging in addition to cell and landline phones.

Campus administrators have found wisdom in using low-tech approaches as well. Computer-based outdoor loudspeakers and sirens are viewed as the best solution to assure that everyone on campus and the surrounding area knows immediately when danger threatens.

In addition to providing a new on-campus warning siren at the northwest corner of the College Green, the Caruth grant made possible the purchase of a new radio system for the College's Campus Police, safety vests for campus officers, two GEM electric vehicles for campus patrol, and upgraded the campus police's radio system to a digital radio system with its own FCC-approved frequency that integrates more seamlessly with local law enforcement communication systems.

While all residence halls and many other buildings on the Austin College campus have had controlled access systems since 1997, the grant also made it possible to install card access security systems in Caruth Administration Building, Lyndall Finlay Wortham Center, Ida Green Communication Center, and Arthur Hopkins Center.

**Tim Millerick**, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics, said the updates have improved the College's ability for rapid response and communication in the event of a campus security alert or weather emergency. From there, he said, the Crisis Response Team will monitor the need for additional security measures. "It is our intention to leave no stone unturned regarding preparedness," said Millerick. "This is a constantly evolving process that requires our continual attention."



## STUDENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION PROMOTES AWARENESS THROUGH 7TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FASHION SHOW

Austin College student organizations came together in November to present the seventh annual Student International Organization (SIO) Fashion Show and banquet, with some 300 attendees. This year, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship represented America, joining Black Expressions, Indian Cultural Association, Muslim Student Association, Asian Student Association, and Los Amigos members in representing the clothing from various parts of the world and presenting cultural performances. The fundraiser benefits a different charity annually, this year supporting Kids to Kids in Nairobi, Kenya.

The SIO's overall goal is to make students more aware of the many cultures that surround them and to provide a support system for international students at Austin College. The group also hosts an annual student religion panel and the SIO Comedy Show each spring.



*The International Fashion Show brought out brilliantly colored costumes. Pictured in front are, left to right, Reena Patro and Isha Joshi.*

## Austin College Increases Positive Impact on Local Economy



Austin College had an economic impact of more than \$202 million on the area economy during the 2007–2008 academic year, an almost \$21 million increase from the previous year, according to a recently released Economic Impact Statement.

Austin College calculated its economic impact to the Sherman and north Texas region by looking at direct and indirect forms of impact, including salaries, expenditures to local vendors, and visitors to the Sherman campus.

“Austin College has long enjoyed the support of the local community and generous financial contributions from the area,” said President **Oscar C. Page**. “The Economic Impact

Statement clearly shows the College’s investment in the local community. Our investment with local vendors increased by more than \$3 million, and this plus continued increase in the impact created by students and families makes Austin College one of the largest participants in the local economy.”

Revenue generated by students, their parents, and visitors to the campus add to the figures to a total estimated at \$35,673,221. Throughout the summer months alone, Austin College hosts more than 5,200 young people and adults in conferences and camps, resulting in expenditures in the local community of \$939,200.

Data for the Economic Impact Statement were compiled by the Austin College Office of Institutional Research.

# Making History Happen

A simple tribute to a history teacher grew into a program deemed historic itself ... a permanent partnership between Austin College and the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum of the University of Texas Center for American History. It all started with an Austin College alumnus reading a magazine article that mentioned his favorite teacher.

**Thomas Schmid** '65 of Falls Church, Virginia, thumbing through a copy of *Smithsonian Magazine* in 1979, came across a review of a compilation of the late Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn’s speeches and papers, *Speak, Mr. Speaker*, edited by his Austin College professor of history, **Edward Hake Phillips**. Schmid wrote to Phillips to congratulate him on the book and the wonderful review. “I was delighted to have a handwritten response by return mail,” said Schmid.

So began a correspondence that has lasted for almost 30 years. Phillips explained that he had been involved in some work at the Sam Rayburn Library in Bonham, Sam Rayburn’s hometown about 25 miles east of Sherman. Through the years, Phillips has served on the library’s board of directors and in other advisory capacities. Schmid recently learned that Austin College has the opportunity to send an intern each summer to the Sam Rayburn Library. An idea formed, and in early 2008, Schmid wrote to classmates and other history majors of the College, suggesting that an endowment could permanently fund an Edward Hake Phillips Scholar for a summer internship at the Sam Rayburn Library.

The gifts came pouring in. During Homecoming Weekend 2008, only nine months after Schmid’s letter to

classmates, a celebration of the newly endowed internship turned into a pageant of homage to Phillips, one of Austin College’s most beloved faculty members. A standing-room-only crowd filled the lecture hall as alumni, faculty, students, and leaders of the Rayburn Library observed the effects one teacher could have during a half-century of devotion to academic activity.

*The Edward Hake Phillips Internship Endowment reached \$58,051 in gifts and pledges by Homecoming. Additional contributions can be made through the Austin College Office of Development, 900 N. Grand Ave., Sherman, Texas 75090.*

*Left, Tom '65 and Elizabeth Wheatcroft '67 Schmid talk with Ed Phillips at the Homecoming event. Below, Mike Imhoff, vice president for Academic Affairs, greets Pat and Ed Phillips.*



COURTESY PHOTOS



## AUSTIN COLLEGE HOSTS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

“Darwin 200: Bridging Disciplines/Breaking Boundaries”

April 24–25, 2009

Keynote Address: **David Buss**, leading evolutionary psychologist,  
University of Texas at Austin

“Darwin 200: Bridging Disciplines/Breaking Boundaries” will be the topic of the annual Austin College undergraduate research conference scheduled April 24–25, 2009. David Buss, a leading evolutionary psychologist and professor of psychology at the University of Texas at Austin, will present the keynote address.

“The call for papers went out this fall with information on the keynote speaker and we’ve heard from students as far away as Croatia who want to hear Dr. Buss speak,” said **Carol Daeley**, professor of English and coordinator of this year’s conference.

After completing his doctorate in 1981 at the University of California, Berkeley, David Buss spent four years on the faculty at Harvard University, then 11 years at the University of Michigan before accepting his current position. His primary interests include the evolutionary psychology of human mating strategies; conflict between the sexes; prestige, status, and social reputation; the emotion of jealousy; homicide; anti-homicide defenses; and stalking.

He has received numerous awards and honors for his teaching, research, and writing. His publications include *Evolutionary Psychology: The New Science of the Mind*, *The Murderer Next Door: Why the Mind Is Designed to Kill*, *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology*, *The Dangerous Passion: Why Jealousy Is as Necessary as Love and Sex*, and *The Evolution of Desire: Strategies of Human Mating*.

“The conference is largely run and organized by students,” Daeley said. “Our main goals are to provide an opportunity for undergraduates to build professional relationships, prepare for graduate studies, and share some of their best work.”

Several Austin College faculty members will participate in panel discussions and students from Austin College and several colleges across the United States will make presentations regarding their own research. In addition, a panel of Austin Teacher Program alumni and students will speak on teaching Darwin in public schools.

Watch the Austin College News Release Web Site for more details.



David Buss

COURTESY PHOTO

## Students Respond to Hurricane Ike Victims

Students reacted quickly this fall through the campus Service Station to raise funds and collect supplies for the victims of Hurricane Ike, sending clean-up supplies and more than \$355 in collections. The Service Station is planning an Alternative Spring Break trip to Galveston in March to assist residents with clean up and rebuilding after the disaster.



PHOTO BY KATHERINE SENIOR

# hamlet

Austin College students, directed by **Kathleen Campbell**, professor of communication studies, staged William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* during Homecoming weekend. Campbell called the play Shakespeare's most famous play with his most intriguing character. **Matthew Varvir '11** played the role of Hamlet in the ensemble of 15 actors playing more than two dozen roles.

*Pictured in rehearsal are, left to right, John Morris, Matthew Varvir, Harris Tooley, Layne Rylander, and in front, Lindsey St. Clair.*



PHOTO BY MARCUS URBAN

## News Briefs

### Art Department Hosts Exhibit

The Austin College Department of Art and Art History hosted the exhibit "Body Notes" by artist Pinky Bass August 26 through September 26 in the Wilma and Terrence Dennis Gallery of the Betsy Forster Art Studio Complex.

Bass completed a bachelor's degree at Agnes Scott College, then at age 50, attended Georgia State University for a master's in fine arts degree in painting and drawing. In that process, she discovered a talent in photography through installation, mixed media, and performance, which figure prominently in her current work.

Bass has been featured in more than 40 one-person shows and in numerous group exhibitions throughout the United States as well as in Mexico, Italy, Germany, Macedonia, and Canada. Her work is included in numerous collections, including the High Museum in Atlanta, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Polaroid Collection.

### College Events Mark Constitution Day

Austin College students offered several activities to mark Constitution Day, celebrated September 17, the anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution in 1787.

The Austin College student newspaper, *The Observer*, presented a full-page story about Constitution Day and freedom of the press; Campus Activities Board and *The Observer* sponsored a showing of the movie *All the Presidents Men*; and several items relating to the Constitution were displayed in an Abell Library Center exhibit.

### Career Services Staff Host Etiquette Dinner

Knowing the right answers to a potential employer's questions is not always enough to secure the job. Understanding tasks such as the appropriate way to pass items around the table, eat

various food items, or respond to offers of alcoholic beverages can make or break the impression of potential employers when the interview process includes a meal.

Austin College's Career Services professionals offered the annual Etiquette Dinner in September, at which issues such as these are addressed, not only by **Margie Briscoe Norman '83**, director of Career Services, and other Austin College staff and faculty, but also by North Texas business professionals.

### Students Stage *Chapter Two*

**Gregory Hernandez '09** directed Neil Simon's *Chapter Two* in September. In the proposal prepared for his directing project, he said he selected this play for the opportunity to explore the relationships between the characters. "I have come to realize that the nature of this piece, a man experiencing the second chapter of his life, is much like the changes we college students are facing now," Hernandez wrote. "It's a new chapter, a new phase, one in which we have to let go of everything we've held onto and known for so long and embrace the strange, wonderful scariness of the real world."

### Piers Hale Lectures in Darwin Series

Austin College's lecture series, "Darwin 200: Contributions/Controversies," continued September 25 with a presentation by Piers Hale, University of Oklahoma assistant professor of the history of science.

The Darwin series continued October 30 with **Steve Goldsmith**, Austin College professor of biology and dean of Sciences, and the presentation "Darwin's Second Most Important Idea: Selection in Relation to Sex."

## Class of 2012 Numbers Are Official

Austin College, like colleges across the nation, saw a drop in admission numbers this fall. Austin College's first-time college students entering in fall 2008 numbered 321, compared to the 340 who entered in fall 2007.

The Class of 2012, though numbering fewer students than expected, remains academically strong. The middle 50 percent of SAT scores for the freshmen range from 1140–1320, with ACT middle 50 percent scores ranging from 23–29.

For several years Austin College has maintained a fairly even gender mix when many other colleges were seeing the male percentages fall. In 2008, however, Austin College's number of male freshmen is down, with 193 women and 128 men, creating a 60:40 female/male ratio, mirroring the national average for private colleges.

Austin College's ethnic mix continues at a high percentage, with 34 percent of freshmen classifying themselves as other than White/Caucasian, with 16 percent Asian, 14 percent Hispanic, 2 percent each Native American and African American, and 1 percent international.

Of the students who named a religious preference, the top four religions are, in descending order, Catholic, Baptist, Methodist, and Presbyterian.

Fifty-eight students in the Class of 2012, 18 percent of the class, reported prior family connections to the College.

