Research is Teaching

Publisher  Susan Rogers
AVP Marketing Lauraine O’Neil
Editor  Connie Pilot
Managing Editor Teri Brooks
Creative Director LeeDon Moore

Contributing Writers
Marissa Alanis
Sophia Dembling BA’04
Erin Dougherty BA’03, MPA’07
Chad Eggspuehler BA’05
Cari Eggspuehler Guittard BA’96, MPA’97
Karah Hosek MPA’10
Jenni Huffenberger
Chaz Lilly BA’11
Sara Mancuso
Emily Martinez
David Moore
Katherine Morales
Bruce Unrue

Designers & Illustrators
Laura Ehrich MFA’11
Darby Scebold

Photography
Randy Anderson
Bill Crump
Doug Fejer
Richardson Public Library
Rick McKay, White House Photo Office
Roxanne Minnish MFA’11

How to contact us:

UT Dallas Magazine
Administration Bldg. AD28
800 West Campbell Road
Richardson, Texas 75080-3021
(972) 883-4325
utdallasmagazine@utdallas.edu
utdallas.edu

Subscribers
For address changes, contact:
Gloria Muhammad
(972) 883-2291
gloria.muhammad@utdallas.edu
FEATuRES

COURTSIDE SUCCESS 13
A conversation with Marci Sanders and Terry Butterfield who lead two of the most successful athletic programs at UT Dallas—volleyball and men’s basketball.

RESEARCH IS TEACHING 16
Research is teaching, say faculty and off-campus experts, and effective teaching requires research. Students and professors state their cases and describe early experiences.

TOWN AND GOWN 24
There once was a tiny burg known as Richardson. Then, courtesy of some big dreamers, a few research grants and lots of bulldozers, it grew into a city whose destiny was linked to a fledgling campus in the middle of open fields on Campbell Road.

IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS: AN ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE 31
Meet the Eggspuehlers—a group of siblings who attribute their collective success to their unique yet identical decisions to attend UT Dallas.
DEPARTMENTS

On Campus 4
From the Lab 7
Arts and Culture 10
Athletics 13
Alumni Notes 38
In Memoriam 41
Hindsight 49

ON THE COVER

Informing the cover design’s images are a Texas map depicting counties that surround the UT Dallas campus—Collin, Dallas Denton and Tarrant, and on the right, a nanotechnology paper published by Dr. Ray Baughman, the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry and the director of the Alan G. MacDiarmid NanoTech Institute at UT Dallas.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

FAN MAIL FOR SPRING ISSUE ...

I live in Richardson and received UT Dallas Magazine, Spring 2011, at my home. The magazine was magnificent! The cover was genius, the design was awesome, and the topics and writing were excellent!! Can you tell I loved it?

I brought it into the newsroom for my students to see. In addition to our News-Register, we design two magazines and a calendar every summer, so I wanted my students to see your exceptional work. Congratulations to all who worked on the magazine. I can appreciate the time and effort that was put into it. I am so proud of our affiliation with UTD, through scholarships, internships and advertising. Thank you for all you do for the students.

Kathleen Stockmier
Student Publications Manager
North Lake College News-Register

Nice job on the newest UT Dallas Magazine, especially the cover!

Mary S. Masal BS’82

What a wonderful and beautiful magazine. I sent money in for a subscription to it. That is how much I am enjoying it.

Joyce R. Johnson BGS’83
Recipient of the Green and Orange Award for Alumni Service

Thank you for your story on the Bolands. Stacey and Justin are really outstanding examples of the students who have started their education in our Physics Department.

Marjorie D. Renfrow
Graduate Counselor and Student Coordinator, Retired

I just received my first copy of your new magazine. I am a proud Aggie and get TAMU’s alumni magazine, but I must say I am very impressed with the quality of this publication. I look forward to receiving future issues.

Marc L. Delflache
Partner
Intellectual Property - Dallas Practice Head
Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.

I just read the new UT Dallas Magazine. Even if you had not put in a flattering, youthful photo of me, I would have to give you high praise for the issue. Well done! And I am sincerely grateful that my best years here at UTD are now a part of the recorded history.

Dr. Scherry Johnson MMS’97
Director, Teacher Education, School of Interdisciplinary Studies
Vice President for University Affairs, UT Dallas, 1988-1996

Kudos to each of you for your hard work, but I want to express a little extra praise to LeeDon Moore and Darby O’Brien for the cover and to Sophia Dembling BA’04 for “Nothing Held Back History: How Freshmen Came to UT Dallas.” Both were extremely well done.

Serenity King MA’06
Assistant Provost for Policy and Program Coordination

Letters continued on page 46

Corrections, Clarifications

A caption on a photo on page 18 of the Spring 2011 issue incorrectly stated that Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Hobson Wildenthal was present on campus in 1989. Dr. Wildenthal joined the University in 1992. The date of the event shown in the photo is unknown.

The name of contributing writer Sophia Dembling BA’04 was misspelled in the credits on the inside front cover.

UT Dallas Magazine is published by the Office of Communications for the UT Dallas community. Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily the position of the University or its administration. Copyright 2012 by The University of Texas at Dallas and The University of Texas System. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited. Send comments, letters to the editor or other communication regarding this publication to Editor, UT Dallas Magazine, 800 West Campbell Road, AD28, Richardson, TX 75080-3021; 972-883-4325; utdallasmagazine@utdallas.edu.
Katherine Morales joined UT Dallas in 2010 and works with the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics writing stories and promoting University news to local and national media. Her experience includes a six-year stint at UT Southwestern Medical Center as media manager; before that, she was a reporter for The Dallas Morning News. Morales has a BA in journalism from the University of North Texas. A native of Austin, she has lived and worked in the Dallas/Fort Worth area for 13 years.

Bruce Unrue
As UT Dallas’ first full-time sports information director, Bruce Unrue is responsible for the promotion of the Comets’ intercollegiate athletic program. A native of Abilene, Texas, Unrue earned a BS degree from McMurry University in 1980, and worked in advertising, publishing and sports media for more than 20 years before joining UTD in 2003. He was instrumental in the development of UTD’s athletic website (cometsports.utdallas.edu), which includes full coverage of 13 intercollegiate athletic programs, as well as live online coverage of all UTD home athletic events.

Katherine Morales
Katherine Morales joined UT Dallas in 2010 and works with the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics writing stories and promoting University news to local and national media. Her experience includes a six-year stint at UT Southwestern Medical Center as media manager; before that, she was a reporter for The Dallas Morning News. Morales has a BA in journalism from the University of North Texas. A native of Austin, she has lived and worked in the Dallas/Fort Worth area for 13 years.

Cari Eggspuehler Guittard BA’96, MPA’97 and Chad Eggspuehler BA’05
This brother-sister duo have had professional journeys take them a long way—and at times, a world away—from their experiences at UTD. They are part of a growing group of legacy alumni, and share a bit about their work and their lives in this month’s co-authored Alumni Perspective. They are pictured with their sister (center), Jaime Eggspuehler BS’01, who also attended UT Dallas, majored in sociology, and has taught middle school and high school science in the Dallas area for seven years. In 2008, Jaime published her first children’s book, Sprinkled Ties. Cari began at the U.S. Department of State, spent the past eight years in nonprofit management, and has been serving on faculty at a number of business schools. Chad graduated from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law in 2008, and has been serving the federal bench as a law clerk.
Tops in Texas: Callier Dominates in Academic Bowl

Four students in the communication disorders graduate program won a statewide competition testing their overall knowledge of speech-language pathology. UT Dallas team members Mandy Goodfellow MS’11, Kate Lundborg MS’11, Jenni Steck MS’11 and Nellie Evenson won the 2011 Praxis Bowl during the Texas Speech-Language-Hearing Association conference in Houston.

Dubbed the Praxis Bowl after the national exam that speech-language pathologists must pass to be certified and licensed to practice, the competition pitted teams from the 13 Texas universities offering graduate communication disorders programs.

The format for the academic competition was fashioned after the quiz show Jeopardy! and tested students on information they will encounter in the national exam. The categories included anatomy, physiology, assessment, disorders and intervention strategies.

“I think what set our students apart was their self-confidence,” said Jan Lougeay, team advisor and director of clinical education in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. “The faculty and the curriculum at UT Dallas emphasize development of a broad skill set while enhancing students’ self-assurance in their foundation of knowledge. As a result, our students perform well under pressure.”

-Connie Pilato

Program Helps Students Find Career Fit

Last March, students tried career aspirations on for size in Explore the WOW!, a hands-on way to check out the “World of Work” without the longer-term commitment of an internship or job.

It is the third year that the University’s Career Center has offered the program, which helps students determine whether the careers they are considering are a good fit, said Lisa Garza, associate director of career services at the center.

“Through exposure to a work setting, students can learn about job requirements, employer expectations and professionalism,” Garza said. “The added benefit is that they’ll also be able to find out if the path they’re on is the right one for them.”

Catherine Aliaga BA’11, a psychology major who visited the Dallas County Department of Criminal Justice, said her experience helped her understand the various aspects of her career path.

Hayley Luther and Catherine Aliaga at the Dallas County Department of Criminal Justice.

“I have this new perspective on my career goals that’s just invaluable,” Aliaga said. “Getting out in the real world with companies you hope to work for can be frightening. This program was so well-run and organized that I knew exactly what was expected and what I would be participating in.”

-Jenni Huffenberger
The UTeach program at UT Dallas received funding for the Teacher Enhancement Academy in Mathematics and Science, which aids science and mathematics classroom teachers in obtaining a Master of Arts in Teaching in science or mathematics education.

The Student Services Building has been awarded LEED Platinum status by the United States Building Council, becoming the first academic structure—and the 11th statewide—to achieve the designation.

Saskia Versteeg, a McDermott Scholar and physics major, won UT Dallas’ first Udall Scholarship, a prestigious award with a $5,000 prize that is given to college students who are committed to environmental careers.

UT Dallas Earns Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Four officers and 17 founding faculty members were inducted in April into the newly formed chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

By forming a Phi Kappa Phi chapter, UT Dallas has made strides in its effort to access interest earned from the state’s $600 million National Research University Fund, a voter-approved endowment. Access is contingent in part on institutional membership in Phi Kappa Phi or a similar academic honors group.

“My impression of UT Dallas could be summed up in one word: quality,” said Dr. Perry Snyder, Phi Kappa Phi’s executive director. “The quality of the petitioning group, the faculty and the students was most impressive. Along with the other campus visitors, I was most favorably impressed with the level of interest of the president and provost and the deans.”

Securing the chapter was an extensive process that involved providing a detailed introduction to the University, then culminated in a three-day campus visit by Phi Kappa Phi officials to speak with students, deans and other University administrators.

“Phi Kappa Phi seeks evidence of high-quality academics and student services, as well as an environment supportive of research,” Executive Vice President and Provost Hobson Wildenthal said. “The granting of the UT Dallas chapter is further affirmation of our excellence.”

Phi Kappa Phi brings together faculty, select upperclassmen, graduate students, alumni and members of the community in an interdisciplinary environment dedicated to the advancement of learning and service to others.

Founded in 1897 at the University of Maine, Phi Kappa Phi chapters are on more than 300 campuses in the United States, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Each year, approximately 30,000 members are initiated. Since its founding, Phi Kappa Phi has initiated more than 1 million members into its ranks. Membership to the Society is by invitation.

-Chaz Lilly

UT Regents Approve Plans to Build New Home for ATEC

The UT System Board of Regents has approved construction of a 155,000-square-foot facility that will house programs in visual arts, emerging media technology and multimedia communications, as well as a 1,200-seat auditorium.

Designed as a showcase to the visual arts and a highly adaptable technology hub for the Arts and Technology program, the $60 million building is slated for completion in 2013.

The Arts and Technology Building will be near the center of campus, adjacent to the library and facing the newly renovated mall and reflecting pools. It will include an exterior courtyard next to the new auditorium. Inside features include classrooms for game design and visual arts, conference rooms, 2D drawing and painting art studios, 3D art studios, and photography and print-making labs.

“We are in a growth phase, and there has been a chokepoint for us in terms of new facilities,” said UT Dallas President David E. Daniel. “The building, with its 2,150 new classroom seats and 50 faculty offices, will aid our effort to meet our strategic growth goals.”

-Marissa Alanis

-Chaz Lilly
Archer Program Celebrates a Decade of Scholars

The Archer Fellowship Program celebrated its 10th anniversary this year, and the seven spring UT Dallas Archer Fellows returning from Washington, D.C., learned lessons that will last well beyond the semester.

Emily Lichtenheld, a UT Dallas student majoring in international political economy and a McDermott Scholar, interned in the White House’s Office of Cabinet Affairs, where her duties ranged from escorting cabinet secretaries to official White House events to working on various internal reports.

“I have so many favorite memories of working in the White House, including meeting both the president and vice president,” said Lichtenheld. “I also got to help with the 2011 White House Easter Egg Roll, which included an impromptu hoops session with NBA players visiting the White House basketball court.”

Lichtenheld’s long workweeks were punctuated by coursework at the Archer Center, where she and the other fellows took classes on advocacy and the federal policy-making process.

Established by former U.S. Rep. Bill Archer and The University of Texas System, the Archer Fellowship program has placed more than 400 students in internships that immerse them in the national policymaking environment.

In 2007, UT Dallas became the Archer Center’s administrative home. Dr. Edward Harpham, associate provost and director of the University’s Collegium V honors program, serves as primary faculty liaison to the Center and is a member of its advisory board.

“UT Dallas has so many bright, talented students who have a passion for politics and the law,” Harpham said. “Our ability to give them this experience is something they can’t find widely outside the UT System.”

-MA

Big Weekend: Couple Married Friday, Graduated Saturday

Keri Sullivan BS’11 and Thomas Williams BS’11 have proved that love and romance can bloom just about anywhere—even amid classes in computer architecture and electromagnetic engineering.

The two engineering and computer science students met during freshman orientation, became engaged last fall and married the day before spring commencement.

Between them they have family in three states, and that just made it practical to combine all the travel, preparations and accommodations for the two events, they said.

They even met cute. When he ran out of conversation material at orientation, he asked her if she’d ever heard of a Möbius strip, a one-sided geometric surface formed by twisting a narrow, rectangular strip of paper 180 degrees and then connecting the two ends. She hadn’t. He made one from an orientation handout, and the conversation continued.

They started dating a month or so later, and when he proposed last fall he’d first covered the floor with a few hundred Möbius strips.

She earned her bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering, he received his in computer science and they honeymooned in Paris. She has now entered the master’s program in electrical engineering in the University’s Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, and he works in software support and development at Texas Instruments.

-David Moore
Dr. Hoi Lee is advancing what he calls “a transformational paradigm” that could significantly reduce energy consumption in mobile devices, LED lighting systems and other products.

His approach would shift power management from bulky adaptors to tiny semiconductors, significantly increasing the efficiency of power conversion.

