

# Sombrilla

The University of Texas at San Antonio

MAGAZINE

Fall 2004  
Vol. 21, No. 1



Following UTSA's **Blueprint for the Future**







FALL 2004

# Sombrilla

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Illustration by Joel Nakamura.  
[www.joelnakamura.com](http://www.joelnakamura.com)

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UTSA men's club lacrosse team at play.  
Photo by Mark McClendon.



Sombrilla Magazine  
Fall 2004, Volume 21, Number 1

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#### Write back!

We welcome your letters pertaining to Sombrilla's content. Please send them by mail or e-mail to the addresses below. Letters may be edited for length or clarity.

Sombrilla Magazine is published three times a year by the Office of University Publications, UTSA, 6900 North Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, Texas 78249-0619. It is mailed without charge to alumni, faculty, staff and friends of The University of Texas at San Antonio.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

### Get out the good china.

"Please excuse the Is-This-You? e-mail, but I'm looking for the Megan Mastal who used to work at UTSA in 1984 ..."

The power of the Internet is scary sometimes. One morning last summer I started asking some of the old-timers around the office whatever happened to the first editor of *Sombrilla*, which the university launched it in the fall of 1984. So we Googled her, found a name match and sent off the above e-mail at 10:48 a.m. By 10:56, we had a reply—"Yes, I am she"—and by 3 o'clock that afternoon I was chatting on the phone with the person who had my job 20 years before I did.

Scary, huh?

Luckily Megan Mastal wasn't scared off by my tracking her down. On the contrary, she was happy to hear that *Sombrilla* is still around and celebrating its 20th anniversary. And she was happy to talk with me about the few years she worked at the university.

"Universities are wonderful, wonderful places to work," she said. "The pay isn't necessarily wonderful, but the people you get to work with and the kinds of work are really fascinating." (Megan, who is now a senior vice president and general manager with communications firm Hill & Knowlton in Houston, and I agreed not to talk salaries.)

She told me the decision to start the magazine had been inspired, in part, the year before by the 10-year anniversary of the university's opening. I told Megan that UTSA was this year celebrating the 35th anniversary of its founding by the Legislature.

In 1984, UTSA's News and Information Office held a contest to name the new magazine, but it was a staff writer who suggested naming it after the courtyard next to the administration building. Just as that area was a central gathering space on campus, the magazine should be a space for its readers to

congregate. "I don't know if you still call it that ..." Megan wondered, but I assured her that the name had stuck, for the courtyard as well as the magazine.

Megan told me another push with the launch of the magazine was to computerize the university's alumni mailing list. Until 1984, they were using an old punch card system for maintaining all the data. When an alum moved or changed their telephone number, well, time to get out the Liquid Paper. Nowadays, I usually get address updates by e-mail, and I forward them to the appropriate offices.

One of the stories in the first *Sombrilla* was about the university's record-breaking fall enrollment of 12,612 students, and Megan was stunned when I told her that this year's enrollment would more than double that figure. The first issue of *Sombrilla* was 16 pages, and this issue is double that, too (but still not enough space to tell all the stories we want to. As Megan said to me, "There are so many interesting things that happen in a university environment. ... It was never like you lacked for potential copy.")

*Sombrilla* was created in 1984 to celebrate how far the university had come and tell the university's many constituents about where it was going next. Twenty years later, we're still doing the same thing.

Happy anniversary, UTSA. And happy anniversary, *Sombrilla*.

— Rebecca Luther



## Homecoming 2005

UTSA celebrates its 20th homecoming Feb. 25–27 with the theme “Homecoming 2005: X Marks the Spot—35 and Soaring!” Familiar traditions such as the golf cart parade and tailgate party highlight the three-day event. Three other UTSA traditions have moved to homecoming weekend, so that Diploma Dash and Family Weekend are now part of the festivities, along with the UTSA Alumni Association’s Life Member Salute.

Meanwhile, alumni can see how the campus has changed with daily campus tours, or network with fellow alumni at the golf outing. Homecoming 2005 offers several opportunities to catch up with old friends, culminating Feb. 26 in a basketball doubleheader against UT Arlington at the Convocation Center. Following the games, Floore’s Country Store will host a Roadrunner Roundup concert.

For more information about Homecoming 2005 events or special UTSA hotel rates, go to [www.utsa.edu/alumni](http://www.utsa.edu/alumni) or call (210) 458-4133.



## Write back

### Letters from Sombrilla readers

#### TALKING TURKISH

As an undergraduate at UTSA, I was an intern in the Office of Communications. As part of my duties, I wrote for *Sombrilla*. Because of that connection, I always enjoy reading *Sombrilla*, but I found particular joy reading the summer issue “Editor’s Note.” I lived in Turkey for two years, and while I was not a student and I did not receive any formal language training, I was enveloped in the Turkish culture. I am so happy to learn there is a Turkish group at UTSA, and that they are sharing their heritage with others.

Thank you very much. Çok tesekkür ederim.

Patti McKeever Yeich '91  
San Antonio

#### A MEMBER OF THE FAMILY

While I appreciate reading just about anything substantive about Cuba, as a former U.S. State Department employee at the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba, I could not let Joe McBride’s comment about the penalty for killing a cow in Cuba (“A Member of the Family,” Spring 2004) go without notice. I have a good friend from Guines, Cuba, who was imprisoned for

killing a cow and is now in the United States as a political refugee. However, it is not exactly true that the sentence for killing a cow is longer than the sentence for killing a human being.

As the *Dallas Morning News* reported on June 20, 2004, “cow killers can get four to 10 years in prison under a toughened crime law adopted in January. Those who transport or sell the meat from an illegally slaughtered cow can get three to eight years. ... In contrast, the jail sentence for homicide is generally seven to 15 years, unless there are aggravating circumstances. Suspects involved in contract hits, kidnap-murders, sadistic or perverse killings, the murder of police officials and other acts can get from 15 years in jail to the death penalty.”

So some cow killers may get more time than a murderer, but not always and not necessarily. In an article in the *Chicago Tribune* on March 18, 2004, one man reports his brother-in-law got 12 years in prison for killing a dozen cows.

Rather than stealing and killing cows, most Cubans in Cuba are now eating more pork and chicken. In fact, when I eat with my Cuban friends here in Spokane, Wash., we are more likely to be eating pork or chicken than beef, by their choice.

David A. Brookbank Jr.  
Spokane, Wash.

#### SE HABLA MARKETING

Daniel Tablada’s statement (“Learning the Language of Business—in Spanish,” Spring 2004) that Spanish is not used “properly while conducting business” rings true to me even though I do not have his expertise in marketing. But Tablada says, “People believe that Spanish is spoken well in San Antonio.” Ouch! Is he saying that we don’t understand each other or our abuelitas? Is he a linguist, too?

Even if Tablada were a linguist he would benefit from MaryEllen Garcia’s graduate course in Southwest Spanish, which I took at UTSA. I, too, used to resort to value judgments to describe non-standard forms of different languages. Now I have discovered that the brand of Spanish spoken in San Antonio and South Texas is as rich and diverse as any other. Why? Because we’re human, Mr. Tablada. Surely you can understand that.

Raul Serrano '93  
M.A. in Spanish  
San Antonio

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# First Edition

## Recent faculty publications

### Hollywood uncovered

It's not about talent; it's about who you know in Hollywood, according to adjunct writing professor **John Helton**.

"The only business with more nepotism is the mafia. In film, everybody hires their brother, their cousin or their wife," says Helton, who previously worked as a set painter in the film industry.

Helton, who got his first gig painting on the set of *Lonesome Dove* through a relative, says he enjoyed the work, but after 23 films he was ready to bail—Tinseltown wasn't for him. Instead, he wrote a tell-all book about the movie business based on his experiences.

"The movie business is like every business but magnified. My book names the players—you're either above the line or below the line. Above the line is where the stars and big-budget directors are. Below the line is everybody else."

In *Below the Line* (Last Gasp, 1996), Helton depicts a film industry full of cattiness, ego stroking and drug usage. The catch? Helton writes about real people using their real names—from crew members to powerhouse celebrities.

"I didn't like the fact that the carpenter I was friends with was considered less of a person than the star actor in the film. I tried to level the playing field. I named everyone. I told the truth."

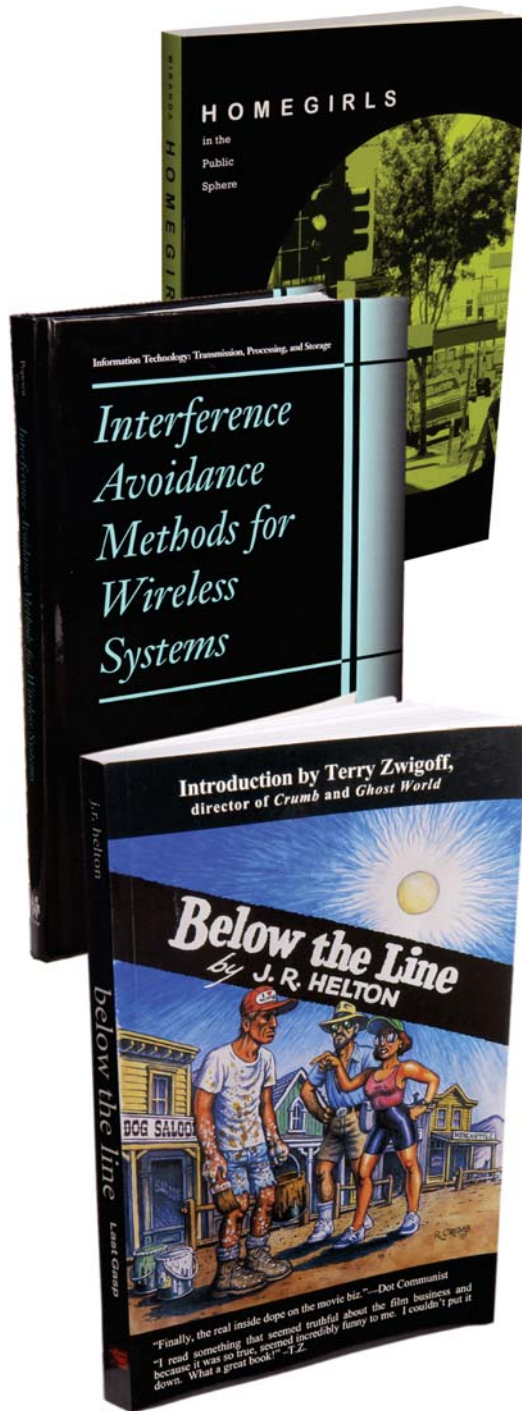
Although Helton says he had a somewhat negative experience in the industry, he believes a novel he's currently working on would make a great screenplay. And if the opportunity knocks?

"Of course I would write the screenplay. I'm a writer."

### Wireless woes

Many people take cellular phones and wireless connections for granted. With technology advancements in recent years it's more common to find a link to cyberspace at airports and coffee shops than not. But in order to make this possible, people like **Dimitrie Popescu**, an electrical engineering professor at UTSA, have to continue to improve wireless communication.

Popescu's most recent theories have been published in *Interference Avoidance Methods for Wireless Systems* (Kluwer Academic/ Plenum Publishers, 2004), a collection of research done over a four-year period by Popescu and co-writer Christopher Rose of Rutgers University in Piscataway, NJ.



"Cellular phones are a perfect example. You have Verizon customers, you have AT&T customers and others. In order for all of them to communicate at the same time, they need to work and deal with interference. My book presents methods to avoid interference by using transmitter adaptation."

Popescu says this is a new area for wireless systems, and his book is one of few that touch on the subject.

### Girl gangs

More than a decade ago, **Marie "Keta" Miranda** invited a group of Latina teenagers in Oakland, Calif., to participate in a study in which she asked for audience reaction to films about gangs. Immediately, these girls rejected her study, asking, "Why study gang members in the movies, when you have the real thing right in front of you?"

Then and there, Miranda, now an assistant professor of Mexican American Studies at UTSA, changed her project, and has now published the results in a new book, *Homegirls in the Public Sphere* (University of Texas Press, 2003).

"The concept of the public sphere developed for me by asking 'How do we engage them in conversation, public policy and discussion?'" Miranda explains. "I began to examine the girls' culture itself. However, I was struck with how girls in gangs, or Latinas in gangs, are portrayed, not just in mainstream Hollywood, but in news media and social sciences. I was really moved by the image that didn't really reflect the life that these youth have."

Miranda says her book is unique because it depicts the Hispanic female gang culture—and she says there is a huge difference between male and female gang members, although their initial reasons for joining are the same.

But, Miranda says, female gangs tend to be more intimate and develop strong friendships. They also build a support system following the Mexican theory of *comadrazgo*, which is based on female bonding.

Miranda hasn't forgotten plans for her original research on perceptions of gang films. "It's still there," she says, "but it's changed since this project."

# Snapshot, Texas

From the photographic archives of the Institute of Texan Cultures

## RENAISSANCE MAN

Eduardo Martinez was an amateur bull-fighter in Saltillo before going to college in Mexico City and joining Pancho Villa's Division del Norte. After the revolution, he worked as a cartoonist for Laredo's *La Prensa* newspaper until 1922, when he moved to San Antonio to repaint World War I army equipment. His design of an Indian head in a star became the shoulder patch for the U.S. Army's Second Division.

Then there was that long run as a tango dancer and cellist while also working as a display artist at Joske's department store. For 13 years, Martinez hosted Gebhardt Chile Powder Company's radio program on WOAI, conducting the Gebhardt Mexican Players (shown, Martinez standing in center) while his "day job" evolved into serving as Joske's Latin American representative.

Eduardo Martinez always said his motto was "There isn't enough time in life to do all the things I would like to do."

But it wasn't for lack of trying.

— Mary Grace Ketner

UT Institute of Texan Cultures at San Antonio, 093-410. Courtesy of Vincent



## Making the dean's list

### UTSA appoints new administrators

For the 2004–2005 academic year, President Ricardo Romo announced several administrative changes at the dean's level. Several of the new administrators have been a part of the UTSA community for years, while others come from distinguished higher education institutions.

