

hillviews

vol. 47 no. 3 | 2016 | MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



LOOKING AHEAD

MAPPING THE CHANGES
AT TEXAS STATE





Keeping Soldiers Safe

Professor Gabriel Fife studies combat-related head injuries to develop better helmets for the military, and to identify head injuries faster.

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Public history students help to keep Texas' past visible.

ABOUT: *Hillviews* is produced three times a year by the University Advancement division. We'd love to hear from you. Send us your comments about the articles in this issue, or send story suggestions. Email Hillviews@txstate.edu; fax to (512) 245-3817; or mail to *Hillviews*, Texas State University, 601 University Drive, San Marcos, TX 78666-4613.

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CORRECTIONS

In the previous issue of *Hillviews*, the date of an alumnus' passing was incorrect. Mannon "Al" Johnson Jr. (B.S. '53), brigadier general (retired), died August 25, 2015, in Fallbrook, California.



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FEATURE

Looking Ahead

As Texas State grows in size and shape the planning and progress that it faces must keep up to meet the needs of students. New degrees, new buildings, and new technology are all part of what makes the university. The future looks bright.

As new construction moves forward the university footprint changes to accommodate the progress.



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Texas State University

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PHOTOGRAPHERS
Chandler Prude | Stephanie Schulz

CONTRIBUTORS
Michael Agresta
Amanda Beck | Anastasia Cisneros-Lunsford
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MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

(from the president's desk)



Dear Friends,

Texas State University has experienced an extraordinary transformation in a relatively short time span. In the last five years alone, there have been many easily recognizable physical changes in the university. Among them we've added the Undergraduate Academic Center, the Performing Arts Center, and three residence hall complexes. We've renovated Old Main, Lampasas Hall, and the Comal Building. We've created a major pedestrian walkway, Bobcat Trail, through the heart of the university. And we've expanded Bobcat Stadium, added a new baseball and softball complex, and built a new track and field facility.

But the changes taking place at the university aren't only what is visible to the eye. Over that same time span, there has been significant expansion in academic programming, student support services, and research activity. These enhancements foster greater learning, community engagement, and school pride, which together help prepare our students for life beyond college.

It isn't by coincidence that two of our biggest current projects are an engineering and science building and a health professions building. Enrollment and programming in our College of Science and Engineering and in our College of Health Professions have been steadily growing over the past decade. This fall Science and Engineering became our largest college.

The added buildings, expanded academic programming, growing research productivity and the enhanced student support services are all part of a carefully crafted planning process. This year, we are in a unique position to be developing both our Campus Master Plan, which generally is about buildings and facilities, and our Strategic Plan, which primarily affects academic programming. We also are in the early stages of planning for a new capital campaign.

This synchronized planning process helps us better align our strategies for growth with the university's aspirations and goals. In this issue of *Hillviews*, you'll see several stories that show how our university is developing and the plans we have for adding facilities and academic programs that will better prepare students for tomorrow. We hope you enjoy it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise M. Trauth". The script is fluid and cursive.

Denise M. Trauth

(wide)views



Photo by Shye Stallings

Keeping soldiers safe

Professor tackles research into head injuries

By Tracy Hobson Lehmann

To the casual observer, linking military exercises, athletic training, and headgear may not be so obvious, but to Dr. Gabriel Fife, the connection is perfectly clear. Those elements all have a role in a pilot study of combat-related head injury. The assistant professor of athletic training envisions the research culminating in better helmet design for the military and faster identification of head injuries.

“You have to dream it up and then explore it. If you don’t do that, it can’t happen,” says Fife, who joined the faculty of Texas State’s Department of Health and Human Performance in fall 2015.

Though Fife has a background in the biomechanics of head impact — he is co-director of the International Head Impact Safety Laboratory — his studies

have focused primarily on martial arts, specifically taekwondo. In 2012 he was the recipient of the International Convention of Science, Education and Medicine in Sport Young Investigator Award.

For his latest work, he needed access to military personnel so he could collect field data and establish research protocol. Turns out, his neighbors at the Texas Army National Guard armory — just across the parking lot from his Jowers Center office — could help. Lt. Col. Ricky Wells and Sgt. 1st Class Adam J. Garza invited him to accompany the infantry unit on drills at Camp Bullis, near San Antonio. This expedition opened doors to work with other units, including a guard airborne battalion based at Camp Mabry in Austin.

Fife tests protective headgear used in martial arts to determine its effectiveness in minimizing injuries. He foresees similar tests on military helmets, drawing in colleagues from Texas State's computer science and engineering departments to create improved headgear for troops.

During National Guard training maneuvers, Fife equips soldiers with sensors to monitor head impacts. "The perfect way to design a helmet is to know where you're getting hit, how hard you're getting hit, and in what way the head is moving," Fife says. The sensors gather data, measure impact, then forward the information to a computer. Although the data can't diagnose concussion, it can alert combat medics to the potential of a concussion or other brain injuries.

"The idea is to put together a model where we can identify impacts quickly,

guarantee faster assessment in the field during combat, and make a decision about the status of that person if they need to be evacuated out to a medical center," Fife says.

Lt. Col. Kurt J. Cyr, commander of the airborne unit Fife is working with, says studies like this are critical to keeping soldiers safe. Data from the sensors "adds another layer of assistance to the medical personnel that is dealing with the injured soldier," Cyr says.

For the next phase of the study, which will track eye movement, Fife will partner with faculty from the Department of Computer Science. Because brain injuries can impact eye movement, soldiers will come into the lab for eye-movement assessment before training. When an injury is noted, researchers will use specialized equipment for follow-up testing in the field.

Meanwhile, the professor has set up a lab at Texas State for helmet testing and continues his martial arts research. In the martial arts arena, the World Taekwondo Federation last year appointed Fife, a black belt, to its eight-member para-taekwondo governing board. Leading up to the sport's first participation in the Paralympics — in 2020 in Tokyo — Fife and his colleagues are working to establish an ability-based classification system for athletes with intellectual impairments.

Currently, athletes are categorized by IQ. He's studying an approach to test athletes' physical skills. "The objective is to determine criteria for grouping different athletes on differing levels of athletic ability," he says.



Photo by Shye Stallings



“

You have to dream it up and then explore it. If you don't do that, it can't happen.

— Dr. Gabriel Fife

”

Researcher studies mood, behavioral changes in sport-related head injuries

By Julie Cooper



Dr. Missy Fraser

Unlike traumatic brain injury (TBI), where tests such as X-rays, CT scans, and MRIs reveal changes, extensive tests don't always reveal concussion, says Dr. Missy Fraser, who researches sports-related head injuries.

Fraser, who joined the Department of Health and Human Performance in August as an assistant professor of athletic training, uses the analogy of an egg when talking about head injuries. "If you shake an egg hard enough, the yolk can be damaged; the same thing can happen to your brain." But following athletes over time is very important, she says. "If you incur two, three, four, or more (concussions), it is plausible that we may see the same effects of TBI over time."

Fraser's area of research focuses on how personality and mood/behaviors are

affected by sport-related head impacts.

"What I look at are primarily mood disorders, mood changes and behavioral changes," Fraser explains. "I've also incorporated head impact biomechanics and how people can sustain impacts of various degrees." She begins with a short, noninvasive online test to set the baseline for athletes.

Participants then wear sensors to measure the number, duration, magnitude, and location of head impacts. This could lead to improved protection – reducing injuries not only to the head but also to other body parts.

Fraser hopes to integrate Texas State student-athletes and the university's established network of high school and college athletics programs into the research.

Fraser, who earned a Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, says one of the reasons she chose to join the Texas State faculty was because the athletic training program is the longest running in Texas, and is very well developed and well-respected.

"There are a lot of sports out there with no contact whatsoever. But others have high body contact. I compare the different levels of sports injury," Fraser says. Following athletes over time is very important, she adds. Her goal is to improve the safety of youth and adult athletes in the short and long term.



Photo by Stephanie Schulz

Texas State sideline evaluation

When an athlete exhibits signs/symptoms of concussion, they should be removed from play and not allowed to return to play then followed up by an evaluation from a licensed healthcare provider.

An athlete with worsening symptoms, especially worsening headache, nausea or vomiting, increased confusion, garbled speech, lethargy or extreme sleepiness, trouble using their arms or legs, convulsions or seizure activity should be transported emergently by public safety/ambulance to the emergency room. Any athlete with neck pain should be treated as if a cervical spine injury is present, and the appropriate emergency procedures (cervical spine immobilization, emergency room transfer) initiated.

If there is no athletic trainer or team physician available, and the athlete has minimal symptoms, the athletic trainer/team physician should be contacted to determine a plan for evaluation of the athlete. If you are unable to contact the Texas State staff, contact Student Health Center at (512) 245-2161. University Police Department should be called for transportation.

For away contests when an athletic trainer is not available, the host institutions' medical staff should be utilized. The Sports Concussion Assessment Tool should be conducted by the athletic trainer for the evaluation of the injured athlete when the student-athlete is medically stable.

The athlete will be withheld from play, until cleared for participation, if an athletic trainer makes a concussion assessment. The athlete will be withheld from play if a physician makes a concussion diagnosis.

Editor's Note: The university's concussion policy is in the process of being revised. More information is found at: http://txstatebobcats.com/sports/2010/7/29/GEN_0729101014.aspx



Here's your sign

Students, communities partner to mark Texas history

By Bonnie Tipton Wilson

It takes a Texas-sized effort to preserve the stories, culture, and sites that tell the state's past. Historical landmarks are disappearing from the landscape and oral traditions are fading with the passing of each generation.



Local-level history is especially at risk because many small municipalities lack the budget, expertise, or resources to undertake such projects. There is no shortage of passion, however, as volunteers, county historical commissions, and heritage societies work tirelessly to save relics for future Texans.

These groups are getting help from Texas State University public history students, who in turn develop professional skills through their efforts. Since 1997, the public history graduate program has been training the next generation of historians to use their expertise outside of the classroom. At the newly organized Center for Texas Public History, students build on program coursework by partnering with local and state organizations to work on historic resource surveys, historic property designation, oral history gathering, and scholarly studies.

Two years ago, Terence Parker, a trustee and deacon for San Marcos' First Baptist Church NBC, volunteered for a project that recognized the 149-year-old religious institution as the oldest African-American church in town. Parker recalls that at first, completing the Official Texas Historical Marker application seemed a

daunting task. But when he enlisted the help of public history graduate students, the project became a reality.

Although a few written accounts about the church did exist, the students tracked down primary records and conducted interviews with congregation members that corroborated long-held beliefs about the institution's past. Their report, a narrative submitted to the Texas Historical Commission (THC), was a primary component to securing the designation.

Parker, who is also the associate director for retention management and planning at Texas State, says the students' training produced a final product that accurately captured the spirit of the church. At the unveiling ceremony for the historical marker, he remembered the sense of pride amongst congregation members. For Parker, it serves as a tangible reminder of the people who worshiped at First Baptist for a century and a half.

Of the 16,000 historical markers across Texas, more than 3,500 have the special distinction of being Registered Texas Historic Landmarks (RTHL). These properties are deemed to have architectural significance in addition to being sites of historic relevance. County historical

What is public history?

Public history applies traditional methods of practicing history — in-depth research in archives, analysis of scholarly and primary materials, and interpretation of that information — to projects intended for broad audiences. Professionals in this field use the latest scholarship and analysis to enable the public to better understand the past. Museum exhibits, historical markers, documentaries, architectural preservation, and oral history are a few examples of how heritage enthusiasts encounter public history in action.

In 1997, Texas State University established a graduate program in public history within the Department of History. Students gain professional experience through project work, classroom seminars, and internships for history careers outside of academia.

Dan K. Utley/Center for Texas Public History



commissions help the THC keep track of those properties.

Elenora Dugosh Goodley, Bandera county historical commissions co-chair, welcomed an opportunity to work with students on a project to update a decades-old RTHL survey. Armed with clipboards, survey forms, cameras, and GPS equipment, five graduate students gathered in Bandera on a sunny March afternoon with Goodley, her brother Ray Dugosh, and Bob Brinkman, THC historical marker coordinator. Properties were evaluated to determine if significant exterior alterations had been made and whether the building was in sound condition. Students photographed each landmark to compare against earlier images. They used modern geo-locating to mark the precise coordinates of each landmark. The survey further serves as an opportunity for historical commission staff to connect with property owners as future resources for the continued maintenance of the historic structures.

Historical commission officials say there are many reciprocal benefits for connecting local heritage groups with Texas State public history graduate students. The partnerships aid in preserving physical remnants of the state's past along with almost-forgotten stories that helped shape modern Texas. And their work nurtures a new generation of professionals to serve as advocates for saving the state's legacy.



The Benjamin Franklin and Mary Hay Langford Jr. Home serves as a reminder of Bandera's early history. The couple, married in 1899, were very active in the community and donated land across the street for a Mormon church.

Stories too good to be forgotten



Kevin M. Cox/The Galveston County Daily News

Texas has more historical markers than any other state, and about 200 new markers are added each year. Through its Undertold Marker program, the Texas Historical Commission ensures that some stories are never forgotten.

Each year between May 1 and June 15, the commission accepts applications for special or priority markers. In 2006, the commission began collecting a \$100 marker application fee to fund the program. While the cost of a marker ranges from \$1,100 to \$1,800, this expense is covered for the 15 chosen annually by the commission. More than 100 Undertold Markers have been completed, commission historian Bob Brinkman says.

