



May 2011

[Commencement 2011: The Final Countdown](#)

The final countdown has begun for the Class of 2011; class work ends this week; then finals; then, on May 15, the Commencement ceremony begins to send graduates into the next stage of their lives.

Commencement will begin at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, May 15, 2011 on the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court on the north lawn of the Administration Building. There will be outdoor seating for guests and additional indoor video viewing for guests with special needs.

Spring Brings Student and Faculty Honors

[Honors Convocation](#) and recognition of academic accomplishment kicks off the awards season; [Student Affairs Leadership Awards](#) highlight campus involvement and leadership. Other student honors follow, like [Texas Press Intercollegiate Association awards](#) to members of student publications staffs.

[Students Present Vocal Concerts](#)

From doo-wop to classical, music will be in the air as The Quartette performs its first full-length concert on Friday, May 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Ida Green Theatre. On Sunday, May 8, the Music Department presents its annual spring choral concert in Wynne Chapel at 3 p.m. Both concerts are free and open to the public.

[Tom Baker's Life Honored](#)

Family, friends, former students, and colleagues of the late Tom Baker gathered at Austin College on April 6 to honor the life and accomplishments of the long-time Austin College professor of education who died suddenly in June 2009.

[New Director of Public Affairs](#)

Austin College has created a new position, director of public affairs, to provide strategic direction for both internal and external College communications. Lynn Womble stepped into the new role in March.

[Students Examine Asian Economics in D.C. Conference](#)

Seven students participated in the National Model United Nations Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Conference in Washington, D.C., earlier this spring term. The group represented the delegation of The Philippines, led by head delegate Emma Niewald, a senior from Southlake, Texas.

Students Present Research

Student research opportunities grow each year at Austin College--as do the opportunities to share their findings. This spring, [chemistry](#) students and [psychology](#) students attended professional association meetings to share their findings.

[Alumna Directs Award-Winning Documentary](#)

Director and Producer Laura McFerrin '98 visited Austin College on May 2, for a screening of her film, *March On!* The full-length film, including original music, was shown in Hoxie Thompson Auditorium of Sherman Hall. A short question-and-answer session followed the 90-minute film.

[Online Spring 2011 Magazine Available](#)

The Spring 2011 e-issue of *Austin College Magazine* contains information on a number of campus happenings, from continued construction to sports highlights. Read about "The Homesick Texan," the ACTivators 500th event, January Term, spring sports in review, and several alumni profiles,

[More News](#)

[Faith Heads Seven 'Roos on All-SCAC Softball Team](#)

Austin College placed two members of the 'Roo softball team on the All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference First Team, and five more were named Honorable Mention All-SCAC. Stefanie Faith was named the SCAC Player of the Year, the league office has announced.

[Four from Baseball Earn All-SCAC](#)

Scooter Merritt leads four members of the Austin College baseball team who earned All-Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference honors for the 2011 season. Merritt was a 1st Team All-Conference selection while Brian Buehler, Tyler Steed and Mason Leech each were Honorable Mention selections.

[Smith Named SCAC Co-Player of the Week](#)

Austin College senior softball player Sam Smith has been named the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference Softball Co-Player of the Week for games played from Monday, March 28 through Sunday, April 3. Smith is the second 'Roo softball player to earn this honor this season.