**Daniel Gelo** was named dean of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts after serving as interim dean for nearly two years. Gelo is a professor of anthropology and the former chair of the Department of Anthropology. He replaced Dean Alan Craven as interim dean in 2002. Craven is retired but continues to occasionally teach English at UTSA.

**William A. Baker** was named interim dean for the College of Sciences. Before joining UTSA, he served as provost at UT Arlington and UT Tyler. He replaces

Deborah Armstrong, who served as interim dean for the 2003–2004 academic year and who continues to teach in the biology department at the university.

**Betty Merchant** was appointed interim dean of the College of Education and Human Development, replacing Dean Blandina "Bambi" Cardenas who recently was named president of UT–Pan American. Merchant is a professor of education and the former chair of the Department of Educational Leadership.

**Lynda de la Viña** has returned to UTSA after six years to serve as interim dean of the College of Business. She is the former associate dean and professor of economics at Johns Hopkins University. At UTSA, de la Viña served as assistant director of Human Resources Management and Development,

executive director of the Institute for Studies in Business and associate dean of graduate studies and research for the College of Business. De la Viña succeeds Dean Bruce Bublitz, who now works for the Office of the Provost developing a financial plan for moving UTSA to premier research status.

**Dorothy Flannagan** was appointed dean of the UTSA Graduate School. The Graduate School was formerly named the Office of Graduate Studies. Flannagan is an associate professor of psychology and the former interim dean of graduate studies.

**Lawrence Williams** now is associate vice president for academic support and dean of undergraduate studies. His new job as a dean represents an expanded role from his previous position as associate vice president for academic support and undergraduate studies.



## Packing the boardroom

# Scholars program offers extra support to College of Business students

Students in the College of Business' Business Scholars Program are not content to merely make it through school. Challenged by program leaders Associate Dean Martha Fasci and Director Lorenzo Villarreal, these students are encouraged not just to earn their degrees but to excel in school and graduate with honors.

"We want to get them to graduate in the top 25 percent of the class with a B.B.A.," Fasci said. "And for the seniors, I'm even asking them to extend their graduation date because I want them to have an internship on their resumé."

Begun in 2000, the Business Scholars Program (BSP) has grown from a founding group of a handful of students to 85 this semester.

But Fasci and Villarreal are planning for more growth and say they have the staff in place—including a full-time adviser and full-time director Villarreal—to serve a revolving membership of 100. This year, the program celebrated a milestone with the graduation of its first class of six students in May.

This is also the first year that the BSP has granted scholarships. With \$10,000 from the College of Business, the BSP can offer incentive scholarships to students who actively participate in the program. "Our scholarships are to motivate them to maximize their participation in the program," Fasci said. "Why? Because if they maximize their participation in our program, they're going to get to where we want them to be."

BSP originally was patterned after a similar program at the University of Kansas School of Business that specifically targets minority students. Achieving diversity isn't as difficult in multicultural San Antonio as it is in Kansas, but UTSA's program, which is based at the Downtown Campus, does serve students from traditionally underserved populations; about 70 percent of BSP students come from San Antonio's inner-city high schools, which Fasci visits regularly to recruit students. Many are first-generation college students.

As part of the program, students must maintain a minimum 2.5 GPA and attend weekly advising sessions. At monthly group meetings, members hear from speakers including community leaders, graduate business students and even other BSP students who have attended national business conferences or completed internships outside of San Antonio.

Mary Cruz, president of the West San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, has spoken to the group a couple of times. "The reason the West Chamber is involved in the Business Scholars Program is to connect the students to corporate America," she said. When Cruz meets with BSP students, she always encourages them to stay in college until

they complete their doctorates, "because it's in their best interest and the best interest of the community," she said. "The more education you get, the better you can apply yourself—the sky's the limit."

And the Business Scholars Program isn't all business. "We not only prepare them academically, but also culturally and socially," Fasci said.

The BSP students participate in community service activities, once serving as greeters at a West Chamber awards event and this fall volunteering at an Animal Defense League fund-raiser. A key component of the program is participating in a cultural field trip every semester. BSP participants have toured Mission Trail, visited the Blue Star Contemporary Art Center, and dined on a San Antonio River barge.

"Our purpose with [these] events is to get them to know the culture of the region," Fasci said, adding that many of the students had never been to these local attractions.

But as much as Fasci and Villarreal want their students to learn about the culture of their hometown, they also want to pique their interests in the world outside San Antonio. At the first BSP meeting of this semester, Fasci shared vacation slides of her summer trip to Canada, and at past meetings has shown photographs of other trips to New York and Hawaii. Vacation snapshots may seem superfluous for a meeting of business



students, but a lot of BSP students have not yet traveled outside Texas.

"I want to inspire them to learn by traveling. I want to inspire them to broaden their geographic boundaries," Fasci said.

Fasci and Villarreal continue to have high expectations for the program. They want to raise the minimum GPA. They want to increase scholarship funding to create an endowment. They want to recruit business leaders to serve as mentors. And now that they have their first class of BSP alumni, they want to create an alumni network.

And Fasci is confident that they will achieve all their goals. "The College of Business has always been a leader. We were a model for advising at the university. Now we want to be a model for retention."

Vice President for Student Affairs Rosalie Ambrosino agreed. "I think it's an excellent model that can be adopted by other departments to increase retention."

Ambrosino added that one of the BSP's strengths is that it offers students opportunities to develop and benefit from one-on-one relationships with university faculty, staff and mentors. "I think if all our students could have opportunities for that, our retention rates would be much, much higher," she said.

— Rebecca Luther



## Year-round festivals

# ITC expands cultural celebrations to highlight communities

Mouth-watering shish-kebabs. Polynesian dancers. Scottish bagpipes.

Since its birth at HemisFair '68, the Institute of Texan Cultures has been bringing a variety of world cultures to San Antonio through numerous ethnic festivals, heritage days and special occasions. "Cultural celebrations began because we wanted to bring life and real people from the community to ITC in different forms," said Jo Ann Andera, special events director and director of the Texas Folklife Festival. "We find that it brings flavor, authenticity and connectivity to the community that we at ITC are always looking for."

Now the ITC is moving forward with an idea to further enhance its offerings. Because of the success of the Texas Folklife Festival, upcoming celebrations will now be introduced as "Texas Folklife Festival presents," and event coordinators will implement an operations format based upon the festival. The majority of groups participating in these culturally focused events are also active in the Texas Folklife Festival; this new direction offers an opportunity for these communities to be highlighted throughout the year.

Recent additions to this initiative are the Texas Folklife Festival presents the 18th Annual Asian Festival, scheduled for Feb. 12, 2005, and the Texas Folklife Festival presents Irish Heritage Day, to be celebrated March 20, 2005. Possibilities for future events include Mediterranean and Central American celebrations.

Why do members of ethnic and cultural communities spend their time, money and talent in this way? Rene'e Park, director of the Hawaiian dance group Hula Halau O'hana Elikapeka and steering committee member of the Asian Festival, said that her main reason is that her parents are from Hawaii, and learning about her culture and keeping those traditions alive is very important to her.

"We have our second generation of children removed from the island, and we'd like to keep passing our culture down," said Park. "San Antonio is a place where people are interested and open-minded about other cultures."

— Tina Luther

For more information, call (210) 458-2330 or visit [www.texancultures.utsa.edu](http://www.texancultures.utsa.edu).



## Beyond Bexar

# Enhanced statewide recruiting helps UTSA break enrollment records



The start of the academic year saw another record enrollment for UTSA. For the fall 2004 semester, UTSA's student body numbered 26,175, a 6-percent increase from fall 2003. According to preliminary numbers, UTSA is now the second-largest component in the University of Texas System after UT Austin.

"UTSA continues to be a university of first choice as it also becomes one of the state's next premier research universities," said UTSA President Ricardo Romo. The university's enrollment has jumped 42 percent since Romo became president in 1999.

Romo also credits the record enrollment to recruiting efforts beyond Bexar County. In 1990, Bexar County residents accounted for 77 percent of the university's enrollment of 15,489. By 2000, only 64 percent of UTSA's 18,830 students were from Bexar County.

This fall, the admissions office appointed its first regional admissions representative to serve the Houston area.

"Houston is our fastest-growing area," said Jennifer Ehlers, associate director for admissions. "Houston is a connection that we've really worked on. ... We have a great number of really enthusiastic alumni in Houston who spread the word and are excited."

Last year's freshman class saw a more than 50-percent increase in students from the Houston area over the previous year, Ehlers said, and Harris County provides the second-largest number of students after Bexar County. A preliminary breakdown of enrollment figures shows 1,754 students from the Houston area including Harris, Fort Bend and Montgomery counties.

Ehlers adds that the admissions office is also concentrating on the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex and is building a base for UTSA there by participating in college programs and identifying target high schools.

"Our goal is to continue to bring the story of UTSA to as many parts of Texas as is feasible for us to do," Ehlers said.



## Room to grow tops legislative wish list

UTSA continues to be one of the fastest-growing universities in Texas, so informing elected officials about critically needed space and resources for academic programs remains a priority as President Ricardo Romo meets with legislators prior to the 79th session of the Texas Legislature, which begins in January.

"Students at UTSA need additional space as we continue to grow," Romo said. "In fact, it is essential that the university build one building each year to accommodate our growth." UTSA is considered a leader in responding to the Legislature's initiative to enroll greater numbers of students in higher education. "Closing the Gaps," passed by the 77th Legislature in 2001, mandates that the state's colleges and universities collectively enroll an additional 500,000 students by the year 2015.

During the upcoming session, lawmakers are expected to authorize \$1 billion in new tuition-revenue bonds for all public universities. UTSA, now the second-largest component in the University of Texas System, has the greatest need for approval to issue bonds, according to Romo. UTSA plans to request bond-issuing authority totaling \$192 million for four new buildings at the 1604 Campus and the Downtown Campus, which recently added eight acres to its footprint in a land exchange with the city.

A challenge facing all public institutions of higher education is the Legislative Budget Board's (LBB) initial proposal to reduce state funding for higher education by 5 percent. "Clearly, we hope to work with the LBB,

especially as UTSA remains committed to fulfilling the goals of Closing the Gaps," Romo said. A reduction could impact state appropriations to UTSA by almost \$2.5 million annually, putting a strain on the university's goal to hire additional faculty and provide new academic support programs for students.

"UTSA is increasingly becoming an institution of first choice for Texas students," Romo said. Because of the university's rising enrollment, he added, "It is essential that we maintain legislative support for tuition deregulation, which allows public universities—working with their governing boards—to set tuition rates best suited for the students served by each institution." The Texas Legislature passed tuition deregulation in 2003; previously the Legislature mandated per-credit-hour tuition rates for the state's public universities and colleges. Students make up the majority of UTSA's tuition committee.

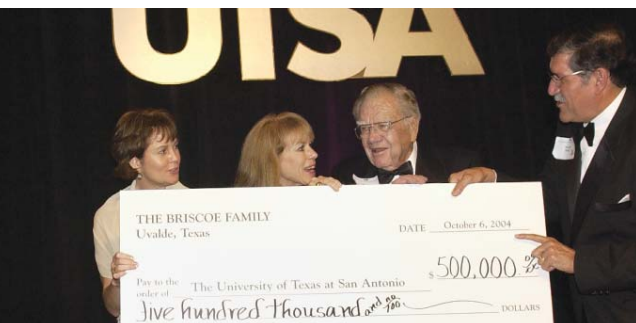
Romo is not the only UTSA advocate making appearances at the Texas Capitol. Former students play a crucial role in communicating UTSA's message, according to Jane Findling, director of alumni programs. During the last three legislative sessions, alumni have traveled to Austin with key administrators to meet with elected officials. "Our 59,000 graduates of UTSA play a crucial role throughout the state of Texas in communicating the needs of our university to continue to provide access to excellence in higher education," Findling said. "All UTSA alumni can make a big difference in the future of the institution."

— David Gabler

"It is essential that the university build one building each year to accommodate our growth."

## All for a good cause

### Scholarship and Awards Dinner raises \$1.4 million



UTSA honored two supporters of the university and raised a record \$1.4 million for scholarships and other academic programs at the 2004 President's Scholarship and Awards Dinner on Oct. 6. The dinner, held at the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel and attended by 800 guests, recognized Dolph Briscoe, 41st governor of Texas, and USAA and the USAA Foundation, a Charitable Trust.

Briscoe, who served in the Texas Legislature from 1949 to 1957 and as governor from 1973 to 1979, received the 2004 Tom C. Frost Award, a recognition given annually to a citizen who has provided exceptional leadership to important business and community endeavors.

"Governor Briscoe understands the value of education to the future of our state and our country, especially in the knowledge-based economy of this century," said President Ricardo Romo. "In the early 1990s, Governor Briscoe and his wife, Janey, co-chaired a special bioscience initiative that helped lay the foundation for UTSA's current move toward tier-one research university status."

The Briscoe family surprised university officials with a gift of their own: a \$500,000 donation to UTSA in memory of Briscoe's late wife, Janey Slaughter Briscoe. The gift will establish the Janey S. Briscoe Endowed Chair in the College of Business.

USAA and the USAA Foundation, a Charitable Trust, received the inaugural Gold Star Award, a recognition that will be presented annually to a company or organization that has forged extensive partnerships with the university and has supported UTSA students and faculty in extraordinary ways. Romo presented the award to Barbara Gentry, president of the foundation and senior vice president of USAA community affairs.

"USAA and the USAA Foundation, a Charitable Trust, have been exceptionally generous to the university and provided almost \$4 million to various UTSA scholarships and programs," said Romo. "They have done much to support educational and community outreach programs at UTSA and their partnership is crucial to UTSA's mission of providing access to quality higher education."

