Statistics or Stories?

What’s the best way to measure success in educating students — statistics or anecdotes? Actually, both are needed, and they complement and reinforce one another.

Statistics tell us how many, how much, what percentage and what correlations exist among our data, as well as how we compare with our own past performance and the performance of other institutions. Anecdotes put flesh on our statistical bones, giving them human form, telling stories of human struggle and persistence and of the personal exhilaration of achievement. They share dreams realized and dreams that motivate future efforts.

At St. Edward’s, we boast about how our retention and graduation rates soared over the last decade, placing us in the top tier of institutions nationally. We happily report our scores in the National Survey of Student Engagement and the Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory, scores that are significantly above national averages. But statistics, no matter how impressive, just don’t have the impact of the personal stories of our students. So let me select a few stories from the recent past and share them with you.

St. Edward’s students have won Fulbright Scholarships in each of the last six years, and their stories offer a good starting point. Roxie Rodriguez ’10 came to St. Edward’s as a member of the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), wanting to study Psychology. Already bilingual, she began studying Arabic as part of her interest in the effect of children of war images in the media. Last year, she completed a research study at the University of Jordan under the direction of a scholar in the university’s Psychology program. It so impressed officials at the Israeli Ministry of Health that they are supporting her application for a Fulbright to continue her studies in Israel next year, part of Roxie’s plan to pursue a Ph.D. in Psychology.

While Roxie waits to hear from the Fulbright Foundation, Mary Hennessy ’10 is planning to teach English in Germany next year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant. Her fluency in German began as an undergraduate at St. Edward’s as she qualified for the distinguished programs at the Goethe Institute in Mannheim, Germany, and for its summer program in Taos, N.M. Mary will bring her experience as editor of Hilltop Views to her teaching, after which she intends to seek a Ph.D. in International Politics.

Osvaldo Hernandez ’96 returned to St. Edward’s as a faculty member this year with a Ph.D. in Aquatic Entomology recently earned at Michigan State University, where he won the Eugenia McDaniel Teaching Award in 2007. Osvaldo first arrived at St. Edward’s as a CAMP student. As an undergraduate, his first research project involved cataloging wasp diversity in West Texas, after which he won a Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and, later, a Gates Millennium Scholarship.

Before coming to St. Edward’s, Brother Jesus Alonso, CSC ’01 would rise early in the morning with his six brothers and sisters to begin work on migrant farms. These days, he climbs into a spacecraft once or twice a week and tethers himself to a filtered air system, helping a team of virologists conduct research on hemorrhagic viruses, as he pursues his Ph.D. in Microbiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center. Just a few months ago, we celebrated with him as he became a Brother of Holy Cross. Jesus plans to teach at Uganda Martyrs University, an institution sponsored by the Brothers.

Adelaida Olives ’99, who hails from the Texas Rio Grande Valley, is already giving back as the principal of Del Valle High School’s Freshman Academy and through her implementation of Pathway to Success, a program which has dramatically improved student retention in a student population that has 67% of its members in the federally subsidized lunch program. In October 2009, Adelaida was one of only 50 educators across the country to receive a Milken Education Award, a $25,000 cash prize, dubbed by Teacher Magazine as the “Oscars of Teaching.”

These stories inspire all who hear them, including and most especially those who educate students today with the hope of broadening the horizons of their tomorrows. I don’t know about you, but statistics just don’t have the same effect on me.

— President George E. Martin
The Road to 2010
St. Edward’s leadership looks back on the 10-year plan that contributed to the university’s tremendous growth

Timeline: Change on the Hilltop
Construction and renovation on the expanding campus

2010: Faculty Focus
Some of the educators who’ve shaped the St. Edward’s of today

Finding the Future
Students continue to win prestigious fellowships to study abroad

First-Generation Success
The continued achievements of our diversity initiatives

Future Tech
A state-of-the-art lab offers more first-hand learning to undergrads

Inspired Abroad
Three students find their personal missions while studying abroad