Lee, an associate professor of electrical engineering in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, estimates that when it comes to increasingly popular LED lighting systems alone, his approach could save a few dozen terawatt hours a year in the U.S., which is the equivalent of several power plants’ worth of electricity output.

The National Science Foundation awarded Lee $400,000 for the work through its Faculty Early Career Development Awards program, which recognizes junior faculty considered likely to become leaders in their field. Six UT Dallas engineering and computer science faculty have received such awards in the past three years.

“Hoi Lee has been instrumental in advancing power management circuit design for mobile platforms, something critical in today’s wireless mobile information access world,” said Dr. John Hansen, head of electrical engineering in the Jonsson School and holder of the Distinguished Chair in Telecommunications Engineering. “Basically, advancements in mobile technology for information access and computing are worthless unless you have sufficient power to sustain your devices.”

-DM
Stimulation Improves Potential to Learn New Skills

Researchers in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences report that brain stimulation accelerated learning in laboratory experiments that may eventually lead to improved treatments for strokes, tinnitus, chronic pain and more.

In addition, rats in the study performed tasks they had learned under stimulation even after their brain responses returned to their pre-stimulation state. The findings were published in the April 14 edition of Neuron.

The scientists used stimulation to release neurotransmitters that caused the brain to increase its response to a set of tones. This enhanced response allowed rats to learn a task using these tones more quickly than animals that did not receive stimulation. The results provided direct evidence that a larger brain response can aid learning and skill development.

“We think that this process of expanding the brain responses during learning, and then contracting them back down after learning is complete, may help animals and people to be able to perform many different tasks with a high level of skill,” said Dr. Amanda Reed, who wrote the article with colleagues from BBS. “For example, this may explain why people can learn a new skill like painting or playing the piano without sacrificing their ability to tie their shoes or type on a computer.”

-Emily Martinez

Undergrad’s Award Funds Nanotech Discovery

As a UT Dallas undergraduate student, Nancy S. Jacobsen BS’10 published an article in the journal Carbon with the help of funding from the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics Undergraduate Research Program.

The research helped develop an improved procedure for evaluating the purity of carbon nanotubes, which have the potential to revolutionize various applications ranging from electronics and fuel cells to super-strong materials used for body armor.

“Carbon nanotube samples are analytically challenging because all the current manufacturing processes introduce carbonaceous impurities, which are difficult to quantify in the presence of the carbon nanotubes,” said Dr. Paul Pantano, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and senior author of the paper.

Regardless of applications, the builders of this technology need to know the levels of carbon nanotubes in the base material and the amount of impurities.

“It’s like baking a cake using a cup of flour and not knowing if a quarter of the cup contained salt,” said Jacobsen, lead author of the paper. “Like bakers, nanotechnologists need assurance that their cup of CNTs contains no unwanted components.”

NSM’s Undergraduate Research Program is in its seventh year and has awarded a total of $315,000 for undergraduate research work.

-Katherine Morales
Rodney Dangerfield Effect: Leadership Linked to Status

People tend to follow leaders they perceive as high-status individuals and typically reject the take-charge efforts of people considered lower-status or misfits, according to a research team that included UT Dallas faculty members.

Dr. Catherine Eckel, director of the Center for Behavioral and Experimental Economic Science in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, was part of the team that conducted experiments aimed at better understanding economic and social decision-making.

For the experiment, the researchers recruited 80 participants and observed the individuals’ contributions in a repeated public-goods game. They found that players more frequently copied the actions of a leader they believed was “high status” among peers. They tended to ignore potential leaders who were seen as lower status and sometimes punished these individuals for actions perceived as inappropriate or disappointing.

“Leaders who are seen as having higher status are more likely to be followed, and do not have to use sanctions or punishment to get followers to cooperate. Low-status leaders have a harder time getting others to follow, and frequently resort to sanctions to try to get the followers to cooperate,” Eckel said. “We call it the ‘Rodney Dangerfield effect’—they get no respect.”

-EM

Researcher Hopes to Protect Kids from Deceptive Ads

A UT Dallas researcher is examining how children evaluate information to solve problems and learn how to think critically, with the aim of combating misleading advertising aimed at young people.

Dr. Candice Mills, assistant professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and a researcher in the Center for Children and Families, is studying ways to help preschool-age children determine what sources are most helpful in answering their questions. Mills and her team also are looking at other aspects of problem solving, such as the ability to ask good questions and use new information.

Another part of the research will consider how 7- to 9-year-old children develop the ability to critically evaluate the information they encounter. The studies also will observe how parents and children interact when discussing questionable sources because parent-child interaction is considered vital to learning.

“By examining these issues, we can gain important insight into how to nurture the development of critical-thinking skills as children grow into adults,” Mills said.

-EM
Professor and Student Cross the Balkans for Poetry
Translations Celebrate Voice of a Country Where Writer Had Been a Fugitive

In 1990, Gjekë Marinaj BA’06, MA’08 was fleeing through the mountains from his home country of Albania into the former Yugoslavia. He was being pursued by Albanian secret police with tracker dogs. Marinaj’s crime: writing a poem.

“Horses” was a thinly veiled satire on the oppressive totalitarian system of the time. The same day the poem was printed in the newspaper, Marinaj was ordered to police headquarters. He never showed.

Eventually, he made his way to the United States and is now working on his doctorate in literature at UT Dallas. His research and work involve the philosophy of translation.

“I have received an incredible education at UT Dallas, and I hope to pass on what I’ve learned,” said Marinaj.

With Founders Professor of Arts and Humanities Dr. Frederick Turner, Marinaj has recently published Sung Across the Shoulder: Heroic Poetry of Illyria, a collection of Albanian oral folk-poetry.

Turning the poetry from spoken performance into print was no easy task. Since none of the poems had ever been written down, Marinaj traveled to inns and coffeehouses deep in the Albanian mountains to record the poets reciting their verse. Marinaj also photographed the speakers and the venues of their performances.

Back at UT Dallas, Turner and Marinaj began their collaborative work by listening to the recordings together and considering the photographs to determine whether or not a poem was fit for the book. The poem, if chosen, would then be translated, retaining its original tone, mood, style, diction, metrical form and rhyme.

“The whole collection, compiled under huge difficulties and at some personal sacrifice, is, I believe, an extraordinary and valuable achievement,” Turner said in Translation Review of Marinaj’s work.

The collection of poetry, however, is not Marinaj’s only recent accomplishment. He has also translated Turner’s books The Undiscovered Country: Sonnets of a Wayfarer and Out of Plato’s Cave into Albanian.

Turner and Marinaj spent a week in May presenting the new books in Europe, stopping in Albania, Montenegro and Kosovo.

“We met many fine poets, passionate and great of heart, but also astonishingly abreast of contemporary world literature and thought. We traveled widely across the snowy mountains, thundering gorges and Arcadian meadows of the Balkans, and I came to see why people have fought over it so fiercely through the centuries,” Turner said upon returning.

-CL
Sophomore Philip Campbell received one of just 275 scholarships given this year to U.S. undergraduates deemed promising researchers. The 2011 class of Eugene McDermott Scholars is the University’s largest with 23 freshmen, bringing the number of McDermott Scholars on campus to 78. An engineering and computer science team triumphed at the 2011 BattleBots National Championship in Miami, winning first place in the team’s division. Dr. Dean Sherry, professor of chemistry, was one of a handful of scientists elected as a Fellow of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Weekday</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JAN</td>
<td>14-Jan</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>CTRAK</td>
<td>Heyd Fontenot - Cicle Werk (1/14-2/11)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-Jan</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CONFUCIUS</td>
<td>Chinese New Year</td>
<td>$5</td>
<td>CN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-Jan</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>FACULTY @ 5</td>
<td>The Great American Songbook</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25-Jan</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CENTER FOR VALUES</td>
<td>Heather Douglas-Science vs Politics: The Battle for Integrity</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27-Jan</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Sonic Architectonic (1/27-2/18)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FEB</td>
<td>1-Feb</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>Cinematheque</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-Feb</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>GUITAR</td>
<td>Javier Calderon</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-Feb</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CLASSICAL</td>
<td>Fenia Chang Piano 4 Hands</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-Feb</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Affinities: Comer Art Collection Reception</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>FACULTY @ 5</td>
<td>Elledanceworks</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9-Feb</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>LECTURE</td>
<td>C.D. Wright, Poet</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-Feb</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CLASSICAL</td>
<td>Erin Hanning &amp; Friends</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15-Feb</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CONFUCIUS</td>
<td>Traditional Chinese Opera</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17-Feb</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Triple Play - Eisemann Residency</td>
<td>var</td>
<td>EIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22-Feb</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CONFUCIUS</td>
<td>Tables &amp; Chairs, Confucius Pantomime</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23-Feb</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>THEATRE</td>
<td>Cinematheque</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>26-Mar</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CONCERT</td>
<td>Nancy Cartwright-Wiser Use of Science, Wiser Wishes, Wiser Policies</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-Mar</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>4:00</td>
<td>GUITAR</td>
<td>Jeff Cogan</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>CN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3-Mar</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>GUITAR</td>
<td>Duo Melis</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>CN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-Mar</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Global Positions, Reception (2/24-3/24)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-Mar</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>The Complete American History Abridged</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 11-17</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CENTER FOR VALUES</td>
<td>Nancy Cartwright-Wiser Use of Science, Wiser Wishes, Wiser Policies</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21-Mar</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>STUDENT</td>
<td>Music of the Spheres</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>28-Mar</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>CONFUCIUS</td>
<td>Jewish Diaspora in China, Xu Xin</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mar 29-31</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>THEATRE</td>
<td>The Complete American History Abridged</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APR</td>
<td>4-Apr</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>FILM</td>
<td>Cinematheque</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-Apr</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>FACULTY @ FIVE</td>
<td>Shingo Fuji Guitar</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-Apr</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>STUDENT</td>
<td>Putnum County Spelling Bee</td>
<td>$15</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14-Apr</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Larissa Aharoni (4/14-5/12)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>14-Apr</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CLASSICAL</td>
<td>Emanuel Borok</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>CN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22-Apr</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>TVAA Closing Reception (Exhibit runs 4/5-4/22)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27-Apr</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>ART</td>
<td>Wycliff Gordon</td>
<td>$20</td>
<td>CN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAY</td>
<td>May 3-12</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>STUDENT</td>
<td>Spring Festival (Art rec 5/4)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>var</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May 3-5</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>DANCE</td>
<td>Spring Dance Show</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4-May</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CLASSICAL</td>
<td>Musica Nova</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>PH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-May</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>8:00</td>
<td>CLASSICAL</td>
<td>UTD Choral Concert</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19-May</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>CTRAK</td>
<td>Raul Cordero (5/19-6/16)</td>
<td>free</td>
<td>CT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All Times PM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED*

CN=Conference Center, CTR=Central Trak, EIS=Eisemann Center, PH=Performance Hall, TH=University Theatre, VA=Visual Arts.
Two Alumni Gifts.

On Oct. 7, 2011, UT Dallas celebrated two historic gifts to the School of Management given by three of its graduates—Naveen Jindal of Delhi, India, and Nancy and Charles Davidson of Houston. Their generosity provided an unprecedented combined gift of $30 million—the largest alumni gift in the University’s history.

The School of Management is now known as the Naveen Jindal School of Management. The Management Honors Program is now the Charles and Nancy Davidson Honors Program.

Jindal graduated with an MBA in 1992. The Davidsons both graduated in 1980, Charles with a master’s degree in management and administrative sciences and Nancy with a bachelor’s degree in business and public administration.

Watch the dedication on the YouTube-UT Dallas Official Channel.
UT Dallas volleyball coach Marci Sanders didn’t think she would ever pursue a career in coaching. UT Dallas basketball coach Terry Butterfield never wanted to do anything else. Sanders is a soft-spoken, unassuming West Texan who almost has to take on a different persona on the court, “amping up” her personality in order to bark out directions to her team. Butterfield, on the other hand, is the high-energy son of a revered New York football coach, often finding himself in situations where his team is better served by toning down his personality.

The paths they took to success were different, but the results have been the same as each has built their respective program into “success stories” in a very short time at UTD.

Entering the 2011 season, Sanders’ volleyball teams have won more than 20 games five years in a row, earned back-to-back American Southwest Conference (ASC) titles in 2008 and 2009, and were the only NCAA Division III team in the country to finish a regular season undefeated when they went 25-0 in 2009.

Butterfield’s men’s basketball team also has a pair of ASC championship trophies, and finished each of the last three seasons with 20 or more wins and a berth in the NCAA Division III national playoffs. Twice during that span, the Comets advanced deep into the tournament, finishing among the nation’s elite and coming within a narrow overtime loss of representing UT Dallas at the national “Final Four” in 2009.

Sanders and Butterfield recently discussed their backgrounds, the intricacies of coaching young men and women and what it takes to build a successful program.
How did you get into coaching? How do you define your role as coach?

**Butterfield:** I really didn’t have a choice. I grew up wanting to be like my dad (National Football Hall of Fame Coach Jim Butterfield, who won three national titles in 30 years at Ithaca College in New York). I was the kid who rode my bike to the college each day after school just so I could be around it. The competition and the instruction part of it appealed to me, but so did the camaraderie—seeing a group of guys, all working together and pulling for the common good.

Each and every student-athlete is different. Some need a kick in the pants. Others can’t handle a kick in the pants. Some need a pat on the back. Some need to be challenged. It’s my job to try to figure out what makes each kid tick and what it takes to get the very best out of each one of them.

**Sanders:** I’ve been playing sports all my life. As a kid, I didn’t really like volleyball because it wasn’t a contact sport. Once I started playing, though, I started having some success and getting recognition. What kind of kid doesn’t like that? After college, I planned to go to physical therapy school, but my college coach had an opening on her staff and asked me if I’d like to give it a try. Throughout my career, I learned more and more about the dynamics of the sport and discovered I had a pretty good IQ for it.

Sports is where I had the most success in life, so I decided to stay with it. And here we are 10 years later.

As a coach, the most important thing I’ve learned is that you have to develop a good relationship with your players, listen and communicate with them. You have to figure out what it will take to motivate them to do what you need them to do in order to be successful. Motivation comes when they realize they’re getting out of it what they’re putting in. You’re managing people, not players. The game comes second.

To what do you attribute your team’s level of success in recent years?

**Butterfield:** The key for us has been finding a group of good players who also happened to be exceptional guys—smart students with good heads on their shoulders. That has allowed us to run some pretty involved offensive and defensive schemes on the court that our kids have really bought into. We’re rarely the most athletic team on the floor, but we’re very structured in what we do, and we do it well.

**Sanders:** Winning is always the measure of success, but I think it begins by developing relationships with the kids you are recruiting. We’ve worked hard finding those kids who are the “whole package”—talent, determination and a willingness to trust us and work hard to meet our goals. When you can put all those pieces together, winning takes care of itself.