The event was hosted by Ricardo and Harriett Romo and co-chaired by John T. Montford, SBC senior vice president for state legislative and regulatory affairs, and Jack Guenther, V.H. McNutt Memorial Foundation chairman. Also honored during the evening were the university's donor societies and individual donors from the past year. In addition to the Briscoe gift, the \$1.4 million raised at the event included a \$200,000 anonymous gift to support the Peter T. Flawn Presidential Honors Endowed Scholarship and \$100,000 gifts from the SBC Foundation, the V.H. McNutt Memorial Foundation, and the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Foundation, and from UTSA alumnus Ernest Bromley and his wife, Aimee.



Promoting well-being

## UTSA education professor joins effort to combat type 2 diabetes in children



Type 2 diabetes is a growing health problem among local children, and Art Hernandez, professor and associate dean of the College of Education and Human Development, is doing something about it. Six percent of children in South Texas suffer from the disease, with an estimated 5,400 undiagnosed cases in Bexar County alone. Type 2 diabetes, formerly known as adult-onset diabetes, occurs when the body does not produce enough insulin to regulate blood-sugar levels and can have severe complications including blindness, limb loss and death.

In 1998, Hernandez joined the fight against type 2 diabetes and its alarming rise in the nation's elementary schoolchildren. Hernandez, along with a team of researchers from the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, the Texas Diabetes Institute and the Social and Health Research Center, joined the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK) in studying the impact that education, attitude and behavior have on preventing the disease.

"I was intrigued from the research perspective," said Hernandez. "I could definitely see the potential good in a study like this."

Out of 64 universities that applied for the program grant, UTSA and the others in the San Antonio group were among seven chosen. The seven sites, which include Baylor College of Medicine as well as universities in Oregon, California, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, were selected to target children in high-risk populations: Mexican Americans, Native Americans and African Americans.

Programs to combat the onslaught of type 2 diabetes are urgently needed in South Texas, where 50 percent of children are considered overweight, a contributing factor in the disease. A recent study published by Hernandez and the San Antonio group found that 4.6

percent of San Antonio children have abnormal blood sugar readings compared to the national average of 2 percent.

To counter the trend, NIH and NIDDK created Studies to Treat or Prevent Pediatric Type 2 Diabetes or STOPP-T2D. Hernandez and the San Antonio group created the program Bienestar, Spanish for well-being, as the local component of STOPP-T2D. In 2001, Hernandez invited the San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) to participate in Bienestar.

As part of the program, 13 SAISD elementary schools instituted such changes as substituting fresh foods for fried foods in



cafeterias and removing high-sugar sodas and other junk food from vending machines. Physical education classes focus on constant movement, so that now students run in place or do jumping jacks even during the formerly sedentary roll call at the beginning of class.

The results of these changes were impressive. Of the seven test sites, San Antonio's Bienestar experienced the greatest participation, and over an eight-month period during the 2001–2002 school year, 1,200 of the elementary students in the San Antonio study showed a dramatic drop in blood sugar levels. NIDDK and the NIH then granted the research team \$6 million to expand the study to middle school students. With the start of the 2004–2005 school year, Bienestar included its first sixth-grade class, more than 260 students, at SAISD's Rogers Middle School.

"SAISD understands the consequences of diabetes," said Ruben D. Olivarez, SAISD superintendent. "Together, with our physical education and health program and our food services and nutrition department, SAISD is committed to making [the program] work and bringing positive changes to our children."

Now the program has expanded again, this time in scope: Stand Up (Schools Tackle Activity, Nutrition and Diabetes) adds a social marketing component aimed at promoting changes in behavior. Stand Up informs students, teachers and parents about type 2 diabetes through literature, banners, posters and word of mouth. Hernandez chairs

Stand Up and meets monthly with social marketing researchers from the other sites.

"Through social marketing, we are studying whether the messages the students receive will increase confidence in themselves to modify their behavior," Hernandez said. He hopes that with proper branding and intense focus, students will recognize the benefits of eating well and exercising even after leaving the school environment.

Hernandez and fellow researchers will spend two years evaluating the effectiveness of Stand Up through surveys and focus groups and will continue physical testing to measure changes in blood sugar levels. They hope to expand the research project to 16 SAISD middle school campuses by 2006 and eventually, with the help of NIH and NIDDK, to implement Stand Up in every middle school across the country. — Stephanie Mota

# From Sound Decisions to Clean Wafers

From the sponsored research files at UTSA

## Alcohol and HIV

A new study under way by UTSA social psychologist Tina Zawacki focuses on the role alcohol can play in assessing a potential partner's risk of being infected with HIV.

"I think this research can immediately speak to questions students have about some of the negative outcomes that can happen from drinking on campus," said Zawacki. "We talk about drinking and driving, we talk about violence, but not a lot that I've seen is targeted [at the links] between drinking and dating and drinking and making sexual decisions."

In Zawacki's study, male and female volunteers are introduced to each other in a laboratory setting, allowed to interact, and then are asked to decide how much of a risk they think the other is of contracting HIV. But before interacting, participants are

randomly assigned to drink either a dose of vodka and tonic calculated according to their weight to induce a blood alcohol level of .08, or plain tonic.

"I think using the live interactions in the lab is a new approach for this topic, and it's going to make the data very translatable immediately for prevention programs," said Zawacki.

Zawacki's criteria call

for her subjects to be of legal drinking age and not have any history of alcohol abuse or any medical condition that would be affected by alcohol consumption. She also asks that the subjects be interested in dating someone of the opposite sex. Zawacki plans to collect data from 264 subjects and publish the results within the next two years. According to Zawacki, people between the ages of 25-44 are the fastest-growing group of people acquiring HIV through unprotected sex and sex with



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## Follow that cow!

Are investors rational when making financial decisions? Yiuman Tse, professor of finance, and James Hackard, a doctoral finance student, tackled that question when they studied the effects of the May 2003 announcement confirming mad cow disease in Canada on U.S. financial markets.

Tse and Hackard tracked minute-by-minute price disturbances in livestock futures, grain futures and the stocks of several fast food corporations immediately following the announcement. They studied the timing, persistency and rationality of those disturbances to determine whether markets are efficient.

"A basic precept of efficient market theory is that when new information enters the market it should be impounded in prices both quickly and accurately," said Tse. "A corollary to this principle is that prices of securities for which the information is not relevant should show no reaction. This is based on the notion that investors are rational and able to process all available information."

But according to their findings, unanticipated adverse information in financial markets is often met with overreaction and misperception. "In the aftermath of the announcement," Tse said, "we found that securities prices that should have been affected by the news didn't react at the same time, that prices of other securities reacted in ways that were counterintuitive to the facts, and that some securities that reacted should not have been affected at all." — Wendy Frost

## Patent approved

UTSA's Department of Physics and Astronomy is celebrating the approval of a U.S. patent that could benefit the semiconductor industry.

The inventors, former students Anthony Sayka, Fred Barrera and Ray Yow, and physics professor Dhiraj Sardar, originated the idea four years ago. The patent, "Apparatus and Method for Cleaning a Wafer," proposes using ultrasonic energy at varying frequencies and high pressure liquids to clean and remove particles on wafers that contain circuits that will be used as integrated circuits in computers, wireless devices and other products.

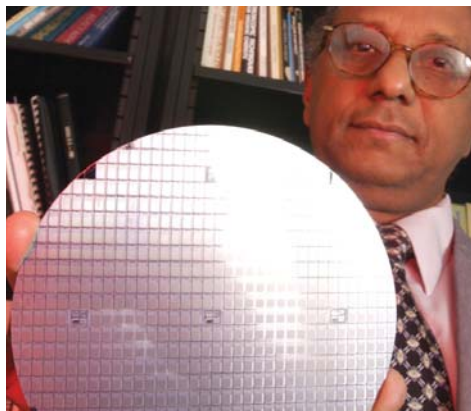
"Theoretically, I think this is a sound idea that could be built if we can receive funding from an outside source," said Sayka. "High-tech patents can significantly help institutions with the revenue they can generate and the increased visibility that can lead to more collaborations with U.S. companies."

According to industry officials, wafer cleaning is the most frequently repeated step in integrated circuit manufacturing and costs this year are forecast to exceed \$1.5 billion.

"The industry currently uses hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid and other chemicals to clean the wafers, which is not an ideal method ... because the chemicals used are highly corrosive and dangerous to handle," said Sardar. "Our patent is based on a method that should effectively clean wafers without using dangerous chemicals."

The UTSA Office of Business Affairs will now work to find licensees and to commercialize the patented technology.

— Kris Rodriguez





## An Interview with **Kim Keller**

Kim Keller, an attorney and assistant professor at UTSA, is no longer a small-town girl. Born and raised in La Vernia, a rural town southeast of San Antonio, Keller grew up on a farm and was the first person in her family to attend college. She earned an undergraduate degree in English from UTSA and a law degree from St. Mary's School of Law. She describes herself as a trailblazer for her family, and her actions prove it. The 31-year-old teaches courses in criminal justice, criminal law and forensic evidence. She also started the UTSA Moot Court team, which is a group of students who prepare an argument that is aimed at persuading the U.S. Supreme Court. Keller herself has some experience in that area. In January, the U.S. Supreme Court will hear an appeal filed by Keller and a team of lawyers that could affect millions in the farming industry. With only five years of law experience, her resumé includes nearly 100 appellate cases—and now a case that will be heard by the highest court in the nation.



### Why did you start teaching three years ago in UTSA's criminal justice department?

I think appellate law is really considered the “nerd” form of law because what you're doing is researching and writing, and most lawyers hate that. They love dealing with the people, arguing in front of a judge and jury—not the “nerd” stuff. I was always involved in writing and publishing articles and that's one of the big things that UTSA promotes—your research. You have to be a teacher *and* you have to be a researcher to succeed here. So I figured if those are the things that I'm naturally interested in, why not align that with an income? Teaching is my full-time job. I try to be very selective with the appellate cases that I continue to take.

### How did you feel when the Supreme Court granted the petition to hear the case?

Overwhelmed. Roughly 3 percent of all petitions filed in the Supreme Court are granted. I feel very overwhelmed, but our legal team is ready for the challenge. This is a nationwide issue that is going to affect millions of people, and I want to make sure that it's done right.

### Can you explain what your case is about?

The case involves a bunch of farmers [in Texas] who had their peanut crops damaged by a herbicide. The plaintiffs are suing [the manufacturer] of the herbicide. They're claiming that the product either injured or stunted their peanut crop. Bottom line—[the product] didn't work the way it said it would work. What I will be arguing is whether a federal law can prevent these farmers from

suing the manufacturer. That law—Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act or FIFRA—sets up a framework for the Environmental Protection Agency to look at the labeling that is put on packages of insecticides, fungicides and rodenticides. The EPA must then approve the label before the manufacturer can sell the product. Well, part of the law says that no state can enact a law that conflicts with FIFRA provisions. So the question is: Does FIFRA prevent a farmer from filing a lawsuit in a state court? In essence, if you bring a lawsuit and you win, that's a requirement to be put on the manufacturer that would differ from FIFRA. ... If no lawsuit can be brought, then you're going to have a lot of people who, if they are injured by a product or their crop is injured, do not have a way of being compensated for their injuries.

### What does it mean for your clients if the case is won?

They'll be able to walk into a courtroom with their lawsuit. They'll have their day in court.

### How long have you been working on the case?

The trial lawyers handled the case from its initiation, which was filing the lawsuit. They handled all of the investigation and all of the procedures at the trial court level. They lost at the trial court level and filed an appeal. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against them. I was then approached

to assist the legal team with the petition to the Supreme Court. Recently the team hired a former solicitor general in Washington, D.C., to perform the oral argument. ... David Fredrick has argued more than 15 times before the court.

### What is the significance of Fredrick's experience?

The Solicitor General's Office is the division of the Department of Justice that handles all Supreme Court appeals on behalf of the government. It's been called the “10th Justice” because its attorneys argue before the U.S. Supreme Court so often. Its attorneys are considered to have much credibility. The defendant in the case has also hired a former solicitor general.

### Have any of the Supreme Court justices served as a role model for you?

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. She is the person that I really like because she's the swing voter on a lot of cases. You don't see her falling directly in line with any political ideology. I hope to live life in the same way. I make up my own mind about things. Studying her cases, I've realized we're similar in the ways we want to develop the law.

### Do you aspire to become a justice in the future?

I think eventually down the line that it would be such an honor to serve as an appellate judge—a long time down the line. Whether it's an appellate judge here in Texas or at the highest level, it would be the same honor for me. I love the law just for pure love of the law.

—Lori Burling

# Technology in the classroom

New initiatives are  
changing the face of teaching  
and learning

By Tim Brownlee

Today's students—the Echo Boomers—are more wired-in than any previous generation. Or, more accurately, they're wireless. This generation stays constantly connected through instant messaging via mobile phone or computer, and they expect their educational experience to offer the same kind of immediacy. If they have to sit in one place for a while, there had better be visual and sound components to engage them or they're quickly going to become bored.

**“Students today** are not like their parents,” says Dave Sebold, UTSA associate professor of music. “They are not as sophisticated about reading things in a linear fashion—it’s hard to get them to read *War and Peace*—but they want parameters for what they are learning about and they want to be doing several things at once. What [technology] does is give Hollywood production values to the classroom. It’s what the students expect. It gives them instant feedback, it applies excitement, it’s effective and it’s how they learn.”

On his Web site, Sebold sums up his approach to teaching by quoting U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige: “Technology has tremendous possibilities to inspire students, improve academic performance and close the achievement gap for children who historically have been left behind. That’s why—along with reading, writing, mathematics and science—technology has become our schools’ new basic.”

To implement this philosophy at UTSA, a number of people are working to promote new technologies that enhance teaching and learning. Although primarily driven by student demand, the rapid expansion of Web-based technology in UTSA classrooms also is guided by the need to remain competitive with other universities, by initiatives of the U.S. Department of Education and by a push in 2002 by book publishers to include interac-

tive CD-ROMs with their textbooks. Publisher Houghton Mifflin, for example, links its CDs to its Web site, Smart Thinking, which features online quizzes, 24-hour live tutors and interactive media for students, along with class rosters where teachers check students’ progress.