The majority of freshmen live in Texas, representing all regions of the state, with 24 students from other states around the U.S and three international students in the class.

The recruitment staff is hard at work in reaching prospects for the Class of 2013, to enter college in fall 2009. "Alumni and friends of the College can be great recruiters for us," said **Nan Davis**, vice president for Institutional Enrollment. "They meet bright young people every day. We hope they are sharing information about Austin College and passing the names of young people on to our enrollment staff." Send names and contact information of prospects by email to [admission@austincollege.edu](mailto:admission@austincollege.edu) or use the online referral form at .



*Most members of the Austin College Class of 2012 were born in 1990 and join the college community with a wide array of service, travel, and leadership experience. An informal sampling of freshmen pictured here are, left to right, Andrew Delgado, Erin Slade, Igor Soares, Neelam Jones, Katie McCoy, and Kellan Pope.*

### Saturday Morning Program Continues

Austin College's long-running service effort, Saturday Morning Program for Neighborhood Children, continued this fall, with the first session October 4 and the theme of "Spooky Science." Children watched a science presentation by **Brad Smucker**, assistant professor of chemistry, and then had the chance to test their science skills. **Stephanie Mathew '09** is the student coordinator for the project, in which Austin College students spend four hours one Saturday morning each month with children in campus projects designed for learning, recreation, and mentoring.

### Shakespearean Scholar Offers Lecture

World-renowned Shakespearean and English literature scholar Stephen Greenblatt visited Austin College October 20 to present a lecture on Shakespeare and Cervantes, "The Strange Case of Cardenio."

### Family Weekend Brings Visitors to Campus

Austin College welcomed families of current students to campus for Family Weekend in September. The weekend's activities were designed to allow parents and family members to become better acquainted with the campus community while visiting and catching up with their students.

### Center for Environmental Studies Hosts Lunch Forums

Austin College's Center for Environmental Studies hosted a discussion September 30 on the environmental platforms of the 2008 U.S. presidential candidates. The discussion was part of the center's Environmental Issues Lunch Forum series, which continued October 14 with "What is in my water bottle – and does it cause cancer?" **Andy Carr**, associate professor of chemistry, and **Kim Snipes**, biology safety officer and instructor, made the presentation

focusing on the chemical Bisphenol A found in many plastics. A November forum was to be led by **Jeff Czajkowski**, assistant professor of economics, and his students on "Valuing Ecosystems Services: Ecologists vs. Economists."

### Magic in the Metroplex

Austin College, SMU, TCU, and the University of Dallas hosted a ninth joint tour for secondary school counselors October 28–29. The tour included counselors specifically from Oklahoma and members of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. In spring 2009, the 10th joint tour will include counselors from Texas, with the exception of Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex counselors, who were invited to an earlier tour.

### Communication Studies Department Stages *Hamlet*

The Austin College Communication Studies Department staged William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, with performances October 23–25. **Kathleen Campbell**, professor of communication studies, was director and set designer for the play.

"This production gives people an opportunity to see Shakespeare's most famous play – many would argue the best play written in English – with Shakespeare's most intriguing character," Campbell said. She added that the role of Hamlet is also the longest role in a play written in English. Campbell edited the text to create a production, including intermission, which ran approximately three hours. Costuming was a blend of contemporary and Renaissance style.

"The main area of interest in this play is not necessarily the plot," Campbell said, "but the incredibly complex and ambiguous central character. Some scholars think of this play as the point when theatre moved from the medieval world of symbolism and schematic designs into the modern world of complexity and ambiguity."



Amy-Jill Levine

## MARCH 2009

### ALLEN-HEAD LECTURE: "JESUS AND JUDAISM"

**Amy-Jill Levine**

March 12, 2009, 7 p.m.

Hoxie Thompson Auditorium of Sherman Hall

Amy-Jill Levine, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion, will be the guest speaker for the Allen Head Lecture on March 12, 2009, at 7 p.m. Following Levine's lecture, "Jesus and Judaism: Why the Connection Still Matters," she will be available for a book signing.

Levine earned a bachelor's degree from Smith College and master's and doctoral degrees from Duke University, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Ministry from the University of Richmond and the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest. She has held office in the Society of Biblical Literature, the Catholic Biblical Association, and the Association for Jewish Studies. Her most recent publications include *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*, the edited collection *The Historical Jesus in Context*, and the 14-volume series *Feminist Companions to the New Testament and Early Christian Writings*. A self-described "Yankee Jewish feminist who teaches in a predominantly Protestant divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt," Levine says she combines historical-critical rigor, literary-critical sensitivity, and a frequent dash of humor with a commitment to eliminating anti-Jewish, sexist, and homophobic theologies.

The Allen-Head Lectures, established at Austin College by a gift from Mr. and Mrs. E.T. Allen, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Head, Jr., of Whitesboro, Texas, feature nationally prominent speakers in the areas of religion, philosophy, psychology, history, and literature made available to the local community.

#### Students Mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Austin College students and faculty planned several campus events in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October. **Kim Snipes**, biology lab coordinator and safety officer, was a principal organizer for these events. "Someone is diagnosed with breast cancer every two minutes," said Snipes, herself a breast cancer survivor. "Austin College turned pink in October, joining the fight against this disease and in the efforts to find a cure." Funds from the various efforts benefited the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation, the American Cancer Society, and the National Breast Cancer Foundation.

#### "Tuesday Afternoon" Lecture Series Highlights Faculty Lectures

**Greg Kinzer**, assistant professor of English presented "Every one who ever was or is or will be alive: Gertrude Stein, Mathematics, and The Making of Americans" in the fall term's first "Tuesday Afternoon with ..." lecture September 30. **Seth Wright '98**, adjunct professor of philosophy, presented "Implicit and Explicit Narratives: The Cases of State-Sponsored Education and Infant Baptism" during the series October 14.

The lectures, presented by Austin College faculty, are sponsored by the Johnson Center for Liberal Arts Teaching and Scholarship. **Patrick Duffey**, professor of Spanish and dean of Humanities, and **David Griffith**, associate professor of business administration, were scheduled for lectures in November and December.

#### Kuba Art on Display

Austin College offered a glimpse of the Congo and the culture of the Bakuba people through an African art exhibit, "Art of the Kuba," on display in the Abell Library Archives and Special Collections Suite October 24 through November 26.

The exhibit of carvings, masks, weavings, weaponry, jewelry, and clothing of the Kuba people of the Congo was curated by **Justin Banks**, Austin College archivist. All of the artifacts were from the Mark Keller Poole and Sara Day Poole Collection and are on loan from the heirs of **Elizabeth Poole Shepherd '58** and by **Amelia Poole Sudderth '59**.

The exhibit was held in connection with the 2008 Africa Symposium "Arts and Acts of Africa," November 18–20, to feature the keynote address "Stop the Sun: The Art of Masquerade in Southern Kuba Culture" by David Binkley.

Binkley, an art historian who has lived in the Congo among the Kuba and is among the foremost U.S. experts on Kuba art, was scheduled to speak about Kuba history as well as the system of title holding and the relationship of art making to the political hierarchy, including textile production and masquerade performance.

#### NASA Astronaut Visits Campus

NASA astronaut Stephanie D. Wilson, who logged more than 28 days in space in 2006 and 2007 Discovery missions, discussed "The Making of an Astronaut" in an Austin College presentation October 22.

Wilson, a native of Massachusetts, earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from Harvard University in 1988 and a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas in 1992.

Selected by NASA in April 1996, Wilson reported to the Johnson Space Center in August 1996 as a mission specialist. She traveled to space in Discovery STS-121 in 2006 and Discovery STS-120 in 2007. The 2006 project was a return-to-flight test mission and assembly flight to the International Space Station. The mission was accomplished in 306 hours, 37 minutes and 54 seconds. The 2007 flight launched from and returned to land at

# CAMPUS LECTURES

## JNO. E. OWENS CONFERENCE

“Agricultural Sustainability and Food Safety: Issues for Free Global Trade”  
 March 4, 2009  
 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
 Ida Green Theatre of Ida Green Communication Center

### THE EXPERTS:

**Paul Roberts**, journalist and author of *The End of Oil and The End of Food*  
**Robert Costanza**, Gund Professor of Ecological Economics and director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics at the University of Vermont  
**Wes Jackson**, an environmental studies pioneer in education and head of The Land Institute, Salina, Kansas  
**Fred Kirschenmann**, a leader in national and international sustainable agriculture

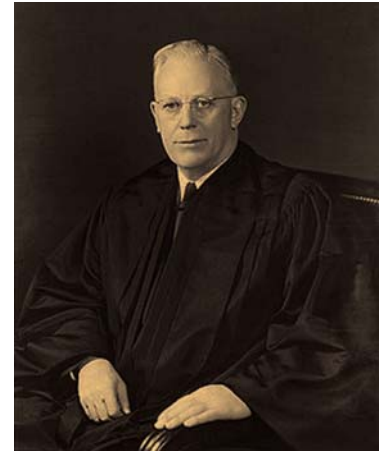
The Jno. E. Owens Foundation was established by Mrs. Owens in memory of her husband, a prominent Texas banker. During his lifetime, Owens was intensely interested in international economics and it was his wish to establish a foundation that would memorialize his lifelong interest in international relations. The broad objective of the Jno. E. Owens Lectureship Series, held at Austin College and SMU on alternate years, is to enlarge public understanding of international economic forces in the philosophical context of free trade.

## LAW SYMPOSIUM

“Earl Warren: A Man and His Court, a 40-Year Retrospective”  
 March 27, 2009

Students, law professionals, and other interested individuals are invited to attend this day of sessions focusing on Earl Warren. Times and speakers are pending. Registration for the symposium is \$50 or \$20 for the luncheon only. CLE credit approval is anticipated.

Watch the Austin College Web site for details. 🐾



the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. The mission was accomplished in 238 orbits, traveling 6.2 million miles in 15 days, 2 hours, and 23 minutes.

### Alumna Highlighted in “Kissed by Nature” Exhibit

The Austin College Department of Art presented artwork of **Susie Fowler** '75 in the exhibit “Kissed by Nature: Texas Textures from Cliff to Shore” October 24 through December 12 in Ida Green Gallery of Ida Green Communication Center.

Fowler, who works primarily in clay, often impressed with plants, shells, and found objects, pursued graduate studies at Boston University and independent studies at Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and Anderson Ranch in Snowmass, Colorado, expanding her definition of pottery and her awareness for clay art. She established her Shade Tree Potter studio in Sherman in 1977, though now has moved her studio to Spicewood, Texas.

“The boundary between art and craft never existed for me,” the artist said. “I enjoyed the craftsmanship required to bring my pieces ‘to life.’ I was an education and biology major who became a painting and drawing major who then embraced clay, transferring my drawing and color interests into the ceramic palette.”

### Faculty Performed Music Recital

Austin College music faculty **Barbara Case**, piano; **Cathy Richardson**, viola; and **Ricky Duhaime**, clarinet, presented a program of chamber music October 26.

The trio had performed the same program, featuring works by Libby Larsen, Max Bruch, and Jean Francaix, earlier in the month at North Central Texas College in Gainesville, Texas; Unitarian Universal Church of Oak Cliff, Texas; and Grayson County College and Trinity Lutheran Church of Sherman.

### Homecoming Royalty Elected

**Maggie Marshall** '10 and **Michael Gill** '09 were crowned Austin College Homecoming queen and king during the Homecoming football game halftime activities October 25.