When you recruit, what are you looking for in an ideal student-athlete?

**Butterfield:** You have to find kids who are passionate about playing their sport at a higher level. They have to be willing to work hard and sacrifice for very little in return. There’s no financial reward or fancy shoe contract in Division III. We’re not on television all the time. They have to love the game and want to be part of a team. If you took basketball away from these guys, it would be like peeling away part of their personality. Being an athlete is just part of who they are.

**Sanders:** At Division III, you have to find student-athletes who are self-motivated and self-disciplined because there are no athletic scholarships. At this level, they’re here because they want to be. The game isn’t any different. You have to find kids who are committed and willing to work hard to achieve your goals.

Obviously, you’ve been able to find talented players in order to achieve success. How important is talent?

**Butterfield:** The longer I’m in coaching, the more it has come slamming home to me that you have to have talented kids. Even in Division III, the bar has been raised so high at the top levels. But I also think that character is just as important. We may not have the best athletes out there, but we’re going to have a group of guys who are really going to play together and put themselves second to the good of the team.
A conversation with the leaders of two of UT Dallas’ most successful athletic programs

Sanders: Talent is always going to play a role, but all colleges have talented athletes. It’s really about which team is the most intelligent, plays well together and makes the best decisions. It’s also about developing mental toughness and building confidence. The ladies on our 2009 undefeated team may not have always been the most talented, but they had determination and confidence. They just weren’t going to lose.

What are some of the challenges you face in recruiting and retaining quality student-athletes?

Butterfield: Academics is a huge challenge. We see thousands of players over the course of a year, and I’ll bet we can only recruit less than one percent of those. Another challenge is the competition with other great universities who want the same kids. We start off with a very limited pool of players who can meet our standards, and then we have some pretty fierce competition to get those kids here. Also, there’s a culture in this region of the country when it comes to athletic scholarships: Kids in Texas want a scholarship, if they are going to continue to play. We’ve had really good players who fit our profile perfectly just walk away rather than play without any scholarship money. I don’t agree with that kind of thinking, but I understand it.

Sanders: UT Dallas is one of the best academic institutions in the state. We use that as a selling point, but it’s difficult to find players who are able to balance a strenuous academic load with the demands of a championship athletic program. The other issue at Division III is turnover. If kids decide they want to stop playing, they can just walk away. They’re not employees and we don’t have athletic scholarships to keep them here. You can’t ever rest. Recruiting never ends.

You’ve set some high standards for your teams. Are those expectations difficult to uphold?

Butterfield: As coaches, we always like to tell recruits about all the nice things that have happened to previous groups. People like to associate themselves with a successful program. And you’d like to think our guys will respect that history and try to uphold it, but there’s no guarantee. When you get to a certain level, nothing pleases your opponents more than knocking you off that stoop.

Sanders: Winning brings expectations, and those get set higher and higher every year. I trust what we’re doing, so I’m not worried about not achieving success. I’m not afraid of the expectations because I know we’re working hard. You use expectations to build confidence. It’s not about winning. It’s about getting better. If you continue to improve, whether you win or lose, you’ll be in a better situation.

Looking ahead, what kinds of goals have you set for your program?

Butterfield: Our goal every year starts with winning a conference championship. With all the talented teams in our conference, that’s a real achievement. Winning a championship puts you in the national scene. Now, winning a national championship is a very, very difficult thing to do. You have to be talented; you have to have tremendous preparation and a lot of luck; everything has to line up just so for that to happen. I’ve seen my father’s teams win titles and I remember just what a unique experience it was. I’d like nothing better than to be able to have a group of our kids accomplish that and bring something like that back to UT Dallas.

Sanders: I want our program to keep heading in the direction it’s been going. I want the kids to feel successful—whether that’s wins and losses, or graduating in four years or whatever it may be. I want them to have good experiences. Hopefully, we’ll keep having winning seasons and keep getting good kids who will work hard for us. The success will come.
Research is Teaching

by Katherine Morales
It was pretty brazen of then-16-year-old Ray Baughman, drenched and wearing his Sunday best, to trek around the University of Pittsburgh one rainy summer day in 1958 making cold calls on various professors by knocking on doors.

But Baughman had an earnest request.

He was looking for a summer job in an honest-to-goodness laboratory. Maybe—if he was very lucky—he’d even get a chance to do some hands-on research.

Growing up on a turkey farm in western Pennsylvania, Baughman had a notion early on that he wanted to be a scientist. He figured, where better to look for work than at a research university?

Dr. George A. Jeffrey, the professor of chemistry and physics who answered Baughman’s knock on the door that day, might have turned away a high school kid. Jeffrey might have said Baughman was too young, too inexperienced or simply too much trouble to train—that there wasn’t enough time to devote to the task of helping him in the first place.

Fifty-three years later, Dr. Ray Baughman—the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry, director of the Alan G. MacDiarmid NanoTech Institute, a recently elected member of the National Academy of Engineering, and one of the most cited scientific authors in the world—attributes his formidable success to the day Jeffrey allowed a skinny, rain-soaked kid from a tiny rural town into his lab.

“That experience crystallized my early desire to become a scientist,” Baughman said. “And it was the kind of serendipitous event that made me aware of the importance of mentorship and academic research.” Meeting Jeffrey changed the course of Baughman’s life.

Research laboratories in academic settings are critical to efforts to better understand the world around us and beyond. These environments offer the building blocks and training grounds necessary to develop young scientists. Sometimes, such environments grow within a university setting over long periods of time as a result of the serendipitous accumulation of people and resources. But serendipity—while it makes for great stories and in Dr. Baughman’s case, a great scientist—isn’t enough. UT Dallas works to foster an environment that actively supports students and faculty forming research partnerships.

By pairing excellent faculty with promising students, mentorships not unlike the one that shaped Baughman’s career can flourish.
Teen Scientist

Take Max Grunewald.

An outstanding student at St. Mark’s School of Texas, Grunewald’s opportunity to study in a UT Dallas lab came home to him with his dad.

“My dad sat next to Dr. Baughman at a banquet, and they began talking about their jobs,” Grunewald said. “Dr. Baughman told my dad about his research. [My dad] told him about me, and Dr. Baughman said we should look into some of the programs for younger students.”

The George A. Jeffrey NanoExplorers Program—named for Baughman’s mentor—introduces high school students to nanotechnology and encourages them to pursue careers in science and engineering.

Grunewald, like all students accepted to the program, worked in a lab with UT Dallas faculty where he was encouraged to learn how the lab operated and to form his own research interests and projects.

“Before I even started, I knew I wanted to study alternative energy and ways we can transition to renewable energy,” Grunewald said.

He came to the program the summer between his junior and senior years in high school. There, he listened to a presentation given by UT Dallas faculty members outlining their research.

“I heard a speech on super capacitors and hybrid energy storage devices,” he said. “I knew right then and there I wanted to work in that lab.”

That lab belongs to Dr. John Ferraris, a 36-year veteran faculty member at UT Dallas and head of the chemistry department. Grunewald treated his experience with Ferraris in NanoExplorers like a full-time job. He spent hours learning lab etiquette and procedures in preparation for college, which was still a year away.

“Our research here is very much at the interface of chemistry, biology, physics and engineering,” Ferraris said. “We encourage collaboration between departments and among our students. There are so many areas that chemistry touches. We don’t want to be closed off.”

The opportunity to reach out to fellow NanoExplorers, UT Dallas students and faculty played a major role in convincing Grunewald to attend UT Dallas. He was...
accepted into the 2011 Eugene McDermott Scholars Program, the University’s premier scholarship opportunity aimed at very high-achieving students in all areas of study.

“I already knew that UT Dallas allows you to be more directly involved in work and research,” Grunewald said. “Undergraduates are exposed to interconnectedness in all different fields, and it made perfect sense for me to come here.”

Now a freshman, Grunewald is weighing his options carefully. His diverse research interests include economic policy, Chinese studies and, of course, renewable energy.

**Investing in Research**

The infrastructure necessary for experiences like Grunewald’s is expensive. And creating a robust university research engine that can power scientific breakthroughs requires a fairly specific set of parts, say those with experience in the field.

“Universities are centers for learning—learning for faculty as well as students,” said Dr. Robert Berdahl, interim president of the University of Oregon, past president of the Association of American Universities, former chancellor of the University of California, Berkeley, and former president of The University of Texas. In evaluating the quality of a university, “the quality of teaching, how well the findings of research are transmitted to students, is an important component of a successful university, but first and foremost, it is the quality of research that defines the measure of success of a research university.”

This does not mean that all institutions of higher education need to be research universities, he said. “But the unique role of universities is to push back the frontiers of knowledge and to train others to join in the process of discovering new knowledge or gaining a greater understanding of the known world. The faculty must itself be actively engaged in this learning process.”

A faculty engaged in research creates an entire culture of learning for the university, Berdahl believes. “It defines the culture, which is one of open inquiry, curiosity-driven inquiry, challenging inherited knowledge in an effort to understand more or differently about the human and natural world.” Without this culture, and without the effort to advance understanding, “what we teach stagnates.”

As research environments throughout the world become more competitive, Berdahl said, universities are judged by the quality of research being done, which begins with teaching.

“We live in a knowledge-based environment, where the level of economic development is based on innovation,” Berdahl added. “Paradigmatic breakthroughs, like the discovery of the structure of DNA or any other such revolution of understanding, require public investment.”

Recruiting and cultivating top faculty and students at UT Dallas often begins with grants for top-tier research projects. In only one year, from 2009 to 2010, UT Dallas received 572 new grant awards—more than double the number of the previous year. Funding awarded also increased by more than $20 million.

“Funding allows us to improve our infrastructure and equipment,” said Dr. Bruce Gnade, vice president for research. “It also enables us to recruit new students.”

Gnade points out that supporting these students with fellowships and research stipends is crucial in providing the best training and programs available.
Founded just over 40 years ago by a trio whose declared intention was to provide North Texas with a major research university, UT Dallas has been on a sometimes-impatient mission to meet its destiny. Building a foundation of excellence out of thin air has meant finding faculty whose accomplishments would support and attract other highly qualified individuals, both students and colleagues. UTD has made a point of bringing Nobel Prize winners to its campus and fostering interactions between eminent researchers and students, beginning with the fondly recalled Dr. Polykarp Kusch, a member of the physics faculty from 1972 to 1982. In 1955, Kusch shared the Nobel Prize in physics. An annual campus lecture series, “Concerns of the Lively Mind,” bears his name.

The University’s second Nobel laureate, the late Dr. Alan G. MacDiarmid, was instrumental in creating the University’s NanoTech Institute, which was named in his honor in 2007. MacDiarmid, who shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 2000, was the James Von Ehr Distinguished Chair in Science and Technology and a professor of physics and chemistry. Also a member of the National Academy of Sciences, he was known for starting his lectures by saying: “Science is people.”

Dr. Russell Hulse, who currently serves as a regental professor and associate vice president for strategic initiatives, shared the 1993 Nobel Prize in physics with his thesis advisor. He leads a program for community-based science education through the University’s Science and Engineering Education Center.

“My career in science began as a youngster who was captivated by how science opened his eyes to the fascinating world around him. That fascination eventually led to an exciting scientific adventure as a graduate student and a discovery for which I was awarded a Nobel Prize,” Hulse said. “The experience of receiving the Nobel led me to a new focus on bringing the excitement and adventure of science to a new generation of kids and adults through community-based science education.”

OTHER ACCOLADES

In addition to three Nobel laureates among its faculty, UT Dallas currently has four members of the National Academies:

• Dr. Ray Baughman, director of the Alan G. MacDiarmid NanoTech Institute and Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry, National Academy of Engineering.

• Dr. Brian J.L. Berry, Lloyd Viel Berkner Regental Professor in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences, 2005 recipient of the Vautrin Lud Prize, National Academy of Sciences.

• Dr. David E. Daniel, president of UT Dallas, National Academy of Engineering.

• Dr. Don Shaw, emeritus professor of electrical engineering, National Academy of Engineering.
One such student, Francisco Garcia, applied for the most basic funding opportunity available through UT Dallas: an Undergraduate Research Scholar Award sponsored by Gnade’s office. Garcia was among 46 students in 2010 to receive $500 to cover costs related to his scientific interests. His latest research earned him a second Undergraduate Research Scholar Award in 2011.

Garcia’s path to UT Dallas began more than two decades ago with his family’s arduous journey from Mexico to a new life in the United States. These days, Garcia immerses himself in science every day. He revels in the high-tech surroundings of the UT Dallas campus and in the laboratories he frequents as he delves into the mysteries of neuroscience.

“My family and I came here as immigrants when I was very young, and when I first started college, I worked in restaurants and construction to pay for school,” Garcia said. “The whole time though, I always had a passion for studying the brain.” His passion and clear aptitude for neurobiology paired perfectly with exceptional research opportunities and scholarships available to underclassmen at UT Dallas.

Garcia’s project was guided by Dr. Marco Atzori, associate professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

“I’m especially interested in studying disorders such as autism, brain cancer and others, and that’s why I really appreciated this opportunity,” Garcia said. “I’m thankful for the opportunities given to me by Dr. Atzori to join his lab and be part of his research team.”

The research scholar award provides funding for a single semester for each student researcher. The program is paid for in part by support from corporate sponsors that have included Raytheon and Ericsson. The number of undergraduate projects sponsored under the annual program has more than doubled since its beginning in 2007. This fall, 70 students received funding for 69 undergraduate research projects.

“Without a doubt, [part of] what attracts students to UT Dallas is the research opportunity here—specifically in the sciences,” Atzori said. “The mentorships available here, particularly for undergraduate students, are unparalleled.”

Every time I have published an inferred or proposed idea or model and it is confirmed and validated by others’ work, I have an “Aha!” moment. It reinforces that my work is advancing knowledge.

Dr. Alex Piquero
Ashbel Smith Professor in Criminology in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

Dr. Li Zhang
Professor of molecular and cell biology and holder of the Cecil H. and Ida Green Distinguished Chair in Systems Biology Science

As an undergraduate, I approached a professor about an article we had read. I identified a research question that had not been asked and she encouraged me to write a proposal. I did. We developed a survey, collected data, wrote an article, presented it at a conference and it was published in a peer-reviewed journal. I learned about the research process from the beginning, the birth of an idea, and I have attempted to model this for my undergraduate and graduate students alike.

Dr. Alex Piquero
Ashbel Smith Professor in Criminology in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences

As an undergraduate, I approached a professor about an article we had read. I identified a research question that had not been asked and she encouraged me to write a proposal. I did. We developed a survey, collected data, wrote an article, presented it at a conference and it was published in a peer-reviewed journal. I learned about the research process from the beginning, the birth of an idea, and I have attempted to model this for my undergraduate and graduate students alike.
Unique Opportunities

Sussana Elkassih, a senior who is double majoring in biochemistry and chemistry, began her lab work at UT Dallas much earlier than peers at other universities.