> IN EVERY ISSUE <

03 Happenings
Responding to the Haiti tragedy, the first saint for Holy Cross, more

06 Culture
Visiting artist Robert Hite, students volunteer for SXSW, more

08 Ideas
Marking 40 years of the MBA program, plus Campus Notes

10 Faith and Service
The $15 million woman, logging your 125 hours of service, more

24 Alumni Notes
Homecoming and Parents Weekend: A look at the classes celebrating their Homecoming anniversaries
PLUS, Class Notes, Announcements, Upcoming Alumni Events and Profiles

Part II: Where We Are Now
This issue is the second celebrating the history of the university and our Holy Cross traditions. As we continue to celebrate our 125th anniversary, St. Edward's will mark the occasion with unique opportunities for you to engage with the growing St. Edward’s community. Look for information about the celebration in this and the upcoming Fall 2010 issue. We welcome your questions, comments and responses to the magazine. Please send an e-mail message to Mischelle Diaz, Director of Communications, at misheld@stedwards.edu.
Celebrate our 125th Anniversary

For 125 years, St. Edward’s has been on a journey of education, growth and service. In its anniversary year of 2010, the university is celebrating where it’s been and where it’s going on the journey ahead, and taking advantage of new media to engage others in the conversation.

125th Anniversary Events

125TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION • OCT. 22
The university celebrates its past, present and future at a campus-wide birthday party.

Ongoing:
THE 125 SERVICE CHALLENGE
Join members of the St. Edward’s community to complete 125 hours of service for a combined 75,000 hours.

HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR
Experience the university’s rich history with guided or self-guided tours of campus.

125 X 125 HILLTOP FILM QUEST
Students, alumni, faculty and staff are invited to submit a 125-second short film in honor of the university’s 125th anniversary celebration. All entries are eligible to win an iPad. Deadline for entries is Oct. 1, 2010.

For more details, visit www.stedwards125.com and click Events.

Join us online!
www.stedwards125.com
www.facebook.com/stedwardsuniversity
www.twitter.com/stedwardsu
www.youtube.com/user/stedwardsuniversity
www.flickr.com/groups/stedwards125

Join the Journey
Responding to the Haiti Tragedy
Student organizations create week of events and fundraisers

The January earthquake in Haiti had a significant impact on the world, including the St. Edward’s community. Among the victims of the earthquake was a Holy Cross seminarian in Port-au-Prince, as well as a number of Holy Cross schools, parishes and clinics, which suffered extensive damage. In response to the tragedy, the St. Edward’s community found ways to raise money for relief to the country and to the Holy Cross Priests, Sisters and Brothers in the area.

Several student organizations united to form “Hilltoppers Helping Haiti,” which planned events with Campus Ministry in the last week of February, dubbed “Hilltoppers Helping Haiti” Week.

For example, the St. Edward’s resident opera ensemble, Spotlight on Opera, organized the “Austin Musicians for Haiti” benefit, which raised more than $3,000 for the Red Cross and Episcopal Relief Fund. Another event called “Music for the Soul: A Benefit for Haiti,” gathered R&B, soul and jazz performers at St. Edward’s and around Austin, and raised funds for the Holy Cross for Haiti Foundation, which has been collecting a pool of donations from Holy Cross ministries around the world.

The money has gone directly to Haiti for supplies, food and medical needs, helping Holy Cross shelters like the one run by the Holy Cross Sisters that houses 391 people. “All of the priests and brothers in Haiti face similar challenges,” says Campus Ministry Assistant Director Liza Manjarrez, who has helped organize the relief efforts on campus. “The sisters are providing these people safety and community.”

▲ The “Music for the Soul” event raised about $600 by selling T-shirts, conducting a raffle and taking donations. The event was co-organized by the Students of African Heritage Association.

ON THE JOB AND IN CLASS IN FRANCE

St. Edward’s students went beyond the usual study abroad experience by serving as interns, teachers’ assistants and volunteers in the community. The hands-on work led to a richer cultural experience, says Catherine MacDermott, professor of Business Communication. During the semester-long exchange program, the students took classes taught by both French and St. Edward’s University professors, including MacDermott and Bill Nichols, associate professor of Political Science.