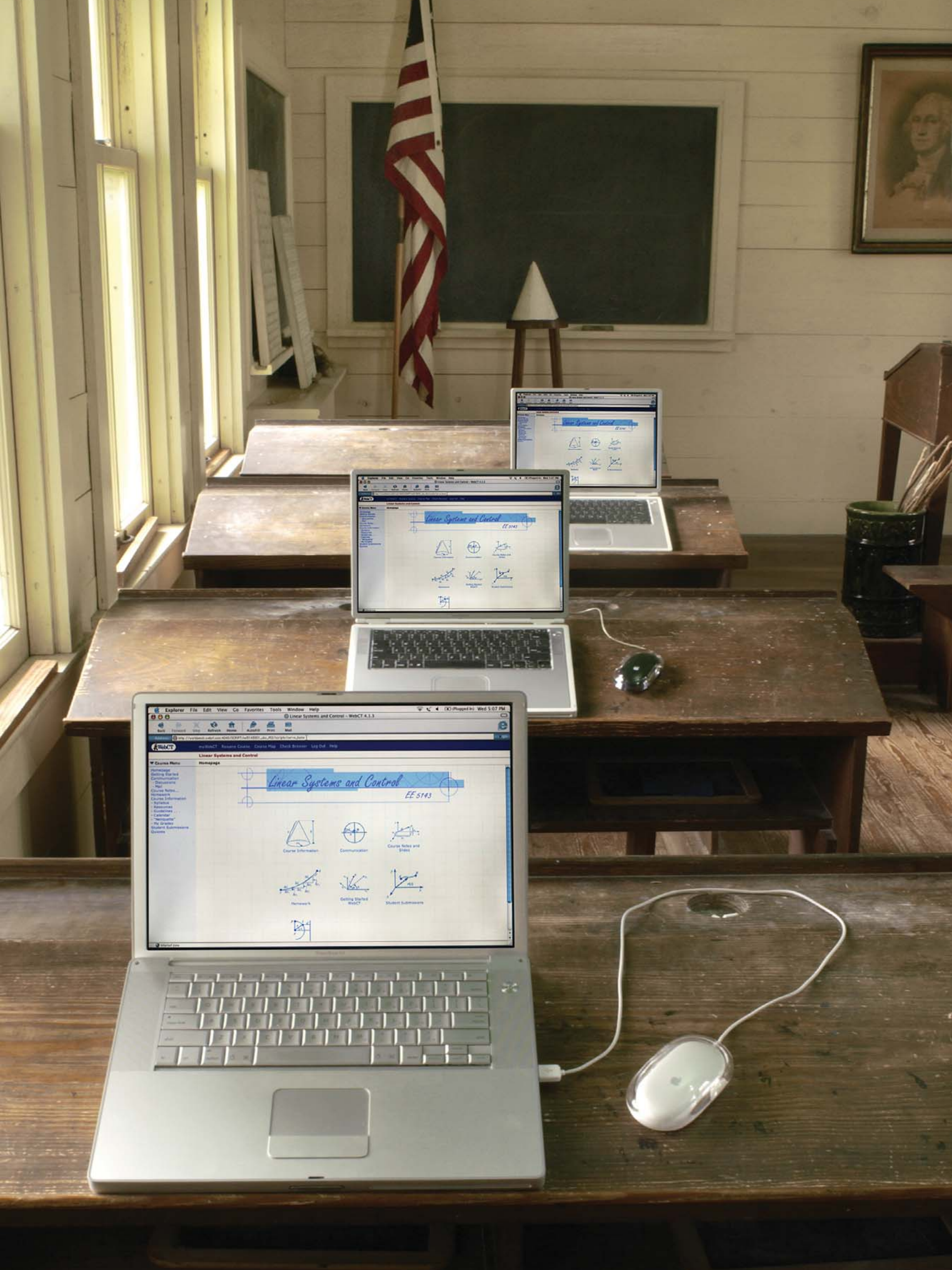
## **Pushing technology**

The UTSA Teaching and Learning Initiative seeks to implement recommendations of the Business-Higher Education Forum (BHEF), an independent organization formerly associated with the American Council on Education. Part of a national effort to bring technology into the classroom, the BHEF comprises academic and business leaders from across the country. The group’s report, “Building a Nation of Learners,” challenges every campus by 2010 to redesign its coursework, provide every classroom with access to online and off-line tools and provide every graduate with lifelong skills necessary for success in the 21st century.

The Teaching and Learning Initiative steering committee is taking these challenges to heart.

“To best serve the students and entire university community, we are seeking input from all academic areas of the institution,” says David Johnson, executive vice provost and chairman of the committee. “Our hope





is to develop a plan for UTSA that best serves the largest number of stakeholders, while at the same time helping us make the transition toward becoming a campus where students use either a laptop or a tablet PC as part of their learning experience.”

In upcoming months, the committee will propose to President Ricardo Romo a plan to begin a laptop initiative that expands Internet access to courses and research materials. A proposal to make laptops mandatory at UTSA was tabled last spring, but discussion is anticipated on the idea of having laptops available for rental or checkout in some classes. As laptops become ubiquitous, a directive requiring them may be moot.

The university already has implemented AirRowdy, a Wi-Fi (wireless fidelity) technology that will allow students with wireless-equipped laptops to connect to the Internet at hot spots across the UTSA campuses. The AirRowdy wireless network is already active in the new Main Building, the John Peace Library Building food court and Sombrilla Plaza. Officials predict that as more hot spots become active, the interest in Web-based instruction will increase accordingly.

John Rayko, director of the core mathematics program, which oversees required and developmental math courses, says the technology initiative can offer students a way to gain a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts than they might have through traditional methods. He adds that students might even become excited enough about the subject to become math majors. Rayko sees technology as an important aid for students to record class notes and to connect with others in group projects. “If you give a group of five or six students a problem, they can download it to their laptops or tablet PCs, take it home and work on it as a team without having to be physically together.”

But whether they use a laptop or desktop computer, students need access to online instruction as a supplement to their classroom learning.

“Online instruction doesn’t intrude into the classroom, and it breaks down the 24/7 barrier,” says Dwight Henderson, director of the Office of Learning Communities. “Studies show students are busiest studying between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m., but that’s not a good time to call or e-mail an instructor for help. Online instruction helps take care of that.”

Henderson says that online instruction lends itself well to classes involving formulas such as math, science and chemistry, and to composition courses found in many master’s and doctoral programs.

“It takes a motivated, mature and disciplined student to do online courses, and they involve more time and writing,” Henderson adds, “but students can pace themselves and finish coursework sooner. We don’t want to go completely online with most UTSA classes. ... We want a combination of online and classroom instruction. It’s not for mass education, but an online supplement helps students perform better, which leads to increased student retention rates and student success.”

One element of the Teaching and Learning Initiative, TechConnect, promotes Web-based teaching and learning to teachers in training and faculty members. This program in the College of Education and Human Development is now in its fourth year. Katherine Scheidel, project manager for TechConnect (<http://education.utsa.edu/programs/pt3>), says former dean Blandina “Bambi” Cardenas was influential in pushing technology in the college. “We sent her to a technology conference several years ago in Austin that was put on by Apple Computer. She came back and said, ‘I want this,’ and the TechConnect grant was written.”

In addition to TechConnect, classroom technology is supported at

UTSA by two Web-based multimedia software programs—WebCT and the TIME Machine—and by distance learning, which integrates technology-based instruction into classrooms and onto the Web.

### WebCT and TIME Machine

More than 85 percent of UTSA students use WebCT (Web Course Tools, <http://www.webct.com>). Used in distance-learning and classroom-based courses, the software program offers tools for improving learning, communication and collaboration. UTSA acquired the WebCT software in 1998, and 364 students in 14 class sections used it in fall 1999. By fall 2001, 9,300 students were using it. This fall, 22,722 of UTSA’s 26,175 students have at least one class using the program.

According to Bill Angrove, assistant vice provost for distance learning, UTSA is the biggest user of WebCT in Texas. The program provides a secure online site where faculty place course materials such as a class syllabus, assignments, lectures and presentations. WebCT also offers communication tools such as a bulletin board, chat room, e-mail and calendar, and instructional tools such as a glossary, references and self-tests. At UTSA, WebCT is augmented with streaming video through the Office of

Distance Learning and Academic Technology, which administers the software program and provides technical support for faculty and students.

“Judging from the rapid increase in the creation of

WebCT courses, we estimate every UTSA student will have at least one course with WebCT within a year,” says Angrove.

UTSA distance learning classes transmit lectures between campuses, and allow students at either campus to participate at the touch of a button. Faculty members can tape lectures for replay at any time via WebCT.

Johnny Flores, a doctoral student in electrical engineering, collaborated with Cheryl Schrader, former associate dean of engineering, to create a WebCT supplement for an existing electrical engineering course in control systems and linear systems theory. Their effort won the Exemplary Course Award at IMPACT 2003, a WebCT user conference. The WebCT materials they developed, which are still used in the course, demonstrate the software program’s versatility. “Engineering seemed to be not as involved with WebCT as some of the sciences and the College of Business,” says Flores. “We learned you want the technology to be supportive, but you don’t want it to be something the students could get bogged down in. We created an easily navigable site with graphics, color and tutorials that were just a few clicks away from the major aspects of the course.”

The TIME Machine (<http://multimedia.utsa.edu>), which stands for Train, Inform, Motivate and Entertain, is another option for Web-based learning at UTSA. It is a suite of Web-based, interactive multimedia programs created and coded by music professor Sebald that helps students learn how to solve problems in music technology.

A professor of instrumental music and music technology at UTSA since 1989, Sebald has been interested in educational multimedia and computer-assisted instruction for nearly a quarter-century. In his 1981 dissertation, he used computer-controlled slides and audio to help students learn about music. His early efforts included the computer-animated character Captain Cogno, who helped students master music terminology and woodwind fingerings. Sebald replaced Captain Cogno in the TIME Machine with a digitized version of himself as a virtual tutor.

“The TIME Machine provokes higher-level thinking—not just knowing the answer, but how to figure out the answer,” Sebald says. “But I

**“We realized that we should quit fighting with people and hitting them over the head with laptops to get them to use new technology.”**





would never want to do away with classroom teaching. This is a supplement. Since we have only one soundboard, for example, the TIME Machine allows the students to practice [using a virtual soundboard] before they have the chance to use the real thing.”

The program features tutorials, games, presentations, a project grader, a report card and a Web site for students to keep an e-portfolio of their work. Students in Sebald’s classes, which are cross-listed in music, music psychology and communication, also can go to the Macintosh computer lab he set up this summer in the music department to receive human assistance when they do tutorials on music technology and multimedia product development. His classes then provide interdisciplinary applications of the technology.

#### **New techniques for veteran teachers**

Even though many Echo Boomers are tech-savvy enough to quickly learn software such as WebCT and TIME Machine, some faculty members are not. So a key to increasing technology use in UTSA classrooms is turning faculty on to new styles of teaching and learning.

“We realized that we should quit fighting with people and hitting them over the head with laptops to get them to use new technology,” says Scheidel of TechConnect. The program also works with the College of Business and other UTSA programs such as the Teaching and Learning Center (<http://www.utsa.edu/tlc>), which offers workshops on more efficient and productive teaching.

“We took a low-tech approach at the start, and came at it with a ‘what’s-in-it-for-you?’ approach and pushed WebCT as a paper saver,” Scheidel says. After several years of TechConnect programs and seminars, she estimates that 60 percent of the college’s faculty are using WebCT. “We try to integrate technology into teaching, so it’s second nature, so they can pass on the skills to their students to make them more effective in the marketplace.”

TechConnect trains student teachers and faculty on the use of hand-held and laptop computers to assess teachers in training and aid in bilingual education. There are plans to develop an e-portfolio archive system for teacher trainees to store their work online to help assess their effectiveness in the classroom.

According to Scheidel, technology can be an equalizer on the classroom playing field. Carmen Fies, a UTSA specialist in interdisciplinary studies, uses the interactive system in distance learning classrooms to promote equal participation and more effective learning. Because students in her classes can ask questions or make comments online, those who are shy don’t have to stand up or speak out to be equal-opportunity learners—a major benefit of technologically enhanced learning.

In “Building a Nation of Learners,” education secretary Paige underscores the tension between the structure of the U.S. educational system and the need to pursue technology in classroom teaching: “The way we organize schools and provide instruction is essentially the same as it was when our founding fathers went to school. We still educate our students based on an agricultural timetable, in an industrial setting, yet tell students they live in a digital age.”

UTSA appears to be making great progress on its journey through the technology barrier into the digital age. ★

*Leigh Anne Gullett contributed to this article. Laptops provided by the Macintosh Activity Exchange at UTSA; location provided by the Institute of Texan Cultures.*









# Blueprint for the Future

By Marianne McBride Lewis

With his good looks, easygoing manner, and casual attire, Karl Klose looks more like a California beach volleyball player than a microbiologist investigating the pathogenesis of bacteria—and completely dispels the myth that science is for nerds.

A nationally recognized scientist best known for his work on biodefense and cholera vaccines, Klose is one of UTSA's newest faculty members—and, as President Ricardo Romo says, one of the university's rising stars.

**In July,** as UTSA celebrated its 35th anniversary, President Ricardo Romo launched an aggressive initiative to become, within the next 10 years, the state's next top-tier public university and to be recognized among the nation's leading research institutions. "We have been working to develop a new vision for The University of Texas at San Antonio—a vision that encompasses not only our aspirations, but serves as the blueprint for all planning going forward," Romo said at the event.

This is where Karl Klose comes in. Klose earned his undergraduate degree in biochemistry and German literature from the University of California, San Diego and his doctorate in microbiology at the University of California, Berkeley with postdoctoral training in microbiology at Harvard Medical School. He joins UTSA after seven years at the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio, making the move in part because of the university's goal to become research intensive. "Research is great for students because they get to discover how cool it is to discover things," Klose says.

If UTSA is to become a nationally recognized research institution, Romo says, over the next 10 years the university must recruit and hire more faculty like Klose—faculty dedicated to discovery. Faculty like Dianne Rahm, a researcher and professor who joined UTSA two years ago to develop a doctoral program in public administration and lead UTSA's Center for Policy Studies. And like Benjamin Blount, who was recently recruited from the University of Georgia to work with UTSA's anthropology program.