Dan Utley, chief historian for Texas State's Center for Texas Public History, says students have researched and written applications and inscriptions for about two dozen of the Undertold markers. Since 2012, Texas State students have written at least 66 marker inscriptions.

Among the Undertold Markers that Bobcats have helped to document:

THE GANT FAMILY

During the Depression, George and Maggie Gant and their seven children played a significant role in the rise of the folk music scene in Austin. Their songs, which were performed at the Texas Centennial celebration in 1936, are included in the Library of Congress. This marker was unveiled in Travis County in 2011.

TEX AVERY

Frederick Bean "Tex" Avery, one of the most important figures in American animation, has been called the Father of Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck. Mike Duncan and Wendy Thompson wrote the historical narrative for the man born in 1908 in Taylor. The marker, unveiled in 2013, stands in Murphy Park in Taylor.

JACK JOHNSON (PHOTOS ABOVE)

Galveston native Arthur "Jack" Johnson was the first African-American world heavyweight boxing champion. His career was fraught with controversy. Students Alex Borger and Ann Landeros wrote the documentation for the marker, unveiled in February 2014 in Jack Johnson Park in Galveston.

KU KLUX KLAN TRIALS

This marker in Georgetown shows where, in the 1920s, KKK members were tried for vigilante violence in a Williamson County court. The trials were called "the first prosecutorial success in the United States against members of the 1920s Klan and quickly weakened the Klan's political influence in Texas." Bonnie Tipton Wilson did the primary documentation for the marker, which was erected in 2009 on the courthouse lawn.

— Julie Cooper

ON THE WEB: Search for historical markers and sites at atlas.thc.state.tx.us

The fab five

There's something special
about these history professors

Among the 27 Texas State University faculty members promoted and granted tenure in 2016 were five junior faculty from the Department of History. All five are nationally recognized for their research, writing, and scholarship, something they share with other colleagues in the department.

How unusual is this? "Very," says Dr. Gene Bourgeois, Texas State's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "You rarely find a department with five junior faculty who are all up for promotion and tenure at the same time. How often would all five members of the cohort be tenured and promoted!

"And the 'fab five' are joining a team, a department already deeply staffed with outstanding, nationally and internationally recognized faculty."



José Carlos de la Puente Luna

That family tree Dr. José Carlos de la Puente Luna began researching a few years ago has become a forest. He and his wife, Lynda, have traced their lineage to the 15th century and through more than 20,000 people across Europe and the Americas.

“Now I’ve added a Texan to that family tree, and it feels great,” de la Puente says of son Matías, who turned 2 in October. “It demonstrates to me that we are attached to a place and that we are the result of so many lives that crossed paths.”

De la Puente’s interest in the confluence of different factors in shaping events molded his approach to teaching. Though he specializes in colonial Latin America, particularly indigenous political and legal cultures in the Andes Mountains in his home country of Peru, he leaped at the chance to teach world history courses.

“I’ve always made comparisons,” he says. “I want students to make distinctions, what is peculiar about a society. But I also want them to make comparisons across history.”

De la Puente is finishing his second book, *Andean Cosmopolitans*, about the interactions of indigenous Andeans who traveled to Spain, and how they and the Spaniards viewed each other’s culture and society.

His research fuels his teaching and vice versa.

“It’s rewarding to come up with fresh information and share it with my students,” he says. “I think that’s much harder to achieve at a place where they expect you to hide in an archive, or where teaching responsibilities are so high you aren’t able to do research. The history department at Texas State has reached a very good balance between teaching and research. I see myself as both. I don’t think I’d be happy just doing one or the other.”

Jeffrey Helgeson

Studying the workings of community politics comes naturally to Dr. Jeffrey Helgeson. He remembers being a middle schooler watching intently among the crowd as his mother Mary, a New York community organizer, shared the stage and the dedication of a public housing project with Mayor Ed Koch and the archbishop of New York.

“That interest derived both from my childhood experiences, growing up with a mom who was a community organizer,” Helgeson says, “as well as my sense that a deep understanding of social history and grassroots politics is necessary to understand how we got to become a world where so much opportunity for some coincides with — and indeed often depends upon — the exclusion, subordination, and exploitation of others.”

Before coming to Texas State, Helgeson immersed himself in the labor and working-class history of Chicago, examining the political culture that developed as black Chicagoans fought for housing, employment, and clout in a segregated political and social climate.

The working title for his current project is *The Politics of Bewilderment: A History of Fragmented Urban America at the End of the 20th Century*, which examines how court-mandated community input altered the landscape of public housing development in Boston in the 1970s. His first book was, *Crucibles of Black Empowerment: Chicago’s Neighborhood Politics from the New Deal to Harold Washington* (University of Chicago Press, 2014).

Fittingly, Helgeson’s commitment to learning about challenging the status quo shapes his teaching approach and the message he wants to send his students. “I was particularly gratified recently to receive a message from a student in a class of 360,” Helgeson says. “The student wrote, ‘I feel you are subtly, yet effectively grabbing everyone by the shoulders yelling HELLO WAKE UP! I never reach out to professors, but I am thoroughly impressed that you have taken a stance to educate to make a change.’”





Ronald Angelo Johnson

In the mid-1990s, Dr. Ronald Angelo Johnson arrived at Texas State University as a student fresh out of a four-year hitch in the Air Force. He returned in 2010 with a lifetime of experiences to share.

Among them are careers as an analyst with the Central Intelligence Agency, in diplomatic posts in Gabon and Luxembourg, and as a pastor serving churches in New England.

At Texas State, Johnson teaches U.S. diplomatic and religious history courses, including American Foreign Policy, Religion in America, and African American History. “Dr. Johnson is a very gifted teacher,” says Mary Brennan, chair of the Department of History. “There aren’t many lecturers that can capture the attention of 350 students in a lecture hall. He can do that. But he also takes a real interest in every student.” He has received the International Studies Professor of the Year Award, the university’s Student Foundation of Excellence Award, Alpha Chi National Honor Society Favorite Professor (twice), and the PAWS Preview Namesake award.

Johnson’s first book, *Diplomacy in Black and White: John Adams, Toussaint Louverture, and Their Atlantic World Alliance* (University of Georgia Press, 2014) was deemed “a fascinating and original study of diplomacy across the color line,” by Louisiana State University historian Nancy Isenberg.

Johnson’s present research examines Haitian emigration across the Atlantic world during the early 19th century. In the monograph-length study, American port cities such as Savannah, Charleston, Philadelphia, and New York serve as a lens into the roles of African-American and white churches in the assimilation by Haitian immigrants into American society.

Johnson believes in teaching students to be critical thinkers. “They should be willing to take risks and be uncomfortable,” he says. “Education is about conversation; my students should be willing and able to take the conversation further.”

John Mckiernan-González

Granted, what Dr. John Mckiernan-González and his four fellow professors in the Department of History tenure cohort do is far from putting a ball through a metal hoop in front of thousands of screaming fans.

But being an aficionado of history and the holder of two degrees from the University of Michigan, where he was a campus contemporary of arguably the greatest recruiting class in the history of college basketball, he can’t help but connect the dots.

“I’m glad to be part of the ‘fab five,’” Mckiernan-González says wryly. “Being a Michigan grad, I’m glad to see that term used again.”

Perspective and the ability to be analytical have served Mckiernan-González well. He grew up in areas as disparate as Ethiopia, Mexico, and rural Alabama. He majored in art history and took a stab at pre-med. After college, he worked with AIDS patients in suburban Chicago, and his interest in Latino social movements was paired with curiosity about the history of American public health.

“It was at the time when we were going from the ‘cancer model’ to the ‘diabetes model,’ where people went from ‘dying from it’ to ‘living with it,’” he says. “What was really interesting was seeing what was happening with healthcare in the communities.”

Mckiernan-González’ first book, *Fevered Measures: Public Health and Race at the Texas-Mexico Border, 1848-1942*, (Duke University Press, 2012), looked at the social and racial barriers doctors and patients faced in healthcare. His current book, *Working Conditions: Medical Authority and Latino Civil Rights*, examines how Latino doctors work with a sense of mission as well as a professional need and practical necessity.

“The way I look at public health is that it belongs to all of us,” Mckiernan-González says.





Jessica R. Pliley

Every year, Dr. Jessica R. Pliley teaches a class called “From White Slavery to Sex Trafficking.” It’s very popular. “Students are instinctively curious about the topic, recognizing that it is one of the biggest human rights concerns of the modern era,” Pliley says. “But they are surprised to learn that people were concerned about it in the past.”

Not only was sex trafficking — then known to the media as “white slavery” — a major public policy concern in the first part of the 20th century, Pliley says, but a widespread moral panic over kidnappings of women actually gave rise to national law enforcement as we know it today. Pliley has written about this in her book, *Policing Sexuality: The Mann Act and the Making of the FBI* (Harvard University Press, 2014).

Pliley received the College of Liberal Arts Achievement Award for Excellence in Scholarly/Creative Activity in 2015 and a faculty award for Outstanding Scholarly Contributions to Women and Gender Studies, Center for Diversity and Gender Studies. In 2012 she was the first Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking Fellow at Yale University’s Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition.

Pliley continues to share and fine-tune her research and arguments with a motivated and curious student body. “I would argue that they’re more engaged with the issue of sex trafficking and modern-day slavery than the students that I taught in Connecticut,” she says.

Even though a lot of government resources are currently directed at anti-sex trafficking efforts, the returns are dismal, Pliley says. “Trafficking or modern-day slavery numbers aren’t going down. If anything, they seem to be growing.” This is the conundrum that she expects to spend many more years working to chronicle and address, both with students in class and in her own research.

Contributing writers: Michael Agresta, Mark Wangrin, Tammy Valentine

“**PROFESSOR JEFFREY HELGESON** is an exceptionally productive scholar, who, in the first stages of his career has already made significant contributions to the fields of 20th-century African-American and labor history.”

— Steven A. Reich,
professor of history, James Madison University

“In reading **PROFESSOR JOHN MCKIERNAN-GONZÁLEZ**’s book, article, and also taking into account his research program and teaching statement, I place him within the exciting group of scholars whose work has been propelling the field of Latino history and borderland history into its next phase by engaging in comparative and transnational approaches.”

— Adrian Burgos Jr.,
professor, LAS Centennial Scholar, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“**PROFESSOR JOSÉ CARLOS DE LA PUENTE LUNA** deserves tenure with promotion. Given the quality and quantity of his scholarly production, he would be a strong candidate for promotion at many Research I institutions.”

— Yanna Yannakakis,
director of graduate studies, Emory University

“The centerpiece of **JESSICA PILEY**’s scholarship is, of course, her book, *Policing Sexuality: The Mann Act and the Making of the FBI*, based on her Ohio State University dissertation. *Policing Sexuality* is the kind of cutting-edge women’s history that brings together social policy, sexuality, individual agency, and the state, in addition to providing a transnational perspective on the issue of sex trafficking. The scope of the book is breathtaking.”

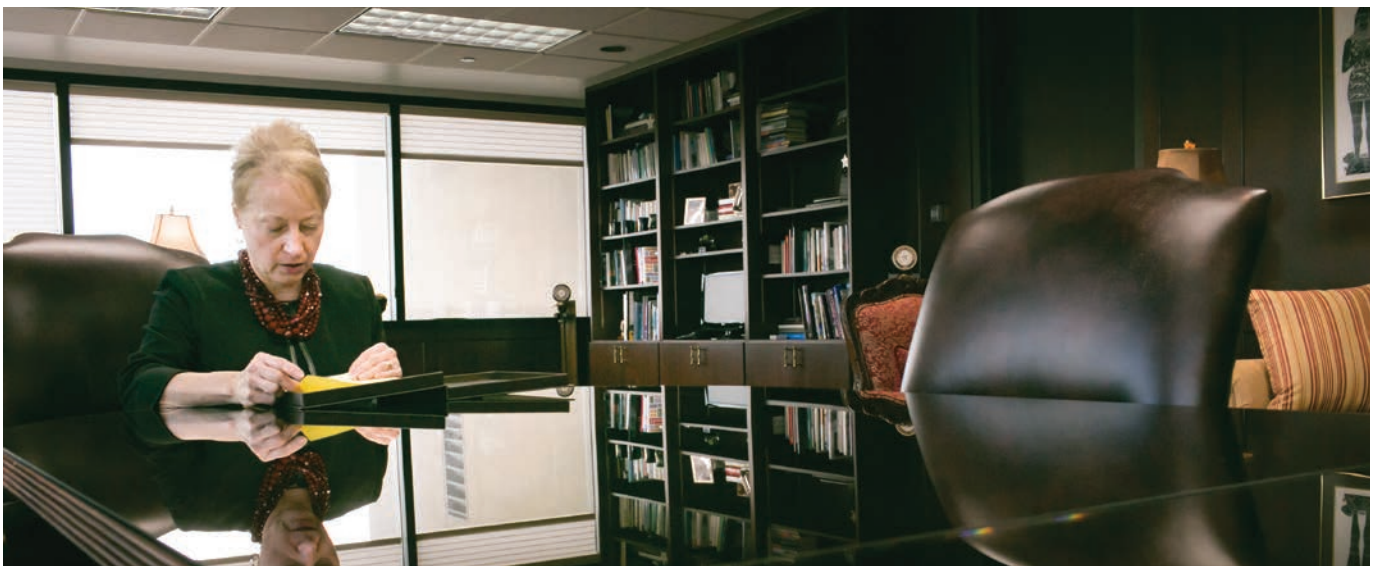
— Leila J. Rupp,
professor of feminist studies, associate dean of social sciences,
University of California, Santa Barbara

“What subject could be more significant in our own age of mass migrations, religious strife, and interracial tension than historical scholarship that illuminates how diverse, seemingly antagonistic groups in the past have succeeded in setting aside potential differences and in finding opportunities to collaborate to their mutual benefit? That is the story at the heart of *Diplomacy in Black and White*, **[RONALD] JOHNSON**’s major work to date, which stands at the center of this tenure review.”

