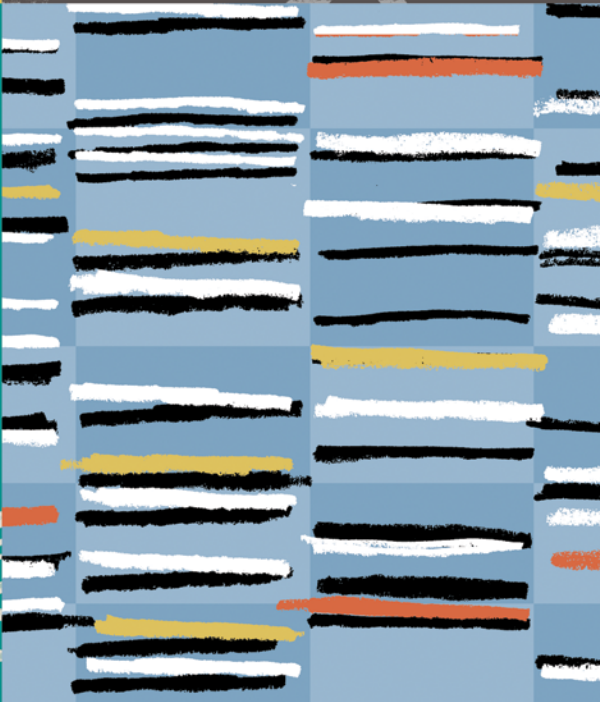
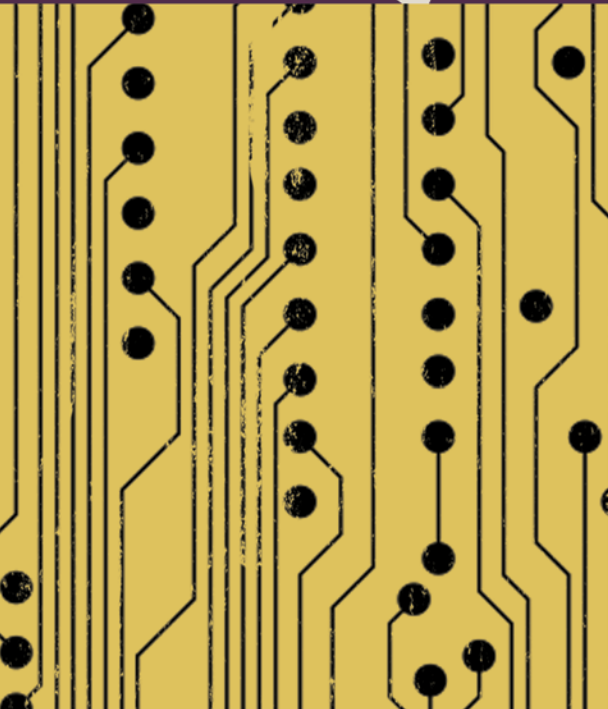
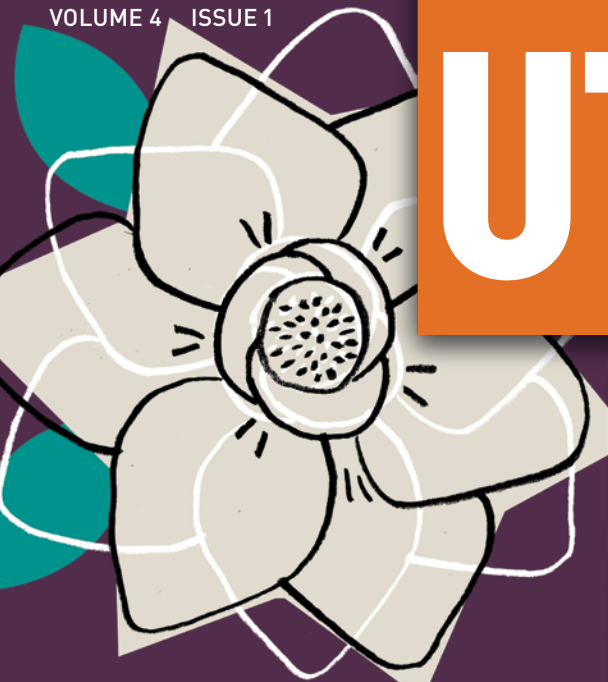


UT DALLAS

M A G A Z I N E



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE

UTD

SUPERCOMET

12



UT DALLAS
M A G A Z I N E

Volume 4, Issue 1
Fall 2013

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FEATURES

SUPERCOMET

12

Kyle Schleigh may be the best student-athlete ever to wear a Comets uniform. In just three years, Schleigh compiled an impressive basketball resume, including conference, regional and national honors. He enters his senior year as a two-time member of the prestigious ASC All-Conference team, an ASC East Division Player of the Year and a third-team All-American. Consult the home games schedule in this issue for opportunities to see Schleigh and other dedicated UT Dallas athletes in action.

THE JFK CONNECTION

16

John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, devastated the nation. The many details surrounding the president's death 50 years ago have been widely reported. Less well known is the connection between the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest (that would one day become UT Dallas) and the president's visit.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE UTD

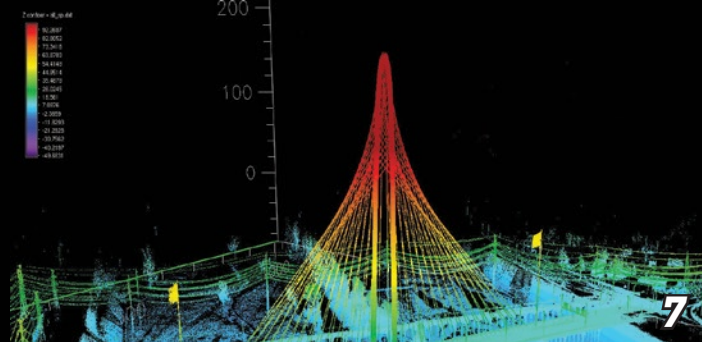
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Many husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters have shared an academic home at UT Dallas. These "legacies"—multigenerational graduates and an even larger number of families with siblings who enroll—get no concessions on admission standards. They're choosing UTD because they know the school so well through their family ties.

ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE: AUSTIN SWAFFORD

28

Austin Swafford BS'09 crossed oceans to work on solving a problem he has lived with most of his life—type 1 diabetes. As part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program, the Goldwater Scholar conducted research in a leading diabetes laboratory at Cambridge, England, and in an immunology laboratory at the NIH in Bethesda, Md. Along the way, he discovered a gene that confers protection against type 1 diabetes and completed his doctorate in just four years.



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Mail for the Spring Issue . . .

Tier One Perspectives

The “Reversing the Brain Drain” feature (Spring 2013) is interesting. However, what is the point of making big changes and trying to make universities more successful if you do not increase and make better the graduate programs that are available in this state?

Our two sons went to UT Dallas, with the intention of going to medical school. Neither one of them was accepted into medical school, even though they are both pretty good students. The truth of the matter is that the schools have not kept up with the pace of growth in this country, and apparently it is cheaper to bring medical graduates from other countries and allow them to do residencies here than it is to educate American citizens to fill the many positions that are needed. I keep hearing how there is a great need for doctors, especially in primary care, and yet nothing is being done about it.

So even though the Tier One sounds great on paper, it is useless unless backed by a much-enlarged graduate program nationwide.

Pat Sommerhalder
Longview, Texas

After reading the “Reversing the Brain Drain” article, I asked for copies of the magazine for everyone in the Office of Human Resources and invited Dr. Daniel to speak at our next staff meeting about his Tier One vision. The article is a good starting point, especially for those who have not worked at a Tier One institution before, in understanding the importance and significance of this achievement ... and a good reminder that we all play a role in making this happen. Great job!

Colleen Dutton
Assistant Vice President
Human Resources
The University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, Texas

Taking on Tinhorn Tyrants

Thanks for the splendid article on Syria by Dina Shahrokhi (Spring 2013, “Drawn to Damascus, Alumni Perspective”).

It is tragic that the man Syrians call “Dr. Bashar” [Assad], who did his ophthalmological residency in British hospitals, along with his chic and stylish wife, has chosen to perpetuate the authoritarian Ba’ath Party regime begun by his father, General Hafez Assad. One thinks of other “hereditary despotisms”

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ON THE COVER

As every Comet knows, there’s no place like UTD. But “place” is more than a geographic location; for students past and present, it signifies a sense of attachment and belonging. Inspired by what you might encounter on a stroll across campus or during classroom study, we’ve highlighted some iconic images that are part of the UT Dallas experience. How many do you recognize?

Answers

A. Magnolias – Scores of these stately trees line the walkways near reflecting pools in the mall area.

B. NSERL Tiles – The Natural Science and Engineering Research Laboratory (NSERL) is often referred to as the “mermaid building” because its metal skin resembles iridescent fish scales, shifting color as the light changes throughout the day.

C. Chess – The chess program is among the best in the country, having won state, national and international titles. There’s even a Chess Plaza with human-sized chessboards.

D. Circuit Board – UTD remains linked to its founders at Texas Instruments who launched a new era in technology with the invention of the integrated circuit.

E. Love Jack – The 10-foot-tall steel “Jack”—created by American modernist sculptor Jim Love—is nestled in the University Theatre Plaza.

F. Trees – More than 5,000 trees and shrubs were planted on campus as part of a 2008 Campus Enhancement project.



G. Squirrel – The antics of these furry denizens provide daily entertainment, often inspiring student poets, writers and artists.

H. The Science Learning Center – The building’s exterior tiles were inspired by two patterns: atomic emission spectra of gases and human DNA when it is separated in a process called gel electrophoresis.

I. Molecules – Most students pursue majors in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

CONTRIBUTORS

around the world, in places such as Haiti under the Duvaliers or North Korea under the Kim dynasty. (These brutal regimes seem to be right out of a Sacha Baron Cohen film.)

I foresee no existential threat to the Ba'ath regime in Syria, leastways not from the U.S. or from NATO nations. The two wars in Muslim nations have drained us [the U.S.] financially, and no one today holds illusions about western-style democratic secular constitutional governments taking root in that milieu.

Assad, meanwhile, continues to receive materiel, and now even troops, from Iran's regional proxy, Hezbollah, in Lebanon. The Chinese and Russians have a reliable weapons buyer in Assad and would never abandon so reliable a customer. Moreover, unlike the Iraqi Ba'athists, Assad has not been overly threatening to Syria's neighbors, and the soil under his feet has no petroleum reserves with which to fund any postwar reconstruction efforts.

Verbose condemnations of the Syrian genocide will likely take the same tone as those about Rwanda in the mid-90s. The world's tinhorn tyrants don't stay awake at night fearing the U.N. The stack of Syrian corpses will likely rival that piled up by Khmer Rouge in the '70s.

Brad O'Brien BA'85
Blythewood, S.C.

Join the conversation! Send letters to the editor to utdallasmagazine@utdallas.edu or UT Dallas Magazine, AD14, 800 W. Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080-3021. All submissions may be edited for clarity or length. Please include contact information such as phone number, email address and/or mailing address.



Gaile Robinson

Gaile Robinson is a UT graduate, and an award-winning art critic and arts writer based in Fort Worth, Texas. She has worked for the *Dallas Morning News*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*. This is her second feature story for *UT Dallas Magazine*. In 2012, she wrote about the University's School of Arts and Humanities.



Austin Swafford BS '09

Austin Swafford, who earned a bachelor's degree in molecular biology and is a former Goldwater Scholar and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow, spent time in Bethesda, Md., and in Cambridge, England, where he conducted research on type 1 diabetes as part of the NIH Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program. While at UTD, he coordinated a student-led effort to create a minor in nanoscience and worked in the laboratories of Drs. Rockford Draper and Paul Pantano in the Alan G. McDiarmid Nanotech Institute. Austin now holds a postdoctoral position at a large pharmaceutical company in California where he hopes to continue to develop therapies to prevent diabetes and other chronic diseases.



Laura Ehrich MFA'11

Laura Ehrich MFA'11, who designed "The JFK Connection" feature in this issue, earned her graduate degree in arts and technology while working as a graphic designer for the Office of Communications. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in communication design and a minor in advertising from Kutztown University. Ehrich, who has received numerous awards for her graphic design work, is also known for her fine art based on patterns. Her art has been exhibited in galleries throughout the U.S. Before coming to UT Dallas, she worked at several top global ad agencies under Interpublic Group and WPP, including Ogilvy CommonHealth.

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ON CAMPUS



Like all Radio UTD DJs, Brian Cash has the freedom to play just about anything he wants.

Radio UTD Marks 10 Years of Tunes Rarely Heard Elsewhere

Tune in to Radio UTD, and you'll hear an eclectic range of music you're not likely to get anywhere else.

That's because disc jockeys at the student-run station avoid Top 40 songs and generate playlists that emphasize local talent.

For 10 years now, the student-run radio station has provided a venue for discovering and sharing music that students are passionate about. The Web-based station streams live shows 12 hours a day, five days a week.

DJs come from a wide range of majors, from more naturally creative programs to engineering types who need a creative outlet.

Radio UTD began streaming Internet programming in February 2003 from a small closet in the Engineering and Computer Science North Building. In 2005, the station moved to the lower level of the Student Union, and in 2011 to its current studio in the Student Media Suite on the same floor.

DJs aim to play at least seven new songs per week, from any genre. The station also broadcasts occasional talk shows and live coverage of some UT Dallas sports events. Talk show topics range from global politics to theoretical physics. Then there's "Nerdstatic," a program covering "nerd culture" topics such as "Doctor Who" or the latest webcomics. **-Robin Russell**

What Are the Odds? Statistics Prof Photographs Rare Bird

One morning in January 2011, statistics professor Dr. Larry Ammann discovered a mysterious stranger in his back yard.

Two years later, that stranger's identity is not only known, but it's also been shared with millions of people thanks to a popular TV game show.

Ammann, who has been a faculty member in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics since 1975, is an avid nature photographer. In 2011, he spotted a female northern cardinal at a bird feeder at his home in Dallas.

The species is common in North Texas year round, but Ammann noticed something unusual about this bird. Its coloring was a dull brown like a typical female cardinal, yet it had the male bird's characteristic red crest atop its head.

Intrigued, Ammann went for his camera. He was able to get one shot of the cardinal that day. Fortunately, the bird remained in the neighborhood and he was able to capture additional images.

After doing some research and querying experts with the National Audubon Society, Ammann determined that his visitor was a rare bilateral gynandromorph—an animal exhibiting both male and female characteristics, typically split down the middle of the body.

Bilateral gynandromorphs are the result of a genetic mistake that occurs in the earliest cell divisions after an egg cell is fertilized. That error results in the animal developing with one side of its body female, the other side male.

The appearance of a gynandromorph is particularly striking in species like the northern cardinal, where the male is brightly colored and the female is much more drab.

In May 2011, *Discovery News* ran an online story about the discovery. Then, in May of this year, Ammann was contacted by the TV quiz show "Jeopardy!" about using one of the photos of the cardinal he posted online.

During the Double Jeopardy round, the picture of Ammann's bird was shown and the contestant was expected to know that "gynandromorph" means an animal that is both male and female. The show aired July 16. The bird's appearance on "Jeopardy!" coincided with its reappearance in Ammann's yard. After a nearly two-year absence, the cardinal is back.

Ammann continues to take photos of the bird, whose behavior seems more male-like than female. Only a genetic test can determine the actual gender of the bird, but to date Ammann has been unable to acquire any of its feathers, let alone a blood sample.

"The other male cardinals in the yard try to chase it away, but the females tend to ignore it," Ammann said. "Unfortunately, the gynandromorph cardinal does not seem to sing, so I just have to watch for it." **-Amanda Siegfried**



This is the rare cardinal photographed in Dr. Larry Ammann's back yard. It is a bilateral gynandromorph, which means it exhibits both male and female characteristics, split down the middle of its body.

WHOOSH!

Dr. Lawrence Chung, associate professor of computer science, and a team of researchers and students from the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science comprised one of seven teams worldwide that received the first-ever Google App Engine Research Award for innovative academic and scientific research expected to benefit society.

UT Dallas has been ranked 15th among the top 100 schools under 50 years old by *The Times Higher Education* magazine, a publication that ranks universities founded less than 50 years ago using 13 performance indicators, which emphasize research, knowledge transfer, teaching, innovation, diversity and international collaborations.

The American Association of University Women has awarded Lillian Calles Barger MA'08, a doctoral candidate in the School of Arts and Humanities, the American Dissertation Fellowship for 2013-14 to study the cultural history of ideas at the intersection of religion and politics in the American hemisphere.

Rocket Contest Competitors Strive for Height, Cargo Protection



Dr. Phil Anderson MS'85, PhD'90 (right) assists Matthew Henderson, a physics junior, and Mikaela McMurtry, an interdisciplinary studies junior, in preparing their rocket for launch before it won first place in the competition. The rocket reached a height of 383 feet before returning to Earth.

To build and fly a rocket, you have to break some eggs.

That simple lesson came home for several students and faculty members at a recent model rocket competition sponsored by the University's chapter of the Society of Physics Students (SPS).

The SPS hosted the contest to engage the campus community and the public in a fun, creative and educational activity. The contest was open to anyone.

Winners of the contest were chosen based on the height their rockets achieved, but with a twist. The rockets were required to carry and return a raw egg payload without breaking it.

Competitors received basic rocket kits about 10 days before the competition, as well as advice and an overview of rocket science from Dr. Phil Anderson MS'85, PhD'90, professor of physics at the W.B. Hanson Center for Space Sciences. Anderson, a member of the National Association of Rocketry, oversaw the launches during the competition.