Rahm says she joined the university because she believes in Romo's mission and wants to be a part of it. "A research university is one that creates knowledge, transfers that knowledge to students and serves the community," says Rahm. "And they know what they are doing here at UTSA and how to get us there."

## The role of research

In 1969, the Texas Legislature agreed that the University of Texas System should have a university in San Antonio that would be "a university of the first class." During its first 35 years, UTSA matured into an institution that offers 103 undergraduate and graduate degree programs to more than 26,000 students. Romo's new mission for UTSA comes with the challenge to recruit world-class faculty, add additional doctoral degree programs and secure more research dollars.

In his July 30 anniversary address, Romo told the more than 600 guests, "UTSA is on a rocket ride through 'first class' and heading rapidly toward 'national class.' ... As the rising star of Texas, UTSA will emerge as a top 100 research university, providing access to excellence and preparing leaders for the 21st century."

Romo isn't the only educator who sees research as the key to the future. The UT System Board of Regents has a similar agenda. During their quarterly meeting in August, the board discussed promoting increased research capacity as a system priority.

## CLASSIFICATION OF TEXAS COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Under President Ricardo Romo's plan to achieve tier-one status, UTSA aims to join the ranks of Doctoral/Research-Intensive Universities by 2007.

### DOCTORAL/RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES—EXTENSIVE

Rice University  
Southern Methodist University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas Tech University  
University of Houston  
University of North Texas  
University of Texas at Arlington  
University of Texas at Austin

### DOCTORAL/RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES—INTENSIVE

Baylor University  
Texas A&M University - Commerce  
Texas A&M University - Kingsville  
Texas Christian University  
Texas Southern University  
Texas Woman's University  
University of Texas at Dallas  
University of Texas at El Paso

### MASTER'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES I

Abilene Christian University  
Angelo State University  
Dallas Baptist University  
Hardin-Simmons University  
Houston Baptist University  
Lamar University  
Midwestern State University  
Our Lady of the Lake University  
Prairie View A&M University  
St. Mary's University  
Sam Houston State University  
Southwest Texas State University  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Sul Ross State University  
Tarleton State University  
Texas A&M International University  
Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi  
Texas A&M University - Texarkana  
Trinity University  
University of Houston - Clear Lake  
University of Houston - Victoria  
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor  
University of Saint Thomas  
University of Texas - Pan American  
University of Texas at Brownsville/  
Texas Southmost College  
**University of Texas at San Antonio**  
University of Texas at Tyler  
University of Texas of the Permian Basin  
University of the Incarnate Word  
Wayland Baptist University  
West Texas A&M University

### MASTER'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES II

LeTourneau University  
St. Edward's University  
Texas Wesleyan University

Source: The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, 2000

"University research is both a critically necessary teaching model and an economic development engine for the state of Texas," officials said in a prepared release. "University research and the technology transfer that comes from university research contribute more than a billion dollars a year to the Texas economy."

Joe Stafford, UTSA vice president of research and graduate studies, agrees with the regents and Romo. "Research and discovery benefit economic development," says Stafford. "And you will have the greatest economic impact in the place where the initial discovery occurs."

Today, UTSA contributes more than \$773 million to the San Antonio economy. Partnerships have been forged with the UT Health Science Center, Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research, Southwest Research Institute and San Antonio military bases to bring new knowledge to the region and to serve as catalysts for growth.

"A teaching-only institution limits you," Klose says. "When you add a research component you spawn new companies because they need a generator that will produce employees who are highly qualified to drive their industries."

Stafford adds, "If you want San Antonio to be competitive and be connected to the research world, you need to have faculty connected to the research community. Faculty who are part of that 'academic club' stay current in their field and have access to the new knowledge. Then we have nationally connected faculty turning out nationally competitive graduates."

### Moving up in the rankings

Just as a basketball team follows a game plan to become an NCAA Final Four contender, a university also needs to have a plan to reach top-tier research status. Among teaching institutions, the playbook is written by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, an independent policy and research center founded in 1905 by Andrew Carnegie and headquartered in Stanford, Calif.

The foundation's Classification of Institutions of Higher Education report, last published in 2000, provides the framework in which institutional diversity in U.S. higher education is commonly described. The next report is due in 2005. The 2000 report reviewed 3,941 public and private institutions of higher education to identify similarities in the way the schools operate and characteristics of students and faculty members. Of the schools reviewed, only 261 had the programs and criteria in place to earn the top-tier ranking of Doctoral/Research University. UTSA was ranked among 611 peers as a Master's University I, the next category down. Colleges and universities in this category graduate more than 40 students with master's degrees in three or more academic areas each year.

To earn Doctoral/Research-Intensive status, a university must award at least 10 doctoral degrees per year across three or more disciplines or at least 20 doctoral degrees per year overall. And to reach the highest Carnegie classification, Doctoral/Research-Extensive, a university must award 50 or more doctoral degrees per year across at least 15 disciplines.

Today, UTSA has 11 doctoral degree programs in place with nine in the planning stages. And although UTSA graduated only eight Ph.D.s in the 2003-2004 academic year, currently there are 289 Ph.D. candidates enrolled in doctoral programs. It is Romo's goal to propel UTSA to Doctoral/Research-Intensive classification by 2007 and Doctoral/Research-Extensive by 2015.

### Research funding

The Doctoral/Research University classification won't magically appear once UTSA has the requisite number of Ph.D. programs. There is another hurdle to jump—money.

The rule of thumb for being in the big leagues is conducting at least \$100 million a year in funded research, which includes money from federal or state government agencies and private gifts. Traditionally Carnegie



measured funded research based only on a university's federal funding. However, the 2000 edition of the Carnegie Classification report discontinued this practice, recognizing that not all research is federally funded and that institutions differ in the proportion of research that is funded from federal sources. For its 2005 report, Carnegie will introduce a new method for assessing the research activity of doctorate-granting universities.

In fiscal year 2003–2004, UTSA received more than \$34 million in research funding, a 13 percent increase over 2002–2003. Many of those awards came from such highly regarded agencies as the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Department of Defense and the National Institutes of Health for research in the sciences. Nearly 70 percent of UTSA's current research funding supports projects in biology, but looking at the dollar figure alone to determine the scope of a research effort can be misleading. Research grants in the hard sciences often are much larger because of the need to purchase expensive equipment and supplies.

Romo's vision for UTSA clearly states that research and the creation of new knowledge will be supported across a variety of disciplines and represent the diversity of the institution. That said, Karl Klose, who is currently working on \$4.5 million worth of funded research projects, quips, "On Dr. Romo's rocket ride to premier status, jet fuel is coming from microbiology."

### The role of faculty

Getting to \$100 million in research funding, rocket or not, is still a tall order.

Noe Saldaña, director of UTSA's Office of Research Development, says one way to increase funding, particularly in tough economic times, is to submit more proposals. This past year UTSA submitted 454 proposals for funding, up 20 percent from the 380 submitted in 2002–2003.

"One of the big changes I have seen in the research field in the past several years is the shrinking pot of funding and the growing field of applicants," says Saldaña. "It's no longer, write a proposal and wait. Today, you have to be active in the process, continually polishing your grant-writing skills, getting appointed to review boards and getting your university known in research circles."

Saldaña added, "A researcher can no longer quit for a year and think he or she will get back in. Today, researchers have to keep their work current and their names and projects top of mind."

Both Saldaña and Klose say achieving this type of working environment takes cooperation among colleagues—between faculty who are primarily hired to do research and those who are primarily in the classroom.

"I have great respect and admiration for my colleagues that focus on teaching and realize what an indispensable role they play in the education of our students," Klose says. "Hopefully, I can provide additional opportunities that will enhance both undergraduate and graduate education, while bringing in resources to help build the university."

Saldaña adds, "If we get this balance worked out—everybody wins."

### Building partnerships

Another way for UTSA to compete for available research dollars is to forge partnerships with like-minded institutions and together submit proposals for funding. In Romo's effort to steer the university toward work that will benefit San Antonio and South Texas and stay true to the university's vision, UTSA will strategically partner with the UT Health Science

Center and others institutions to establish new research centers. Research centers, according to Stafford, can be likened to a superstore, with all the benefits of one-stop shopping.

"Let's say you want to have a house built," says Stafford. "You wouldn't look separately for a plumber, an electrician, a brick layer, a painter, etc. You would hire a builder. So, if you have money, and you want to know about the effects of aging, you don't go out and look for a biologist, a sociologist, a psychologist, etc. No, you go to a research center, because a research center assembles the team to solve a specific problem."

During the 35th anniversary celebration, Romo announced the creation of three new research centers established through partnerships. All three—the San Antonio Institute for Cellular and Molecular Primatology, the Institute for Aging Research and the Institute for Bioengineering and Translational Research—fall within strategic growth areas identified by UTSA administrators. These areas include applied life sciences, information systems and technology, and cross-cultural communications.

"The process to identify growth areas for UTSA started well before 9-11," Stafford says. "Looking at the world today, it is interesting to see how on-target UTSA was."

The San Antonio Institute for Cellular and Molecular Primatology is a partnership with the UT Health Science Center and the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research. It will study cellular and molecular biology using non-human primates to address health issues such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension and neurological disorders.

The Institute for Aging Research and the Institute for Bioengineering and Translational Research are also partnerships with the UT Health Science Center. The first will develop new strategies for promoting healthy lifestyles in the elderly across diverse populations and the second supports a cross-disciplinary doctoral degree in biomedical engineering aimed at translating health-related research into new medical products.



### The big picture

To reach the heights described by President Romo, UTSA plans to hire 600 new faculty members over the next eight years and add another 10 doctoral programs within 10 years. The university also hopes to raise additional support for endowed chairs and professorships. Corporate partners and individuals are key to continued success in this area.

Lofty goals? Perhaps, but the university already has taken big steps since Romo became president in 1999. The university now enrolls a student body of more than 26,000, a more than 40 percent increase since 1999, and has hired 200 new faculty members over the past five years. A \$38 million campus recreation center expansion project is under construction, and a new 1,000-bed on-campus housing complex opened this fall. An \$83 million biotechnology sciences and engineering building is scheduled to open in summer 2005 and construction has commenced for a two-level student parking garage at the 1604 Campus.

UTSA is at a crossroads. Gone are the days when the university was one campus with five buildings out in the middle of nowhere, looking more like a lunar landscape than a major university. Gone, too, is the time when Loop 1604 was an unlit two-lane county road and an evening class meant overcoming the fear of driving the "death loop" after dark. The city has come to the country. The university has its strategy in place. The rocket has its jet fuel, and UTSA is going for a ride. ★

# DEVIN WHO?

UTSA's  
all-time  
leading  
scorer  
makes  
a name  
for  
himself  
with  
his  
home-  
town  
San  
Antonio  
Spurs

With his college basketball career over, Devin Brown went looking for a new gig.

He knew he'd be good at the job if they'd only give him a chance. He was tall. He was strong. The pay was good and late hours suited him.

So, he applied for the job of overnight stocker at H-E-B.

By Leigh Anne Gullett





"They make \$12 an hour," Brown says.

But shelving canned peas was not in Brown's future. In March 2002, only a month away from finishing the spring semester and a few hours shy of his business degree, the 6-foot-5 San Antonian was forced to choose between school and basketball. So he dropped his classes at UTSA and joined the Kansas Cagerz, where he became the United States Basketball League Rookie of the Year.

For the next year, Brown bounced around teams and leagues, cutting a path from Kansas to Boston and back to San Antonio. He made his way up to Fayetteville, N.C., long enough to earn Most Valuable Player and Rookie of the Year honors in the National Basketball Developmental League before hitting the road again for a 10-day contract with the Denver Nuggets. He turned down the Nuggets' offer to re-sign for the rest of the season and headed back to Boston and the Shaw Summer League for NBA hopefuls. In Boston, Brown found what he'd been looking for all along—the road home, paved in silver and black. Ten years after Brown began his basketball odyssey as just another kid playing after-school ball in the San Antonio Spurs Drug-Free League, the journey came full circle as he earned a contract with the Spurs for the 2003-2004 season.

For Brown, the story didn't end with a contract and a courtside seat. The season opener found Brown on the injured list with left patella tendonitis, which is more about lack of roster room than an actual injury. He worked his way off the injured list and eventually onto the court—in blowouts, late in the third or fourth quarters. But Brown made every second count, and fans soon began to see him in the first quarter and in the next day's box score, even if only the San Antonians knew his name.

What happened next surprised only the people who didn't know Brown. Just two years after facing the possible end of his basketball career, the San Antonio Spurs' hometown kid walked into the Staples Center for the NBA conference semifinals and dropped 16 points on the Los Angeles Lakers.

Brown faced the Lakers during the playoffs with no fear, but not because he didn't recognize the power of Kobe Bryant, Shaquille O'Neal and Karl Malone—winning was just more important than the name on his opponent's jersey. "I can't sit here and say I wasn't thinking about who I was playing. I don't think that would be fair," Brown says. "They were standing in the way of San Antonio moving to the next round, and I just wanted to do my part."

Lloyd Williams, current UTSA assistant coach and Brown's former teammate, says he wasn't at all surprised by Brown's performance during the playoffs. "Devin is an exceptional athlete. The

things most people have to max [out at level 10] to do, Devin can do on level four and level five."

UTSA Coach Tim Carter says he never questioned Brown's ability to play at the NBA level, just whether he'd get the opportunity. "It's just in him," says Carter. "He's a competitor."

While Brown's athletic ability delivers power and grace, it is his competitive nature that drives him in everything. So much so, he'll stay up all night just to beat a computer at a video game.

Carter calls Brown's late-night tendencies "a sleeping disorder."

"Yeah, Devin's got a sleeping disorder all right—it's called Game Boy," says former teammate Williams.

