



Congratulations to the Class of 2016!



Commencement Weekend is almost upon us! Join us for Baccalaureate May 14 and Commencement exercises the next morning at 8:30 as we congratulate some 260 candidates for bachelor's degrees and 16 candidates for the Master of Arts in Teaching degree. Our soon-to-be graduates have worked incredibly hard the past four years, and we are excited to see these graduates join with 'Roo Nation in changing their communities and the world.

For more information on Commencement weekend and full details about activities, live streaming, and rain plan details, visit: www.austincollege.edu/commencement.

Austin College Honorary Degrees 2016



When members of the Austin College Class of 2016 receive diplomas during Commencement exercises, the College also will award five honorary doctoral degrees.

Austin College President Marjorie Hass will award honorary doctorates to the Honorable Michael S. Rawlings, Mayor of Dallas and the Commencement speaker, and the Reverend Felipe Martinez, 1988 alumnus of the College, pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Columbus, Indiana, and Baccalaureate speaker for the class, at the Saturday evening service.

Dr. Hass also will present honorary doctorates to 1972 alumna Carmen Tafolla, a prolific and well-known author, speaker, and performance artist who serves as Poet Laureate of the State of Texas; Clarice Tinsley, the longest-serving news anchor in the Dallas/Fort Worth market; and Anna Laura Page, accomplished musician and composer who served the College as first lady throughout the presidency of Oscar C. Page from July 1994 to June 2009.

Shave for the Cure





Twenty-one Austin College students had their heads shaved at Rotaract's 8th annual St. Baldrick's event April 26 in support of children's cancer research. Austin College Rotaract club and Grayson County College Rotaract club co-hosted the event.

Volunteers sought donations individually in advance of the event, and Rotaract also collected donations during the event. The event raised more than \$3,800. Over the course of eight years of St. Baldrick's Day events, the Austin College group has raised \$42,000.

Junior Jack Kennady was the Rotaract coordinator for the event. Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. In addition to fundraising, the bald heads display solidarity with kids who are battling cancer-who usually don't have a choice about their hairstyles. Several of the Austin College participants had grown their hair out so that having their heads shaved benefitted two organizations-St. Baldrick's and one of various charities that accept hair donations to create and provide hairpieces to individuals who have lost their hair due to medical conditions.

Senior Grant Marcinko had been growing out his hair for some time before shaving his head for St. Baldrick's. Cancer runs in his family, so this event allowed him to connect with family members and show solidarity. He not only raised money for St. Baldrick's but also sent his hair to Beautiful Lengths, an organization that makes wigs for women who have lost their hair due to cancer treatment. He said one of the best things about the St. Baldrick's Day event is that it shows that anyone can get involved.

All monies raised support the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which funds more in childhood cancer research grants than any organization except the U.S. government. Since 2000 when the organization began from within a group of friends, more than 390,000 individuals-including more than 49,000 women-have shaved their heads at 9,000 events, raising critical funds for childhood cancer research.

Students Thank Veterans





Austin College welcomed Congressman John Ratcliffe to campus April 22 for the dedication of a veteran's memorial installed by the campus Young Republicans. "We hope to spread awareness to younger people of the emotional, economic, and physical challenges veterans face every day," said Austin Foley, president of Young Republicans at Austin College. "We were so excited to welcome Congressman Ratcliffe to campus to help us celebrate the end of our Veterans Appreciation Week and to expand on the message we're trying to send."

The week included other awareness raising events and fundraisers that benefited the Grayson County Veterans Emergency Fund.



- **Golden 'Roo Weekend** - Friday, May 13 - Sunday, May 15, 2016
- **Baccalaureate Service** - Saturday, May 14, 2016 | 7:00 p.m. | Mason Complex, Sid Richardson Center
- **Commencement** - Sunday, May 15, 2016 | 8:30 a.m.
- **Memorial Day** - May 30, 2016 | Holiday | Offices Closed

Save the Dates

- **Legends 2016** - July 8 - 10, 2016
- **TEDxAustinCollege** - September 22, 2016
- **Homecoming 2016** - October 14 - 16, 2016

For more information on news and events of Austin College, follow us on social media.





Published and disseminated by Austin College - Institutional Advancement, 903.813.2196.
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