— Robert A. Gross,
Draper Professor Emeritus
Department of History, University of Connecticut

Day in the life of the president

The beginning of a new academic year evokes great anticipation and a sense of renewal, and with it comes a swirl of activity. At no time is that more evident at Texas State University than the Friday before the first day of the fall semester. Traditionally, that's the day President Denise Trauth delivers her annual convocation address, dines with recognized faculty and staff, greets the university community at the annual LBJ Picnic, and rallies with new students at a spirit ceremony in Bobcat Stadium. In all, President Trauth participated in five activities that day, which stretched from morning to night.





OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

President Trauth delivers her state-of-the-university remarks during convocation.

President Trauth and her husband, Dr. John Huffman, chat with longtime donor Dr. Patti Strickel Harrison (left) at a luncheon for staff and faculty.

In between activities, the president takes a moment to review notes in her office.

THIS PAGE CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Sometimes, walking between scheduled appearances is faster than driving to them.

Before delivering her convocation address, Dr. Trauth visits with Andrae L. Turner (center), president of the Alumni Association board of directors.

The president caps off the day's events at a spirit rally with students and athletes.

President Trauth and her husband, Dr. John Huffman, greet guests during the LBJ Picnic.

Photos by Chandler Prude

The power of positivity

By Edmond Ortiz



Jaxsen Day steers toward success

It's a mild spring day as Jaxsen Day maneuvers his motorized scooter from the LBJ Student Center to McCoy Hall. He's clad in a dress shirt, business casual jacket, and slacks. He is confident and cordial toward anyone he meets.

A computer information systems (CIS) major, Day is en route to an Introduction to Database Systems class, accompanied by a personal assistant, Allison Hernandez, a graduate student in physical therapy.

Day has cerebral palsy, the result of complications from his premature birth. He can use a cane or a walker, but a scooter is easier for him to traverse the campus. As he navigates up one narrow ramp, he encounters another student who moves a few inches out of Day's way. "You're good, you're good," the student says as Day nudges his vehicle around a corner and forward. "I know I'm good," Day responds, eliciting a smile from Hernandez.

The Dallas native's positive outlook and initiative haven't gone unnoticed by the CIS faculty, and it is reflected in Day's academic success. He first made the dean's list in his freshman year and finished his junior year with a 3.2 GPA.

"Jaxsen is a model student," says CIS senior lecturer James Keefe. "With his attitude toward education, he seems to want to get much out of his four years at Texas State."

Day and Hernandez arrive inside McCoy Hall four minutes later and wait for an elevator to take them to the floor where Day's database class would begin shortly. In addition to classes and labs four days a week, Day also works at his campus residence for Savvy Technologies. It is a job he worked at during the school year and from home over the summer.

Day got interested in computers because his grandfather, Richard Bauer, worked for the U.S. military, developing missile guidance systems. "He would build computers, take them apart, and show me the different components," Day recalls. "You can do so much with a computer just by sitting there. It's amazing technology because as time has progressed, it has gotten smaller. A smartphone has more power than an old 1960's mainframe."

As a freshman, it took Day time, persistence, and patience to maneuver well or sit productively in Keefe's classroom. Day was immediately proactive. He met with Keefe outside of class once or twice a week about course work, and did it all with grace, humor, and professionalism, Keefe recalls. "Jaxsen is great at engaging other people in different situations. He faces

“Jaxsen is a model student. With his attitude toward education, he seems to want to get much out of his four years at Texas State.”

— JAMES KEEFE,
SENIOR LECTURER, COMPUTER
INFORMATION SERVICES

his mobility challenges well," Keefe says. "He's a very resourceful person."

When Day first appeared in Dr. Marcos Sivitanides' programming class, he could not see the projector well. Day and Sivitanides discussed a way to have a more comfortable, productive vantage point in the classroom. "Some kids don't take initiative, but he does," Sivitanides says. The professor says he likes how Day dresses for class and his relaxed yet confident nature.

"He looks like a bank vice president," Sivitanides laughs. "He participates, asks questions, sometimes answers questions posed by other students. He doesn't miss a beat."

Nothing about college life has surprised or overwhelmed Day thus far. "I know this campus fairly well; the difficulty is minimal. The problem is when other students use the ramps," Day explains. "You have to have a sense of humor. To be angry all the time, it's not worth it," he says.

He also feels self-motivated to always be at his best and be a positive example for fellow classmates. "If you're alive, the work never ends," Day explains. "You're always working, always out there and selling yourself in some form or fashion."



Air Force vocalist pursues master's degree

By Dan R. Goddard

Tech Sgt. Christin Foley sings rock 'n' roll for the U. S. Air Force Band of the West, but she's pursuing her first music love at Texas State University — a master's degree in jazz performance.

As the lead vocalist for the Air Force's rock band Top Flight, Foley belts out Top 40 tunes by Taylor Swift and A Walk on the Moon. But with the university's Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Orchestra, she's just as comfortable performing selections such as Count Basie's "Travelin' Light" and jazz composer Alan Blaylock's arrangement of Ray Charles' R&B classic "One Mint Julep."



The Band of the West is actually several bands and Foley has performed with the Dimensions in Blue jazz ensemble, the 45-piece Concert Band, and the Warhawk horn band. Her jazz training helps her move easily from big band swing to rock 'n' roll.

"Jazz provides me with a great foundation to sing any kind of music. Vocally, I have always leaned toward singing commercialized music — jazz, pop, rock, country — and I have been drawn to jazz since high school," Foley says.

Attending jazz workshops for two summers led Foley to attend Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan, to study jazz. In 1998, when she graduated with a bachelor's degree in music, Foley won a *Downbeat Magazine* Award for Outstanding Jazz Vocal Performance with the Gold Company Sextet. She never thought jazz vocalist training would lead to an Air Force career. "But I was able to join the Air Force as a vocalist after auditioning for it. Most people have no idea that you can join the Air Force and sing in a rock band."

After basic military training, she spent

four years assigned to the Air Force Band at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C. In 2006, Foley joined the Missouri Air National Guard Band in St. Louis. She returned to active duty in 2009 and was assigned to the Band of the West at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio. Since joining the Air Force in 2002 as a vocalist, Foley's had six deployments to 13 countries in the Middle East. Her 2015 deployment took her to Qatar, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, and Egypt. She led her musical team as the noncommissioned officer in charge.

"Our main mission is troop support and helping to build morale," Foley says. "We go into hospitals and wherever they want us to perform, which can mean hallways and offices. We don't travel with a stage or much equipment, so we have to improvise with whatever is there. I remember one time someone asked for 'Love Shack,' which we hadn't performed as a band. I had to dig into my memory banks and the band had to figure it out, but we were able to pull it off."

Highlights of her military performances include a concert for President George W.

Bush, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and several chiefs of staff; touring with Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers on an Operation Seasons Greetings tour of the Middle East; singing for Turkmenistan military trainees; holiday shows at hospitals in Kandahar, Afghanistan; and embassy performances in Egypt and Jordan.

At Texas State, she has performed with the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Orchestra, including appearances at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention and two Eddie Durham Celebration tributes with Count Basie greats Butch Miles and Doug Lawrence. In November 2015, she sang for the Texas State University System Board of Regents.

"I have been fortunate to have amazing support from my Air Force leadership and colleagues, and also from the Texas State University music faculty," Foley says. "It has required determination, focused energy, and detailed organization to coordinate and blend the two schedules together, and it is absolutely worth it."

WELCOME TO TEXAS STATE

NEW NAMES, FACES IN ADMINISTRATION

While Texas State's freshman enrollment continues to grow significantly at Texas State, a careful mix of faculty and staff is essential to support the academic operation and keep it running smoothly. In any given year, about 130 new faculty and staff members begin their service with Texas State. Among the newcomers this fall semester are a dean for the College of Science and Engineering and two associate vice presidents. All three are recognized as leaders in their field, and bring solid experience to the university.

DR. WALTER E. HORTON JR.

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND FEDERAL RELATIONS



His research team at Northeast Ohio Medical University (NEOMED) made groundbreaking discoveries about cells and cartilage and their impact on chronic conditions, and now **Dr. Walter E. Horton Jr.** will be guiding Texas State's research efforts as associate vice president for Research and Federal Relations.

"As our new chief research officer, Dr. Horton will help lead Texas State's research enterprise and position the university to meet its goal to achieve National Research University Funding eligibility. We are poised to continue a strong record of growth in research funding and productivity, and Walt's diverse experiences in academia, the private sector, and a national research agency should prove beneficial to that end," says Dr. Gene Bourgeois, Texas State's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Horton, who started his new role at Texas State on September 1, earned his B.S. in zoology from Kent State University and his Ph.D. in anatomy and cell biology from the University of Cincinnati. After completing his doctorate, Horton was selected for a National Research Service Award (NRSA) postdoctoral fellowship in molecular biology at the National Institute of Dental Research of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He then joined Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis, Indiana, to lead a drug discovery program for osteoarthritis. He returned to the NIH, this time at the National Institute on Aging, and conducted translational research over a 10-year period focusing on the underlying mechanisms controlling cartilage

formation, aging of cartilage, and pathogenesis of osteoarthritis.

Transitioning to academia in 1999, Horton joined the NEOMED and established an NIH-funded research program while teaching medical and graduate students. During his time as primary researcher, Horton published 70 peer-reviewed articles or book chapters and acquired major grants from the NIH, Arthritis Foundation, and other sponsors. Horton has extensive service on NIH study sections and other review panels for basic and Small Business Innovative Research and Small Business Technology Transfer grant proposals.

Horton was appointed NEOMED's vice president for research in 2008 and was the founding dean of the College of Graduate Studies in 2010. During his time leading the research mission, the university experienced historic growth in its research and sponsored programs portfolio, expanded the physical footprint to support research, and identified three additional research focus areas.

"Texas State is clearly a university with a world-class academic, research, and scholarly mission and, as the next associate vice president for Research and Federal Relations, I hope to bring new perspectives from the private, federal and academic sectors while continuing the commitment to the faculty, staff and students who carry out this important mission," Horton says.

DR. CHRISTINE HAILEY

DEAN OF COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING



Dr. Christine Hailey developed a solid reputation recruiting and retaining top engineering undergraduate and graduate students in Utah. As Texas State's new dean of the College of Science and Engineering, she'll attempt to replicate that success in Texas.

"Chris brings to Texas State a record of research, external funding, teaching, and leadership experiences that mesh well with strategic initiatives underway within the college: increasing externally funded research, strengthening undergraduate education in the STEM fields, and expanding engineering offerings," says Dr. Gene Bourgeois, Texas State's provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.

Previously the dean of the College of Engineering at Utah State University, Hailey received the Utah Governor's Medal for Science and Technology in 2016 for her recruiting talents. She earned her B.S. in mathematics from Colorado State University and her M.S. and Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from the University of Oklahoma. A licensed professional engineer, Hailey began her new role at Texas State on July 1.

After completing her doctorate, Hailey joined the technical staff of Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where her early work focused on modeling high-speed water entry. In 1994, she joined the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering at Utah State as a tenured faculty member. She was appointed chair of the mechanical engineering program at The University of Texas at Tyler in 2001, providing leadership in the development and accreditation of the program.

Hailey returned to Utah State in 2003 and served as senior associate dean of the College of Engineering and professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering. In 2013, she was named dean of the College of Engineering.

She has been the principal investigator (PI) or co-PI on more than \$15 million in externally funded grants. She was the PI of the National Center for Engineering and Technology Education, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). She was also the PI of an NSF-funded project titled "The Influence of MESA Activities on Underrepresented Students."

Hailey is the recipient of the College of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award, the Utah Engineers Council Engineering Educator of the Year Award, and the Society of Women Engineers Distinguished Engineering Educator Award. She was elected to the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, which is the accrediting organization for applied science, computing, engineering, and engineering technology programs. She is the author or co-author of more than 60 publications and proceedings.

"I plan to work closely with the College of Science and Engineering faculty and administration to build the national prominence of the college in its research and commercialization programs," says Hailey. "And to provide graduate and undergraduate students in the college with exceptional learning opportunities inside and outside of the classroom."

MR. GARY T. RAY

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT AND MARKETING



Gary T. Ray has joined Texas State University as the associate vice president for Enrollment Management and Marketing and will provide strategic direction and leadership for growing the student body and for university marketing.

