



Robert J. and Mary Wright Campus Center is well-lit as dusk falls across the campus. Wright Campus Center remains open until 7 p.m. nightly and with card access after hours. Food Service continues for those still on campus.



Nimble Adjustments: Printing Press to PPE Production

Travis Stein '01 saw business for printing and promotional items at The Odee Company, in Dallas, Texas, take a nosedive in one day as COVID-19 was identified as a pandemic. With some adept modifications, the company now has more work than it can handle.

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A Handshake You Can Grab Hold Of

Austin College Career Services partners with **Handshake**, a vast career database, to personalize students' career options and connect them to local, national, and international companies. Over the past few weeks, **Handshake** has conducted **nationwide research** with students and employers to better understand how they are responding to the many changes caused by the COVID-19 crisis. What did they learn? Students still need their campus career centers.

Career Services staff members are available to assist current students and graduates with their job or internship goals. Employers are also encouraged to contact the center with their recruitment needs. Meetings are available at career@austincollege.edu, 903.813.2074, and Zoom.



Alumni Facebook Group Grows Overnight

Austin College Alumni Board president **Cynthia Heyn '85**, and the College's Alumni Engagement staff launched an official **Facebook group** for anyone who attended Austin College at any time. Practically overnight, more than 2,500 alumni signed in and began making connections on the Austin College Alumni Community group.

"The relationships I have built with classmates, alumni of many eras, faculty, and staff are a vital support network for me," Heyn says. "Lifelong friends and mentors are a constant in all seasons of life, the good times and the hard times. It's never been more important to reach out to this support network." All alumni are invited to **join** the group and share in the member-driven content.



Vargas-O'Bryan Awarded ACLS Grant

Dr. Ivette Vargas-O'Bryan, professor of religious studies, and Religious Studies department chair, has received an American Council of Learned Society Project Development Grant to further work on her book project titled, *Resisting Normativity: Overcoming Suffering and Building Traditions in the Gelongma Palmo-Avalokiteśvara Buddhist Legacy*.

The biographies and rituals based on the experiences of a medieval Indian Buddhist leper-nun have provided a model for female empowerment, an inspiration for the sick across cultural boundaries in Asia, and a new interpretation of the cult in Tibetan Avalokiteśvara Buddhism. Vargas-O'Bryan's project will make the legacy available to a wider audience.



[Watch Ivette's 2017 TEDxAustinCollege Talk...](#)



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