At the event, Anderson assisted competitors in fitting each rocket with an engine and an altimeter to measure the height the rocket achieved. After the engine expended its fuel, it released a smoke trail for a specified amount of time. It then fired an ejection charge, which deployed a parachute that allowed the rocket, egg and altimeter to be recovered.

"Ideally you want the parachute to deploy at the highest point in the flight," said Anderson, who noted that some high-power model rockets can reach 50,000 feet. **-AS**

Authentic Courtroom to Give Pre-Law Students a Place to Practice

UT Dallas is now home to a Texas courtroom replica, which will help serve as a training facility for pre-law students and the University's competitive pre-law teams.

Housed in the Founders Building, the project was initiated by Dr. Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres, former dean of undergraduate education, and named in honor of Dr. Anthony Champagne, a political science professor who has taught at the University since 1979.

Champagne is a faculty member in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences and the director of the Pre-Law Program in Undergraduate Education.

"This will be absolutely fantastic for both moot court and mock trial because students are working in a courtroom as opposed to a classroom," said Champagne, who also is director of the University's Pre-Law Advising and Resource Center.

Students who compete in moot court and mock trial are better prepared for collegiate competitions when they've practiced in a realistic courtroom setting.

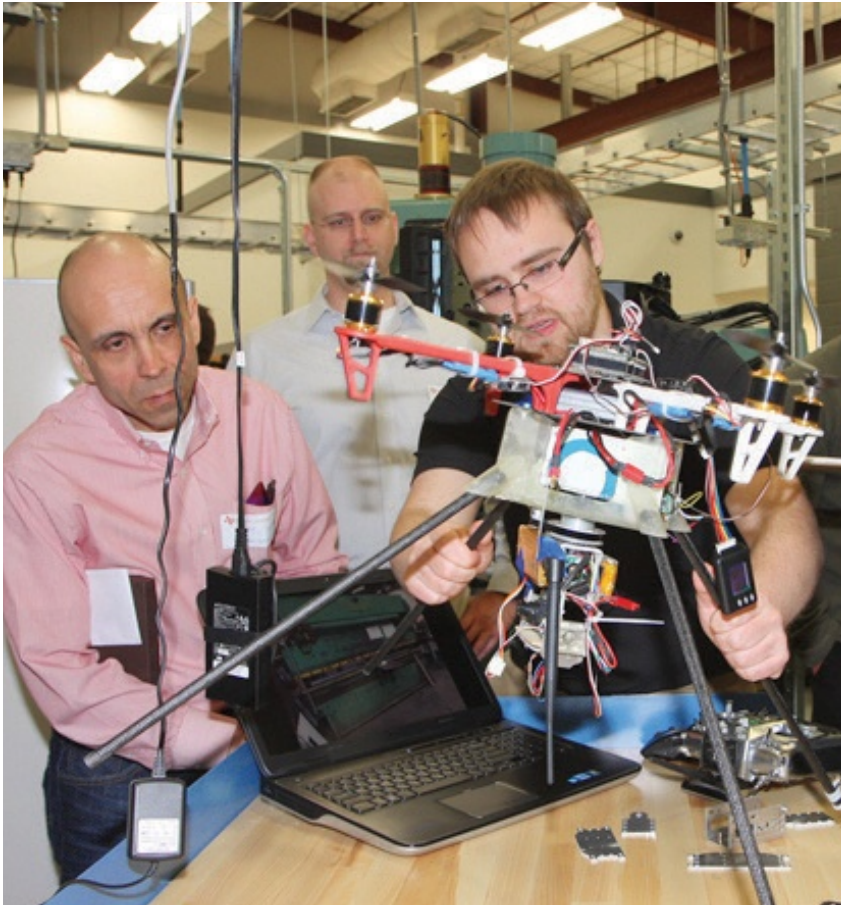
The courtroom itself was constructed using the same materials and specifications as any courtroom in the state. The room itself has a

judicial bench, witness boxes, and spaces for prosecution and defense.

The University is the only school in Texas to have teams in all three major undergraduate legal advocacy competitions: moot court, mock trial and mediation. Moot court is modeled after appellate procedure, whereas mock trial is designed to simulate trials. **-Katherine Morales**



Dr. Anthony Champagne tries out a chair in a new student courtroom that has been named for him.



Andrew Bruff BS '13 (right) adjusts his UDesign project in the mechanical engineering machine shop.

Shop Turns Mechanical Engineering Designs into Reality

The opening of the mechanical engineering machine shop marks an educational milestone in one of the University's fastest-growing departments.

The facility gives students the experience of building custom mechanical components or systems for class assignments, research and industry sponsors. The shop houses 10 computer stations, where students can design their concepts or solutions for turning raw material into components or systems using state-of-the-art machines located in the shop.

"Students sometimes believe that you can draw a mechanical component and that a machine will make it," said Mark Powell, the shop's manager, who spent 30 years as a machinist at Texas Instruments. "It doesn't work that way. Someone has to map out details such as the tool size you're going to use and the type of material and speed at which the machine will run."

Before the shop's opening, students had to take the parts they designed to another facility to be fabricated. They had to rely on an outside facility for even minor modifications, which often resulted in longer waits for the next phases of the designs.

While the machine shop is primarily for mechanical engineering design students and extracurricular activities of the student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, other students who have been properly trained are able to use the shop as well. **-LaKisha Ladson**

UT Dallas Grads Among Those with the Least Student Debt in the Country

UT Dallas undergraduates graduate with less debt than most students in the country, according to new data from *U.S. News and World Report*.

The University also has one of the lowest percentages of graduates who carry debt after graduation, the report found.

According to the magazine, 36 percent of undergraduate alumni who graduated in 2012 owed payment on loans taken out to support their education. Their average amount of debt, which included the cumulative amount borrowed by students who incurred debt, was \$17,516.

Recent federal government and nonprofit reports show the national average student debt after graduation to be about \$26,000.

The data placed the University among the top 10 universities in the country with the fewest students carrying debt. The report measured the amount of loans taken out by students from their colleges, private financial institutions, and federal, state and local governments.

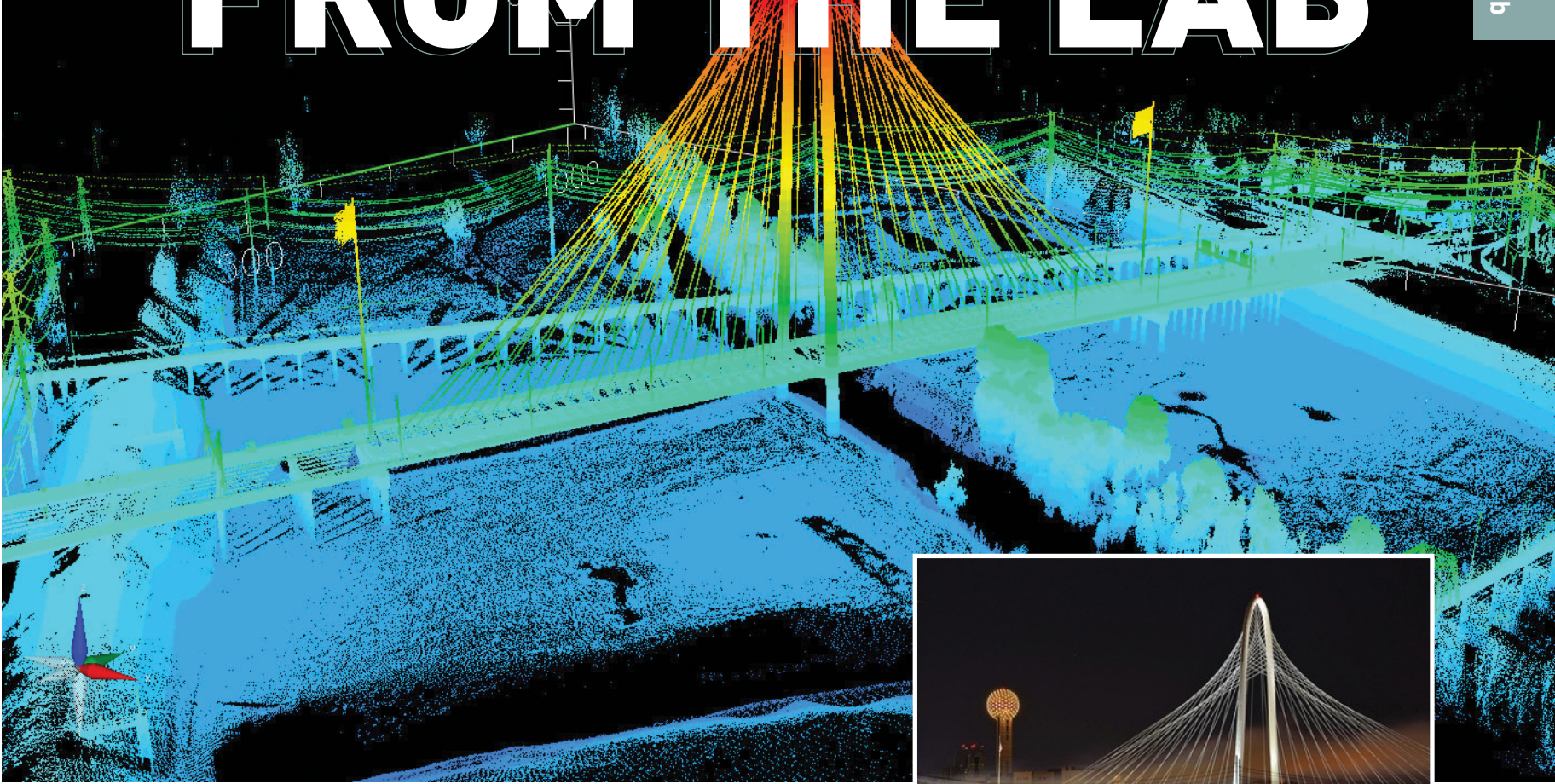
Data gathered from the graduating class of 2012 showed UTD to be one of only two Texas universities listed in the top 10 and one of four Texas universities in the entire list of 26. **-KM**

Top 10 Universities with the Least Student Debt at Graduation

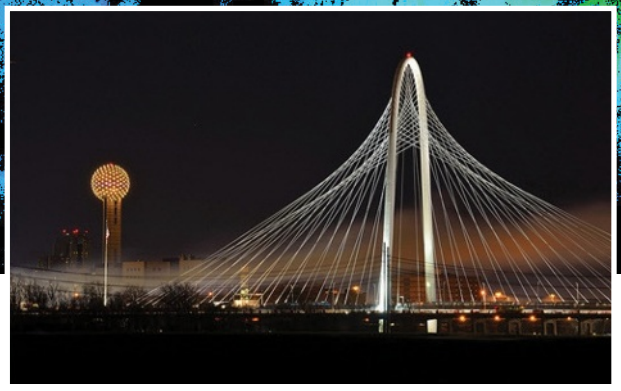
School	% of Grads with Debt	Average Debt
Princeton University	24%	\$ 5,096
Yale University	17%	\$ 10,742
Harvard University	25%	\$ 13,098
Brigham Young Univ.-Provo	31%	\$ 14,377
California Institute of Technology	44%	\$ 15,090
University of Houston	47%	\$ 16,582
U. of North Carolina-Chapel Hill	35%	\$ 16,983
Vanderbilt University	34%	\$ 17,349
University of Buffalo-SUNY	45%	\$ 17,449
University of Texas at Dallas	36%	\$ 17,516

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FROM THE LAB



A group of graduate students made a 3-D computer model of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge to show the relationship between urban and natural environments.



3-D Project Bridges Research, Dallas Community Awareness

A group of graduate students in the Department of Geosciences made a 3-D computer model of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge as part of a project to raise awareness of the interactions between natural and urban environments.

The students asked for the community's input on a new project they called "3D Dallas." An online survey and a poll posted on the UT Dallas Facebook page asked the public to choose its favorite Dallas landmark from among five choices. The research group would

then use terrestrial laser scanning equipment, or LIDAR, to take detailed measurements of the winner and create a 3-D animated computer rendering.

The iconic bridge garnered the majority of the more than 700 total votes cast. The 3-D computer model was displayed at Earth Day Dallas at Fair Park.

The project was funded by a grant from the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), which solicited project proposals to help mark its centennial.

Projects such as 3D Dallas can help raise awareness of how urban, built areas like Dallas interact with the natural environment.

"The opportunity for us to work with students and faculty from UT Dallas has been terrific," said Sean Merrell, president of the Dallas Branch of the ASCE and chair of the centennial planning committee. "This collaboration with UT Dallas was very successful in presenting a very cost-effective way of gathering data utilizing LIDAR technologies." -AS

WHOOSH!

Dr. Sandra Bond Chapman PhD'86, founder and chief director of UT Dallas' **Center for BrainHealth**, presented *Make Your Brain Smarter: It's Not What You Think* at a **TEDx** conference in Washington, D.C. The talk has been posted to the TEDx YouTube Channel.

Austin Peel BS'08, MS'12 and **Michael Troxel MS'11**, both PhD students in the **Department of Physics**, were among 21 graduate students from 16 Texas institutions to receive \$5,000 fellowships from the **NASA/Texas Space Grant Consortium Fellowship** for 2012-13.

Andrew Previc BA'13 and **Maija Wallace BS'12** received 2013-14 English Teaching Assistantship grants from the **Fulbright U.S. Student Program**. Previc will teach in Taiwan and Wallace will teach in Spain.

Dr. Sean Cotter MA'98, associate professor of literature and translation studies, won the **2013 Best Translated Book Award** in poetry given by *Three Percent*, the international literature magazine of the University of Rochester.

Study Suggests New Approach to Fighting Lung Cancer

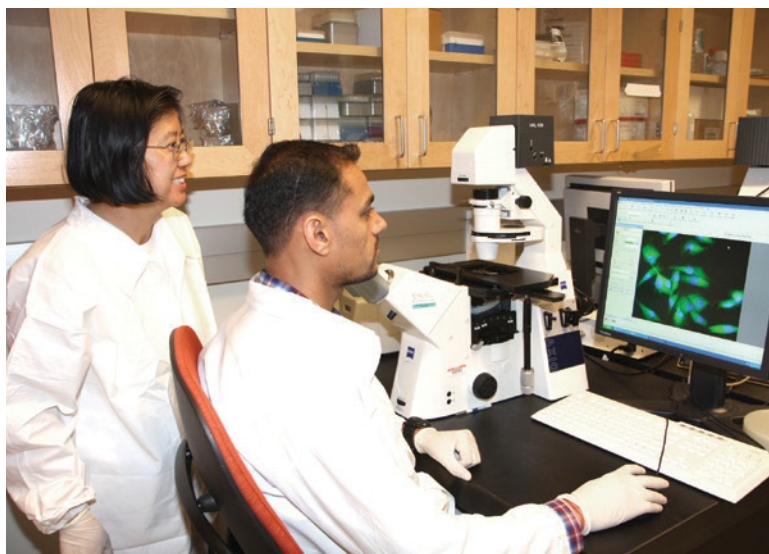
University scientists have found that exploiting differences in metabolism between normal cells and cancer cells might provide a new strategy to combat lung cancer.

In an article published in the journal *PLOS ONE*, University researchers found that non-small-cell lung cancer cells consumed substantially more oxygen than normal cells, about 2½ times as much. The lung cancer cells also outpaced their normal counterparts in synthesizing a critical chemical called heme, an iron-containing molecule involved in transporting, storing and metabolizing oxygen throughout the body. The researchers reasoned that higher levels of heme and oxygen use in cancer cells lead those cells to proliferate, migrate and form colonies.

Based on their findings, the scientists then treated both lung cancer cells and normal lung cells with a chemical compound that blocks heme synthesis to see whether that would selectively kill the cancer cells.

"Before our study, scientists didn't know whether there was any difference in effect between cancer cells and normal cells," said Dr. Li Zhang, professor of molecular and cell biology and senior author of the study. "Now we know that this compound doesn't have much effect on normal cells, but it does have an effect on lung cancer cells."

-AS



Recent experiments by Dr. Li Zhang, left, and graduate student Jagmohan Hooda MS'11 showed that lung cancer cells—like those shown on the screen—use more oxygen than normal cells, providing a possible new avenue for fighting the deadly disease.

Student-Designed Solar Chargers Shine in Initial Tests



PhD student Matthew McDonough had been interested in new energy solutions even before starting the renewable project last fall.

A promising display of carbon-free energy has been quietly humming along for months on campus.

Specialized solar-powered golf cart charging stations have withstood the elements and created a tantalizing example of the effectiveness of alternative energy sources.

"We have two charging stations, and each can service two carts so far," said Matthew McDonough, a PhD student in the Renewable Energy and Vehicular Technology (REVT) lab.

McDonough was assigned the project last fall, but his interest in creating alternative, carbon-free energy solutions began years ago when he was still an undergraduate.

"I really became interested in this field because of [conflicts] over natural resources," McDonough said. "Creating ways to take advantage of renewable resources has the potential to solve so many problems."

McDonough works with Dr. Babak Fahimi, professor of electrical engineering and director of the REVT lab. The idea was to create a project that could be implemented outside the lab. Electric charging stations for golf carts seemed a manageable place to start. -LL

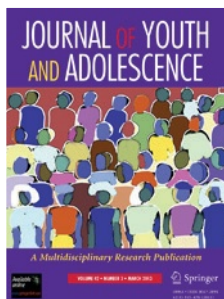
Dr. Karen Rodrigue and Dr. Kristen Kennedy have been recognized by the Association for Psychological Science as Rising Stars. Rodrigue and Kennedy joined the UT Dallas Center for Vital Longevity as assistant professors in 2012.