Prior to joining Texas State in September, Ray served as vice president for Enrollment Management at Texas Women's University in Denton, where he created and led a strategic enrollment plan. He also was credited with implementing an admissions system that helped boost enrollment quality and one-year persistence rates. Under his leadership, overall enrollment grew 14.6 percent, with record freshman classes each year.

Prior to that, Ray was vice president for Enrollment Management at Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee. He directed that division for 19 years, a period marked by dramatic growth in headcount and in the number of high-achieving students. He was inducted into Lee University's Hall of Fame for distinguished service.

In 2010, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers recognized Ray as a national finalist for the Strategic Enrollment Management Award of Excellence. He has a master's degree in education from the University of Tennessee and a bachelor's degree in secondary education from Lee University. He has also completed Harvard University's Management Development Program.

"I am deeply honored to join the Bobcat family and work for such a fine university that is known for academic excellence and

"I AM DEEPLY HONORED TO JOIN THE BOBCAT FAMILY AND WORK FOR SUCH A FINE UNIVERSITY THAT IS KNOWN FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP. THE UNIVERSITY IS WELL POSITIONED TO CONTINUE TO ATTRACT DEDICATED AND TALENTED STUDENTS FROM TEXAS AND BEYOND." — GARY RAY

extraordinary leadership. The university is well positioned to continue to attract dedicated and talented students from Texas and beyond," Ray says.

"During my more than 20 years of leading and managing university enrollment I have been fortunate to work at both private and public universities. I am eager to put my experience to work for Texas State and be part of the next chapter of the university's history."

■ RON ANTOINE

tight ends and running backs coach



women's basketball head coach

UNDER ONE ROOF

ANTOINES ENJOYING LIFE TOGETHER AS TEXAS STATE COACHES

By David Flores

COACHING CAN BE TOUGH ON A MARRIAGE. THE HOURS ARE LONG, AND SPENDING TIME AT HOME WITH THE FAMILY — EVEN ON HOLIDAYS — OFTEN TAKES A BACKSEAT TO THE JOB.

But what happens when both spouses are coaches and work at different universities — hundreds of miles apart — and they go for long periods of time without seeing each other?

Meet Texas State University coaches Zenarae and Ron Antoine, who could write a manual on how to make a marriage not only survive, but flourish, despite such challenges. The Antoines, who celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary on July 1, have spent 11 football and basketball seasons apart because of their jobs. Zenarae was in the middle of her fifth season as the head coach for women's basketball when Ron left Fresno State in California, where he had coached since 2012, to join Coach Everett Withers' staff as the coach for running backs and tight ends.

Living under the same roof again has been a little slice of heaven for the Antoines, who met in the mid-1990s when they were student-athletes at Colorado State University. They have three sons, twins Xavier and Zachary, 7; and Zayden, 2.

"It's one of those situations where you have to pinch yourself a little bit," says Ron, 42. "I walk around and think, 'Wow, this is really happening for us just like we wanted.' My wife is a head coach at a great institution and I'm getting to coach and do exactly what I wanted to do, coach Division I football in the state of Texas. It's kind of like a dream come true."

Zenarae, 41, says the couple originally planned to follow a three-hour radius rule. "We look back and it's kind of interesting how our marriage evolved," she says. "We were going to stay within three hours of each other. But every single coaching move we made got bigger and bigger. It went from three hours to five hours, to seven, and then to nine or 10."

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“We joke now that we can’t believe we started out with a three-hour radius. What really helped us was the technology we have today. Even though we didn’t see each other every day, we kept in touch by phone, or emailed, or sent each other text messages.”

Ron admits that he loves the little things about being with his family. “It’s still a little surreal when I go pick up the older boys at school every day, or the little one at day care, or I cook them breakfast. I know a lot of people take that for granted, but I don’t. I look forward to doing everything I do with them every day. That time away from them was like a blessing in disguise. I appreciate everything I do with my family more now.”

The toughest stretch for Zenarae and Ron came after their youngest son was born. With Ron coaching at Fresno State, Zenarae faced the daily challenge of caring for their three children. She relied on the help of nannies when she was working. “We couldn’t do without them,” she says, but even with the help, it was extremely difficult.

“I tell people all the time that when I hear someone complain about how hard something is. I think back to Zena being back on the court working 10 days after our last son was born, and then going home to take care of all three kids,” Ron says.

Born and raised in Beaumont, where he graduated from West Brook High School in 1992, Ron coached at Ohio University, Arkansas, and Fresno State. He has also been an assistant coach at Elon University (North Carolina), Wofford College (South Carolina), and the University of South Alabama.

Zenarae graduated from James E. Taylor High School in Katy in 1993 and played basketball at Colorado State. In addition to Ohio University and Arkansas, she was an assistant coach at the College of Charleston and the University of Louisville before taking her first head coaching job at Texas State.

“Ron always has been my biggest supporter,” Zenarae says. “He’s always been there to encourage me.”

The couple has kept it simple whenever a job opportunity has come along for either spouse. “We’ve always said, ‘Go for it and we’ll figure it out,’” Ron says.

With the coaching couple reunited at Texas State now, one thing’s for sure: Life has become a lot less complicated for husband and wife.



ZENARAE ANTOINE

In her first season, “Coach Z” led one of the best turnarounds in school history, taking a 9-20 team to 17-14, including the school’s first conference tournament win since 2003. Since she has led the team to back-to-back appearances in the Women’s Basketball Invitational Tournament in 2014 and 2015.

In its first season in the Sun Belt Conference (SBC) in 2013-14, the university went above and beyond preseason expectations. The Bobcats finished tied for third place after being chosen ninth in the SBC preseason poll. The Bobcats finished the season with a 16-16 record, the second most wins since Coach Z arrived in San Marcos in 2011.

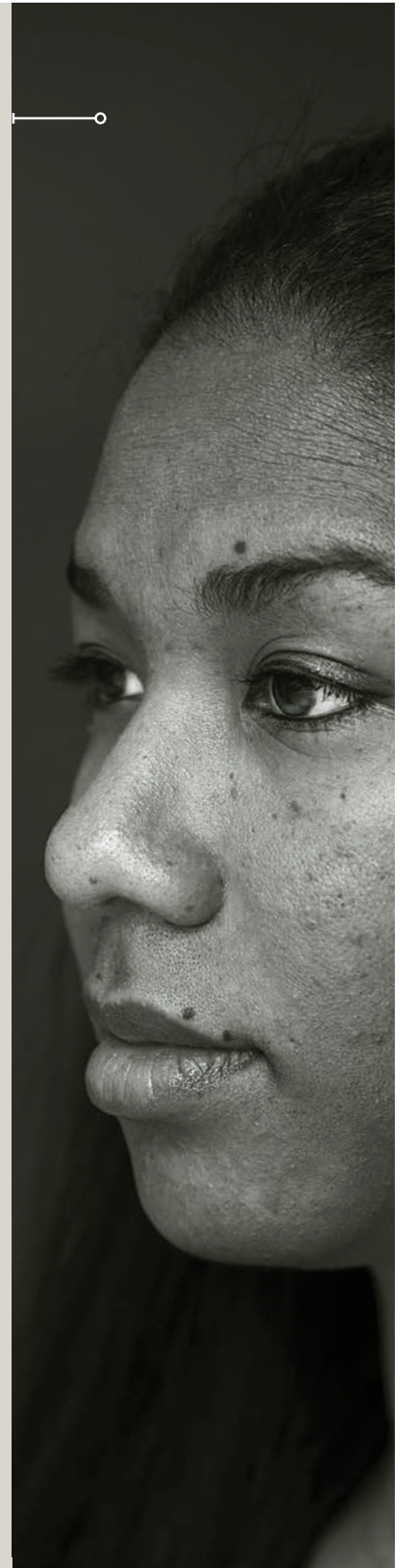
Coach Z is a member of the WBCA, the AFCWA, and a 2002 graduate, the inaugural class, of the former Women’s Coaches Academy and now Alliance of Women’s Coaches. She is also the Sun Belt Conference captain for the WBCA, the Women’s Basketball representative for the Sun Belt Conference Sport Committee, and is in the third year of a three-year appointment as a voter on the WBCA Coaches Poll.

RON ANTOINE

Ron spent four years with the Fresno State Bulldogs as assistant coach. He was the running backs coach for the Bulldogs after coaching the outside receivers the three previous years. He also was the recruiting coordinator at Fresno State during the past two seasons.

Ron went to Fresno State after coaching wide receivers at South Alabama in 2010 and 2011. He also coached running backs, fullbacks and tight ends at Arkansas in 2008 and 2009. During his first season, the Razorbacks posted wins over a pair of nationally ranked teams, Auburn and Tulsa. In his second season, Arkansas finished with an 8-5 record after defeating East Carolina in the AutoZone Liberty Bowl.

He is a member of the American Football Coaches Association and the Texas High School Coaches Association.

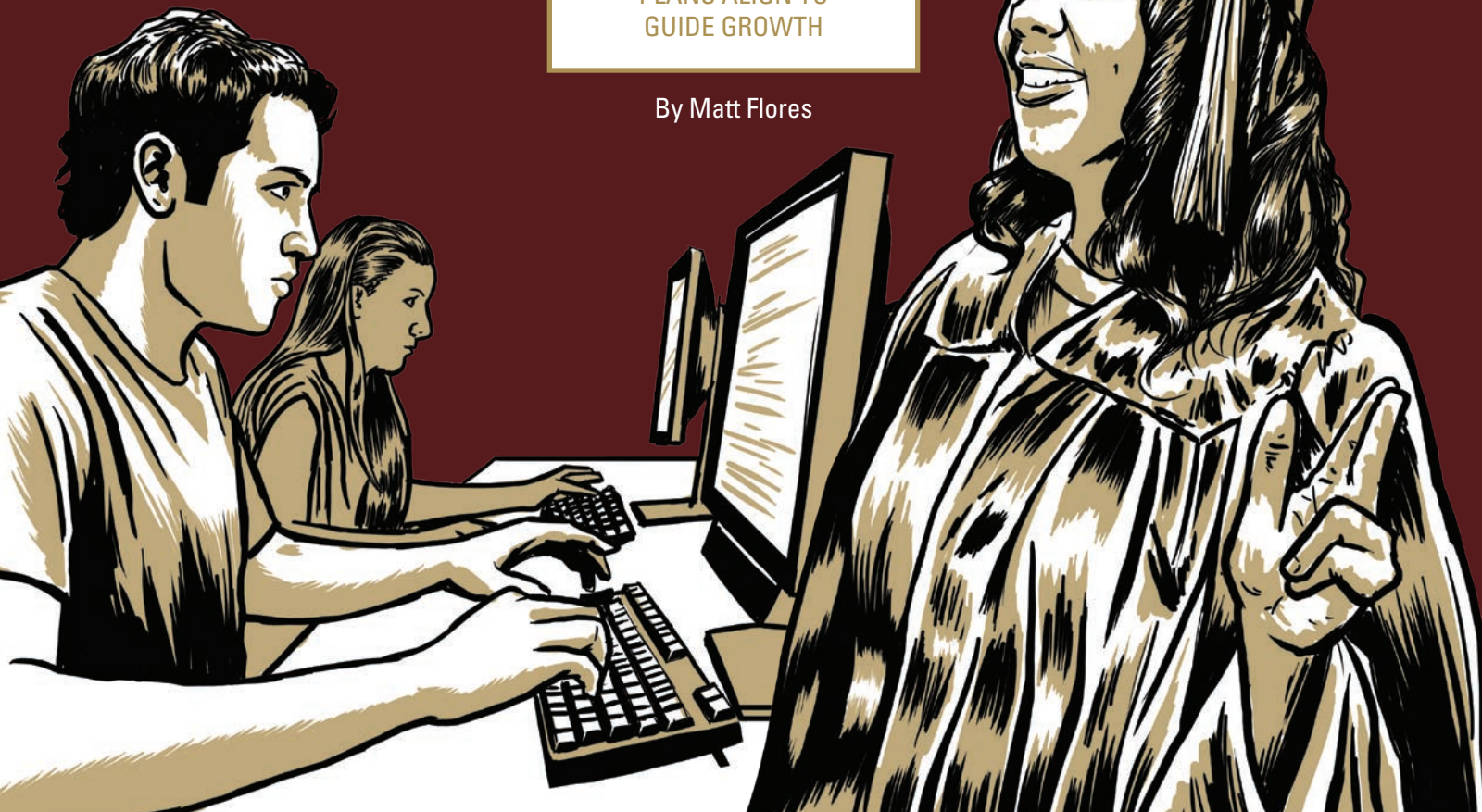




PLANNING AND PROGRESS

UNIVERSITY, MASTER
PLANS ALIGN TO
GUIDE GROWTH

By Matt Flores





Long before the first interior wall was removed in a major renovation of the Comal Building, an interesting meeting of the minds took place.

Faculty from the departments that ultimately would share the building — Philosophy and Computer Science — were asked to help define the shape, size, and look of the edifice's classrooms, offices and meeting spaces.

Turns out faculty members had plenty of ideas on how to turn the nearly century-old building into an inviting space that would foster greater collaboration. Using that faculty input, designers and construction crews carefully ensured that crafted plans resulted in a one-of-a-kind academic building that has won praise from students, faculty, and visitors alike.