For Brown, it's simply that he becomes so focused when he's trying to win. "I'll say, let me get a couple more games in and then I'll go to sleep. The next thing I know it's like six or seven o'clock in the morning," he says. "I'll play until I beat the computer. When people challenge you, whether it's in the classroom or on the court, you don't let anybody take advantage of you."

"He loves a challenge," Williams says. "He doesn't just want to win, he wants to win when the odds are against him."

It's a personality trait Williams has seen from Brown time and again, like during a UTSA game in Brown's sophomore year when all of the team's big guys fouled out of a game with two minutes left in regulation. Forced to play out of position, Brown picked up the slack and scored the last two points to send the game into overtime. "He just pretty much outright dominated the kid who was guarding him at the four spot on both ends," says Williams. "Devin was guarding the kid who was about 6-foot-7 and just ate him for lunch."

Rick Nixon, UTSA assistant athletics director for media relations, remembers Brown playing his senior season with a bone chip in his ankle. "I saw him dunk with a cast on his leg," he says.

Despite the stories of Brown's athleticism and competitiveness, the Spurs weren't initially interested in him. San Antonio's all-time leading prep scorer with 2,763 points in three seasons at West Campus, Brown traveled across town to UTSA where he became the school's all-time leading scorer with 1,922 points. But that combination still wasn't enough to turn the heads of NBA scouts. "The Spurs thought he was a little slow, a little heavy-legged," says Carter. "I sent stuff to every NBA team, to every USBL team in regards to Devin, but to think he'd do what he did—I just didn't know if he would get that opportunity."

Brown eventually did get the opportunity, and he took advantage of it. Emerging as one of the top reserves for the Spurs, Brown stepped into the national spotlight during the playoffs with three double-digit scoring performances. Only halfway through the season, a *San Antonio Express-News* article quoted Spurs coach Gregg Popovich saying, "I think we might have found ourselves a player."

But for Brown, the success didn't really register until a golfing trip in Miami this summer. A fan approached Brown and told him the Spurs should have won the NBA title. Accustomed to being recognized in his hometown from his UTSA days, Brown was caught off guard in Miami.

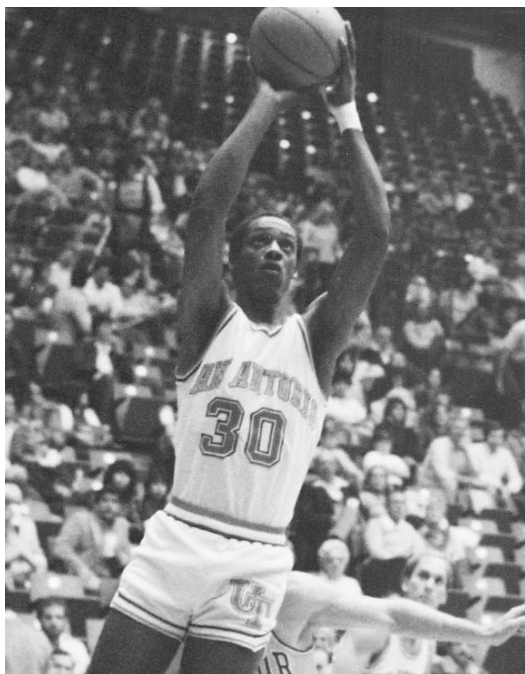
"When [you're recognized] in other towns, in other cities, that's when it's like wow," says Brown.

Brown's popularity in his hometown also continues to grow. When UTSA retired his jersey in February, he patiently stayed in the lobby of the Convocation Center signing autographs for hours even though it meant missing the game. He's had fans invite him to bar mitzvahs, and "I don't even know what those are," he says.

The journey from unknown to A-list has been fast and furious for Brown. The Spurs cut him twice before he finally stuck, only to spend weeks with "Did Not Play" next to his name in the box score. He finally earned playing time and made ESPN highlights when he had to introduce himself to NBA official Joey Crawford during a game after Crawford said "Devin who?" when Spurs star Tim Duncan mentioned him. In a post-game press conference during the conference semifinals, Popovich praised Brown's performance but accidentally called him "Devean George" after the Lakers player. Meanwhile, Brown became the team's most consistent performer during that final series, and the Spurs picked up the \$700,000 option on his contract for this season.

During the off-season, the Spurs sent Brown to play in summer leagues in California and Utah, but he has no complaints. After all, a few extra weeks of basketball during the summer and a guaranteed NBA contract are far different than being an overnight stocker. "This is the best job in the world, so I want to do anything I can to keep it," he says. "If I could choose, I'd be [in San Antonio] for 10, 11, 12, or even 13 more years."

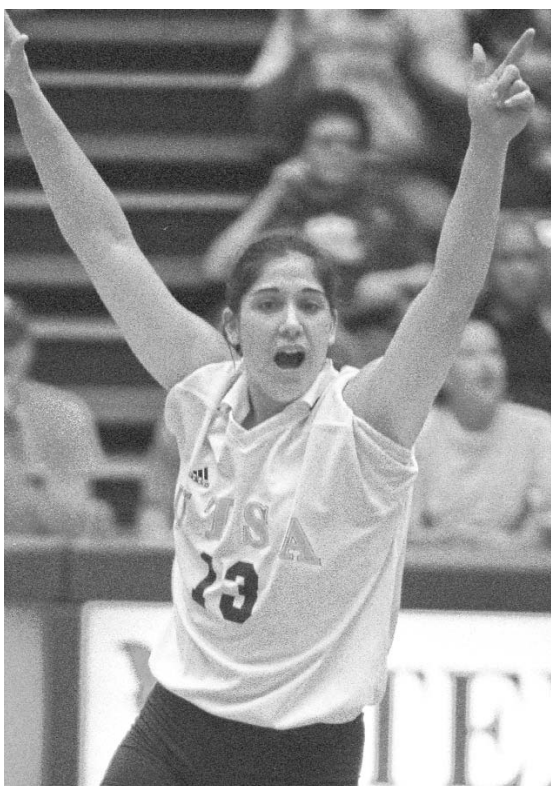




Before Devin,  
there was Derrick  
... and a whole lot  
of other folks, too.  
*Sombrilla* tracked  
down a few  
standouts in  
Roadrunner  
athletics history  
to catch up on  
their current lives  
and to relive  
their glory days.



# WHERE ARE THEY NOW



By  
Rick  
Nixon

## DERRICK GERVIN

Hindsight being 20-20, Derrick Gervin is now a man with vision away from the court that he once possessed on it.

One of the top players in UTSA men's basketball history, Gervin is the registrar for the facility that bears his older brother's name—the George Gervin Youth Center in San Antonio. As registrar he coordinates enrollment at the center, which provides vocational training, remedial education, mentoring, tutoring and job placement for more than 1,400 of San Antonio's troubled and disadvantaged youth.

"It's great now looking back on my UTSA career," Gervin says. "I didn't appreciate things then as I do now. I was a young guy who had to make major adjustments when I moved from Detroit to San Antonio to start my college career. Basketball came easy to me and I never fully took care of my academic responsibilities."

Gervin, who still holds 12 individual scoring and rebounding records at UTSA, played for the Roadrunners from 1982 through 1985. He came to San Antonio one year after the UTSA Athletic Department was created, and was the poster child for the men's basketball program in the early years.

A talented player who once scored 51 points in a single game against Baylor, he departed UTSA following his junior year and was drafted by the Philadelphia 76ers. Gervin played in the NBA for both Philadelphia and the New Jersey Nets. He also took his game overseas to such locales as Spain, Turkey, Argentina, Italy and Israel. He ended his playing career in 2000, playing in his hometown of Detroit in the American Basketball Association.



"The highlight of my career was being on the first UTSA team to win 20 games," says Gervin, who amassed 1,691 points during his three years at UTSA and ranks second all-time to Devin Brown (see Brown profile, page 26). "Going to UTSA was a positive step for me in my life. I was just a few days away from going to play at Texas, but their coach Abe Lemons got fired, and I was lucky to be able to come to San Antonio."

Gervin resides in San Antonio with his wife of 16 years, Victorria, who is a health and fitness trainer. For a man who found success playing professionally, Gervin now preaches the value of staying in school.

"My main goal today is to teach the young people the importance of education," Gervin says. "I got lucky to be able to experience the things I did. The young people today need to take education seriously so that they have something to fall back on."



#### LIZA HUNTER-GALVAN

Liza Hunter-Galvan knows all about being a good time manager. A 35-year-old mother of four, UTSA graduate student and Olympic marathon runner, Hunter-Galvan knows the importance of a day planner.

In August, Hunter-Galvan, a former four-year letter winner in track and cross country at UTSA, represented her native land of New Zealand and finished 51st in the women's marathon of the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Hunter-Galvan, who still lives and trains in San Antonio with her husband and former UTSA distance runner Ariel Galvan, battled

100-degree weather and a hilly course from the start in the town of Marathon to the finish in Panathinaiko Stadium, site of the first modern Olympic Games in 1896.

"It was incredible being able to represent your country in an event that was being held on its original site," Hunter-Galvan says. "It was a very hot day in Greece for the marathon and I felt after the race that I could have run a little faster, but I can't complain. You always think that you have more in you. When you find out afterwards that 16 other women didn't finish the race at all, you know it was a great achievement to get to the finish line."

Though she ended her UTSA running career in 1992, Hunter-Galvan still ranks in the top four of four different all-time best lists at the school. After she finishes with her work on her master's degree in school counseling in December, Hunter-Galvan will seek a school counseling position in the San Antonio area while continuing to compete in marathons and other road races. In November, she won her second-consecutive San Antonio Marathon of the Americas, finishing the women's race in 2 hours, 44 minutes and 22 seconds. It was her first San Antonio race since returning from Athens.

"The Olympic experience was fantastic and I wasn't going to hold back from life experiences which will help me in the future," says Hunter-Galvan, who runs 60 miles a week. "I attended everything I could, including the opening and closing ceremonies, which were incredible. Being able to train and meet all of the great distance runners from Kenya and Ethiopia was special."

Even though she competed under the New Zealand flag, Hunter-Galvan considers the United States home.

"I was proud to represent New Zealand at the Olympics, but San Antonio is home for me now," Hunter-Galvan says. "My life is busy with everything going on, but I wouldn't want it any other way."

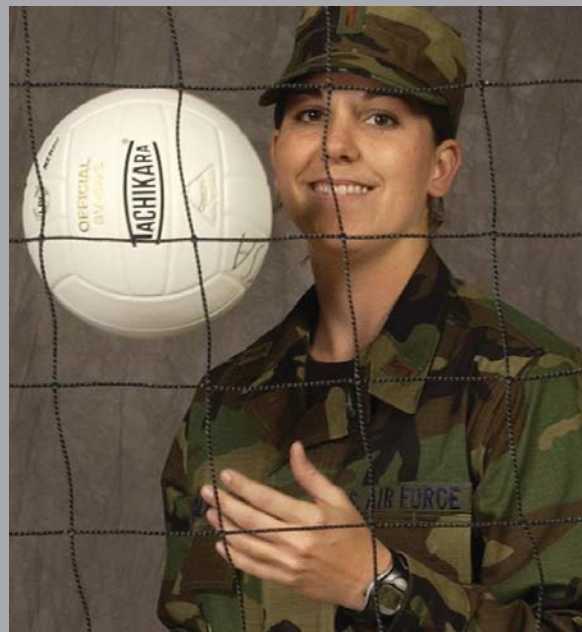
#### TAMARA LUCKEMEYER

Arguably the top volleyball player in UTSA history, Tamara Luckemeyer got a jump start on her future career when she served as the cornerstone of the Roadrunners' team from 1997 through 2000.

After graduating from UTSA in 2001, she joined the United States Air Force and today is a security forces officer stationed at Altus Air Force Base in Oklahoma. As an officer, Luckemeyer commands a flight of between 15 and 75 troops who can be deployed around the world; their jobs include securing Air Force resources on base, including buildings, aircraft and people, and conducting law enforcement.

At UTSA, Luckemeyer was the consummate student-athlete. She holds the school record with 2,034 kills while playing in 442 games during her all-conference career. A 4.0 GPA student, she was the Verizon Volleyball Academic All-American of the Year in 2000.

Luckemeyer, a native of Katy, Texas, started her UTSA career on a low note, suffering a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her knee in her first



collegiate match against North Texas. But by the end of her career she had led UTSA to its first Southland Conference (SLC) regular season championship in 1999 and the NCAA Volleyball Championships in 2000.

"The most memorable thing about our days at UTSA was playing for Coach (Katrinka Jo) Crawford," says Luckemeyer of her coach, who died following a battle with cancer in 2001. "She was such an awesome person. We lost her early but it was great that we made the NCAA play-offs in our last year playing for her. It really made the experience. Winning conference championships in 1999 and making the NCAA Tournament in 2000 were really special things that I will always remember."

The SLC Player of the Year in 1998 and 1999, Luckemeyer graduated from UTSA in 2001 with a bachelor's degree in biology. She came back to campus in August to participate in the Alumni Game against the 2004 edition of the team.

"It's really good to see that UTSA has a good team now," Luckemeyer says. "It reminds me of us when we had a really young team, and the first two years we worked real hard and the last two years it paid off for us. ... This is the exact same type of team. They have some young but really talented players here now, so it's real exciting to see them do so well. There's a great future for UTSA volleyball." ★

## Frank Kudla '85 and Nancy Kudla '87

Starting from scratch

Four years ago, dNovus RDI was selected by the Small Business Administration as the National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year—making it one of the most notable information technology companies in the nation. But just a decade before, the San Antonio company was a one-woman operation with little in the bank.

As newlyweds and recent UTSA business grads, Frank and Nancy Kudla had a dream of owning their own company, and together the two built a business that now has offices in Texas, Missouri and Washington, D.C., and generates more than \$16 million in revenues a year. Nancy acts as chairman and chief executive officer, while Frank is the chief financial officer.

"We really grew it from nothing. We had very little money to put toward the business," says Frank Kudla, who graduated with a finance degree in 1985. "It really was just a true, gut-it-out partnership, doing it more on drive and desire than anything else."