Krystal Shaw ’10, International Business major, and Mely Rabalais ’10, Global Studies major, both worked as teaching assistants for the First Year in France program. At the end of their first year, the Angers students are then eligible to complete their degrees at the St. Edward’s Austin campus. Megan Russell ’11 and Annie Ruscoe ’11, both Communication majors served as interns for instructor Angelo Steinhardt-Keely ’07 in the St. Edward’s English Language Program. Anthony Betancourt ’11, a History major, served as an assistant and intern to the Angers, France, program director Benoit Patier.

St. Edward’s University students in Angers also volunteered as English tutors at the English-Language Library. MacDermott required her students to volunteer at the nonprofit English-Language Library in Angers for a minimum of 15 hours; however, most of them worked enough extra hours to total over 200 hours.

To learn more about St. Edward’s in France, visit www.stedwards.fr

PRESIDENT MARTIN PENS BOOK CHAPTER

President George E. Martin has written a chapter for a book titled Updating Your Company’s Strategy. Featuring the insight of top CEOs and leaders of other organizations, the book explains ways to create new and improved directions for companies. “It’s fitting that the chapter of this book will be published during the university’s 125th anniversary,” says Martin. “Our story is one of resilience and perseverance. I was honored to be able to share the details of how we’ve become one of the best small universities in the country.”

Holy Cross’ First Saint
Famed Brother André of Canada to be Canonized in October

Pope Benedict XVI announced in late February that Blessed Brother André Bessette, CSC (Aug. 9, 1845–Jan. 6, 1937), will be canonized as a saint on Oct. 17. The news is especially significant for the Congregation of Holy Cross because Brother André will become the order’s first recognized saint.

As a significant figure of the Roman Catholic Church, Brother André earned a reputation as a healer by establishing St. Joseph’s Oratory in Montreal, which helped the sick and needy of the city through his ministry. He’s also credited with thousands of reported miracle healings. In 2009, the pope formalized the attribution of another miracle to Brother André, opening the path to canonization for him. The Catholic Church declared Brother André Venerable in 1978 (the first step toward sainthood) and Blessed in 1982 (the second step).

Two of the Holy Cross ministries in the United States that serve the poor are named in honor of Brother André: André House in Phoenix, Ariz., and André Cafe in Portland, Ore. André Hall at St. Edward’s is named after Brother André, and a relief of his likeness looms over the entrance.

▲ Brother André is the first from the Congregation of Holy Cross and the first Canadian man to be formally recognized as a model of sanctity.

Kelsey Yeatts ’09 helped lead Hilltoppers to two conference titles.

Kelsey Yeatts ’09. Kinesiology graduate and former member of the women’s soccer team, was named a national semifinalist for the NCAA Woman of the Year award. During her four years with the team, the Hilltoppers won the Heartland Conference title in 2006 and 2007 and advanced to the NCAA Division II national tournament. Off the field, Yeatts volunteered as a tutor at Copperfield Elementary, raised money for the Susan G. Komen Foundation, and served as a volunteer coach at Veritas Academy.

Kim Abbott ’10, Education major and member of the women’s soccer team, was named First-Team Women’s NCAA Division II All-American by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America.

Taylor Mullenax ’09. Finance graduate and former member of the men’s basketball team, signed a contract in November to play professional basketball with the Ulriken Eagles of Bergen, Norway.

▲ Kelsey Yeatts ’09 helped lead Hilltoppers to two conference titles.

Rebecca MaRino ’10
Logan Lawrence
The inclusion of all those viewpoints. more accurately demonstrate our commitment to magazine content and events on campus that grateful for their service. Please look for future and our country. We’re proud of our veterans and their contributions to the St. Edward’s community reflect upon and celebrate all of our alumni and Thank you for reminding us of our obligation to Patrick (Peter) Polk ’66
Respectfully,
Vietnam veterans.

is paramount to an insult to the St. Edward’s alumni who died in Vietnam. The omission of a serious omission by not including those the North invaded. The magazine is guilty gave their lives to protect South Vietnam when the sacrifice of those St. Edward’s alumni who then it should also acknowledge those days we graduated three valedictorians on May 26. Further, it can be noted that in those years we graduated three valedictorians each year. Congratulations!

DEAR EDITOR,
I congratulate and applaud the many accomplishments and years of service to St. Edward’s by Brother Stephen Walsh, as described in the last issue of the magazine (Winter 2010). But to set the record straight, I was the valedictorian of the class of 1962. I think that fact is mentioned in the history of St. Edward’s written by Brother William Dunn.
Sincerely,
Tom Kaiser ’62
You’re right, of course. But, in fact, both of you were valedictorians of the Class of 1962. Brother Walsh was valedictorian of the summer session ceremony on July 29, and you were valedictorian of the spring session ceremony on May 26. Further, it can be noted that in those years we graduated three valedictorians each year. Congratulations!

DEAR EDITOR,
In the last issue (Winter 2010), you wrote: “As early as 1962, university leaders broached the idea of opening enrollment to women.”
I remember taking a course in Medical Ethics during my sophomore or junior year in which the majority of the students in that class were women who were nursing students at the Seton Hospital School of Nursing. Women from this school were part of the cheerleading squad for St. Edward’s for each of the years I was enrolled. I was also a cheerleader during those years.

Women may not have been enrolled as “full-time students” during those years, but they were definitely enrolled for credit for at least one class and possibly others. Details such as this may be small but are important to historians. I’m sure the experience of a limited presence of women paved the way for the first full timers in 1966.

Regards,
Tony Golda ’64

CORRECTION: In the Winter 2010 issue, the Alumni Note for Marguerite Newcomb was incorrect. We regret the error. The correct listing is below.

Marguerite Newcomb ’96 was named senior lecturer in the writing program, teaching technical writing and specialized professional writing at UT–San Antonio. She is the current associate director of the Judith G. Gardner Center for Writing Excellence at UTSA.

Send letters to: mischief@stedwards.edu
2010 MUSIC FESTIVAL WALKS THE PLANK

Among the highlights of the St. Edward’s University Music Festival in March was Pirates!, an evening of tunes from Gilbert and Sullivan’s Pirates of Penzance, a medley from the music of Pirates of the Caribbean, and other adventuresome chanteys. Another show held during the festival, the Chamber Music Celebration, showcased the talents of the university’s trios and quartets, as well as guest ensembles from the Austin area. Featured groups included the Austin Flute Choir and King Edward’s Noyse, the newest ensemble from St. Edward’s that plays music from the Renaissance and Baroque periods.

STAN IRVIN PRESENTS SOLO EXHIBITION IN ROCKPORT

Professor of Art Stan Irvin presented “Coming About,” a solo exhibition of his ceramic work at Rockport Center For The Arts in Rockport in February. Irvin also won first place in the 2009 Texas Teapot Tournament in Houston.

In April, artist Robert Hite enlisted several St. Edward’s students to help him install his latest work called “Crossing Safely” on the Main Building lawn. The piece was inspired by a shack he discovered and photographed in Arrazola, Oaxaca, Mexico.

“I wanted to do something that would honor those who have traversed the border — successfully or not.”

Hite has photographed and made a study of rural houses and shacks in Central and South America, Asia, Europe, the Caribbean, and the southern United States. He filters his paintings, sculptures, and photographs through a lens on the natural world and layers them with gestures of human and ecological struggle.

In the case of “Crossing Safely,” it was important to Hite to return to Arrazola to gather materials for the piece that add to the authenticity. The panels, for example, are mislabeled bottle caps rejected from a bottling factory and sold for pennies.

“The implications of using these panels with faded logos of multinational companies appeals to me,” says Hite. “Somehow it suggests something about the degraded and worn concept of the American dream and the fact that capital and corporations have no borders.”

In addition to the sculpture, Hite presented a selection of photographs from his “Imagined Histories” series at the St. Edward’s University Scarborough-Phillips Library. In the photographic series, Hite restates his architectural sculptures in outdoor settings, magnifying the effects of dislocation and displacement that is central to all his imagery.