That shared planning effort helped inspire curved hallways, uniquely shaped offices, an arched arcade in the entryway, and a main-floor “dialogue room” encased with swiveling glass doors that has become one of the university’s most popular meeting spaces since its completion in the summer of 2014.

“We wanted to create a space where faculty and students would feel at home and where their discussions would result in fruitful encounters,” explains Dr. Craig Hanks, one of the many faculty who offered feedback and now is chair of the Department of Philosophy. He credits his predecessor, Dr. Vincent Luizzi, with the whimsical idea for what has become the building’s signature space.

The venerable Comal, built in 1918 and among Texas State’s oldest buildings, sits along the Quad on one of the most heavily walked pathways of the university. Over the decades, it has served the College of Education and the Department of Psychology; was used as a laboratory school to train teachers; and once housed an auditorium, a gymnasium, and a reference library.

The Comal’s transformation is just one of several examples of exceptional planning at Texas State. Other recent examples include renovations of the Joann Cole Mitte and Sabinal buildings for the School of Art and Design and the upgraded Jones Dining Center.

As Texas State continues to experience fast growth — and with fewer options for adding space — the need for measured planning has never been as profound as it is today. The university finds itself in a unique position this year as the institution simultaneously develops its Campus Master Plan, which essentially is a blueprint for adding and renovating facilities over the next 10 years, and the University Plan, which effectively maps out Texas State’s academic and support services over the next six years.

This opportunity to synchronize our planning not only enables efficient use of all of Texas State’s resources, but also helps the university align its strategies with its aspirations. In the ensuing pages, *Hillviews* highlights some of the major changes on the horizon that will mark the university’s evolution over the next few years. 🌟

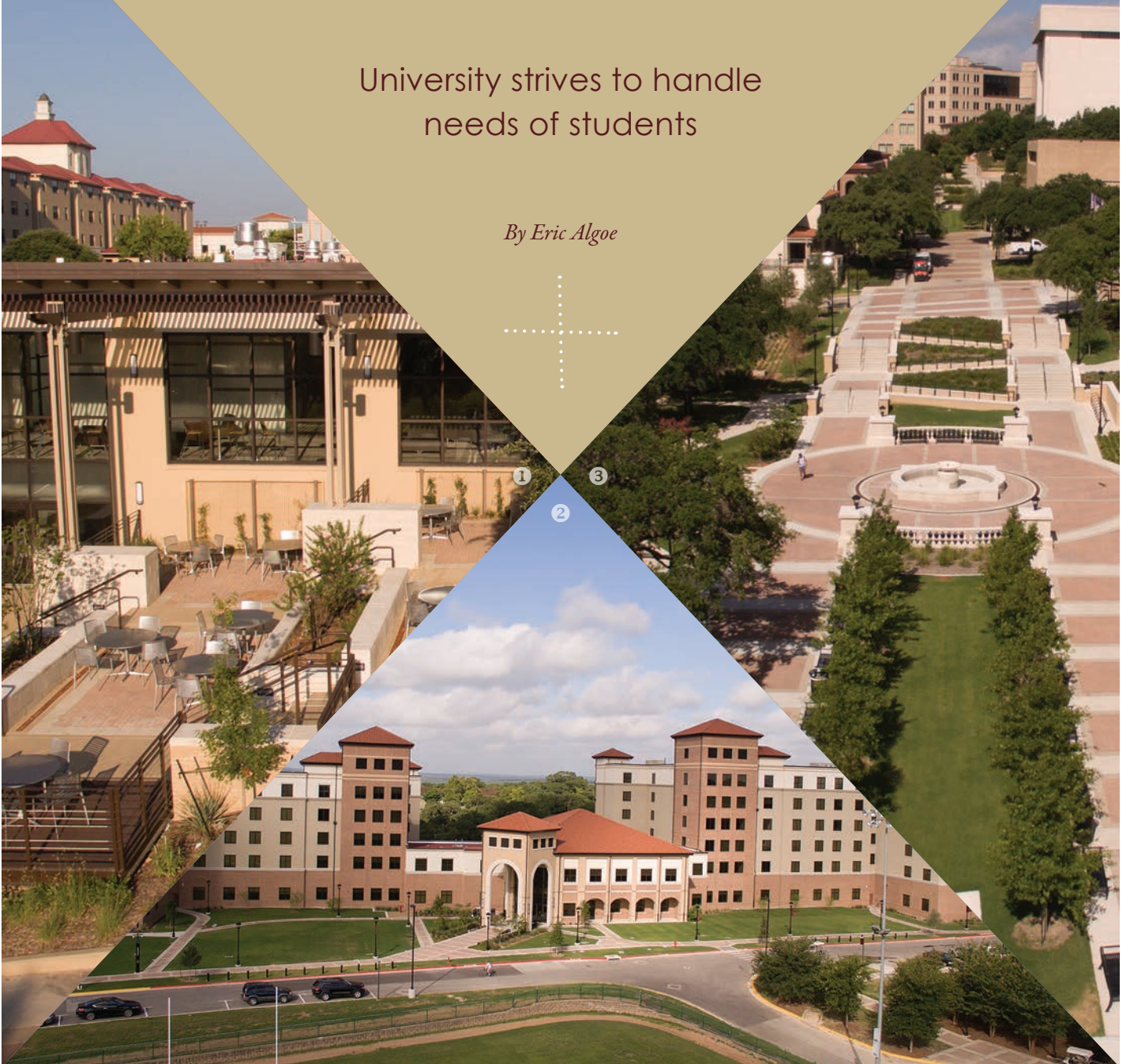
RECENT AND UPCOMING NEW CONSTRUCTION

(A/B) Exterior and interior renderings of the new building for the Ingram School of Engineering. The Health Professions Building (C) is planned for the Round Rock Campus. The Comal Building Dialogue Room (D) is one of the university’s most popular meeting spaces.

MOVING AHEAD

University strives to handle
needs of students

By Eric Algoe



Texas State University can lay claim to a trend that many other universities in America don't see. Specifically, more and more students each year want to come here.

We started fall 2015 with roughly 38,000 students, experienced a double-digit percentage increase in freshman applications for fall 2016, and then set an enrollment record for the 19th straight year. This challenge is not unique to our San Marcos Campus either; we are estimating a 30 percent increase in enrollment at the Round Rock Campus in 2018. Because bigger is not always better, one might wonder why Texas State continues to thrive and how the university adjusts to a fast-rising enrollment.

There are many ways in which Texas State benefits from these gains. Most importantly, they allow us to offer more services and options, including more personalized attention, to our students. In addition, with size comes a measure of financial stability and predictability, which benefits all corners of the university.

Fully answering the question of why we continue to add students at a significant clip, however, requires an understanding of the governance of higher education in Texas. While Texas State is a member of The Texas State University System with its own Board of Regents, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) provides leadership and coordination for all of Texas higher education. The THECB sets the strategic plan for higher education in Texas and has established a very clear goal: By 2030, at least 60 percent of Texans ages 25-34 will have a college-level certificate or degree.

The 60x30TX goal, as it is named, is essential to the future prosperity of Texas. To reach it, the state must increase degree production. Texas State is committed to playing a key role in the success of the 60x30TX initiative by carrying our share of the necessary surge in enrollment. In fact, over the past five years, Texas State has experienced an enrollment rate that was 55 percent higher than the combined five-year enrollment growth rate of all other Texas public universities.

While the future looks good, it does present the university with many possible outcomes. With more students comes a need for more faculty, and qualified faculty members are in high demand in the Central Texas region. It takes enormous effort every year to find high-quality instructors to fill the course sections. Similarly, more students demand more staff to provide the vast array of services required to help make them successful and to take care of the university, such as advisors, counselors, custodians,

maintenance workers, among hundreds of others.

While the issue of having enough people is difficult to manage, the primary constraint in being able to serve more students at Texas State is undoubtedly physical space. Despite the fact that the campus total square footage has grown from 4.6 million in FY 2004 to 8.1 million in FY 2016, Texas State still has the largest academic space deficit of any school in the state of Texas, characterized by a total space deficit of more than 1.2 million square feet, according to the THECB's space projection model. In short, there is an urgent need for additional space at Texas State.

Given this outlook, how can we sustain a manageable and appropriate influx of students at the university? First and foremost, we have to take care of the facilities that we have today. Because they are used more often and by more students than at any other university in the state, our existing facilities require a great deal of maintenance, repair, and renovation.

Texas State is fortunate to have hundreds of buildings, thousands of acres of land, and hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of facilities with which to carry out our mission. When one walks around the campus, the beauty, the quality, and the character of the university is evident. We cannot allow our need for additional space to crowd out the inescapable requirement to keep what we have fully functional and inviting.

Secondly, we must continue to make better and more creative use of space. We continuously shift offices around to create additional work spaces; share classroom, office, and laboratory space; and tweak course schedules to maximize the number of sections that can be taught. The university is fully running from before 8 a.m. until about 10 p.m. most weeknights, and we are now even looking to the weekends to help address space needs for Student Affairs events.

I suspect that no university in America ever feels like it has enough space, people, or funding to do all of the good things it would like to do. However, Texas State stands in rare company in terms of our future, our effectiveness, and our efficiency. All of us who have a connection to, or an affinity for, this great place should take pride in being part of an organization that is playing such a key role in the prosperity of our state and our nation. 🍷



Eric Algoe
is the university's vice
president for Finance
and Support Services.



LEFT PAGE

- ❶ JONES DINING CENTER
- ❷ ANGELINA AND SAN GABRIEL HALLS
- ❸ BOBCAT TRAIL

BOBCAT SHUTTLE

TECHNOLOGY
EASES
WAIT
FOR
RIDERS



FILE

BY JULIE COOPER PHOTO STEPHANIE SCHULZ



For the thousands of Texas State students who ride the Bobcat shuttle, technology is making it easier to navigate across campus. In fact, there's an app for it.

Through a combination of GPS software, social media alerts, and on-board counters, not only can riders determine when the next bus arrives, but transportation officials can monitor and manage ridership more efficiently than ever.

And for a growing university where parking is becoming more limited and construction on and around campus is causing more congestion, that's important. The Loop 82 project, which will result in a railroad overpass along Aquarena Springs Drive, won't be completed until spring 2018.

"It's a big challenge," says Steve Herrera, assistant director of transportation services.

Transportation officials are increasingly using Twitter or Facebook to further alert students to changes in routes or traffic patterns, says Stephanie Daniels, coordinator of marketing and promotions. "We've seen a huge increase in the number of students who use social media as one of their primary forms of finding information," Daniels says, adding that she routinely posts information on parking, the university's bicycle cooperative known as the Bike Cave, and a car-sharing service called Zipcar.

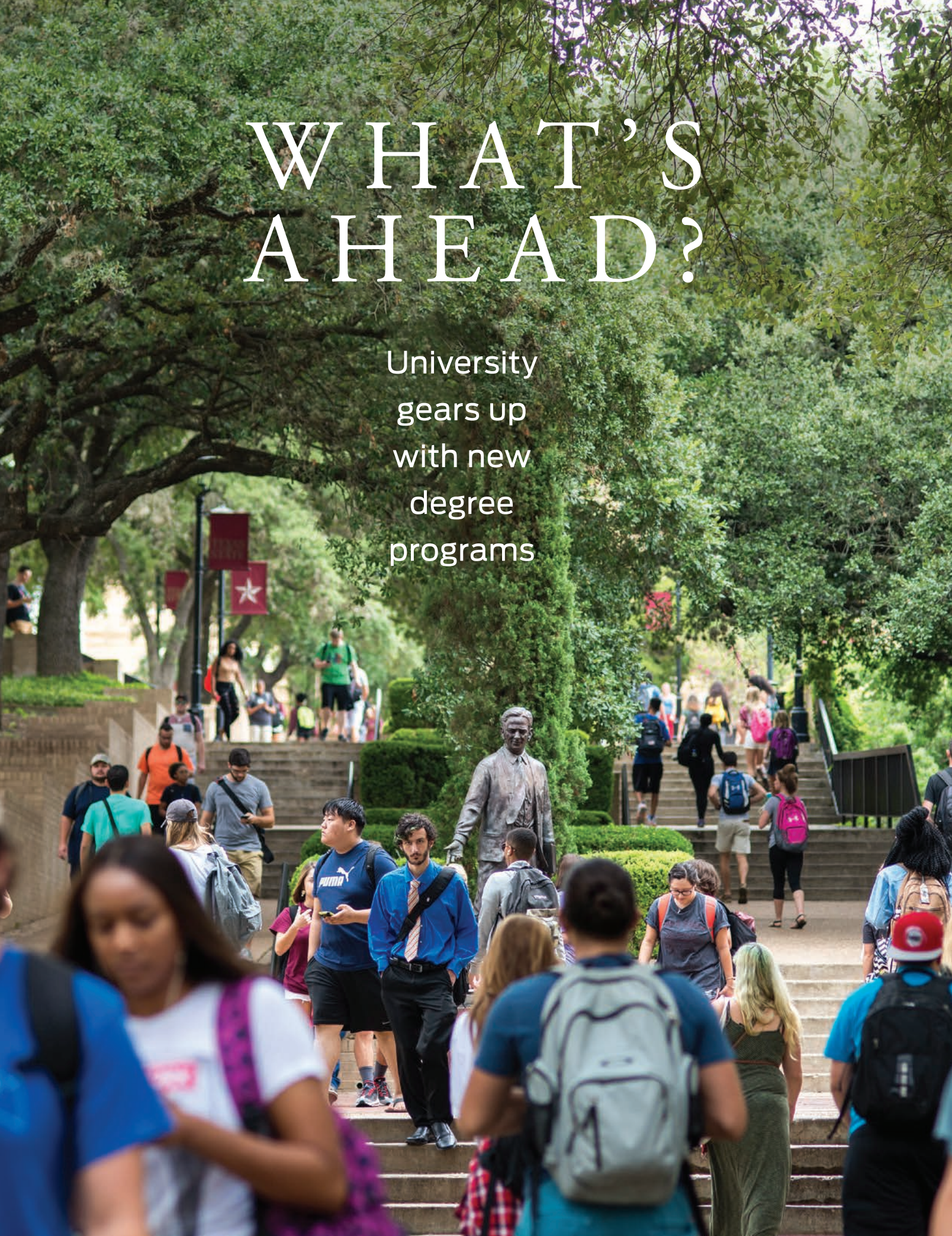
"We want students to know that they can engage with our office and that we are here to listen to what they have to say," she says.

