



Members of the Austin College community gathered at twilight, August 23, on the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court for the **traditional Opening Convocation service**. Seniors, dressed in their regalia, joined faculty members and first-year students to celebrate the return to campus and classes. *President Steven P. O'Day delivered the welcome message saying, "Be open to new possibilities, reach beyond the familiar, engage with those around you. Be smart, be resilient, be good to each other. It's who we are."*
[President O'Day's Convocation Message](#)

A Musical Celebration: Vivaldi's 'Gloria' from Grum Sanctuary



This beautiful collaboration of the **Austin College A Cappella Choir** and **Austin College Chamber Orchestra** combines the efforts of current students, alumni, faculty, community members, and former Austin College First Lady Anna Laura Page. The live performance of "Gloria, RV 589," by Antonio Vivaldi was recorded April 12, 2021, in the Clifford Grum Sanctuary in Wynne Chapel.

This recording clearly illustrates the impressive talents of the musicians gathered as well as the physical beauty and rich acoustics of Grum Sanctuary. While music majors and minors are present, most of the student participants in the choir and orchestra are neither majors nor minors but have a background in music and seek a lasting involvement in the making of music.



Distinguished Alumni to be Honored at Homecoming

Austin College is proud to announce the 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award and First Decade Award honorees. These outstanding 'Roos are nominated by their peers and selected by members of the Awards Committee of the Alumni Board. They have distinguished themselves in their professions and in their communities and exemplified leadership and ethical standards in their interactions. They model the accomplishments, spirit of service, and broadened perspective fostered by the Austin College educational experience.

The 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award honorees will be recognized at a reception and dinner on **Friday, October 22**, as part of **Homecoming and Family Weekend** activities.





One Week from Today!

Thursday, September 23, Austin College is participating in the annual North Texas Giving Day, a one-day, online giving opportunity for the College.

Delivering the Austin College experience in these challenging times comes at a price. You can help as we respond to increasing student financial needs and ensure that faculty and staff have what they need to help our students succeed.

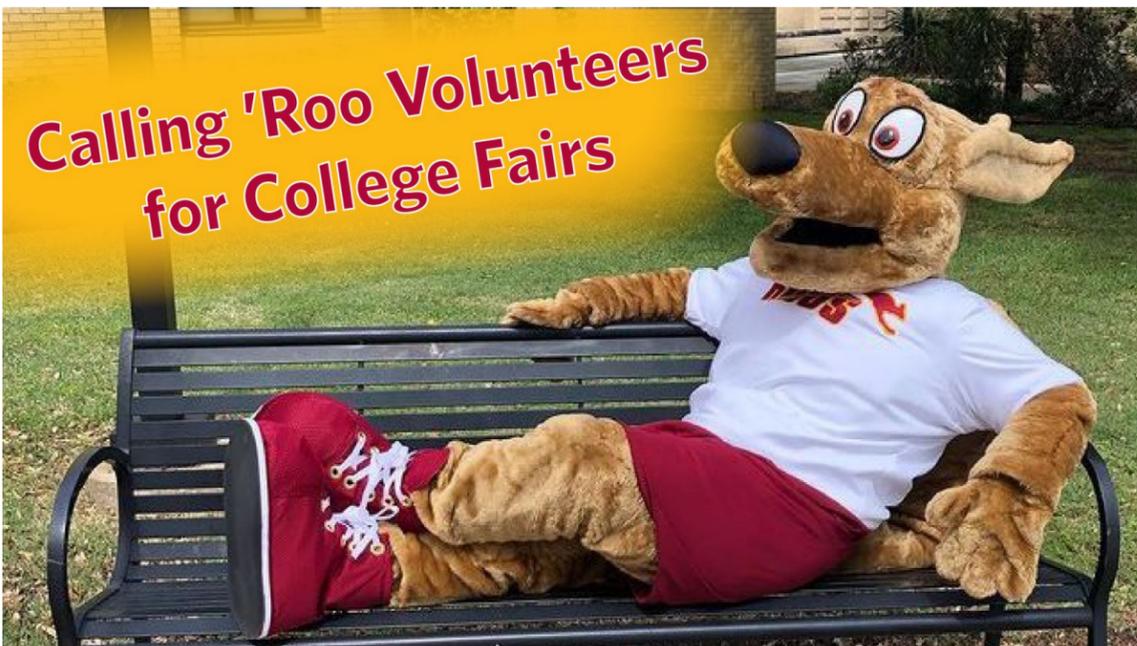
[Schedule Your Gift Today!](#)



Dean and Tenured Faculty Announced; Promoted, New, and Guest Members Included

At the start of the 2021-2022 academic year, **Mike Higgs**, Professor of Mathematics and Computer Science, began service as Dean of Sciences. He has been a member of the faculty since 1987. Lisa Brown, Professor of Psychology, continues as Dean of Social Sciences, and Greg Kinzer, Professor of English, continues as Dean of Humanities.

[Read more](#) about the promoted faculty members, new and guest faculty, adjunct, and other support instructors.



Scout for Prospective Kangaroos!

Calling 'Roo Volunteers for College Fairs—The Admission team needs your assistance attending college fairs across the great big state of Texas. You can find a fair close to you by visiting: <https://admissions.austincollege.edu/portal/volunteer>. Use the link below to sign up, and a member of the Office of Admission will contact you. Sign up, and we'll send you a new Austin College T-shirt!

If you would like to represent Austin College in your state outside of Texas, send your name, email, and area where you could recruit to admission@AustinCollege.edu. If you are aware of programs or college fairs in your area, we would be happy to provide official materials and assist with your registration. Help extend our reach at a fair in your area.



September 25, 2021

**Austin College invites you to register for TEDx AustinCollege 2021 livestream.
This free livestream is available to all who are interested in Ideas Worth Sharing!
*In-person attendance is reserved for students, faculty, and staff.***

Llópez Avilés to Share Insight on the Mexican Healthcare System



The Austin College Center for Southwestern & Mexican Studies presents **Dr. Marlene Llópez Avilés '80** to speak on "Understanding Mexico and its State of Health: An Overview of the Trials and Tribulations of the Mexican Healthcare System" on **Tuesday, September 21**, at 11 a.m. in IDEA Center, Room 127. She will be on campus visiting with pre-med students, attending class, and speaking with friends at the Spanish House of Jordan Family Language House from September 20 through September 23.

Llópez Avilés majored in Biology at Austin College with a pre-med focus, then attended medical school at the Universidad Anáhuac in Mexico City. She completed a master's degree in Public Health at Harvard University in 2003.

She is General Manager of Clínica Responsable Operativa, S.C., a consulting company for the pharmaceutical industry. She is Head Professor at the School of Higher Studies in Health at La Salle University. Llópez Avilés has been named an Austin College Distinguished Alumni honoree, twice received the Fellowship Award at Harvard University, was honored with the Pharmaceutical Excellence in Leadership Award from the Anahuac University, and twice was distinguished as one of 100 Most Recognized People in the Health Sciences Industry by PharmaVoice and her peers.



In Memoriam

Ross Hester '47

Senior Trustee

August 23, 1924 - August 12, 2021