The Kudlas met and married while serving at Bolling Air Force Base in Washington, D.C., in the early '80s. Later, the two were stationed at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio. Although Nancy's undergraduate degree from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., was in economics and international affairs, her military career was shifting toward information technology—specifically working on computer programs with defense contractors. With that practical knowledge and the M.B.A. from UTSA that she earned in 1987, she decided to leave the Air Force and start her own company. Frank also left the military, taking a job in banking to support Nancy's new endeavor.

In 1989, Nancy launched dNovus RDI, and by 1994 she had landed several federal, state and local governmental contracts. With that stable foundation, Frank left the banking industry to join his wife in a business partnership that has lasted 15 years.

"It's fascinating to own your own company," he says. "I get to be involved in so many different aspects of the business—everything from the legal workings of joint ventures and partnerships to performing the normal CFO-related functions."



The Kudlas now employ about 150 individuals, including their oldest son, Frank, who is a second-year student at UTSA. The company also owns a 50-percent interest in Core6 Solutions and TechPartner Solutions, LLC—two recently formed joint ventures. Under the leadership of the Kudlas, dNovus RDI has received many awards, including the National Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year.

"It's quite an honor because it represents the complete organization, everything from business practices and ethics to infrastructure, [from] financial capacity to customer service," Frank Kudla says.

While it took a balancing act to raise four children and build a company, the Kudlas wouldn't discourage anyone from following their dreams. They would recommend "getting your feet wet" first instead of building from scratch, however.

"It takes experience, knowledge, determination, creativity and lots of good customer service," Frank Kudla says. "It's not easy. You can't just go home and leave your work at the door. It's with you 24 hours a day. But I wouldn't do anything differently."

— Lori Burling

**75 John K. Zimmermann, M.B.A.** in business, is assistant principal in the Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District in Houston.

**77 Bethany Cecilia Fugler Lueking Bates, B.A.** in early childhood education, is a third-grade teacher for the Caddo Parish School Board in Shreveport, La. Bethany married William C. "Clint" Bates Jr., an architectural drafter, in 1994. They have four grandchildren: Dylan, 9; Gavin, 8; Kiley, 2; and Madison, 8 months.

**78 Paul L. Noland, B.B.A.** in accounting, is the manager of the Greater Helotes Little League Senior Baseball team, which placed sixth in the World Series in Bangor, Maine, in August.

**Elias G. Rodriguez, M.A.** in education, is retired from teaching Spanish at the high school level in California as well as several districts in Texas, including 20 years at Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas. Elias is a member of the Texas Foreign Language Association and the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, where he served as local chapter president and advertising manager of *HISPANIA*. E-mail Elias at [egrdrzg@juno.com](mailto:egrdrzg@juno.com).

**Daniel N. Vara, B.A.** in criminal justice, was inducted in September into the Hall of Fame of the Edgewood Independent School District of San Antonio. Dan, who is district/chief counsel for the Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Department of Justice, is a 1973 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School. The Edgewood ISD Hall of Fame was created in 1982 by the student councils of the district's high schools to offer formal recognition to Edgewood ISD graduates who have brought honor and distinction to themselves and to the district. Dan was profiled in the Spring 2003 issue of *Sombrilla*; go to [www.utsa.edu/pub/sombrilla](http://www.utsa.edu/pub/sombrilla) and click on Past Issues to download the article.

**79 Ron Noble**, master of music, was elected into the Theta Delta chapter of the Society of Pi Kappa Lambda, a music fraternity. In May, Ron traveled to Istanbul, Turkey; Beirut, Lebanon; and Damascus, Syria to visit his son, a Fulbright scholar in Syria and recent graduate of the University of Texas at Austin. Ron is the instructor of bassoon in UTSA's Department of Music and has been on faculty since 1996. In Istanbul, Ron reports, he met a young bassoonist who took him and his son to his school for the arts to hear a music recital; they continue to keep in touch by e-mail. Ron also is in his 30th year as a member of the San Antonio Symphony. He has played with the Santa Fe Opera orchestra and will do so again in the summer of 2005. For his next trip overseas, Ron writes, "I am hoping to go to Cairo [Egypt], as my son is there



studying on another government grant. And hopefully, in Cairo I will be able to meet bassoon players there.”

**Keith R. Parris**, M.B.A., has published his first novel, *The Servants of Freedom*, which tells the story of an airman stationed in Germany at the height of the Cold War in 1971. Keith himself served in the Air Force for nearly eight years as a fighter pilot, flying F-4E Phantom II aircraft in Europe, Asia and the United States. “My wife and I just returned from Washington, D.C., where we attended a reunion of the 526 Tactical Fighter Squadron,” he writes. “I was assigned to that squadron from April 1971 until December 1975. Many of the friendships that are born from military service, especially from overseas service, last for a lifetime, and some are even passed on to future generations.” Since retiring in 2001, after 21 years in the gas and gas liquids industry with Valero Energy Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Corporation, Keith has devoted his time to writing. His first book, *TORI and Other Poems and Short Stories*, was privately published. His Web site is [www.keithparris.com](http://www.keithparris.com).

**Lynda Daughtry Stark**, B.A. in early childhood education, is a teacher with Northside Independent School District in San Antonio.

**80 John M. Andersen**, B.A. in history, is director of the Office of Latin America and the Caribbean with the U.S. Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C. John and his wife, Roberta, live in Springfield, Va. E-mail John at [John\\_Anderson@ita.doc.gov](mailto:John_Anderson@ita.doc.gov).  
**John H. Lucas Jr.**, B.B.A. in accounting, is director of financial management and controller for HQ Standard Systems Group in Montgomery, Ala. John and his wife, Sandra, were married in October 1993.

**81 Peter E. Ramirez**, B.S. in medical technology, is a medical doctor and medical director at St. Luke's Baptist Hospital Laboratories, Ameripath South Texas, in San Antonio.

**83 Gary Grey Abernathy**, B.S. in biology, is mobile customer service center manager for the Department of Motor Vehicles in Dahlgren, Va.

**85 Madolyn Douglas Fallis**, master of music, is councillor, Region VII for the American Guild of Organists. This is an honorary position that includes serving on the national council for the organization.

**86 Teri Glasgow**, B.B.A. in management, B.A. in English '00, is curriculum coordinator at Holy Spirit School in San Antonio. Teri is pursuing a master of education degree at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio.  
**Donna Kerr**, B.B.A. in accounting, is

managing partner at Tredway, Henion & Kerr, P.C., a CPA firm in Steamboat Springs, Colo. Donna married Rick Restall in June.

**87 Gregory M. Lee**, B.B.A. in management, announces the birth of daughter Grace Mae, born Oct. 2, 2003.

**88 Paula Hayward**, B.F.A. in art, M.B.A. in business '02, is the owner of Bear Moon Bakery in Boerne, Texas, and a member of the Boerne Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She was chairman of the board for 2002-2003.

**Michael Labay**, B.A. in humanities, former UTSA sprinter and school record holder in the 100 meter and 200 meter, began competing again this summer after a 17-year hiatus. He competed in the Masters Track & Field Regional competitions in the Dallas area, placing in the long jump, 100 meter and 200 meter.

**89 Anthony Acosta**, B.B.A. in finance, is vice president for major accounts at Hypercom Corporation in Phoenix, Ariz.  
**Kristina Gonzalez Kline**, B.A. in psychology, is a freelance technical writer.

Kristina lives in Houston with her husband, Jeffrey, and their son, Shane Austin.  
**Lois E. Vogel**, B.B.A. in accounting, is a CPA and director at Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Division of Accounting, in Lexington, Ky.

**90 Thomas Kolenda**, B.B.A. in management, is a doctor of chiropractic in Austin, Texas. Thomas and his wife, Vivian, announce the birth of daughter Erin Siobhan, born April 17.  
**Natalia Trevino**, B.A. in English, M.A. in English '92, received the Alfredo Cisneros del Moral Foundation Award for Emerging Writers for her



## Christopher Gilbert '96

Good cooking means good business

For Christopher Gilbert, the daily reward of being a chef “is practicing a craft and being good at what you do.” And he says these daily rewards outweigh the stress and risks that go hand in hand with the restaurant business. High turnover rates, instability and the proliferation of restaurants make it “a highly competitive and challenging business.”

Gilbert, the chef at Las Leyendas restaurant in the Presidio Building on the San Antonio River Walk, has built his career on a business degree, a culinary degree and an unrelenting work ethic. Gilbert earned a bachelor of arts in business administration from UTSA in 1996.

“This program served me well because I know how to do things like read an income statement and check my food costs,” he says.

In April 2001, Gilbert graduated from the highly regarded Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park,

N.Y. This is where he learned the fine art of cooking and how to put his imagination to good use.

“I’ve always been artistically minded. And being a chef, I get to create art daily,” says Gilbert.

After graduating, Gilbert returned to San Antonio, where he was employed first as the sous-chef at the Guadalupe River Ranch, followed by a stint at the Old San Francisco Steak House in Castroville and later at the St. Anthony Hotel. Working in a variety of kitchens earned him valuable experience. It also helped him realize that he was most well suited for independently owned restaurants because they offered him the most creativity and flexibility.

At Las Leyendas, Gilbert melds his business sense and his talent in food artistry to keep the restaurant running smoothly. He arrives at work around noon, managing the kitchen until the restaurant opens at 5 p.m. From there his role switches from chef to public relations expert. Gilbert spends much of each evening talking to customers and vendors, and occasionally mediating a crisis. But it doesn’t stop there.

“You can’t just breeze into the restaurant. You have to know what’s going on. Time and effort are really important,” says Gilbert, who will stay late into the night scrubbing pots and pans with his staff. Gilbert finds himself in the kitchen past midnight several times a week. But his efforts are paying off. “All in all, Las Leyendas is off to an admirable start,” notes a review in the October issue of *Texas Monthly*.

Gilbert’s advice to aspiring chefs reflects his experience and his philosophy.

“The restaurant business is high risk. It’s very hard to reach the top levels of management,” he says. But that doesn’t mean success is unattainable. “Work hard every day, over and over again,” says Gilbert. “For good or bad, you’ve done the best you could that day. The reward is learning to be good at what you do.”

— Jenny Moore



## Rosalyn Jones '82

A leader in cheerleading

For Rosalyn Jones, business is pleasure, even if it means a lot of hard work and sweat. In the 21 years since she opened Cheers, San Antonio's first cheerleading studio, hundreds of young lives have been touched by her guidance. Many of the students Jones coached have become cheerleaders for professional sports teams and successful athletes.

When Jones was profiled for the first issue of *Sombrilla* in 1984, she had just opened Cheers and was already making her mark. The studio has grown substantially in both its business and its reputation since then—adding a summer cheerleading camp, a statewide competition and a three-day ProDance Camp. The camp gives professional sports cheerleading teams from around the world the opportunity to learn from the nation's top choreographers. Over the last two decades, Jones, who is also the mother of an 8-year-old son, has mentored young women who want to achieve their personal best. "The goal of Cheers has always been to help girls realize their potential and reach their goals," says Jones. But instilling self-confidence isn't just about winning. Cheers places great importance on the individual—supporting personal development, good morals, sound ethical choices and an all-around positive attitude. "It's not about winning," says Jones. "It's about sportsmanship."

After graduating from UTSA with a bachelor of arts in psychology, Jones worked for the Goodwill Corporation conducting psychological testing for people having trouble finding a job. But it wasn't a good fit. At the age of 24, she committed herself to

a lifelong dream of turning her knowledge and talent for cheerleading into a profitable business endeavor. She opened Cheers in November 1983. "This is my passion. This is what I enjoy doing," she says.

In the beginning, Jones consulted tax and accounting experts to make up for her lack of expertise. Her psychology degree, she says, helped prepare her to deal with people, to inspire them and to motivate them. For Jones, her commitment to succeed outweighed the importance of a business background. "There's no formula to business success," she says. "It's just going to work every day, working hard, going with your gut feeling and finding and filling a niche."

Cheers, she believes, is served well by the fact that San Antonio is a family-oriented town with competitive high school sports teams and strong school spirit. "Texas holds a big market for talented, athletic cheerleading squads, and in my opinion, we have the most talented cheerleaders in the nation, bar none," says Jones.

Another key to business success is being a well-rounded person with a strong support system. Her mother, Bennie Jones, has been her office manager since the first day Cheers opened its doors.

To relax, Jones enjoys playing piano. In 2001, she competed in St. Mary's University's amateur piano competition, winning second place in her age division, and in January of 2002 traveled to New York, where she performed at Carnegie Hall.

Her advice to recent college graduates is to "do a lot of soul searching, find out what your passions are and where your talents lie, research your interest by asking a lot of questions, network and have a good tax attorney. Then, go for it."

— Jenny Moore

at Northwest Vista College. She will have two poems, "Penelope, Yes" and "Bodies of Knowledge," published in the forthcoming winter issue of *Octavo*, the poetry quarterly for the Alsop Review.

**91 Dennis Ann Strong, B.A.** in history, M.A. in history '94, is academic dean at O'Connor High School, Northside Independent School District in San Antonio.

**92 Mark E. Goldstein, B.S.** in biology, is medical sharing coordinator at South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio. Mark is a combat veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

**93 Liza Hunter-Galvan, B.S.** in kinesiology and health, participated in the summer Olympics as part of the New Zealand track team. Liza is the first New Zealander to run the Olympic marathon since Lorraine Moller in 1992. She finished 51st in the race. (See a full profile of Liza on page 25.) **Carie A. Wilson, B.A.** in political science, is vice president of marketing at Carpet Management in San Antonio.

**94 David DuMenil, B.A.** in interdisciplinary studies, announces the birth of grandson Carson, born June 5. **Amanda Flores-Witte, B.A.** in American studies, received a master's degree in organization and leadership from the University of San Francisco. Amanda was appointed to the Social Service Human Relations Board for the City of Alameda, Calif.

**95 Emily Amanda Blasé, B.F.A.** in art, is a special education teacher with the San Antonio Independent School District. **Lionel F. "Fred" Solis, M.P.A.** in public administration, is a colonel in the U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Fred received a Bronze Star for service in the global war on terrorism.