The National Academy of Engineering, a nonprofit institution that provides national engineering leadership, recently elected UT Dallas President David E. Daniel to a three-year term on its governing council.

Electrical engineering major Matthew Krenik, a McDermott Scholar, received a Goldwater Scholarship, and bioengineering major Michael Lau received an honorable mention.

Former player and longtime assistant coach Jason Hirsch BS'05, MBA'11 has been named the new men's soccer coach.

Study Links Adolescent Bullying to Criminal Behavior Later



Adults who say they bullied others when they were adolescents may have a higher likelihood of engaging in criminal behavior later in life, according to new University research.

The study appeared in the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence* and examined data gathered on a group of more than 400 men over the course of several decades.

"This is the largest long-term study of bullying behavior," said Dr. Nadine Connell, assistant professor of criminology and one of the co-authors of the paper. "This is important

because it helps us gauge whether bullying is a risk factor for determining continued adverse behavior well into late-middle adulthood."

The authors looked at a data set of men in their mid-50s who had grown up in Britain. All came from comparable, working-class socioeconomic backgrounds, typically from two-parent families.

Of those who reported that they bullied others as teenagers, nearly half went on to engage in some form of criminal behavior including theft, burglary and assault.

"We also found that these men were more likely to be repeat offenders and at a much higher rate," said study co-author Dr. Alex Piquero, Ashbel Smith Professor of Criminology. Also assisting with the study was Dr. Nicole Leeper Piquero, professor of criminology and associate dean for graduate programs in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences.

Those who reported bullying behavior did so at a time when bullying was not so widely publicized. This means that those who engaged in such behaviors were probably reporting the most frequent and most severe behaviors. **-KM**



Katherine Borner, a senior chemistry student, and Syed Mohammed Rasheed, a pre-med senior majoring in psychology and child development, talked about their research projects.

Capitol Ideas: Undergrads Take Research to Austin

A passion to connect scientific theory with practice compelled four undergraduates to take on research projects and show off their results at the Capitol in Austin.

During the spring semester, the students displayed their work for legislators and the public as part of Texas Undergraduate Research Day.

The event highlighted outstanding undergraduate research at the state's universities, as well as the impact of that research on Texans. About 60 research posters were displayed, representing nearly 50 higher education institutions.

Texas Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol is coordinated by the Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors, the Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas, and the Texas Association of Community Colleges. **-AS**



Student volunteers participate in simulated business situations at the Center and Laboratory for Behavioral Operations and Economics.

Let the Games Begin: Business Lab Uses Competition in Research

The Center and Laboratory for Behavioral Operations and Economics recently opened in the Naveen Jindal School of Management with one main purpose: to play games.

Both the center and its co-directors have roots in the Laboratory for Economic Management and Auctions at Pennsylvania State University. And the hope, co-director Dr. Elena Katok said, is to extend that work at UTD.

"This lab is a great opportunity to test analytical models for applications," Katok said. "There is so much that can be learned by how human beings interact in business."

Games are a central part of the research. Student volunteers participate in simulated business situations in the first-floor JSOM computer lab. Dealing in everything from bargaining to auctions, the volunteers' success in the games can lead to cash in their wallets.

"It's very important that the incentives are highly controlled," said Katok, an Ashbel Smith Professor and a professor of operations management. "We're paying them based on how well they succeed. We hope they'll have fun, but we want the prime motivation to be money. It's best for the research."

The results have yielded their share of the unexpected. "In bargaining, we've been surprised by how much fairness comes into play," said Katok, who teaches courses on purchasing and sourcing and behavioral operations. "In some of the procurement settings, we've found people are more honest than maybe you would think."

Katok and her co-director—and spouse—Dr. Gary Bolton prefer not to say how much a successful student can earn from the games, which are funded by the National Science Foundation and the JSOM. **-Eric Butterman**

ARTS AND CULTURE

ATEC Students Shine Bright with 3-D Animated Film 'Fright-Lite'



From concept to completion, the process of making a two-and-a-half minute computer animated film can take an entire academic year, as a group of Arts and Technology (ATEC) students recently learned.

In a new, two-semester course, undergraduate and graduate students in the ATEC program worked as a multidisciplinary team to create *Fright-Lite*, a short film about a boy who grapples to overcome his fear of monsters.

"Everything in this animation is made from nothing. It took multiple teams, simultaneously working on different aspects of the project, from beginning to end. It takes a lot of time," said associate professor Todd Fechter, who taught the course with assistant professor Eric Farrar.

Fechter's professional experience includes working on the television series "The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius" on Nickelodeon, and Farrar has worked on the films *Night at the Museum* and *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

"This course truly helps prepare students for careers in their respective industries—they become problem solvers, weighing their solutions versus the total benefit of the team," Farrar said. "The course is really about allowing students to develop a skill set in an environment that allows them to experiment."

Among the 25 students who worked on the project was Greg Slagel



This character model by Vincent Lo, an ATEC graduate student, shows some of the development stages of the animated protagonist of *Fright-Lite*.

BA'13, who served as a project coordinator.

"The course provided a very exciting production experience. As the project coordinator, I had to stay up-to-date on everything going on in the project. If an animator added a single frame to their animation—that's 1/24th of a second—then the lighting team needed to know about it so that they didn't miss that extra frame," Slagel said.

The process of creating the animation started with crude drawings and sketches, and eventually the early concepts and storyboards were turned into 3-D images. From there, the students designed scenes, complete with sets and camera movements.

"Despite all the technical challenges of creating the animation, the most difficult part of the project is making sure the story works—to ensure that the audience is engaged and can follow the story," Fechter said.

A new cohort of students is beginning yearlong projects this semester, but this time they are housed in the new Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building. Dr. Thomas Linehan, who holds the Arts and Humanities Distinguished Chair and is director of the ATEC program, hopes the new space will inspire even greater creativity.

"ATEC's animation faculty have our students working at professional studio level by the time they graduate. The students experience a complete animation production pipeline in their structured courses," Linehan said. "Our faculty members have animation industry experience and they apply rigorous quality standards as they evaluate our students' work. The new Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building is carefully designed to support the achievement of these high standards and to facilitate successful collaborations." **-Chaz Lilly**



Fright-Lite, 2013

WHOOSH!

Graduate student **Brian Couzelis** won a **David L. Boren Fellowship** from the **National Security Education Program** to study in Ukraine while completing his master's degree in international political economy. He is the second UTD student to receive a Boren Fellowship.

The **Naveen Jindal School of Management** undergraduate program ranked among the nation's top 15 in five academic disciplines in a recent **Bloomberg Businessweek** online survey of graduating seniors.

UT Dallas has one of the top 25 most ethnically diverse student populations in the country, according to recent data from **U.S. News and World Report**.

SEASON EVENTS 2013–2014

TO SEE A FULL LIST, VISIT AH.UTDALLAS.EDU/EVENTS

CLASSICAL

Musica Nova
Musica Nova

December 6, 8 p.m.
April 25, 8 p.m.

Jonsson Performance Hall
Jonsson Performance Hall

Free
Free

JAZZ

N'Awlins Gumbo Kings
The New Collection

January 24, 8 p.m.
April 4, 8 p.m.

Alexander Clark Center
Alexander Clark Center

\$15
\$15

GUITAR

Duo Concensus
14th Annual Texas Guitar Competition and Festival

February 14, 8 p.m.
February 27–March 1

Jonsson Performance Hall
Alexander Clark Center

\$15
Prices vary

JAZZ

Houston Person
Mack Goldsbury

February 8, 8 p.m.
April 19, 8 p.m.

Alexander Clark Center
Jonsson Performance Hall

\$20
\$15

VOCAL

A Tribute to the Manhattan Transfer
Songs for a New World
Annual Choral Concert: The Art of the Song

March 21–22, 8 p.m.
April 10–12, 8 p.m.
May 3, 8 p.m.

Jonsson Performance Hall
University Theatre
University Theatre

Free
Free
Free

THEATER

The Fantasticks
Laundry and Bourbon/Lone Star by James McLure

February 21, 8 p.m.
March 20–29, 8 p.m.

Eisemann Center
University Theatre

Prices vary
\$15*

*Thursday nights are free for everyone.

DANCE

Spring into Dance

April 24–26, 8 p.m.

University Theatre

Free

ART EXHIBITIONS

Photography and Materiality
Texas Visual Arts Association
Code Yellow

January 17–February 15
February 28–March 16
March 21–April 26

Visual Arts Building
Visual Arts Building
Visual Arts Building

Free
Free
Free

ART @ CENTRALTRAK 800 Exposition Ave., Dallas TX 75226
Next Topic – Artist Talk Series

December 5, February 6, March 6, April 3, May 1

See www.centraltrak.org for details and updates

Sadie Hawkins
Hospitality

Through December 16
January 18–March 22

Curated by Leigh Arnold
Curated by Sylvie Fortin

Code Yellow

April 12–May 17

Collaboratively curated

TRADITIONS AND FESTIVALS

Cinematheque
37th Annual Holiday Sing: The Sounds and Sights of Christmas
Student Arts Festivals

November 6, February 5, March 5, April 2, 7:30 p.m.
December 7, 8 p.m.
December 3–8, April 29–May 4, 2014

Jonsson Performance Hall
University Theatre
Times and venues vary

Free
Free
Free

CREATIVE WRITING

Benjamin Alire Sáenz

April 9, 7:30 p.m.

Jonsson Performance Hall

Free

CENTER FOR VALUES IN MEDICINE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

"Food for Thought: What Should We Eat?"

David Kaplan
Roberta Millstein
2014 Annual CVMST Conference

February 26, 7:30 p.m.
April 23, 7:30 p.m.
May 20–23

Jonsson Performance Hall
Jonsson Performance Hall

Free
Free

CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE

Chinese New Year Celebration
Haun Saussy

February 8, 7:30 p.m.
March 6, 7:30 p.m.

Alexander Clark Center
Jonsson Performance Hall

\$5
Free

ATTENTIVE ACCOUNTING STUDENT BY DAY,
RECORD-BREAKING HOOPS HERO BY NIGHT,
KYLE SCHLEIGH IS...

SUPERCOMET

BY BRUCE UNRUE

In a late-season basketball game with little more than another American Southwest Conference (ASC) East Division title on the line, UT Dallas forward Kyle Schleigh didn't look so good coming out of the dressing room after halftime. His stomach was churning from a questionable pregame meal. Beads of cold sweat were beginning to form on his forehead. While a loud, hostile road crowd was ramping up for the final stretch of the pivotal game, a physically drained Schleigh staggered his way to a lonely spot on the bench, just so he could grab a few extra seconds of rest before the final 20 minutes began.

Coming out of intermission, the outlook was bleak for the player many say may be the best student-athlete ever to wear a Comets uniform. The 6-foot, 7-inch Schleigh—the Comets' leading scorer each of the last two seasons—just couldn't find his form. His first three shots of the second half clanked well off target and the Comets were in danger of letting the important game get away from them.

But then something remarkable and unexplainable happened.

The cold sweat on Schleigh's forehead began to evaporate. The queasy stomach was somehow forgotten. Schleigh's energy level suddenly elevated. Then, when things looked the bleakest, it was as though Clark Kent had ripped open his shirt and revealed Superman.

An off-balance, three-point shot swooshed through the net from long range. Then another. The Comets got a stop on the defensive end and Schleigh was right there to scoop up the key rebound. A teammate broke for the basket and the junior forward fired a laser pass inside to pick up the assist on a layup. Just like that, the Comets were back on their way toward victory,

and Schleigh finished with yet another double-digit scoring night in a career that has had many of them.

Yes, Kyle Schleigh may well be the best player the Comets have ever had by the time his four-year career comes to an end. The good news is he has another season to go before his run is finished.

In just three years, Schleigh has already compiled quite an impressive basketball resume, including conference, regional and national honors. Already a two-time member of the prestigious ASC All-Conference team, he was named ASC East Division Player of the Year and third-team All-American by a pair of national organizations after the 2012-13 campaign.

Despite its best efforts to spread player recognition across all seven ASC East Division teams this past winter, the ASC league office couldn't help but name Schleigh its East Division Player of the Week an unprecedented seven times last season.

Schleigh's rewrite of the UTD record book began his sophomore year, with major entries last season when Schleigh became the first junior in school history to surpass 1,000







career points, moving up to third on the all-time list with 1,227 points. Even former Comet star Chris Barnes, who took over the career scoring lead two years ago, acknowledges that it's only a matter of time before his personal record of 1,411 career points will be surpassed by his former teammate.

"Kyle is just an incredible talent," said Barnes, who also happens to be Schleigh's roommate. "We've all seen it over the last three years, and he's not finished yet."

The 2012-13 season was particularly prolific for Schleigh. He became the first Comet to score more than 500 points in a single season, finishing the year with a record 578 points. His scoring average of 21.4 points per game—the best ever by a UTD player—also led the entire American Southwest Conference and was one of the best in the nation.

But Schleigh's game is not just about offense. After pulling down 266 rebounds in 2012-13 (still another school record), he already has more rebounds than any other player in school history. He set a UTD record for career blocked shots after just two years, and now has 88. With 129 steals, he will need just 11 steals as a senior to surpass the all-time record in that category as well.

Perhaps the most impressive number on Schleigh's resume, though, is 22, for the 22 "double-doubles" (double-digit scoring and rebounding in the same game) he has recorded in his career, including 13 last season. Even a top-notch player might go four years with only a handful of these kinds of games. For Schleigh, it's become routine.

"Kyle has the ability to do everything well," pointed out UTD head men's basketball coach Terry Butterfield. "It's very obvious he can score, but he's also a great rebounder and we usually ask him to guard the other team's best player on defense. He's a guy who's being asked to do anything and everything he can to help his team win."

Schleigh has been asked to do that his entire career, and that's what attracted Butterfield to him during his sophomore year in high school.

"I was not the best player on my team," said Schleigh, who played at Houston Kingwood High School, a powerhouse in Texas high school basketball. "But we played a lot of defense in high school and that was my role—defend and rebound. My coaches always told me those were the keys to winning, and Coach Butterfield is all about the same thing. If you want to be good, it starts with defense and rebounding."

By the time Schleigh was a high school senior, there were other impressive college programs vying for his services, including several with offers of athletic scholarships. "But I was impressed with the quality of UT Dallas, and I really liked the other guys on the team. I thought it might be a better fit for me," Schleigh explained.

Butterfield remembers being on a golf course when Schleigh called him with his collegiate decision. "I was about to hit an approach shot from the fairway when the phone rang," the UTD coach recalled. "My heart jumped right up into my throat until Kyle told me he was coming to UTD. I think the other guys I was playing with thought I was crazy with all the jumping around and celebrating I must have been doing afterward."

Once on campus, Schleigh's plan to slowly work his way into the UTD lineup was dashed quickly when a starting upperclassman suffered a season-ending injury in the second game of the year and he was called into action. "It wasn't like

he jumped in there and blew the doors off right away," recalled Butterfield, who said Schleigh started slowly. "But we had to have someone."

"At first, I was extremely nervous," Schleigh said. "The college game was a lot faster and a lot more physical than I was used to. I was focusing more on just not messing up. I didn't want the older guys on the team mad at me."

In his first start, Schleigh did not score a single point. "Kyle is a very humble kid and I think all he really wanted to do at first was just 'fit in,'" Butterfield continued. "Eventually, though, he stepped up and became more aggressive. By the end of the year, he was a key guy for us on an NCAA playoff team."

By the end of that freshman season, Schleigh had started 23 games and tallied double-digit scoring in 12 of them with three double-doubles. He was chosen the 2011 ASC East Division Freshman of the Year.

As a sophomore, his career really took off. Starting all 27 games for the Comets, Schleigh averaged 15.9 points and 8.1 rebounds per outing. He recorded double-digit scores 24 times, eclipsed the 20-point mark eight times and scored more than 30 points twice. He and his close friend Barnes were two of five players league-wide honored as ASC All-Conference.

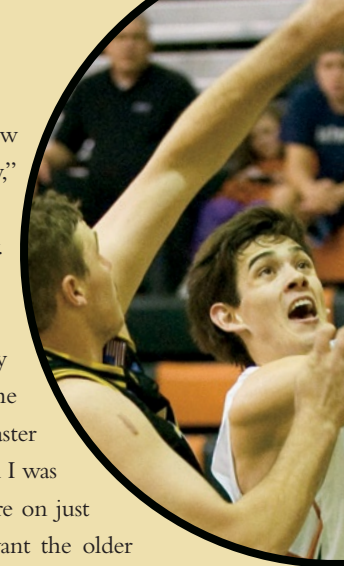
By his junior year, the record book was under full assault.

When he does put his finishing marks on the UTD record book, Schleigh will be listed right alongside the names of several other former players with which he shares another common bond—commitment to academics.

Twice a member of the Academic All-ASC team, Schleigh was voted first-team Academic All-District last season and was a finalist for the prestigious Capital One® Academic All-America team.

Schleigh was also recently accepted into UTD's prestigious Professional Program in Accounting, which places UTD students in internships with some of the top public accounting firms in the Dallas area.

"Kyle works as hard in the classroom as he does on





the court,” said Amy Troutman, CPA, the director of the accounting program. “His dedication is not split 50/50 between academics and athletics. He has somehow figured out how to give 100 percent to both. I don’t know how he does it, but it all adds up.” “Kyle is a very well-rounded individual,” Butterfield echoed. “He’s not one of those guys who’s here first to play basketball and also happens to be working on a degree. Kyle is here first to get that degree and become a success in life—and then take advantage of the opportunity to play college sports. I’d like to think his dedication to basketball is close to the same as his commitment to academics—but I can tell you he’s a very serious student.”