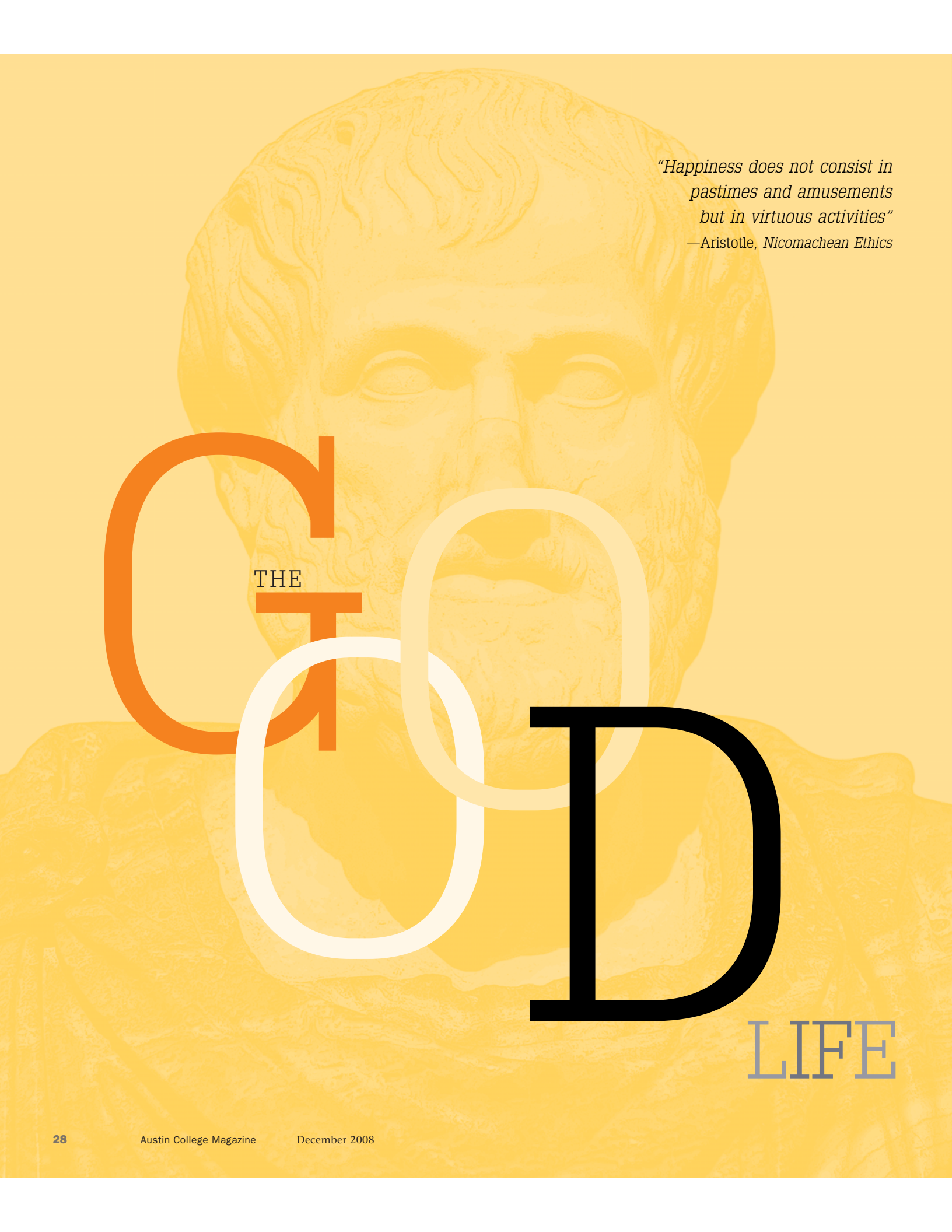
Members of the Homecoming Court, as nominated and voted by the student body, included **Emily Leake** '10, **Tayyar Unal** '10, **Joel Torres** '09, **Sarah Chilmeran** '10, **Parth Shah** '09, **Neal Spradlin** '10, **Rebeca Kim** '10, **Yvette LeBlanc** '10.

### Students Host Great ‘Roo Boo

The Austin College chapter of Alpha Phi Omega national service fraternity hosted the ninth annual “Great ‘Roo Boo” for area children October 31. Each year more than 800 area children and parents participate in the Halloween alternative activity.

Campus organizations host booths and activities that offer games and candy to area children. A number of local businesses make donations of candy, prizes, and other support for the event. Major donors this year were Landmark Bank, Applebee’s Bar and Grill, Target, and Chuck E. Cheese’s.

*"Happiness does not consist in  
pastimes and amusements  
but in virtuous activities"*  
—Aristotle, *Nicomachean Ethics*



THE  
GOOD  
LIFE

# WHAT

by Dara McCoy

What is the meaning of life? Do our lives have purpose? What is true happiness? Does the way we live affect our happiness? How do we achieve the good life? Scholars of philosophy, religion, and even psychology have mulled over these questions through the ages. **Mark Hébert**, Austin College associate professor of philosophy, had to consider those questions from a new perspective a few years ago when he became director of the Austin College Lilly Theological Exploration of Vocation Program, which is focused on discovering vocation or “calling” in life. The philosopher, usually concerned more with the abstract and theoretical, found himself leading students in a program designed to find practical and applicable answers to these philosophical questions.

Like counterparts across the country, Austin College designed its Lilly program to look at vocation beyond the exclusivity of religious calling. “When I became project director, I was puzzling about how to help students discern their vocation,” Hébert said. “Like I’m supposed to lay hands on them and say, ‘You are a mortician?’”

Hébert began looking at “positive psychology” — covered extensively by Martin Seligman in his book *Authentic Happiness*, rooted in Aristotle’s philosophical treatises on ethics and “the good life,” and similar to psychologist Abraham Maslow’s ideas on self-actualization — and what other great thinkers have said about the connection between what kind of lives individuals lead and their level of happiness. Hébert found that positive psychology was making strides in identifying methods to describe and outlining the practical application of the good life. (See “The Happiness Formula” on page 30.)

Positive psychology’s findings indicate that a key component of individuals’ happiness with life depends on what they do with that life. Seligman believes that virtuous voluntary actions have a more positive impact on happiness than pleasurable voluntary acts. He and a colleague studied major religions, philosophical texts, and cultural wisdom seeking common themes about human virtue. From those virtues, they developed the idea of signature strengths and a survey for identifying them.

Drawing on this research, Hébert believes that one of the first steps to finding a vocation is to discover individual strengths and learn how to use those to best advantage in life. Exploration through hands-on experiences in work settings is at the foundation of Austin College’s Lilly program, which awards 50-60 stipends each summer to fund student-designed internships. The awards are made in the spring term and all Lilly interns attend a summer workshop to take Seligman’s strength surveys and discuss

## THE HAPPINESS FORMULA

In *The Happiness Hypothesis*, Jonathan Haidt describes the “happiness formula” utilized in Positive Psychology. Accounting for the fact that research does support that some people are naturally happier than others, happiness (H) equals the “biological set point (S)” a human has, combined with life conditions (C) and the voluntary activities (V) a person does ( $H=S+C+V$ ). The good news is that two of the three components of happiness (C and V) are things a person can either control or enact some change upon.

The main cog in the Positive Psychology movement is that people have the power to do something about their level of happiness. “We have a tendency to view happiness as a passive sort of thing; it happens to you or it doesn’t,” Hébert said. “Yet, happiness isn’t totally out of your purview. There are things you can do and practice, but it takes effort, time, and energy to achieve an enduring kind of happiness.”

Researchers discovered several common characteristics when studying self-described “very happy” people. The characteristic most malleable by personal effort had a lot to do with the voluntary activities people undertake in their lives. A key component of a person’s happiness with life depends on what they do with that life.

### WHAT IS TRUE HAPPINESS?

In *Authentic Happiness*, Seligman writes that virtuous voluntary actions (a specific sort of V in the happiness formula) have a stronger and more positive impact on happiness than pleasurable voluntary actions. Seligman and a colleague studied major religions, philosophical texts, and cultural wisdom searching for common themes about human virtue. From those virtues, they developed the idea of signature strengths and a survey for identifying them (visit [www.authentic happiness.org](http://www.authentic happiness.org) to take Seligman’s signature strength test).

Their efforts resulted in identifying six core virtues — 1) Wisdom and knowledge; 2) courage; 3) love and humanity; 4) justice; 5) temperance; and 6) spirituality and transcendence — all extolled by ancient wisdom from around the globe. “It turns out that there are a bunch of features of these (good) lives that are really consistent with what a lot of great religious traditions have talked about,” Hébert said.

To test his theory, Seligman assigned his students to spend one day doing as many pleasurable activities (getting a foot massage, eating a hot fudge sundae, etc.) as possible and record the effects that day had on their happiness level for that week. Then, students would do spend one day doing acts of kindness and again gauge the effects.

“Many students even said their good feelings continued on into the next day, which nobody said about eating ice cream,” wrote Haidt, who conducted the same experiment with 350 of his own students. “When well-being comes from engaging our strengths and virtues, our lives are imbued with authenticity,” writes Seligman.



the results and situational potentials for those strengths. Students also take part in a fall reflection course following the internship to examine with other students how their expectations of themselves and their interests and strengths materialized in a real-world setting.

“The good life is knowing what your gifts are and organizing your life in such a way that you can draw on them in your work, family, and relationships,” Hébert said. “The meaningful life is all of that, with the added stipulation that you’re doing it in the service of something larger than yourself.”

### HOW THE GOOD LIFE CAN BE YOURS

While positive psychology offers a happiness formula, the good life remains a very personal endeavor. The surveys that Seligman and other organizations have developed to identify signature strengths are simply tools to assist individuals in the pursuit of happiness. What people do with their strengths remains extremely personal.

“Each person is responsible for discovering what a meaningful life looks like for her or him,” said Keatan King ’09, a 2007 Lilly intern who determined her vocation would be in full-time ministry following her experiences with Manos de Cristo (Hands of Christ), a non-profit organization serving the Latino community in Austin, Texas. However, Keatan found during her internship that a social services agency was not the key to her good life — an outcome just as important for students as affirmation of a direction. Through the pre-internship workshop, Keatan discovered that church ministry might be more in line with her interests and strengths. “For me, a meaningful life can be found in the combination of being where you are needed and doing what you love,” she said.



PHOTO BY WICKIE S. KIRBY



*“The good life is knowing what your gifts are and organizing your life in such a way that you can draw on them in your work, family, and relationships”*

— Mark Hébert, Austin College associate professor of philosophy

*Mark Hébert*

Those summer internships may take place in students’ hometowns, across the country, or around the world. **Casie Luong** ’10, a music major, spent a summer 2008 Lilly internship serving 11- to 18-year-old girls at The Little Rose Warm Shelter in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, established in 1992 in response to human trafficking. Luong, who is of Vietnamese descent, found that her strength of connectedness helped her build relationships with the girls whom she taught piano and English, with her coworkers, and with a culture and family she hadn’t seen before this first trip to Vietnam. “It was so crucial for me to get to know those girls and my workplace,” she said. “It was one of the things that gave me the most fulfillment.”

Luong isn’t sure if she’s obtained “the good life” or not. “It is a continual process, and as a result of my internship, I am just beginning to recognize some components of a good life, such as the importance of roots, influence, learning, and discovering more things about myself,” she said.