**96 Kathleen Arriola Perez, B.A.** in sociology, is a service representative for the Social Security Administration in San Antonio. **Chris Sauter, M.F.A.** in art, had his work included in a group show, "The Sublime is (Still) Now," at the prestigious Elizabeth Dee Gallery in Chelsea, N.Y.

**97 Karen White Lawhead, B.B.A.** in accounting, is owner of Karen W. Lawhead, CPA, in San Marcos, Texas. **Connie Stafford Sherman, M.B.A.** in business, is vice president of administrative services for Glendale Community College, Maricopa Community College District, in Peoria, Ariz. **Kirk E. Smith, M.S.** in computer sci-



ence, is manager of embedded systems development for Securelogix Corp. in San Antonio.

**Carlos J. Trevino**, B.S. in kinesiology and health, teaches social studies and coaches tennis at H.B. Zachry Middle School in the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio.

**99 Lisa K. Gruber Brown**, B.A. in psychology, announces the birth of daughter Alexandra, born Dec. 12, 2003. **Susan Budge**, M.F.A. in art, was selected 2004 Artist of the Year by the Texas Accountants and Lawyers for the Arts, and her work was featured at the organization's June 5 black-tie gala at the University of Houston's Architecture Department atrium. "My son who was 14 months old at that time even got to go, in a tux provided by his grandmother," Susan writes. June 5 also marked the opening of Susan's show at the New Gallery in Houston, where she displayed about 30 new sculptures. "The next show that I will be participating in will be an invitational exhibition held in Baltimore in conjunction with the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts conference. Aside from that, I am currently represented by Loved Fine Arts in New York, and have been working on the design enhancement for Brackenridge Park with Ann Wallace (another local artist) and Jim Grey from Rialto Studios." Susan is an associate professor teaching ceramics at San Antonio College, where she received tenure in 1999.

**Marsha Carrasco Cooper**, B.A. in psychology, has accepted the position of collegiate province officer with Sigma Kappa Sorority. Her two-year term as a national sorority officer began in June 2004. Marsha will be responsible for working with the collegiate chapter Beta Omega at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**Anthony Gerard Garcia**, B.A. in psychology, and **Krista Maria Garza**, B.A. in psychology '00, were married on June 7, 2003.

**Jessica Denise Garcia**, B.B.A. in management, is marketing director for Gonzaba Medical Group in San Antonio.

**Bronwen Taylor**, B.A. in English, received her master's degree in journalism from Ohio University in June 2003. She now resides in Houston and serves as writer and editor in the Office of Communications at Texas Southern University. Bronwen also has plans to begin work as a freelance editor and proofreader. E-mail Bronwen at brtaylor3@earthlink.net. **Martha Tijerina**, M.A. in Spanish, is an interpreter for the U.S. Immigration Courts, U.S. Department of Justice. Martha founded Friends of Guadalupe Home, which supports the only transi-

tional living program in San Antonio for homeless, pregnant women. Contact Martha at (210) 476-0707.

**Karen Ann Evans Wade**, B.S. in kinesiology and health, is marketing and communications director at the YMCA of Central New Mexico. Karen announces the birth of her second child, Anna Catherine, on Dec. 21, 2003.

**Gerri Williams**, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, M.A. in education '02, is one of three regional marketing and community relations coordinators for Eagle Academies of Texas schools. Eagle Academies of Texas is a public charter school holder that has 18 middle and high schools throughout Texas. Gerri lives in Beaumont, Texas, with her husband, Shawn, who is a school principal.

**00 Tonie Lozano DiGiulio**, B.A. in political science, is a trade program assistant for the Central and Eastern Business Information Center in Washington, D.C.

**Rachel C. Hernandez**, B.A. in history, a world history teacher at Health Careers High School in San Antonio, was chosen as one of 50 U.S. teachers to travel to Japan this past summer via the Toyota International Teacher Program. The program, now in its sixth year, exposes high school teachers in states where Toyota has plants to Japanese culture, history, industry, environment and education. Rachel visited Tokyo, Kyoto, Nagoya and Toyota City; as part of her cultural training, she studied calligraphy, flower arranging and *waraku*, a form of martial arts. A highlight of her trip was studying under a Noh theater grand master. Rachel says she applied for the program because she wanted to be able to bring real-world experience to her classroom. "It's kind of hard to teach world history and not have been anywhere," she quips. "And the great thing about it is somebody else paid for it." Rachel is now preparing a lesson plan on Japan for her students that will culminate in a *matsuri*, or festival, at the school this spring.

**01 Troy D. Mitchell**, B.B.A. in marketing, is sales manager at Pro Demo Services in San Antonio. **Samuel Alfredo Moore**, B.B.A. in personnel and human resource management, is store manager at John-Williams Interiors in Austin, Texas. **Donald R. Philbin**, E.M.B.A., was named president of Billing Concepts, Inc. Don has been with the company since 1988, overseeing almost every department and holding titles of chief operating officer and general counsel. **James "Jim" T. Sullivan**, B.S. in health, is district executive for Boy Scouts of America Circle Ten

Council in Dallas.

**02 Laura Y. Sosa Bustos**, B.A. in psychology, is a case manager for Communities in Schools of San Antonio. Laura and her husband, Gerard, were married Oct. 18, 2003.

**Edna P. Vela Coleman**, B.S. in kinesiology and health, announces the birth of son Amani Christian, born Oct. 10, 2003.

**Rebecca Anita Vela Gonzalez**, B.B.A. in information systems, is employed at Zimmer Nagel and Associates in San Antonio.

**Laura Hernandez**, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, is a bilingual educator for the San Antonio Independent School District.

**Veronica Lawson**, B.A. in communication, is assistant director of development at San Antonio Academy.

**Jared Strohl**, B.B.A. in marketing, is an associate adjuster at USAA in San Antonio.

**03 Heather Amaro**, B.A. in criminal justice, is a security specialist with the Air Intelligence Agency in San Antonio.

**Alejandra Sánchez Anzelone**, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, is an elementary teacher with the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio. Alejandra's daughter, Erika, is a freshman at UTSA in the College of Sciences after graduating from Clark High School with 12 college credits.

**Ellen Bassuk Barshop**, B.B.A. in marketing, is a registered representative for Planto, Roe and Associates in San Antonio.

**Edward L. Buys**, B.B.A. in management, is a certified project management professional and works as a construction project leader for H-E-B Grocery

Company in San Antonio.

**Kristin Jorgensen Colbenson**, B.A. in interdisciplinary studies, is a fourth-grade teacher at Brauchle Elementary in the Northside Independent School District in San Antonio. Kristin was named first-year Teacher of the Year at Brauchle.

**Marc A. Massad**, B.B.A. in general business, married Irma A. Cavazos on Feb. 14.

**Harvey Moy**, B.S. in electrical engineering, is an engineer with Motorola in Seguin, Texas. Harvey was a National Dean's List Honoree in 2004. Harvey is married to alumna Maribel Lai, B.B.A. in management '02.

**Jason Thomas Trbovich**, B.S. in mechanical engineering, is a design engineer for STP Nuclear Operating Company in Wadsworth, Texas.

## IN MEMORIAM

**Evelyn Marie Rischner**, master of music '90 and a Sister of Divine Providence, died on Aug. 11. Rischner began her ministerial life in music education at St. Joseph's School in Yoakum, Texas, in 1962. During the next two decades, Rischner taught music in several schools in Louisiana and Texas. She was a music teacher at St. Anthony's School from 1967 to 1970, the choral director at Providence High School from 1978 to 1987 and an organist for the Brothers at Central Catholic in 1984. She also taught piano at Our Lady of the Lake University and St. Martin Hall. Rischner and two other sisters had a music studio in their home since 1987.

# KEEP IN TOUCH

We want to know what you've been up to lately. New jobs, relocation, accomplishments, marriages—whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates.

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# Back to the Three R's

By Suzy Gray

Student life at UTSA is alive and well. With the passage of the Campus Life Initiative in the spring 2004 semester, students voted to expand the year-old Recreation and Wellness Center by 200 percent. The center opened in January 2003 and has come to be known as the place to have fun, work out and simply see and be seen. With its doors open 110 hours each week, the Rec is blowin' and goin' seven days a week.

So why is the Rec important to UTSA? Well, it goes back to the three R's—no, not those three R's—a new set of R's for the college students of 2004 and beyond. We're talking about recruitment, relationships and retention.

## RECRUITMENT

Recruiting students to UTSA is a fast and furious business. In addition to the basics that college students have always evaluated—residence halls, the library, computer labs and academic programs—college students in 2004 expect a great recreation center. They aren't just looking for any run-of-the-mill gym; they're looking for a full-service, state-of-the-art facility with comfortable locker rooms, multiple play areas, group exercise classes, televisions, large workout areas and places to eat. The students of today are most savvy when they visit the Rec during their prospective student campus tour. They will frequently quote to us components of another university's recreation center in an effort to weigh what they saw on that campus against what they are seeing at UTSA.

UTSA took a huge step forward in the recruitment process when the Rec opened. And when the \$38 million expansion to the Rec opens in 2007, we will take another huge step toward recruiting the best, brightest and most involved students to UTSA.

## RELATIONSHIPS

The Rec is more than just a place to work out or shoot hoops. It's also a place to build relationships and foster a community environment. While some would mistakenly think we are in the intramural sports business or the fitness business, we are actually in the relationship-building business. Folks can make new friends and hang out with old friends. The Rec is a place where everyone is on an equal playing field. There is no concern about who lives on campus or who commutes, who is president of an organization or who is a scared first-year student. When a student, faculty or staff member comes to the Rec, he or she is seen as a VIP. Everyone who walks in has an intrinsic value simply by being a member of the UTSA campus community.

The Rec strives to be UTSA's front porch, with the entire campus community invited to join in the fun. I especially like the saying, "UTSA: The University for All Texans." This goes to the root of one of our core values at the Rec Center—inclusion. We say, "The Rec Center: Open to All Roadrunners."



## RETENTION

When everyone has on gym shorts and a T-shirt, and status is checked at the front door, relationships take root. This totally accepting atmosphere creates stable relationships, which in turn lead students to stay in school and make it to graduation day. Studies have shown that students who make these personal relationships on campus bond with the institution and have a better chance of graduating. By being in the relationship business, we are also in the retention business.

By combining recruitment, relationships and retention, the Rec creates a diverse community of successful leaders. From these outside-the-classroom experiences students learn the skills that employers value most—the ability to work as part of a team, the ability to set a goal and understand what it means to see it through, and the ability to understand winning and losing and what we learn from both experiences.

Discussions on the campus frequently center on the prospect of UTSA moving to tier-one status. In order to do so, every department on campus must be driven to excellence. A tier-one recreation center is an important element in UTSA's vision of educating the whole student.

The Rec is on the move—continually adjusting to the wants and needs of the campus community. We embrace our role as leaders in this campus community and look forward to new opportunities each day.

*Suzy Gray is executive director of Campus Recreation. For more information on the Rec, go to [www.utsa.edu/recreation](http://www.utsa.edu/recreation).*

**IN YOUR OWN WORDS ... OR 800 OF THEM.** Perspective is open to faculty, staff and alumni. Submit your personal essay of no more than 800 words for consideration to [sombrilla@utsa.edu](mailto:sombrilla@utsa.edu).





**“I have enjoyed giving back to the university what it gave to me.”**

Alumna Yvonne Katz, Ed.D., who retires this fall as superintendent of Houston’s Spring Branch Independent School District after 39 years in education, credits UTSA with helping her achieve her goals as an educator. “The university has been very important to me. It’s been important for me to see that San Antonio has a major state university, especially to provide education to its citizens, many of whom could not afford to go outside of the city for college.”

#### **A LONGTIME RELATIONSHIP**

A member of the university’s first graduating class in 1974, Yvonne Katz enrolled at UTSA to earn a master’s degree in education as part of her plan to become a principal. The first time she went to visit her major professor, Dr. Wayne Laughery, at the university’s first campus at the Koger Center, she was surprised to find his office furnished with nothing more than two chairs. “He was sitting in one chair and the telephone was in the other chair, and that was his office,” she recalls. “And I thought, ‘Oh my, what am I getting myself into?’”

“I knew I was in the right place when I started talking to Wayne because he was so wonderful in terms of helping me understand that this really was going to become a university.”

#### **GIVING BACK**

Several years after graduating, Katz established a scholarship at UTSA to help other education students achieve their goals. As the first president of the

Alumni Association, she challenged other alumni to give back and has been gratified to see UTSA’s scholarship opportunities multiply. A UTSA donor for more than 20 years, she also has established a charitable trust as part of her estate plan, so her generosity will continue to benefit the university beyond her lifetime.

“I have enjoyed giving back to the university what it gave to me,” she says. “It believed in me. And I believed in it, even though there were only two chairs in my professor’s office.”

**As UTSA grows, generous gifts such as the scholarships and charitable trust established by Yvonne Katz become even more important to the university and its students. To learn more about giving, contact UTSA’s Development Office at (210) 458-4130.**

#### **ON THE WEB:**

**[www.utsa.edu/development](http://www.utsa.edu/development)**



## Looking back

### What's an "e-mail"?

In 1991, UTSA heralded the arrival of e-mail to campus with the donation of a \$100,000 computer system from Silicon Graphics. In this photograph, Don Williams and John Curtis (left to right) of Silicon Graphics present a symbolic e-mail to UTSA President Sam Kirkpatrick and David Senseman, associate professor of biology.

It was Senseman who arranged for the Mountain View, Calif., company to donate the system, which he named Lonestar. E-mail was by no means ubiquitous in 1991 as it is today, but Senseman saw it as a way to facilitate communications between professors and students outside the classroom.

"I thought there was a real need for faculty and students to communicate electronically," he says.

Senseman also served as administrator for the first couple of years for the system's 500 or so users, and, when he wasn't teaching, helped faculty and students set up their e-mail accounts. "The problem was they were always losing their passwords," Senseman quips.

Today UTSA's Lonestar system serves some 27,000 active users.