"I have friends at schools all over the state and country," she said. "And when I tell them that I'm already in a research lab, they are so surprised. I know almost all of the faculty very well and I have an undergraduate mentor."

Elkassih works under the wing of one of UT Dallas' National Science Foundation Career Grant recipients—Dr. Mihaela Stefan, assistant professor of chemistry. Stefan is researching new semiconducting polymers—plastic electronics—with adjustable energy levels. The use of semiconducting polymers in solar cells is considered a promising avenue of research aimed at making solar cells less expensive and more efficient. Elkassih's weekly schedule includes 12 hours of lab work and meetings with Stefan and fellow students in a sort of round table where they present their work. It can be intimidating, Elkassih said, but it increases her awareness of her peers' work and, by requiring her to explain her ideas, helps her think more deeply about her own research.

"Dr. Stefan really cares about her students and spends as much time with us as she can, making sure we work on publishing papers and helping us find fellowships," Elkassih said. "It's been an amazing experience."

Stefan expects her undergraduates to publish at least once before graduation and to have several published papers by the time they finish. Elkassih recently met that expectation by publishing a paper in the Polymer of Science Journal on a complex aspect of solar cell polymers.

"I want to help create a new generation of scientists who are able to think across disciplines—the scientists of the future," Stefan said. "I think the most important thing is that I never compromise teaching for research—they both have to go hand in hand."

Continued on page 44
Venture Development Center Spurs Big Ideas

Entrepreneurially minded researchers at UT Dallas now have a home. The newly opened Venture Development Center is a dedicated facility housing spinoff companies affiliated with the University. The 8,000 square feet of offices and lab space will facilitate the launch of enterprises founded on technology developed at UT Dallas by students and faculty. Currently, nine companies occupy the facility.

“This will provide space for startups that is both economical and close to campus,” said Robert Robb, associate vice president for technology commercialization at UT Dallas. “Early stage enterprises are limited in their financial resources. We want to help by providing space both convenient and inexpensive for technology development.”

The Dallas/Fort Worth region’s track record in attracting new investments and venture capital for innovative research and technology offers plenty of room for growth. UT Dallas is working to raise the profile of the area by directly supporting development of new, marketable technologies. “Many startup companies begin in academia, with new inventions attracting the interest of potential investors and partners,” Robb said. “The ultimate goal of our startup facilitation program is to bring UT Dallas’ commercially viable innovations to the marketplace that will in turn create jobs in the area.”

In Fiscal’10, UT Dallas had 64 invention disclosures, 38 patents filed, eight licenses or options and five startup companies. Research spending leapt more than 25 percent from $65.8 million in Fiscal’09 to $82 million in Fiscal’10. “Our spinoff companies account for nearly 20 percent of total startups in the UT System in 2009,” Robb said. “And our numbers are expected to grow.”

In the end, the quality of the startups created will provide the best indication of the success of the program, Robb said. “Although we’re just beginning, several high-quality startups have spun off from the University, and providing this incubator is expected to increase the visibility of our companies and thus enhance their success.”

Research impacts our daily lives in many ways. Whether you are purchasing a new product, reading a company press release or taking medicine for a cold, you can bet that research played a significant role in bringing that item to you—the consumer.

Dr. Rebecca Files
Assistant professor of accounting in the Naveen Jindal School of Management

The best moment is when a baby, toddler, child or adult hears sounds through a cochlear implant for the first time. Whether an individual’s initial response is awe, fear, confusion, disappointment, excitement or relief, it is a moment worth cherishing—one that reflects thousands of hours of research from hundreds of scientists and clinicians to make this one moment possible.

Dr. Emily Tobey
Professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and holder of the Nelle C. Johnston Chair in Early Childhood Communication Disorders

Vice President for Research Bruce Gnade (left) and UT Dallas President David E. Daniel (center) cut a ribbon, signifying the formal opening of the Venture Development Center in October 2011.
ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE LATE 1800s, there was a small town, more like a village really, that came to be when a man named Richardson built a railroad. It boasted a general store, a post office and a drugstore. By 1910, it had electricity, and by 1914, a red brick school building. In 1925, it elected its first mayor, and by 1926 had issued bonds to support waterworks, so that residents could have indoor plumbing. In the 1950s, the U.S. Postal Service began delivering door to door.
Not long after that, a big company moved nearby, and the one-time village without plumbing or home mail delivery suddenly became a small city. The big company (also a big employer) thought the small city practically perfect in every way except one: no university. The big employer (Texas Instruments) decided to create the kind of university (UT Dallas) that would complement both its needs for highly educated employees and, it was hoped, the city’s ambitions and dreams.

And so the Richardson-UTD town-gown marriage was arranged. While early records recount love at first sight—or even before—like any long partnership, observers say, this one is tempered and shaped by the tests it has weathered, and the stresses and strains of everyday life together. Like an old married couple, Richardson and UT Dallas have a shared history of difficulties overcome and achievements celebrated. They take pride in one another’s accomplishments and try hard not to get on each other’s nerves.

Ask anyone who has watched them for awhile how Richardson and UTD get along, and one of two stories is told. The first involves fireworks that scared a neighbor’s dog. The second involves 5 p.m. traffic along Floyd Road, when working students arriving for night classes meet Richardson residents trying to get home and start dinner.

The fireworks issue was solved with a simple postcard alerting neighbors to dates and times of big events occurring on campus, and an invitation to “come outside and enjoy the show” when pyrotechnics were on the schedule.

The traffic problem, on the other hand, has involved years of teamwork, and some significant investments and concessions on both parts. The University’s entrance was moved from Floyd to Campbell Road. More recently, growing traffic motivated a shared initiative to build a road within the campus proper.

So, like any relationship, this one has had its issues—some ended with just a bit of improved communication and others requiring ongoing adjustments to the growth and change that would be inevitable in any long marriage. As the two approach their 50th anniversary together in 2019, work continues to be sure everyone’s needs are being met.

Before the organization that would ultimately become UTD opened as the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest in 1962, locals were practically giddy about it. Early news articles located it “in the Plano area” or “just north of Dallas” or in the “Dallas North metropolitan complex.” A Dallas Times Herald headline crowed: “Like Science Fiction, Space-Age Signs Appear for Area.” The article reported on the nascent tech corridor: “... now, on the farmlands of Richardson and Plano where cattle graze, one of the nation’s leading science meccas will start rising ...” As the school grew, local papers described groundbreakings and research grants, the beards the professors sported (Were they copying beatnik style? The Dallas Morning News wondered.) and the annual Christmas get-together of the Graduate Research Center Wives Club.

Richard T. Lipscomb, associate director of development for the school, forecast in a speech to the Richardson Chamber of Commerce that payroll at and around the Graduate Research Center would be $100 million within 10 years.

In 1967 the center became the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, and Richardson ran an advertisement in the Times Herald boasting that it was “Contributing to the amazing growth of Richardson” and that “... it will make a great contribution to This City and all mankind.”
And when the center became The University of Texas at Dallas by joining The University of Texas System in 1969, everyone from the mayor to the man on the street was thrilled.

“Look at any college city anywhere in the country, and you’ll find that the growth of the community is directly tied in with the presence of the college in the city,” Cliff Cassidy, president of Richardson Savings and Loan, told the Richardson Daily News. “This new university is the greatest thing that has ever happened to this city,” agreed Walter Massie, who owned an office supply store.

More than 40 years later, UT Dallas and Richardson are still a powerful and productive alliance. People closest to the happy couple see a cooperative, tandem effort for the economic and cultural development of both.

Richardson’s civic leaders are cheerfully resigned to the fact that the school is called UT Dallas and not UT Richardson.

When a mural was planned for the Student Union Pub patio, Dr. Darrelene Rachavong, vice president for student affairs, asked students to decide on images that reflected their experience at UT Dallas.

“The first thing on this group’s list was ‘Dallas,’” said Rachavong. “They wanted the skyline for the background.” Throughout weeks of work with the muralist, she would say occasionally, “What about Richardson?”

The students didn’t object. They even saw a need, but couldn’t come up with something visually tied to the city. Nevertheless, as a direct outgrowth of the North Dallas technology corridor, UT Dallas perfectly reflects Richardson, the city for which it is not named.

Both town and gown are scientifically inclined, well-educated and ambitious. Half the city’s work force has at least a bachelor’s degree. Seventy-four percent work in white-collar jobs. Six of the 10 largest employers in Richardson are high-tech companies. Even the ethnic makeup of the city and school are similar, with whites and Asians the largest percentages of both populations.

And of course, the local tech industry and school are deeply entwined.

“Our business community complements the areas of achievement that are most pronounced at UTD, such as engineering, math and science, and a strong business school,” said Bill Keffler, Richardson’s city manager. “As our employment has grown, those same corporations are utilizing more consequentially the benefits of the school for training their employees and recruiting new employees.”

Universities are powerful growth engines, bringing jobs and intellectual and cultural capital to surrounding communities. But not all town-gown relationships are happy ones, especially if universities forget their neighbors and make decisions from on high, said Eugene P. Trani, former president of Virginia Commonwealth University.

Conflict is often triggered when a school’s expansion displaces residents and businesses.

Arriving at VCU in 1990, Trani stepped directly into a hornet’s nest. “The day I was appointed, there was a press conference and one-third of the room was picketers,” he said. At issue was the university’s plan to exercise eminent domain. “It had become the whole community versus VCU,” Trani said.

Issues surrounding land and development often bring to light disconnection between universities and cities. The problem at VCU and in other strained town-gown relationships, said Trani, was that the university made unilateral decisions.

“In cases like that, neighbors really feel that the university doesn’t care about them and it’s just trying to grab their land,” said Trani.

UT Dallas has never had to grasp at its neighbors’ holdings. A major factor contributing to the congenial union is the dowry the University brought: land, land and more land. UT Dallas’ founders endowed the school with about 325 acres in Richardson, Plano and Dallas, that by 1993, through other gifts and purchases, had become more than 1,200 acres encompassing unincorporated parts of Dallas and Collin counties, as well as the cities.

In its early days, the campus proper was surrounded by so much open acreage that it was invisible to the community, said UT Dallas Police Chief Larry Zacharias. Zacharias spent 31 years on the Richardson police force, serving as Richardson’s chief of police from 2002 to 2008. In 1977, when he joined the force, the city was only about two-thirds of today’s geographic size, population about 70,000. “Campbell and Coit were two-lane blacktop,” he said.

With that much land, when UT Dallas expands, the neighbors have barely noticed. In fact, UT Dallas is so land-rich, it can share as well as profit from its holdings. In 1975, the University sold Richardson eight acres for a water plant, and Plano purchased eight acres for a city park. In 1986, UT Dallas gave the state about 70 acres on the north edge of campus, for the President George Bush Turnpike.

The UT Dallas campus has six soccer fields. Four more are under construction. The school partners with the Lake Highlands Soccer Association. “We have a huge number of Richardson and Metroplex people using our soccer fields,” said Rachavong. “Hundreds of kids and parents. We could build 20 more and rent them all out, all the time.”

Sometimes creative funding and collaboration are necessary for the University to accomplish its goals. “It’s hard for the University to get money for infrastructure,” said former Richardson Mayor Gary Slagel. “They can get it for buildings and things like that, but infrastructure is more difficult.”

So moneymaking arrangements such as renting playing fields help the University build and maintain the infrastructure as well as provide services to local residents.

Sometimes, if the city sees potential benefits, it will step in and provide financial assistance for infrastructure development, as it did for the Campbell Road entrance.

Josie Sullivan, who moved to Cottonwood Creek, the Floyd Road subdivision, in 1976, describes the traffic problem.

“We’re an encapsulated neighborhood as far as getting in and out,” she said. “We have two cul-de-sacs. The only way to get out is the main road and it was just a constant stream of traffic.”
The first proposal to fix the problem was closing Lookout Drive and routing campus traffic to the south entrance (off Campbell Road), but neighborhood groups vetoed that idea, recalled UT Dallas President Emeritus Dr. Robert Rutford. When Waterview/Independence Parkway was widened and completed, the plan was to put the main entrance there, he said. That plan lasted a couple of years. When Dr. Franklyn Jenifer became president, he wanted to put the entrance on Campbell, recalled Slagel.

Once the location was decided on, Richardson kicked in DART (Dallas Area Rapid Transit) funds to build the new campus entrance.

“Before we actually had rail stations here, if you were contributing to DART, you could get some of that contribution back for roadway improvements within the city,” said Slagel. “It helped us by removing traffic on the other streets and it helped the University because they wanted an entrance that was central.”

The latest cooperative compact between the city and UTD will be marked with a water tower bearing logos of both Richardson and UT Dallas. This deal gives the city a long-term lease of a parcel of land on the northwest side of campus for the tower and playing fields. In exchange, the city is funding an internal loop road on campus to divert traffic from surrounding streets.

The money comes from a voter-approved bond package that included other city street and park improvements, as well as money to manage drainage issues arising as UT Dallas expands. The bond passed with about 60 percent of the vote.

“Our communities, they get it,” said Keffler. “They see resources that they spend on the University as coming back to them many times over.”

Keffler, who has worked for the city since 1977, had productive relationships with former UT Dallas presidents Rutford and Jenifer. But when the current president, Dr. David E. Daniel, arrived in 2005, he brought a perspective to the job that energized the relationship between school and city.

“As a civil engineer, he’s worked with cities; he’s worked with state governments; he’s worked with the public institutions that are involved in his areas of study, such as landfill and the levies,” said Keffler. “He appreciates the value that they can bring to the proposition.”

In 2007, Daniel hired Dr. Calvin Jamison, UT Dallas vice president for administration, who also speaks the language of civic development. Before coming to UT Dallas, Jamison was city manager of Richmond, Va., where he worked with then-president Trani to bridge the gap between school and city.

“During my tenure in Richmond, we did almost $4 billion in new development,” said Jamison. “That included a lot of work with Virginia Commonwealth University, which built a new arts center, new residence halls and new academic buildings.”

Like many before him, Jamison was disheartened by his first glimpse of the UT Dallas campus.

“I couldn’t find the center of the campus,” he said. But the bleak landscape and Daniel’s energetic vision presented Jamison with an unusual and exciting opportunity. “There are a lot of places you can work,” he said. “But very few
places can you create a legacy. Here, we're building something very special for the generations to come.”

Indeed, when a university expands, the decisions made, the buildings being raised (or razed), the roads built—all are significant long-term commitments for both the campus and the local community.

“These facilities should not spring up accidentally,” said Trani. “This is particularly important when both are booming and there’s a lot of expansion and construction taking place. The university and the city have a very close relationship”—like it or not.

Recent UT Dallas campus improvements—especially the landscaping and extension of the walking trail—have enhanced rather than infringed upon surrounding neighborhoods.