The technological advancements are good news for students such as Brittany McKinney, a dance education major, who says she's endured her share of delayed or "too-full" buses that have made her late for class. And international studies major Andrew Kelliher says his one regret as a freshman was that he didn't use the bus. In that first year, he brought his car to campus and spent too much time looking for parking. Now in his third year and living in an off-campus apartment, Kelliher uses the shuttle all the time.

There could be more technology changes in transportation. The university is looking into an app that alerts motorists to open spaces in campus garages and a "print-at-home" system for special event parking permits. 🍷

WHAT'S AHEAD?

University
gears up
with new
degree
programs



By Julie Cooper

Careers in healthcare, engineering and technology are in high demand in Texas, so it's no surprise that Texas State University is adding new degrees with plans to add more over the next several years — as part of its strategic planning — that will prepare students for jobs in those and other critical disciplines.

Texas State plans on adding programs to help enhance the state's position as an economic powerhouse. In fall 2016, the university launched three new degree plans in two programs: a bachelor's degree in digital media innovation and mass communication; and master of science and a master of arts in sustainability studies. The first reflects changing trends in the media marketplace while the latter two focus on "environmental, economic and social implications of our human future," says Dr. Gwendolyn Hustvedt, associate professor in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences.

"Almost anything that human beings do in the economy will have a sustainability component," says Dr. Chad Smith, chair of sociology, which will administer the degree. Career placement for the programs' graduates will include city and county agencies, healthcare, retail, construction, tourism, energy, technology, and nonprofits.

A doctor of philosophy in computer science, set to begin in 2017, will be the first in the state to combine computer science with entrepreneurial and commercialization skills.

"The proposed 21st-century computer science Ph.D. program incorporates leadership, innovation, communication, and entrepreneurship to prepare students to navigate multiple career environments in academia, industry, nonprofit organizations, and government," says Dr. Hongchi Shi, chair of the Department of Computer Science.

According to the Texas Workforce Commission, the need for workers in Texas with doctoral degrees in computer science is growing rapidly and outpaces the predicted production of the existing Ph.D. programs in Texas. In addition to data from state and national labor market reports, the Department of Computer Science developed a software program to systematically collect and analyze the job postings on 18 relevant websites over a one-year period. This method resulted in 9,800 job postings stating that a Ph.D. in computer science or information technology is required or desired, but the United States only produces a total of 1,606 computer science Ph.D. graduates annually.

Other degrees that will be established over the next several years:

RESPIRATORY CARE

The master of science in respiratory care (MSRC) is planned for 2017. The MSRC program will be offered in an online delivery format and will offer practicing registered therapists the opportunity to pursue current and emerging knowledge with specific areas including a leadership track or the polysomnography (sleep study) track.

Dr. Gregg Marshall, chair of the Department of Respiratory Care and director of the Texas State Sleep Center, says the nationwide demand for respiratory therapy professionals increased 45 percent between 2013 and 2015. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has predicted that employment of respiratory therapists would grow 12

percent from 2014 to 2024 in the wake of an anticipated surge in respiratory conditions of middle-aged and elder populations.

"Within the respiratory therapy profession there is a rapidly growing demand for qualified leaders in the areas of education, management, and research at the graduate level," Marshall says.

APPLIED ANTHROPOLOGY

A doctoral program in applied anthropology at Texas State, now in the preliminary proposal stage, is expected to be the first of its kind in the state. The planned start date is in 2018.

"Texas State has two research centers that will provide unique, hands-on educational opportunities and training for Ph.D. students, ensuring they have the marketable skills needed for employment," says Dr. Elizabeth Erhart, associate professor and the chair of the Department of Anthropology.

There is a push for applied anthropologists in the job market, with career opportunities in nonacademic settings such as manufacturing and government jobs. Employers are eager to hire individuals with broad anthropological and interdisciplinary competence, analytical and data collection skills, and knowledge of business practices.

NURSING

Two new master's degrees, a nursing healthcare leadership degree, and a family psychiatric and mental health nurse practitioner (FPMHNP) are under development by St. David's School of Nursing. The program proposals are being written and, thanks in part to a \$3.1 million grant from the St. David's Foundation, the proposed start dates are 2017 and 2018.

"The addition of a family psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner program will allow Texas State to be part of the solution to the critical shortage of psychiatric mental health providers in Texas, while the Nursing Health Care Leadership Program will be positioned to improve healthcare delivery and patient outcomes from a systems perspective," says Dr. Marla Erbin-Rosemann, director and professor.

In Texas, nurse practitioners with master's degrees are among the fastest growing occupations. The occupation was expected to grow by 41 percent in the 10-year period ending in 2022. This growth rate translates into 400 job openings per year in Texas.

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

The Texas Workforce Commission predicts that employment of civil engineers will grow 30 percent in Texas over the next six years.

In May, The Texas State University System Board of Regents gave tentative approval for the university to develop a bachelor's in civil and environmental engineering beginning in 2019.

"It is envisioned that the program at Texas State will be very flexible for students, have strong ties with industry, and be collaborative with other programs on campus," says Dr. John Schemmel, associate chair in the Department of Engineering Technology. "This will help make the program at Texas State truly unique compared to traditional civil and environmental engineering programs." 🌟

Move-in days

More than 5,200 students moved into Texas State residence halls during move-in days August 20-21. This year's move-in theme — seen on T-shirts around campus — was “Let’s Settle In.”

Approximately 92 percent of new freshmen reside in university housing, according to the Department of Housing and Residential Life. Incoming freshmen under age 20 are required to live on campus, if they have fewer than 30 credit hours. Another 400-plus students, including athletes, Bobcat Marching Band members, and Strutters, arrived on campus earlier.

More than 200 full-time staff assisted residence staff over the course of the move-in weekend with the aid of more than 300 student volunteers.

Two new residence halls, Angelina and San Gabriel, opened in the fall and house 598 students. 🍷





OPPOSITE PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

Volunteers in 'Let's Settle In' shirts give Bobcat parents a hand with the heavy lifting.

Wildlife biology major Daryl Lewis makes up his bed in Angelina Hall, one of the newest residences for 2016. His mom, aunt, uncle, and cousins from Houston came along for move-in day.

THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:

The move-in day started at Jowers with check-in, distribution of a parking pass, and a shiny key. The lines moved relatively swiftly when some 5,200 students moved in over a two-day period.

Miranda Capaletti, a freshman from Kingwood, helps assemble a bed frame in Sayers Hall. Miranda followed older sister Antonia, a senior, to Texas State.

Freshman Kayla McLean (left) from Rosenberg meets resident assistant Makia Taylor in Beretta Hall on move-in day.

Photos by Stephanie Schulz

UNIVERSITY *Events* — CENTER —

By Anastasia
Cisneros-Lunsford



The new front entrance of the University Events Center will face Aquarena Springs Drive in this architectural rendering.



Say goodbye to the wall at Strahan Arena. The expansion of the arena with the addition of a University Events Center will not only put more Bobcats in seats for commencement and freshman orientation but also fulfills the need for additional academic space next door at Jowers Center.

The expansion project will add 81,300 square feet of space including 2,500 more fixed seats and 288 chairs, bringing the arena's capacity to nearly 10,000 seats. Athletic offices at the adjacent Jowers Center, which needs additional space for classrooms, will be moved to the new complex. The new center is expected to be completed in time for fall 2018.

"We have a long history and tradition of allowing students to bring guests to graduation," says Eric Algoe, vice president for Finance and Support Services. "It's especially important considering the large number of first-generation college students we have. We don't want to start limiting that."

Commencement ceremonies are typically capped at 600 to 700 graduates to accommodate guests, Algoe says. Last May, some 4,600 graduation candidates were eligible to walk the stage, and the university held seven ceremonies over three days. The university community is resistant to adding a fourth day, Algoe says.

Then there's the case of Jowers Center. The Department of Health and Human Performance has been sharing the building with the Division of Dance, and the Departments of Athletics and Campus Recreation. "We have programs that need more classrooms," he says. "We need faculty offices and laboratory space for research."

Duane Knudson, chair of the Department of Health and Human Performance (HHP), says undergraduate and graduate programs, which includes the department's nationally accredited programs in athletic training and

recreation, have grown 150 percent over the past 13 years. In 2002, there were 1,309 HHP majors. In 2015, the number grew to 3,277.

With athletics and recreational sports vacating Jowers, the department will have its much-needed academic space and the Division of Dance will gain additional studio space.

Drivers on the new overpass being built on Aquarena Springs Drive will have a very different experience from what they have today. "At the top of the overpass, which will be almost as high as the football stadium, you'll be looking at the new plaza of the University Events Center as you're cresting the hill," Algoe says. "It will be a powerful first impression."

"We have a long history and tradition of allowing students to bring guests to graduation," says Eric Algoe, vice president for Finance and Support Services. "We don't want to start limiting that."

A plaza will be the new front door for the building with the iconic tower and dramatic arch elements adding to the flavor of the architecture that characterizes Texas State.

Strahan Arena will continue to be used for athletic events, commencement, and convocation during the construction project. The final result should be well worth it. ☆



On stage at Texas State

The following theatre productions will be on stage this spring. Tickets are available through Texas State Presents, txstatepresents.universitytickets.com; or by calling the box office at (512) 245-6500.

February 2-5

Lyon's Den, by TJ Young

February 14-19

The World According to Snoopy, Musical based on the comic strip Peanuts by Charles M. Schulz

March 2-5

The Marriage of Bette & Boo, by Christopher Durang

April 4-9

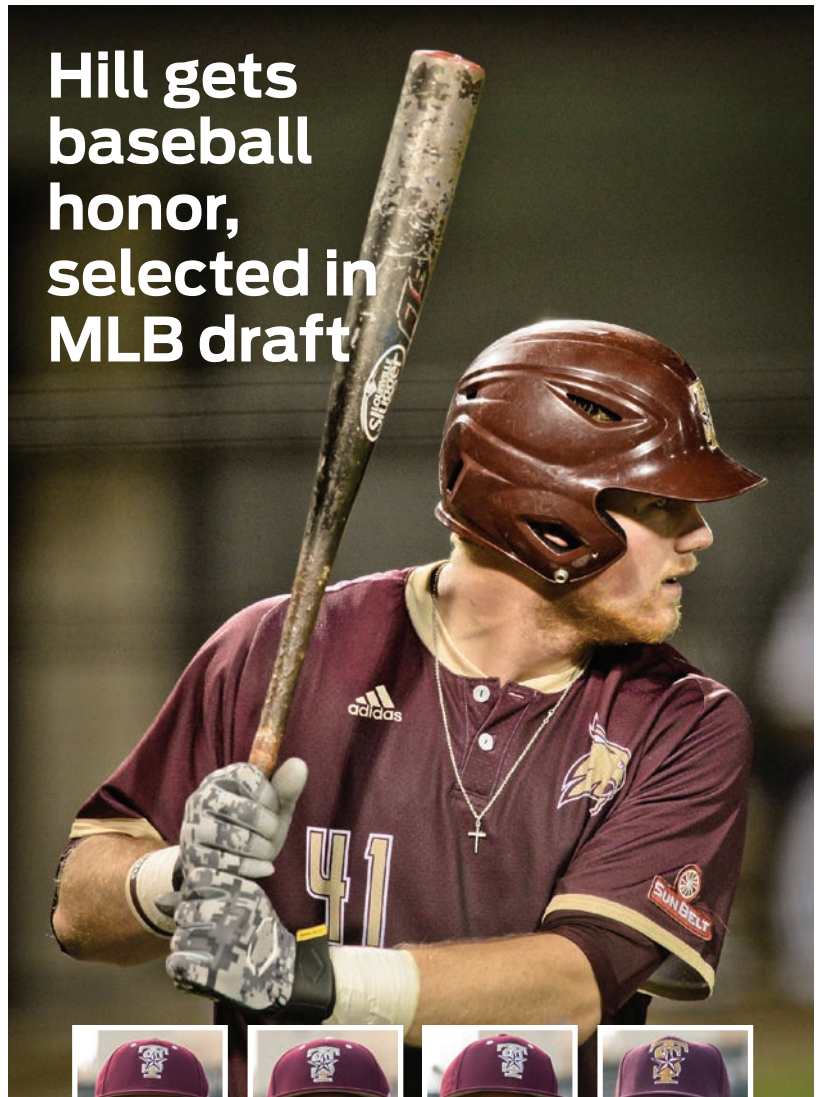
Intimate Apparel by Lynn Nottage

April 25-30

5 Women Wearing the Same Dress, by Alan Ball

KUDOS TO...