“That’s what I really like about Division III athletics,” Schleigh said. “The coaches see the bigger picture. They care about our classes, our grades and our families. They want us to become successful in life and on the court. That allows us to develop a closer relationship with our coaches and our teammates. I think that’s what attracted me to UTD.”

Other than that degree, there’s only one goal that holds Schleigh’s focus heading into his final season. “The awards and records don’t mean that much to me,” he said. “I want to win. I would rather not win a single award or break any record if it would mean we could win a conference championship.”

During his career, the Comets have qualified for the ASC’s Championship Tournament three straight years but have yet to advance past the semifinal round.

“That’s the most impressive thing to me about Kyle,” said teammate Carter Nash, who also came to UTD in 2010. “Kyle is all about winning. He’s the consummate team player. He doesn’t care about the numbers and the awards. He’ll do whatever he needs to do to help the team win, whether that is score, rebound or defend.

“Kyle is one of the most talented players I’ve ever been around,” Nash continued. “But he’ll never be satisfied until we accomplish that ultimate goal. With him on the team, we’ve always got a chance.” **UTD**

UT Dallas Comets Home Game Schedule

Day	Date	Time	Sport	Opponent
Thu	1/2	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Louisiana College
Sat	1/4	1:00/3:00 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Mississippi College
Thu	1/16	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Mary Hardin-Baylor
Sat	1/18	1:00/3:00 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Concordia
Thu	1/23	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Ozarks
Sat	1/25	1:00/3:00 pm	Basketball (W/M)	UT Tyler
Mon	1/27	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Hardin-Simmons
Thu	1/30	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Sul Ross State
Sat	2/1	1:00/3:00 pm	Basketball (W/M)	Howard Payne
Thu	2/13	5:30/7:30 pm	Basketball (W/M)	East Texas Baptist
Sat	2/15	1:00/3:00 pm	Basketball (W/M)	LeTourneau
Fri-Sun	2/28-3/2	ASC Tournaments (To be determined)		
Fri-Sun	2/14-16	Baseball Tournament, Frisco, TX		
Tue	2/25	2:00 pm	Baseball	Texas Wesleyan
Fri	2/28	2:00 pm	Baseball	LeTourneau
Sat	3/1	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	LeTourneau
Fri	3/14	2:00 pm	Baseball	Howard Payne
Sat	3/15	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	Howard Payne
Tue	3/18	2:00 pm	Baseball	Austin College
Fri	3/28	2:00 pm	Baseball	Sul Ross State
Sat	3/29	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	Sul Ross State
Fri	4/11	2:00 pm	Baseball	Ozarks
Sat	4/12	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	Ozarks
Fri	4/25	2:00 pm	Baseball	Mississippi College
Sat	4/26	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	Mississippi College
Fri	5/2	2:00 pm	Baseball	Hardin-Simmons
Sat	5/3	12 noon (DH)	Baseball	Hardin-Simmons
Tues-Sun	5/6-11	ASC Tournament (To be determined)		
Fri	2/21	2:00 pm (DH)	Softball	Sul Ross State
Sat	2/22	12 noon	Softball	Sul Ross State
Fri	3/7	3:00 pm (DH)	Softball	Mississippi College
Sat	3/8	1:00 pm	Softball	Mississippi College
Fri	3/21	5:00 pm	Softball	Mary Hardin-Baylor
Sat	3/22	1:00 pm (DH)	Softball	Mary Hardin-Baylor
Tue	3/25	3:00 pm (DH)	Softball	Westminster (Mo.)
Fri	4/4	4:00 pm	Softball	UT Tyler
Sat	4/5	1:00 pm (DH)	Softball	UT Tyler
Fri	4/11	5:00 pm	Softball	LeTourneau
Sat	4/12	1:00 pm (DH)	Softball	LeTourneau
Fri	4/25	4:00 pm (DH)	Softball	Ozarks
Sat	4/26	11:00 am	Softball	Ozarks
Thu-Sat	5/1-3	ASC Tournament, Farmers Branch, TX		



THE JFK CONNECTION

by Teri Brooks

John F. Kennedy's assassination in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, was a tragedy that devastated the nation. The many details surrounding the president's death 50 years ago have been widely reported. Less well known is the connection between the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest (that would one day become UT Dallas) and the president's visit.

Al Mitchell had an assignment: Draft plans for the possible visit of President John F. Kennedy to the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest.

In less than two weeks, the president was due to arrive in Dallas. And if the local chamber of commerce and political leaders had their way, a stop at the Graduate Research Center would be on the itinerary. These early, heady days of the nation's space race with the U.S.S.R. had captured the imaginations of businessmen and ordinary citizens alike.

The not-quite two-year-old research center was ready to stake its claim in the region's burgeoning science and technology sector. Mitchell, as the person responsible for the Graduate Research Center's public relations and media coverage, welcomed the president's visit as a showcase for the institution.

Mitchell and the center's leadership—including Erik Jonsson and Lloyd Berkner—were faced with the realities of planning around an ever-shifting presidential itinerary. "I confess," Mitchell wrote in a Nov. 14 memo, "to being a bit in the dark on the boundaries and limits of planning actions for the president of the United States."

President and Mrs. Kennedy greeted an enthusiastic crowd near a fence at Love Field before embarking on a motorcade through downtown Dallas. The president and his entourage had arrived aboard Air Force One on the morning of Nov. 22, 1963, after a very short flight from Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth.



Tom Dillard Collection, The Dallas Morning News/The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza





More than 2,500 guests at the Dallas Trade Mart stood, with heads bowed, after hearing the news that the president had been shot en route to the luncheon honoring him. President Kennedy was scheduled to give a speech that lauded the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest. Among the guests were many GRCSW scientists and their spouses.

When the campus visit was eventually scrapped, the center became the lead sponsor of the main event—a luncheon at the Dallas Trade Mart.

To make the most of this moment in the national spotlight, Mitchell detailed three options for consideration.

The most elaborate of the plans would require a helicopter, a military honor guard and a high school band. The proposal had Kennedy presenting to Berkner a flag that had flown over the nation's Capitol. The flag would be couriered (probably by a center scientist) from the site of the presentation at the Dallas Trade Mart via helicopter to the Richardson campus. A closed-circuit broadcast from campus would show the courier being met by the honor guard and band, awaiting Kennedy's command to "raise the

colors" with the new flag.

Another plan drew from the World War II military service that linked Kennedy and Berkner. Kennedy famously commanded a U.S. Navy patrol boat, PT-109, in the Pacific campaign and Berkner, as a rear admiral in the U.S. Naval Reserve, gained global recognition for the scientific breakthroughs he fostered. In this scenario, Kennedy would present to Berkner a ship's bell, engraved with a quotation from Kennedy's 1960 inaugural address. The thousands in attendance at the luncheon, including national journalists, would then get a glimpse of the center through film clips of the October dedication of the building known today as Founders.

Simplest of all, and the eventually agreed upon plan, was one in which Kennedy would

talk about the Graduate Research Center at the beginning of his scheduled speech at the Dallas Trade Mart. All of the center's scientists and their spouses received invitations to the luncheon so that they could hear the president publicly acknowledge the value of the work they were conducting.

Fate intervened, however. The carefully crafted agenda was abandoned when word came that Kennedy and Texas Gov. John Connally had been shot while riding together in an open car through downtown Dallas on their way to the Trade Mart. Mitchell later wrote: "The somewhat-nagging question remains: If President Kennedy had been taken by helicopter to the campus, and thence to the Trade Mart, would the course of history have been changed?"

Mitchell's question can never be answered.

But the president's undelivered speech remains. Obtained from the Associated Press that same day by Mitchell, the speech was reproduced and distributed to center employees, along with a note from Berkner.

The aftereffects—the stigma—felt in Dallas following the assassination also affected the center's scientists. Registrants began to cancel for a GRCSW sponsored meeting on "Gravitational Collapse and Other Topics in Relativistic Astrophysics." Organizers enlisted the help of Dallas Mayor Earl Cabell, who sent telegrams, cables and radio messages to the scientists with assurances that they would not be endangered by coming to Dallas.

Fifty years later, the astrophysics conference continues. UT Dallas will host the event in December. And the fledgling center that evolved into a nationally recognized research university remains forever linked to one of the most significant days in American history. **UTD**



Denise Hales recalled attending the Trade Mart luncheon with her late husband, Dr. Anton Hales. They had moved from Johannesburg, South Africa, to Texas where Dr. Hales established the geoscience division at GRCSW in 1962.

The [Dallas Trade Mart] auditorium was filled with thousands of people and yellow roses. Texans had this thing about having radios in their pockets. I don't know who I was sitting by—whether it was Erik Jonsson or Eugene McDermott—but I heard very softly on this radio "The president of the United States has been shot." I leaned over to Anton and said, "The president of the United States has been shot."

Anton said, "Denise! Don't start a rumor like that!" Anyway, I kept very quiet.

A few minutes later, Erik Jonsson

announced, "The president of the United States has been injured." Everyone stopped eating. No one touched the huge T-bone steaks in front of them. I think we said a prayer and there was silence. We must have sat there for 20 minutes. Then Erik Jonsson stood up again and said something along the lines of "The president has been shot very seriously and we are completing this event."

Because we were in the front of the hall, we were among the last to leave. As we went out of the building, we heard on a police radio that the president had died at Parkland.



Dr. Wolfgang Rindler, a UT Dallas professor of physics in the cosmology group, joined the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest in September 1963. He was in attendance at the luncheon in the Trade Mart.

President Kennedy's visit to Dallas was to include a luncheon speech [at the Trade Mart] about the future of science. Among other things, he was going to spend quite a lot of time talking about the center.

The entire faculty of the center and their wives were invited to the luncheon in a huge building downtown. There were hundreds of tables, and President Kennedy was supposed to address that huge audience of notables from Dallas at 12:30. People were there at 12 o'clock; then it became 12:30. Somebody came to the podium and said that people should start eating, that there would be a delay in Kennedy's appearance.

In those days people didn't have cell-phones, so once you were sitting at lunch you had no connection with the outside. But waiters coming from the kitchen had heard the radio. A waiter came to our table, and said, "Kennedy! Bang, bang, bang! Kennedy! Bang, bang, bang!" That was the first indication we had that something terrible had happened.

Then somebody came to the podium and told us what had happened. That was a terrible shock. People started crying. I think people all over the country probably cried.

For us [scientists], it was a terrible shock because Kennedy had radiated enthusiasm for science. We realized already at that point that the loss of Kennedy would really be, in the end, bad for science. But, at the moment, the human tragedy of it all just seemed overwhelming.

Many of us who came to work at the center lived through the shock. It was, in a way, a sad introduction that happened about six to eight weeks after most of us had arrived in Dallas.

**GRADUATE RESEARCH CENTER
OF THE SOUTHWEST
POST OFFICE BOX 6476
DALLAS 5, TEXAS**

November 23, 1963

To the Faculty and Staff, GRCSW and SCAS

We are all stricken with grief by the events of the day of tragedy, November 22, 1963. That the President was here as the personal guest of our institution can only deepen our sense of mourning. The day started as a happy one, with the clearing weather. Both the President and our now new President spoke to me warmly of our scientific and educational goals.

President Kennedy was to have made a major national and international address at Dallas. His first words were to have been about the Center and its place in the development of the social fabric of our nation. I know you would like to see what he planned to say, and I am conveying to you his never-spoken words.

I know that these tragic events will move all of us deeply, and that we will unconsciously redouble our efforts to build the intellectual qualifications of our institution and of our nation, about which our late President, here as our guest, was to speak so graciously.

The crisis of events of our time will rally the support of the region around our objectives as never before.

With this memo, Lloyd Berkner provided a copy of the speech that President Kennedy was to have delivered on Nov. 22, 1963. The speech can be read online at utdallas.edu/jfkspeech.

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE UTD

by
Gaile Robinson



In 1979, Dana Atchley was walking across the UT Dallas campus when she looked down and there, on the sidewalk, was her first driver's license. She had lost it nine years earlier when she and her sister, Jane, were riding horses in the fields that would eventually become the University's campus.

Cue the creepy background music.

Anyone else might have taken the find as a sign of cosmic congruence and looked around for Rod Serling to make an appearance. For Dana, it was just a fun coincidence. She is from a family that claims a three-generation legacy of graduates: Dana was attending UTD, her parents had gone to the school to obtain master's degrees, her future husband would attend and so would their daughter. With her history in the area and with the University, it seemed appropriate that loose ends would weave themselves together on this campus.

For an institution that's been in existence fewer than 50 years, boasting three generations of graduates from one family is rare.

"Legacies [typically] come from the undergraduate experience," said Dr. Michael Coleman, professor emeritus and UT Dallas dean of undergraduate education from 1997-2010. "As we didn't begin admitting freshmen until 1990, and it wasn't until 1996-97 that the freshman class

began to grow, very few of that generation have 18-year-olds ready to come to college."

Coleman was instrumental in the growth of undergraduate admissions. During his tenure, the size of the undergraduate class grew from 564 to 1,343, and the average SAT scores rose as well. In fall 2013, more than 2,200 freshmen enrolled at the University.

The little "think tank" on the prairie (that didn't even grant degrees) now attracts stellar undergraduates, and not just from the neighboring counties. The word is out and spreading beyond state and national borders, due in large part to enthusiastic proselytizing by alumni.

UTD began as a graduate-level research institution in 1969. Upper-level undergraduates were admitted in 1975. The first freshmen and sophomores were granted admission in 1990.

Despite the brevity of the University's existence, there are numerous

multigeneration families, and an even larger number of families who have siblings enrolled in the University. These students do not receive any legacy benefit in admission consideration. Unlike many universities, UT Dallas offers no extra credit for having parents or grandparents who are alumni, not even if the family name is chiseled in stone lintels. Acceptance to UTD is based solely on academic capability and potential.

Legacy preferences, though, are granted at “almost three-quarters of the top research universities and virtually all elite liberal-art colleges,” wrote Richard D. Kahlenberg, author of *Affirmative Action for the Rich: Legacy Preferences in College Admissions*.

According to former *Wall Street Journal* reporter Daniel Golden, the children of alumni make up 10 to 25 percent of the student body at these institutions.

Schools that award preferential treatment give extra points or consideration to legates. The amount and the way it is calibrated varies, but studies have shown that being a legatee can add the equivalent of 160 points to a candidate’s SAT score, said Thomas Espenshade, a professor of sociology at Princeton and the co-author of *No Longer Separate, Not Yet Equal: Race and Class in Elite College Admission and Campus Life*. That, according to William Bowen of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, increases one’s chances of admission to a select university by 19.7 percentage points.

In his book, Kahlenberg includes a list of the top 100 research institutions in the U.S., denoting those with legacy preferences and those without. In Texas, Baylor, Southern Methodist University and Rice use legacy programs; Texas A&M and The University of Texas at Austin do not.

When Kahlenberg’s book was published in 2010, there was a lot of pushback and much editorial ink was spilled. *The Wall Street Journal* pitted Stephen Joel Trachtenberg (for) with Kahlenberg (against) in an editorial smackdown.

Trachtenberg, president emeritus and professor of public service at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., wrote, “Like other admitted students, alumni children must have the necessary academic achievements. But they also come to campus ready to embrace



The Atchley family, 1977: Jane, Phaona, John and Dana (front) gathered under the bust of UTD founder Cecil Green. They were celebrating Phaona’s completion of a master’s degree in human development and early childhood disorders.

the institution from the moment they arrive. They bring unique qualities of tradition, loyalty and pride of place. Many students and their families, not just legacies, are proud to be Tigers, Elis, Colonials, Lions or Longhorns. They wear the sweatshirts, they display the logos, but legacies are raised with such pride from infancy, like mother’s milk. . . .

“Ensuring that a portion of each freshman class has a particularly close connection to the school also helps keep alumni giving strong. Not all ‘giving’ is in dollars and cents. Creating community is spiritual, not material. Speaking well of one’s alma mater, referring applicants, being involved in campaigns, mentoring interns, working with faculty on research, sports-ticket subscription, etc., all add to a university’s worth.”

Kahlenberg responded, “Legacy preference in college admissions is one of the few issues on which liberals and conservatives should be able to agree. Giving special privileges to a group of relatively advantaged students based on where their parents went to college makes no sense, whether you come at the question from the political left or the right. Liberals, concerned about fairness, should balk at providing affirmative action for students who are disproportionately white and wealthy. For conservatives, legacies violate the articulated principle that America ought to be a merit-based society rather than an entitlement society. Little wonder, then, that 75 percent of Americans oppose legacy preferences.”

Defenders of the legacy system, usually university representatives, claim that preferences are essential to fundraising. Yet a study conducted by

Chad Coffman of Winnemac Consulting found no evidence that legacy preference policies exerted any influence on giving. After controls were applied, they found the alumni of legacy-granting institutions gave only \$15.39 more per year on average—the cost of an extra-large pizza.

Several institutions have dropped legacy preferences in the past decade and Coffman found “no short-term measurable reduction in alumni giving as a result.” Texas A&M, for example, eliminated the use of legacy preferences in 2004. Donations initially took a hit but rebounded significantly in 2005.

Why then are there legacy programs and where did they originate? Are they a pretentious affectation emulating a European education model?

“Legacy programs are virtually unknown in the rest of the world,” wrote Golden of the *Wall Street Journal*. Legacy programs are a wholly American phenomenon with hideous roots. “They were begun after World War I to exclude the influx of immigrant Europeans, especially Jews, who were applying to select universities,” said Golden. At first the institutions worked on quotas based on ethnicity; when those became impossible to defend, they readjusted their numbers based on more indirect means, using sketchy criteria such as character, geographic diversity and legacy status.