Such a testimony is exactly what Hébert hoped would be accomplished through the Lilly internship program: to provide more opportunities that expand the breadth of knowledge and wisdom available to Austin College students as they seek to educate their minds, find their strengths, and enrich their lives and the lives of others. 🐾

COURTESY PHOTO



*Casie Luong and girls at the Little Rose Warm Shelter*

**WEBXTRA**  
magazine.austincollege.edu

How To Be Happier  
Authentic Happiness Web site with tests, surveys

# A PRIMER IN LACROSSE



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



PHOTO BY CHELSEA FREELAND

In Texas, where football is king, the game of lacrosse can be a bit of a mystery. The tools of the game are simple: a stick and a ball, though the stick (its official name) has a net on the end. Players, 10 on the field per team, spend four 15-minute quarters running up, down, and across a 110-yard by 60-yard field, passing the ball from one to another, and attempting to get the baseball-sized, solid rubber ball into a 6-foot by 6-foot goal, as the opposing team attempts to steal the ball and prevent those runs at a score.

The game can appear fairly violent and an examination of players at the sideline will show the results of conflict. Players wear gloves, wrist and arm pads, thin shoulder pads, and helmets, but the strikes from opponents' sticks and pelted balls always find the unprotected areas to produce cuts, bruises, and knots.

Still, the battle scars are just part of the game. The men's and women's lacrosse clubs at Austin College have enjoyed a level of popularity with the student body that has produced competitive teams and fond memories among current and alumni players. The men's lacrosse club was established in 1989. The women's lacrosse team was formed 10 years later.

"The greatest advantage to lacrosse at a club level is the priority for academics, and while it is still a time commitment, players can be actively involved in other activities around campus as well," said **Rachel Dodd '11**, who began playing lacrosse her freshman year of high school and decided to continue with Austin College's women's club team.

Playing at a club level doesn't make the competition any less fierce. Only one college in Texas has an intercollegiate lacrosse team so Austin College club teams are competing with club teams from schools throughout Texas, as well as Oklahoma and Louisiana, in the 30-team Lone Star Alliance.

**Derek Smith '94** remembers playing with the men's lacrosse teams in the early '90s. Smith, who played ice hockey prior to moving to Sherman, found lacrosse a good alternative and has several memories of brothers **Tim '92** and **Mark '90 Hall**, who helped get lacrosse started at Austin College. "The best part of playing lacrosse was playing against teams with a lot bigger pool of talent and still being competitive," Smith said. "I remember one of our first victories was at Oklahoma State."

**Travis Redman '04** began playing lacrosse in high school in Maryland and was happy to continue play in college. He said he enjoyed the camaraderie of the team, often made up of students who hadn't played other sports but had a competitive nature. "People who may not be strong enough for football or tall enough for basketball can excel at lacrosse if they put in the practice time," Redman said. "It's a game for all shapes and sizes."

Since graduating and becoming an Annual Giving staff professional at Austin College, Redman has put his enthusiasm for the game into volunteering as the team's coach.

Just as "club sport" doesn't mean less competitive, it also doesn't mean less prepared. The teams hold regular practice sessions — the men practicing two hours per day, four days per week in preparation for their spring season.

In 2008, the men's lacrosse team qualified for the Lone Star Alliance playoffs for the first time in club history. "The playoffs were held at Texas Stadium, and we had quite a few fans turn out, including alumni, current students, and staff," said Redman. "The experience of dressing in the visitor's locker room and walking out onto the field was unforgettable. I was thrilled to be a part of it."

by Jeff Kelly

# Making Every Day His Best

**W**hen he arrived on campus nearly four years ago, **Adam Bishop** stood a half foot shorter and was just another freshman student-athlete adjusting to college sports. During his first two seasons on the Kangaroo men's basketball team, he saw his team struggle to get wins, and in its first year as a member of the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC), the team went 0-16 in conference play.

Things certainly can change in a hurry.

Last season, Bishop helped lead an upstart 'Roo team to the SCAC tournament, the program's first postseason appearance in a decade. When the team needed to defeat Southwestern and then win a coin flip to secure the tournament berth, Bishop scored 11 straight points to help the team win. He was the only player present when the team won the coin toss and it was Bishop who exuberantly informed his team of the good fortune.

This season, Bishop finds himself in a much different situation than when he first arrived. As the senior captain of a team that could very well challenge in the SCAC, he takes on a leadership role that's a bit different than any he's had.

Fortunately for Bishop, he's had some outstanding mentors to help him prepare for his new role. He played high school ball with his father as his coach, learning to play the game and handle himself the right way in all situations. He also spent the summer interning for Sherman-area lawyer Jason Richardson. Coincidentally, it was through his father that the opportunity to work for Richardson arose.

"A while back my father coached with a great lady named Fran Richardson," said Bishop. "She is a terrific woman and luckily my father maintained a good relationship with her over the years. She told him about her nephew Jason and how he had a job available and hired Austin College students. She introduced us and the rest is history."

Bishop received valuable lessons working with Richardson that he plans to put to use as he leads his team this season.

"It is a different leadership role, being the captain at the college level," said Bishop. "The internship helped me balance my time and kept me eager to learn. It is hard to balance schoolwork, basketball, and a job. Being a captain and about to graduate, I tried to get as much job experience as I could. Luckily for me, I was surrounded by a friendly atmosphere and a brilliant boss."

Over the course of his internship, Bishop grew to admire Richardson not just as a boss and mentor but also as a friend. As it turned out, Bishop and Richardson shared a common background. "When Jason interviewed me, he talked to me about sports and how his father was his coach in high school, like me," said Bishop. "We shared very similar stories about

funny times we messed up and how our fathers reacted. Most of them were about running and ways to avoid getting yelled at."

And then, as Bishop prepared for his final year at Austin College, he was struck by tragic news. Richardson had suddenly and unexpectedly died. In one moment, he'd lost a friend, a mentor, and someone he deeply admired professionally and personally.

"Seeing that Jason was a coach's kid and me being a coach's kid, I was able to see how successful he became through hard work and determination," said Bishop. "He has a beautiful family, with five-year-olds twins, a noisy dog that has never liked me, and a beautiful home.

PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY



Adam Bishop

After he passed away, I talked to Jason's mother. We talked about stories about Jason and how he changed my life forever."

Bishop has been lucky. Most people struggle to find one person that they can truly admire and look up to. Bishop has been blessed with two such men, and both have taught him to be a better basketball player, a better worker, and most importantly, a better person. "Character is the thing I look for in a person and that I strive to improve in myself," said Bishop. "My father and Jason both have this incredible craft. They work hard in everything they do, while maintaining a pleasant demeanor and always trying to make the appropriate decision."

After he graduates, Bishop plans to attend Texas Tech Law School. Every step of the way, he'll reflect on the profound impact that Richardson had on his life. In losing his friend and mentor at far too young an age, he'll also remember to appreciate the simplest things in life.

"You can never take anything for granted," Bishop said. "Make every day your best day."

# HOOPS PREVIEW

## Men's Squad Looks Strong for Season

by Jeff Kelly

**A**fter earning a trip to the postseason for the first time in a decade last year, the Austin College men's basketball team looks to build on last season's success with a large group of experienced upperclassmen leading the way. The 'Roos return 10 players from last season's squad, including four starters.

Leading the way for head coach **Rodney Wecker** is the talented inside-outside duo of **Kola Alade '10** and **Chris Sturtevant '10**, who last season proved to be one of the best one-two punches in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC). Alade earned Third Team All-SCAC honors after finishing third in the league in scoring with an 18.2 points-per-game average, and Sturtevant chipped in 14.2 points and a team-best 6.5 rebounds per game.

Alade was one of the biggest surprises in the conference last season, emerging on the scene with 12 games in which he scored 20 points or better, despite handling the point guard duties late in the season. With his superior quickness and ability to hit from outside, evidenced by his 33.9 percent mark from beyond the 3-point arc, Alade proved to be one of the most unstoppable scorers in the SCAC.

At his side was Sturtevant, a 6'7" forward who showed the ability to catch fire from deep to complement his inside scoring prowess. He finished the year shooting nearly 31 percent from downtown and went over 20 points four times.

One of the most improved players in the conference was 6'8" post player **Spencer Burke '10**, who returns for his junior season after finishing last season ranked 12th nationally in blocked shots, averaging better than 2.4 per game. Burke also was among the conference leaders in field goal percentage, hitting 63.1 percent.

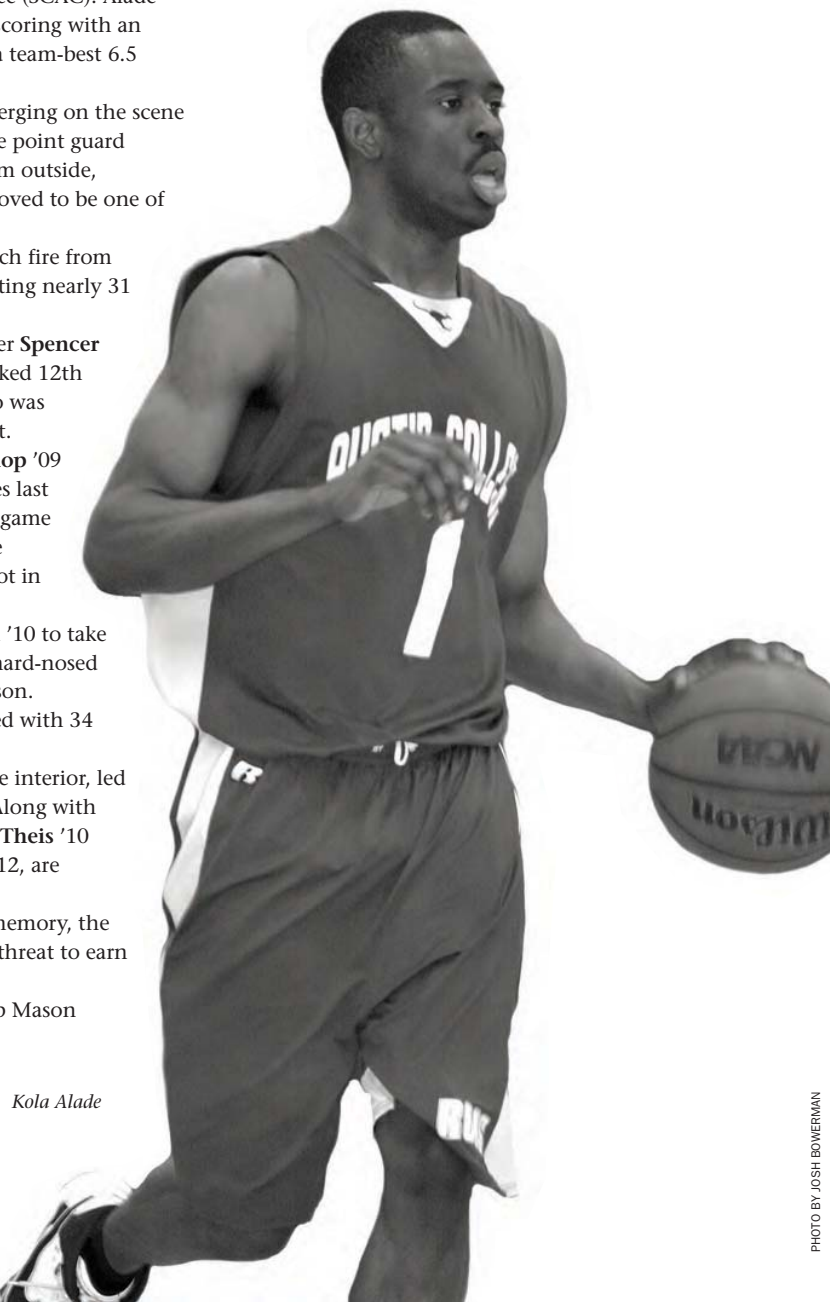
The 'Roos look to a pair of senior guards for leadership, with **Adam Bishop '09** and **Mark Foster '09** returning for their final season. Foster started 17 games last season while chipping in 5.1 points per game. Bishop added 5.3 points per game and came up huge in the regular season finale against Southwestern, at one point scoring 11 straight points to help the 'Roos clinch the game and a spot in the SCAC Tournament.