Hill gets baseball honor, selected in MLB draft



Jonathan Hennigan



Granger Studdard



Pasquale Mazzoccoli



Lucas Humpal

Texas State's **Tanner Hill** (above) was named a Louisville Slugger All-American and selected by the Arizona Diamondbacks in the 2016 Major League Baseball Draft. Hill, a San Marcos native, was one of just seven first basemen in all of NCAA Division I Baseball to be recognized as an All-American, garnering third-team honors on the All-American team for his prolific season. A Sun Belt First-Team All-Conference selection this season, Hill finished the year hitting .321 with 77 hits, 18 doubles, and a conference-leading 15 home runs. He had 42 RBIs with 43 runs scored. The senior led the team in batting average, hits, RBIs, runs, homers, doubles, and slugging percentage.

Other Bobcats selected in the 2016 MLB Draft include **Jonathan Hennigan** (Philadelphia Phillies), **Granger Studdard** (Boston Red Sox), **Pasquale Mazzoccoli** (Pittsburgh Pirates), and **Lucas Humpal** (Baltimore Orioles).

New coaches for women's golf

Lisa Strom is the new head coach for the women's golf program, joining Texas State after five and a half seasons as assistant coach for the Ohio State Buckeyes. A native of South Dakota, Strom graduated from Ohio State in 2000 with a degree in exercise science. She turned pro that same year and has competed in more than 50 LPGA events. In July, former LPGA professional **Jenny Gleason** joined Strom's staff as assistant coach. For the last three years, Gleason has also been an instructor for the Air Force Golf program held on bases around the world including in the United States, Korea, and Japan. Gleason traveled the world and performed clinics for U.S. servicemen and women. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro with a degree in finance.



Lisa Strom

Jenny Gleason

Texas State in Peace Corps' top Hispanic-Serving schools

The Peace Corps has named Texas State University among the nation's top volunteer-producing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) for 2016.

Texas State ranked No. 10 on the Peace Corps' annual rankings, with nine alumni currently serving. The school last appeared on the top HSIs list in 2014. Since the Peace Corps was established in 1961, 235 alumni from Texas State have traveled abroad to serve as volunteers.

"Graduates of Hispanic-Serving Institutions come to Peace Corps with a strong educational background and the flexibility and curiosity needed to make an impact in communities around the world," says Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet. "Volunteers with different talents, viewpoints, experiences, and backgrounds demonstrate to people across all corners of the world what it means to be an American."



ACCOLADES

Outstanding dissertation

Dr. Anne Li Kringen, who earned her Ph.D. in criminal justice, has received The Graduate College's Outstanding Dissertation Award in the Social



Sciences, Business, and Education. Her dissertation, "Understanding Barriers that Affect Recruiting and Retaining Female

Police Officers: A Mixed Method Approach," was directed by Dr. Joycelyn Pollock, University Distinguished Professor in the School of Criminal Justice.

As the winner of the 2016 competition, Kringen will receive \$1,000 and be recognized at The Graduate College's Awards Ceremony in April 2017. She is also entered in the Council of Graduate Schools' national competition for best dissertation in the above-mentioned category.



For 1,899 minutes, from 8 a.m. September 21 to 3:39 p.m. September 22, the Texas State community came together for its first online fundraising event. The goal this year was to spread awareness and encourage broad participation. Bobcats everywhere stepped up — from Hong Kong and Switzerland to San Marcos. Funds will benefit a total of 15 projects.

\$221,824

raised from

3,023

gifts

(class)views



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Texas State honored six new Distinguished Alumni during Homecoming Week in October. With these newest honorees, the Alumni Association and the university have now presented the most prestigious award to 198 graduates since the first was given to then-U.S. Sen. Lyndon Baines Johnson in 1959.

The Young Alumni Rising Star Award was created in 2015 to recognize young alumni for their exceptional achievements and outstanding accomplishments in their profession, affiliations, and service. The three recipients of this award have demonstrated a level of excellence that positively represents the university and serves to inspire current students and other recent graduates to excel in their work and recognize the important impact of their experience as a student at Texas State.



SCOTT EMERSON '75

After making his entry into the business world, Scott Emerson hit on an idea to create an industry around making other businesses better, more efficient, and focused on their goals. He brought that vision to life as founder and CEO of The Emerson Group.

He started the company more than 20 years ago, after honing his skills and insight at Johnson & Johnson, Unilever, and Novartis Consumer Health. What began as a sales management company has grown to include Emerson Marketing, Emerson Healthcare, and Emerson Consulting.

Today, The Emerson Group is a truly global company, with partners in Europe, Asia, and North and South America, connecting suppliers and retailers of health and beauty products from around the world, and managing more than \$3.2 billion in retail brand volume annually.

As a student, Emerson was the embodiment of school spirit, showing his Bobcat pride as head cheerleader for two years. Throughout his exceptional career, he has supported a multitude of nonprofit, charitable, and educational organizations.

RON LYNN MITCHELL '72

Austin native and vice chairman/president/CEO of the Horseshoe Bay Resort, Ron Lynn Mitchell has been a leader in the company since taking the reins as director of sales and membership in 1974. Overseeing its growth and development in a variety of roles with the company for more than 40 years, he has helped Horseshoe Bay become an internationally recognized destination.

The first in his family to attend and graduate from college, Mitchell has made hard work and giving back to his community priorities ever since his days in student government at Texas State. Throughout his career he has spent untold hours volunteering with a long list of local nonprofits in the communities of Horseshoe Bay and Marble Falls, including co-founding CASA of Burnet County (now CASA of the Highland Lakes Area), an advocacy group serving abused and neglected children.

Mitchell has stayed active with the university, including serving a six-year term on The Texas State University System Board of Regents, with two terms as vice chair. He has also served for 10 years on the Texas State Foundation Board, and is a past president of the Alumni Association.



DIANA MCGINTY SCHICK '71

Diana McGinty Schick has traveled the globe in her lifelong work as an internationally renowned Christian author, speaker, and advocate for Christian outreach and ministry. But no matter how far she travels, she is never far from her roots at Texas State University.

A second-generation Bobcat and a four-year Strutter, McGinty's commitment to Christian outreach began with a New Testament religion course during her junior year. Soon after graduation, she joined Campus Crusade for Christ (now CRU International). What began as one-on-one meetings with students and school leaders and faith outreach in juvenile detention facilities grew to serving as director of training for CRU's national high school ministry.

In 1978, she joined CRU's Christian Embassy, where she worked with cabinet and congressional officials, as well as foreign diplomats, including one year as a consultant to Charles Malik, Lebanon's ambassador to the U.S., a founding delegate to the United Nations, and co-author of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In 1985, McGinty left CRU to found Creative Living International, a nonprofit organization through which she's authored, published, and distributed 25 "user-friendly" Bible study books, with translations into nine languages. Her books have been used by thousands of Bible study groups nationally and internationally, and in prison ministries.

ERNIE W. SADAU '85

As president and CEO of CHRISTUS Health, Ernie W. Sadau oversees one of the 10 largest Catholic healthcare systems in the nation, with a growing international network serving communities from Texas and Louisiana to Mexico, Chile, and Colombia.

Since earning his master's degree in hospital administration from Texas State University, Sadau has been an industry leader, from building hospitals from the ground up to expanding healthcare systems in Florida and Chicago before returning home to Texas.

Under his leadership, CHRISTUS Health's assets have grown by over \$2 billion in less than two years. CHRISTUS is now the second-largest not-for-profit healthcare system in Texas, including more than 50 hospitals, long-term acute care facilities, retirement centers and more across three states. In 2016, CHRISTUS provided more than \$250 million in community benefits to the markets they serve.

His initiative helped earn CHRISTUS recognition as a "Most Wired" healthcare system by the American Hospital Association's (AHA) Health Forum and the Diversity and Equity of Care Award by AHA this year.

**JIM WEST '77**

As president of Jet Maintenance, Inc., Capital Star Oil and Gas, and Modelo Energy, Jim West has spent more than three decades as a valued partner of many energy sector leaders, including Exxon, Cabot Oil and Gas, and BHP Billiton Petroleum. Modelo Energy, in partnership with Callex Production of London, England, has discovered a productive oil and gas field in Lavaca County.

Fans of NCAA golf already know his name from the Jim West Challenge, one of the nation's premier collegiate golf invitational tournaments, an event he founded with Texas State University Athletics, which regularly hosts some of the best young golf talent from the ACC, Big 12, SEC and Sun Belt conferences, as well as players from around the world.

Jet Maintenance, is still headquartered in Victoria, where he and his wife, Carol West, are as enthusiastic and engaged in community service as they are dedicated to upholding the legacy of Texas State.

From supporting Victoria's Bluebonnet Youth Ranch to serving abused and neglected children and organizing volunteers and donations to help Hurricane Katrina refugees who sought shelter in Victoria, West has led by example ever since his days as a student in San Marcos.

MARVIN WHITELEY '97

Since his time as a graduate student at Texas State University, Marvin Whiteley has been driven to expand the boundaries of microbiology research. His peers now recognize him as a creative, dynamic force in the world of microbiology.

Whiteley earned his master's degree in biology from Texas State in 1997 and his doctorate in microbiology from the University of Iowa in 2001. He performed post-doctoral work at Stanford University until 2002.

After joining The University of Texas at Austin in 2006, Whiteley rapidly rose from assistant professor to full professor and director of the John R. LaMontagne Center for Infectious Disease. His contributions to microbiology and biomedical research have been recognized with national and international awards, including being selected as a Burroughs Wellcome Investigator in Pathogenesis of Infectious Disease and receiving the Merck Irving S. Sigal Memorial Award in 2008, one of only two awards given by the American Society for Microbiology for excellence in basic research in medical microbiology and infectious disease.

Whiteley has also been a tireless volunteer in the scientific community, serving as a permanent member of a National Institutes of Health Review Panel and a member of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Research and Training Committee.



YOUNG ALUMNI RISING STARS



ROBERT E. BARDWELL II '00

Robert E. Bardwell II has been advancing mankind's path to the stars as a rocket propulsion engineer for NASA, and Texas State University was the launching pad for his brilliant career.

A self-described Army brat, Bardwell came to the university with his eyes on the heavens. For stage one of his ascent, he blazed through a demanding three-year undergraduate physics program. He went on to complete two master's degrees before starting his career with United Space Alliance as a propulsion systems analyst.

His trajectory took him through increasingly advanced positions with the iconic aerospace company Boeing and with NASA. Today he continues to work with both organizations to develop the next generation of American space launch systems.

Bardwell has been honored with the Stellar Award from the Rotary National Awards for Space Achievement and the NASA Space Flight Awareness Award. As his star continues to rise, Bardwell is helping other aspiring engineers by serving as a mentor to high school and college interns at Boeing and through the National Society of Black Engineers.

LINDSAY M. BIRA '08

A fourth-generation Bobcat and clinical psychologist, Dr. Lindsay M. Bira recently joined the world's leading consortium to research and alleviate post-traumatic stress disorder, STRONG STAR (South Texas Research Organizational Network Guiding Studies on Trauma and Resiliency).

Finding inspiration and purpose in a bad situation, Bira became interested in studying how we deal with stress and trauma by observing how she and her family coped after their home was destroyed in a fire.

After earning a degree in psychology at Texas State, Bira earned her master's degree and Ph.D. from the University of Miami and completed her residency at Harvard Medical School.

Since joining STRONG STAR, she has been an advocate for people dealing with mental health and PTSD issues, appearing in radio and television interviews to help bridge the gap between clinical work and public understanding. In particular, she wants to dispel the stigma many people associate with mental health therapy.



ERIC S. WEAVER '00

A native of Temple and president of Innovista Health Solutions, Eric S. Weaver grew up with a commitment to serve his community in Central Texas, reflected in his lifelong involvement with service organizations and his nationally recognized leadership in providing exemplary healthcare services.

During his tenure at HCA Physician Services, he took one of the network's practices from a last-place ranking in patient satisfaction to first place out of HCA's 700-plus physician practices nationally. This spectacular turnaround helped earn Weaver the American College of Healthcare Executives, 2016 Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award for Young Healthcare Executive of the Year.

As a student at Texas State, Weaver was active with student government while earning a bachelor's degree in clinical laboratory science and a master's degree in healthcare administration.

His volunteer activities include participating in a healthcare research delegation in Cuba, and serving as current board chairman of CareBOX Program, an Austin-based nonprofit that provides at-home health supplies and support for cancer patients.

In pursuit of education

Psychology graduate finds forever family, love of learning



“FOR ME, EDUCATION
ISN’T A GOAL, IT’S
A NEVER-ENDING
PROCESS.”

— KEIMCHE WICKHAM

By Alex Dominguez

For Keimche Wickham, a 23-year-old graduate student, the formal process of education began when she convinced her father to allow her to attend public school rather than continuing to be homeschooled on their Fredericksburg ranch.