Carlton Larson, a law professor at the University of California, Davis, suggested legacy preferences would confound the Founding Fathers. “Legacy preferences at exclusive public universities were precisely the type of hereditary privilege that the Revolutionary generation sought to destroy forever.”

Kahlenberg gave that sentiment a resounding, “Hear, hear!” as he wrote in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*: “That this remnant of ancestry-based discrimination still survives—in American higher education, of all places—is truly breathtaking.”

UTD does not rely on generational bonus points. The University doesn’t have to. The positive experiences of its graduates carry the message to the community and to the next generation. And the graduates pay it back, in dollars and in their time and support.

NEXT: The Atchleys



Magnolias bloom around the UTD campus, thanks to a Campus Enhancement Project that began in 2008. More than 5,000 trees, four reflecting pools, a trellis-covered plaza and a new entrance on Campbell Road have been added. A new phase of improvements begins in late 2013.

(Top) The Atchley family, 2013: Dana Atchley Hall BS'80, Phaona Atchley MS'77, Jenalyn Hall BA'08. Phaona holds the framed diploma of her late husband, John MS'76.

(Right) Phaona graduated in 1977 with a master's degree in human development and early childhood disorders.



LIKE GRANDMOTHER, MOTHER AND DAUGHTER

Phaona Atchley was teaching nursing at El Centro College in downtown Dallas in 1975 when the school's dean insisted that all instructors had to have at least a master's degree.

Phaona, now 84, groaned at the memory. "I had just completed my second undergraduate nursing degree in 1974 at Texas Woman's University and the thought of taking another nursing program was ... well ... I just could not do it."

Her first degree came from a research hospital in Kansas City at the tail end of World War II. She had been recruited straight off the farm as an 18-year-old. There was a nursing shortage and hospitals were combing the countryside, visiting high schools to find academically gifted young women. Phaona qualified, but not in worldly experience.

"We were put in dorms where they locked the doors at 10:00 at night. We worked and studied. If it hadn't been so structured, I wouldn't have made it through," she said.

During the course of the program she met her future husband, John Atchley, who was at the University of Kansas and later in the military. They married and moved about, eventually landing in Dallas. After having two daughters, Phaona returned to nursing at Dallas' Presbyterian Hospital. "But I was so rusty," she recalled. The realization sent her back to college where she enrolled in TWU's nursing program.

After she graduated and then taught for a year, learning that she faced another degree commitment—one that would take three years at TWU while still working days at El Centro—caused her to despair. She looked about for alternatives. Phaona dropped by the UTD campus to see what it might offer. "It was close. I could be there from downtown Dallas in 25 minutes and they had courses that fit my interest. The school was offering a six-hour multidisciplinary program in psychology so I signed up. Even though we covered a book every two weeks, I liked it and I kept taking courses."

One of the aspects she especially enjoyed was her interaction with the professors. "They were just great. We would finish class around 9:30 at night and they would stay and talk to us," she said, marveling at their dedication.

It was this supportive environment that prompted her to suggest UTD to her husband. John was working for UNIVAC, one of the early mainframe

"The courses were interdisciplinary and they really developed you intellectually as well as providing mentors. It was innovative."

- Dana Atchley

computer manufacturers, and looking for a new career. At his wife's insistence "and because UTD was so welcoming of people in the area who needed more education," she said, John enrolled too. He breezed through obtaining his MS in 1976, a year before his wife finished hers. John went to work for E-Systems as its international business planner. The job took him all over the world and he brought home an unusual assortment of houseguests. Dana remembers her parents hosting Anwar Sadat's security chief for dinner.

One year after her mother's graduation, Dana enrolled. She had been working as a bookkeeper for Steak and Ale restaurants while attending Richland College part time. Only a few hours shy of an associate's degree from Richland, she transferred to UTD where two years later she obtained a BS and graduated summa cum laude. "I knew I was going to UTD," she said. "It was brand new, it was tech savvy and the only option for me."

Dana, now 58, had seen how involved Steak and Ale was in the collegiate community at UTD and knew the school was trying to address the needs of local businesses as much as the needs of its students. Her employers at Steak and Ale en-

couraged her to go there.

"This was at the beginning of UTD's undergraduate program and even though I was studying business, I was getting a Bachelor of Science degree," she said. "The courses were interdisciplinary and they really developed you intellectually as well as providing mentors. It was innovative."

It was also challenging. "Most of my teachers had PhDs and if you were committed to education they would come to you and encourage you. It wasn't a goof-off school. It was competitive, and the more competition, the more you wanted to dig in."

After graduation, she was recruited by Texas Instruments to be an internal auditor. Dana worked there for two years. She married Rex Allen Hall, who also attended UTD after graduating from SMU, and later took four years off to have her daughter Jenalyn. The Internal Revenue Service then hired Dana as part of its Outstanding Scholar Program and she worked there for 14 years.

Jenalyn, 28, like her mother and grandmother, didn't begin her college career at UTD, but it is where she got her bachelor's degree. She earned an associate's degree at Collin County Community College with a 4.0 grade point average.

She applied to UTD and was accepted. During her two years, she landed an internship at the Collin County prosecutor's office. She graduated from UTD in 2008 with a BA in humanities and began working for a downtown Dallas lawyer. It gave her a taste of the lawyer future and she hated it. "I was garnishing bank accounts. It wasn't pleasant," she said.

That experience made her reconsider law school. "The medical field really needed nurses, so I thought I'd do that." Fortunately she'd already had some practical experience working for an MRI clinic when she was in high school so she knew she had an affinity for the job. She began her last year in the nursing program at TWU this September.

NEXT: The Citaláns

FOLLOWING IN DAD'S FOOTSTEPS



The 10-foot-tall steel “Jack”—created by American modernist sculptor Jim Love—was given to UTD in 1976, and is nestled in University Theatre Plaza. Students immediately dubbed the sculpture “Love Jack” and the name has endured.

(Top) The Citalán family, 2013: Chris, Alex, Javier, Laura and Andy. Both Andy and Alex are currently enrolled at UTD, while Javier continues to volunteer on campus.

(Left) The Citalán family, 2006: Andy, Alex, Chris and Laura attended Javier's commencement, when he earned an MBA in project management. His graduation photo is shown on the opposite page.

When Javier Citalán entered his senior year of high school in El Paso, the extent of his English proficiency was knowing how to say, “The pencil is yellow. The house is white.” Today he is a vice president in the technology division for Goldman Sachs in Dallas. His path from immigrant to VP is paved in diplomas, including a project management MBA from UTD.

With each of Citalán’s jobs has come an awareness of his need for more education. He learned early that boundless enthusiasm might get him an award from the Small Business Administration (SBA), but it wasn’t enough to keep his business afloat. He and his future wife, Laura, had begun a graphic design and publishing business in El Paso when they were both 19-year-olds. Four years later the SBA named them Young Entrepreneurs of the Year.

Less than two years later, Citalán was looking for work. He drove to the El Paso airport and picked up newspapers from around the state (this was in the days before monster.com or even online newspapers). After seeing an ad in the Dallas newspaper, he made the phone call, aced the interview and relocated his wife and

“The decision to go to UTD was easy when I saw what they had to offer. ... There were so many things that appealed to me; one of the most important was access to the professors.”

– Javier Citalán

son, Andy, to Dallas. He began working for PageMart Wireless Communications Services, a pager company, and within a year he was director of the call center. It was 1994.

A daughter, Alex, was born the next year and soon Citalán was looking for his next opportunity. He found it when he helped open a new support center for Netcom On-Line, an Internet service provider that was expanding to Dallas. A chance encounter on a golf course brought him to the attention of recruiters at Archon Group, at the time a Goldman Sachs subsidiary. In January of 1998, after his daughter Chris was born, he signed on and became the project manager for the company’s information technology department.

All was going well. In 2002, Citalán left Archon to team up with a friend in a consulting company that did support work for government agencies such as NASA, the Department

of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Citalán, now 44, knew he needed to improve his education if he were going to run his second company. He was more experienced now, but he still lacked a well-rounded management background. He started searching for somewhere to earn his master’s.

Citalán felt he had to keep going. He was working during the day and studying nights and weekends and knew he had to push forward. He began the master’s program at UTD two weeks before he finished his course work for his bachelor’s degree.

“The decision to go to UTD was easy when I saw what they had to offer. I made an appointment to come and talk to Jim Joiner who started the MBA program with a project management focus. There were so many things that appealed to me; one of the most important was access to the professors.”

In 2005, Citalán’s company lost part of its NASA contract, and he and his partner were faced with either laying off staff or having one of the principals leave. Citalán made the decision to leave, and Archon offered him another job. He

had changed and so had what Archon offered.

“I came back with a degree and I secured a new role. Through my educational experience, I realized the importance of that degree and recognized what I could have done differently managing my companies,” he said.

In 2012, Citalán was approached by his management team to lead a global project, which ultimately resulted in the integration of Archon Group into Goldman Sachs. The role required coordinating a number of activities across multiple teams to ensure the project met its objectives. “The project had a number of key deliverables; however, a critical milestone was achieved on January 15, 2013, when several employee-related objectives were met successfully. It was a complex and challenging project.”

As Goldman Sachs expands its presence in Dallas, Citalán is actively involved in the firm’s technology division recruiting efforts and



building relationships with UTD’s faculty and the University’s Career Center. Citalán participates in mock interviews and serves as a mentor to students asking for career advice.

“I feel a great sense of pride showcasing the caliber of students UTD has to offer to the firm. I strongly believe it is the best education you can get in Texas.”

Now Citalán’s children are following in his footsteps onto the UTD campus. His son, Andy, 21, began studying computer technology in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science two years ago.

The decision came as a surprise to his father. Citalán had always imagined his children would want to leave the nest when it came time for college. He had just begun to envision the gym or media room he would be able to have when they went away to school. But Andy decided to go to UTD and to live at home. “It was my decision to stay here,” Andy said.

Alex, 18, two years behind her brother, made the same decision. She was looking for a program for audio engineers, and she found two. “There was a school in Florida, but I was not going to go that far away. There was also a school in Tennessee that offered music production, but I wanted a broader program that combined art and technology.” Her father told her about UTD’s arts and technology program and she was sold. She began classes in September. Alex also chose to live at home. And Citalán has bought a local gym membership.

NEXT: The Voits

A DYNASTY OF

BROTHERS



Thirteen years ago, Margaret McDermott, widow of University co-founder Eugene McDermott, gave \$32 million to found the Eugene McDermott Scholars Program.

McDermott Scholar applicants had to score 1400 or higher on the two-part SAT or 2100 or higher on the three-part SAT; rank in the top 5 percent of their graduating class; have an extensive record of community service; enjoy eclectic interests in science, literature and the arts; and possess the social skills to move smoothly in adult circles.

Twenty freshmen were chosen that first year. The program covered their tuition and fees, room and board, a monthly stipend, travel money, and travel opportunities in the U.S. and abroad for the entirety of their undergraduate career. It was the proverbial full ride, platinum version, among the most generous scholarships in the United States.

That attracted the notice of PTA president Ann Voit. Her son Walter was valedictorian of his graduating senior class in 2001 at Wando High School in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Wando's principal wanted a tally of the scholarship offerings the class received and Ann thought maybe Walter could boost that a bit. All he needed was to write one more essay.

"Writing came easily to him so I suggested he write one and apply," said Ann, who now lives in Atlanta with her husband, Dr. Eberhard Voit, a professor of mathematics modeling and systems science in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at Georgia Tech and Emory University.

Walter and his mother were invited to visit the UTD campus, where they were squired around, taken to the symphony, introduced to the faculty and presented with a vision of UTD's future, as painted by Dr. Charles Leonard, then-director of the McDermott program.

There were big plans for the University, but little

in the way of concrete edifices. The multimillion dollar building program was in its infancy and the 40 new degree programs and swelling freshman class size were little more than projections.

The Voits departed Dallas with Walter thanking the staff for the weekend but declining to accept UTD's offer initially, saying he was going to attend Carnegie Mellon University. After a week of deep thinking about the future and promise at UTD, Walter decided to come to Dallas.

"... at UTD, there were scholarships to help build a program, engineer the future. And Carnegie Mellon was saying, 'Pay us \$50,000 a year and we'll give you a piece of paper that says you made it through the system.' The difference was night and day. It was all in the attitude."

- Walter Voit

His mother was not surprised. "He said the chance to help create a program was probably what made him change his mind," she said. "He'd always said, 'I don't want to live someone else's history. I want to make my own.'"

Walter had been accepted to Carnegie Mellon. "Perhaps on paper, the best computer science program in the world," he said. "However, at UTD, there were scholarships to help build a program, engineer the future. And Carnegie Mellon was saying, 'Pay us \$50,000 a year and we'll give you a piece of paper that says you made it through the system.' The difference was night and day. It was all in the attitude."

The following year, it was brother Richard Voit's

turn to choose a college. "I had my heart set on Washington University in St. Louis. It was the traditional path into medicine and science," he said. But Walter was subtly enticing Richard to come to Dallas. He would tell him about where he had been, the travels and the people he had met, and then insisted Richard visit him on campus.

Richard came. He saw. He applied for the McDermott program and was accepted.

"It wasn't that difficult a decision comparing the two," he said. "Even with the sideways glances from friends when I told them I was considering UT Dallas."

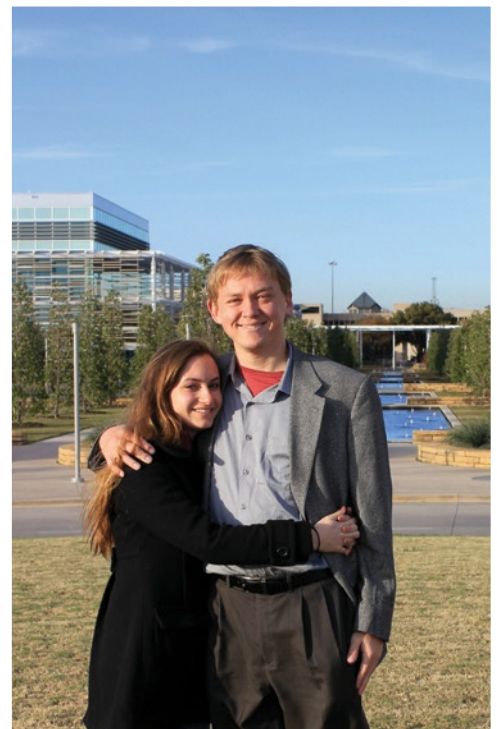
Both Walter and Richard were quizzed about their choice of UTD. Richard did research at Stanford after leaving UTD. "When I would tell people there, the response was, 'Why did you go there? You must be from that area.' It still garners questioning. More so than if I had said I went to Washington University."

Even their mother was challenged about their decisions. "People of my generation were disappointed that our sons would go to a place they'd never heard of," said Ann.

After receiving his degree in molecular biology at UTD in 2006, Richard, now 30, began at UT Southwestern on an eight-year MD/PhD that is a combination medical doctorate and research degree. A portion of his research was done at Stanford and then he returned to Dallas to finish the medical degree. He is completing his final year and is applying for a residency in pediatric oncology at a number of hospitals.

As undergrads and McDermott Scholars, Richard spent a semester in China studying Mandarin and Walter spent eight months in Germany. They traveled to London and Santa Fe, as well as Washington, D.C., and Austin. "We met congressmen and senators, and not as tourists. We prepared well in advance to meet

continued on page 43



UTD takes chess seriously— whether it's the collegiate team that regularly wins titles or an array of recreational and educational applications. Chess is even built into the landscape with Chess Plaza, where a distinctive tile arrangement and oversized game pieces convert a section of the campus mall into a giant chessboard.

(Clockwise from top)

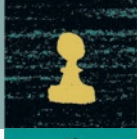
Richard Voit BS'06 and Sify Mathew Voit BS'05

Felicity Lenes-Voit BS'09 and Walter Voit BS'05, MS'06

Jessica Harpham Voit BS'09 and Benedict Voit BA'08

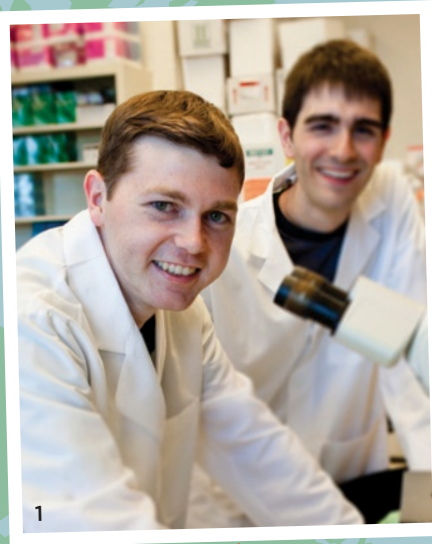
Walter, Richard and Benedict Voit

(Opposite page) The Voit brothers in 1992.





IRVINE/SAN DIEGO, CA.



BETHESDA, MD.



UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE



LOOKING FOR A BREAKTHROUGH

by AUSTIN SWAFFORD BS'09

What do you do when the best tools for fixing a problem are separated by an ocean? You bring them together.

For the past four years I have had the pleasure and honor to be in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program, working on a collaborative PhD project between two laboratories, one in the Department of Medical Genetics at the University of Cambridge and the other at the Laboratory of Immunology at the NIH main campus in Bethesda, Md., just north of Washington, D.C.