“We feel fortunate to be so close to the university,” said Cottonwood Creek resident Sullivan. “It does a lot for the property values.”

With time, a university becomes deeply embedded in the local economy. Jamison estimates UT Dallas’ current impact on the region at more than $600 million, and Keffler said that with wages, research and intellectual capital considered, UT Dallas is the largest economic developer in the city, and possibly all of North Dallas.

“I can’t recall a serious business discussion where the role of UTD wasn’t a consideration,” said Keffler. “It is just too good a school to not want to utilize. We facilitate meetings for business leaders with the engineering dean, or with David [Daniel]—whatever circumstances dictate. They’ve always rolled out the red carpet to us, acclimating businesses to what they do. These are all companies that will hire their students, and potentially commit to research projects that they can jointly develop.”

Daniel serves on the board of the Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce, the largest chamber in the Metroplex. Amanda Rockow, vice president for public affairs, is on a number of chamber committees, and serves on the board of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce.

Rockow said that maintaining close ties with area chambers also is important when it comes to state legislation affecting the school. “As a state university, we can’t lobby, so we very much depend on our supporters to tell our story,” Rockow explained. “We can provide information, we can answer questions, but it’s a lot more meaningful when business folks who are engaged with these elected officials say, ‘This is important to us, too.’”

Potential new business is not the only future benefit UT Dallas provides the region. The University is involved in work to address the quality of the public K-12 experience. In 2007, the National Math and Science Initiative awarded the school $2.5 million over five years to launch UTeach, a training program for math and science teachers. In 2009, the Texas Instruments Foundation added $450,000 to that. The UTeach program gives college students who are majoring in math or a science specialized education and practical experience in teaching science and mathematics in public school classrooms, working under the guidance of “master teachers.” UTeach is a booming program; launched in spring 2008 with 20 students, it has grown to more than 300.

Promoting science, engineering and math to tomorrow’s workforce is the sole mission of UT Dallas’ Science and Engineering Education Center (SEEC), which was founded by Russell Hulse, associate vice president for strategic initiatives and a Nobel laureate in physics. SEEC hosts local, regional and national robot competitions for elementary through high school students.

“We also support that with workshops for the coaches and teachers,” said Kenneth Berry, assistant director of SEEC. These events bring thousands of science-minded kids, and their parents, coaches and teachers, to campus. For the past three years, SEEC has also been taking the robot program into Richardson schools. Each May, UTeach students teach robotics alongside Richardson Independent School District teachers, using robots donated to the school by Texas Instruments.

Continued on page 47
"It's ok to be a little selfish when you give."

Did you know there's a way to make a gift to UT Dallas and get something back in return?

It's called a Charitable Gift Annuity, and it makes stable, fixed payments to you for life in return for your gift.

It's a great way to both give and receive.

To learn more about Charitable Gift Annuities and other life income gifts, please contact Dwight Clasby, assistant vice president for development, at 972-883-6511 or dclasby@utdallas.edu

legacy.vg/utdallas
Faculty and alumni relations professionals at UT Dallas have started to notice a trend: a growing number of “legacy” alums, produced when families send one child after another to UT Dallas. This trend is exemplified by this issue’s Perspective, begun by Cari Eggspuehler Guittard BA’96, MPA’97 and continued by younger brother Chad Eggspuehler BA’05.
CARI: UTD was a perfect college home, and I felt part of the UTD family. Much of that feeling came from professors who were not only mentors, but shepherds who helped me see the world through new eyes. Dr. Anthony Champagne, Dr. Marianne Stewart, and Dr. Wolfgang Bielefeld in particular encouraged me to apply for the Fast Track Masters Program and then the Presidential Management Fellowship. The fellowship brought me to the State Department, where my first assignment involved working on cybersecurity issues and traveling to the Middle East and Asia. Educationally, I found I had been prepared for a world I hadn’t even known existed. The confidence and guidance collected during my time at UTD served me well in Washington, D.C., and then on global assignments.

9/11 changed my path, as it did the lives of so many. Having just returned from Egypt, I was asked to brief then-Secretary of State Colin Powell and his transition team. I began working on public diplomacy issues for the newly appointed undersecretary for public diplomacy and public affairs, Charlotte Beers. Beers had been charged with developing a strategy for informing, engaging and influencing foreign publics, and my portfolio included work that ranged from public affairs and diplomatic security to political military and East Asian affairs.

My experiences with the federal government were challenging, life-changing. Everywhere I went—which included travel to every continent—I was a faithful ambassador for UTD. My work in D.C. began before the Bush administration came to town, when graduates from Texas schools were few and far between at the State Department. I relished telling the UTD story in roomfuls of Yale, Georgetown, Fletcher and Harvard graduates.

My new appreciation for the professors I had at UTD. Their service to each of us, their time, attention and dedication—it was such an honor to learn and be inspired by them. We all need to do our part to inspire and engage the next generation, and for me teaching was a natural transition.
At the end of 2010, BDA was retired, and in addition to teaching I have been consulting on a freelance basis on corporate diplomacy and strategic communications. My work continues to span the globe and my focus most recently has been on emerging economies in South America and Africa. The summer brought assignments to West Africa, Colombia and Ecuador. I am passionate about supporting and working with entrepreneurs globally and in the fall I began teaching in an MBA program at HULT’s campus in Dubai for women entrepreneurs. Collecting and sharing insights from around the world through several blogs, I remain committed to finding new ways to bring peoples and cultures together to build understanding and tolerance.

CHAD: When I enrolled at Ohio State, I became the third generation of my family to become a Buckeye. Although I was intrigued by the university’s academics and tradition, the sheer size of the school, with more than 50,000 students, was overwhelming at first. If UTD was a comet, Ohio State felt like a solar system. Fortunately, the law school was more approachable, with only 600 students.

First year was daunting. I met Dr. Champagne for lunch during the winter holidays after my first exams and remember saying, “Gee, I hope I can pass.” He cut me off, saying, “Now Chad, what about honor roll? What about law review? Enough of this ‘hope I can pass’ talk.”

I followed his advice and became involved in extracurricular activities. The summer after my first year, I worked as a research assistant for two professors and, based on my writing competition entry, I received an invitation to join the law review. The next year I was fortunate to have learned so much from leg...
Nine outstanding UT Dallas alumni and one of the University’s most ardent community supporters were honored at the Awards Gala in March. About 300 alumni and friends attended the event, which also featured the Green and Orange Award for Alumni Service and the Gifford K. Johnson Community Leadership Award.

**Gifford K. Johnson Community Leadership Award**

**DEBBIE FRANCIS** has served UT Dallas as a board chair of the Center for BrainHealth since 2005. During her tenure, the Center has grown in unprecedented ways: moving into a 63,000-square-foot research facility, quadrupling staff, increasing fundraising sevenfold, and starting 30 new research projects. Her support of brain research in Dallas earned her the 2008 Legacy Award, the Center’s highest honor. She has also dedicated her time to numerous other area organizations, including Charter 100 of Dallas, the Crystal Charity Ball, Junior League, the Sweetheart Ball and United Cerebral Palsy, for which she served on the national board. A close friend of the former first lady, Francis is chairman of the advisory board of the Laura W. Bush Institute for Women’s Health at Texas Tech University. She and her husband, Jim, are among Dallas’ most passionate and tireless community leaders.

“I’m proud to be associated with this wonderful University that has grown so extensively and is only going to keep getting better.”

**Green and Orange Award for Alumni Service**

**JOYCE R. JOHNSON BGS’83** seized the opportunity to complete her college degree when her husband’s new job at Texas Instruments brought the couple to Dallas. Once here, she enrolled in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, formerly known as General Studies. Both Joyce and her husband, Bruce MS’84, attended night classes and would often meet in the Green Building commons for dinner. As an active volunteer leader for UT Dallas, she is a frequent visitor to the campus for student events and programs. Johnson has shown her loyalty in a way few other alumni have—by including the University as a beneficiary in her will. This gift is a way to honor her late husband, who was pursuing a doctorate when he died in 1985.

“It’s important to me to give back to my alma mater. How does one give back? My way is to volunteer at University events. It is great to interact with the faculty, staff and students, especially the students.”

**Distinguished Alumni Award Honorees**

**BRITT R. BERRETT PhD’09** is president of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, where he oversees strategic planning and operations for the 900-bed facility. He is also the executive vice president of Texas Health Resources Inc. Before joining Texas Health Dallas, he served as president and chief executive officer of Medical City Dallas Hospital. Berrett became interested in health care and the impact it makes on a community while on a two-year mission trip in Peru. Before completing a PhD in public affairs at UT Dallas, he received a master’s degree in hospital administration from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. He has maintained close ties to the University, serving as a past member of the School of Management Executive Education Advisory Council and a current member of the MPA Program Advisory Board.

“Today I got the chance to visit the campus again—unbelievable! I also had a chance to teach a class. The students I met with are bright. They are engaging. They are an utter delight.”

**BARBARA KATHERINE CONE PhD’79** pursued a career that led her across the country and eventually around the world. She has explored speech-language and hearing sciences for more than 10 years as a professor at the University of Arizona. Previously, Cone was an assistant professor at Arizona State University, and she taught at and directed the clinical auditory electrophysiology lab at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York. From 1985 to 1995, Cone was a professor of otolaryngology at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. She was also the chief of audiology at the Los Angeles County Medical Center during that time. Cone is a fellow of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and the American Academy of Audiology.

“When I started my PhD in 1975, the program was still in its infancy. Now it’s in adulthood and it has flourished to become one of the top programs nationally. You do me proud.”

**SALLY L. CRAWFORD BGS’83** is a partner at Jones Day in Dallas. Her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and corporate law. Crawford concentrates on the representation of privately held companies in the technology, transportation, manufacturing and service industries. She
also has represented numerous nonprofit corporations. Crawford has been involved in pro bono work since the 1980s and currently serves as the pro bono coordinator for the Jones Day Dallas office. Her in- volvement in the legal community is extensive. She is a director of the Dallas Bar Association and a member of the Dallas Entrepreneurship Institute, College of the State Bar of Texas and Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Greater Dallas. Crawford is a fellow of the Dallas Bar Foundation and serves on the board of the Richardson Symphony.

“I spent a day on campus recently and got to see how fabulous it has become. The programs that give students new opportunities along with the University’s general outreach to the community—these initiatives are tremendous. They are priceless. It makes me really proud to be a graduate of UTD.”

JAMES R. DIXON PhD’80 became fascinated with rocks long before seeking a post as a geological advisor for ExxonMobil Exploration Co. In fact, as an undergrad at Stony Brook University in New York, he not only explored the petrology of moon rocks but also studied rocks with his geology lab partner and future wife, Selena. In 1975, both Jim and Selena enrolled in the UT Dallas geosciences graduate program. As a student, he taught geology classes at Eastfield College and interned for a summer at Mobil Oil’s research lab in Dallas. Liking his expertise, Mobil hired Dixon to conduct research on the origin of uranium deposits, the characterization of sandstone oil reservoirs and the fluid flow behavior of reservoir rocks. When Mobil merged with Exxon in the late 1990s, he moved his family to the Houston area so he could join ExxonMobil’s Upstream Research Company. Later, Dixon transferred to ExxonMobil Exploration Co., where he teaches, mentors and oversees core analysis for worldwide exploration projects.

“I’ve been able to thrive in the energy business because of the skills and experiences and mentorship and values I received on this campus.”

WM. DANIEL GIBSON JR. MS’90 is vice president and general manager of the Systems Engineering Solutions strategic business unit of Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. Based in Broomfield, Colo., Ball Aerospace develops and manufactures spacecraft, advanced instruments and sensors and components and solutions for strategic, tactical and scientific applications. Gibson is responsible for all aspects of Systems Engineering Solutions’ nationwide operations. He has held many leadership positions at Ball Aerospace, including director of programs and director of advanced systems for Systems Engineering Solutions. Before hiring on at Ball Aerospace in 1997, he spent several years developing and delivering systems and professional services to the defense, intelligence and civil space markets. During his career, Gibson worked in business development and technical roles at Raytheon and General Dynamics.

“My career at UT Dallas transformed my life. I want to thank you for the opportunity to meet with professors, deans and students today. I am really looking forward to the opportunity to continue to reconnect and forge the future with the faculty, staff and students.”

RICHARD S. MERRICK BA’81, MS’87 has spent 25 years successfully exploring software design, multimedia development and Internet communications. He founded Postfuture Inc. in 1999 to seize the growing opportunity in digital marketing. Over the years, Merrick’s clients have included Best Buy, Pizza Hut and Microsoft. During his tenure as CEO, Postfuture became Forrester Research’s top e-messaging technology provider, ranked fourth in the Deloitte Fast 50 and was honored in the Inc. 500. Before starting Postfuture, Merrick worked for Richardson-based Micrografx Inc., where he developed and marketed system software products for Microsoft Windows. Merrick has written several books and articles on the physics and historical and social ramifications of harmonic science, which explores perception of music. Throughout his career, he has maintained close ties to the University. Merrick is a guest lecturer at UT Dallas and serves on the advisory council for the School of Arts and Humanities.

“I’ve become convinced that schools need to become more interdisciplinary and more integrated in their approach to keep pace. After all, you just can’t tell which combination of skills is going to be needed for the future. I believe we’re entering a modern renaissance. And we have no choice but to create more renaissance thinkers. This is the vision and philosophy I see at UT Dallas and I’m proud to be part of it.”

H. RONALD NASH MS’79 is an entrepreneur and business executive in the technology industry. Based in the Dallas office, he is a partner in InterWest Partners, a Silicon Valley-headquartered technology venture capital partnership with practices in information technology and life sciences. Nash began his career at EDS, now HP Enterprise Services, in both technical and business management positions. He was a senior vice president at Perot Systems from 1993 to 2000. Over the years, Nash’s investments have created companies with a current market value of more than $450 million. A longtime supporter of UT Dallas, Nash serves on the Development Board and the Jindal School of Management Advisory Council, which honored him as a Distinguished Alumnus in 2000. In 2010, he and his wife established the Susan C. and H. Ronald Nash Distinguished Professorship in the Jindal School of Management.

“I want to thank all the people at UT Dallas who decided to make their life’s work something that enriches and transforms the lives of the people that they touch and the families for generations after that.”

DAVID NORRIS BS’90 is CEO of BlueCava Inc., an Irvine, Calif., startup that provides device identification and reputation technology that protects against online fraud and promotes online marketing. Prior to joining BlueCava, Norris created several companies where he also served as CEO. These companies include OnRequest Images and ObjectSpace. As an entrepreneur with 20 years of experience in building successful brands around the world, Norris is often a guest speaker at industry conferences for organizations such as Microsoft and the Harvard Business School. Norris has appeared on CNN and Bloomberg Television, as well as in the Wall Street Journal and The New York Times as an expert in the areas of branding, technology, international business and entrepreneurism. Norris has received many honors, including the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and Inc. 500.

