



April 2015

Sherman Hall Embraces Past--And Future

When celebrating a 100th anniversary, there's every reason to sit back and rest on your laurels. But if you're the "Grand Dame of Grand Avenue" (yes, Sherman Hall--built in 1915) at Austin College, you don't simply rely on the past to tell the story. The future holds much more.

On April 8--the very day 100 years ago Sherman Hall was dedicated--Austin College and Sherman community leaders will gather on campus to celebrate a vibrant past. Over past decades, a valued partnership between Sherman and the College grew. It dates back a century, when the College's "Old Main" burned down.

Loss of the College's primary building sparked fear in the then-small town. Would the College survive? The citizens of Sherman rallied. They pledged \$50,000 to Austin College to rebuild, and in gratitude, the College's trustees named the new building Sherman Hall.

Coming Together Again

On this April 8, another commitment to build will be announced--only this "building" reinforces goals for local engagement set forth in Austin College's strategic plan, "Adding Value to a Changing World" (read more on President Hass' [webpage](#)). The new Austin College Center for Community and Regional Development will be announced, ushering in the next 100 years of partnership. Do you have some memories of Sherman Hall? Email your story to editor@austincollege.edu or post to [Facebook](#).

Honors Convocation Approaches

Austin College 2015 Honors Convocation will be held Thursday, April 23, at 5 p.m. in Wynne Chapel. The annual celebration recognizes distinguished academic achievements among students and faculty.

This year over 100 students will receive academic awards and fellowships. Individuals receiving national honors, such as Fulbright Awards, will also be announced. Eleven faculty members will become holders of endowed professorships and chairs.

In keeping with Austin College tradition, faculty and graduating seniors will be dressed in academic regalia. Formality aside, selfies may prevail (#RooHonors). Look for photos and award announcements on our [Facebook page](#).

Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound*

A dead body on the Austin College campus? Well, there's at least a murder mystery--with laughs--about to unfold in Ida Green Theatre of Ida Green Communications Center.

Playwright Tom Stoppard's *The Real Inspector Hound* runs April 16 through 18 with performances at 7:30 p.m. [Sir Stoppard's screenplay for Shakespeare in Love won an Oscar (1998).] Liz Banks, assistant professor of theatre, is directing the who-done-it spoof. The play is family friendly with some gun violence. Tickets are \$8 per person or free with a valid Austin College ID.

Spring Into Action: Give Now

There's no better time than spring at Austin College. Yes, flowers are blooming, birds are singing. Excitement soars. Graduation is just weeks away. But for all--not just seniors, there's that gratifying feeling, knowing a successful academic year is drawing to a close.

Students at Austin College heartily embrace the many learning opportunities that alumni and friends like you make possible. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated. To make a gift now, just go online www.austincollege.edu/support.

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