At the NIH, I was thrilled to learn and work with many of the world's top biomedical scientists in a community often dominated by the political whirlwind of our nation's capital. At Cambridge, the environment was notably subdued. The university—steeped in traditions more than 800 years old—moves at its own pace. I attended formal dinners in ancient buildings with students wearing gowns and tuxedos, enjoyed idyllic walks and boat rides down an ancient waterway, and worked in

a building that hosted two of Cambridge's many Nobel Prize winners.

Still, the primary benefit of the unique arrangement between the two institutions was to enable me to design and lead a collaborative project to study a disease close to my heart: type 1 diabetes (T1D). This lifelong disease affects millions of people around the world, including me.

T1D typically appears in children, though it can occur well into adulthood, and is the result of a faulty immune system. The normal immune system serves a very important role as it protects us from viruses, bacteria, parasites and even cancer. However, in diabetics, a portion of the immune system becomes autoimmune—instead of attacking something dangerous, it destroys the healthy beta-cells in the pancreas, which normally makes insulin. Insulin is a hormone that enables the body to absorb sugar from the blood, and without it, diabetics become very sick as the high level of sugar in their blood begins to poison them. To survive, diabetics must manage every aspect of their diet, exercise, emotions

and wellness to ensure that they take the right amount of insulin in the form of shots up to 10 times a day.

As an 8-year-old, I had to learn this the hard way. My days had to be planned, routines followed, temptations unfulfilled and activities constrained. A wrong bit of math could ruin a ball game, an exam or a date, not to mention put me in the hospital with a seizure or coma. After nearly 20 years of trial and error, my T1D is still hard to manage, and over my lifetime each error I make will slowly damage my kidneys, eyes and blood vessels, ultimately taking years off my life. It is for me and others suffering from T1D that scientists around the world are working to find a cure for this disease. I'm proud to have joined in the fight.

Efforts to develop a cure, primarily by restoring the beta-cells that make insulin, have not been successful because the autoimmune part of the immune system fights back and tries to kill the new beta-cells. I've chosen to focus on learning how to prevent T1D so that even if I can't help those of us with the disease, at least I can work to stop others from suffering the same fate.

Scientists have long known that the risk for T1D is genetically inherited. To find new genes that would help us predict the disease, I examined the DNA of more than 20,000 diabetics and non-diabetics and discovered that mutations in the gene *IKZF1* (Ikaros), are correlated with an increased risk for T1D. Ikaros plays a crucial role in the process of educating the immune system to recognize the difference between healthy and infected cells. Although there are many other genes involved in determining the risk for T1D, I was happy to be able to help contribute to the list.

Next, I chose to look for the signs of the faulty immune system that appear in people developing T1D. As the immune system starts to kill the beta-cells, it leaves behind evidence in the blood. One piece of the evidence is the appearance of antibodies against insulin. The immune system can potentially make billions of different antibodies, each with a unique target. Consequently, the antibodies are helpful when they target viruses and bacteria, but harmful when they target insulin. Unfortunately, it is difficult to

reliably detect the antibodies against insulin. In the past, doctors have had to use a week-long radioactive test to find them, meaning that few clinics had the time and equipment to run the test. Through a partnership with a small biotech company, however, we were able to create a new, reliable test that takes only six hours to perform and no longer requires radioactive materials. With this new technology, we will be able to test many more people for insulin antibodies to determine who is developing T1D, and hopefully do something to stop them from getting it.

One novel way to prevent T1D would be to remove only the part of the immune system that becomes autoimmune and destroys the beta-cells. This would be a significant improvement over some of the other therapies being attempted. Those therapies turn off the entire immune system to stop

T1D, making patients vulnerable to fatal infections. My laboratory at the NIH discovered that one way to selectively remove the autoimmune portion was to overload the immune system with the same target it is trying to destroy, as the immune system is designed to turn off any part of that. So to prevent T1D, I had to deliver large amounts of insulin or other molecules made by the beta-cells to kill the faulty part of the immune system and prevent the autoimmune attack. I found that this strategy worked in the laboratory, but in order to move this therapy out of the lab and into patients, I needed to show that my therapy removed only the faulty part of the immune system, while leaving the healthy portion intact to defend the patient from infections. To do that, I harnessed powerful DNA sequencing technologies to examine whether we could



Irvine/San Diego: Austin, now working as a researcher in San Diego, met his fiancée, Jessica Galant, a medical student at the University of California at Irvine, while both were conducting research at the NIH.

*Bethesda: 1** / As part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program, Austin conducted research in a leading diabetes laboratory at Cambridge and in an immunology laboratory at the NIH. He is shown here in the immunology lab with Churchill Scholar Matthew Biancalana of Chicago. **2** / Austin and fellow researcher Jinwoo Lee oversaw experiments in the Molecular Development of the Immune System Section of the Laboratory of Immunology at the NIH main campus.

University of Cambridge: 1 / Austin and his NIH mentor, Michael J. Lenardo, MD, discussed their work during a formal Cambridge hall dinner. **2** / The entrance to Clare College where Austin studied in Cambridge. **3** / While in England, Austin often met fellow Comets during their journeys, including Mary Gurak BS'11, seen here in front of the iconic Tower Bridge in London.

Singapore: 1 / Austin, shown here at the historical riverside Clarke Quay, toured the city between sessions at an immunology conference where he presented his research findings. **2** / With fellow conference attendees, Austin visited one of the city's top destinations, the Singapore Botanical Gardens.

**Photo provided by the National Institutes of Health Oxford-Cambridge Scholars Program*

SINGAPORE



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For these and more great alumni items, visit alumni.utdallas.edu/gear.



ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE

determine if only the faulty autoimmune portion of the immune system was removed by our therapy.

I presented my preliminary findings last spring at an immunology conference in Singapore and received great feedback from other scientists in the field. Unfortunately, I will not have time to confirm my results as I began a new job in California this fall. Nevertheless, I hope that the student taking over the project can complete the experiments to demonstrate the effectiveness of this method for monitoring the changes to the immune system.

Over the four years I worked on this project, there were many moments when I looked back fondly on my time at UTD. When I first arrived at the NIH, despite the prestigious labs and the excitement of the capital, I missed the community of Comets who had become my family. As an undergrad, I spent so many nights out on the intramural fields, days in the laboratories and classrooms, and weekends writing and rehearsing skits for

**“IT IS FOR ME AND OTHERS
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FOR THIS DISEASE. I’M PROUD TO
HAVE JOINED IN THE FIGHT.”**

Destination Imagination that it was hard to leave it all behind. Fortunately, thanks to the Archer Program, I was able to meet up with scholars who came to live and work in D.C., and I even had a chance to spend the summer with Apeksha Saxena, an '09 McDermott Scholar who came to work at the NIH. These connections helped me transition to my new community of graduate students and scientists at the NIH.

Later in England, I had the chance to be a familiar face for Comets who passed through London on their way to exotic places all over the world. I always made time to meet them, to show them the sights of the city, and to learn about the exciting things they had done at UTD and their plans for the future. These short visits always rejuvenated me and motivated me to stay connected to my alma mater while continuing my fight against T1D.

This fall, I started a new position as a postdoctoral researcher at a large pharmaceutical company, and as part of my work I will continue to look for therapies to prevent T1D. I am hopeful that my connections to UTD will follow me here as well. So far I have already had a blast reconnecting with the University through the recently formed McDermott Scholars Alumni Association. Through this organization, we are working to channel our passion for the school and help current Comets no matter where we are in the world. I will never forget how UTD helped support me, and I plan to carry my orange-and-green pride wherever I go. **UTD**

2013
UT DALLAS

Awards Gala

Several of UT Dallas' most distinguished alumni and community advocates were celebrated at the annual Awards Gala in April. The gala features the Distinguished Alumni Award, the Green and Orange Award for Alumni Service, and the Gifford K. Johnson Community Leadership Award.

GIFFORD K. JOHNSON COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AWARD HONOREE

The Johnson award is named for the first president of the Southwest Center for Advanced Studies, the institution he helped transform into UT Dallas in 1969.



WILLIAM C. "BILL" SPROULL

is president and CEO of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce, the Metroplex Technology Business Council (MTBC) and the Richardson Economic Development Partnership. He has led the revitalization of Richardson's telecommunications-based economy by focusing on industry and technology expansion. He also built the MTBC into Texas'

largest trade association for technology companies. Sproull has helped bring numerous economic development projects to Richardson involving major employment and investments by Bank of America, Texas Instruments and Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Texas. In 2005, Sproull assisted a statewide coalition that passed legislation to create the Texas Emerging Technology Fund, a half-billion dollar investment fund. He serves as treasurer of the Friends of UT Dallas Political Action Committee. In 2010, the MTBC inducted Sproull as the inaugural member of its Hall of Fame by declaring him a Tech Titan.

"I can't tell you how proud I am of my relationship with the University. From when I raised funds as a member of the Dallas Chamber of Commerce for the School of Engineering and Computer Science to now, being able to support the University on its trajectory to becoming a Tier One university has been a great ride."

GREEN AND ORANGE AWARD FOR ALUMNI SERVICE HONOREE

The Green and Orange award honors UT Dallas alumni distinguished in their professional and personal lives who provide exceptional volunteer support to the University.



DAVID WILLIAMSON BS'98, MS'02, MS'03

earned a strong foundation in geosciences at UT Dallas, starting with a bachelor's degree and followed by two master's degrees. Williamson's professional career began at ARCO. He then became a mining geologist for Martin Marietta Materials Inc., where he later worked as the division geologist to oversee

all exploration, mine planning and reserves reporting for more than 50 quarries. In 2004, Williamson became a petroleum geologist at Pioneer Natural Resources. At Pioneer, he and four other alumni created the Geosciences Alumni Energy Opportunity Fund for the UT Dallas Department of Geosciences. At the gala, Williamson announced four additional opportunity funds for geosciences. The funds were created by alumni of the UT Dallas GeoClub; a group of geosciences alumni; Distinguished Alumni Award honorees; and Williamson, who named a gift in honor of his late father, John. Last year, Williamson began a new position with Forge Energy LLC in San Antonio as vice president of geosciences.

"At UT Dallas, I was continually challenged by a cadre of dedicated professors to become something better than when I arrived: a better thinker, who developed a better work ethic and who left a better human being."

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD



BRYANT AMBELANG BA'90 is president and CEO of NatureSweet, one of the largest tomato producers in the country. The company has built more than 1,000 acres of greenhouses and employs more than 5,000 people. Ambelang's ambition started with dreams of law school as a government major at UT Dallas. But a job at Kellogg's and a political economy class at UT Dallas set him on another path. He went on to pursue an MBA from the University of Denver and held brand management and sales roles for Kellogg's, Pace Foods and Campbell Soup Co. Ambelang has used his expertise to grow the NatureSweet brand for more than 10 years. He shared his experiences at NatureSweet with UT Dallas students during a visit to campus last year. Ambelang discussed the company's operations in Central Mexico where he said NatureSweet is creating wealth and advancing the standard of living for its associates by providing educational opportunities, affordable health care and opportunities for ownership.

"UT Dallas laid the foundation that has helped me value the people within businesses and ultimately inspired me to get my MBA and start my career."



JOSEPH P. ESTRERA MS'92, PHD'92 is a vice president and the chief technology officer for Aviation Specialties Unlimited, a company that delivers night-vision resources, like goggles and cockpit lighting, to the civil aviation market. Estrera previously served as senior vice president and chief technology officer for L-3 Infrared Products, which designs and manufactures military and commercial thermal imaging cameras and modules. At L-3, he was engaged in the development of photomultiplier, image intensifier, and infrared technologies and products. Estrera, who serves on the Natural Sciences and Mathematics Advisory Council, was instrumental in facilitating a gift-in-kind of night-vision goggles, valued at nearly \$2 million to the University from L-3. He has written numerous technical papers, secured patents and won industrial corporate awards. Estrera is currently a member of the American Physical Society, American Vacuum Society and Sigma Xi.

"I feel very proud and honored to use the skills that were developed at UT Dallas to support the defense industry and those serving our country."



ALAN GOVENAR PHD'84 is an award-winning writer, folklorist, photographer and filmmaker. He received a bachelor's degree with distinction in American folklore from The Ohio State University, a master's in folklore and anthropology from UT Austin, and a doctorate in arts and humanities from UT Dallas. He is the director of two dozen films and the author of more than 20 nonfiction books and 14 artist books. Govenar founded Documentary Arts Inc., an east Dallas-based nonprofit organization that aims to present new perspectives on historical issues and diverse cultures through innovative theatrical productions, exhibitions, publications, films and interactive media. Govenar and his wife, Kaleta Doolin, also founded the Texas African American Photography Archive, also in east Dallas. Govenar's mission has always been clearly defined: to preserve and protect the artistic culture of Dallas and of the entire United States. In 2010, he was awarded a prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship.

"Through all the challenges I faced as a student, I developed a certain determination to be able to go forward and do more. I wanted to pursue an even greater understanding of society and, subsequently, myself."



SESHU MADHAVAPEDDY MS'87, PHD'91 recently joined Samsung Mobile USA in Richardson as senior vice president and chief technology officer. At Samsung, he oversees the development and delivery of Samsung's smartphones, tablets, cameras and accessories. Madhavapeddy had previously worked at Texas Instruments as general manager, overseeing the company's global OMAP Applications Processors smartphone and tablet business. Madhavapeddy started his career at Nortel Networks Corp. In 2000, he founded and was chief strategy officer for Spatial Wireless. By the end of 2004, Spatial Wireless was acquired by Alcatel-Lucent. Subsequently, he joined Siper Systems as president and CEO. Siper Systems products are deployed in Fortune 500 enterprises. Madhavapeddy's innovative work has generated more than 25 patents and 20 published research papers on topics including theoretical computer science, wireless technology and business strategy.

"I'm most grateful that as UT Dallas' reputation grows, I seemingly get smarter. And one day, when I tell my grandchildren where I went to school, they'll think I'm a genius."

Awards Gala



SUSAN MILLER PHD'94

is the principal and founder of Voicetrainer LLC, a voice and communication consulting firm in Washington, D.C. She specializes in presentation skills, refinement of the speaking voice, anxiety reduction, accent refinement and treatment of the injured voice. Miller writes and speaks about vocal power, vocal health and strong communication. She is a speaker for national and international organizations. Miller also has appeared on NBC and NPR, and in *The New York Times* and *The Wall Street Journal*. She is the author of *Be Heard the First Time: The Woman's Guide to Powerful Speaking*. Miller is an assistant professor of otolaryngology at the MedStar Georgetown University Medical Center, a scientific fellow of the American Academy of Otolaryngology–Head and Neck Surgery, and a certified speech-language pathologist. She received her PhD in human development and communication sciences from UT Dallas. She has directed speech and hearing clinics at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Georgetown University Hospital.

"I reference my 'UT Dallas toolbox,' as I call it, every day when working with clients who want to work on public speaking, interview skills or fear of presenting themselves. I could have never launched my career were it not for UT Dallas."



NEILA SKINNER PETRICK MA'76

began her career at the *Corsicana Daily Sun*, where she was a writer and photographer. She later edited the *Italy News-Herald* and worked at *The Dallas Morning News'* Southwest Scene Magazine. She received her bachelor's degree in journalism from UT Austin and a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies from UT Dallas. Petrick is author of *Jane Long of Texas: 1798-1880*, *Jane Wilkinson Long: Texas Pioneer* and *Katherine Stinson Otero: High Flyer*, which were published by Pelican Press. She has written and produced 13 plays and numerous radio programs and commercial films. Petrick wrote and produced "The Christmas Horse." She recently completed the documentary *Dallas, Story of a City*. Petrick also worked at the Federal Emergency Management Administration as a public information officer for more than six years. Petrick and her husband, Tom, have created an endowed scholarship in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies.

"What I learned as a master's student was tremendous and opened up entirely new vistas to me. As an alumna, it has been my complete joy and pleasure to come back to the University."



JEFFLYN WILLIAMSON BS'83

has had a successful 27-year career in commercial real estate and has a unique appreciation for higher education. Before she became president and owner of Jefflyn & Company, Williamson was a first-generation college student in the Naveen Jindal School of Management. A generous scholarship from the Northwood Woman's Club made her education possible. Williamson was inspired to strive for greatness both in the classroom and later on in her career. With a passion for mentoring young people in commercial real estate, Williamson now strives to make a significant social impact each day. At UT Dallas, this desire led her to establish the Jefflyn Williamson Opportunity Fund and the Jefflyn Williamson Endowment for Women. She also has been actively involved in the establishment of the Jindal School's real estate program and alumni advisory group. Today, Jefflyn & Company specializes in brokerage, development, acquisitions and property management. Williamson also manages the majority of Ebby Halliday's commercial holdings.

"As the first college graduate in my family, I was only able to attend UT Dallas because of the generosity of a group of ladies from the Northwood Woman's Club, who have been giving to the University for over 30 years. Today, I give back to UT Dallas to honor what they did for me."

Awards Gala



The School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences (EPPS) congratulates honoree Bryant Ambelang. Back row, from left: Danny Clancy, EPPS Advisory Council Chair, Mary Ambelang, Bryant Ambelang, Mary L. Ambelang, Wayne Gearey, member of the EPPS Advisory Council, and Amy Fobes. Front row, from left: Legacy Society members John and Susan Macaulay, and Julie Dean and Dr. Denis Dean, dean of EPPS.



Four gifts for geosciences—announced by honoree David Williamson—will provide a big boost to one of the University's smaller departments.



UT Dallas President Emeritus Dr. Robert Rutford and his wife, Marjorie, celebrate the growth of the University with President Daniel.



Dr. Susan Miller accepts the Distinguished Alumni Award from Bert Moore, dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (left), and President David E. Daniel.