“Going to such a great University, I’ve met many inspiring leaders that helped shape and form my attitude on how to take ideas forward even when people might not agree with me.”
1. Richard Merrick BA’81, MS’87 and his wife, Sherolyn, enjoy the evening.

2. David Norris BS’90 meets President David E. Daniel at the reception for honorees.

3. Ron MS’79 and Susan Nash celebrate with Jindal School of Management Dean Hasan Pirkul (center).

4. Dan MS’90 and Karen Gibson.

5. Britt Berrett PhD’09 (center) joins his former UT Dallas classmates.

6. The Center for BrainHealth’s Dr. Sandra Bond Chapman and President David E. Daniel present Debbie Francis (center) with the Gifford K. Johnson Community Leadership Award.

7. Barbara Cone PhD’79 (center) reunited with friends and classmates, including Ron Outen MS’78, PhD’80 and his wife, Patricia Spencer PhD’80.

8. Sally Crawford BGS’83 and her daughter, Elizabeth Field.

9. James Dixon PhD’80 with his daughter, Catherine Blevens.

10. Joyce Johnson BGS’83 attends the gala with her brother, Jeffrey Kanofsky.
Generous sponsors of the event, held at the Renaissance Hotel in Richardson, were Austin Commercial, Ernst & Young, Jones Day, Pioneer Natural Resources, Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas, Turner, and the UT Dallas Center for BrainHealth.
1970s

Randolph Aldridge MS’75 recently joined the board of directors of Unitech Energy Resources Inc., a Canada-based junior oil and gas exploration company. Randolph has more than 35 years of engineering, marketing and management experience in the energy industry. He held leadership positions at several companies, including Koch Industries Inc., Terasen Inc., Abraxas Petroleum Corp. and Husky Energy.

Mike Gendron MS’77 is director of the Gospel Ministries, an international organization that he founded in 1991. He is also author of the book Two Ways to Eternity.

Texas State Rep. Jerry Madden MS’78 was named Public Official of the Year by Governing magazine. The national publication recognized eight government leaders, including Jerry and Sen. John Whitmire of Houston, who were chosen for their team effort to make rehabilitation treatment available to prison inmates and help prevent prison population growth. Three years ago, the University honored Jerry with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

1980s

The Rev. Dr. Brent Hampton MA’80 serves as senior pastor at Brenham Presbyterian Church in Brenham, Texas. He completed the final requirements for his Doctor of Ministry degree through a nonresident Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary program in 2011.

Robin Caffrey BS’81 was awarded Volunteer of the Year 2010 by A New Leaf, a nonprofit organization in Arizona. She was recognized for her work creating a GED program for residents of a transitional men’s center.


1990s

Christian Belady MA’90 has transitioned from Microsoft Research to Global Foundation Services, the unit of Microsoft that builds the company’s data centers. Christian will be the general manager of Datacenter Research. He is a 2010 recipient of the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award.

Su-Hwi Hung-Cunliffe MS’91, PhD’94 is now a registrant of the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. Su-Hwi is a senior biosafety officer at Temple University’s Office of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety in Philadelphia.

Dwayne Danner BA’92 is one of three new members made partner by national law firm McGlinchey Stafford PLLC in 2011. He is a member in the firm’s Dallas office. For more than 15 years, Dwayne’s practice has focused on consumer financial services and commercial litigation, various types of insurance defense and real estate litigation.

Mohammad Obaid Karim MS’92 is a senior SAP specialist at Bombardier Aerospace in Canada. He currently works with the IT-supply chain management group implementing new SAP functionality. Mohammad is married and has two children.

Rebecca O. Fruchtman MA’84 joined the Chicago law practice of Janet S. Baer, forming Baer Higgins Fruchtman LLC.

Beth Ullom BS’84 is a technical specialist in the environmental division of Enercon Services, Inc., a Tulsa-based engineering and environmental services company located in Ashland, Ky.

DeAnna Dodson BS’85 authored the book Letters in the Attic, which was published in 2010. The book is the fourth in the Annie’s Attic mystery series.

Dr. Dipak Jain MS’86, PhD’86, a UT Dallas Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, has been named dean of Institut Européen d’Administration des Affaires. Dipak is currently dean emeritus of Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management and the Sandy and Morton Goldman Professor in Entrepreneurial Studies.

Anna Manning MS’92, MBA’92 published her memoir, The Leroy Tree, this spring.

Anthony Reed MS’92 authored his fifth book, Running to Leadership: What Finishing 100+ Marathons on All Seven Continents Teaches Us About Success. His Dallas CPA practice is a Project Management Institute registered education provider. Anthony also serves on the board of directors for the Dallas White Rock Marathon. He has been featured on television and radio programs and in publications including Ebony, Southern Living, Runner’s World, The Dallas Morning News and Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Derek Davis PhD’93, a professor in the College of Humanities at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor (UMHB), received the Abner V. McCall Religious Liberty Award from the Baylor Alumni Association. The award honors alumni or friends whose lives exemplify a commitment to religious liberty.

Bret Hotchkiss MBA’93 was promoted to vice president by BB&T Corporation. Bret joined the bank in 2010 and is BB&T’s sales finance center manager.

Betty McClanahan Clark Vine BS’93 was elected Teller County Assessor in Colorado, and took office in 2011. She also serves on the Woodland Park City Council and is working toward bringing a Challenger Learning Center to Teller County.

Manson Fee BA’94 is on a new career path as a substitute teacher and working toward standard certification from the Texas Education Agency.

Mark Robinson BA’94 was recognized in Texas Monthly for the second consecutive year as a Five Star Wealth Manager. He is an investment advisor with the Watchman Group in Plano.

Thomas Sanchez BA’94 currently works for Microsoft as development tools sales and marketing manager for Latin America.

Uming Ko PhD’95, a senior fellow of Texas Instruments Inc. in Dallas, was also named an IEEE Fellow. Uming was recognized for his leadership in ultra-low power technologies. He has received 12 national-level or industrial awards, including the 2006 Asian-American Engineer of the Year Award.
Uming holds 40 U.S. patents and has published 33 technical papers.

**2000s**

**Steve Solomon BA’96** operates a micro-stock photography site at totalqualityphoto.com. In addition, he consults for Gill Digital Services.

**Rodney Brown MPA’97, MBA’03** recently opened the Gotta Dollar discount store in DeSoto, Texas.

**Clint Shipp BS’97, MPA’99, PhD’09** is senior director of Trinity University’s Advancement Services. He had served in a similar position at the University of North Texas. Clint is a charter member of the Association of Advancement Services Professionals.

**Vance Reynolds MBA’98** was named chief executive officer of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-WNJ in Sherman, Texas. Before joining Texas Health, he was CEO of the River Region Health System in Vicksburg, Miss.

**Jacob Gurwitz BA’00** became chair-elect of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (YLD) in 2011. Jacob also has served as a YLD zone chair. He is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He was selected for inclusion in the 2010 edition of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Stars.

**Kevin Afghani BA’01** was selected as a 2011 Rising Star in intellectual property law by Texas Super Lawyers magazine. Kevin founded Afghani Law Firm, which specializes in patent law and represents numerous distinguished leaders and companies in the technology sector.

**Paul Lorenz BSEE’01** is currently a senior hardware design engineer with Alcatel-Lucent in Plano.

**Jeff Bivins TED’02,** is a pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement biology teacher at Richardson High School. He was selected by Richardson Independent School District as a 2011 STAR Teacher.

**Leslie Chatman BA’02** is pursuing a master’s degree in mental health counseling. She also recently launched a jewelry design company.

**Vance Reynolds MBA’98** was named chief executive officer of Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital-WNJ in Sherman, Texas. Before joining Texas Health, he was CEO of the River Region Health System in Vicksburg, Miss.

**Kevin Afghani BA’01** was selected as a 2011 Rising Star in intellectual property law by Texas Super Lawyers magazine. Kevin founded Afghani Law Firm, which specializes in patent law and represents numerous distinguished leaders and companies in the technology sector.

**Put your UT Dallas advantage to good use by calling 1-888-560-ALUM (2586), or visit www.personal-plans.com/utd today!**

**2000s**

**Jacob Gurwitz BA’00** became chair-elect of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division (YLD) in 2011. Jacob also has served as a YLD zone chair. He is a member of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. He was selected for inclusion in the 2010 edition of Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Stars.

**Kevin Afghani BA’01** was selected as a 2011 Rising Star in intellectual property law by Texas Super Lawyers magazine. Kevin founded Afghani Law Firm, which specializes in patent law and represents numerous distinguished leaders and companies in the technology sector.

**Paul Lorenz BSEE’01** is currently a senior hardware design engineer with Alcatel-Lucent in Plano.

**Jeff Bivins TED’02,** is a pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement biology teacher at Richardson High School. He was selected by Richardson Independent School District as a 2011 STAR Teacher.

**Leslie Chatman BA’02** is pursuing a master’s degree in mental health counseling. She also recently launched a jewelry design company.

**Katie Stoneman MS’02** was elected vice president of the Texas Speech-Language Hearing Association (TSHA), the statewide professional organization for speech-language pathologists and audiologists. She has served on the TSHA Executive Council in various leadership positions since 2007.
Ronald Mehler PhD’03 was appointed associate professor of electrical and computer engineering at California State University, Northridge.

Andrew Terrazas BS’03 was recently named to the board of directors of the City of McKinney Housing Finance Corporation. The position carries a two-year term.

Dr. Field G. Harrison BA’04 is the founder of Mint Dentistry in Dallas. While a student in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, Field utilized the Health Professions Advising Center to better navigate his career path. He graduated from the Baylor College of Dentistry.

Cleretha “Rita” Clay Hulin BA’04, MA’07 and Christopher Adam Boynick BA’98, MA’09 were married in November 2010 in Lewisville, Texas. The couple met at UT Dallas. Rita is employed as a third-grade teacher for Nova Academy in Dallas. Chris is employed as an English as a second language teacher for the Lewisville Learning Center. The couple resides in Lewisville.

Scott Kuberski BS’04 is a global institutional product manager at Sompo Japan NipponKoa Asset Management Co. in Tokyo.

Cynthia Gartman MBA’05 became president of IKOR USA Inc. in 2010.

Tracey Bishkin TED’06 is Advanced Placement psychology and world history teacher at Lake Highlands High School in Richardson. She was selected by the Richardson Independent School District as a 2011 STAR Teacher. The winners were nominated by their schools and honored at the Excellence in Education Foundation Gala.

Robert Janecka BA’06 completed a master’s degree in international affairs in 2009 from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University. Following graduation, he was accepted to the Greater New Orleans-Teach For America and served as a special education teacher at two elementary schools in the New Orleans area from 2009-10. He married Sarah Dempsey, whom he met at Texas A&M. Robert worked in the capitol office of Texas State Rep. Tryon Lewis (R-Odessa) as a legislative director for the 2011 regular session.

Monique Antoinette Chabaud AUID’07 and Scott David Sinitiere were married on May 14, 2011, at St. Joseph Cathedral in Baton Rouge, La.

Jon Jordan BA’07 recently accepted a teaching position with Coram Deo Academy in Flower Mound, Texas, where he teaches middle and high school history, theology and Greek. His wife, Vivien Tran Jordan BA’07, teaches elementary art in Mesquite, Texas. The couple met at UT Dallas and married in 2008.

Janice Franklin PhD’08, professor of humanities and music at Mountain View College in the Dallas County Community College District, received the Minnie Stevens Piper/Miles Production Company Award for 2010-2011 and the DCCCD Miles Excellence in Teaching Award for Full-Time Faculty in 2010-2011.

McDermott Scholar Alumni Benedict Voit BA’08 and Jessica Harpham Voit BS’09 married in March in Dallas. Comets in the wedding party included Dr. Edward J. Harpham, Richard Voit BS’06, Dr. Sijy Voit BS’05, Dr. Walter Voit BS’05,MSCS’06, Felicity Lenes BS’09, Krissy Seaman BS’09, Bradley Wallace BS’09, Liam Skyles BSEE’08, MSEEE’09, James Fickenscher BS’08 and Jordan Youngblood BA’08. The Voits live in Dallas. Benedict is a financial advisor at ALM First Financial. Jessica is a third-year medical student at UT Southwestern.

She also won an Excellence in Teaching Award from the National Institute for Staff & Organizational Development.

Paul Ingram BS’08 and Steven Rosson BS’10 started a new business, SlotGuard, Inc., that targets a common frustration: junk mail.

Kristi Rowan Humphreys PhD’09 accepted an assistant professorship in humanities at Alabama State University.

Matthew Openshaw PhD’09 has been appointed to the position of lecturer and academic advisor in international studies at the University of North Texas.

Amber Dawn Potts BS’09 was recently hired as an environmental health specialist for the City of Garland.

2010s

Niloofar Allahyari BS’10 is attending medical school at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

Roxanne Gonzales BS’10 recently began working for A-Z Therapy.

Alexandra Ransom BS’10 is a property standards specialist for the City of Plano.

Lisa Youngblood BA’10 is teaching seventh and eighth grade language arts at Frankford Middle School in Plano.
IN MEMORIAM

Douglas S. Malany BA’78, March 3, 2011. After high school, Malany joined the U. S. Coast Guard, where he received an honorable discharge after three years of service. He received his law degree from St. Mary’s University in San Antonio and for several years partnered with other lawyers in Brownsville, Texas. Malany later joined the Russell Barron Law Firm, which eventually became the Malany & Flanagan Law Firm. He was certified by the Texas Supreme Court to practice personal injury trial law from 1982 until he retired in 2006. Malany was an avid reader and loved skeet shooting and water sports. He also loved adopting animals and providing a safe, caring environment for them.

Robert Eugene Verinder Sr. MA’79, Nov. 8, 2010, Dallas. Verinder was a Master Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner. He was retired from Enserch Corporation.

Martin Judah Rodman MS’80, Dec. 20, 2010, Dallas. Rodman served in the U.S. Army for two years and was honorably discharged. He worked for 30 years as an accountant and executive for the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), traveling throughout the world, which he loved. Rodman met his future wife, Irma Benedel MacKenzie, while he was stationed in Munich. She died from pancreatic cancer 18 days before Rodman. They were married for 38 years. After retiring from AAFES, Rodman worked for the Dallas Museum of Art, a testimony to his love of all arts. He also taught finance and accounting at Southern Methodist University.

R. Dwight Norris BS’81, May 23, 2011. Norris was a scoutmaster and an avid Brigham Young University and Dallas Cowboys football fan. He was a member of the Church of Latter-day Saints, holding the office of high priest. He worked as an information analyst for the State of Utah.

Edwin Schmitt II BA’83, April 9, 2011. Schmitt worked in the arts in Dallas for more than 30 years, including 10 years at the Dallas Theater Center. He spent the last 16 years in stage operations at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center.

