Interested students gathered in Wright Campus Center's Mabee Hall for an **Alpha Phi Omega** rush event. The Austin College Phi Xi chapter of the national service fraternity is very active and will host the annual 'Roo Boo event next month. APO is founded on the principles of leadership, friendship, and service—and the cupcake decorating contest pictured here introduced a touch of competition. All student organizations are holding welcome events in these early weeks of the semester. For more information about APO and the many other organizations on campus contact **Chrrystal Woodard**, director of Student Activities.
TEDxAustinCollege 2023: UNEARTH

Saturday, September 30
8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Ida Green Communication Center | Sally and Jim Nation Theatre

Each day. Every day. We are exposed to so many topics, and we rarely give more than a shallow examination before moving on. But, what about the ideas buried deeply below the surface?

Together, let’s dig deep, sift, and sort through the layers of our knowledge. TEDxAustinCollege 2023 aims to unearth new ideas, creating space from which the future can sprout. In collaboration with our six speakers and student-led Discovery Depot activities, we will find out what is possible in technology, art, exploration, inspiration, and self-discovery. Break ground and unearth the potential that lies within our community at TEDxAustinCollege 2023: UNEARTH
Cody Dean ’24 | Doubting Your Doubts: The Path to Possibility

Victoria Gilbert ’21 | Innovate, Don’t Imitate: Fashion, Technology, and Design

Patty Manning-Courtney ’87, M.D. | It’s Going to be OK

Andrea Petrean, Ph.D. | Liberal Arts and Lifelong Learning: Finding Direction in the Face of Life’s Uncertainties

Casie Rivas ’03, MBA, J.D. | Perpetual Presence and the Joy of Living in the Moment

Caryn Schenewerk ’99, L.L.M., J.D. | Space Based Solutions for Our Greatest Terrestrial Problems
The **2023 Homecoming & Family Weekend** registration is open now! Special activities include the 175th Celebration Dinner (free of charge to all registered guests) and the Class of 1973 **Golden ’Roo Reunion**—and much more for all of ’RooNation!

Register

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**Austin College Announces**

**2023 Distinguished Alumni & Service Awardees**

*Honorees will be recognized at an award dinner on Friday, November 3, at [Homecoming and Family Weekend](#). All are welcome! DAVA Dinner ticket $35 per person.*

- **Anissa Centers (Coss) ’93**
  Distinguished Alumna

- **Leigh Hiester ’90**
  Distinguished Alumna

- **Carol A. Wiley Toll ’74**
  Distinguished Alumna
Austin College proudly announces the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award and Service Award recipients. These honorees have distinguished themselves in their professions and in their communities, exemplifying leadership and ethical standards in their interactions. Throughout their lives, they model the spirit of service and broad-mindedness that is fostered by the Austin College educational experience. Distinguished Alumni provide support and advocacy for the College and its mission.

Rizwan Rayaz Jagani ’15
First Decade Award

James T. Jarratt ’67
Heywood Clemons Volunteer Service Award

Patrick Duffey
Cindy Curtis Bean Service to Alumni Award

The First Decade Award is given to an outstanding young alumni who has exemplified the qualities of scholarship and service in their lives and work in at least 10 years since graduating from Austin College. The Heywood Clemons Award is given to alumni or friends in honor of continued service and commitment to the College. The Cindy Curtis Bean Service-to-Alumni Award honors a member of the faculty or staff who demonstrates extraordinary commitment to the support of alumni.

ARE YOU A Legacy ’ROO?

To commemorate the 175th year of Austin College, all current and former students who are members of an Austin College Family Legacy are invited to the Legacy Photo Shoot during 2023 Homecoming and Family Weekend.

If you have a family member who attended Austin College, no matter how far back, we'd like to recognize you. Bring your legacy ‘Roos, in person or in spirit, for a special photo opportunity.

Legacy Photo Shoot
Homecoming & Family Weekend
Golden ‘Roos Reunion

November 3, 2023
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ida Green Communication Center–Lobby
A photographer will be available for groups or individuals; and select photos will be published in 2024 Austin College Magazine.

AC Hosts September ‘Coffee with the Mayor’

Downtown Sherman NOW, a local organization, hosts “Coffee with the Mayor” on the first Friday of each month at a different location in town. In September, community members and business leaders gathered along with Austin College staff and faculty members under the big pecan tree in the newly renovated Commons, north of Wright Campus Center. President Steven O’Day welcomed the crowd and invited them to come to campus often to enjoy the beautiful grounds and attend public events. Mayor David Plyler shared community updates regarding construction, housing, and area events.

Exhibit shows artistic depth of AC Faculty/Staff

The Art & Art History Department hosted an opening reception on Thursday, September 7, for an exhibition, ART 175 Faculty and Staff Art Showcase. The show includes work from 21 artists and is located in the Dennis Gallery on the first floor of Forster Art Complex through Friday, October 13. Visitors are welcome from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 weekdays or by appointment with Sheila Weaver; call 903.813.2283 or email sweaver@austincollege.edu.

Participants include: Dr. Margaret Emma Brandl, Kayla Brooks, Brianna Burnett, Dr. Renee Countryman, Rosie Fasullo, Dr. Jeffrey Fontana, Becky Goldsmith, Dr. Steven Goldsmith, Dr. Greg Kinzer, Carey K. McClain, Mark Monroe, Dr. Richard Neidhardt (1921-2009), Dr. Andrea Overbay, Jess Reinhard, Heidi Rushing, Dr. Daniel Setterberg (1943-2010), Dr. Julia Shahid, Karen Sims, Kim Snipes (1961-2022), Timothy Tracz, and Cary Wacker.
Wyatt Hill ’21
Ph.D. student studying politics at the University of Dallas; preparing to be a Political Science professor

"Austin College is where I both fell in love with the political science discipline and encountered professors who made a very positive impact on my life. When I arrived at AC I didn't know what I wanted to do, and I kind of stumbled into studying political science....I thought for a time about being an attorney. But I enjoyed the scholarship of learning things and then telling others. There's an aspect of political science that is about demographics and voting patterns, but I'm interested in Aristotle's idea of political science as it relates to behaviors and theory. Because I like what I am doing, I want to do well for the sake of doing well—it also brings me joy. Austin College is where I formulated my dreams of the career I want and the person I want to be."

On September 19, Wyatt served as panel moderator at the Second Annual Constitution Day event sponsored by The Sumners Foundation, Austin College Pre-Law Society, Austin College Student Assembly, and Law Related Education.

Emma Chalott Barron ’18
Legal Assistant at Silhol Law, Dallas, Texas

"I am a volunteer and community organizer of over 10 years, advocating for immigrant rights in Dallas. My time with the the North Texas Dream Team since 2012 has played a role in the organization's work for over 10,000 DACA recipients in Dallas and throughout Texas. Through this work, I have empowered other Dreamers like me with the application and renewal process for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, status, and served as the organization's Press and Information Officer for two years. My advocacy for immigrants' rights and dignity led me to the halls of Congress, the streets of Dallas, and features in several media outlets, including the Dallas Morning News, NPR, and Telemundo 39 Dallas.

The internship opportunities through the Austin College Center for Southwestern & Mexican Studies helped me expand my network in Dallas and facilitated my connection with mentors and friends in the area. Additionally, the anthropology, sociology, history, political science, and gender studies coursework and professors from whom I was fortunate to learn helped me
develop my understanding and appreciation of the intersectionality of the communities which I have served, and will continue to serve, as a community organizer, law student, and soon-to-be attorney.”