“I use the term ‘homeschooled’ loosely,” Keimche [pronounced kem-shay] says. “My father did not believe in formal education, but he taught me to read.”

Today, Keimche is working on her master’s degree, having recently graduated from Texas State with a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a minor in English. While an undergraduate, Keimche worked more than 30 hours a week and participated in the FACES (Foster Care Alumni Creating Education Success) program, Psi Chi Honor Society, the Honors College, and Bobcat PRIDE (People Respecting Individuality, Diversity, and Equality). It is her participation in PRIDE that inspired her honors thesis, which explores environmental factors that may influence a person’s sexual preference. By working with officers from PRIDE, Transcend, and Lambda, she was able to recruit more than 100 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered participants for the second phase of the project.

It was that drive for education that changed Keimche. When she entered middle school at age 12, it was the first time that she held a textbook. “I remember two teachers in particular, Mrs. White and Mr. Shipley, who would work outside of the class with me extensively to get me caught up with my peers,” she says. “Looking back, I can’t imagine what it was like for them. I remember that was the first time someone had faith in me to learn and I wasn’t going to let them down.”

She began her freshman year of high school with as many Advanced Placement classes as the schedule would allow. While her educational foundation

was flourishing, Keimche’s personal life was deteriorating, and at age 15 she became a ward of the state. She says that she knew her chances of remaining at a youth ranch were much higher than finding an adoptive family.

Enter Shauna and Thomas Wickham, licensed professional counselors and the parents of three boys. Until the day they met Keimche, the Wickhams had no intention of adopting.

“I saw Keimche across the room (at the youth shelter), went over to talk to her, and my heart melted,” Shauna Wickham says. When her husband met Keimche, he said, ‘You do whatever you can to get that child in our house.’”

That’s how Keimche found her forever family in Kerrville. “All of the pain I had felt, all of the loss I had endured was taken away the moment I met (my mom). I knew the moment I laid eyes on her that God put her into my life. It also takes a special kind of father to step into a girl’s life and put back the pieces of a broken childhood, to restore trust and faith into her heart that another man took away.”

Twister Marquiss, a lecturer in the Department of English, says Keimche is both inspired and inspiring. “She’s remarkable. She’s set to publish her recent research, despite having to overcome many educational and personal obstacles in her early life,” he says.

Keimche hopes her journey will continue as she pursues a master’s degree in marriage and family therapy at Texas State. “After graduation I want to work closely with youth in foster care or who are going through the process of adoption. I knew I was lucky to be given the opportunity that I received when I was 15, but I didn’t realize the value of that opportunity. As I get older, I realize now how blessed I have been and I want to do what I can to give back.”

Making a difference

Peace Corps veteran helps students with college dream

By Bryan Kirk

Shawn Reagan has always been a bit of a dreamer. Many of these dreams were born from the pages of books that fed his desire for adventure. To him, it has always been about the journey.

“I have been trying to get out of Houston and explore the world for as long as I can remember,” says Reagan, 30, who graduated from Texas State University in 2010 with a bachelor’s in English and a concentration in creative writing.

Today Reagan is back home in Houston working as a trainer for the Posse Foundation where he channels his creativity into helping students realize their dreams of a college education, and become young leaders of the 21st century. Like some of the young people he helps today, Reagan didn’t have a real clear plan when he graduated from high school. He just knew he wanted to get away, and eventually go to college. “Texas State was actually my fifth college,” Reagan says. “I had a bit of a meander to get there.”

In September 2005, while attending the University of Houston, Reagan and many others were forced to evacuate as Hurricane Rita threatened Galveston. “I had a friend going to Texas State at the time, and that’s actually when I came up,” he says. Reagan toured the campus, and even sat in on a lecture in one of his friend’s classes. He was hooked.

“There was a feeling of vibrancy that I hadn’t seen at any of the other schools,” he recalls. One of his first memories as a student at Texas State was walking past a coffee shop and hearing students talk about the books they were reading, or had read. “People were just excited to be there, and I was too,” he says.

In 2007, Reagan traveled to Ireland through a study-abroad program that included his professors, Dr. Steve Wilson

and Dr. Nancy Wilson. “Going to Ireland is one thing, but going with the Wilsons was unparalleled,” Reagan says. “Steve really encouraged me to think beyond what I wanted to do otherwise. He pushed me to follow those ideas that might be wild, and try and make them work.”

The trip piqued his interest in traveling and exploring the world. Following graduation, Reagan joined the Peace Corps for two years, and his travels took him to the Republic of Malawi, a small landlocked country in southeastern Africa. He spent two months training to teach English as a second language, financial planning, and life skills to secondary students.

Although rewarding, it was somewhat frustrating because many students couldn’t continue their education because they needed to support their families. He transferred to another village to work at a teachers college, which he says was even more rewarding.

It was tough to leave at the end of his two-year commitment. “It was scary to leave this whole life that I’d come to love and appreciate,” he says.

Not long after he returned from Malawi, he was offered a job with the Posse Foundation. With 10 chapters in major cities throughout the United States, the foundation identifies public high school students with extraordinary academic and leadership potential who may be overlooked by traditional college selection processes.

The 27-year-old organization provides students an opportunity to pursue personal and academic excellence by placing them in supportive, multicultural teams. Partner colleges and universities often award Posse Scholars four-year, full-tuition leadership scholarships.

Today, Reagan is pleased to help young men and women, who, like him, are looking forward to their own life journeys. “It’s really exciting,” he says. “I felt like the one path I’ve followed is to help people find opportunities where they have not been able to see them before.”





Good cup of coffee brews up family business

Alumni find their independence in Brenham

By Amanda Beck

Partners in business and in marriage, Ragan and Christi Bond are the founders of Independence Coffee in Brenham, Texas. From graduating from Texas State University in 1987 to roasting their first batch of coffee and then becoming successful entrepreneurs, the couple has done everything together.

The Bonds — Ragan is from Brownfield and Christi grew up in New Mexico and Arizona — transferred to Texas State after their sophomore year at Angelo State University. As married undergraduates, they lived in housing behind Bobcat Stadium and supported themselves by doing odd jobs. Finances were tight, but the Bonds figured out ways to make ends meet. Christi remembers sharing textbooks and eating leftovers. “We would go to the local chicken place and buy a box of day-old chicken — 12 pieces for \$3 — freeze it, and eat off it for a week,” she says.

While much of their time outside of class was spent working, there was fun. “We were studying at the river; we were floating the river. It was always free!” Ragan recalls. The pair graduated with degrees in business administration. “Overall, it was a wonderful experience,” he says.

In 2001, after years of living in Houston where Ragan worked at Enron, the Bonds moved to Brenham. While driving through town one day, they spotted an old soda shop that Ragan thought would make an ideal coffee shop. A few weeks later, they were owners of Independence Coffee.

“Coffee had been at the back of my mind since 1994 when a friend brought me some Ethiopian coffee and it was the most amazing thing I’d tasted,” Ragan says. By 2003, the Bonds had begun roasting their own beans, but Ragan still commuted to Houston each day and roasted coffee at night. By 2005, demand grew to the point that the couple decided to devote all their time to the business.

“We didn’t get paid for a while, but we also didn’t want to have debt over our heads,” Ragan says. Having their own business, however, gave them freedom to be more involved in their family. When their children were younger, the entire family would make deliveries after school. Sometimes their three children did homework in the back of their delivery van.

A big break came after the couple approached grocery giant H-E-B about



carrying their coffee. They started in one location and within four months grew to a dozen. Six months later, their coffee was in 60 stores. Now, the coffee is available in more than 500 H-E-B locations.

The Bonds still maintain a proud connection to their Bobcat roots. Their daughter, Madalyn, graduated in December 2015 with a B.F.A. in theatre. In partnership with the university, the Bonds now have several special-label coffees just for Bobcat fans. These include “Spirit of Texas State,” “Circa 1899 Texas Pecan,” “Boko Blend,” and “Bobcat Days: Texas State Morning Brew.” All are for sale from their online store and will soon be available at other outlets, including the university bookstore.

“I get the chills thinking about being able to send out a bag of coffee with a Bobcat on the label,” Ragan says.

“COFFEE HAD BEEN AT THE BACK OF MY MIND SINCE 1994 WHEN A FRIEND BROUGHT ME SOME ETHIOPIAN COFFEE AND IT WAS THE MOST AMAZING THING I’D TASTED.”

— RAGAN BOND

More information

ON THE WEB: independencecoffee.com



1 Ross Stonecipher

1 Ross Stonecipher '81

Atlanta, Georgia, recently joined Building Champions as an executive coach. Prior to joining the Oregon-based professional coaching firm company, Stonecipher was president of RBS Management and specialized in strategic planning, project management, and innovation.

Greg Schuelke '85

Houston, has joined the law firm of HSSK as director of the company's Houston office. A certified public accountant, fraud examiner, and valuation analyst who is also certified in financial forensics, Schuelke was previously director of financial advisory services for RSM US LLP.

Heather Jobe '00

Dallas, was named to the Texas Rising Stars list published by *Super Lawyers* and featured in *Texas Monthly*. She is a partner with Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP and handles bankruptcy- and business-related litigation, with a concentration on valuation issues. Jobe is a graduate of Texas Tech School of Law. This is her fifth consecutive selection to the Texas Rising Stars list.



2 Priscilla Delgado

2 Priscilla Delgado '05

San Marcos, was among 24 librarians in Texas chosen to attend the TALL Texans Leadership Development Institute, sponsored by the Texas Library Association. Delgado is the library and information literacy specialist at Bowie Elementary.

Justin Graf '05

San Antonio, was promoted to senior specialty sales consultant at Pierre Fabre Pharmaceuticals. He works with Children's Hospitals throughout Texas selling a medication for tumors in infants.

William McWhorter '05

Kyle, has been named executive director of the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission. He previously served as the Texas Historical Commission's military sites program coordinator.

Christie Grimes '06

Sacket's Harbor, New York, is the author of *Finding Fruit Among the Thorns* (Jane's Boy Press, 2016), a book of poetry about a Texan's experiences living in New York. Grimes teaches at SUNY Jefferson, leads community writing workshops and craft seminars, and hosts the annual North Country Writers Festival and contest, as well as the monthly reading and performance series.



3 Corinne Wall

3 Corinne Wall '11

San Antonio, was named the Secondary School of Science and Technology Teacher of the Year. She teaches eighth-grade math at SST-Discovery and serves as the math department chair and a mentor teacher.



4 Sara Torres

4 Sara Torres '16

San Marcos, was recently honored by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics. A 15-year veteran of San Marcos CISD, she is currently a STEM teacher at Travis Elementary.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Ivan Wilson (B.S. '52) who was named a Distinguished Alumni by the university in 1994, died March 30 in Corpus Christi. Born September 16, 1927, in Kerrville, Wilson began his career with Corpus Christi Bank and Trust and rose to chairman of the board and chief executive officer of First City Bancorporation. He served as chairman of the board of the Texas Bankers Association and numerous community boards, including the United Way of the Coastal Bend, Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce, the Del Mar College Board of Regents, and the Coastal Bend Community Foundation. He was preceded in death by his wife, Lola, and is survived by four sons, 10 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.



Pat Murdock (B.A. '62/M.A. '69), who spent the majority of her 40-year career at Texas State University, died September 22 in San Marcos. When Murdock retired in 2007, President Denise M. Trauth said, "In her long career, she has epitomized the concept of 'town-gown' relation. Her volunteer spirit is unrivaled in San Marcos."

Born August 30, 1939, in Elgin to Leo and Stella Dismukes, she served as news and information service director from 1971 to 1994. She was a founder and board member of the LBJ Museum, a founding member of the Retired Faculty and Staff Association, and the first recipient of the Alumni Association's Key of Excellence Award. A scholarship fund has been established in her memory.

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The (last) view

A beautifully landscaped Bobcat Trail reopened in time for the fall semester following a \$5.5 million redevelopment. The pedestrian-friendly area now boasts more trees, seating, and a bubbling fountain.

Photo by Stephanie Schulz.



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from the collections



Watching the Dancers, 1922, by Edward S. Curtis.

AT THE WITTLIFF COLLECTIONS

Edward S. Curtis: Treasures from *The North American Indian*

OPENING JANUARY 17, 2017

The Wittliff Collections recently acquired a majority of *The North American Indian*, photographer Edward S. Curtis' landmark publication produced between 1907 and 1930. The limited edition set is comprised of 20 bound volumes of text, supplemented with 20 portfolios, all richly illustrated with Curtis' remarkable photographs.

Intended by Curtis to document the "vanishing race," *The North American Indian*, produced in lavish style with the patronage of J. Pierpont Morgan, contains one of the largest visual and ethnographic records of Native Americans in existence. According to author and critic A.D. Coleman, it is "an absolutely unmatched masterpiece of visual anthropology, and one of the most thorough, extensive, and profound photograph works of all time."

The publication's bound volumes contain descriptive text on various Native American tribes, ranging geographically from the Plains and the Southwest, to the Northwest and Alaska. Each volume is richly illustrated with 5-by-7-inch photogravures. The portfolios contain photogravures measuring just over 22 by 18 inches.

The exhibition, which will be on view through the fall 2017 semester, presents nearly 50 of these magnificent portfolio prints, plus several of the smaller illustrations in the bound volumes.

To learn more, visit www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu.