

The cover of UT Dallas Magazine, Volume 5, Issue 2, Spring 2015. The title "UT DALLAS" is prominently displayed in large, orange and white letters, with "MAGAZINE" in smaller orange letters below it. The background is a dense collage of various mechanical and electronic components, including gears, metal plates, a blue USB cable, a green circuit board, a silver metal plate with a blue USB port, and several small, colorful plastic blocks (yellow, orange, blue, red). The overall theme is engineering and technology.

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UT DALLAS

M A G A Z I N E

Volume 5, Issue 2
Spring 2015

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FEATURES

ON THE BALL: BILL PETITT

14

When Bill Petitt began his career more than 30 years ago, he started out as a sports reporter. Petitt, who worked at three other Texas universities before coming to UT Dallas as associate athletic director in 2007, was named athletic director last June, following the retirement of Chris Gage.

STARTING FRESH

18

Four freshmen moved into the newest housing option on campus—Residence Hall West—in August. Meet Daniel Colina, Monica Lisot, Carlos Rodriguez and Jamesha Taylor as they navigate their first semester of college.

THE FUN FACTOR

24

Having fun is what science should be all about, says Dr. Ken Berry, assistant director of the University's Science and Engineering Education Center. Experts agree. Combining science, math and fun connects children not only to future careers but also to improved skills in communication, teamwork and analytical thinking.

ALUMNI PROFILE: BREW MASTERS

39

From taprooms to a cidery to a beer filling station, five alumni are leading an explosion of craft beer breweries in North Texas. Along the way, they've collected national awards and patented new systems.



LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

In response to the Fall Issue ...

Arts and Culture

The Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History is certainly great for UTD. The staff should have interest in the Community College Humanities Association—www.ccha-assoc.org.

UTD should have a strong outreach with the Dallas community colleges—and should establish a bachelor's degree in manufacturing management that is more applied than engineering. This would be useful for associate's degree technicians. Topics in factory planning and capital equipment economics are needed for Dallas-area industry.

Glen W. Spielbauer BGS'85

Dallas, Texas

The Good Life

The comments made by Andrew Seguin BS'09 in the fall feature, "The Good Life," about the value of his degree from UT Dallas, were right on mark. Our curriculum [in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science] focuses on fundamentals of computer science and software engineering. Our faculty really want students to "learn to learn" so that they can cope with whatever comes their way in their professional careers.

In addition to an excellent classroom education, the computer science faculty and staff strive very hard to organize helpful activities outside the classroom. We have the discrete math mentor center, the programming sequence tutoring center (in addition to the Student Success Center run by the University), and living learning community activities. There are special interest groups within the student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery, various vocationally oriented workshops and lectures on workplace skills. This list goes on and on. I urge our students to take full advantage of all these activities as a way to become even more successful in their careers.

**Dr. Gopal Gupta, Erik Jonsson Chair and
Department Head, Computer Science**

UT Dallas

Richardson, Texas

"The Good Life" also prompted this Facebook conversation in January:

"Too bad that I'm not in those statistics. I've been through over 30 interviews.

Ben Chandy

"I grew up in the years of when college automatically equalled a great job. That's just not the case anymore. Make wise choices in choosing your major and career field!"

Samantha Tracy

"Opportunities are more predominantly seized these days through your networks vs. polished resumes. Many thriving startups recruit heavily talented individuals with humanities backgrounds. Look at the world as the intertwined conglomerate that it is and stop having a one-sided view of how a background can be applied."

Maria-Luiza Popescu

Treasures on the Third Floor

In the article "Treasures on the Third Floor," you picture a United States flag, but you call it an "American" flag. There is no such thing! I understand our laziness in speech that prompts us to call the U.S. "America," but that should not be done in printed material that represents a university.

Tom Brophy

Azle, Texas

Editor's note: We appreciate feedback from watchful readers. Your letter spurred us to do a bit of research, since the correct (or incorrect) form of referencing the national flag is not addressed in either the federal Flag Code or the Associated Press Stylebook. We found that every commander-in-chief since Harry S. Truman has used the term "American flag" in official remarks or proclamations.

Join the conversation!

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

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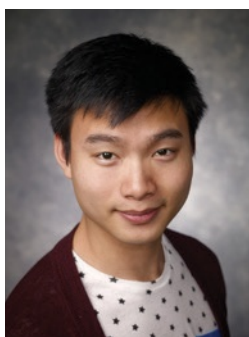
Robin Russell

Robin Russell is a communications manager for UT Dallas, where she writes and promotes student stories for Student Affairs, the Office of Undergraduate Education and the Honors College. Previously, she wrote for UT Southwestern Medical Center, was the national managing editor for *The United Methodist Reporter* and was a feature writer for *The Longview News-Journal*. She has earned national, regional and state awards for her writing. She earned a BA in journalism from The University of Wisconsin-Madison and an MA in interdisciplinary studies from The University of Texas at Tyler.



Amanda Siegfried

Amanda Siegfried joined UT Dallas as a communications manager in 2011, where she covers the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, the Office of Research and the Office of Technology Commercialization. Siegfried holds a BA in physics from Purdue University. She has written for more than 20 years about physical sciences, engineering, technology and biomedical research at such institutions as UT Southwestern Medical Center, the University of Houston and Purdue.



Kevin Yang

Kevin Yang is a senior studying management information systems in the Naveen Jindal School of Management and photographer for the Office of Communications, specializing in shooting student life and campus events.



Stuart Yun BS'13

Stuart Yun BS'13 lives in Palmdale, California. A member of the team that won the 2011 BattleBots National Championship, Yun earned a degree in mechanical engineering. He worked for Virgin Galactic/The Spaceship Company before taking his current engineering position with Scaled Composites.



ON CAMPUS

Vietnam Memorial Replica Brings Messages of Healing, Honor on Visit



A November ceremony featured a flyover by a vintage helicopter and a 21-gun salute during the campus exhibition of The Wall That Heals.

The Wall, a half-scale, 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., has been exhibited in more than 350 cities throughout the U.S. It is designed to honor those who served in the Vietnam War and to provide a place of healing for families and friends.

The keynote speaker at the ceremony was U.S. Rep. Sam Johnson, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel and prisoner of war for nearly seven years.

UTD student Harold Williams and professor Dr. Joseph C. Picken were among other veterans of the war who spoke during the event. Picken talked about one name on The Wall—David Nicholas, his best friend and shipmate who was killed in action. Picken named one of his sons in memory of Nicholas.

About 9 million Americans served in the U.S. armed forces from 1959 to 1975, with some 3 million serving in Vietnam. More than 58,000 Americans died and more than 300,000 were wounded in the war.

An on-site mobile museum traveled with the replica, displaying artifacts and information about The Wall, the Vietnam War and the era surrounding the conflict.

-Robin Russell

Above: Vietnam veteran Jim Harrelson, who served for 23 years in the Navy, brought a list of friends he was looking for on The Wall That Heals.

Far right: Biology senior Valeria Quinones looks for her grandfather's name, Antonio Quinones, on The Wall.

Right: A visitor left roses at The Wall That Heals.



WHOOSH!

Naveen Jindal School of Management students formed a chapter of the **Society for Human Resource Management**. The group plans to host professional and social events, along with developing HR course planning.

Angelica Barriga BS'03, MBA'08 created a scholarship for full-time undergraduate students in the **Naveen Jindal School of Management**. Barriga, a first-generation college graduate, established the scholarship in recognition of the support she received as a student.

Drs. Kenneth O and Rashaunda Henderson of the **Texas Analog Center of Excellence** received grants totaling about \$1 million from the **Defense University Research Instrumentation Program** for their research and development in high frequency integrated circuit design.

The University welcomed 47 new **Terry Scholars**—23 of whom are freshmen—in the fall. Overall, 116 Terry Scholars are enrolled at UTD.

McRaven Appointed as Chancellor



William H. McRaven

The UT System Board of Regents appointed William H. McRaven as UT System chancellor, effective Jan. 5.

McRaven was a four-star admiral when he retired from the U.S. Navy last year. As commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command, he oversaw a 69,000-person, \$10 billion operation.

Succeeding Dr. Francisco G. Cigarroa to the chancellor's post, McRaven has pledged to continue moving the system's trajectory upward.

"Great universities demand the best from their students, their faculty, their researchers and their administrators. Great universities not only teach—they educate, they build leaders, they create thinkers and doers—across every aspect of life," McRaven said. "This university system should be known for producing tomorrow's leaders in every field of endeavor."

McRaven graduated from The University of Texas in 1977 and received the university's Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2012. **-UT System News**

Jindal School Addresses Business of Health Care with New Degree

The Naveen Jindal School of Management will offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Healthcare Management, which blends business acumen with health care specific technical knowledge.

The University is the only UT System institution that offers a bachelor's degree in health care through a business school.



"The Jindal School is offering a robust curriculum taught by seasoned health care executives and talented researchers for an unprecedented educational experience," said Britt Berrett PhD'09, the program's director. "We are building on existing strengths in cross-over disciplines, such as IT (information technology) and supply chain, to make this degree even more valuable."

The introductory class on health care familiarizes students with the breadth and scope of the industry. Additional health care specific classes focus on health care accounting, information systems, economics, law and regulatory environments.

Business classes include a variety of disciplines that are relevant to health care. They include marketing, supply side management, information technology, organizational behavior, management methods in decision-making, operations management, international business and strategic planning.

In addition, students can select from elective health care specific classes including human resources, hospital administration and new courses that respond to a changing and dynamic health care environment.

"The need is there. Health care is a \$3 trillion business in America, and due in part to an aging population, it's only going to continue to grow," Berrett said. **-Karah Womack**



Dr. Britt Berrett

New College Brings Undergraduate Honors Programs under One Roof

The UT System Board of Regents approved the creation of an Honors College for undergraduates at UT Dallas. The new college will bring together a number of

programs under one roof, including the National Merit Scholars, Terry Scholars and Collegium V Honors programs.



Dr. Ted Harpham

Dr. Ted Harpham, associate provost and professor of political

science, will serve as dean. He said the new college builds on the foundations of the University's existing honors programs, including the Collegium V program he has led since 1998.

"Over the last decade, we've had a number of high-end programs for the brightest students coming to UT Dallas. This lets people see we take honors education very seriously," Harpham said. "The Honors College will give our programs more coherence and enable us to establish our priorities in a more coordinated way."

-Robin Russell

Ebola Response Takes Center Stage at Forum

As Dallas dealt with the first Ebola case diagnosed in the United States, the University hosted a community forum in November sponsored by *The Dallas Morning News*. Panelists included scientists, physicians, and local and state officials who discussed the challenges and the lessons learned after dealing with the deadly disease.

About 300 people attended “Vital Lessons: How Dallas Confronted the Ebola Challenge” in the Edith O’Donnell Arts and Technology Building lecture hall.

Writers from the *Morning News* posed questions during the forum—as did those from the audience and Twitter users—to 10 panelists, which included Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins; City of Richardson Mayor Laura Maczka; Zachary Thompson, director of Dallas County Health and Human Services; and Dr. David Lakey, then-commissioner of the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Topics ranged from a review of how the hospital and health care workers handled the Ebola patients to myths about how the disease is transmitted and the status of vaccine development.

Dr. Seema Yasmin, public health professor at the University, former Centers for Disease Control and Prevention epidemiologist and staff writer for the *Morning News*, was among the journalists moderating the forum.

Yasmin asked about inconsistent public messaging during the



Dallas County Judge Clay Jenkins responds to a question during the conference.

crisis, and wanted to know what officials learned about effective public communication and about aligning those messages with scientific facts.

Jenkins said that any time people hear the phrase “out of an abundance of caution,” that means “someone is going to disregard science. ... I think we want to avoid doing things out of an abundance of caution and just stick with the science.” **-Amanda Siegfried**



Student volunteers planted carrots in a large planter at the University’s Community Garden.

Comet Volunteers Step In to Make a Difference on Day of Service

More than 400 UTD students gave up a Saturday morning to make a difference in the community.

Some planted 27 trees on campus. Others sorted 710 canned items donated to an area food pantry. Still others assembled 500 activity books and snack kits for foster children.

Students made life easier for staff and volunteers at 24 area nonprofit agencies during Viva Volunteer, held annually in conjunction with the national Make a Difference Day.

Gathering at 5:30 a.m. on Oct. 25, the volunteers piled on buses at the University and headed out to tackle projects across the community as well as on campus. They provided a total of 2,045 volunteer hours, giving agencies nearly \$48,000 of service that day.

“Many of our Viva Volunteer participants were inspired and excited about their volunteer time as well as about making new Comet friends and gaining new knowledge and skills,” said Monalisa Amidar, assistant director of the Office of Student Volunteerism.

Maiqui Jimena, a chemistry junior from the Philippines, volunteered to be a site leader for a team of six at the Plano Animal Shelter. Her team laundered pet bedding, washed windows and cleaned dog dishes.

“They didn’t even take breaks,” Jimena said. “I think it sets a good example. We see the needs and it plants the thought in our mind that maybe I can do something. Maybe I can be the person to give that help.” **-Robin Russell**



UT Dallas students Maiqui Jimena (left) and Karen Beserra clean towels and pet bedding at the Plano Animal Shelter as part of Viva Volunteer.

Dr. Thomas Campbell, executive director of the Callier Center for Communication Disorders, was awarded the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association's highest honor—the Honors of the Association—during the group's annual convention.

Seventeen undergraduate students participated in the **2014 Anson L. Clark Summer Research Program**. Participants studied and conducted research with mentors from the University's various schools.

Doctoral student **Harisankar Namasivayam MS'11** was a top presenter in the **Young Physicist Lightning Round** at a meeting of the **U.S. Large Hadron Collider Users Association** in Washington, D.C. He presented research conducted at CERN's Large Hadron Collider near Geneva, Switzerland.

Hillary Corwin BS'13 worked for the U.S. Agency for International Development Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean via the **Virtual Student Foreign Service Internship**, a program that allows participants at home to make an impact abroad.



"Score" marked 20 years of dance classes at UTD.

Anniversary of First Dance Class Celebrated with Performance by Alumni, Students

About 20 years have passed since the first dance class was offered by the School of Arts and Humanities.

To celebrate the anniversary, students and alumni presented "Score," a performance that included original choreography by faculty members Michele Hanlon, Misty Owens and Micki Saba for the student Dance Ensemble.

"It has been a great pleasure watching the dance area grow and evolve for the past 20 years," said Hanlon, clinical associate professor. "The students we work with each semester—from art and performance and so many other majors—have been the driving energy behind all that has been achieved. It is great to be able to welcome back a few of our alumni to perform in the show. Their participation has built some wonderful connections for our current students." **-Chaz Lilly**



Kiplinger's considers admission rate, the percentage of students who return for their sophomore year, the student-faculty ratio and four-year graduation rate in its rankings.

University Climbs to 34th in Kiplinger's Best Value College Rankings

The University is again featured in *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* list of 100 best values among public colleges. The ranking, which appears in *Kiplinger's* February 2015 issue, lists four-year schools that deliver outstanding academics at an affordable price.

UT Dallas rose to 34th on the 2015 list, up from 39th in 2014. Contributing to the rise in the University's rankings is its high four-year graduation rate, low average student debt at graduation, abundant financial aid, low sticker price and overall value.

"It's gratifying to be recognized again for offering both academic excellence and economic value to families of college students," President David E. Daniel said. "This ranking indicates that a degree from UT Dallas continues to be a solid investment for our students, and that our faculty and staff are maintaining the standards necessary to ensure a quality experience for our students, even during a time of rapid growth."

Three other schools in Texas also made the 2015 list. The University of Texas at Austin ranked 14th, Texas A&M University was 25th, and Texas Tech University was 90th.

The rankings are available online at kiplinger.com/links/college. **-Robin Russell**

FROM THE LAB



UT Dallas Team Infuses Polymer Chemistry into ‘Minecraft’ Modification

The 3-D world of the popular “Minecraft” video game became more entertaining, perilous and educational, thanks to a comprehensive code modification kit, “Polycraft World,” created by University professors, students and alumni.

With “Polycraft World,” millions of “Minecraft” players worldwide can incorporate the properties of many materials—chemical elements and compounds—into game action. For example, said Dr. Walter Voit BS’05, MS’06, players can harvest natural rubber from trees, thwart enemies using flamethrowers and jetpacks, explore underwater biomes by scuba diving, or rapidly travel through virtual worlds on pogo sticks while wearing custom-molded running shoes.

“The accessibility and popularity of

‘Minecraft’ make it a great tool as an educational platform,” said Voit, an assistant professor of materials science and engineering, mechanical engineering and bioengineering. “Using our ‘Polycraft World’ mod, people of all ages will have an opportunity to navigate materials science, including metallurgy and polymer chemistry, in a fun, creative, self-paced environment.”

“Minecraft” players build their own worlds from scratch using 3-D cubes. In the open-ended game, users can construct castles and tend to animals, or compete on large, online multiplayer servers where players can destroy each other’s creations and fight battles.

“Polycraft World” was the brainchild of Voit and two fellow programmers, close friends Chris Wahlen BS’07, MS’09, and

James McAndrew BS’04, MS’06. Voit, McAndrew and Wahlen also brought on a team of talented help, including UT Dallas assistant professor of chemistry Dr. Ron Smaldone and chemistry lecturer Dr. Christina Thompson, local entrepreneur Jim Amato, and undergraduate students Shelbi Parker and John Will, along with Jake Sporrer, an undergrad from Iowa State.

The team created Wikimedia-style help pages found at polycraft.utdallas.edu. This site explains how to perform complex tasks in “Polycraft World.” For example, to create a flamethrower, the user would have to learn about plastics processing in order to refine and fabricate the necessary components to build the device.

—LaKisha Ladson

Dr. Chandramallika Basak of the **School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences** was awarded \$165,000 in grants over three years from the **Darrell K Royal Research Fund for Alzheimer's Disease**. The grants help fund her research into mild cognitive impairment in older adults.

Drs. Daniel A. Griffith and **Yongwan Chun** of the **School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences** received a grant from the **National Institutes of Health** to study the trustworthiness of data in spatial analysis.

The **Friends of BrainHealth**, a donor circle that advocates and supports the work of the **Center for BrainHealth**, raised more than \$302,000 and awarded four \$25,000 research grants to young scientists at the annual **Friends of BrainHealth Scientist Selection Luncheon**.

Nearly 450 juniors and seniors were "tapped" in class with surprise invitations from University administrators to join **Phi Kappa Phi**, the nation's oldest, largest and most selective collegiate honor society for all disciplines.

Ethnic Diversity Can Prevent Stock Market Bubbles, Study Finds

Stock market bubbles have led to economic catastrophes from the Great Depression through the dot-com boom of the 1990s and up to the recent housing financial crisis. Although these episodes cause widespread financial havoc, the reasons behind economic bubbles remain unclear.

A new study proposes a cause: Bubbles happen when people follow the behavior of others, particularly when surrounded by ethnic peers. In an article in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, a team of researchers found that markets of ethnically diverse traders are much less likely to suffer bubbles. These findings could have a lasting impact on economics—and ethnic diversity.

"Ethnic diversity can bring a variety of perspectives, but it is also valuable because it changes how people think, feel and behave," said Dr. Sheen Levine, assistant professor at UT Dallas who conducted the research while on the faculty of Columbia University.

To examine how ethnic diversity affects price bubbles, Levine and his collaborators constructed experimental markets in Southeast Asia and North America. The team found that homogenous markets were much more likely to bubble. Overpricing was higher as traders were more likely to accept speculative prices. Their pricing errors were more correlated than in diverse markets. And when bubbles burst, homogenous markets crashed more severely.

"Our findings are another compelling reason to diversify markets, teams, boards and organizations," he said.

The study was a collaboration among researchers affiliated with UT Dallas, Columbia University, the Sloan School of Management at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Goethe University in Germany, the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom, and Texas A&M-Kingsville.

-Katherine Morales



New Insight Found in Black Hole Collisions

Dr. Michael Kesden, assistant professor of physics, and his colleagues have found revelations about the most energetic event in the universe—the merging of two spinning, orbiting black holes into a much larger black hole.

Their work, published in *Physical Review Letters*, provides new solutions to decades-old equations describing conditions as two black holes in a binary system orbit each other and spiral in toward a collision.

Kesden said the solutions should significantly impact not only the study of black holes, but also the search for gravitational waves in the cosmos.

"An accelerating charge, like an electron, produces electromagnetic radiation, including visible light waves. Similarly, any time you have an accelerating mass, you can produce gravitational waves," Kesden said.

"The energy lost to gravitational waves

causes the black holes to spiral closer and closer together until they merge, which is the most energetic event in the universe," he said. "That energy, rather than going out as visible light, which is easy to see, goes out as gravitational waves, which are very weak and much more difficult to detect."

Optical telescopes can capture photos of visible objects, such as stars and planets, and radio and infrared telescopes can reveal additional information about invisible energetic events. Gravitational waves would provide yet another medium through which to examine astrophysical phenomena, Kesden said.

Researchers from the University of Cambridge, the Rochester Institute of Technology and the University of Mississippi also contributed to the *Physical Review Letters* paper. The researchers were supported in part by the National Science Foundation and UT Dallas.

-Amanda Siegfried

The **CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service** program of the **Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science** received more than \$3.9 million from the **National Science Foundation** to provide financial assistance to qualified students.

Alejandro Jacobo MS'13 earned a \$10,000 scholarship from the **Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation**, which led him to enroll in the **Naveen Jindal School of Management's** MBA program.

Dr. Michael Kilgard, Margaret Fonde Jonsson Professor in the **School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences**, was one of a handful of scientists present in Washington, D.C., for the announcement by President Barack Obama of the **Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies Initiative**, providing more than \$300 million in research support.

Ten undergraduate students in the **Bill Archer Fellow Program** spent a semester interning for governmental and nongovernmental organizations in Washington, D.C., while attending policy, history and advocacy classes.

Brain Study Uncovers New Clues on How Cues May Affect Memory

A Center for Vital Longevity study, published online in *NeuroImage*, indicates that receiving information about a pair of items before seeing them may affect how well they are remembered. The researchers also found that activity in different areas of the brain was unexpectedly related to how the information was remembered.



Dr. Richard Addante

Functional magnetic resonance imaging was used to look for activity in different areas of the brain as a participant decided which of two words or pictures would fit inside the other—for example, a dog and a house. A brief cue to whether the pair would be pictures or words was presented immediately before the items appeared.

"We found that the brain activity before people were presented with information predicted how well people ended up remembering that information on a later memory test," said Dr. Richard Addante, a senior lecturer in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and lead author of the paper. "What was really interesting was that brain activity wasn't just predictive of whether they remembered the information later, but how they remembered it."

Prior research suggested that seeing the cues would trigger more brain activity in the hippocampus and provide a better chance of remembering the information. Activity in the hippocampus during learning is generally associated with better memory. This study found the opposite.

Greater activity in the hippocampus before a participant saw the two items predicted that the subject was more likely to forget which items were in a pair. The results suggest that how the brain prepares to study an event can affect how well it is remembered.

Others involved in the study were Dr. Michael Rugg, director of the Center for Vital Longevity, and research fellow Dr. Marianne de Chastelaine.

-Ben Porter

Professors to Study Views on ISIS, Ukraine Conflict, Global Security

Two researchers in the School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences have received a grant to study the dynamics of public attitudes toward U.S. and global security.

Dr. Marianne Stewart, professor of political science, and Dr. Harold Clarke, Ashbel Smith Professor, will study global political hotspots such as Syria, Iraq and Ukraine, and public attitudes toward foreign policy and national security. The National Science Foundation funded the project with a \$132,000 award.

"The world is currently experiencing several significant challenges to global political order and international peace," said Stewart, the principal investigator. "How the American public reacts to these challenges will have important implications for U.S. foreign policy and national security in the years ahead."

The project builds on Clarke's recent research on public opinion in the U.S., France and Great Britain, funded by the British Economic and Social Research Council.

Multiple national panel surveys of the American electorate will be conducted to study Americans' reactions to the rise of jihadist group Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS), the conflict between Ukraine and Russia, the recent war in Gaza between Hamas and Israel, and other ongoing threats to global security in the Middle East and elsewhere. -Brittany Hoover



Dr. Marianne Stewart



Dr. Harold Clarke

Center for BrainHealth Study Examines How Fear is Processed in the Mind

Research from a team at the Center for BrainHealth offers new answers on how fear is processed by the brain.

"We know that groups of neurons firing on and off create a frequency and pattern that tell other areas of the brain what to do," said Dr. John Hart Jr., medical science director at the center, Distinguished Chair of Neuroscience and the Jane and Bud Smith Distinguished Chair in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. "By identifying these rhythms, we can correlate them with a cognitive unit such as fear."



Dr. John Hart Jr.

A study published online in *Brain and Cognition* describes how electroencephalography (EEG) was used to identify theta and beta wave activity that signified the brain's reaction to visually threatening images.

"We have known for a long time that the brain prioritizes threatening information over other cognitive processes," said doctoral student Bambi DeLaRosa MS'12, lead author of the study. "These findings show us how this happens."

For the study, 26 adult participants—ages 19 to 30—wore EEG caps and were shown 224 random images that had real objects or were unidentifiably scrambled. Pictures with real objects were categorized as either threatening (weapons, combat, nature or animals) or nonthreatening (pleasant situations, food, nature or animals).

The results showed that the threatening images evoked an early increase in theta wave activity in the occipital lobe, the area in the brain where visual information is processed. -Emily Bywaters



Bambi DeLaRosa

The **UTD Debate Team** kicked off the 2014-15 season with strong showings in tournaments at the University of Missouri, Kansas City, and the University of Kentucky. At the latter event, two of the program's five individual teams finished with winning records and advanced to elimination rounds.

Students in the **Arts and Technology** program have teamed up with Dallas' **Perot Museum of Nature and Science** to create a series of educational games that are displayed in the museum's Game Lab. The programs emphasize science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Dr. James Coleman was elected a 2014 Fellow of the **National Academy of Inventors**. Coleman is the head of the Department of Electrical Engineering in the **Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science**.

A logo designed by **Dylan Carroll**, an emerging media and communications major and member of the men's golf team, was selected as the winner of the **American Southwest Conference T-Shirt Design Challenge**. The logo was featured on the T-shirts worn by ASC champions in 2014-15.

Engineer Applies Robot Control Theory to Improve Prosthetics

Robot control theory has been applied to enable powered prosthetics to dynamically respond to the wearer's environment and help amputees walk, leading to research published in *IEEE Transactions on Robotics*. The article indicates that wearers of the robotic leg could walk on a moving treadmill almost as fast as an able-bodied person.

"We borrowed from robot control theory to create a simple, effective new way to analyze the human gait cycle," said Dr. Robert Gregg, a faculty member in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science and lead author of the paper. "Our approach resulted in a method for controlling powered prostheses for amputees to help them move in a more stable, natural way than current prostheses."

Humanoid robots can walk, run, jump and climb stairs autonomously, but modern prosthetics limit similar actions in humans. While prosthetics have been made lighter and more flexible, they fail to mimic the power generated from human muscles in able-bodied individuals. Powered prostheses, or robotic legs, have motors to generate force, but lack the intelligence to stably respond to disturbances or changing terrain.

Control engineers view the human gait cycle through the lens of time—the interval at which each movement in the walking cycle needs to occur. Gregg, an

assistant professor of bioengineering and mechanical engineering, proposed a new way to view and study the process of human walking: measuring a single variable that represents the motion of the body. In this study, that variable was the center of pressure on the foot, which moves from heel to toe through the gait cycle.

Gregg first tested his theory on computer models, and then with three above-knee amputee participants at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, an affiliate of Northwestern University.

Gregg said the next step in the research is to compare results of experiments with robotic legs using both the time paradigm and center of pressure paradigm.

Researchers from the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Northwestern University and the University of New Brunswick were also involved in the study.

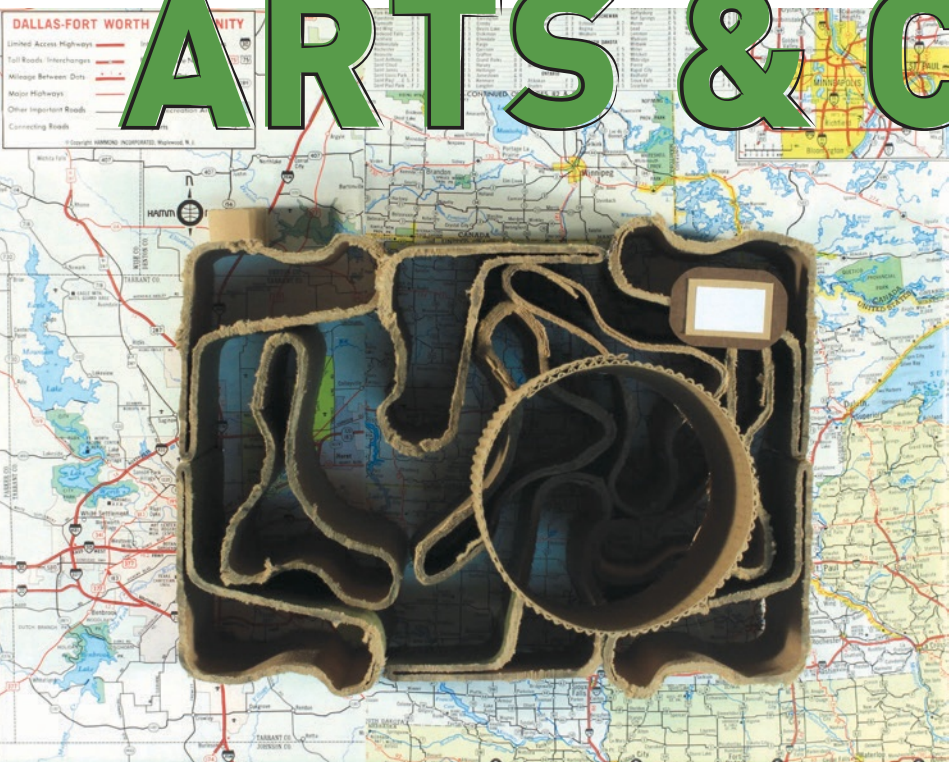
The work was funded by the United States Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity, the Burroughs Wellcome Fund and the National Institutes of Health through the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

—**LaKisha Ladson**



Dr. Robert Gregg

ARTS & CULTURE



1: "Through the Lens" by ATEC student Michaela Banks.

2: "The Fast and the Fjorious" by Cara Curley.

3: An untitled still from an animation project by Kien Hoang.

Art Students Receive Jordan Scholarships for Creative Endeavors

Whether their aim is to practice pediatric medicine or to become video game designers, the 2014-15 Bryce Jordan Scholarship recipients all have one common characteristic: a deep passion for the arts.

Fourteen undergraduate students from the School of Arts and Humanities received a combined total of \$20,500 to further their studies in arts and technology, creative writing, music, theater, dance and the visual arts.

The Bryce and Jonelle Jordan Scholarship Fund was established in 1981 to support undergraduate music students at UT Dallas. Bryce Jordan, flutist and musicologist, was the University's first president. The scholarship has since been extended, with his approval, to provide financial support for undergraduate students in any of the creative and performing arts.

"We appreciate Bryce Jordan's generosity and thank him for creating a scholarship that enables us to recognize talented students who excel scholastically," said Dr. Shelley Lane, associate dean of undergraduate education in the School of Arts and Humanities. **-Chaz Lilly**

THE 2014-15 RECIPIENTS ARE:

- **Michaela Banks** (arts and technology freshman), who created tent designs for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure as a high school student.
- **Glenn Charles** (literary studies senior), who is inspired by historical and current events.
- **Nina Cook** (literary studies junior), who holds a passion for music.
- **Cara Curley** (arts and technology senior), a three-time recipient whose style concepts are used for animated shorts and games.
- **Naomi D'Amato** (finance senior), who is pursuing a career in arts management.
- **Anna Galluzzi** (art and performance sophomore), who wants to become a certified art therapist.
- **Kien Hoang** (arts and technology senior), a former intern at Pixar Animation Studios.
- **Hunter Kershen** (biochemistry sophomore), who is pursuing a minor in dance and plans to pursue a career in pediatric medicine.
- **Michael Nelson** (computer science freshman), who plans to obtain a music minor.
- **Marcela Reyes** (art and performance senior), who credits art for bolstering her confidence and creative thinking.
- **Hamid Shah** (arts and technology freshman), who is interested in concept art and video game design.
- **Leo Thomasian** (arts and technology undergraduate), who performed in the UT Dallas production of *The Shape of Things*.
- **Andrea Tran BA'14**, who was a member of the UT Dallas wind ensemble and chamber groups.
- **Taurian Witt** (arts and technology senior), who aspires to become a concept artist for an animation company.

The University received the **2014 Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship Teaching and Pedagogical Innovation** from the **Global Consortium of Entrepreneurship Centers** for initiatives within the **Naveen Jindal School of Management's** master's program in innovation and entrepreneurship.

The *Mercury* student newspaper, *UTD TV* and *A Modest Proposal* claimed several awards at the joint **Associated Collegiate Press/College Media Association National Student Media Convention** in Philadelphia. **Radio UTD** was recognized for best use of limited resources at the College Music Journal convention.

Bloomberg Businessweek ranks the **Naveen Jindal School of Management's** full-time MBA program among the top 50 in the nation, and also lists the school No. 11 overall for return on investment.

Dr. Kenneth O, professor of electrical engineering in the **Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science**, received a **2014 University Research Award** from the **Semiconductor Industry Association**.



Sticky is the latest short film produced by students in the Arts and Technology program's animation studio course.

New Building Provides Ideal Habitat for Animation Students Producing Short Film

The short film *Sticky*, which features a young chameleon learning how to blend with his new environment, was the brainchild of 32 undergraduate and graduate arts and technology students.

The multidisciplinary production team spent two semesters planning, drafting, building and editing the short.

"It takes a year to complete a project of this size. We start at zero," assistant professor Eric Farrar said. "Students pitch ideas, storylines, and after we select one story to work on, we spend time refining the narrative. The next steps involve building everything from scratch—the characters, the characters' environment, the texture, lighting. It takes a long time to achieve a final product."

This is the second project that has emerged from the two-semester animation studio course. Previously, students released *FrightLite*, a film about a boy who grapples to overcome his fear of monsters.

"Just like in any successful studio, this class is all about teamwork, respect, dedication and hard work," said Huda Hashim BS'13, who is pursuing a master's degree. "When talented students collaborate on the creation of an animated short, you realize that there is always more room to learn and improve to become the best that you can."

While working on *Sticky*, students were, for the first time, housed in the new Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building.

"The openness of the space invites students to gather on their own to meet and solve problems," said Farrar. "People are more likely to run into each other here. The quality of the building certainly adds to the success of our projects." —**Chaz Lilly**

Doctoral Student Wins Pushcart Prize for Story

The *Pushcart Prize: Best of the Small Presses* series, published every year since 1976, is one of the most honored literary projects in America. The writers featured in the annual anthology are selected from more than 8,000



LaToya Watkins

entries, each nominated by magazine and small-press editors.

Over the years, some of America's best contemporary writers, such as Raymond Carver, Joyce Carol Oates and Tim O'Brien, have been featured in the collection. Now, joining the ranks of these literary greats is doctoral student LaToya Watkins BA'06, MA'11.

In her award-winning story, Watkins steps into the shoes of the mother of a religious cult leader: The elderly African-American mom speaks about how she remembered her son and his experiences as a child. The piece is aptly titled "The Mother."

Watkins, who set the story in West Texas, said she was inspired by the place her characters inhabited.

"A lot of stories in West Texas are about big money and oil; black people often become marginal. I wanted to explore the black, matriarchal experience in West Texas since it's a place that never saw slavery firsthand. It was a place with imported segregation; that separation wasn't forced, but understood," said Watkins, who is studying aesthetic studies.

She credits her professors for her success, particularly Dr. Clay Reynolds, director of creative writing.

"I don't think I would have become who I am as a writer without my teachers. I learned about character, plot, formatting a story. Each class built on the next while I found a voice," Watkins said. —**Chaz Lilly**

ON THE BALL

— *introducing* —

Athletic Director Bill Petitt



In March, Athletic Director Bill Petitt traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan, to watch the women's basketball team compete in the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament.

by Bruce Unrue

When Bill Petitt began his career more than 30 years ago, becoming a college athletic director might have seemed like an improbable dream.

The path to the athletic director's office at most universities in those days was usually taken by longtime coaches who exchanged their whistles and clipboards for less stressful "day jobs" behind desks or on golf courses with boosters.

There was no such typical route for Petitt, who assumed the reins of UT Dallas' Department of Intercollegiate Athletics last summer. Instead, he began his college athletic career in the world of college media relations.

"Through the years, I'd been around enough athletic programs to know that the athletic director's job was changing," he said. "And I thought I might someday like to try that. Of course, I figured that opportunity would probably come at a small college somewhere, not at a university with over 20,000 students."

Being a college athletic director today—even at the NCAA Division III level—involves much more than pushing papers and shaking the right hands. "An intercollegiate athletics program is a major, multifaceted operation," said Petitt, who worked at three larger Texas universities before joining the UT Dallas staff in 2007.

Don't ask Petitt to write out a detailed job description of his new position though. Listing all of his duties would be a daunting task.

"That's a tough one," he admitted. "There's just so much to it. You're dealing every day with so many people on so many different levels—coaches, student-athletes, administrators, parents, sponsors. I told my wife, Julie, that I went from having two children to more than 300 overnight."

Petitt was selected for the position last June after building an impressive resume during more than six years as the University's associate athletic director for external affairs.

"Building relationships and finding new resources for the program is a top priority now," Petitt said. "People imagine, since we're a large university, that we have unlimited funding. But that is not the case. In order for us to continue to provide a first-class athletic experience for our student-athletes and serve the University as we do, we continually have to find outside means of support."

Petitt's interest in a career in sports began as a youngster. "I was always kind of a sports nut, even as a little kid," said Petitt, who grew up in Lubbock, Texas. "I used to hurry home from school and get my homework done as fast as I could, just so I could listen to Texas Tech basketball games on the radio. I even kept a spiral notebook with a stat chart for each game."

As he grew older, Pettitt worked at both the newspaper and the radio station at Texas Tech University, putting him in touch daily with members of the Red Raiders sports information staff. It was a networking opportunity that would pay off immediately.

By the end of his senior year, Pettitt was married to Julie, who was an aspiring radio personality, and he was looking for his first full-time job. A former Texas Tech administrator who moved to West Texas State University (now known as West Texas A&M University) in Canyon encouraged Pettitt to pursue an opening there in sports information.

"I started on homecoming weekend at a Division II school with a one-man shop. All of a sudden, I'm working around the clock—writing press releases, putting together game programs for the printer, and learning how to do statistics on the fly. This was before everything became computerized. It almost killed me," he said.

The head athletic trainer at WTSU was Chris Gage, who later became UT Dallas' athletic director. Their paths would cross again during their careers.

After three years at WTSU, he followed Julie to Midland, where she had taken a job at a radio station. Since there wasn't a college with an athletic program in the area, he returned to his journalism and broadcasting roots, working at both the *Midland Reporter-Telegram* and radio station KCRS.

Five years later, his wife's career took her to a major market radio job in San Antonio. Pettitt—still anxious to get back into college athletics—was realistic about the situation. After working at newspapers and radio stations in both San Antonio and Kerrville, he finally got the break he was looking for—an assistant sports information position opened at UT San Antonio, a Division 1 program.

"It wasn't exactly what I was looking for," he said, "but I was back in the college environment, and I was ready to make the most of it."

Within a couple of years, their family had grown to include two small children. Julie was ready to get out of the radio business and he wanted a more career-oriented opportunity. The head media relations job



opened up at UT Arlington in 2003, and the Petitts made their 12th move in 15 years.

Four years passed before Gage called and convinced Petitt to move into full-time fundraising at UT Dallas. Petitt figured that his quickest path to an athletic director's chair was through fundraising, and he found himself named interim athletic director in January 2014 when Gage announced his retirement.

"I figured I had a few months to finally get to do what I'd always wanted to do," he said. "So, I approached [the job] like I thought it needed to be done." By the summer, he had become the choice to take the position on a full-time basis.

"I feel very blessed and very thankful for this opportunity," Petitt said. "I think people at UTD are just now starting to realize what athletics can bring to a university. We bring special people to this campus—smart, focused, goal-oriented students. And, athletics is a great focal point for building campus unity and spirit."

Petitt points to the American Southwest Conference Championship basketball tournament and NCAA regional games hosted by UT Dallas last spring as a "tipping point" in the excitement over athletics on campus. "We set records for the largest crowds we'd ever had, and the crowds were really into it," he said. "I think we brought a lot of spirit and enthusiasm about the school to the student body, and that enthusiasm has carried over."

One of Petitt's first priorities when he took the job was to open the lines of communication with all the coaches and other administrators.

"I think you need to have an open relationship with everyone in order to get things accomplished," he said. "I wanted to make sure everyone understood we were all on the same page here and working toward mutual goals. I think that really helped me make some decisions about the direction we wanted to go."

"We still have a lot of room to get better," he continued. "Our facilities are good, but there are a lot of universities we compete with that are building new, gorgeous facilities every day. We also continue to look at adding new sports programs if those programs will help us attract more of the same kind of kids."

"I want UT Dallas to be thought of as one of the top Division III schools in the country, and I think we're on our way there," he said. "There was a really strong foundation built before I got here. I'm just trying to find ways to build on that." **UTD**



The women's basketball team—making a first-time appearance in the NCAA Sweet 16 for Division III—set a program record for wins in a season, finishing 2014-15 with a 26-5 mark.

STELLAR SEASONS

Several UTD teams followed up successful seasons with postseason runs during the fall/winter sports season, which was capped off with an American Southwest Conference championship.

- The **women's basketball team (26-5)** earned its second ASC title in three seasons with an 82-74 win over No. 11-ranked UT Tyler in February. With the victory, the Comets secured an automatic berth in the NCAA Division III National Championship Tournament, and the team advanced to the Sweet 16. The Comets lost 77-73 to No. 3-ranked George Fox in a game that was back-and-forth until the final seconds.
- The **men's soccer team (14-5-3)** received an at-large berth in the NCAA D-III tourney. The team notched its first-ever NCAA

postseason win with a 2-0 shutout against No. 24-ranked Pomona-Pitzer before falling to Trinity University in the second round.

- The **volleyball team (22-11)** took second place in the ASC championship tournament in November.
- The **women's soccer team (13-5-1)** rallied to a 2-1 double-overtime win against Concordia Texas in the opening round of the ASC tournament in November. The Comets made it to the semifinals.
- The **men's basketball team (16-10)** qualified for the ASC tournament in February, losing to Hardin-Simmons in the opening round.

Not quite 50 years ago, our founders—three visionaries whose work led to the creation of what would come to be called the Silicon Prairie—stood in the middle of a field and declared that one day a world-class University would rise there, becoming one of the region’s leading economic catalysts. UT Dallas helps make its namesake city one of the fastest growing in the country, a top-10 metropolitan area, and home of 18 Fortune 500 companies. Ingenious.

STARTING Fresh

by Paul Bottoni and
Kevin Yang

Here are the journeys of four freshmen—Daniel Colina, Monica Lisot, Carlos Rodriguez and Jamesha Taylor—as they navigated their first semester of college during the fall of 2014, from Move-In Day to their first round of finals.

The four students are among the first residents of the new Residence Hall West, the largest residence hall (so far) on campus. With this latest addition, more than 4,000 undergraduate and graduate students now live on campus in either residence halls or apartments.



DANIEL COLINA

Major: Arts and technology

Hometown: Waco, Texas



MONICA LISOT

Major: Biomedical engineering

Hometown: Richardson, Texas



JAMESHA TAYLOR

Major: Political science

Hometown: Killeen, Texas



CARLOS RODRIGUEZ

Major: Business

Hometown: Plano, Texas



- 1 DANIEL:** "More than anything, I was ready. I had spent all summer at home working a job. I was sick of high school and ready to be in a big city. I was ready to leave Waco."
- 2 MONICA:** "I was definitely excited—excited to be starting college; excited to be moving out of the house; excited to be on my own. I'm an only child. Move-In Day was tough for our family, but I think it was tougher for my parents than me."
- 3 JAMESHA:** "I was both excited and nervous. I was kind of anxious because I would be living with people. I never really had to share anything before in my life, and now I'd have to share things and be considerate. It was a change and I'm still adjusting."
- 4 CARLOS:** "There were people helping us move in—that was incredible! Having the dean of students helping students move in was exciting. Fast, too, and efficient. I didn't get too homesick, especially since my family is close by. It was a blessing to have them nearby, honestly, because they could help me out whenever I needed it."



1



2

The 'Res' World



4



3

1 MONICA: "I went to the library mainly for testing, though I'll probably go more often now that the hours have expanded. I do have late-night study sessions from time to time. I did a lot of my studying in the study rooms in Residence Hall West. Most of the time they weren't too busy. They are convenient."

2 JAMESHA: "I always had to do chores so it wasn't anything new. I had the detergent pods, too, so it was easy. I was already a pro. It was pretty easy balancing chores and school because that's what I was taught."

3 CARLOS: "I liked [being in a living learning community] because there was a group of people that I got to know—we took some of the same classes. The fact that I have a study room right across from my room is really great because it's like an extension. I can go there, take my books where it's nice and quiet, then go back to my room. I can ask friends over to study. My roommates and I did our own things, but at the same time everyone is so respectful and considerate."

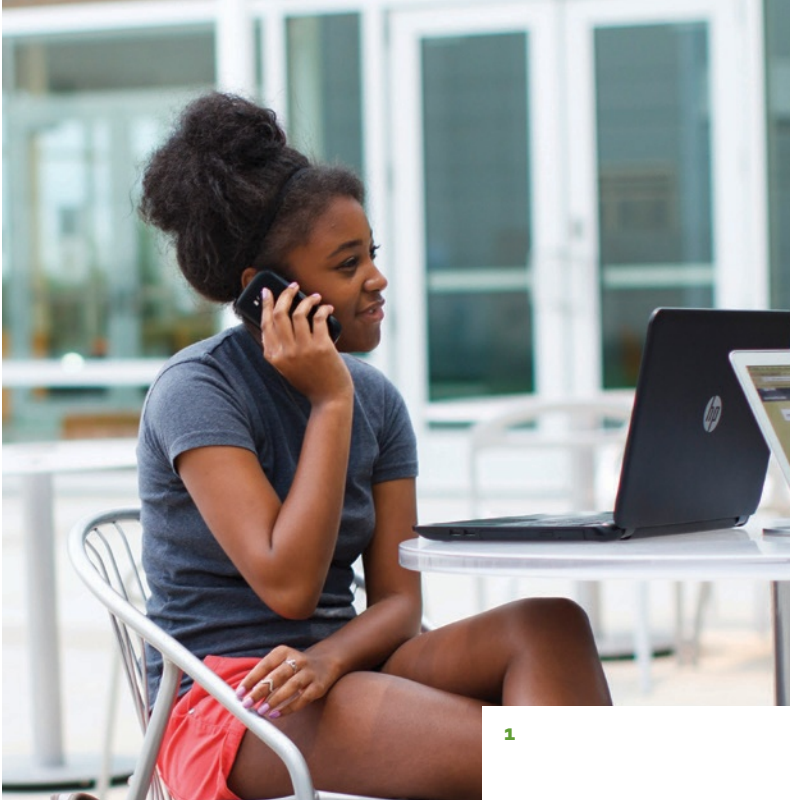
4 DANIEL: "[The rec center is] a really awesome gym and I like it a lot. I'm glad they added the bench press and squat machines this semester. It's really nice to have it so close and not have to walk across campus to the other gym."

Living Learning Communities

More than 2,400 students have participated in living learning communities (LLC) since 2006. Freshmen are grouped in LLCs based on academic interests. They live, attend classes and socialize together.

Residence Hall West

- \$75 million to construct
- 600 beds
- Fifth and largest residence hall built since 2009
- Features study and social areas, laundry and kitchen facilities, classrooms for living learning community courses, and three-bedroom suites
- Adjacent to Recreation Center West and Dining Hall West



1



2

Balancing Act



4



3

1 JAMESHA: "I've been interested in politics and politicians since I was about 7 years old [referring to a picture of herself running a phone bank during election season]. My mom is really interested in crime and politics, so it rubbed off on me. I'm majoring in political science and I want to go to law school to become a corporate tax attorney."

2 DANIEL: "[How I got involved with the Yo-Yo Club is] a good story. About a week before Thanksgiving, while I was in high school, this guy brought a yo-yo to band practice. I had played with yo-yos as a kid and thought I'd try it out again. I started doing more tricks and getting more and more into it. After I came here, I was looking at organizations on OrgSync [an online listing of organizations] and scrolled down until I saw the Yo-Yo Club. I Facebook-messaged the club president, Cubie [Mesecher], telling him I couldn't believe there was a club like this on campus. He and a friend started it about two years ago. I was there for the first meeting of the semester. I've loved it. It's a great way to socialize. I want to start my own club now—I'm hoping to start a World of Warcraft club."

3 MONICA: "I got a work-study position [with UTD's Department of Environmental Health and Safety]. I think it took me about a month to get settled and situated and find a job. I've always done babysitting and taught dance for a while, and I was a hostess for about two years in high school. Balancing work and a job wasn't too new, though it's different in college. You're not in class all day. There are those hours in between. I had to adjust to that."

4 CARLOS: "[The Ugly Sweater party] was the first Pre-Law Society event I attended. I borrowed the sweater from a friend with the greatest wardrobe who lives down the hall. I posted on a Facebook page that I was looking for a sweater, and she responded. It won the contest for tackiest sweater. I first met Dr. [Anthony] Champagne [political science professor and director of the Pre-Law Advising and Resource Center] there. I didn't know him at the time, but he wrote my government textbook. That was fun. I also talked to the president of the mock trial group while I was there, and I later spoke with the coach about joining."

1 **JAMESHA:** "I met a lot of friends [at Dining Hall West], like my close friend Xyp-per [pictured], who I got to know during orientation. It's convenient having it a short walk away. I love the fries."

2 **MONICA:** "[On Family Day] my parents enjoyed seeing where my classes were and [my room] because it had actually been lived in at that point. We enjoyed walking on campus. They thought running into Temoc was a lot of fun. I had just figured out that Temoc is 'comet' backward. Mind: blown. That was a fun moment."

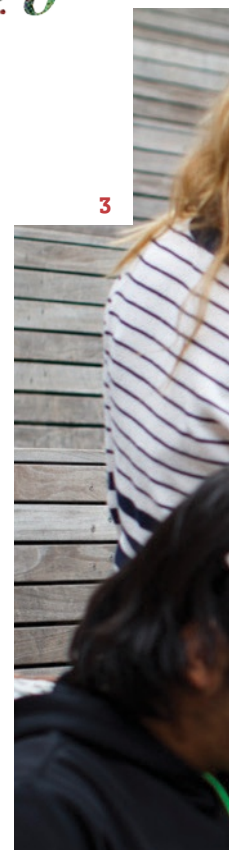
3 **DANIEL:** "In this photo, I was meeting with students in one of my design classes [outside the Student Union]. They were all older than me and all transfer students who were doing different things with ATEC. We met once a week to hang out, talk, grab lunch—one time one of them bought me lunch because I was out of meal money. It was intimidating at first because they were all older than me and it was weird to be so accepted by people older than me. There was a period of time when I was working on a video game and I recruited a few of the people in this photo to work on concept art for the game."

4 **CARLOS:** "[A bike] makes it so much easier to get around. When I rode around campus at the beginning of the semester, I tried to explore different areas. One day I went to the top level of the parking garage near the School of Management and you could see the Dallas skyline, which is a great view. The view on the fifth floor of Residence Hall West—my goodness—it's even better than the parking garage. It's fantastic." **UTD**



Living, Learning, Flourishing

4





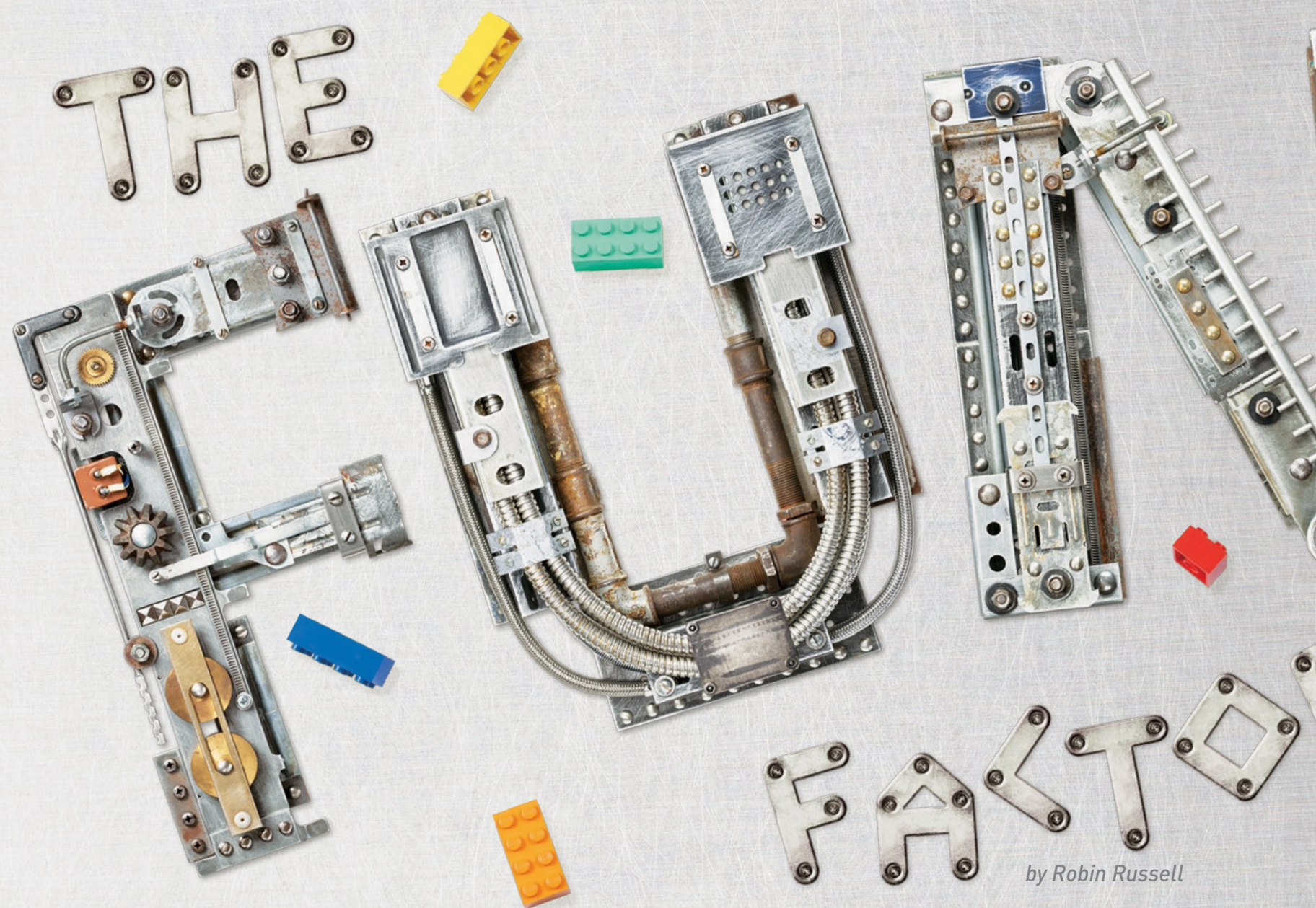
Advice to future freshmen

CARLOS: “Definitely plan. Use an agenda or calendar. Also, making connections with professors was probably one of the things that really helped me, even if it was just to chit-chat or to ask a question or to talk out a concept. It helped me get to know my professors.”

DANIEL: “Don’t be worried about being judged here. You cannot be weird at UT Dallas—you can be normal. Weird is the normal here, and it’s awesome. I mean, we have a Yo-Yo Club on campus. I would recommend this college to so many people. It challenges me academically and socially. It’s had everything I need.”

MONICA: “Just don’t slack off. Don’t be lazy. I was inclined to do that, but you just can’t. You have to start off strong, or [the demands] will bite you if you don’t. Bring your best game and start right away doing the best you can.”

JAMESHA: “Go to your professor’s office [during posted] hours and get close to people in your classes. If I didn’t get close to people, I wouldn’t have done well during my first semester. You always need study buddies.”



by Robin Russell

Squirming young campers stand on tiptoe and peek through the auditorium door, eager to show their families what their robots can do.

Camp instructors call out team names for each round—Battle Tanks! Destructionators! GirlBots!—and elementary and middle school campers swarm tables, where they position their robots at the starting marks.

Dr. Ken Berry, assistant director of the Science and Engineering Education Center (SEEC) at UT Dallas,

begins the countdown.

At the shout of “LEGO!” campers release their robots onto a playing field called “Nature’s Fury,” a mock disaster scene used in the robotics competition at UT Dallas.

Parents cheer and clap.

When the round is over, a mother encourages her son, who is disappointed because his team came in second.

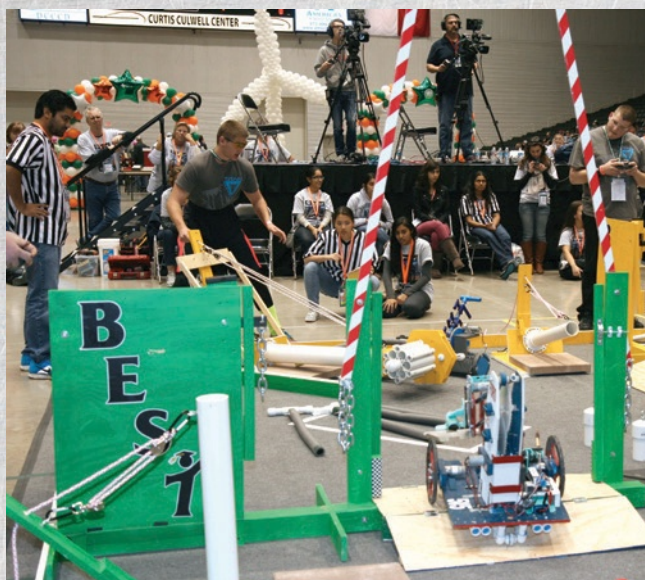
“Did you have fun? That’s all that counts,” she reminds him.



Dr. Russell Hulse, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, Regental Professor and founder of the University's Science and Engineering Education Center (SEEC), offers suggestions for building on a child's natural interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Tips to Encourage STEM Interests

»Encourage children's natural curiosity about the world around them.



Hundreds of middle and high school students competed in the 2014 Texas BEST Regional Robotics Championship hosted by the University.

Having fun is what science should be all about, said Berry. Kids seem to know that intuitively, from the very first time they mix borax and glue to make slime.

For years, educators and others have been pushing children to pursue the STEM fields of science, technology, engineering and math to compete with the intellectual capital of other countries. But experts say our motivation should go beyond growing the next generation of scientists and mathematicians; our success comes from giving all children the tools to address realistic challenges that are interesting to everyone. Math and science may be their tools, but in the hunt for solutions they will be nourishing their critical thinking, problem-solving and team-building skills.

Austin Howard, 22, who in December became the youngest PhD graduate in the University's history, said hands-on toys and experiments are what drew him to study physics. Rather than merely memorize facts about electrical circuits, he wanted to build a circuit himself.

"A majority of learning comes from playing, from using your creativity and imagination," Howard told a reporter from *The Dallas Morning News*. "Just because you can recite facts or follow a set of steps you were told to do doesn't mean you've learned it. And it sure doesn't mean that you've enjoyed it."

A 2011 study by the Washington, D.C.-based Afterschool Alliance found that children who are engaged with science and math have improved attitudes toward STEM careers and increased self-confidence in tackling science classes and projects. They also gain experience with communication,



Austin Howard PhD'14

Professors and Kids Connect for Science Fair Flair

by Amanda Siegfried

A YouTube video and a few email exchanges with UT Dallas researchers inspired two young New Jersey boys to explore science.

Janer Lopez and Sergio Vasquez were third-graders at Willow Grove Elementary School in Hackettstown, New Jersey, when their teacher, Jonathan Lightcap, showed them a "how-to" video made by the research team led by Dr. Ray Baughman, the Robert A. Welch Distinguished Chair in Chemistry and director of the Alan G. MacDiarmid NanoTech Institute at UT Dallas. The researchers had posted the video on YouTube in conjunction with the publication of their research in the February 21, 2014, issue of the journal *Science*. It showed the simplicity of making artificial muscles by twisting ordinary fishing line and sewing thread.

Intrigued, the boys decided to make their own artificial muscle and incorporate it into their project examining the force of a karate punch.

When the students had trouble replicating the technique, Lightcap emailed Baughman for assistance.

"What we received was a dream come true," Lightcap said. "[The team] sent us a copy of their findings, and provided step-by-step instructions and insights that turned out to be just what we needed."

The students not only created artificial muscles from fishing line, but also won top prize out of 120 other projects at their science fair, just days after the scientific paper was published.

Lopez said doing the science fair project made him feel like he was a real scientist.

"I had never done anything for the science fair before, and I didn't really care about science," he said. "But now I actually like it."

Vasquez, who is considering a career in science, said, "I now know that I can create an invention that could change the world in so many ways."

Lightcap summed up the experience as a personal career highlight and validation of what he tries to do as an educator. "Just by taking some time out of their day, [the UT Dallas researchers] inspired, motivated and sparked these boys to achieve, question and take pride in themselves." **UTD**



New Jersey third-graders Sergio Vasquez (left) and Janer Lopez took top honors with their project inspired by UTD researchers.

Dr. Ken Berry (right) celebrates with members of team R4Robotics, which claimed first place at the 2014 Texas BEST Regional Robotics Championship.



A Coach, Not a Teacher

by Robin Russell

It was no accident that Dr. Ken Berry, assistant director of the Science and Engineering Education Center (SEEC), gravitated toward teaching STEM subjects. His dad was an engineer and his mom was a teacher. Still, he recalled not particularly liking math courses, so he sympathizes with kids who learn better through activities.

Berry pushed through to earn a doctorate in educational technology at Pepperdine University and taught middle and high school science classes for a while in downtown Los Angeles.

He started working with robotics in the early 1990s as a specialist in the education division of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, NASA's lead center for the robotic exploration of space. That experience changed the focus of his teaching.

"I kept running into engineers," Berry said. "NASA repurposes things; they don't create things. There were 10 times as many engineers as scientists or mathematicians. It made me think, was I really looking to prepare scientists? It seemed to me that we sure need a lot of people who can apply scientific principles. And those are the engineers."

Berry said teachers who merely pass along scientific facts are not as effective as those who engage students with the scientific processes involved. Helping students understand it in a real-life way is key, he added.

"The process of engineering design is what turns professionals on, not just knowledge. It's a creative and innovative process," Berry said. "You might know the right notes on paper, but it won't help you if you don't actually play it on the piano."

"If you don't cause the kids to think through it, to use that information and apply it, they'll just forget it," he said.

The LEGO Corp.'s development of its Mindstorms kits in the early 1990s created a paradigm shift for teaching science, Berry said. The kits provided users with the technology to create custom, programmable robots. Teachers could now incorporate a variety of STEM subjects, including computer science, mathematics, design and engineering, while students tackled a single robotics project.

"Robotics is a unique activity because it puts it all together. It made it much more exciting than before," Berry said.

Berry's love for robotics extends into his spare time.

A few years ago, he developed the Robotics merit badge for the Boy Scouts of America after a survey showed that Scouts wanted to earn recognition for academic interests in addition to outdoor activities. Berry, an Eagle Scout, was tapped for the job.

"They were not meeting the needs of boys who were doing other 21st century things,"

he said.

A frequent writing contributor to *Robot* magazine, Berry also serves as president this year of BEST Robotics (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology), a national organization that holds annual robotics competitions to introduce middle and high school students to the engineering, problem-solving and teamwork involved in STEM fields.

Robotics competitions give kids who are good in science the kind of recognition and excitement usually reserved for athletes, Berry said, complete with thousands of screaming fans, pep bands, cheerleaders, music, dancing and mascots.

Teams are given plywood and a box filled with items such as PVC pipe, screws and other hardware, an irrigation valve cover, piano wire, an aluminum paint grid, a bicycle inner tube and a micro-controller. The teams have six weeks to design and build a functioning machine that can perform specific tasks in three minutes.

Berry said figuring out the puzzle is where the learning happens.

"I hated grading as a teacher, but I don't mind being the coach," he said. "I'm here as a helper, not as judge, jury and executioner, so you can bring all your failures to me and I'll help you learn from them." **UTD**

teamwork and analytical thinking through project-based learning.

It's especially critical to nurture an interest in science for girls, said Dr. Merredith Portsmouth, associate director of the Center for Engineering Education and Outreach at Tufts University.

Her research shows there is very little difference among girls and boys in carrying out science-based projects in the first grade. By puberty, however, girls tend to draw their identity from their peer group, for whom social activities have become more important than studying science or math.

Because of a lack of female role models in STEM fields, girls often harbor misconceptions about what it's like to be an engineer, Portsmouth said. Only 14 percent of engineers are women and just 18 to 20 percent of engineering students are female, according to the Congressional Joint Economic Committee.

"Girls tend to be motivated by helping people and making a difference in the world. They're interested in interaction and collaboration, and how they perceive engineering doesn't play into those interests," she said.

"Actually when you do engineering, there's all kinds of collaboration going on. We have to make it [the lessons] look like what engineers are doing out in the world. Those things are interesting. Kids need to be designing solutions."

Berry and other educators are aware that there is a concern about achievement levels for U.S. students, knowing that a global economy is stimulated by innovation in STEM fields.

"Two-thirds of our economic prosperity comes from innovation," Berry said. "Our new products are coming from engineers and mathematicians. STEM is a primary pusher of our economy, so if we don't focus on it, then

we're going to be in trouble."

But even students who don't end up pursuing the STEM fields benefit from math and science courses that help them develop critical thinking and reasoning skills to be able to "solve problems and make sense of phenomena," Portsmouth said. "Those are skills adults need."

What's more, technology is becoming part of every industry, from graphic design to communication, Berry added.

"More and more of our economy is based on new technologies. You have to be literate in those technologies. It's important to know it, and know it well," he said.

For Berry, his excitement of scientific discovery has never waned.

In fact, it's his own self-professed "middle school mentality" that helps him to communicate complex scientific processes to kids in ways that keep them engaged.

"Most of us push through the math to get to the 'toys.' If I can give them the toys in high school, they'll push through and beat the pants off the competition," Berry said.

Making it fun seals the deal.

A generation of rocket scientists can recall being inspired in the 1950s and '60s by watching Don Herbert's "Mr. Wizard" or the innovative "Star Trek" on TV. In the 1990s, millennials were fascinated and entertained by the hands-on experiments performed by "Bill Nye, the Science Guy."

Closer to home, Berry's knack for making science exciting trades on the same entertainment qualities that these popular television personalities and programs used for decades. Others at UT Dallas have done the same thing.

During NASA's heyday of space exploration, the caliber of UT Dallas'



Students race vehicles during an Academic Bridge robotics competition.

Below and bottom: Campers tinker with their robotic creations during Advanced Robotics Camp.



faculty was evident in professors such as Nobel laureate Polykarp Kusch and space scientist John Hoffman, who were notable for their inventiveness with science projects. Hoffman developed a series of demonstrations involving sound, light and optics that he called a “Physics Circus,” which he took to area elementary and secondary schools.

He still enjoys teaching the Phenomena of Nature class developed by Kusch for non-science majors who might otherwise balk at taking a physics course.

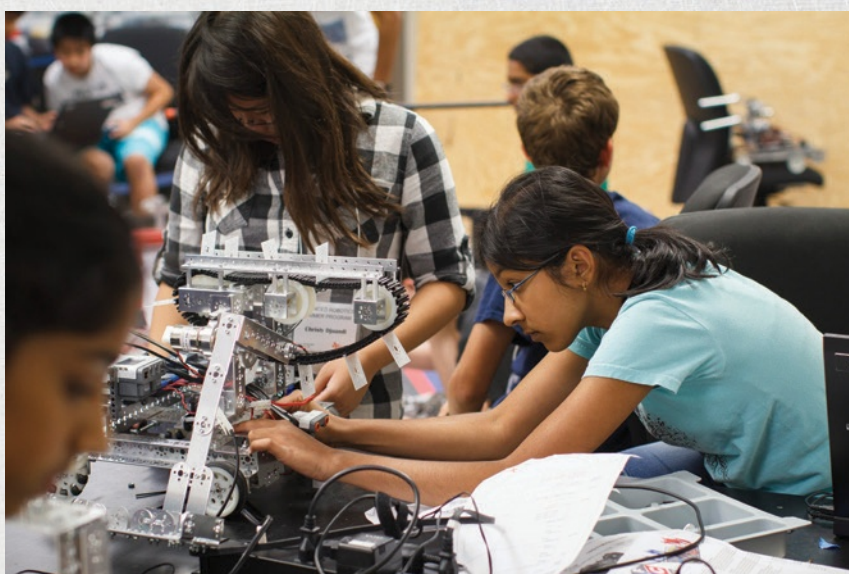
“I think I’ve got the knack of explaining things to students, and some of them even get interested in it and learn a little bit about how the world works,” Hoffman said. “A lot of what we use every day is science-based, and having some background to it is of value to them.”

Other UT Dallas faculty members continue to reach out to area elementary and secondary school students and strive to improve college readiness in STEM subjects.

Dr. Jey Veerasamy, director of computer science outreach, oversees summer camps, weekend clubs and workshops to teach computer science to K-12 students.

Associate professor of chemistry John Sibert has brought area fifth-grade classes to campus for a “Kids in Chemistry Day,” where students don lab coats and protective glasses and engage in science for a day.

Dr. Mary Urquhart, associate professor and head of the Department of Science and Mathematics Education, designs activities for middle school girls during summer physics camps, with the goal of inspiring the seventh- through ninth-graders to consider STEM careers.



A Girls Inc. camper maneuvers through a computer-generated world using the Oculus Rift head-mounted display while in the University’s Motion Capture Lab.

Reaching Out to K-12 Students

UT Dallas provides a host of summer camps and works with numerous schools to provide opportunities for young people to explore STEM subjects. The following are just a few examples.

- A faculty-led computer science outreach team holds coding camps, workshops and clubs throughout the year.
- The Chemistry Student Association and the Society of Physics Students conduct demonstrations on campus and in the community.
- Faculty and alumni developed a new “mod” for the popular “Minecraft” video game (*see page 8*). Minecraft Day coding camps complement the mod.
- For a decade, the Women in Physics organization and the Women in Science Alliance have coordinated physics summer camps for girls.
- The Young Women in Science and Engineering Investigators Program provides high school girls with mentoring and research opportunities.
- Dallas middle and high school students live on campus and study as part of the summer Urban STEM Initiative Camp, sponsored by community partner Project Still I Rise.
- Researchers created a freely available adventure comic book series about the science of the NASA-funded CINDI satellite mission.
- The George A. Jeffrey NanoExplorers Program brings high school students into campus laboratories to conduct original research on nanotechnology-related topics.

Not many at UT Dallas, though, have as singular a task as Berry, who focuses all of his time on helping K-12 teachers and students to better engage with STEM subjects.

SEEC founder Dr. Russell Hulse, a Nobel laureate in physics, brought Berry on board in 2009 for his expertise in robotics. Since Berry's arrival, the center's influence and reputation have spread among North Texas students and science educators. Last year, some 12,000 area students participated in SEEC summer camps, competitions, science exhibits and workshops.

Science teachers across the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex visit the center to learn how to set up robotics programs of their own. During a recent tour, Hildegard Jessup, headmistress at Oak Crest Private School in Carrollton, Texas, watched as some of her students, ages 6 to 13, began putting LEGO parts together and moving robots across the floor.

"It's a wonderful, playful, hands-on way to get kids interested in science," Jessup said. "If you have no robotics these days, you're behind the times. This is an immense help to us."

SEEC works with UT Dallas faculty to develop partnerships with schools, science museums, public libraries, corporations, foundations, and other public and private institutions.

The center's popular Contact Science program organizes free traveling science exhibits at public libraries, where kids get hands-on

exposure through a main display, group activities, computer-based interactives, videos, take-home experiments and mentoring.

UT Dallas faculty help develop the Contact Science kits, which cover a spectrum of science categories.

Last summer, SEEC hosted "Get a Clue!" at the Josey Ranch Lake Library in Carrollton, an event where kids ages 9-12 learned about forensic science through fingerprint analysis, hair analysis and microscopy.

"You can study the facts about DNA or you can set up a crime scene investigation, which is way more fun and helps them really understand it," Berry said.

Berry is most passionate about connecting kids with UT Dallas, where they can experience exactly what the University has to offer future professionals headed into STEM fields.



Campers fill a weather balloon with helium during Introduction to Space Camp. Participants tracked the balloon to a height of 56,700 feet.

- During National Engineers Week, the Jonsson School organizes Explore Engineering Day, which includes interactive displays and demonstrations. Also during that week, the Galerstein Women's Center holds an Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day for ninth-grade girls.
- IntelliChoice Inc., a nonprofit started by a Jonsson School professor in 2005, teaches math to K-12 students throughout the Dallas area.
- High school girls with no computer programming experience live in campus housing for several days over the summer during the Techy Girls Camp.
- Computer science faculty and students run Saturday sessions to prepare high schoolers for the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot competition.
- UT Dallas is a host site for the annual TEAMS (Test of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics, and Science) competition for middle and high school students.
- The Shoulders of Giants nonprofit, started by an alumnus, offers an on-campus residence camp to expose high school students to bioengineering.
- CHAMPS (CHallenging Algorithms and Mathematics in Problem Solving), a summer camp, introduces middle school students to computer programming.

For information about summer camps, see utdallas.edu/summercamps/.



2

1. The 180,000-square-foot Perot Museum of Nature and Science features five floors of public space with 11 permanent exhibit halls.
2. The museum, located near downtown Dallas, opened in 2012.
3. Derrick Dugan and Charles McCormick were among students in the digital music production course who created soundscapes used in the museum.
4. Dr. Mary Urquhart worked with museum staff on an astronomy exhibit.



3



4



Bringing Science to Life at Perot Museum

Visitors young and old walk through the halls and exhibits at the state-of-the-art Perot Museum of Nature and Science where they can see, hear and play with features, many of which originated with University faculty and students.

From the day the Perot Museum in Dallas opened in 2012, UT Dallas has been a partner in the mission to inspire children to be the scientific leaders of tomorrow.

Students in the Arts and Technology program created soundscapes heard throughout the museum's 11 permanent exhibit halls. In addition, Dr. Mary Urquhart, head of the Department of Science and Mathematics Education and a planetary scientist, worked with museum staff on the astronomy content for the Expanding Universe Hall.

University experts, including Dr. Mark Spong, dean of the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, and Dr. Sandra Bond Chapman, founder and chief director of the Center for BrainHealth, were among the first speakers to give public presentations at the museum.

Recent contributions include:

- Demonstrations by students from the Alan G. MacDiarmid NanoTech Institute of science experiments and advances in nanotechnology.
- Educational, interactive games created by Arts and Technology students for the Perot's Game Lab.
- A human-powered jukebox called the Perot Music Machine that plays tunes such as Guns N' Roses' "Sweet Child of Mine" when bicycle wheels attached to xylophones and other instruments are hand cranked. The museum sponsored the project through UTDesign, the Jonsson School's capstone senior design program. [UTD](#)

Summer camps organized by SEEC and other University departments and schools offer an initial exposure for children and youth who are interested in science and other topics. They get hands-on experience with projects, using the same tools STEM professionals use, such as CAD programs and 3-D printing.

Many kids are repeat campers, so Berry works hard to come up with new themes each year.

“It has to be authentic and exciting. We base the camp experience on whatever is available to kids at a good price point,” Berry said. “Quadcopters, solar cars or rocketry—whatever it takes to get them to UT Dallas.”

At a Solar Car Camp last summer, UT Dallas engineering students mentored 25 high school students who built a solar-powered car in four weeks. Interns guided the teens in constructing the car’s mechanical and electrical systems, but the teens were responsible for getting the job done.

Their goal: to run the car for several hours using only solar power.

Ben Medeiros, a home-schooled junior from Flower Mound, Texas, has known since childhood that he wanted to be an engineer.

“I like to take things apart. I wanted to take the vacuum cleaner apart and make it blow out instead of in, but my mom wouldn’t let me,” Medeiros said. “Here, I learned how to weld and use tools. And teamwork, definitely, how to organize who’s best at what.”

Josh Van Cura, a senior at Great Lakes Academy in Plano, Texas, and one of the few campers old enough to have a driver’s license, took the wheel. Fellow campers cheered as he maneuvered the solar car on campus back roads.

“It was great, but I need a little more speed,” said Van Cura, who wants to be a mechanical engineer someday. “It’s the first time I ever really built anything big. When we started with this car, it was just a frame. It’s pretty satisfying to see something that looks like it can drive.”

Campers eventually were able to test the car off-campus, taking an 80-mile route on back roads from Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth to Austin College in Sherman, Texas.

Cole Morrison, a junior at J.J. Pearce High School in Richardson, said the Introduction to Space Camp taught him a lot about the atmosphere and how rockets and weather balloons work. “And I learned a new computer programming language,” said Morrison, who is checking into engineering programs at several universities, including UT Dallas.

That kind of interest in both the STEM fields and UT Dallas is what Berry likes to hear.

“We are a school of the sports of the mind,” Berry said. “We have one of the top college chess teams in the country, the best solar car team. We even have an underwater sub team.

“Not many college athletes go on to become pros, but anybody in the STEM fields can be a pro, and their careers will last a lifetime.” **UTD**



High schooler Josh Van Cura takes a completed solar car out for a spin.

Adam Burkhalter and other high school students assemble a solar-powered vehicle as part of the Solar Car Camp.



ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE

OFFICE SPACE

by Stuart Yun BS'13

The Mojave Desert can overwhelm the senses. The sweltering afternoons and frigid nights make it impossible to dress for any occasion. The unforgiving brightness of a cloudless sky renders sunglasses ineffective. The howling winds kick up dust that coats wind-worn Joshua trees. Only the occasional sonic boom, high-altitude contrails and unidentified object in the sky indicate the history—and the future—of this desolate landscape. Nearly seven decades ago, Chuck Yeager broke the sound barrier in this Southern California desert, and it is here where many discoveries, first flights and world records have been set.

This is my office.

After graduating from UT Dallas with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, I moved to Southern California. I started my career at the Mojave Air and Space Port with Virgin Galactic/The Spaceship Company as its youngest engineer. I have since moved across the runway to Scaled Composites where I am currently an engineer for the Stratolaunch program.

This region is home to Edwards Air Force Base, Armstrong Flight Research Center, Lockheed Martin's Skunk Works, the National Test Pilot School, NASA's Jet Propulsion Lab and SpaceX. It is the hub of a renewed effort to explore beyond this planet.

There are certain creative milestones in human history that define a society: the ancient Egyptians had the Great Pyramid of Giza; the Ming Dynasty had the Great Wall of China; the Roman Empire had the Colosseum; and Western Europe had the Enlightenment and Scientific Revolution. Four thousand years from now, the petty issues of our time may be long forgotten, but I am confident that people will still gaze up at the stars, wondering about the society that dared to take the first steps on the moon

and explore our solar system.

Those imaginings have also been mine. I have always sought to make an impact and potentially shape the course of our society through discovery. To be a part of this process is incredibly exciting.

Decades ago, space programs were funded by large governments with a focus on national defense. Then along came the X Prize Foundation's space competition to spur the development of inexpensive spaceflights by the private sector. The first nongovernment organization to successfully carry manned spaceflights twice within two weeks would take the prize—an award of \$10 million.

Behind this 21st-century version of a space race were three civilian innovators who also served on the X Prize Foundation's board: Burt Rutan of Scaled Composites; Paul Allen of Microsoft Corp.; and Sir Richard Branson of Virgin Group.

Rutan and Allen captured the X Prize in 2004 with an innovative space launch system. It included a carrier aircraft—White Knight—that lifted a passenger vehicle called SpaceShipOne and its rocket engine to high



Photo credit Scott B. / Antenna Films

Stuart Yun works for Scaled Composites, which is helping create the world's largest aircraft. It is housed in a 103,257-square-foot hangar at Mojave Air and Space Port.



Bypassing the traditional launchpad, commercial space entrepreneurs are launching from jet-powered carrier aircraft like the WhiteKnight.

altitudes. SpaceShipOne would then be dropped, and its rocket would ignite, propelling the passengers into space.

From the momentum of that competition, the Mojave Air and Space Port, a civilian aerospace test center, has become the epicenter for experimental vehicles. This airfield is home to both Scaled Composites and Virgin Galactic, which are now developing SpaceShipTwo and White Knight Two for commercial spaceflight.

While at Virgin Galactic, I was tapped to be the subject matter expert for SpaceShipTwo's mechanical flight control system. I developed and constructed the fixture and casting method for the aft end of the hybrid rocket motor for SpaceShipTwo's propulsion system, conceived and implemented a flight-test data application for automated test results, and led the design and production for various systems in Mark 2 SpaceShipTwo—which is now named "Hope."

My time at Virgin Galactic prepared me well for my next endeavor—a new venture

with Scaled Composites. Founded by Rutan, Scaled Composites has pushed boundaries with its rapid prototype, one-off, experimental, milestone demonstration vehicles. Rutan and the Scaled Composites crew have broken many world records, including the first nonstop, non-refueled flight around the world with Voyager, a bespoke aircraft designed by Scaled Composites. Many of Rutan's designs are now hanging in various museums around the United States, including Voyager and SpaceShipOne at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

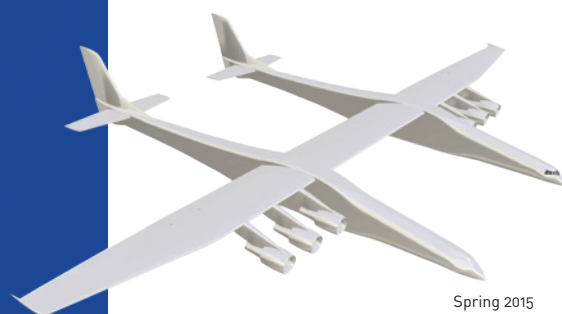
Scaled Composites is now developing an aerospace vehicle for Allen's startup, Stratolaunch Systems. The mission is to provide a mobile system for a payload on a multistage rocket.

Stratolaunch plans to use an aircraft to propel payloads weighing thousands of pounds into low earth orbit with the capability to station where needed. The benefit of these flights includes the ability



Stuart Yun BS'13 is helping to design, test and build revolutionary vehicles and systems for suborbital spaceflight. He is an eyewitness to both the progress and the setbacks in sending rockets into space via a carrier aircraft rather than the traditional platform launchpad. Yun is an engineer at Scaled Composites after having worked for Virgin Galactic/The Spaceship Company. He is part of the team that is designing the soon-to-be largest aircraft in the world for Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen's space transportation venture, Stratolaunch Systems.

Yun lives in Palmdale, California. As a mechanical engineering student in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, he conducted research in Dr. Matthew Goeckner's laboratory. He was a part of the Anson L. Clark Summer Research Program. Yun also competed on the UTD robotics team that, under the mentorship of the late Dr. Cyrus Cantrell, won the 2011 BattleBots National Championship. [UTD](#)



to launch a satellite into any orbit at any time from anywhere at a fraction of the cost of traditional programs. No longer will missions be tied to a handful of launchpads in the United States or delayed due to weather.

A mobile launch system of this magnitude requires a carrier aircraft on an enormous scale that has never been attempted. In fact, about 50 of my colleagues and I are creating the world's largest aircraft. This carbon fiber composite aircraft will be wider than a football field (at more than 117 meters) and, with a gross weight of more than 1.3 million pounds, will require six Boeing 747 jet engines to provide enough thrust to lift this behemoth. What is even more impressive is that it is actually being constructed behind massive hangar doors at the Mojave Air and Space Port.

I am an engineer developing the flight control system for this lofty enterprise. Every day holds a new challenge in design work and a fast-paced schedule. This requires me

to take a hands-on approach to engineering, and take the process from conception and design to fabrication and testing. Developing the system to pilot the world's largest plane is no easy task, and can only be done with a great group of dedicated engineers and technicians. We take an interdisciplinary, hands-on approach to design in order to develop creative solutions.

At both Virgin Galactic and Scaled Composites, small and efficient teams are critical to the success of each project. All engineers must have hands-on experience to bring fresh perspectives to the table. Although grades are important in classes, hands-on skills and experience are equally valuable for your career. UT Dallas let me develop these skills through various opportunities in lab research, competitive teams and class projects. I can definitively say that the University has prepared me well for the roles I face in the cutting edge of aerospace. **UTD**



WhiteKnightTwo, carrying SpaceShipTwo, flies in tandem with an aircraft over the Golden Gate Bridge.

As an alum, you have free access to the UT DALLAS CAREER CENTER



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Campaign Finale Celebrates Successful End to Historic Effort



Pyrotechnics launched from campus rooftops and the center mall reflection pools celebrate the success of the University's first comprehensive campaign.

Hundreds of donors, faculty, staff and students gathered in the heart of campus on an October evening to celebrate the finale of the first comprehensive campaign at The University of Texas at Dallas.

As the sun set, a student orchestra played for those gathered under the Trellis, while students at the campus roundabout celebrated with food trucks, disc jockeys and dancing.

Then, as night fell, Coldplay's "A Sky Full of Stars" accompanied orange and green pyrotechnics launched from campus rooftops and the mall's reflection pools. A laser show projected on the side of the Edith O'Donnell Arts and Technology Building rolled out messages of success and appreciation for donors.



2014-15 Student Government President Brooke Knudtson said the effort was a milestone for the University that benefited current students and those to come.

"The world will reward and recognize the most brilliant minds," President David E. Daniel told the crowd. "If we are to remain the great city we are today, North Texas needs us to become a top tier university. With your help, that's exactly what we're doing. Nothing short of the future of this region hinges on our success."

The five-year campaign, which concluded Dec. 31, 2014, surpassed its \$200 million goal. More than \$273.3 million was raised to sustain the University's drive to become a nationally recognized research institution.

Giving by alumni and friends set a record during the final year of the campaign, reaching an annual total for Fiscal Year 2014 of \$78.9 million. Donor support helped double the University's endowment to \$387 million as of Aug. 31. More than 200 new endowed funds were established to support student scholarships and fellowships, faculty chairs and professorships.

James Huffines, co-chair of the University Campaign Council and president and chief operating officer of PlainsCapital Corp., said that Tier One universities

generate research that benefits the surrounding community by generating startup companies, enabling more skilled graduates to enter the workforce and attracting greater venture capital dollars.

"The end of our campaign is a transformational moment, not only for UT Dallas, but for the entire Dallas region," said Huffines, the former chairman of the UT System Board of Regents. "This marks the next big step in becoming a Tier One university, which I am certain is right around the corner."

In a letter to supporters and the campus community following the celebration, Daniel made note that the campaign brought about stronger ties with alumni and greater participation in giving.

"A new sense of affiliation seems to be growing among our alumni," he wrote. "This enhanced sense of community seems to mirror the transformation of our physical campus, which so many of you have come home to see for yourselves. The UT Dallas family is expanding, and our bonds grow stronger as we deepen our commitment to UTD." **UTD**



UT Dallas mascot Temoc encouraged students to dance at a musical celebration held at the roundabout.

New Division Combines Offices of Development, Alumni Relations, Communications

Two University divisions—the Office of Development and Alumni Relations and the Office of Communications—have combined to create the



Susan Rogers

Office of Advancement, which will be headed by Susan Rogers. Formerly vice president for communications, Rogers has been named vice president for university advancement.

President David E. Daniel said he expects the reorganization will enhance productivity and build upon accomplishments of both divisions as UT Dallas continues to gain recognition as one of the nation's up-and-coming public research universities.

"These are very exciting times for UT Dallas, with growth, new buildings, and dynamic new programs and changes," Daniel said. "I look forward to even greater achievements in the new advancement structure."

Rogers, who founded the University's Office of Communications in 2006, described the merger as a natural step in the maturation of UT Dallas. "Many large universities employ the advancement model," she said. "I'm excited about this opportunity and looking forward to bringing our team of talented, dedicated people toward new levels of accomplishment together."

The Office of Advancement will encompass marketing, media relations, communications, periodicals, web services, alumni relations,

corporate and foundation relations, donor stewardship and events management.

"This new structure will enhance an already strong partnership among the offices of marketing, communications, alumni relations and development," Rogers said. "The demands of the recently completed *Realize the Vision* campaign brought the groups together to accomplish important goals. It became apparent that a formally organized, merged structure could benefit the University and its students, alumni and other constituents."

Rogers has named Kyle Edgington PhD'13, who most recently was director for the Naveen Jindal School of Management's executive certificate in



Kyle Edgington

fundraising program, as associate vice president for development. From 2008-2012, Edgington served as JSOM's assistant dean for development and alumni relations, securing the two largest alumni gifts in the University's history.

He has been president of the Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star Foundation and held fundraising positions at Texas Tech University. Rogers joined UT Dallas in October 2006, taking responsibility for enhancing the University's visibility among key audiences through a variety of channels and to a growing number of people. She has overseen an integrated communications organization, which has included the University's media relations, advertising and marketing functions, social media

and web presence.

"Thanks to the persistent efforts in recent years of a talented group of professionals in development, communications and public affairs at the University, people in this state and beyond are beginning to take notice that we are one of the true success stories in higher education in America," said Daniel. "As UT Dallas continues to progress toward the goal of becoming one of the top public research universities in the United States, we must take our efforts to the next level and to a much broader stage. As vice president for advancement, Susan Rogers will define and lead this strategically important initiative."

Rogers came to UT Dallas from the University of Arkansas, where she served as associate vice chancellor for university relations in the office of advancement. She has also served as director of marketing and communications in the Office of Development at Stanford University and as associate vice president for marketing and communications at the University of North Texas.

In addition to her work for educational institutions, Rogers has consulted for a broad array of clients, including the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, the Central Park Conservancy, Long Island University, Lynchburg College, DePauw University and the University of Delaware. She has extensive experience as a writer, reporter and editor at media outlets including *The Dallas Morning News*, *The Miami Herald*, *The Chicago Sun-Times* and *D Magazine*. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from The University of Texas at Austin. **UTD**



Founders Day Established

The gathering to commemorate the first Founders Day took place in the Founders Building atrium. In the future, in a plaza adjacent to the building, the bronze busts of the three founders—gifts from Texas Instruments—will be displayed.



"I wish we could talk to the founders today and tell them what they did so many years ago when they came out here when this was really just an open field with one building—that their vision has been realized," said Bill Krenik PhD '93, chief technologist at Texas Instruments.

"It's been such a great collaboration between TI and UT Dallas. It's beneficial from the students' perspective and TI's. When I was an undergraduate, it was great to have people from TI come and talk to us about what it's like to be in the industry, what engineers do, and to present us with opportunities to experience it firsthand," said Fern Yoon Ghouse BS '07, MS '08, a TI automotive systems marketing manager.



Exactly 50 years after the Founders Building was dedicated in 1964, a crowd of about 200 students, alumni, faculty, current and former Texas Instruments staffers, and many individuals who could qualify as several of the above gathered to celebrate a shared history, a modern-day partnership and joint plans for the future by declaring Oct. 29 UT Dallas Founders Day.

The grand visions of Texas Instruments and UT Dallas founders J. Erik Jonsson, Eugene McDermott and Cecil H. Green were recalled and lauded by those who continue today to benefit from their determination and hard work.

"On this day, we honor not only our founders but the countless others—leaders, supporters, students, alumni, faculty, researchers—who have helped to realize our shared vision," President David E. Daniel told the crowd. "That vision is to create a great research university that will play an essential role in educating future leaders, advancing our society and making life better for us all."

Since the beginning, Texas Instruments and the University have maintained a close relationship focused on innovation, partnership, economic development and the invention of health technologies.

Through the years, the company and its foundation have contributed more than \$28 million to the University, some of which has funded seven endowed faculty positions and supported the UTeach program that trains young mathematicians and scientists to be classroom teachers.

"Sometimes I feel that our university should be named The University of Texas at Dallas Made Possible by Texas Instruments and Margaret McDermott," Daniel said as the crowd chuckled at his reference to the long-term commitment and support to the University from founder Eugene McDermott's wife. [UTD](#)

◆ TWELVE KEY POINTS IN UT DALLAS HISTORY

In his remarks at the first Founders Day celebration, President David E. Daniel listed the following as the 12 most significant events since the University's founding.

Dr. Bill Krenik, UT Dallas alumnus and Texas Instruments executive, used his remarks to amend Daniel's list, by adding No. 13: the arrival of Daniel at UT Dallas in 2005.



In August 1975, the Callier Center for Communication Disorders became part of UT Dallas.



Undergraduates were admitted in September 1975. Then-President Bryce Jordan played a key role in securing Texas Senate approval. Objections by local community colleges were dropped only after UT Dallas was limited to admitting upper-division students.



After a long fight, approval was given in 1986 to start an engineering program. Key business leaders worked with local companies and supporters and then-President Robert Rutford to raise money to start the program.



In 1990, UT Dallas was allowed to admit freshmen and become a complete university. Again, it was a battle, with Rutford serving as the University's leader. Also around this time, the UT Dallas Comets athletic teams were invited to join the NCAA's Division III.



The Eugene McDermott Scholars program was launched in 2000, thanks to the leadership and generosity of Margaret McDermott, honoring her husband and UT Dallas founder Eugene McDermott.



The Arts and Technology Program, known as ATEC, was created in 2002, acknowledging the vital role of the arts in the life and the soul of the University.



An economic development project known as Project Emmitt launched in 2004, led by Texas Instruments. More than \$300 million was pumped into the University to help strengthen science and engineering programs.



In 2008 and in 2013, Margaret McDermott and others supported the transformation of the campus through landscape and infrastructure investments.



The so-called Tier One legislation in 2009 created a matching gifts program that enabled UT Dallas to raise its game in philanthropic support.



The construction of the University's first residence hall was completed in 2009. Five residence halls have been built in five years, doubling the number of students living on campus.



UT Dallas' first comprehensive fundraising campaign, titled *Realize the Vision: The Campaign for Tier One and Beyond*, launched in September 2009. The two largest gifts ever from alumni both came from School of Management alums: Naveen Jindal, for whom the school is now named, and Chuck and Nancy Davidson.



A recent \$17 million gift to create the Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History and a gift to create the Founders Fellowship Program, a program similar to the McDermott Scholars Program but designed for graduate student scholars, are game changers for the University.

BREW MASTERS



During Homecoming 2014, alumni gathered at Craft and Growler for a beer tasting featuring beer and cider from alumni-owned breweries. From left: Craft and Growler owner Kevin Afghani BA'01, Joel Malone BS'08, MS'11, MBA'11 of Bishop Cider Company, David Wedemeier BS'02, MBA'05 of Martin House Brewing Company, Michael Peticolas BA'95 of Peticolas Brewing Company and Brad Perkinson BS'08, MS'09 of FireWheel Brewing Company.

by Sara Mancuso

UT Dallas alumni are helping lead an explosion of craft beer breweries throughout North Texas.

From taprooms to a cidery to a beer filling station, these entrepreneurial graduates left behind careers in law and finance to build businesses in hot spots like the Bishop Arts and Deep Ellum districts, as well as downtown Fort Worth.

Along the way, they've collected national beer awards, patented new tap systems and used crowdfunding to market their ventures. And they're in good company. Texas now has the eighth most craft breweries in the nation.

These alumni are proof that these days, brewing takes brains.

Michael Peticolas BA'95 *Peticolas Brewing Company*

Michael, 43, loves to talk about his award-winning brews like Velvet Hammer. "It's smooth as velvet, but it hits you like a hammer," he said. "I'm all about balance. I think beer should be balanced."

His customers agree with this philosophy, quadrupling orders in the three years since Michael and his wife, Melissa, opened up shop in 2011.

Michael earned a bachelor's degree in government from the University, attended law school and opened his own law firm. As hobbyist homebrewers, he and Melissa turned down an offer to invest in a brewery startup, and instead decided to run a brewery themselves.

The self-described labor of love is "exhausting and a blast to run," said Michael. "But when people come up to me and say, 'That's my favorite beer,' it's total satisfaction."

Best-seller: Velvet Hammer

Michael Peticolas BA'95



Joel Malone BS'08, MS'11, MBA'11 *Bishop Cider Company*

Joel, 27, discovered hard cider through his wife, Laura, a devotee of the drink made from pressed apples. Together they brewed ciders at home, and then decided to create Bishop Cider. They mounted a crowdfunding campaign through the online funding platform Kickstarter and, after a year, raised \$20,000 to spread the word about Dallas' first cidery.

Joel said they chose the popular Bishop Arts District because "it's built around the appreciation of traditional arts and culinary arts, and Bishop Cider is infused with the same."

Joel loves that in the world of craft brews, ciders stand out. At the beer purveyor Craft and Growler, owned by fellow alumnus Kevin Afghani BA'01, "there are 42 taps on the menu board and I'm the only cider. That's how it is everywhere."

Best-seller: Suicider



Joel Malone BS'08, MS'11, MBA'11



Brad Perkinson BS'08, MS'09 recently added more fermentation tanks to his operation.

Brad Perkinson BS'08, MS'09 FireWheel Brewing Company

Somewhere after being laid off as a financial analyst and a trip to Oktoberfest in Munich in 2009, Brad, 28, found love—in homebrewing. With a homebrew kit and a little practice, he was whipping up five-gallon batches from the comfort of his couch. From there, he said, it was a short leap to start FireWheel.

What Brad loves about the job is simple. “At the end of the day, I don’t have a spreadsheet with numbers, I’ve got something you can drink and enjoy,” he said. “It’s having a sense of accomplishment in a glass.”

Since Brad started out in 2012, he’s hired two employees and expanded from a single 200-gallon fermentation tank to enough tanks to accommodate up to 5,000 gallons.

Brad always keeps lessons learned in his UTD finance and business classes close at hand. “Everything is about money,” he said. “I’ve gotta run a business before I can brew beer.”

Best-seller: Strawberry IPA



Martin House founders Cody Martin and David Wedemeier BS'02, MBA'05.

David Wedemeier BS'02, MBA'05 Martin House Brewing Company

David, 35, met Cody Martin at UT Dallas when they were both working on their bachelor’s

degrees. They got to know each other as fraternity brothers, and discovered a mutual appreciation for beer.

After graduation, David dipped his toe in telecommunications while Cody pursued a career in engineering, but soon afterward they both abandoned the corporate world and created Martin House, which overlooks downtown Fort Worth.

David’s experience and MBA keep him entrenched in the business side of making beer. He manages the sales, accounting and marketing for the company, or “anything that’s not brewing the beer,” he explained. “Controlling your own destiny is awesome but it’s exhausting.”

Best-seller: Day Break



Kevin Afghani BA'01 at Craft and Growler.

Kevin Afghani BA'01 Craft and Growler, Beer Filling Station

Kevin, 35, and his wife, Cathrine Kinslow, were working as patent attorneys when they decided to swap their legal careers for something new. It was around this time that they invested in Deep Ellum Brewing Company and were getting more interested in beer.

When it came time to choose a location for Craft and Growler, Kevin drew on his days at the University when he’d drive to Deep Ellum to what was then known as the New Amsterdam for coffee and studying.

Craft and Growler specializes in providing local and regional microbrews that are not bottled. Patrons also love to peruse the bar’s vast selection of growlers—large bottles used to store fresh poured beer.

These days Kevin is still putting his physics degree to work. He developed and patented the fluid dynamics that go into the bar’s tap system. “I’m constantly learning about how to run a business, from managing to innovating to marketing.” **UTD**

Characteristics of American Craft Brewers

- Craft brewers are small brewers.
- The hallmark of craft beer and craft brewers is innovation. Craft brewers interpret historic styles with unique twists and develop new styles that have no precedent.
- Craft beer is generally made with traditional ingredients like malted barley; interesting and sometimes nontraditional ingredients are often added for distinctiveness.

(Source: Brewers Association)

Taps On Tour

Most breweries offer tours and tastings, and also sell their brews to local bars. See their websites for details:

Bishop Cider
509 N. Bishop Ave.
Dallas, Texas 75208
bishopcider.com

Craft and Growler, Beer Filling Station
3601 Parry Ave.
Dallas, Texas 75226
craftandgrowler.com

FireWheel Brewing
3313 Enterprise Dr.
Rowlett, Texas 75088
firewheelbrewing.com

Martin House Brewing
220 S. Sylvania Ave. #209
Fort Worth, Texas 76111
martinhousebrewing.com

Peticolas Brewing
2026 Farrington St.
Dallas, Texas 75207
peticolasbrewing.com

ALUMNI NOTES

1970s

Mike Brodie BS'76 received the National Association of Realtors 2014 Distinguished Service Award. Mike is a broker and operating principal of Keller Williams Realty offices in Plano, Texas, Carmel, California, and the Maryland/Washington, D.C., region.

1980s

Debra Stenger MS'80 wrote *Ralf's Christmas Spirit*, published by Xulon Press. The book is about the puppy Ralf's first Christmas. Debra, a United Methodist lay servant, uses a Ralf puppet to educate children.

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

Corale Brierley PhD'81 was a keynote speaker at the Biohydromet '14 conference in Falmouth, Cornwall, England. She is a principal at Brierley Consultancy LLC in Highlands Ranch, Colorado.

JoAnne B. Galbraith MS'84, a certified financial planner, was named president of Carter Advisory Services, a business unit of Carter Financial Management. She also has worked at Ernst & Young and Bank of America.

Mark Interrante BS'85 joined Hewlett-Packard as senior vice president of engineering in the cloud business unit. Prior to Hewlett-Packard, Mark was with Rackspace, Yahoo Media, Deloitte Consulting and Texas Instruments. He also had leadership roles with several startups.

Linda Koop MA'85 represents District 102 in the Texas House of Representatives. She formerly served on the Dallas City Council and the Dallas Area Rapid Transit board.

Edwina "Wini" Lynn BA'85 was selected in July 2014 as an artist of the month by the Creative Arts Center in Bonham, Texas.

David Kelly MS'86, president and CEO of Bluefin Robotics, a subsidiary of Batelle, has been elected a Fellow of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. David received the University's Distinguished Alumni award in 2014.

Bob Hill MBA'87 has joined Seabury APG, working primarily in its airport and community advisory practice. He previously spent 25 years working for American Airlines in commercial planning, including its network planning department.

Stephanie Ross BA'88, MS'99, MBA'00 received a \$10,000 KPMG Minority Accounting Doctoral Scholarship.

Tom Yelich MBA'88, MS'88 is the new staff vice president, business development, at Apache Corp. Tom joined Apache in 2006.

Debbie Wildrick BS'89 is executive vice president of sales and marketing at BAZI International Inc. She has held leadership roles at 7-Eleven Inc. and Tropicana North America (Pepsico) and start-up brands FRS Healthy Energy and Sundance Juice Sparklers (known today as IZZE).

1990s

Rick Amsberry, CPA BS'90, MS'92, MA'96, a member of the Rotary Club of Park Cities, Dallas, has been nominated to serve as governor of Rotary District 5810 for 2017-2018.

Bryan Neal BA'90 is listed in *Texas Super Lawyers* 2014, published by Thomson Reuters. A partner at Thompson & Knight LLP, he focuses on employment and labor law, civil appellate law, school law and civil rights matters.

Lisa Ross MS'91 is the new chief financial officer of Behringer Harvard Opportunity REIT Inc. Lisa will continue to serve as senior vice president and treasurer of Behringer. Before joining Behringer, Lisa was the controller for a private real estate development project and partnership controller for The Hampstead Group.

Robert Bogdan Staszewski BSEE'91, MSEE'92, PhD'02 received a research professorship and funding worth 5 million euros from Science Foundation Ireland's Research Professorship Programme. He is considered an expert in wireless technology and the internet of things. Roger is based at University College Dublin's School of Electrical, Electronic and Communications Engineering.

Rashied Ali-Bakari BA'92 has written a book of poetry, *From Under the Mulberry Tree*, which was published by Outskirts Press.

Paul Hillers BA'92, MBA'01 is a partner at Bighill Systems LLC, an identity and access management firm.

Frank Miller BA'92, Teacher Certification'02 is principal of Lake Highlands High School in the Richardson Independent School District. Previously, he served as principal at Sachse High School in Garland, Texas.



Allen Barnes BA'93, MPA'97 is city manager for the city of Gonzales, Texas. Allen has also been city manager for Sachse, Texas, and Liberty, Texas.

Sam Gilliland MBA'94 has joined the board of directors of Gogo, an aero-communications service provider. He is chair of the United States Travel and Tourism Advisory Board that advises the U.S. secretary of commerce and chairman emeritus of Sabre Holdings. He received the University's Distinguished Alumni award in 2005.

Jerri Hammer, JD, CPA MS'97, equity partner at TravisWolff Independent Advisors and Accountants, was named practice group leader for business and individual tax. She is a 2015 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Nikki Mathis Thompson BS'99 wrote *Chasing the Sun*, a spinoff of her Rebound series. The novella was published in September 2014.

2000s

Jason Anderson MBA'00 has been promoted to vice president of engineering for Frontier Communication's mid-Atlantic region. Jason served most recently as Frontier's regional director of engineering and construction.

David Herman, MD, MS'00 was recently named chief executive of the Essentia Health system. He earned a medical degree from Mayo Medical School, completing his residency in ophthalmology at the Mayo School of Graduate Medical Education. He serves on the board of directors for the American Board of Ophthalmology and is a member of the board of trustees for Ronald McDonald House Charities.

John Nettuno MBA'00 joined the SSG Ltd. leadership team as director of business development for the company's data management practice. Prior to joining SSG, John was a regional manager in the professional services practice for Informatica.

ALUMNI NOTES

Ashley Rainwater MAT'00 was promoted from assistant principal to associate principal of Liberty High School in Frisco, Texas.

Pernilla Johansson MPA'01, PhD'06 is director of research and planning for the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, after starting as a planner with the agency in 2013. She formerly managed research and statistics at the Dallas County Juvenile Department and was an adjunct lecturer at UT Dallas.

Hill Johnson BS'01 joined BDO Consulting as a director in the Dallas office. Hill is an accredited senior appraiser in business valuation from the American Society of Appraisers. Prior to joining BDO, he was the director of business valuation at Hartman Leito & Bolt (HLB). The partners and staff of HLB combined with BDO in June 2014.

Michael Kretiv MBA'01 joined XL Group's North America distribution and network team as vice president and client distribution leader. Michael has been regional casualty manager at AIG, as well as holding various positions at Liberty Mutual, Zurich North America, Lockton and Marsh.



Rebecca Morley BA'01 joined Kane Russell Coleman & Logan PC as an associate attorney in the transactional section.



Kryss Batts MPA'02 self-published *What's Done in the Dark*, the first in a planned series of mystery/suspense novels. She published her first romance novel, *Walls Fall Down*, in 2003.

Shelby Skrhak BA'02 is director of digital content and social media for SUCCESS.com, after serving as SUCCESS magazine Web editor for four years. While at UT Dallas, Shelby was editor in chief of *The Mercury* student newspaper, vice president of public relations for Kappa Alpha Theta and a student ambassador. She is married to **John M. Skrhak BS'02**, who helped launch the UT Dallas hockey club in 1998.



Quincy Attipoe, DDS, a former student in the School of Interdisciplinary Studies, was chosen by his peers to receive the American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry Humanitarian Award for his ongoing mission work in Africa and South America.

Ronald Mehler PhD'03 has published a book on computer chip design, *Digital Integrated Circuit Design Using Verilog and SystemVerilog*. He is a professor of electrical and computer engineering at California State University, Northridge.

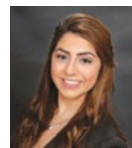
Arianne "Tex" Thompson BA'04 wrote *One Night in Sixes*, a Western fantasy released in July 2014. Tex is a master teacher for academic tutoring and test prep services, as well as the managing editor for the DFW Writers Conference.



Sheri Stevenson BA'05 was inducted into the RE/MAX Hall of Fame. She joined the office of RE/MAX DFW Associates in Las Colinas, Texas, in 2005.

Masoud Vaziri MBA'05 is founder of Richardson-based i2i Inc., which launched an Indiegogo campaign that raised over \$100,000 to bring to market its iPal smart glasses. The glasses feature eye tracking and eye gesture controls and audio recording.

Jeffrey White MBA'05 joined Extreme Networks as chief revenue officer. Jeffrey most recently served a dual role as president for Cisco India and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation based in Bangalore, India. He was the vice president of Cisco's regional service provider segment. Prior to Cisco, Jeffrey held a number of positions in sales leadership at Ameritech and Anixter.



Naghmeh Lilly Khavari, DPM, BS'06 joined the North Texas Foot and Ankle podiatry practice last year. Naghmeh graduated as co-chief resident in the Kern residency program at Michigan Surgical Hospital. She is a member of the American Podiatric Medical Association, American College of Foot and Ankle Surgeons and Texas Podiatric Medical Association.

Theresa Mangum BA'06 is the artist behind a new 15' x 82' mural in downtown Carrollton, Texas. She painted the mural with Jes Spires over the course of 10 days in 2014, in response to a request from the city's mayor. The mural features Texas wildflowers painted on the east side of the Calvert and Co. Architects office building on the downtown square near Pioneer Park.

Norman Herrera MPA'07 is chief executive officer of Sparq Natural Gas LLC in Oklahoma City. Before co-founding Sparq, Norman spent six years building Chesapeake Energy's national market development team. Norman previously served as special as-

sistant to former Dallas Mayor Laura Miller and as a senior budget analyst in the City of Dallas Office of Financial Services.

Tammy Leonard MS'07, PhD'09 is an affiliate assistant professor of economics at the University of Dallas.

Apoorv Kalra MBA'08 has founded BollywoodShaadis.com, a wedding planning website.

Massa Shoura BS'08, MS'10, PhD'13, PhD'14 began a postdoctoral position with Nobel laureate Dr. Andrew Fire at Stanford University in January.



Dan Bowman MBA'09 is executive director and CEO of the Allen Economic Development Corp. (AEDC). An Allen, Texas, native, Dan has worked for the AEDC for 10 years. He served as its assistant director and later as interim executive director and CEO. He previously worked for the San Antonio Economic Development Department. He is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma and Leadership Allen Class XVII. Dan is past president and a current member of the Allen Kiwanis Club. In 2013, he was recognized as one of the Top 40 under 40 by Development Counselors International.

Austin Howard, MS'09, PhD'14 joined SSG as software developer for the company's billing and revenue management practice. He brings over five years of server administration and construction experience.

2010s

Coleen Manoy BS'10 opened her Longview, Texas, store, I-Mocho Natural, in 2014. The store sells her line of I-Mocho cosmetics, which are dye-free, paraben-free, formaldehyde-free and sulfate-free and contain no synthetic fragrances. She previously worked as a consumer safety officer for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Amanda Wall MPA'10 coordinates communications about the Mattress Recycling Council's programs in Connecticut, Rhode Island and California. She previously worked with various public relations agencies, the YMCA of Metropolitan Dallas and Texas Sen. Jane Nelson's district office. Most recently, Amanda was an account executive at Cooksey Communications in Irving, Texas.

Xinmei “Lucy” Xie PhD’10 joined the accounting faculty at Woodbury University in fall 2014. Prior to joining Woodbury, Lucy taught at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Two of her research papers were recently published in the *Journal of International Finance & Economics*.

Sara Arnold BS’11 earned a master’s degree from the division of social sciences at The University of Chicago in August 2014.



Rachel Bock Starfield MSCS’11 married Dr. David Starfield on May 25, 2014.

Naveen Yanduru PhD’11 is the vice president of product development at Peregrine Semiconductor. Before joining Peregrine in 2011, he held engineering and management positions at Samsung Telecommunications and Texas Instruments.

Steve Myles MBA’12 is a forecasting and planning analyst with Apple Inc. in Austin, Texas.

Elizabeth Organ BS’12 is a Furman Public Policy Scholar at New York University School of Law, which provides a full-tuition scholarship for three

years of study leading to the JD degree. Elizabeth is committed to working on financial regulation and enforcement. She has been a research analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, where she helped write articles with the president and research director that were focused on “Too Big to Fail” policies.

Christopher Boone PhD’13 is executive director of Health Data Consortium, a collaboration of government, nonprofit and private sector organizations working to foster the availability and innovative use of data to improve health and health care. Christopher was previously a vice president at Avalere Health.

Dylan Dement BS’13 developed the website thehigherlearning.com with his friend Mbiyimoh Ghogomu. The website provides concise summaries of current news events.

Kinsey Cline BA’13, MA’14 is a Go Now Missions campus missionary intern at the UT Dallas Baptist Student Ministry.

Juncai Jiang PhD’13 is assistant professor in the Department of Marketing at Virginia Tech University’s Pamplin College of Business. His research interests are in consumer search, price-matching guarantees and online advertising.

Eliza Alvarado PhD’14 is a political strategist who has been the campaign manager for several candidates in South Texas and deputy campaign manager for U.S Rep. Ruben Hinojosa’s re-election campaign. She oversaw Hispanic outreach for Hillary Clinton in Texas, Pennsylvania and Indiana, was Hispanic outreach director for the Arc of Dallas and worked for Hinojosa in his Washington office while earning her master’s degree in political management from George Washington University. As a political management strategist for Border Health PAC, Eliza started the Advocacy Alliance Center of Texas, a voter registration and awareness organization in South Texas. She is currently a public voices fellow with the OpEd Project at Texas Woman’s University.

Sandi Coryell MS’14, founder of the Coryell Group, is a business consultant and leadership expert. She recently partnered with other experts to co-write *Answering The Call: Entrepreneurs and Professionals Reveal How They Said Yes to Success and You Can Too!* CelebrityPress released the book last year.

Gabriel Dawe MFA’11



Gabriel Dawe

Gabriel Dawe MFA’11 is a visual artist whose site-specific art installations have been exhibited in the U.S., Canada, Belgium and the United Kingdom. Gabriel’s installations feature vibrantly-colored thread, sometimes as much as 80 miles in length. While earning his MFA, he was an artist in residence at

CentralTrak, the University’s artist-in-residence program. Gabriel’s work has been featured in numerous publications around the world, including *Sculpture* magazine, the cover of the 12th edition of McGraw-Hill’s *Art Fundamentals* and Tristan Manco’s book *Raw + Material = Art*. He is represented by Conduit Gallery in Dallas and by Lot 10 Gallery in Brussels.

Plexas No. 24, which was displayed at the Contemporary Arts Museum Houston in 2013.



Plexas No. 19 inside a villa in Como, Italy.

In Memoriam

REMEMBRANCES OF UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Joe W. Dauchy MS'78, PhD'80, Sept. 10, 2014, Brookfield, Wisconsin. Dauchy was born in 1952 in Houston. He was the son of Joe H. and Nancy B. Dauchy. A man for all seasons, he was known for his intellect, success as an environmental consultant and scientist, work ethic, trustworthiness, generosity, interest in travel, support for art and music, shooting craps, and anything to do with football. In honor of his life, others are asked to perform an act of kindness for someone, donate to a local food pantry or humane society, or adopt a pet.



Manuel "Manny" Herrera III MS'78, July 27, 2014, Tucson, Arizona. Herrera was valedictorian of Sunnyside High School in 1967 and was the first in his family to graduate from the University of Arizona, where he joined ROTC. Herrera enlisted in the U.S. Army and received an honorable discharge after four years as a first lieutenant. After graduating from UT Dallas, he worked in administration at the San Joaquin Regional Transit District and the Denver Regional Transit District, and as the human resources manager for the Alexandria, Virginia, fire department. He purchased a home in Goodyear, Arizona, where he had planned to spend the rest of his life, shedding his suits and ties in exchange for Levi's, cowboy shirts and boots.



Larry David Yoder BA'78, Aug. 29, 2014, Dallas. Yoder, a longtime resident of San Diego, California, was a real estate agent for the last 16 years. He was one of the founders of Metro Area Real Estate Professionals for Young Adult Housing. The organization provided funding and support for the San Diego LGBT Community Center's Sunburst Youth Housing Project, which opened in 2005. He continued to support the program until his death.

Mary Jane Wheeler Clingman BA'79, Nov. 11, 2014, Dallas. Clingman was preceded in death by her husband, William Herbert Clingman Jr. She was a wife, mother, grandmother, writer and aspiring singer. Born in Iraan, Texas, in 1929, she graduated from Ottawa Hills High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. It was there that she met her future husband, and the two were married in Midland, Texas, on Feb. 6, 1951. She attended Stephens College and the University of Michigan before graduating with a bachelor's degree in history from UT Dallas.



Beth Illeen Lundblade BS'79, Aug. 14, 2014, Plano, Texas. Lundblade was born June 9, 1930, near Iola, Kansas, to Harold and Hazel (Daniels) Remsberg. She graduated from Iola High School in 1948 and attended Iola Junior College,

now known as Allen County Community College. In 1952, she married Herschel Lundblade in LaHarpe, Kansas, and they moved to Plano in 1961. She was a member of First United Methodist Church Plano for over 50 years.

Wade Davidson Jones BS'81, July 15, 2014, Richardson. Jones was born in the former U.S. Naval Hospital in Key West, Florida, on Oct. 3, 1956. He grew up in Richardson, graduating from Richardson High School in 1975. Seriously injured by a drunken driver in 1978, Jones spent more than 40 days in Parkland Hospital. Following rehabilitation, he graduated from UT Dallas. He established a career as a photographer. In 1995, Jones moved to Austin, Texas, and later to Elgin, Texas. He loved photography, especially black and white prints.



Maureen Carter McLendon BS'85, Sept. 10, 2014, Dallas. Born in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, in 1937, she was a graduate of Capitol Hill High School in Oklahoma City. McLendon graduated with honors from UT Dallas and earned an MBA from the University of North Texas. She held two professional insurance designations and worked as an underwriter and account executive at Trinity Universal Insurance Co., Armco Insurance Group and Cigna Special Risk. In 1985, she joined Dallas-

based International Risk Management Institute Inc. as a senior research analyst. She was the principal author for IRMI's *Commercial Auto Insurance* and the *Classification Cross-Reference*, and co-authored *Commercial Liability Insurance* and *The MCS-90 Book*.



Susan Maureen Summar BS'85, Aug. 8, 2014, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Summar was born on July 27, 1955, in Ardmore, Oklahoma, to Glen and Sarah Summar. She grew up in Tulsa and Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. After graduating from Fort Gibson High School in 1973, Summar attended the University of Oklahoma and UT Dallas. While working toward her master's degree, Summar was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. When she could no longer continue her studies, she moved back to Oklahoma to be near her family. Though unable to physically attend classes, Summar continued her education through correspondence and online courses, maintaining a positive outlook on life even as her physical limitations increased. She was a passionate supporter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.



Michael Quinn MS'87, Oct. 12, 2014, Austin, Texas. Quinn, born and raised in Dallas, was a

husband, father and respected neuropsychologist and educator. His

strong interest in family dynamics shaped his private and professional lives. He married Nora Leppert in 2008. A proud and involved father, he championed and nurtured his two children, Kevin, 20, and Megan, 17, who were born during his marriage to Alicia Lyn Mitchell. A licensed clinical psychologist, Quinn had a private practice and also provided therapeutic services at Fort Hood and to seniors in nursing facilities throughout Texas. Additionally, he was an associate faculty member of Seminary of the Southwest. Educated at Texas Tech and UT Dallas, he earned his doctorate in clinical psychology in 1992 from Fairleigh Dickinson University. A lifelong athlete, he was captain of the football team at W.T. White High School in Dallas. Quinn completed 15 marathons, plus triathlon and half-Ironman events. He treasured time with his family and was an active member of Covenant Presbyterian Church.

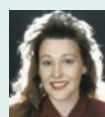


Bonnie B. Spiotta BA'87, Oct. 5, 2014, Plano, Texas. Spiotta passed away after a brave battle with breast cancer. She was born on June 10, 1956, in Slayton, Minnesota, and grew up in Memphis, Tennessee. She moved to Dallas in 1979 where she earned her bachelor's degree in finance at UT Dallas and went on to obtain her Series 7 stockbroker's license. She left

the workforce in 1990 to become a stay-at-home mother. She loved traveling and crafting.

John Henry Hipp BA'93, Aug. 8, 2014, Dallas. Hipp was born in Heber Springs, Arkansas, to Robert Lee Hipp Sr. and Virginia Faye Hipp. He attended Jesse H. Jones High School in Houston, Texas Tech University and UT Dallas. His career spanned insurance, entrepreneurship and sales before he retired from Bank of America. His interests included chess, marathons, saxophone, philosophy, poetry and debate. His family said a battle with myotonic dystrophy could not dampen his spirit or slow his quick wit.

Jeanette Christine Vonder Embse



BA'98, Sept. 22, 2014, The Woodlands, Texas. Vonder Embse was born Nov. 28, 1969, in Pasadena, Texas.

She married Brian Vonder Embse in 1996 in Houston. She taught junior high history and science for several years before taking time off to raise her two sons, Ethan and Kyle. She volunteered at Star of Hope, a homeless shelter in Houston. She enjoyed gardening, reading, smothering her boys in kisses, teaching, decorating, doing puzzles, watching movies with her family, and making her home beautiful. She was described as completely devoted to her family.



Kyle Matthew Johnson MS'01, PhD'05, Sept. 28, 2014, Dallas. Johnson, 38, died after a long battle with cystic fibrosis, a lung transplant and cancer. Born in 1976 to Ronald and Joyce Johnson, he grew up in a large, loving family. He graduated from Texas A&M University and received his doctorate in molecular and cell biology from UT Dallas. Johnson married his classmate, Laura Luque de Johnson, on May 3, 2003. Shortly after graduation, they relocated to Memphis, Tennessee, where he worked as a clinical research associate for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Johnson had a secret love of archeology. His interest in science and helping people culminated in an accomplished career where, through research and compassion, he helped countless children who, like him, were battling illnesses.



Clayton Russell Clark BS'08, Sept. 10, 2014, Mount Pleasant, Texas. Clark was born in Mount Pleasant in 1985. He was employed as chief financial officer at Kwik Kar Lube & Tune in Texarkana, Texas. He attended South Jefferson Baptist Church and Southside Church of Christ.

Tiffany Thanh-Phuong Chu BA'13, Aug. 24, 2014, Richardson. Chu, born in 1988 in Dallas, passed away in an accident. She graduated from Plano East Senior High School and earned a bachelor's degree in biology at UT Dallas. She most recently worked as a representative at State Farm. She enjoyed outdoor activities, boating, watching TV, swimming and spending time with her friends and family. Tiffany volunteered for many years at the Salvation Army and Garland Area Habitat for Humanity. She shared her life with Brian Johnson and is survived by a daughter, Skylyn Johnson; her two sisters, Jennifer and Jessica; parents, Thinh and Thuy Chu; and extended family and friends.

Kenneth J. Richards PhD'09, Dec. 29, 2014, Arlington, Texas. Kenneth was born in Beacon, New York. He earned a bachelor's degree from Amherst College and a master's degree from Harvard. Prior to retirement, he was an internal audit compliance coordinator at UT Dallas. He loved to read and was writing a screenplay. He is survived by his siblings Susan Dugan, Lucille Moore, David and James DeGroat Jr., as well as several nieces and nephews.

KEEP US
informed

If you learn of the death of a UTD alumnus, faculty, staff or friend, please send any information to alumni@utdallas.edu or to

UT Dallas Magazine AD14
800 W. Campbell Road
Richardson, TX 75080-3021

In Memoriam

REMEMBRANCES OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY, STAFF AND FRIENDS

Thomas G.R. Bower

1942-2014



Dr. Thomas G.R. Bower, Founders Professor of Human Development Emeritus in

the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, died Aug. 26 at the age of 72.

Bower's pioneering research focused on infancy and its relationship to perception, cognition, motor skills and learning, demonstrating that infants mentally organize their worlds similarly to adults.

Bower wrote or contributed to more than 85 books and articles, including *The Rational Infant: Learning in Infancy*, published in 1989.

He served on faculty from 1988 until 2011. He previously held positions at Harvard University, the University of Edinburgh, Piaget Institute, Stanford University, Brussels University and École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in France.

"His creative techniques and insights were important building blocks for our current understanding of infant development," said Dr. Bert Moore, dean of BBS. "The weight of his teachings can still be seen in our research labs and clinical services."

Bower earned a master's degree from the University of Edinburgh and a doctoral degree from Cornell University.

He is survived by his children, Nicholas Bower, Elanor McGarry, Clio Gorman and Penelope Bower.

Anna I. Moses

1971-2015



Anna I. Moses, assistant director of strategic planning and analysis, died Jan. 14 at the

age of 43. Born in Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan, Moses became a U.S. citizen in 2004. She had moved to Jacksonville, Florida in 1998, before eventually settling in Frisco, Texas. She began working at the University in 2005.

Moses earned a degree in economics from the University of St. Petersburg, and also held a master's degree in economics. Recently, she was enrolled in a graduate program in the Naveen Jindal School of Management.

Moses enjoyed singing, dancing, attending ballet and opera performances, and traveling.

She is survived by her son, her mother, Olga, and numerous relatives in Russia.

Michael E. Durbin

1942-2014



Michael E. Durbin, MS'83, a retired faculty member of the Erik Jonsson School of Engineer-

ing and Computer Science, died Oct. 6 at the age of 72.

Durbin was a graduate of Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas and earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of North Texas.

After his retirement as a major from the U.S. Air Force, Durbin earned his master's degree in

mathematical sciences. He began in 1983 as a lecturer in computer science, teaching courses in programming and discrete mathematics.

Durbin served for three years as college master in the Jonsson School, a position now called associate dean for undergraduate education.

"Mike was instrumental in shaping the introductory courses in computer science, and he contributed significantly to the undergraduate curriculum," said Dr. Dung T. Huynh, associate dean in ECS and professor of computer science. "He was energetic as a college master, and he cared a great deal about students."

Durbin, who retired in 2000, served a term as president of the UT Dallas Retiree Association.

He was interred with military honors at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery.

Ervin J. Fenyves

1924-2014



Dr. Ervin J. Fenyves, who served on the physics faculty for more than 40 years, died Oct. 14 at the age of 90.

Fenyves began with UT Dallas in 1970, retiring as professor emeritus in 2011. His research areas included nuclear and high-energy physics, astrophysics and the development of advanced particle detectors. From 1989 to 1992, he also taught at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

His research included cosmic-ray physics and related experimental techniques, as well as high-energy and elementary particle physics and neutrino physics. He collaborated with researchers at other institutions to develop sensitive neutron detectors.

He was born in Budapest, Hungary. In 1944, after German forces occupied Hungary, Fenyves was deported to a labor camp, where he was a medic and eventually escaped. After World War II, he earned a degree in pharmacy and a degree in physics and mathematics.

Fenyves earned a PhD in physics from Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest and a doctor of physical sciences degree from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He held several academic and research appointments in Hungary and Russia. He also led the physics section of the United Nations' International Atomic Energy Agency.

"Ervin had a brilliant mind, an incredible memory, wide-ranging interests and a great talent for explaining complicated matters in simple terms. He will be sorely missed," said Dr. Wolfgang Rindler, professor of physics.

A member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Fenyves received several honors, including the Brodi-Schmidt Prize from the Hungarian Physical Society, the Prize for Books from the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the 1965 Hungarian National Prize (Kossuth Prize), a state-

sponsored award that at the time acknowledged outstanding achievements in science, culture and the arts.

Fenyves oversaw several doctoral students, and taught both undergraduate and graduate courses. He also served as chairman of the international organizing committee for the Texas Symposium on Relativistic Astrophysics.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Vera. He is survived by his children, Andrew Fenves and Eva Salamon; three grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Donna Shannon **1951-2015**



Donna Elaine Shannon, a University police dispatcher with more than 26 years of experience in law enforcement, died Jan. 4 at the age of 63.

Part of the UT Dallas Police Department since 2008, she was presented with the Life Saving Award and the Meritorious Conduct Award by UT System Police for heroic actions in helping a caller in crisis. She was recognized as an outstanding employee by the Office of Administration in 2010.

"What really stood out to me about Donna was how much she cared for people," said Police Chief Larry Zacharias. "She cared for her fellow employees, the University community, and especially the students who would call for police assistance. I remember the incident that

resulted in her receiving the Life Saving Award; when the man asked her why she was doing this for him, her answer was, 'Because I care.'"

Shannon is survived by her husband, Chester; sons Allen Kent and Christopher Kent; three grandchildren; and a brother, David Compton. Son Kenneth Glen Kent and brother Dale Compton preceded her in death.

Joseph Jan Collmer



1934-2015

Joseph Jan Collmer died Jan. 13 at the age of 80. He was co-founder and president of the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Dallas Love Field and a member of the University's History of Aviation Collection advisory board. He also served in 2006 as chairman of the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport board.

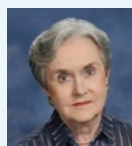
Born in Dallas, he attended Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas. He earned an associate's degree in mechanical engineering and a bachelor's degree in mathematics, both from UT Arlington.

Collmer retired in 1958 as a pilot and lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy, continuing as a reserve pilot until 1966. He took up aerobatics as a hobby, earning acclaim for performances in his Pitts and Extra 300L aircraft. He flew his last air show in 2014.

His non-military career spanned 50 years. In 1979, he founded Collmer Semiconductor Inc., which became High Voltage

Power Systems Inc., and was sold in 2005.

He is remembered as a gifted artist, photographer and storyteller. He is survived by his wife, Suzanne; daughters Kathy Scharplaz, Sheryl Collmer and Deborah Collmer; a brother, Robert Collmer; and two grandchildren.



Priscilla Ann Beadle
1942-2015

Priscilla Ann Beadle, former vice provost, died Jan. 9 at the age of 73. She joined UT Dallas as a special assistant to the president, and later became vice president of student affairs before moving to the office of the provost. She was instrumental in guiding student life efforts for the University as it added undergraduate students, including developing its student code of conduct and establishing the judicial affairs office for student discipline.

She earned bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from the University of North Texas.

Beadle served on the board of directors for the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

She is survived by her brother, Daniel; two nieces and a nephew; and five grandnieces and a grandnephew.



John Jagger
1924-2014

Dr. John Jagger, a biology professor known for ground-

breaking discoveries about sunlight's ability to delay bacterial growth, died Dec. 27 at the age of 90.

In 1965, he was hired as an associate professor for the Graduate Research Center of the Southwest, the predecessor institution of UT Dallas. Jagger served as head of the biology department from 1975 to 1977. After Jagger retired in 1986, he returned as a senior lecturer in the early '90s, teaching part of a freshman course.

Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Jagger earned a PhD in biophysics from Yale in 1954. He worked in the medical physics department of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, conducted postdoctoral research at the Radium Institute in Paris, and for the biology division of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Jagger was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Esther Gaudlen Jagger, a professor of radiology at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He is survived by two children, Thomas Alexander Jagger and Yvonne Callahan, and three grandchildren.



Thank You

UT Dallas celebrated a successful conclusion to the University's first comprehensive fundraising campaign on Dec. 31, 2014.

Donors raised **\$273.3 million** for student support, faculty research and programs vital to UT Dallas' vision of becoming a Tier One research university—far surpassing the \$200 million goal.

Your support allows us to continue changing lives and creating a better future.

Thank you.

realize the
VISION

The Campaign for Tier One & Beyond

Learn more at utdallas.edu/campaign



HINDSIGHT: Philip Jonsson



Founders Day, on Oct. 29, 2014, marked the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the University's first permanent structure—the Founders Building.

Philip Jonsson, speaking to the audience of about 200 people just days before his 90th birthday, told the story of a partnership among three men—his father, J. Erik Jonsson, Cecil H. Green and Eugene McDermott—who launched a cutting-edge company and, along the way, created a cutting-edge university.



Philip Jonsson (right) is pictured with his father, UTD co-founder J. Erik Jonsson (center right), mother, Margaret (center left), daughter, Suzanne (second from right), and others outside the Philip R. Jonsson Basic Science Research Building at UT Southwestern Medical Center, which was completed in 1972. Image courtesy of Degolyer Library, Southern Methodist University, Erik Jonsson papers.

Founders Day Remarks from Philip Jonsson:

"Dad [J. Erik Jonsson] saw that the technical brains that were necessary for [the success of Texas Instruments] were going to Stanford or MIT, to be in the frontiers of discovery.

"With Dad's love of Dallas, he tried to reverse that. He had the idea, along with Green and McDermott, to start the high-tech Graduate Research Center, which was privately funded for quite a few years.

"We shared offices, and I remember the fight to create what is now The University of Texas at Dallas. I think my dad would have foreseen the leadership position this university would take.

I'm very proud, as he would have been, for what's been accomplished here.

"I come back at least once a year, and each time, the University has changed. It's bigger, taking more of a leadership role. UT Dallas is something to be very, very proud of. It's affecting Dallas; it's affecting the whole United States."

Oct. 29 is now established as Founders Day, so designated to honor the legacy of Cecil H. Green, J. Erik Jonsson and Eugene McDermott. The occasion will be celebrated annually on campus.



A Whoosh Heard ‘Round the World

Katherine Huston and Lewis Warne, seniors in the Naveen Jindal School of Management, do the Comet Whoosh in Tucson, Arizona. They are celebrating a first-place finish against 27 other universities in the 2014 Collegiate Ethics Case Competition. Huston and Warne also are part of the Jindal School’s Davidson Management Honors Program, which provides small group learning options, special travel opportunities and undergraduate scholarships to academically talented students.