Sandra Frances (Sandy) Jackson Mitchell BA’85, March 24, 2011, Austin. Mitchell taught social science in the Plano Independent School District. Her favorite activities included cooking, traveling, gardening, reading and bird watching. She enjoyed her family, especially her grandsons.

John L. Brunstad BS’89, April 6, 2011, Menomonie, Wis. Brunstad was the director of information technology for KMST Inc. in Eau Claire, Wis., and an elder at the Alliance Church of Menomonie. He enjoyed gardening, playing games and running.

Carolyn McGraw Andreas BA’91, March 14, 2011. Upon completion of her graduate degree, Andreas had a successful human resources career, and later filled her days playing with her grandchildren. She loved to travel, especially to Manhattan and Cape Cod.

Irma Maria Bendel Rodman BS’91, Dec. 2, 2010, Dallas. Rodman attended community college while raising two children, initially studying to become a special education teacher. She subsequently became fascinated with science and received her Bachelor of Science degree in biology from UT Dallas. Upon graduation, she worked at UT Southwestern Medical Center performing research in the department of pharmacology. She enjoyed spending time with her family, being in nature and, in recent years, playing with her grandchildren.

Joseph Scott Hayner BA’92, May 31, 2011, Dallas. Following graduation, Hayner became a successful stockbroker. His passion in life was working for the UT Dallas Center for BrainHealth. He was an avid reader, especially books by Marcus Aurelius. He was also an animal lover who cherished his dogs.

Kimberly Helen Masterson Lavastida BS’92, January 31, 2011, West Des Moines, Iowa. After college, Lavastida began her career at MUD Designs as an accountant and soon after became what she always knew she was meant to be, a mother. Her greatest joys in life were her three boys, but she also enjoyed ice skating, gymnastics and singing. She was a member of the Lutheran Church of Hope choir. She also had a special place in her heart for the changing of the seasons, which is why she left Texas for the cold Iowa winters.

Keith Lankford Taylor BS’93, Oct. 26, 2010, Dallas. Taylor had been the mayor of Combine, Texas, since 2006. His professional career was spent managing projects related to the development of information systems for various companies including Lomas Information Systems, 7-Eleven, Inc. and most recently Fannie Mae. He also was an active member of the National Project Management Institute. As mayor of Combine, he served on a number of panels focused on transportation, water resources and other concerns.

Patti Fischer BA’94, May 10, 2011, Plano. Fischer was a member of the Holy Nativity Episcopal Church in Plano.

Chris Pham BS’03, June 23, 2011, Garland. Pham was born in Saigon, Vietnam, and moved with his family to Garland in 1981. He graduated from North Garland High School in 1995. Pham was a firefighter for the City of Dallas.


Justin Bunker, BS’11, June 30, 2011, Arlington. Bunker died while hiking in the mountains of Bulgaria. He was a graduate of Pantego Christian Academy.

Benjamin Scott Walker, March 6, 2011, Dallas. Walker, a junior, was pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in speech-language pathology and audiology.

Send us Your News and Notes

Keep your fellow Comets updated on what’s new with you by sending items, including photos, to alumni@utdallas.edu or to Alumni Notes, UT Dallas Magazine MP 14, 800 West Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080-30221. We welcome pictures of new babies, weddings and whooshes of all kinds!
IN MEMORIAM

Arthur I. Middlebrook 1930-2011

When Arthur Middlebrook retired, he put his energies into volunteer work. For years, he spent most of his weekdays at one of several Richardson public schools mentoring students who needed a little boost.

At UT Dallas, he was a member of the Eugene McDermott Library’s History of Aviation Collection (HAC) Advisory Council. Shortly before his death, he traveled with the group to San Jose, Calif., to view the private memorabilia of Dr. James Davilla, an aviation and aerospace enthusiast who also serves on the HAC council.

Middlebrook was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church Richardson and more recently Highland Park United Methodist Church where he was active in global mission programs and the volunteer center.

He was born in Sturgis, S.D., on Nov. 18, 1930. After a stint in the U. S. Air Force, Middlebrook worked for Collins Radio, which moved him to Richardson in 1959. He served as a vice president for Rockwell International and Electrospase.

Jack Hobart Hamilton 1926-2011
Jane Hamilton 1928-2011

Jack Hobart Hamilton and his wife, Jane Hamilton, were longtime UT Dallas supporters.

Jack was a key figure in the growth of the Eugene McDermott Library’s History of Aviation Collection and Jane supported UT Dallas through her service as a trustee of the Foundation for the Callier Center for Communication Disorders.

The former president of Teledyne Geotech, Jack was a staunch supporter of aviation history who served as co-chairman of the History of Aviation Collection (HAC) Advisory Council.

Jack gave more than his time and expertise to the collection. A gift from the Jack and Jane Hamilton Fund of Communities Foundation of Texas aided McDermott Library’s plans to purchase the A.E. Ferko Collection of World War I documents and photographs. It is one of the finest such collections in the world.

"The Hamiltons were great friends to our University,” said Dr. Aaron Conley, vice president for development and alumni relations. "They provided support for several programs at UT Dallas, including the aviation collection and the Callier Center. Their support, encouragement and friendship will be missed."

In January 2011, the Jack and Jane Hamilton Opportunity Fund for the History of Aviation Collection was established, providing a permanently endowed source of support for the ongoing care and operation of the HAC.

Jane served on the board of the Callier Center Foundation from 2002 to 2010. Through their longtime relationship with the Communities Foundation of Texas, the Hamiltons supported numerous projects at the Callier Center.

The Jack and Jane Hamilton Heart and Vascular Hospital unit of Baylor University Medical Center is named after the couple.

Louis A. Beecherl Jr. 1926-2011

Louis Beecherl’s generosity and guidance helped fuel UT Dallas’ growth and vision. A former chairman of The University of Texas System’s Board of Regents, his leadership and numerous contributions shaped the University’s education goals and helped establish excellence in attracting top faculty and students.

Beecherl established two distinguished professorships, a faculty chair and a distinguished chair, all in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science at UT Dallas. Beecherl also established the Louis Beecherl Jr. Graduate Fellowship. In addition, he was a member of the UT Dallas Laureates, a donor recognition society that honors cumulative lifetime giving of $1 million or more to the University.

UT Dallas was among dozens of area beneficiaries of Beecherl’s civic-mindedness and generosity over the last three decades. In addition to his service with the UT System board, he was chairman of the YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas, and was a strong supporter of hospitals and medical institutions in North Texas.

Beecherl was born Feb. 10, 1926, in Dallas and graduated from Tulane University and The University of Texas with Bachelor of Science degrees after his World War II service in the U.S. Navy. He was chair and chief executive officer of Texas Oil & Gas Corp. from 1957 to 1977 and served as chairman of the Texas Water Development Board of the Department of Water Resources from 1980 to 1986. He was appointed to the UT System Board of Regents in 1987 by Gov. Bill Clements, and in 1989 he was elected chairman of the board.

"Louis was a valued friend and mentor to me. He played a key role in my decision to come to UT Dallas as president, and his support of UT Dallas, through his generosity and valued counsel, has been critical as we have advanced in name and stature,” said UT Dallas President David E. Daniel. "Louis’ passionate support of higher education in this state left a great legacy that will benefit many generations to come.”
Dorothy Long Griffin 1918-2011

Dorothy Long Griffin was a life member of the UT Dallas development board and also was a member of UT System’s Chancellor’s Council.

Born in McKinney, Texas, on Nov. 27, 1918, she married Joe Griffin Sr. and became a partner with her husband both in raising a family and growing a successful Oldsmobile dealership in Plano.

Margareta Bjuro Møller 1935-2011

A retired academic physician, Margareta B. Møller and her husband, Aage R. Møller, the Margaret F. Johnson Professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, have a long history of giving to UT Dallas.

“Margareta Møller became a valued member of the University community as soon as she and Aage arrived in Dallas,” said Dr. Bert Moore, dean of BBS and the holder of an Aage and Margareta Møller endowed professorship. “Her gracious spirit and keen intellect enriched us all, and Aage’s and Margareta’s extraordinary generosity have been important components of the University’s advancement.”

Margareta was born in rural Sweden and decided early in life on a career in medicine, though few women entered the profession at that time. She earned an undergraduate degree from Uppsala University in 1957, and a medical degree (1963) and doctorate in hearing disorders (1973) from the University of Gothenburg.

An otologist, Margareta specialized in vestibular disorders and tinnitus. She was a professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine before retiring in 1997 and moving to Dallas. She treasured her contact with patients, many of whom kept in touch with her for years after their initial treatments.

The Møllers have established two scholarships and two BBS professorships, including one of which was established with an initial gift of $100,000 that qualified for an additional $50,000 in state matching funds through the recently created Texas Research Incentive Program, often referred to as TRIP. Almost a dozen Aage and Margareta Møller Scholarships for Veterans of the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were awarded in 2010 by UT Dallas.

“The Møllers stepped forward with a very timely gift that helped us take advantage of a special moment of opportunity,” said Dr. Aaron Conley, vice president for development and alumni relations. “Receiving support from faculty families is especially encouraging to the University. We are deeply appreciative of their support, and will miss Margareta.”

Nancy B. Hamon 1919-2011

A Dallas philanthropist and civic leader, Nancy B. Hamon was a supporter of education and arts scholarship.

Hamon’s generosity to UT Dallas dates back to 1970 and includes endowing a chair, supporting an extensive museum studies program, and contributing to the CentralTrak artist residency and gallery.

Hamon established the Margaret M. McDermott Distinguished Chair of Art and Aesthetic Studies in 2004 with a $1 million gift in honor of her friend and longtime UT Dallas supporter, Mrs. Margaret McDermott. Dr. Richard R. Brettell, professor of art and aesthetic studies, has held that chair since its creation.

A separate $1.2 million gift in 2009 to The Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Museums at UT Dallas is supporting research that will enable the publishing of The Hamon Series on the History and Theory of Art Museums. Brettell, who founded the center, will edit that project.

The latter gift was instrumental in securing state matching funds to aid the University’s push to attain Tier One national research university status, and it has already supported multiyear research projects for the Dallas Museum of Art, the Amon Carter Museum and the Nasher Sculpture Center. Most of these projects directly involve UT Dallas graduate students and faculty.

Her commitment to CentralTrak resulted in $500,000 for this unique artist-in-residence program.

UT Dallas was one of many beneficiaries of Hamon’s support for the arts in North Texas. Cultural buildings bearing her name and that of her husband, oilman Jake L. Hamon, include the Dallas Museum of Art, the Winspear Opera House and the arts library at Southern Methodist University.

“Nancy Hamon wanted to positively impact the world, and through her support of the arts, education, medicine, research, and numerous civic and cultural organizations, she was successful in her efforts,” said Executive Vice President and Provost Hobson Wildenthal. “Her gifts to UT Dallas were timely and important in helping us with our efforts to become a Tier One university.”

Charles Wyly 1934-2011

Legendary Dallas entrepreneur and investor Charles Wyly played a central role in establishing the UT Dallas Center for BrainHealth.

Charles and his wife, Dee, provided critical support to BrainHealth in its early years. They established the Dee Wyly Distinguished Chair for BrainHealth, which is held by Dr. Sandra Chapman, founder and chief director of the center.

Dee Wyly received the center’s highest honor, the 2011 Legacy Award, this fall.

Wyly’s name is as familiar in philanthropy circles as it is in the world of entrepreneurship and investing. With his brother and business partner, Sam, he has controlled some of the most recognizable brands on the consumer landscape, including Bonanza and Ponderosa steakhouses, Green Mountain Energy and the nationwide Michaels Stores chain.

Wyly plowed his good fortune back into such high-profile local causes as the expansion of the Dallas Arts District, where the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre was built with his support. He also supported the Dallas Children’s Theater and other nonprofits.

“Charles’ early and magnanimous support of our research and his devotion to BrainHealth, education and the arts is unparalleled,” Dr. Sandra Chapman, the center’s founder and chief director, said. “His legacy will live on not only through his financial contributions but also through the individuals whose lives he touched. Charles’ transformational gifts to the Center for BrainHealth are immeasurable and will forever be remembered.”
The Next Generation

At the graduate level, UT Dallas attracts students from around the world on the strength of faculty and, as in undergraduate programs, access to laboratories and mentorships. Although many plan for careers in industry and with private companies, others will ultimately pursue careers in academia and will bring new students into the research endeavor.

One of these doctoral students, Prakash Sista, came 8,800 miles from his home in Mumbai, India, to work in the field of polymer chemistry. During his three years at UT Dallas, he has learned how to make organic polymers and investigate how electric charges move inside them.

In 2011, Sista was asked to present a poster detailing his research at the Excellence in Graduate Polymer Research Symposium organized by the division of Polymer Chemistry at the 241st National Meeting and Exposition of the American Chemical Society. Only a handful of students are invited to present posters in this symposium.

Among the perks of attending the conference, Sista said, was the opportunity to meet with his peers at dozens of other academic institutions. “I shared the work we are doing right here at UT Dallas,” Sista said. “Meeting so many other scientists and sharing ideas and research was a wonderful opportunity. Who knows? Maybe someday we will get to work together. I definitely plan to teach and research in an academic center.”

Beyond peer collaborations, UT Dallas students also follow the lead of their mentors and share their love for the sciences with pre-collegiate students.

Angeline Burrell, a doctoral candidate in the William B. Hanson Center for Space Sciences, makes time each year to inspire younger students through her portrayal of a comic book character developed to explain UTD’s research in space sciences. It’s a lighter complement to her high-level studies in atmospheric modeling and ionosphere physics, and it serves to increase awareness of research efforts at the University.

Working in conjunction with NASA, Dr. Mary Urquhart, director of the Department of Science/Mathematics Education, and Dr. Marc Hairston, a research scientist at the University, designed two graphic novels featuring the character “CINDI.” Burrell’s role is to dress up as CINDI and appear at public events to talk to young students about the University’s research in a way they can understand.

“I think it’s important to encourage young people, especially girls who tend to be underrepresented in the field, to pursue science,” Burrell said. “We try to find many ways to reach out to the community and hopefully garner lots of interest in our research.”

Another way faculty assist pre-collegiate students is through the UTeach Dallas program housed in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The UTeach program aims to educate the next generation of highly qualified science and math teachers in an effort to provide excellent teachers to primary and secondary schools. UTeach students major in the discipline they intend to teach, and learn pedagogy experientially, through early exposure to professional teachers and work in classrooms with young students.

“Through professional development, we are fostering relationships among students in the UTeach program,” Urquhart said. “They will go on to establish best practices in their own classrooms and districts and share the information with others. It’s a unique way to disseminate best practices among teachers—who will then go on to inspire younger students to embrace research.”

Discovery and Impact

Research efforts are alive in every corner of the University from brain sciences and engineering to the humanities, business, and emerging media. Increasing enrollment and successful recruitment of research-active faculty (30 in the last year) also point to the growth and wisdom of prioritizing excellence in research.