In conjunction with these two exhibits, Hite gave a public lecture, “The Search for Social Justice Through the Arts.”

The program was hosted by The Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance.
CULTURE JUNKIES
Class celebrates 10 years volunteering with SXSW

This year, the Communication and Popular Culture course celebrates 10 years of collaborative service learning with the South by Southwest music, film and interactive media festival in Austin.

Both the undergraduate and Master of Liberal Arts graduate students in the class are required to volunteer a minimum of 40 hours as part of a spring break volunteer service-learning project. Many of the students choose to exceed that and may volunteer more than 60 hours, says Associate Professor of Communication Teresita (Tere) Garza, who teaches the class.

Upon their return from spring break, the students write a review of an emerging form of popular culture or new media technology they encountered at SXSW and share their observations in the Hilltop Views campus newspaper. They complete an extended scholarly analysis as their final paper for the class. Students have gone on to present their papers at academic conferences, and many have continued to volunteer for SXSW, some even becoming crew chief leaders or going on to lead doctoral programs in Rhetoric and Communications.

Garza says the experience is invaluable for students to understand how popular culture changes and grows. “They’re able to see firsthand how rhetorical criticism contributes to the shaping of popular culture and how they can use it to judge and evaluate new and emerging popular culture,” she says.

TERE GARZA DESCRIBES SOME OF THE UNIQUE STUDENT EXPERIENCES:

“During the Austin Film Awards in 2001, one student was asked, at the last minute, to read a film director’s acceptance speech. Her crew chief selected her because she was the only stage escort volunteer working that night with experience in public speaking.”

“One of our student volunteers was asked to randomly select emerging musicians’ CDs from a large bin. A brief musical passage was played from each CD. The St. Edward’s volunteer was asked for her initial feedback and then the executives offered their professional advice to the musicians.”

“Volunteers working with the special events crew assist with and attend the SXSW after-parties and other special events, like the Charity Golf Tournament and the SXSW BBQ.”

COMMUNICATION STUDENT FEATURED IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
Communication major and cancer survivor Matt Ferstler ’10 was featured in the Oct. 27 edition of The Wall Street Journal, where he spoke about his treatment. He is also a member of Imerman Angels and works with the Lance Armstrong Foundation.

GOLF TEAMS FEATURED IN AUSTIN AMERICAN-STATESMAN
The men’s and women’s golf teams were featured in the Dec. 3 edition of the Austin American-Statesman. The two teams were recognized for their volunteer work with First Tee of Greater Austin. Members of both squads spend one afternoon a week with local youth, who range in age from six to 18, providing golf etiquette and basic instruction.
When it launched in 1970, the MBA program at St. Edward’s faced several challenges, not the least of which was getting its students security clearance to an off-campus classroom. Indeed, the fledgling MBA program had to be scrappy to survive, but it had lots of people pulling for it, says Leo Osterhaus, the former School of Business dean who launched the program.

In the late 1960s, a committee of faculty members surveyed Austin businesses and uncovered the need for a nighttime MBA program, which no other nearby university offered. Companies such as IBM, Texas Instruments, Motorola, 3M, and city and state agencies wanted such a program for their employees.

Osterhaus’ predecessor, Jim Dunlap, had already put plans in motion for an evening MBA program by the time Osterhaus became dean in 1970. Now Osterhaus, who had taught at St. Edward’s for four years and at UT–Austin for 16 years before that, was tasked with getting the program off the ground.

Osterhaus says getting approval for the program from the university’s Board of Trustees wasn’t difficult, though he had to answer his share of questions about the program’s chances for success. The scrutiny may have come in part from the deficit the university faced at the time — it couldn’t increase the budget for a new program, and there was no grant funding available. “All the tuition had to pay for instructors and materials,” says Osterhaus. “It was pay as you go.”

Thirty-five MBA students enrolled in the first semester, a number Osterhaus says was just enough to prove the program was viable. Still, with such slim numbers, it was sometimes a challenge to find the required 10 students to fill each class.

