



The Commencement of the 173rd year of Austin College was held on the Clyde L. Hall Graduation Court where 325 Bachelor of Arts degree candidates and 15 Master of Teaching degree candidates celebrated with their families, friends, and College faculty and staff members. President Steven P. O'Day and student speaker Sarah Schuster addressed the graduates. As the last class to experience an entire "normal" year prior to the COVID pandemic, these students were reminded of how much they had endured to finish well. Honorary degrees were bestowed on Chief Gary Batton, 47th Chief of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, and Dr. Ted Wardlaw, president of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

[List of 2022 Graduates...](#)



Three Classes of Golden 'Roos Celebrate 50+ Years

Nearly 70 alumni from the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972 were inducted as Golden 'Roos at a ceremony in Clifford J. Grum Sanctuary in Wynne Chapel on Friday, May 20, where they each received a commemorative medallion. The traditional annual gathering for classes of 1970 and 1971 had been delayed due to necessary COVID precautions.

Along with guests and spouses, these alumni enjoyed reuniting over dinner, campus tours, and informal gatherings. They were honored guests at Baccalaureate, Commencement, and the President's Commencement Brunch.



There's a new sound in town with the debut of Band on Grand

The group played its first gig on April 1, before Kangapalooza and again at a pop-up concert at Finals Breakfast on May 19. Band members include **President Steven O'Day** on rhythm guitar, Chaplain **John Williams '84** on guitar and vocals, Political Science Professor **Nate Bigelow** on lead guitar, **Dylan Williams '23** on percussion, Director of Counseling **Teresa Moore** and Director of Student Success and Transitions **Traci Howard Moore** on vocals, and Counselor **Jimmy Wilkins** on bass.



Faculty Chairs Installed and Awards Announced

Four faculty members were installed to faculty chairs and professorships by **Dr. Beth Gill**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and **President Steven O'Day** at **Honors Convocation** in April. A faculty chair is created through the establishment of an endowed fund, often by a private donor.

The faculty installed in chairs and professorships include **Dr. Lisa M. Brown** as The Herman Brown Chair in Psychology, **Professor Mark Warren Monroe** in The Craig Professorship in the Arts, **Dr. Bradley W. Smucker** as The Rupert P. Lowe Chair in Chemistry, and **Dr. Ashley Ann Tharayil** as The Clara R. and Leo F. Corrigan Chair in Economics and Business Administration.

President O'Day presented the College's **Homer P. Rainey Award** to **Dr. Hank Gorman**, Professor of Psychology, and **Dr. Kevin Simmons**, Professor of Economics. The award was created in 1975 by the Board of Trustees to be given to a faculty or staff member in recognition of outstanding achievement or exemplary service to Austin College.

The College's nominee for the **Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Professor Award** is **Dr. Jim Hebda**, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, and the **Excellence in Teaching and Leadership Award** recipient is **Dr. Syed Kamal**, Associate Professor of Business Administration. Both are considered Austin College awards.



Austin College depends on all financial supporters to provide extraordinary learning experiences to its bright students. Join the **13% of alumni** who choose to give, and show 'Roos like Alyssa and Katya you're 'Roo-ting for them! Your **gift** to Austin College today impacts our students and our campus!!



Student Achievement Celebrated at 2022 Honors Convocation

The Austin College **Honors Convocation** was held in Wynne Chapel **April 21**, with seniors and faculty processing into Clifford J. Grum Sanctuary for the final formal gathering of the academic year until Commencement weekend.

Honors Convocation is an opportunity to highlight the achievements of Austin College students through the awarding of more than 100 endowed scholarships and awards. The students are chosen by departmental faculty to represent academic excellence in departments across the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Sciences. Some of these scholarships have existed for decades, having been established by donors in memory of faculty, family, or fellow alumni.

[Student Awards and Recipients](#)



North Texas AlumNight Texas Rangers Game

SUNDAY | JULY 17, 2022
1:35 P.M.
GLOBE LIFE FIELD
ARLINGTON, TEXAS

**Join us for our very first Texas Rangers AlumNight event,
hosted by the Austin College Alumni Board**

For more information email: alumni@austincollege.edu

[Click Here for Tickets](#)



Faculty Retirees Recognized at Honors Convocation

“Great teaching by dedicated teachers, artists, and scholars is at the heart of an Austin College education,” Dr. Elizabeth Gill said before honoring retirees **Dr. George Truett Cates** of the German faculty, who has been at Austin College since 1979; **Dr. Henry “Hank” Gorman** teaching psychology at Austin College since 1973; **Dr. Kevin Simmons** teaching economics at the College since 2003; and **Mr. Mark Smith** teaching art at the College since 1986.

Dr. Gill expressed gratitude to these highly reputed and honorable retiring faculty members who, for 144 years total between them, have inspired students and their colleagues. “They have promoted insights and intellectual curiosity that have shaped and will continue to shape our students’ professional and personal lives,” she said.

The four also were recognized at the President’s Post-Commencement Brunch for the granting of emeriti faculty status. An additional honoree at the brunch was **Dr. Victoria Cummins**, a member of the History faculty from 1978 until her retirement in 2019, who had not been recognized upon her retirement or granting of emerita status. Mark Smith was not available for photographs.

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