“The lifeblood of a great research university is the innovative work done by faculty members, researchers and graduate students from many disciplines across the campus,” Gnade said. “We are all working toward enhancing and expanding the research environment beyond the UT Dallas campus.”

UT Dallas faculty routinely collaborate with major organizations worldwide, such as the Large Hadron Collider in Switzerland, and establish research partnerships with NASA and major global companies.

This outreach and contribution to research communities worldwide builds relationships that enrich and strengthen the experiences offered to students and faculty at UT Dallas. Undergraduates moving on to other institutions often find they are received
more readily because of the University’s reputation as a cultivator of young talent.

Dr. Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres, professor and dean of undergraduate education, said the kind of undergraduate research opportunities offered at the University can be a defining experience in a student’s academic career.

“It allows them the opportunity to explore new ideas and concepts while learning how to test them,” she said. “We have students who after participating in undergraduate research decide to pursue advanced degrees in a discipline. Undergraduate research at UT Dallas provides opportunities that only graduate students have at many other universities.”

Many of these promising undergraduate researchers also are rewarded with fellowships and nationally and internationally competitive scholarships. The Green Fellowship program for undergrads nearly doubled last year to 17 students who dedicated a full semester to doing individual research in labs at UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

And since 2005, five UT Dallas students have received nationally competitive Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. Designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering, the Goldwater is the premier undergraduate honor of its type. It’s also a good harbinger of future success: More than 75 recent Goldwater scholars have gone on to win Rhodes Scholarships for postgraduate study.

Austin Swafford, a 2010 UT Dallas graduate and McDermott Scholar, was a recipient of a 2008 Goldwater Scholarship. Swafford leveraged his research experience at UT Dallas and is now continuing his studies at Cambridge University as a member of the National Institutes of Health Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program where he is developing highly sensitive diagnostic procedures and therapeutic strategies to fight diabetes.

Dr. Walter Voit, another UT Dallas grad, completed his graduate work at Georgia Tech and was recruited back to the University as an assistant professor in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science.

“I began research starting my junior year in Dr. Hal Sudborough’s lab. I did work, attended his weekly lab meetings and felt at home in that research environment,” Voit said. “It was a lot of work and involved lots of problem solving, and it really prepared me for graduate school.

“All of my experiences in the lab—delegating responsibilities, building protocols and writing—have helped me create a sustainable environment for research,” Voit said.

Voit said the entirety of his experience, first as a student researcher, then as a graduate student, prepared him for his eventual career as a professor. Like George Jeffrey, Ray Baughman and Sudborough before him, Voit is teaching through research. Since returning to UTD, two of his own undergraduate students from Georgia Tech have begun working on their doctoral degrees in his lab. At UT Dallas, research is teaching.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE

Shop the University Bookstore!
Located in the new Visitor Center, shop us for the best selection of Comet apparel and gifts.

utd.bkstr.com
... AND A QUESTION

Enjoyed reading the article on “A Campus Transformed” in the Spring 2011 edition. While the photography is beautiful, it occurred to me that something was odd about the photo of the Entrance Forest showing the new entry drive from Campbell Road. While I am sure it is nice to show UT Dallas as a thriving university located so close to downtown Dallas, it is a deceptive shot. As a longtime resident of the Richardson neighborhood just south of the campus, the Dallas skyline is not nearly as close as it appears in that photo. Even a Google Earth view of the same location shows Dallas to be far in the distance. I work in a tall office building in the High Five area and even from that location nearer to downtown, the skyline doesn’t appear that large. So, not really a complaint, just an observation.

Scott Miller

The photograph of the Entrance Forest and downtown Dallas is one of a series of photos taken last year by Randy Anderson, a freelance professional who often serves the University. With the generous help of the facilities staff members from the Office of Administration (no, don’t try this by yourself without permission), Anderson mounted the rooftops of several campus buildings to capture the best perspective, and worked hard to be in the right place at the right time. An early morning after a rain gave the clearest view. As with any photograph used in the magazine, adjustments are made to fit the space but that is, indeed, the actual skyline that can be seen from the top of several UTD buildings—this one being from atop the Jindal School of Management. We were a little surprised as well—downtown appeared a lot closer than we expected. Anderson used lens compression through a telephoto lens to gain this perspective. – The Editors

SPRING GRADUATION FEEDBACK

I just wanted to say how impressed I was this past May at my daughter’s UTD graduation. I believe that universities exist to transfer and extend knowledge. While physical conditioning is important for everyone, that goal seems misplaced in many schools, where the emphasis on intercollegiate sports has come to usurp the larger function of the school in the eyes of the student body and the public. My daughter has stayed in adequate shape through intramural sports on campus. The impressive thing about UTD was the tremendous drive and pride I heard in the school’s academic and research accomplishments. I saw the same attitude reflected in the few issues of the school’s newspaper I saw over the years. I have spoken to my daughter about her courses on many occasions. I believe that the undergraduate education she received there was on par or above anything else she could have learned at any other college in the world. Please extend my thanks to the faculty and staff for a job well done!

Sincerely,

Ken Freed

972-883-2586
alumni@utdallas.edu
Office of Development and Alumni Relations

Looking for ways to get back in touch?
Visit UT Dallas alumni on LinkedIn and Facebook.
About 300 sixth-grade students participate in the program each year.

SEEC partners with the Metroplex Technology Business Council, which hopes to add two schools every year to the program, extending into Plano, Frisco, Garland, Wylie and Allen.

“Richardson ISD values and appreciates UT has consistently been a supportive, innovative partner to public education in our community, and we are fortunate to have such a tremendous resource in our own backyard.”

Students from the UT Dallas Teacher Development Center (TDC) also get out into local schools, in early field experiences of 20 hours in RISD or Plano Independent School District during their first course toward teacher certification, said Scherry Johnson, director of the teacher development center. As the TDC teacher preparation program progresses, students are required to work an additional 20 hours in the Dallas Independent School District.

Area school students and UTD students interact on the UT Dallas campus as well. The Department of Math/Science Education hosts 300 to 400 elementary students for free math and science workshops annually. The camps are particularly popular with UT Dallas student volunteers, said Monalisa Amidar, assistant director of the Office of Student Volunteerism.

More than 180 volunteered last year.

UT Dallas students also serve the school district in a variety of other capacities, said Celina Cardenas, RISD Community Relations Coordinator. Many McDermott Scholars, who must perform community service, choose to work in the schools. “They’ve done beautification projects, tutored, mentored, helped out with clubs,” said Cardenas. “They’ve been science fair judges for Invention Convention.”

Seniors Net, Texas Trees Foundation, and the Richardson Animal Shelter. They adopted a highway, on the Bush service road by Alma Road.

For the most part, this well-behaved bunch seldom annoys the neighbors. Rachavong can count the number of complaints about students living in neighborhoods on one hand.

She does, however, recall an incident of civil disobedience.

Sometime in the ’90s, a “No Left Turn” sign was placed at the intersection of Floyd and Lookout roads, the first attempt to deal with the traffic jams that bedeviled neighbors trying to get home. The sign was small and difficult to see, and tickets were being slapped on students, who complained mightily.

Finally, the vice president of student government got so exasperated, he went out to direct traffic himself.

“I remember students rushing into my office saying ‘Come, come quickly! Hurry! Hurry! The police have arrested Mo!’ ” said Rachavong, who was dean of students at the time.

“He wouldn’t get out of the street, so they removed him.”

Then-police sci major Mo Kashmiri BS’99 hadn’t actually been arrested; police just put him in a car to talk to him. Ultimately he got what he wanted: a bigger sign, a blinking caution light, and a limit on hours left turns were prohibited. (Mo later, by the way, successfully sued the University of California, Berkeley, over tuition hikes. He’s a labor organizer today.)

Neighborhood complaints may be few in part because UT Dallas doesn’t have some typical complaint-generators—big-time athletics and Greek housing. UT Dallas’ Greek societies have considered building houses. But, said Rachavong, Greek housing isn’t envisioned as part of the residential neighborhoods.

“We have told our Greeks we would make space available on campus,” she said.

Business development around the school reflects the influence a growing student population can have. Until recent years, neighborhoods surrounding UT Dallas had little to offer students or faculty and staff, who in the early days could go to either What-a-Burger or Luby’s for lunch. “That was it, forever, it seemed,” said Rachavong. “There was no place to do a little shopping on your lunch hour.”

Today, not only have shopping and dining choices greatly expanded, but businesses that clearly target students are here. For example, Fuzzy’s Tacos. The eatery, which set up its first operation two blocks off the Texas Christian University campus in Fort Worth, now has a location one street over from UT Dallas on Campbell.

“We love that,” said Keffler. “We’re seeing retail and commercial activities that tend to follow the growth of a university.”

Daniel thinks more close-by, student-friendly businesses are needed. “We’re actively working on this,” he said. “I’d love to see something nearby like the Angelika [movie] Theater,” a Dallas art house cinema not far from Southern Methodist University. “I’d love to see those hamburger and pizza places, and Thai food places that you often see around university campuses where people from the community mingle with students and faculty. What I want most is a comedy club—because you need a sense of humor if you’re going to work on a college campus, and we can all benefit by lightening up a little.”

Daniel’s dreams are starting to take shape. Perhaps the most exciting development on the horizon involves a DART station on campus, using the Cotton Belt Line, which passes through UT Dallas property. “UT Dallas’ vision is to put a mixed-use development adjacent to the station,” said Jamison.

“Think of something like the Legacy Town Center located at UTD, surrounding a rail station where students, faculty, employees and the public can go. And think of offering a 45-minute train trip to DFW airport,” said Keffler.

Jamison describes the hoped-for mixed-use development as a place where graduate students and young faculty might want to live and small businesses that cater to a college crowd might want to inhabit.

DART is on board with the idea. But,
said Keffler, “It’s on the 2030 plan.” So, DART and the North Central Texas Council of Governments are looking for long-term investors to fund the rail line and development sooner. “They’ve sent out a request for proposal to corporations and organizations that they know are interested in transportation funding,” said Keffler.

Enhanced transportation might also help UT Dallas attract visitors from surrounding communities to take part in arts programming. At the moment, UT Dallas’ performance venues include a 200-seat performance hall, a 300-seat theater, and the 500-seat Alexander L. Clark Center Auditorium, but in 2013, a 1,200-seat lecture hall will be opened as part of an arts and technology complex currently under construction said Dennis Kratz, dean of the School of Arts and Humanities.

“Back in ’93, ’94, we started a concerted effort to bring people on campus by pushing artistic events,” he said. The turning point, was in 1999, when the school hosted the Moscow Chamber Orchestra, which sold out the Clark Center Auditorium. In conjunction with that, UT Dallas sponsored a black-tie Russian-themed party at the Omni Richardson, featuring ice sculptures and vodka.

“There are great opportunities as UT Dallas becomes increasingly seen as both an artistic and intellectual magnet,” Kratz said. “We can create opportunity for the surrounding communities, which have exactly the population base you want: well-educated, well-read, with good taste, and close to you.” In the 2010-11 season, visual and performing arts events attracted approximately 6,000 non-students to campus.

The School of Arts and Humanities also partners with the Charles W. Eisemann Center on an annual artists residency program. The school contributes to the cost of bringing in the performers and the partnership brings to campus performers UT Dallas could not otherwise afford to give workshops and master classes on campus.

Bruce MacPherson, director of the city-owned Eisemann Center, said the program, which he and Kratz dreamed up over lunch one day, has been more successful than expected. “The last few years, the City of Richardson provided funds back to the University to be put towards their scholarship programs for the various disciplines,” including dance and music, he said.

The days of UT Dallas hiding behind a tall grass prairie are over—banners along surrounding streets announce its presence to passers-by. Local businesses tout their school spirit, with Fuzzy’s and Sonny Bryan’s displaying UT Dallas sports jerseys as décor, and many offering “Comet Card” discounts. Richardson will never be a college burg—it’s too sophisticated for that. But it is UTD’s home, and the partnership between the city and UT Dallas has only grown stronger over the years. Here’s to a long and happy union.

In Texas choreography workshops at UT Dallas, the Lily Cai Dancers also visited area high schools

Town & Gown continued from page 47
Today, in an effort to better tell its story of excellence and achievement, The University of Texas at Dallas follows a brand standards program comparable to those found at nearly all national universities. The program, instituted not long after Dr. David E. Daniel became president, specifies the correct appearance and appropriate uses of University colors, logos and institutional marks on products from Facebook to T-shirts to diplomas.

These recently instituted, and thanks to the proliferation of digital media, seemingly ever-expanding guidelines got their start in a humble yet inspired moment shared by two pioneers of the University’s early years, former President Bryce Jordan and his former Executive Assistant Donna Beth McCormick who collaborated on the first UTD logo. Still in use today, the green, orange and white ovoid is often referred to by designers and printers as “the bug,” an acknowledgement of its scalability: even at .25 of an inch, it is readable and holds its visual integrity. It is used for street signage and other presentations that call for simplicity and readability above all else.

Dr. Jordan, a musicologist was became president of UT Dallas for 10 years beginning in July 1971, a position he held for 10 years before being appointed UT System Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and later president of Penn State, and Ms. McCormick, who worked at the University for five years and who is currently an active political volunteer and docent at the Governor’s Mansion in Austin, describe their memories of the very serviceable bug’s beginnings.

McCormick: “We were building a university ... and part of that process included creating a visual identity for the University. In the summer of 1971 ... Dr. Jordan, who had always been a bit of a doodler, hand-drew a box with the letters “U” and “T” in it, then doodled another box with a “D” in it, immediately to the right of the first. He said, ‘Let’s have the colors orange and white.’ ‘And green,’ I added. When he asked why, I told him, ‘Because I like green.’”

Jordan: “I thought, ‘We need a logo.’ I sat down with some colored pencils and sketched this out. I wanted it to have the UT in it for sure—that’s a prestigious pair of initials for the Dallas/Fort Worth area—and wanted to have the ‘D’ there as well. I drew the oblong shape and put the dividing line between UT and D. I wanted the colors of UT Austin in it because I knew that everybody would understand and would recognize burnt orange and white, but I wanted another color to identify it with UT Dallas.”
A Whoosh Heard 'round the World

Dariel Dato-On BS’11, Jinson Jose BS’11, senior accounting major Diane Henry and Jennifer Rausucher BS’11 do the Comet Whoosh on New York City’s famed 5th Avenue. The four UT Dallas Jindal School of Management students took first place in the American Institute of CPAs Accounting Competition held in New York in January 2011. In the last academic year, more than 40 percent of JSOM undergrad and graduate students competing either as teams or as individuals captured first, second or third place in contests that ranged from creating marketing plans to mock live trading events.

Have photos that show off your personal Comet connection? Send them to alumni@utdallas.edu to be considered for future issues.