These pioneering students, primarily full-time employees, made the nighttime classes a much different climate from the undergraduate classes the professors were used to teaching. “This was a high-caliber group of folks, many of them in management positions,” says Jon Hilsabeck MBA ’72, a Management adjunct instructor at St. Edward’s who was in the first MBA graduating class. “Dr. Osterhaus couldn’t match these students with a new teacher without business experience.”

During the first semester, Osterhaus primarily drew from the existing School of Business faculty. But by the spring semester, when the number of MBA students grew to 90, he turned to his former colleagues at UT–Austin to fill the gaps as adjunct instructors. “Having professors and professional students in a class together was a benefit to both,” says Osterhaus.

In September 1972, the MBA program graduated its first 11 students, Hilsabeck among them. By the end of Osterhaus’ 10-year tenure as dean of the School of Business, the MBA program had grown to 400 students. Hilsabeck attributes this growth to “the right way” Osterhaus started the program. “He started it with students in mind, giving them well-prepared and well-matched faculty,” says Hilsabeck. “And that to me was what really kicked it off well.”
First Research Journal from McNair Scholars

In October, the McNair scholars program published its first research journal. The scholarly articles represent the culmination of rigorous research conducted by seven McNair scholars with guidance from faculty mentors and research directors. The McNair program prepares participants from disadvantaged backgrounds for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. The goal is to increase doctorate degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society.

Campus Update

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Leavell Presents at Harvard
Interim Dean Judy Leavell presented a paper titled “Using Children’s Literature to Promote Global Understanding for Peace” at the World Council for Curriculum and Instruction North American Chapter Biennial Conference in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada, in July. Leavell also attended the Performance Assessment program offered by the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Mass., in November.

SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES
Biology Student Wins Conference Award
In November, Biology major and McNair Scholar Albert Venegas ’10 won the award for best oral presentation in the Developmental Biology section at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Phoenix, Ariz. Venegas presented his research on “phenotypic variation for early development in Drosophila melanogaster” work that was completed in Summer 2009 in collaboration with Assistant Professor of Biology Lisa Goering.

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES
Religious Studies Students Present Papers at Conference
Religious Studies majors Lauren May ’10 and Carol Filip ’10 presented papers at the March 2010 meeting of the Southwest Commission on Religious Studies in Dallas. May presented a paper entitled “The Parasol as Symbol in Buddhist Folklore.” Filip presented “Academic Freedom and the Catholic University: A Case Study of The Vagina Monologues and the University of Notre Dame.”

SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND BUSINESS
Student Consulting Team Heads to Mexico
In February, School of Management and Business Dean Marsha Kelliher, Global Entrepreneurship Chair Les Carter and Global Business Chair Gary Pletcher led a team of graduate students to Valle de Bravo, Mexico. Their mission: developing a business plan to launch the Natal Institute for Social Leadership Innovation. The institute is the brainchild of Alejandro Natal, a professor of Regional Development at El Colegio Mexiquense who taught at St. Edward’s in Fall 2008 as a Fulbright scholar-in-residence.

NEW COLLEGE
Advisors Present at Conference
New College advisors Kathy Jackson and Lori Eggleston presented “From Going Nuts to Getting it Done: How to Handle Too Many Students in Too Many Majors While Still Maintaining Quality Advising” at the annual conference of the Texas Academic Advising Network in February in San Marcos. They later presented the same seminar at the Region 7 National Academic Advising Association conference in Overland Park, Kan.

SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Forensic Science Faculty Edit Book
The Forensic Science faculty, led by Professor David Horton, produced Pioneering Research in Forensic Science: Readings from the Primary Source Literature. Horton, Casie Parish and Michelle Richter served as editors on the book, the first forensic science anthology to consolidate landmark primary source documents into one volume.

RECENT NOTABLE SPEAKERS

In March, Kathleen Sprows Cummings (above), acting director of the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism at the University of Notre Dame, presented her lecture “Enlarging our Lives: Reflections on Faith, Feminism, and American Catholic History” as part of The Most Reverend John McCarthy Lecture Series on the Catholic Church in the 21st Century.