Wecker also looks to guards **Kyle Lintelman '10** and **Arron Mewbourn '10** to take some of the ball handling duties away from Alade this year. Lintelman, a hard-nosed player and tough defender, shot 31.4 percent from beyond the arc last season. Mewbourn posted the best assist-to-turnover ratio on the team and finished with 34 assists, the second highest behind Alade.

Unlike last year's team, the 2008–2009 squad boasts strong depth on the interior, led by 6-foot-7 **Taylor Beatty '10**, a strong and skilled scoring post presence. Along with Beatty, Wecker will turn to several newcomers to help out down low. **Sam Theis '10** and **Josh Saunders, Scott Straley, Nick Stallings, and Justin Martin, all '12**, are 6-foot-5 or taller and add much-needed size to the team.

With as much depth and talent as any Austin College squad in recent memory, the 'Roos look to make great strides in the 2008–2009 season and should be a threat to earn their second straight trip to the SCAC Tournament.

Play began on the road November 17 and opened at home with the Bob Mason Classic November 21–22.



*Kola Alade*

## Women's Team Looks for Success

After narrowly missing a trip to the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) tournament a year ago, Austin College women's basketball coach **Deb Hunter** returns an experienced team that should have the components to make some waves and get over the hump in the 2008–2009 season.

The 'Roos return most of their key players from a year ago, including starters **Katy Williams**, '10, **Amber Stafford** '10, **Maegan Fitzgerald** '12, and **Kayla Redden** '10. The four were the top scorers last season, and Fitzgerald, Stafford, and Redden each connected on better than 35 percent of their 3-point attempts.

Leading the way this season is Williams, a Second Team All-SCAC and First Team All-South Region selection who last season became the second quickest person in conference history to reach 500 rebounds. Williams had a monster season for the 'Roos, averaging 18.7 points and 11.8 rebounds per game. The second-year post player was even better against SCAC competition, where she posted averages of 19.5 points and 13.3 boards. Williams posted 14 double-doubles on the year and led the 'Roos in rebounding for all but three games, including each of the last 12 contests.

Fitzgerald will be looked to for senior leadership in her guard position and be expected to provide some scoring punch to complement Williams on the interior. In her first two years in the program, Fitzgerald proved to have deadly accuracy from well beyond the 3-point arc and last year pumped in 11.8 points per game while knocking down 61 triples.

Stafford was strong in her first season as the team's starting point guard, getting the nod in all 25 games on her way to averaging 9.6 points and 2.6 assists-per-game. She finished the season as the team's most accurate 3-point shooter, hitting 38.4 percent from deep and got even better against SCAC competition, against which she nailed 43.5 percent of her triples.

Redden split time with fellow upperclassman **Liz Preas** '09 as the third guard last season, but this year both will be looked upon to contribute on the wing. Redden was third on the team, hitting 35.4 percent of her 3-point attempts, while Preas finished among the team leaders with 22 steals. Also expected to step up in her second season in the program is **Krista Gresham**, who showed flashes a year ago and knocked down better than 32 percent of her attempts from long distance.

Helping Williams out in the post will be **Spenser Cruikshank** '11 and **Ashley Flint** '11 as well as first-year player **Erica McDaniel** '12. Cruikshank grabbed 4.6 boards per game and had a team-best 35 blocked shots last season, while Flint gives Hunter another athletic banger down low to help out on the boards and on defense. McDaniel, 6-foot-1, is expected to contribute early and should help take some of the pressure off Williams.

With an influx of young talent joining the strong returning cast, the 'Roos look to get back to the postseason this year, while Williams should once again challenge for Player of the Year honors in the SCAC. With good depth at both the guard and post positions, the team looks to be in good position to challenge in the conference.

Play began in mid-November on the road and opened at home with the Thanksgiving Classic November 28–29.

## Coach Deb Hunter Honored by University of Minnesota Athletics Program

Austin College women's basketball coach **Deb Hunter's** name still appears throughout the University of Minnesota's basketball record book, and this season the Golden Gophers will bestow the ultimate honor on Hunter when she becomes just the fifth player in program history to have her jersey honored with a banner hanging in the rafters of Williams Arena.

"Words cannot explain what this means to me," said Hunter. "When (Minnesota coach) Pam Barton called with the news, I cried. That banner may go up with my name on it, but it represents the four teams I played on."

The ceremony will take place January 18 and will recognize Hunter's on-court brilliance from 1979–1983, when she became the most prolific point guard in Gopher history. Hunter still holds the Minnesota career records for assists (632) and steals (413) and is eighth on the program's all-time scoring list with 1,363 points.

In addition to those feats, Hunter also is at or near the top of several single-season records, including the two best single-season assists-per-game averages and the top two steals totals in Gopher history. Hunter finished her career with the third-best field goal percentage in Minnesota history (.519), and in the 1980–1981 season, shot a remarkable 60 percent from the floor, good for third best in program history.

Hunter remains one of the most decorated players in program history as a member of the first-ever All-Big Ten Team, an Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (IAIW) All-Region 6 Team selection, a Kodak All-America Region IV Team selection, and an All-America Honorable Mention honoree. Twice named the Gophers Most Valuable Player, Hunter was a 2003 inductee into the Minnesota Athletic Hall of Fame and in 2005 was inducted into the Minnesota Women's Basketball Hall of Fame.

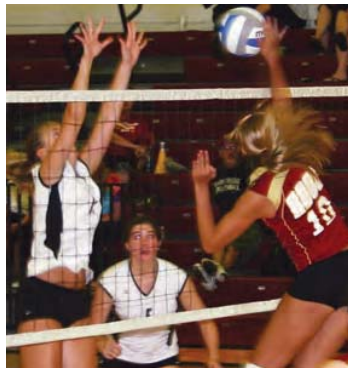
In conjunction with Hunter's #13 jersey being raised in January, her 1981–1982 team will be honored. Hunter led the team to the program's first-ever national tournament berth when the team advanced to the quarterfinals of the 1982 IAIW National Tournament.

"Austin College is quite fortunate to have someone of Deb's caliber on its staff," said **Tim Millerick**, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics. "As evidenced by her honors at the University of Minnesota, she played at a very high level in NCAA Division I athletics, but has dedicated her coaching career to NCAA Division III student-athletes."

Hunter is in her 10th season as the head coach of the 'Roos and had won 111 games at Austin College before the start of the 2008 season. Overall, she has accumulated 259 wins in a 19-year coaching career that included two seasons at Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and 10 years at Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota.



COURTESY PHOTO



# FALL SPORTS UPDATES

Austin College athletes and coaches had a busy and successful season of play in the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC).

## FOOTBALL

Head coach **Ronnie Gage** and the Kangaroo football team put together a solid 2008 campaign, at one point winning four straight games and securing at least a .500 season when players topped Rhodes College for their fifth win of the year. The four-game win streak is the longest since the 2000 season, when the team won five straight. At press time, the 'Roos had a 5-4 overall record and 3-3 record in the SCAC.

For the third straight year, the 'Roos look to be in position to lead the SCAC in rushing, averaging better than 200 yards per game. The attack has been led by **Ross Hasten '09**, who has piled up more rushing yards than any other player in the conference. Helping Hasten were **Zach Mamot '09**, whose seven touchdowns rank him among the conference leaders, and quarterback **Andy Braly '10**, who directed the team's option offense all year.

The team received several honors, including two national honors. **Matt Finke '10** and **Josh Willis '11** were named to the D3Football.com National Team of the Week as well as SCAC Defensive Players of the Week. Finke was named the SCAC Special Teams Player of the Week and Hasten was named the SCAC Offensive Player of the Week.

## VOLLEYBALL

Coach **Ed Garza's** Kangaroo volleyball team had ups and downs over the course of the 2008 season but still managed to win more than 20 matches for the 11th consecutive season, finishing the regular season with a record of 25-12 overall and 9-5 in the SCAC. The 'Roos also made history by winning the 500th match in program history.

The 'Roos finished both the regular season and the conference tournament in fifth place in the SCAC, falling to eventual runner-up DePauw before topping Hendrix and host school Rhodes at the season-ending event.

There were several standouts for the 'Roos all season, with **Damaris Orasanu '09** and **Delia Mercer '10** each earning SCAC Player of the Week honors early in the year. Mercer finished with a .321 hitting percentage

and averaged 2.21 kills per game and Orasanu added 3.19 kills per game with a .267 hitting percentage. **Jordan Anderton '11** also had an outstanding season, finishing the regular season ranked among the national leaders with an average of 11.34 assists per game.

**Jessica Rose '09** made some history of her own when she became just the fourth player ever for the 'Roos to top 1,000 career kills and now finds herself third on the all-time list. Rose also broke the all-time school record for digs. **Gloria Carey '09** also found her way into the record books, becoming just the third person in program history to surpass 500 digs in a season.

Three members of the team were honored by the SCAC as All-Conference performers, with Anderton named Second Team All-Conference and Orasanu and Carey each earning Third-Team status.

The 'Roos lose Rose, Carey, and Orasanu to graduation, but have enough pieces in place to go for another 20-win season and return trip to the NCAA Tournament in 2009.

## MEN'S SOCCER

The Kangaroo men's soccer team took some big steps in its second season under coach **Mark Hudson**, easily topping last season's win total and finishing the year with a record of 7-10-1 overall and 3-7 in SCAC play. The season included one of the biggest wins in recent program history when the 'Roos knocked off DePauw University.

The big story for the 'Roos was the huge youth movement, with freshmen and sophomores as six of the top eight scorers. Midfielder **Luis Castillo '12** led the team with seven goals, four assists, and 18 total points. **Chris Stein '12** and **Sam Temple '12** also were among the leading scorers, with Temple scoring three goals and Stein scoring twice and adding four assists.

Among the returning players, **Garrett Evans '11** tallied three goals and two assists, and captain **Alex Dawson '10** added two goals and four assists. Dawson's fellow captains **Miles Vaughn '09** and **Tommy Haney '09** came up big for the 'Roos all year. Haney was a stalwart defensively, while Vaughn was strong in the midfield with two goals and three assists.

The goalkeeping duo of **Matt Dickinson '09** and **Grant Gosselin '12** gave solid performances, each in goal for three wins. Gosselin registered four shutouts wins in his first season and Dickinson made a team-best 63 saves with a .778 save percentage.

The 'Roos will lose six seniors to graduation in May, but with the combination of the young talent and strong upperclassmen led by Dawson, the 'Roos will look to make even greater strides next fall.

#### WOMEN'S SOCCER

With a late-season win over Hendrix, the Kangaroo women's soccer team secured its 12th-straight winning season under coach **Paul Burns**. The team had a streak of five games without a loss late in the year to help wrap up the winning record of 11-7-1 overall and 5-4 in SCAC play.

Behind the strong play of goalkeeper **Kaitlin Elledge '11**, the 'Roos established themselves as one of the top defensive teams in the SCAC, allowing only 12 goals during the course of the year. Elledge posted six shutouts during the season while making 61 saves and a .836 percentage, and was honored as a SCAC Defensive Player of the Week.