Dr. Mark Spong, dean of the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science (right), visits with honoree Dr. Seshu Madhavapeddy, his wife, alumna Dr. Victoria Gylys, and two of their children.

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By Sara Mancuso



Bank CEO with a Knack for Letters

Gary He MA '84 came to be vice chairman and chief executive of the Bank of China-Hong Kong in the most practical of ways. No math whiz, it was his linguistic gifts as a college student that moved him beyond his native Chinese to English, eventually landing him at the top of the country's largest bank.

Like other university students in 1970s China, He (pronounced "huh") didn't choose what to study at the Beijing Second Foreign Languages Institute. Rather, he was made to study English during Communist leader Mao Zedong's Cultural Revolution. "As young people, we didn't have much choice in what we wanted to do," explained He, who is 58 years old. "It's not like now where you have so many choices. Then, you were told what to study."

English didn't come easy to He. "At the start, I didn't know how to read A, B, C, D or any of the 26 letters," He said. But a patient British professor helped turn things around. By the time college ended, He was one of the best students. To this day, He speaks with a distinct British accent and can't help chuckling at the puzzled looks his accent often elicits.

After graduation, He had a quasi-plan for himself. "My little ambition at that time was to use my English, one way or the other, so I would never forget it. I wanted to use my English in my work and perhaps pursue a profession in it, but I didn't know what."

When a job at the Bank of China presented itself in 1980, He did well on the company's English test, capitalizing on the importance of being multilingual at the international bank, which now provides financial



As vice chairman and chief executive of the Bank of China - Hong Kong, Gary He addressed reporters and visitors at the 2012 opening of "BOCHK's Banknote Exhibition," a 200-piece collection of banknotes representing a century of monetary development in modern China. The exhibit displayed in chronological order banknotes from the late Qing Dynasty to present day.



The Bank of China (BOC) Tower is one of the most recognized landmarks in Hong Kong. The building is a masterpiece of the world-renowned Chinese-American architect I.M. Pei.

services to customers across the Chinese mainland, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and 36 other countries.

He was 28 and enjoying working as a junior employee at the bank. "At the time, banking was just a job; no one regarded it as an industry." But bank management wanted to change that. He was given a Pan Am boarding pass and tuition for UT Dallas where he was to pursue a master's degree that management hoped would help him gain the knowledge to expand the bank's operations.

In January of 1983, "I took out a map I had of the U.S. and found Dallas," and off he went. As a master's degree student in international management studies, he split his time between being a teaching assistant at UT Dallas and an intern in downtown Dallas at the then-Mercantile National Bank.

He loved his fellow students, his marketing classes and the supermarket's fluorescent lights that stayed on all night near his campus apartment. In China, stores weren't open overnight. In class, "I learned about what

a real market economy is and gathered some broad ideas about how different parts of the economy work either together or against each other."

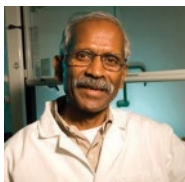
After UT Dallas, He headed for the bright lights of New York City and then Paris, stopping in each city to help build the bank's first branches in the U.S. and France.

Then in 2003, He began running the bank's Hong Kong operation, which has more than 260 branches. He's called the city home ever since.

"The reality is that when I was young, I didn't know exactly what I wanted to be. I didn't know I would become CEO of Bank of China-Hong Kong. The trick is that you have to be ready. You have to prepare yourself for when opportunities come up. In order to get yourself ready, readier than the other people, you have to work a bit harder, pay a bit more attention to details, think deeper and ahead of your colleagues. If you can do that consistently, perhaps you'll be able to achieve more than those around you." **UTD**

ALUMNI NOTES

1970s ▶



Govindaswamy Chinnadurai MS'74, PhD'74, a professor of molecular virology at Saint Louis University's Institute for Molecular Virology, received the

Fellows Award from the Academy of Science in St. Louis. The award was one of eight presented at the 18th annual Outstanding Scientist Awards dinner, which honors top scientists and engineers in the St. Louis region.

Rafael A. Sierra PhD'78 was awarded the 2013 Distinguished Contribution Award, a Horace Furumoto Innovations Professional Development Award, by the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery Inc.

1980s ▶

Peggy Chittenden Brown BA'80, MA'85, PhD'90 authored her first novel, *Strangler Figs*. Peggy teaches creative writing and humanities at Collin College in Plano, Texas, where she was named a Piper Professor by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation in 2008 and 2009.

Akbar Torbat MA'80, PhD'87 teaches economics at California State University, Los Angeles.

Manoranjan Mahadeva BS'81 has been appointed chief financial officer of Solis Women's Health, one of the nation's largest independent providers of screening and diagnostics for breast cancer.

Marshall McCrea BS'83 is president and chief operating officer of Energy Transfer Partners LP, which recently completed a \$5.3 billion merger with Sunoco Inc.

Beth Ullom BS'84 is a professional geologist in Kentucky.



Nicholas Ktistakis MS'85, PhD'87 received the John and Samuel Bard Award in Medicine and Science from Bard College. He is currently working at the Babraham Institute in Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Lynn A. Dugle MBA'87 has been named president of the newly formed Raytheon Intelligence, Information and Services business. Lynn

previously served as president of Raytheon's Intelligence and Information Systems business. She has held officer-level positions within the telecommunications industry, leading teams in Europe, Asia-Pacific and Latin America. Her career has included increasingly senior roles in quality, manufacturing operations, supply chain management, financial analysis and strategic planning. Lynn is a member of the Intelligence and National Security Alliance board of directors, Defense Science Board and the CyberPatriot board of advisors.

Raghavan Ramanan MS'87, PhD'89 recently co-authored *Environmental Ethics and Sustainability: A Casebook for Environmental Professionals*. Raghavan is currently the industry associate professor and interim director of the Center for Sustainable Enterprise at Illinois Institute of Technology Stuart School of Business in Chicago.

Anwar Al Quraan MA'88, PhD'88 has been appointed director of industrial studies and policies at the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consulting.

Steve Potts BS'88 has been named chief sales and marketing officer at AXIOM Sales Force Development LLC. Prior to joining AXIOM, Steve formed ForceLogix, which created a sales coaching application and was then acquired by CallidusCloud in 2011.

Scott L. Albert BS'89, MPA'94 was appointed executive director of the Riverbend Water Resources District in Texarkana.

Curt Hazelbaker BA'89, president and CEO of the YMCA of Northwest North Carolina, was selected to serve on the YMCA of the USA national board of directors. Curt will serve a three-year term on the board, which sets strategic direction and policy to guide YMCA USA in providing Y's with the resources and support they need to strengthen community.

Vickie Sutton PhD'89 was awarded the Paul Whitfield Horn Professorship, the highest honor that can be bestowed on a faculty member at Texas Tech University.

Walter Sutton PhD'89, chairman of the board for Wiley College, received the 2013 Spirit of Excellence Award from the American Bar Association. The award celebrates the efforts and accomplishments of lawyers working to promote a more racially and ethnically diverse legal profession. Walter serves as associate general counsel at Wal-Mart Stores in Bentonville, Ark.

1990s ▶

Christian Belady MA'90, a UT Dallas 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award honoree and Microsoft's general manager of Data Center Services, received the Outstanding Contribution to the Industry Award by DatacenterDynamics at the company's inaugural North American Awards ceremony. Christian was honored for his years of contributions to the data center community, his role as an early architect of The Green Grid and the originator of the broadly used power usage effectiveness (PUE) metric to measure energy efficiency of a data center. He currently leads the strategy and delivery of server and facility development for Microsoft's data center portfolio and oversees the company's research and advanced development team responsible for delivering new technologies for broad scale adoption in Microsoft's data centers.

Lauri Crawford BS'90 has been named chief marketing officer for WorldVentures, a direct seller of vacation club memberships. Prior to joining WorldVentures, Lauri was managing partner of MC3, where she provided marketing and strategy services for a broad range of clients including online startups and heritage brands.

Michael Truitt BA'90 was named Constable of the Year by the Justices of the Peace and Constables Association of Texas. A 28-year veteran of law enforcement, Michael has served as Denton County Precinct 2 constable since 2005. He is also an instructor for the Texas Justice Court Training Center at Texas State University and the Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas at Sam Houston State University.

Brian Biggs BS'91 serves as senior vice president for LW Hospitality Advisors and opened the company's third office, located in Orlando, Fla. Most recently, Brian served as vice president with CBRE where he executed nearly a thousand hospitality related assignments throughout the eastern United States, the Caribbean, Mexico and Latin America. Brian, a CPA, previously held accounting/finance positions, including director of finance, with Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts in Dallas, New York and Philadelphia. Prior to his decade-long tenure with Four Seasons, Brian held a variety of operational positions with Bristol Hotels & Resorts and its predecessor, Harvey Hotel Company.

ALUMNI NOTES



Charles Davidson MS'80 and **Nancy Gundy Davidson BS'80** traveled to Okpo, South Korea, this summer for the christening of the Atwood Advantage, a dynamically positioned drill ship. Charles is CEO and chairman of Noble Energy in Houston. The company will deploy the ship to the eastern Mediterranean beginning in December where it will drill for

natural gas in waters as deep as 12,000 feet and with total drilling depths of 40,000 feet. At the christening, Nancy served the honorary role of Lady Sponsor, cutting a cord that released a ceremonial bottle of champagne that struck the hull. Luckily, it broke on the first attempt. *Whoosh!*

Heidi White MA'91 co-authored a book on the history of logic titled *If A, Then B: How the World Discovered Logic*. Heidi teaches at New York University, serving as chair of the politics, rights and development concentration in the Global Liberal Studies Program.

Theresa Daniel MPA'96 was elected Dallas County commissioner for District 1.

Sushanta Mallick MBA'97 was recently appointed vice president of research and development for QLT Inc. QLT is a biotechnology company dedicated to the development and commercialization of innovative ocular products.

Jonathan Wade PhD'98 was selected as the director of programming for the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching. Jonathan will oversee the center's programming faculty in the research,

development and implementation of intensive cross-disciplinary seminars and other center programs designed to provide professional development for North Carolina public school educators.



Brooke Zrno Grisham BA'99 was named by New York Life as chief executive officer in charge of the Nautilus Group. She is responsible for a Dallas-based team that provides support in business and estate planning for a group of New York Life agents serving the advanced markets for life insurance. Brooke joined New York Life in 1999 as a senior associate in the Nautilus Group and has held positions of increasing responsibility, most recently as chief operating officer where she was responsible for case development, information technology,

compliance and administrative functions. She was named a vice president in 2011. Prior to joining New York Life, Brooke worked as a corporate sales and marketing trainer for Mary Kay Inc.

Sean McNeill MBA'99 was recently hired as vice president of sales for the southwest and west regions for Almo Professional A/V, which serves professional audiovisual integrators, dealers and consultants. Prior to joining the company, Sean worked for AMX in positions focused on sales and business development. He has also worked in product marketing, product management and engineering roles at Broadband Gateways Inc., Fujitsu Network Communications and MCI. Sean served as a captain in the U.S. Army during Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm and Operation Provide Comfort.

2000S ▶

Mary Beth Maygarden MA'00 has been promoted to compliance manager at Advantage Capital Partners. Mary Beth joined the firm in 2009 and is responsible for maintaining compliance with federal and state statutes and regulations applicable to the firm's investment operations.

Christopher Kennerly MSEE'01 is a patent lawyer for Baker Botts LLP in Palo Alto, Calif.

Erin C. Schafer MS'01, PhD'05 is the 2013 recipient of Phonak LLC's Cheryl DeConde Johnson Award for outstanding achievement in educational and pediatric audiology. Erin is an associate professor in speech and hearing sciences at the University of North Texas and has been in the forefront of research on appropriate frequency modulation (FM) settings, evaluation of FM benefit and FM orientation, particularly in conjunction with cochlear implants. She has explored other topics related to FM, such as evaluating its benefit for children on the autism spectrum with normal hearing. Erin has written several peer-reviewed publications, is editor of the *Journal of Educational Audiology* and is past president of the Scott Haug Foundation.

Robert Brevelle MBA'02 has been appointed president of e2v Aerospace and Defense Inc. Previously, Robert was vice president of business development and marketing at Advanced Reconnaissance Corp.

Thomas Fry BS'02, MPA'04 joined Royse City as senior project manager.

Grant Billingsley BA'03 had a showing of his work "And This Is Another Space We Have Made" at the Border Art Residency in El Paso, Texas.

William "Bill" Kennedy BA'03 joined Zinda & Davis PLLC as an attorney of counsel. Bill works primarily in the area of personal injury law. He currently holds memberships in the American Bar Association, Dallas Trial Lawyers Association, Collin County Young Lawyers Association and Dallas Association of Young Lawyers, and is admitted to practice in the Northern District of Texas Bankruptcy Court.

Marv D. Bramlett MBA'04 was recently elected chairman of the board for The Institute for Policy Innovation, a 25-year-old free-market public policy think tank.

Kendall Helfenbein MBA'04, MS'06 is chief financial officer of RomaCorp, an international franchiser of Tony Roma's Restaurants.

Trudy Lewis MPA'04 was appointed city manager for the city of Glenn Heights, Texas. Trudy previously held various positions with the city of Arlington including project coordinator in the city manager's office, revenue enhancement specialist in the budget division, and most recently as the administrative services manager in the police department.



Ramy Mahmoud BS'04, Teacher Certification'04, MAT'06, a teacher and head of the science department at Williams High School, was named Plano Independent School District's

2013 Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Finny Mathew BS'04 was recently named chief executive officer of Crossroads Community Hospital in Mt. Vernon, Ill. He had previously served as chief operating officer of Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw, Ind.

Stephen J. Spann MBA'04 was appointed chief medical officer at Tawam Hospital in Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, by the Abu Dhabi Health Services Company and Johns Hopkins Medicine International.

Michael Brookshire MBA'07 joined Mutual of Omaha Bank as senior commercial banker.

David F. Hanson PhD'07 is a robotics designer and researcher responsible for the creation of a series of realistic humanoid robots. David has worked as a sculptor and technical consultant at Walt Disney Imagineering and currently serves as president and founder of Hanson Robotics. In 2005, David demonstrated an expressive walking humanoid, a portrait of Albert Einstein, in collaboration with the KAIST Hubo group of Korea. KAIST built the walking body, and Hanson built the head using a flexible rubber-like skin material he has created called Frubber.



William Rayburn MBA'07 was recently named associate dean of continuing medical education and professional development at The University of New Mexico School of Medicine. He also is the chairman of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Judd Stone BA'07 attended George Mason University School of Law and transferred after his first year to Northwestern University School of Law, where he was an editor of the *Law Review*. After graduating with his JD in 2010, he clerked for the Alaska Supreme Court and then Chief Judge Edith Jones of the Fifth Circuit. He will clerk with Associate Justice Antonin Scalia for the 2014 term.

2010S ▶

Spencer Nix MS'10 is part owner of and instructor at the new CrossFit Katy Trail gym in Dallas.

Cara Shrontz BS'10 was selected by the Mayo Clinic for the Summer III Nursing Externship in Rochester, Minn. Cara was assigned to work in the emergency room.

J. Scott Holliday MBA'11 was appointed by Texas Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Medical Board. Scott is an anesthesiologist at Pinnacle Partners in Medicine. He is a member of the American and Texas societies of Anesthesiologists, American College of Physician Executives and Texas Medical Association, and is a diplomate of the American Board of Anesthesiology. In addition to his degree from UT Dallas, Scott received a bachelor's degree from UT Austin and a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences. He completed his anesthesiology residency at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.

Emily L. Bezner MS'12 wed Andrew Michael Howard in Dallas.

Abbey Matteson MS'12 married Corwin Ames on March 9, 2013, in Houston. Abbey currently works as a speech pathologist in the Austin Independent School District.

Maria-Luiza Popescu BA'12 was selected as one of President Barack Obama's Organizing for Action Fellows for her work on grassroots organization with hundreds of volunteers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area and beyond, focusing on the national issues affecting individuals regardless of political affiliation. She is also part of an online anthology comprised of the honorees.

In Memoriam

Remembrances of University Alumni

Frank Deon Christensen MS'74, June 8, 2013, Midland, Texas. Christensen worked as a geologist in Midland for 39 years. However, his first love was flying, which led to his later vocation as a flight instructor. Christensen loved teaching. He was a professor for more than 10 years in the aviation program at Midland College. Christensen was an active volunteer for Meals on Wheels, and he enjoyed making recordings for the Recording Library of West Texas, a nonprofit agency that provides recorded material for the visually, physically or learning impaired. His voice was heard every week reading the local newspaper. He recorded several inspirational audio books and other material including recorded articles for the agency's production of *Texas Monthly* magazine, which is distributed throughout the state by the Texas State Library and Archives Talking Book Program.

Jerry S. Wilcox BA'78, MA'81, May 14, 2013, Dallas, Texas. Wilcox was a lifelong member of the Farmers Branch Historical Preservation & Restoration Board where she served as chairperson. She was elected Farmers Branch Woman of the Year in 1992. Wilcox also was a member of the Farmers Branch Women's Club and the Antique Book Club.

Albert L. Kinchen MS'79, March 1, 2013, Colorado Springs, Colo. Kinchen attended the University of Colorado in Boulder where he received an engineering degree in applied mathematics. He belonged to Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. In 1959, he married his high school sweetheart, Sandra Huestis.

Kinchen worked as a consultant with geologists and petroleum engineers developing computer applications for the oil industry. Following his retirement, he made a business out of his favorite hobby—home brewing. He became a certified master brewer and loved his new venture. After several years in Dallas, he and his wife moved to Monument, Colo., to be close to the mountains.