OTHER RECENT SPEAKERS ON CAMPUS INCLUDE:

Kozmetsky Center
“Update: The Obama Administration’s Economic Policies”
World-renowned economists gathered to analyze the effectiveness of the Obama administration’s economic initiatives in February.

Center for Ethics and Leadership
“Moving Towards Peace in Pakistan and Beyond”
Sahar Shaftaq, professor of Political Science at St. Mary’s College gave a presentation in April about the conflict in Pakistan and the surrounding region.
The $15 Million Woman

This spring, live auctioneer Victoria Gutierrez ’00, MLA ’04 reached $15 million raised for charity. Here she describes how she discovered her talent.

“No one ever loves you like they love you at a Catholic school!”

“The night I met my goal, it was a private event. I had to sign a confidentiality agreement. I wasn’t on stage for more than 40 minutes. They had a goal to raise $65,000, which would have allowed me to meet my goal, but we far exceeded that, bringing in $217,000.

“After graduating from St. Edward’s, I started selling commercial real estate. It seemed like the market was going to tank, so my sister advised me to find a new approach to the market and suggested I go to auction school. She said I had an edge over the competition because I was bilingual, young and a woman. It was very lucrative, but I hated it. No one sells real estate at auction for a positive reason, at least not in this part of the country; most were the result of divorces, deaths or financial difficulties. I was approached by someone to donate my auctioneering services at a gala, so I did. After that Saturday event I received 14 e-mail inquiries, and by Tuesday I was booked for 18 charity events. The event where I met my goal was my 231st event in five years.

“I guess I have a little bit of my mom in me. She raised crazy amounts of money for Loretto Academy, a Catholic school in El Paso, organizing fundraisers and events. And I went to almost all of them. Picture me six years old sitting on a ballroom floor helping package items for the evening’s event. Going to St. Edward’s, I also had the benefit of being in a community where there’s so much love — no one ever loves you like they love you at a Catholic school! After I gave the commencement speech in December, a woman called me and said she’d seen my speech as well as an auction I’d done at St. Michael’s Academy in Austin. She told me that she and her husband were so motivated, they’d written a check for $25,000 and given it to their favorite charity.

“I’m also Director of Development for Southwest Key Programs, a nonprofit in Austin. They’re really compatible jobs. In both, I just feel like I’m educating people about giving. When you’re doing what you love, I think people can tell.”
125 Service Challenge – Will you step up?

Are you a volunteer? Do you coach a Little League team, deliver meals to the homebound, travel to Mexico to build houses or mentor a child? Set a goal for yourself — and help St. Edward’s reach our collective goal of 75,000 volunteer hours in 2010.

Just go to www.stedwards125.com and register to log your volunteer hours this year. You’ll also find ideas for volunteer projects and service opportunities in your city.

Help us reach our goal. Join the journey at www.stedwards125.com

De Leon Accepts the 125 Challenge

Though he has already logged 125 volunteer hours — and it’s only spring — the soft-spoken student R. Adrian De Leon ’11, Business Administration, says volunteering has become a routine. “I was in Boy Scouts for 15 years, and the slogan we go by is ‘Do a good turn daily,’” he says. “I guess I just take that literally.”

As a scout and a volunteer scoutmaster, and through church and various family activities, De Leon has volunteered on projects for Habitat to Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Blue Santa and more. After signing up for the Service Challenge in February, De Leon had met the 125-hour goal in April and will likely perform about 500 hours by the end of the year. That many hours might seem unlikely, but De Leon is a young man who was required to have performed 100 volunteer hours to graduate from high school and reported more than 2,000.

De Leon says he’s compelled to “give back to the community,” of course, but it’s his perspective on volunteering that makes it easy to understand his involvement. Even as a scholarship recipient, De Leon doesn’t consider service as paying back what others have done for him or about the return on his investment of time and effort.

“I don’t think about that,” he says. “What I think about is, it’s about being a part of this circle of giving and keeping it going.”