**Helen Heres '09** was outstanding all year from her midfield position, scoring three goals with six assists and leading the team with 12 points. Heres also earned SCAC honors, being named the Offensive Player of the Week. **Annie Gunter '10** took a big step forward in her third year with the team and established herself as one of the team's most talented front-line players with five goals and an assist.

Several young players stepped in to make immediate contributions, with **Shelley Casey '12** scoring five times while **Ali Ryan '12**, **Gabby Mavelian '12**, and **Rhea Bermel '12** found their way into the starting lineup during the season. Three of Casey's goals were game winners, topping the team in that category.

The 'Roos will be forced to replace a talented senior class next year, but between the outstanding defensive returners and talented offensive playmakers the pieces look to be in place to shoot for yet another winning season in 2009.

## New Coach Looks to Build Swim Team Success

The Austin College swimming and diving program kicked off a new era this fall when **Brian Wright** took the reins as the head coach of the 'Roos, and so far Wright is happy with the progress of his teams.

"I am enthusiastic about this season and our chances to be competitive on the individual level," said Wright, who will look to several returning swimmers to lead the way. "We return some outstanding swimmers, in particular **Lisa Holloway '11**, who has the opportunity to further her record-setting performances and become one of the top sprinters in the conference."

Last year, Holloway set a new Austin College record in the 50-yard freestyle at the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Meet. Her time put her among the top finishers in the conference for that event.

"We also have a young but strong group of swimmers on the men's squad who will be exciting to watch throughout the season," said Wright. Among those is **George Clark '12**, who had two first-place finishes in the team's first home meet against McMurry in October.

In addition to getting off to a strong start with his young squad, Wright has been able to settle in as a first-time head coach at Austin College. "My wife and I have received a warm welcome from the Austin College community since our arrival," said Wright, whose wife **Heather** is a residence life area coordinator at Austin College. "Working with such a young group of

collegiate student-athletes I have had a great opportunity to further understand their academic and athletic goals. Each day provides a new opportunity to guide our student-athletes towards further successes in the swimming pool and in the classroom."

A 2003 graduate of the State University of New York at Brockport, Wright came to Austin College after serving as an assistant coach at Bloomington (Indiana) High School South and as the head coach of the Councilman Center Indiana Swim Team, a USA Swimming-sanctioned team. He also served as a graduate assistant at the University of Pittsburgh during the 2003-2004 academic year and is certified by USA Swimming and the American Red Cross.

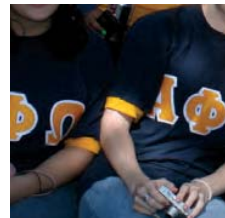
Wright earned a master's degree in kinesiology and exercise physiology from Indiana University and now is working toward a Ph.D. in human performance. He excelled as an athlete at SUNY-Brockport, where he was named the Outstanding Athlete for swimming and diving in 2000-2001 and the school's Outstanding Scholar-Athlete in 2001-2002.

"I am pleased that Brian has personal experience as an NCAA Division III swimmer," said **Tim Millerick**, vice president for Student Affairs and Athletics. "His coaching experiences and research work at Indiana University prepared him to lead our program. I look forward to the evolution of the swimming and diving program under Brian's leadership." 🐾



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

Brian Wright



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More Homecoming Photos.



# homecoming 2008



*"Do not be content with the commonplace in character any more than with the commonplace in ambition or intellectual attainment. Do not expect that you will make any lasting or very strong impression on the world through intellectual power without an equal amount of Conscience and Heart."*

-William Jewett Tucker, ninth president of Dartmouth College

Dear Fellow Alumni:

Austin College is clearly an institution whose values and heritage are consistent with the development of Conscience and Heart, to which your Alumni Board wholeheartedly ascribes. With arrival of a new president in July, Austin College will embark on a new vision in keeping with the rich heritage of its alumni.

As your representatives, the Alumni Board will not be shy, nor should you, in speaking out about Austin College's remarkable history, its strengths, its community spirit, and the deep and lasting values we learned here. Speaking of lasting values, could our serious economic crisis have been caused by an abandonment of principles? Austin College will help provide educated, value-based leaders in numerous fields for the 21st century and will confirm that "public good" also can come from the private education sector.

Your Alumni Board has been focused on the following:

**Awards:** The Alumni Board is accepting nominations for the Distinguished Alumni and First Decade Award to be presented on Friday, October 16, during Homecoming & Reunion

Weekend 2009. Also, if you know of a high school senior who has potential for success at Austin College, why not nominate him or her for the John D. Moseley Alumni Scholarship? Applications must be complete by January 15. Find a recommendation form online: [austincollege.edu/Attachments/Alumni.pdf](http://austincollege.edu/Attachments/Alumni.pdf).

**Annual Fund:** You've heard the mantra "location, location, location" when it comes to real estate. Well, when it comes to supporting your alma mater, the mantra is "participation, participation, participation." Last year, only three of 10 Austin College alumni made a gift of any size to the College. Folks, it's not the size of the gift that counts, it's the participation. Give according to your ability, no matter what that may be. Collectively, we can make a difference in the lives of our students and the future of Austin College.

**Alumni College:** Alumni College events were held in Denver, San Antonio, and Dallas. Twenty people attended the Denver event to hear **Dr. Ivette Vargas-O'Bryan**, associate professor of religious studies, present "Buddhist Psychology and Healing Thyself." She discussed how western medicine is incorporating Buddhist traditions in the field of psychology. In San Antonio, 30 people gathered in the home of **Steven '78** and **Mary Bull** to hear **Dr. David Baker**, associate professor of physics, discuss "The Most Extreme Places in Our Solar System." Dr. Baker looked at hurricanes, volcanoes, and dust devils here on Earth and other planets in our solar system. In Dallas, 50 alumni and friends gathered at the Williams Preparatory School to hear **Dr. John White**, professor of education, lead a panel discussion on "Education That Changes Lives."

Alumni College sessions will be held in Houston and Washington, D.C. in the spring. The topics will be "The Economics of Natural Disasters" with **Dr. Kevin Simmons**, associate professor of economics, and "Teaching and Learning in Paradise" with **Dr. Steve Goldsmith**, professor of biology.

**Homecoming:** Make plans now to attend Homecoming 2009, Friday, October 16, through Sunday, October 18. Classes ending in 4 and 9 will celebrate milestone reunions. If you would like to volunteer for your reunion committee, contact **Travis Redman '04**, associate director of annual giving, at [tredman@austincollege.edu](mailto:tredman@austincollege.edu) or **Victoria Nelson Martinsen**, director of alumni and parent relations, at [alumni@austincollege.edu](mailto:alumni@austincollege.edu).

Adios Alumni Amigos,

Mike Nurre  
[Mike@mikenurre.com](mailto:Mike@mikenurre.com)

## Alumni Board

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Beverly Benthul Barry '67, *Alumni College*  
Bob Albritton '66, *Annual Fund*  
Mickey Bonesio '66, *Awards*  
Stephanie McDonald '97, *Homecoming*

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Amity Overall Laib '01  
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Jon Gaulding '75  
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Han Pham Hulen '98  
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Debra Rayfield Hurley '93  
Jennifer King '92  
Kris Berry McKinney '78  
Karel Anne Berry Tieszen '83

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Beverly Benthul Barry '67  
Michael Dodd '72  
Becky Easter Farnsworth '82  
Jan Wilson Flatt '75  
Kirsten Brandt James '85  
Don Johnson '71  
Eric Nordstrom '99  
Gordon Northcutt '87  
Jennifer O'Brien '96  
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### Ex Officio Members

Sam Beakey '93  
Giselle Finne Gafford '00  
Kelli Gerber Lowe '02  
Osler McCarthy '73



Mike Nurre  
at Homecoming

## Alumni Authors

Karel Anne Berry Tieszen '83 and Don Johnson '73 were available during Homecoming to sign recently released books: Tieszen's cookbook *In Your Own Kitchen: Reality Cooking at Home* and Johnson's debut novel *Long Way Home*.



PHOTO BY VICKIE S. KIRBY

# speaking their language

## ALUMNA RECEIVES FULBRIGHT GRANT

Christine Denison '06 understands how effective the teaching and learning process can be when using the right words,



COURTESY PHOTO

Christine Denison, at right

especially in the right language. In March 2009, Denison will use her fluency in Spanish as she begins service as a teaching assistant in Uruguay through a Fulbright U.S. Student Program for English Teaching Assistantships, awarded in September 2008.

"My experience as a second-language learner, tutor, and teacher has taught me that the quality of instruction is critical to language acquisition," said Denison, who will work with teachers at training centers and students in public schools in Montevideo and in a rural area. "By serving as a teaching assistant in Uruguay, I hope to collaborate with teachers to develop instructional strategies

that will engage students and facilitate the learning process." She also hopes to conduct a research project during her stay.

The program also intends for teaching assistants, like Denison, to share American culture with students, give presentations on

topics related to the United States, create activities that encourage students to communicate in English, and lead seminars, workshops, or training.

A political science and Spanish major at Austin College, Denison strengthened her Spanish language skills while studying abroad during the 2004–2005 academic year in Granada, Spain. After graduation, she gained experience in teaching as a bilingual fifth-grade teacher in the Rio Grande Valley through a two-year Teach for America assignment.

Denison spent summer 2007 in Central America taking Spanish classes and volunteering at the Camino Seguro, a non-profit organization devoted to bring children who live and work in the Guatemala City garbage dump out of poverty through education.

Denison currently is the assistant director of children and youth programs at the Stewpot, a resource center for the homeless and poor in downtown Dallas, serving mostly Spanish-speaking children and their families. Her Fulbright grant runs from March to November 2009, and she then hopes to continue her part in removing language as a barrier to educational opportunities.

"Upon my return to the United States, I would like to remain involved in education as it relates to English-language learners," Denison said. "In particular, I hope to work with a non-profit organization serving immigrant families in the United States or with an international program working to ensure that all children have access to a quality education."

49

**John Coffin** was recognized this summer for attending his 50th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Coffin is former director of stewardship and communication development for the General Assembly Council. The accomplishment was recognized in the August 2008 issue of *Presbyterians Today Magazine*.

64

**Ed Davis** has been elected president of the board of directors of Texas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), Inc. The non-profit organization supports local programs in their recruitment and training of volunteers to serve as the eyes and ears of courts in cases involving child abuse or neglect. Davis retired in 2004 after eight years as chief legal officer for the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. ■ **Malcomb Feeley** has honored **Kenneth Street**, Austin College *emeritus* professor of political science through publication of Feeley's latest book *Federalism: Political Identity and Tragic Compromise*. Co-authored with Ed Rubin, dean of Vanderbilt School of Law, the book includes a dedication in which Feeley identifies Street as one of three significant mentors in his life. Feeley has been teaching in political science and law schools for nearly 40 years, 25 years of that at the University of California at Berkeley, where he is the Claire Sanders Clements Professor in Boalt Hall School of Law. He is on leave this academic year to serve as a fellow in the Law and Public Affairs Program at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University. "Ken was one of the greatest influences in my life," Feeley said of the dedication. "He gave me encouragement after a first-year record at Austin College of mostly C's, and was responsible for sending me off to graduate school. His ideas on national politics also shaped my thinking, and some of my most recent writing flows from conversations, ideas, and books I was exposed to by Ken. He has a large and loyal following among Austin College alumni who are now in positions in colleges and universities, law firms, judicial offices, government service, and public opinion firms. ■ **Don Newsom** has been elected president of the board of governors of the Imagine International Academy of North Texas, a new charter school located in McKinney, Texas. He also has been invited to serve on the board of directors of the North Texas History Center in McKinney.