Charlotte Farrell PhD'80, May 30, 2013, Dallas, Texas. Farrell was an educator, leader, writer and traveler. She earned a master's degree from the University of North Texas before earning her doctorate at UT Dallas. She was active in her church.

Charles L. Poole MS'83, June 16, 2013, Fort Smith, Ark. Poole graduated from Warren High School and attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. While in college, Poole was a member of the choir and was on a statewide tour when he met his wife, Ruby Hall, of Fort Smith. The couple later moved to Dallas.

Jay Finnigan BS'88, April 6, 2013, Charleston, S.C. Finnigan and his wife of 41 years, Eileen, loved to surround themselves with family and friends. He worked in several fields, including computer hardware and health care. Finnigan led several customer service departments, earning numerous awards throughout his career of more than 40 years. He was an avid golfer and over the past three years found an interest in long-distance running, sharing the passion with his daughter.

Christopher Alan Canada BS'92, March 5, 2013, Rowlett, Texas. Canada was an accountant in Dallas for 24 years. He married his high school sweetheart, Kelley Ann Maurer, and they settled in Rowlett where they raised three sons.

Bradley A. Schultz BS'04, February 21, 2013, Dallas, Texas.

Harsh Asher BS'06, June 6, 2013, Mumbai, India.

Patrick C. Maruthmotil BSEE'08 MSEE'10, June 4, 2013, Sunnyvale, Texas. Maruthmotil was an engineer at Texas Instruments.

Qian "Amy" Wang MS'13, August 4, 2013, Dallas, Texas. Wang was an accounting intern in Iowa. She was passionate about her many volunteer activities and cultural exchange. While a student at UT Dallas, she was a volunteer at the Confucius Institute where she tutored students in Mandarin, and was a member of Ascend and the International Management Society. Wang volunteered at the DFW International Community Alliance and was an international ambassador and translator for the Richardson Economic Development Partnership. In 2011, Wang helped several American high school students during a Sino-American culture exchange program at the U.S. Consulate General in Chengdu, China.

In Memoriam

Remembrances of University Faculty, Staff and Friends



Marjorie "Margie" Dickerson Renfrow
1933-2013

Margie Renfrow's 38-year career at UTD started in 1973 when she was hired as a temporary office worker and personal assistant by the University's first Nobel laureate, Dr. Polykarp Kusch.

Renfrow worked for Kusch in the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and later became a graduate advisor and student coordinator for the Department of Physics. She helped define the scope of the role to be played by graduate advising in the program and recruited students and selected graduate students to serve as teaching and research assistants.

"Margie's passion was the physics department and in particular the graduate students. From her beginnings at UTD she developed a loving and protective network of the graduate students. This remained the case from the time they entered UTD through the time they graduated and certainly continued until her recent passing," said Dr. Robert Glosser, professor and head of the department. "I doubt that you could find a more loyal and responsive group of people than these students who mirrored the love and caring that came from Margie."

"From the moment she joined UT Dallas in early 1973 to her recent retirement, she tirelessly championed the growth and welfare of the graduate physics program, the well-being of each and every graduate student and the peace of mind of the faculty in numerous, pivotal and positive ways," said Dr. Austin Cunningham, professor of physics and dean of graduate studies.

When Renfrow retired in 2011, alumni whom she had advised honored her by establishing the Margie Renfrow Student Scholarship Fund. The fund will have an impact on the lives of students for generations to come.

Memorial donations to the Renfrow Student Scholarship Fund can be mailed to UT Dallas, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 800 W. Campbell Rd., SPN10, Richardson, TX 75080-3021.



Cyrus "Cy" Cantrell III
1940-2013

Dr. Cyrus "Cy" Duncan Cantrell III was a longtime professor of electrical engineering and physics who helped establish, and then expand, the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science.

A photonics expert, Cantrell joined UT Dallas in 1980 to start an applied physics program. He had served as senior associate dean for academic affairs for the Jonsson School since 2002. His service to the University also included nearly three decades on the Faculty Senate, where he was known for upholding University ideals and demanding integrity in academic work. His roles over the years included serving as speaker of the faculty and leading the committee on educational policy.

"Cy was not only an outstanding teacher and researcher, but also he was invaluable to me as senior associate dean," said Dr. Mark W. Spong, dean of the Jonsson School. "His immense knowledge of the history of UTD and the Jonsson School, which he was instrumental in shaping, is irreplaceable."

He earned a bachelor's degree from Harvard University and received his master's and doctoral degrees from Princeton University. He taught in the Physics Department at Swarthmore College before becoming a staff member at Los Alamos National Laboratory, and then at Université Paris-Nord, before joining UT Dallas.

Memorial donations can be made to the Sara Montgomery Marple-Cantrell Memorial Scholarship for Women in Engineering at UT Dallas, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 800 W. Campbell Rd., SPN10, Richardson, TX 75080-3021.



Edward J. Esposito
1950-2013

Dr. Edward Esposito, a faculty member in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, helped launch the University's UDesign program.

Created in 2009, UDesign provides a path for students to tackle projects proposed by local industry and other organizations. The program offers students hands-on engineering projects with industry partners—an opportunity that augments their educational experience.

"Ed started the UDesign program with me," said Dr. Mark Spong, dean of the Jonsson School. "He was a true champion of higher education and always advocated ways of advancing students' academic experience."

Esposito earned his doctorate in applied physics from Harvard University in 1979. He received bachelor's and master's degrees in physics from Polytechnic University and was a Woodrow Wilson National Fellow. At UT Dallas, he was an assistant dean and senior lecturer in electrical engineering.



George Gerken
1933-2013

Dr. George Gerken was a professor emeritus and a longtime researcher at the Callier Center for Communication Disorders.

Gerken had been with the Callier Center since 1967 and joined UT Dallas as an associate professor in 1973. He remained with the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS) for 30 years before retiring as a full professor in 2003. He previously taught at the University of Virginia. He received his doctorate in biopsychology from the University of Chicago in 1959.

"George Gerken was one of a few pioneers instrumental in establishing the Callier Center as one of the pre-eminent communication sciences centers in the country," said Dr. Bert Moore, dean of BBS. "His research into how the brain processes sound shaped our understanding of the complexities of auditory perception."

Gerken's legacy includes guiding 11 PhD students to graduation, as well as bridging academic research with clinical treatments by founding the Tinnitus and Hyperacusis Clinic at Callier.

In Memoriam

Remembrances of University Faculty, Staff and Friends



Irving Hoch
1926-2013

Dr. Irving Hoch was a longtime economics professor who received accolades for his teaching abilities.

Hoch began his career as a staff economist for the Chicago Area Transportation Study in 1956. He later became an associate professor at the University of California, Berkeley, and a researcher at Resources for the Future, a nonprofit organization in Washington, D.C.

After coming to UT Dallas in 1985, he became a favorite professor among students and earned The University of Texas Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award in 1995.

Hoch's attention and love for his students was remarkable.

"Students basically returned that love," said Dr. Donald Hicks, professor of public policy and political economy in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences. "In a way, he wasn't Professor Hoch, he was Uncle Irv."

Hoch retired in 2003 and was honored with the title professor emeritus.

The Irving Hoch Endowed Scholarship will continue the professor's legacy, along with the Irving Hoch Seminar Room in Green Hall. Donations can be mailed to Irving Hoch Endowed Scholarship c/o UT Dallas, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 800 W. Campbell Rd., SPN10, Richardson, TX 75080-3021.



**Constantine
"Connie" Konstans**
1935-2013

Dr. Constantine "Connie" Konstans found his niche in accounting and education after earning a degree in music and serving in the military.

A longtime professor in the Naveen Jindal School of Management, he was honored with a UT Dallas endowed professorship in his name, as well as a Lifetime Achievement Award from *D CEO* magazine. He also had been named a 2013 Fellow of the Open Compliance and Ethics Group, a nonprofit organization that promotes principled performance in areas such as governance and assurance.

Konstans had audit experience with "The Big Four" accounting firms—Deloitte & Touche, Ernst & Young, KPMG and PricewaterhouseCoopers. He also lent his expertise to professional causes. A past president and ongoing director of the local chapter of Financial Executives International, he had earned FEI's Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to the group and for creating the JSOM-based Institute for Excellence in Corporate Governance.

"Dr. Konstans taught students and executives alike the importance of sweeping changes in financial regulations and the corporate responsibilities they entailed by designing courses, organizing conferences and founding the Institute for Excellence in Corporate Governance," said Jindal School Dean and Caruth Chair of Management Dr. Hasan Pirkul.

Konstans earned a bachelor's degree in music, with honors, from Indiana University in 1957.

After serving in the Army, he earned a master's in accounting from The Ohio State University and a PhD in business administration from Michigan State University. He began teaching accounting at the University of Cincinnati and later taught at Georgia State, Southern Methodist, and the University of Memphis, before coming to UT Dallas in 1993.

Donations in support of the Constantine Konstans Professorship in Accounting and Governance can be mailed to The Naveen Jindal School of Management, UT Dallas, 800 W. Campbell Rd., SM42, Richardson, TX 75080-3021. Please designate "Constantine Konstans Professorship Fund" on the donation.



Victor L. Worsfold
1944-2013

Dr. Victor L. Worsfold was an inspiring educator and School of Arts and Humanities faculty member for more than two decades.

An associate professor emeritus, he taught at UT Dallas from 1975 to 2001 and was a recipient of The University of Texas Chancellor's Council Outstanding Teaching Award in 1989.

He taught courses in ethics, social and political philosophy, the philosophy of education, and the humanities. He also was instrumental in establishing the basic elements of a training program for teaching assistants in the 1990s.

The school honors his service to the University and his excellence as a teacher with the annual Victor Worsfold Outstanding Teaching Award.

Worsfold also served as a consultant to the University's McDermott Scholars Program.

"Dr. Worsfold was an inspiring colleague. His passion for our institution, the program and their people was infectious. His dedication infinitely improved our work," said McDermott Scholars Program Director Molly Seeligson.

Worsfold taught a range of topics to McDermott Scholars and served as the "resident opera expert." He is credited with making an opera lover of many. He advised the scholars on study abroad experiences and supervised independent study projects.

Worsfold earned degrees from the universities of St. Andrews, Oxford and Toronto. He earned his PhD in philosophy of education from Harvard University in 1975 and came to UT Dallas the same year. He was a founding member of the Dallas Symphony Chorus and a former board member of the Suicide & Crisis Center of North Texas.

Donations can be mailed to the Victor Worsfold Memorial Fund c/o UT Dallas, Office of Development and Alumni Relations, 800 W. Campbell Rd., SPN10, Richardson, TX 75080-3021.

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people, to have a really broadened educational experience,” Richard said.

“I have been able to get to where I am by the preparation I got at UTD for getting into medical school. I was more prepared than my medical school classmates who came from the Harvards, Yales and Dukes. So I feel like from a strictly pre-med education standpoint, I was on a par with everyone else, but I had all these other experiences.”

Walter, who is now 31, graduated with a bachelor’s degree in computer science in 2005, and then got a master’s in artificial intelligence in 2006. He went to Georgia Tech for his PhD in materials science and engineering, and then returned to UTD in 2010 as an assistant professor and chief technology officer of a startup plastics company.

He has been working with polymers and created what look like flexible pieces of plastic that, when crumpled in a warm hand, become rigid and hold that shape for some time. Then as they cool to room temperature, they slowly regain their original flat shape.

Walter has two examples he keeps in his wallet. He whips them out regularly to demonstrate their shape-shifting properties. The clear one regains its original flat shape more quickly than the black one, and this was by design. There are obvious medical applications, he said, although currently he is using the polymers to manufacture more comfortable ear buds. His company, Syzygy Memory Plastics, recently received more than \$2 million in grants and angel investments to further its polymer experimentations—giving his mother more ammunition should anyone doubt her sons’ choices.

Benedict, the youngest Voit brother by two years, was determined to go elsewhere when it came time to choose a college. He had visited the University of North Carolina, the University of Virginia and Georgetown University, when Walter and Richard played the guilt card. “Richard called and said, ‘Surely you’re going to come visit me; you’d be a terrible brother not to visit.’ It was hopeless for me to resist,” Benedict said. So he visited and his older brothers set the hook and reeled him in. Benedict was also a McDermott Scholar.

Benedict didn’t put up much of a fight, said his mother. “He really missed his bros.”

By the time Benedict enrolled in 2004, the Voits were legendary, the subject of a Facebook group called “I only have friends at UTD because I know a Voit,” dedicated to the brothers and their enthusiasm for reaching out.



Years before making their way to Texas and earning degrees from UTD, Richard, Walter and Benedict Voit made gingerbread houses as part of their family holiday celebrations in South Carolina.

Benedict said, “A friend of ours who got to know Walter and then Richard and me made [the page] half-jokingly just because Walter would always host board game nights and dinner parties. He did an excellent job of bringing all kinds of people and groups into the same circle.”

Indeed, most people who passed through UTD’s portals between Walter’s arrival in 2001 and Benedict’s departure in 2008 knew or was aware of the Voits.

It’s easy to see how the Voits continue to add to their circle of friends—they are gracious, articulate and self-effacing, more likely to praise their brothers’ and their wives’ accomplishments than to tout their own successes.

All three of them met their future wives while at UTD, and the three women are just as impressive as their husbands. Walter’s wife, Felicity Lenes-Voit, was a McDermott Scholar, Presidential Scholar and Rhodes finalist and went on to Yale University School of Medicine. She is now doing her residency at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Richard’s wife, Sijy Mathew Voit, who caught his attention because she consistently outscored him on their molecular biology tests, graduated from UTD, UT Austin and the University of California, San Francisco. Now she is a clinical pharmacist at John Peter Smith Hospital in Fort Worth. Benedict’s wife, McDermott Scholar Jessica Harpham Voit, has degrees from UTD and UT Southwestern, and is in a residency program at Ann Arbor, Mich.

Benedict, now 27, began courses this fall at the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan. Benedict and Jessica married in 2011 while he worked at ALM First Financial Advisors and she attended medical school in Dallas.

Benedict began his undergraduate studies in computer science and interned at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico in the astrophysics department. But as time passed, he became more enamored of political science and interned his junior year at the Federal Reserve Bank. The array of opportunities he was able to experience and the ability and encouragement to change directions are strengths of UTD.

“Look how widely divergent my brothers’ careers and mine are,” Benedict said. “Yet we found what we wanted and, as an extra bonus, found great wives.”

No University is going to advertise great spouses as a result of their educational package, but their graduates certainly might. The Voit brothers are active in recruiting potential candidates to the McDermott program. They are some of the most powerful ammunition the University has—successful, happy graduates.

There are other UTD families who tell similar stories, where blood was more powerful than any marketing pitch. UTD has a number of sibling graduates where the younger student was influenced by the older siblings’ experiences and education, shared similar interests, capabilities, and other inclinations. And they also had the credentials to get in—based on talent and hard work. **UTD**

Are You a Comet Family?

We’re a young University, yet there are numerous multigeneration families, and an even larger number of siblings who are Comets. We’d love to know about you. The University isn’t always aware of these connections because familial ties aren’t considered in the admissions process.

Share your UT Dallas family connection with us at alumni@utdallas.edu or **UT Dallas, Office of Development and Alumni Relations**
800 W. Campbell Rd., SPN10
Richardson, TX
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VISION
The Campaign for Tier One & Beyond

HINDSIGHT: Lena Callier

In its 50th year, the Callier Center for Communication Disorders is recognized as one of the nation's top educational, research and treatment centers for hearing and communication disorders. The center's prominence is due, in part, to the generosity and foresight of Lena Callier.

Callier, a native Texan, enjoyed a socially active life until her hearing declined. The hearing loss had such an impact on her life that she made a commitment to prevent others from experiencing her isolation and frustration. In 1950, she established a trust to help others dealing with hearing loss, as well as speech and language disorders.

After her death in 1957, the trust from Callier's estate was used to establish the Callier Hearing and Speech Center, which was incorporated as a nonprofit, community-based institution in 1963. Later, the Pilot School for the Deaf, the Dallas Speech and Hearing Center, and the Dallas Council for the Deaf merged with the Callier Center to become a cooperative program.

Initially housed in the basement of Parkland Hospital, the center relocated to its present location on Inwood Road in 1968. In 1972, the center's name was changed to the Callier Center for Communication Disorders; it became part of UT Dallas in 1975. Callier outlined the impact of hearing loss and her hopes for the center in her will.

*"I have in my own experience known
the difficulties and complexities attendant to impairment in
hearing, and in consequence I have come to believe that there could be no
more fitting memorial than the creation of a trust for the charitable purposes ...
to be used within the City of Dallas and elsewhere throughout the State of Texas."*

*"I have long been of the opinion
that defects in hearing and deafness have seriously impaired or prevented persons
so afflicted from realizing their fullest potentialities as members of the community ... and have
in general prevented such persons from leading lives which, were such handicaps eliminated
or the effects mitigated, would be of greater value not only to themselves but to their fellow man."*

Below: Construction of the Callier Center on Inwood Road began in the late 1960s and the center opened in 1968. Vice President Spiro T. Agnew attended the center's dedication in 1969.



A Whoosh Heard 'round the World



(Left to right) Kayla Klein (senior), Ryan Marcotte (junior), Tabitha Terrell (senior), Nikhil Karnik (junior) and Raheel Ata (junior) do the Comet Whoosh in front of Buckingham Palace in July. They happened to be together when the birth of Prince George was announced. Nikhil was enrolled in a summer program at the London School of Economics, Raheel was studying at Oxford, Kayla and Ryan had just completed a six-week course in Rome, and Tabitha was taking part in a six-week internship with the London Centre for Brain and Cognitive Development.