School Year Opens With 400+ New Students

Austin College President Steven P. O’Day welcomed students and faculty to the opening of the 171st school year at Opening Convocation held in Sid Richardson Gymnasium. In his speech titled, “Wider World,” O’Day encouraged all students to be confident in their liberal arts education and seize the opportunities that are available at Austin College.

Symposium Addresses Leadership in Public Health

Dr. Steven M. Pounders ’81, HIV specialist and adult primary care physician in Dallas, will speak about leadership in public health at the Austin College Public Health Symposium on September 26 at 11 a.m. in IDEA Center 127. The event, co-sponsored by the Posey Leadership Institute and the Public Health Program, will be moderated by Dr. Saritha Bangara, assistant professor of public health and co-director of the program. Free and open to the public.

English Students Share Stories of Social Justice

On September 26, Women Get Connected and Austin College “English 353: Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Social Reform” students will conduct a walking tour to share stories of social justice through history while localizing the stories to Austin College. The tour begins at 5:30 p.m. at Wortham Center and ends at the IDEA Center. Cost is $15: register now!
TEDxAustinCollege Presents 'Shifting Perceptions'

The fourth annual TEDxAustinCollege, slated for September 28, will feature short talks by six members of the Austin College community addressing the theme, “Shifting Perceptions.” Along with these speakers, interactive programming is offered in the Discovery Depot to enrich the day’s experience for attendees.

TEDxAustinCollege was launched in 2016 by members of the Austin College chapter of the national service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. The 2019 team is led by executive planning chair Oyindamola Olufosoye ’20 of Lagos, Nigeria.

“Every day, we go to class and we are encouraged to explore big ideas,” she said. “I attend Austin College knowing without a doubt that I will be inspired, not only to think but to act. TEDxAustinCollege reflects the spirit of an Austin College education. It invites us to engage with our community and reach far beyond ourselves.”

2019 TEDxAustinCollege speakers include:

Aaron Flores ’09
Building Authentic Community by Seeing Your Neighbors

Seth Howard ’20
A Millennial’s Perspective on the 2008 Financial Crisis

Minni Malhotra, M.D., parent of alumna Soloani Malhotra ’17
Your Pills Won’t Save You: The Power to Reverse Disease

Kusha Mohammadi ’15
Medical Clickbait: Are You Asking the Right Questions?

Julia Shahid, Ed.D., Austin College education faculty
Teachers, Oats, and Rocket Science: What Makes a Great Teacher Great?

Lindsay Williambrown ’02
Accidental Anthropology: Working from Home, Homeless

Admission is $30 for the Main Stage in Wright Campus Center, Mabee Hall, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; lunch is provided. TEDx is an independently organized event, licensed by TED.

Register Today!

Austin College Announces Annual Awards for Distinction and Service

Austin College has announced the 2019 Distinguished Alumni honorees, First Decade Award recipient, and two annual distinguished awards of service. A dinner and ceremony will be held on Friday, October 25, during the 2019 Homecoming and Family Weekend.
2019 Distinguished Alumni
Awarded for sustained, distinguished accomplishment and contribution to any field of human endeavor that brings the highest honor to the award recipient and to Austin College.

Amanda Clausen Hammel ’95
Memorial Hermann Health System
Senior Vice President & Chief Information Officer

Jeff Levin ’79
UT Health Science Center at Tyler
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Don R. Newsom ’65
Conroe Independent School District
Retired Teacher, Coach, Administrator

First Decade Award
Awarded to a graduate of the last 10 years, for distinguished accomplishments and contributions that bring honor to the award recipient and Austin College.

Madison Messinger ’14
North Texas Food Bank
Child Program Team Lead

Cindy Curtis Bean Service to Alumni Award
Awarded for extraordinary commitment to the support and education of Austin College alumni around the world.

Michael Deen
Austin College
Dean of Students

Heywood C. Clemons Volunteer Service Award
Awarded to individuals who dedicate themselves, through volunteerism, to advance the many endeavors of Austin College.

Blake Utter ’07
Blake Utter Ford
Owner

Alumnae Named to Vice-President Roles

Baylee Locker Kowert ’05 has been named vice president for Institutional Enrollment. She has been with the Austin College Admission Office for 14 years, serving as executive director for Institutional Enrollment for the last two.

“I am excited to share the legacy of our academics and also introduce prospective students to the innovative side of Austin College that adapts to the present day and potential future world.” – Baylee Kowert

Gillian Grissom Locke ’07 has been named interim vice president for Institutional Advancement, where she has worked as associate vice president for development for three years.

“The education I received here is so dear to me, and it is a thrill to be part of this vibrant community as we work together to make the Austin College experience possible for today’s students, and for generations of students to come.” – Gillian Locke

Tanglen on Atwood
Dr. Randi Tanglen, associate professor of English, will lead a book discussion on The Testaments by Margaret Atwood at the Dallas Museum of Art on Friday, October 11. The long-awaited sequel to the 1985 novel The Handmaid’s Tale promises to answer questions about Offred’s fate and the regime of Gilead.

Tanglen is the director of the Austin College Gender Studies Program and director of the Robert and Joyce Johnson Center for Faculty Development and Excellence in Teaching.
In Memoriam

The Austin College community mourns the death on August 19, 2019, of Dr. Daniel Mortimer Schores, associate professor emeritus of sociology, and extends sympathies to his family.

Read more about Dr. Schores here

ATHLETICS SPOTLIGHT

New Tennis Coach Announced

Austin College announced Jeff Kutac, formerly with University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Arkansas, as the new men’s and women’s head tennis coach.

Read more here

Women’s Soccer Coaching Staff Complete

Austin College has announced the addition of Daritsa Herrera as the new assistant coach for women’s soccer. A graduate of Waldorf University where she was a student-athlete, she starred at high school soccer in Princeton, Texas under new ‘Roo women’s soccer head coach Michele Housden.

Read more here

UPCOMING EVENTS

September
12 AlumNight - Dallas
13 Women’s Soccer vs. University of Dallas, Pierce Soccer Complex
17-19 Center for Southwestern & Mexican Studies Fall Symposium, Wright Campus Center
17 CSMS Fall Symposium: Rosemary Vega ’97
17 CSMS Fall Symposium: Matthew Myers ’11
17 CSMS Fall Symposium: Agustin Escobar Ledesma
19 North Texas Giving Day
19 CSMS Symposium Fall Panel: Felix Harcourt & Terry Hoops
19 Center for Southwestern & Mexican Studies Fall Symposium: Ruth Soto
Football vs. Centre College; Outback opens at 11 a.m.; Kick-off 1 p.m.
Men’s Soccer vs. Schreiner, Pierce Soccer Complex
Women’s Soccer vs. Schreiner, Pierce Soccer Complex; Fall Equinox, 1 p.m.; meridian crossing at 1:18 p.m.
Marsupial Mindfulness Lecture: Healing Self Doubt and Body Discomfort
AlumnNight - Houston
Public Health Symposium, IDEA Center
Social Justice Walking Tour with Dr. Randi Tanglen and English 353 students
TEDxAustinCollege, Wright Campus Center

October
3 AlumnNight - Midland
5 Huddle Up, San Antonio
11 Fall Break
12 Football vs. Millsaps; Outback opens at 11 a.m.; Kick-off 1 p.m.
14 Admission Fall Preview
17 AlumnNight - Austin, TX