67

**Eric Liston** retired a year and a half ago as the chief financial officer of an HIV/AIDS charity and now enjoys traveling. He took a four-week tour this fall of Italy, including visits to Rome, Sorrento, Naples, the Isle of Capri, Pompeii, Florence, Pisa, Venice, and Lake Maggiori. Last year he spent three weeks in London.

69

**Jo Ann "Joey" Willis Olson** was appointed pastor at Port Angeles United Methodist Church in Port Angeles, Washington, in July. She and her husband, Ole, live at 1602 W. 6th Street, Port Angeles, Washington 98363.

71

**Don Johnson** has written his first novel, *Half Way Home*, that follows the lives of the residents, caretakers, and psychology graduate students who adopt El Puente half way house in San Antonio, Texas, for their training practicum in the early 1970s. The book was released in October 2008 by Zone Press. Johnson has operated a private psychotherapy practice, Austin Psychotherapy Associates, since 1980. He frequently consults with various agencies, schools, and residential treatment centers in Austin, Texas, specializing in treating gifted and talented individuals. He is a member of the psychology faculty at St. Edward's University. Johnson and his partner, Karolyn, have three children and spend their time between Austin and a creek-side home in Wimberley, Texas.

Numbers in color after alumni names correspond with photos on page 45.

72

**Carmen Tafolla** attended this summer's International Short Story Conference in Ireland, where she presented the debut reading of her latest book, *The Holy Tortilla and a Pot of Beans*, a feast of short fiction. She also had two children's books published this year. She and her husband, Ernesto M. Bernal, live in San Antonio with their two youngest children.

74

**Mark Miller** was named one of San Antonio's best lawyers in the August 2008 issue of *Scene in SA Monthly*. He is chair of the intellectual property section of the Jackson Walker law firm in San Antonio. Attorneys included in the rankings were nominated by their peers in a citywide survey of lawyers who have practiced in San Antonio for at least five years. Miller spoke to students this fall at St. Mary's University School of Law to provide an overview of intellectual property law. Miller earned his law degree from St. Mary's University and was associate editor of the *St. Mary's Law Journal*.

77

**Cynthia Hestand** was assistant director for *Broadway Backwards* in February 2008. The production was at the American Airlines Theatre on Broadway and starred Neil Patrick Harris, Sandy Duncan, Lainie Kazan, Andrea McArdle, and many others.

78

**Katy Massingill Manck** is as adjunct professor for the School of Library and Information Sciences at the University of North Texas, preparing school librarians for certification. She is librarian at Gilmer High School in Gilmer, Texas, and on the faculty with Spanish teacher **Ashley Moore '06**.

## On the Convention Floor



COURTESY PHOTO

**Ron Kirk '76** and **Abbas Ravjani '04** met up at the Democratic National Convention in Denver this August, both serving as members of the Texas Delegation. The photo was taken the night of Barack Obama's convention speech. Ravjani is in his final year at Yale Law School, focusing on national security law and foreign policy. Kirk, former mayor of Dallas, is an attorney with the firm of Vinson and Elkins in Dallas.

81

**Patricia Mello**, now employed with Pegasus Solutions of Dallas, has had a successful business career, working in the accounting field in oil and gas, defense, technology, and manufacturing sectors. Her employment has taken her from Boston to Los Angeles. But Patricia's true passion, she said, is finding opportunity to help others and she is living out that passion as co-founder and president of Bridge of Blessings, a non-profit organization for patients with breast, ovarian, uterine, and endometrial cancers. The mission is to help those who qualify cover their most essential monthly expenses, so they can focus their energies on getting better. She knows about the energy needed. The organization serves 36 Texas counties, with hopes to expand. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in April 2003 and is in three clinical studies and two support groups, one at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas and another at the Regional Cancer Center in Richardson, Texas. She is an American Cancer Society Reach to Recovery volunteer and placed first in her survivor age division in the Susan G. Komen for the Cure North Texas Affiliate 5K race in June 2007.

83

A son, Joshua, was born July 31, 2007, to Mark and **Susan Kelly Roomberg**. The family lives in San Antonio, where Susan lectures very large introductory government classes at UTSA and Mark works for the U.S. Attorney's Office. Big brother Jonathan is in 5th grade.

92

A son, William Thomas, was born July 16 to Dave and **Tracey Thomas Fetting (8)**. The family lives north of Atlanta, where Tracey teaches fourth grade and Dave is an aircraft mechanic for AirTran Airways. ■ **Kristie Van Auken (6)** has been named senior vice president and chief marketing and communications officer at Akron-Canton Airport in Ohio. She has been marketing director since 1996, responsible for all airport marketing, branding, air service development initiatives, communications, and community relations. Her promotion to the newly created position was made this fall by the airport's board of trustees upon naming of a new airport director. In addition to her airport duties, Van Auken serves on the boards of the Akron AAA, the Executive Marketing Forum, the Cleveland+Regional Marketing Alliance, and the Walsh University Business Advisory Council. She co-chairs the stewardship and communication committees at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, is a Leadership Akron graduate, and is involved in several professional marketing associations. Prior to joining the airport, Van Auken worked for the Greater Akron Chamber and the State of Michigan, International Affairs division. She was honored as a 2008 Distinguished Sales and Marketing professional by Sales and Marketing Executives of Cleveland and was selected as one of "30 for the Future" in 2007. She was recognized in the Cleveland Business "40 under 40" list of upcoming executives in 2005.

93

**Lori Beer** and Aaron Nance (7) were married June 21 in Rockport, Texas. Lori is associate pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Rockport and Aaron is a free-lance Web developer and software programmer.

94

**Paul B. Dyck** was a speaker at the Fairleigh Dickinson University World Trade Conference and Expo, "Understanding the European Union," in July. The topic was one with which he is very familiar. Appointed deputy assistant secretary for Europe at the U.S. Department of Commerce by the George W. Bush Administration in June 2006, he is responsible for directing the department's efforts to open markets and ensure fair treatment for American exporters in 50 countries, including all of Europe, Russia, and Eurasia. He also is responsible for developing strategies and programs to enhance the United States' commercial position in the region and engaging with foreign government officials to resolve commercial disputes. Before joining the Department of Commerce, Dyck served at the U.S. Department of State as senior advisor to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. In this

position, he helped coordinate the secretary's strategic planning efforts and diplomacy agenda. From 2001 to 2005, he served in the White House Office of Political Affairs under President Bush. As associate White House political director, he was responsible for managing the President's domestic political and policy priorities for the southern states. Prior to moving to Washington, D.C., Dyck worked on then-Governor Bush's 2000 presidential campaign in Austin, Texas. He had worked with the Texas Workforce Commission and in several capacities for the Texas House of Representatives before that campaign. ■ **Heisha Hudson** and Anthony Freeman were married July 12. The couple lives in Tennessee but plans to relocate soon.

96

**Amy Mittelstet** and Scott Carter Sample (4) were married August 30. Bridesmaids were **Amy Wells, Valerie Dawe Thomas '94, Kristen Johnson, '94, and Sarah Longworth Moore**. The new couple lives in Dallas where Amy is a senior human resources manager at Southern Methodist University and Scott is a patent attorney at Gardere Wynne Sewell law firm. The photo on page 45 shows Amy, at center, with left to right, **Sarah Longworth Moore, Isabel Lerma Hedger '96, Amy Wells, Valerie Dawe Thomas, Kristen Johnson, and Camie Baswell Belvin '95**. ■ Kevin White has joined the law firm of Hunton & Williams. L.L.P., in Houston as a partner in the labor and employment section.

## The Jury Is in: Trial Lawyer of the Year Is Charla Aldous

**Charla Glass Aldous '82**, founder of Aldous Law Firm in Dallas, earned the 2008 Trial Lawyer of the Year Award from the Texas chapters of the American Board of Trial Advocates. She received the award at the TEX-ABOTA annual meeting in October. The TEX-ABOTA Board of Directors selected Aldous as "Trial Lawyer of the Year" after reviewing numerous nominations submitted by chapters across the state. "Charla is the epitome of those whom we seek to honor with the Trial Lawyer of the Year Award," said Dicky Grigg, president of TEX-ABOTA. "Her courtroom record is enviable, and she has unselfishly shared her leadership skills through public service to the legal profession and her community." A 23-year veteran of more than 100 trials, Aldous has secured hundreds of millions of dollars in verdicts and settlements on behalf of her clients.

"My primary focus is to make sure my clients receive justice, and that also serves as one of ABOTA's key missions," Aldous said. "Texas is home to many great trial lawyers, and it is a tremendous honor to receive this award from an outstanding organization."

In 2007, *Texas Lawyer* newspaper named Aldous one of the top five personal injury attorneys in Texas, and she was listed as one of the "Ten Winning Lawyers in America" by *The National Law Journal*. Aldous is president of the Dallas ABOTA chapter and is a member of the Texas Trial Lawyers Association and American Association for Justice, as well as a Fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation. She received an Austin College Distinguished Alumni Award in 2007.



COURTESY PHOTO

Charla Aldous

TALENT ACCLAIMED

Photo by Theatre Three/Linda Harrison



DALLAS' BEST YOUNGER ACTOR:  
ANDREW PHIFER

**Andrew Phifer '06** was named "Best Younger Actor" in the *Dallas Observer's* 2008 "Best of" issue in September. After graduating from Austin College in 2006, Phifer, who majored in communication arts and English, began a one-year Class A internship at Theatre Three in Dallas, where he stage managed shows, built sets, worked box office — basically having a hand in every aspect of the day-to-day workings of a professional theatre. He said he was even lucky enough to act in two shows that season: *The Full Monty* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change!* After his internship, Andrew started working at Schiff & Company, created by **Steve Schiff '71**, and continued to do theatre at night. Since then he has worked at a number of Dallas theatres including Risk Theatre Initiative, Uptown Players, and, most recently returned "home" to Theatre Three for the 2008-2009 season opener *House & Garden*.

The *Observer* announcement said of Phifer's career: "When he's older, Andrew Phifer would like to play Elwood P. Dowd, the delusional lead in the old comedy chestnut *Harvey*. For now he's content being cast as callow youth, such as in recent co-starring roles at Uptown Players (*Bent*) and Theatre Three (*House and Garden*). He's good at playing teenage boys hopelessly in love with boys and/or girls. 'It does a soul good' to dive deeply into emotional waves, says the lanky 24-year-old, who grew up in Jacksonville, Texas, and graduated from Austin College. A future in dramaturgy or arts administration is a possibility, says Phifer, but for now he's happy to bounce from theater to theater. Best advice he ever got? 'You're always auditioning,' he says. 'Your professionalism, or lack thereof, on one show can create a reputation.' His rep so far? Good guy, great young actor."

99

**Bryan Campbell** and Lisa Fauchaux were married December 30, 2007, in New Orleans, Louisiana. **George DeVera**, **Chris Maness**, and **Cariann Abramson** attended. Bryan and Lisa live in Dallas.

01

A son, **William Scott (10)**, was born May 21 to **Brandon** and **Jennifer Johnstone Shelby '03**. The family lives in Dallas.

02

**Amanda Koenigseder** and Melinda Brown were married July 18 in San Diego, California. Melinda is completing her bachelor's degree in kinesiology at the University of Arkansas and Amanda works for an accounting firm. ■ **Stephanie Kathryn White** and **David Joseph Gooden (1)** were married May 24 in the Riviera Maya Mexico. They were the winners of a "Dream Destination Wedding" from the Palace Resorts and *Destination Wedding Magazine*. Attendees included **Chris** and **Lesley McCrary Siebenhausen**, **Sean Looney**, **Steven '01** and **Mandy Hollander Maas**. The new couple lives in Dayton, Ohio, where Dave is a resident physician of anesthesiology and Stephanie is an executive analyst for Dell, Inc.

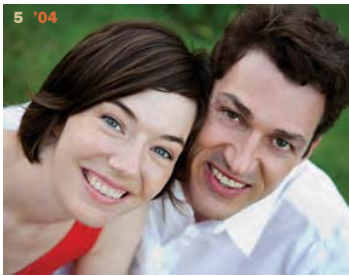
04

**Amanda Newton** and **Keith Kisselle (5)** were married June 21 at their home in Sherman. Amanda is an admission counselor for Austin College and Keith teaches biology and environmental studies at the College. ■ **Dan Rupley** and **Heather Hesse '05 (9)** were married June 20 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Several alumni attended. Dan and Heather were members of Lambda Chi fraternity. ■ **Megan Varvir Coe** began this fall to pursue a doctorate in musicology at the University of North Texas, Denton. ■ **Aaron White (3)** became minister at San Marcos Unitarian Universalist Fellowship this fall, presenting his first official sermon for the congregation in October. He graduated from Harvard Divinity School in 2007. He and **Kate Wiseheart** were married in July 2007 and Aaron then served a year-long ministerial internship at Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church in Austin, Texas. He was ordained in 2008. Aaron and Kate live in Austin where Kate works in the Office of Family Initiatives for the Texas Attorney General.

06

**Ashlie Elmore Delshad** completed a Master of Arts in Political Science degree at Purdue University in May and now is pursuing a doctorate in political science at Purdue. ■ **Katie Clifford** and **Jesse Booher '08 (2)** were married June 28 at the Dallas Arboretum. The bride's grandfather officiated at the ceremony. The wedding party included maid of honor **Jane Terry**, bridesmaid **Danielle Frazier '05**, best man **Clement Durand '08**, groomsmen **T.J. Roberts '06**, **Jordan Schneider '08**, **Patrick Conner '09**, and **Adam Tunnel '09**. Katie is a speech and debate teacher at Poteet High School in Mesquite, Texas. Jesse is an Investigator for Child Protective Services and is completing a master's degree in sociology at the University of Texas at Arlington. Katie and Jesse honeymooned in the Bahamas and now live in Dallas. 🐘

Numbers in color after alumni names correspond with photos on page 45.



# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

## Austin College Awards Gala

March 6, 2009  
Wright Campus Center

## 2009 Distinguished Alumni Awards

Donald M. Gibson, M.D. '75, Houston, Texas  
Rebecca Russell Sykes '67, Dallas, Texas  
Barbara Smith Hensley '70, Shakopee, Minnesota  
William O. Walker, Jr. '53, San Antonio, Texas

## Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Service Awards

Kenneth and Debbie Worden, Richardson, Texas



## IN MEMORIAM

Austin College has received word of the deaths of the following alumni.

'31	Nancy Louise Courtemanche	March 16, 2008
'37	Lola Mae Stevens	September 13, 2008
'39	Erma Fields	July 7, 2008
'41	Lawrence E. Gilbert, Sr.	August 8, 2008
'41	Nadine Pearson House	January 17, 2008
'46	Lorabel McLaughlin Casey	October 22, 2008
'48	Beverly Browne Hall	October 1, 2008
'48	Anne Pace Iles	August 28, 2008
'49	John David Kirby	September 21, 2008
'49	James Earl Riley	October 15, 2008
'51	Reuben P. Pearce	October 15, 2008
'52	Paul Emerson Deatherage	September 21, 2008
'56	Billy Paul Bookout	October 10, 2008
'58	George N. Boyd	September 2, 2008
'59	Margaret Corinne Graham	October 27, 2008
'78	Elizabeth Schroeder	August 25, 2008
'90	Mike D. Nason	October 14, 2008
'92	Amy McBrayer Young	September 20, 2008
'02	Phillip E. Bigbee	May 10, 2008

## HOMEcoming AND REUNION WEEKEND



[austincollege.edu/homecoming](http://austincollege.edu/homecoming)

### Friends We Will Miss

**Clorinda "Petey" DiPietro Wisenbaker**, wife of former Board of Trustee member, the late **Royce Wisenbaker**, died October 14 at her home in Tyler, Texas. An Austin College Presidential Scholarship bears their name.





BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Robert M. Johnson '53, McLean, Virginia

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- John Q. Adams, Jr. '84, Southlake, Texas
- Margaret Allison, San Antonio, Texas
- John M. Andersen '66, Dallas, Texas
- Jerry E. Apple '60, Irving, Texas
- Lee Dean Ardell '74, Houston, Texas
- James D. Baskin III '75, Austin, Texas
- Laura Dies Campbell '73, Austin, Texas
- Jacqueline R. Cooper '73, Oakton, Virginia
- Linda Morris Elsey, Fort Worth, Texas
- F. R. "Buck" Files '60, Tyler, Texas
- Rebecca Moseley Gafford '72, Dallas, Texas
- Donald Gibson '75, Houston, Texas
- Dennis E. Gonier '83, Fredericksburg, Virginia
- Thomas Hall, Jr. '78, Colleyville, Texas
- Mary Ann Stell Harris '70, Fort Worth, Texas
- Charles Hendricks '61, The Woodlands, Texas
- Kelly Hiser, Sherman, Texas
- M. Steve Jones, Sherman, Texas
- Sharon S. King, Richardson, Texas
- Jeffrey Landsberg '81, Dallas, Texas
- Luan Beaty Mendel '75, Palo Verdes, California
- Steven M. Mobley, Austin, Texas
- Wes Moffett '82, Dallas, Texas
- Samuel S. Moore '64, Dallas, Texas
- Jo Ann Geurin Pettus, Graham, Texas
- Davis B. Price '67, Lubbock, Texas
- Fazlur Rahman, San Angelo, Texas
- Annadele H. Ross '66, Dallas, Texas
- John Serhant, Denison, Texas
- Caroline Elbert Taylor '66, Wyalusing, Pennsylvania
- Jesse R. Thomas '74, Sherman, Texas
- Linda Plummer Ward '78, Nashville, Tennessee
- William E. Warren '74, Plano, Texas
- Todd A. Williams '82, Dallas, Texas
- Stanley M. Woodward, Dallas, Texas
- Michael G. Wright, Dallas, Texas
- Robert J. Wright, Dallas, Texas

It was the early 1970s in Memphis, Tennessee, when a high school science teacher recognized potential in one student. That student was **Linda Plummer Ward '78**, Austin College trustee, who was far more accustomed to being recognized by the color of her skin as a young African-American woman in a "racially polarized" city, Plummer Ward said. The science teacher requested that the student meet with an Austin College recruiter to discuss college. "That day set in motion a major blessing that brought new direction and purpose to the rest of my life," Plummer Ward said.

At Austin College, Plummer Ward said she was able to "find herself" by learning from mentors and professors, thinking and sharing with others, and developing an appreciation for the things that made her different. She also found her calling in medicine and through her social activism and service on campus she discovered she was happiest when "engaged in positive change for the whole community."

Now in her 24th year in the field of emergency medicine, Plummer Ward serves as the medical director of emergency services at Southern Hills Medical Center in Nashville, Tennessee. Her years in medicine have created a passion for wholeness in human health. "I believe that as we train young physicians and season older ones like me, it is important we promote awareness of the strong connection between the mind, the body, and the soul," she said. "As we learn to address wholeness, we will look at our bodies, each other, and even this planet differently. The promise of a healthier tomorrow is within our reach."



Linda Plummer Ward

COURTESY PHOTO

Plummer Ward also is in her fifth year as an Austin College trustee and relishes the opportunity to stay connected to a place that impacted her life. "I left Austin College with great enthusiasm, fired up, and ready to take on the world," Plummer Ward said. "Somewhere in my years of medical school and residency and the constant changes in the field of emergency medicine, my zeal cooled down a few degrees. Returning to the campus as a trustee turned the thermostat back up." 🐾

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Class of 2009 Graduation Activities

### Baccalaureate

Saturday, May 16, 7 p.m.

### Baccalaureate Sermon:

Karl Travis, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Fort Worth, Texas

### Commencement

May 17, 8:30 a.m.

### Commencement Address:

Oscar C. Page, President, Austin College

## DECEMBER

- 12 Fall Term Ends
- 22 College Offices Close for Holiday Break

## JANUARY

- 2 College Offices Open after Holiday Break
- 5 January Term Begins
- 27 January Term Ends

## FEBRUARY

- 2 Spring Term Begins
- 10 Lecture: David Quammen

## MARCH

- 4-5 Jno. E. Owens Conference
- 5 Austin College Leadership Award Event
- 5-7 Theatre: *Ordinary People*
- 6 Alumni and Clemons Awards Gala
- 6-7 Austin College Board of Trustees Meeting
- 12 Allen-Head Lecture: Amy-Jill Levine
- 16-20 Spring Break
- 16-20 Alternative Spring Break Service Trip to Galveston
- 26-31 A Cappella Choir Tour to Washington, D.C.



**IMPACT TOMORROW**  
WITH YOUR IRA ROLLOVER GIFT TODAY

The Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 allows you to make gifts to Austin College with direct rollovers from your IRA. The gifts are not tax deductible, but they do help satisfy your annual minimum distribution requirements and minimize future taxes on IRA assets. And, your gift helps ensure that Austin College students continue to impact the world through enhanced financial aid availability, study abroad opportunities, or student/faculty research projects.

**Don't miss this opportunity to invest in something truly worthwhile – the education of an Austin College student.**

To make a gift from your IRA to Austin College, or for more information on how you can support Austin College student and faculty initiatives, please contact Josh Bowerman, director of endowment and planned giving, at (903) 813-2423 or [jbowerman@austincollege.edu](mailto:jbowerman@austincollege.edu).



PHOTO FROM THE AUSTIN COLLEGE ARCHIVES

### ▲ EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

With the November elections barely over, this shot from the College Archives seemed a timely one to share and one that would conjure memories from an earlier political race. Recognize yourself or classmates? Shares your stories at the address below.

Alumni: Share YOUR Austin College photos for possible inclusion in Every Picture Tells A Story. Send to Editor, Austin College, 900 N. Grand Ave., Suite 6H, Sherman, Texas 75090 or [editor@austincollege.edu](mailto:editor@austincollege.edu).

### THE STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

William Freeland '57 identified the "boat full of women and a giant whale" as the second-place float in Homecoming 1956, presented by the women of Theta Phi Delta. He recognized Minta Rhea Perry '57, holding the pole, and next to her Carol Dozier Fritze '57. There are surely several sorority women who recognize themselves or their friends in this photo as well. Send your comments!



PHOTO FROM THE AUSTIN COLLEGE ARCHIVES

# RANKED #1 IN NATION IN STUDY ABROAD. AGAIN!



*Rebeca Kim '10 in Ghana as an Austin College Global Outreach Fellow*

**For the third time in the past five years, Austin College was ranked #1 by the Institute of International Education for percentage of study abroad participation among baccalaureate institutions in its November 2008 Open Doors report.**

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