The Cohort that Cares

Since he was a student at a Holy Cross high school in Ohio, Michael Nestor MSOLE ’11 always made volunteering a priority. As an adult, however, he found himself struggling to fit volunteer work in with the demands of his career and personal life. He aimed to fill this hole in his life when he created his Leadership Development Plan for his first Master of Science in Organizational Leadership and Ethics course at St. Edward’s.

In his plan, Nestor challenged himself to complete at least one volunteer project during each of his cohort’s 12 courses in the MSOLE program over two years. Then he got the idea to invite other members of his cohort along for the ride. In December, he rounded up Karen Lyons Serna MSOLE ’11, Michele Kraal MSOLE ’11, Medina Salinas MSOLE ’11, Michelle Bondy MSOLE ’11, Jose Reyes MSOLE ’11 and Stephani Smolucha MSOLE ’11 to sort and package household items at the Capital Area Food Bank. In February, Nestor pulled together another group of students to help the Lance Armstrong Foundation run a water stop for the Austin Marathon.

“Including my classmates increased the impact on the community and created more teamwork, unity and cohesion among our cohort,” says Nestor. “All members of the group had volunteered before, but many agreed that we don’t volunteer as often as we’d like, and these opportunities have reminded us how good it feels to help others.”
Credit for Life

Jason Tuggle '11 takes advantage of the New College Portfolio program.

Credit for life experiences? Not exactly. But the New College Portfolio program does give adult students the opportunity to earn credits toward their degrees for college-level learning that’s acquired in the context of their life experience.

“This is a thoroughly documented and controlled process,” says Susan Gunn, assistant professor of English and director of the Center for Prior Learning Assessment. “Because the process is controlled so tightly by our faculty, we offer a class so students know how to do this. It’s a labor-intensive, highly detailed process for the faculty and the student.”

About one-third of the New College students take advantage of the Portfolio program to save money on tuition and acquire their degrees more quickly, but Gunn believes many more could take advantage of it. In 2009, for example, Jason Tuggle '11 petitioned for 50 hours through the Portfolio program and earned 44. For Tuggle, the Portfolio program meshed perfectly with a busy schedule that only allowed a few hours of evening classes every semester.

As a small business owner, Tuggle has plenty of work experience to apply to his petitions. “I see every aspect of business,” says Tuggle. “Accounting, management, you name it.” Tuggle also owns and manages a number of real estate properties, has a pilot’s license, and runs a pilot supply company.

At this point, Tuggle says he’s an expert in the Portfolio process. Students who wish to prepare a portfolio are required to take a one-credit-hour class. In this class, using the student’s degree plan and other documents the student provides, the instructor helps the student compile his or her complete adult learning history. They then use a series of forms to record, sort and classify the information to create a learning inventory. From there, they identify areas that could be applied toward the credit and come up with a plan. The student has one year from the time they take the Portfolio class to complete his or her petition, and students are assigned a portfolio advisor for support.

The petition for credit includes an essay and any supporting documentation the student can provide. Then a faculty member reviews the petition and has the option to interview the student to make sure he or she knows the material.

One of the most common petitions, for example, is for the class, Quantitative Application Software for PCs. Because so many professionals use Excel, a common software in this category, many can prove their expertise with sample spreadsheets they’ve created. In general, says Gunn, the key is to find life experiences that have stimulated learning equivalent to a specific college course.

Earlier this year, St. Edward’s New College participated in a 48-institution study conducted by the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning, to assess how these kinds of programs help more students continue to pursue and eventually complete a college education. The study found that adult students who participate in Portfolio-type programs make more progress toward and eventually earn their degrees at a much higher rate than adult students who didn’t.

Says Tuggle, “If it weren’t for the Portfolio program I wouldn’t have gone back to try finish my bachelor’s degree. I realized the degree was achievable without going to night school for the next eight years.

“It’s a great program,” he continues, “It gives people like me a chance to get closer to their degrees.”
That was the vision for St. Edward’s, outlined in 2000 during President George E. Martin’s first year in office. A decade later, it’s no longer a vision; it’s a fact, evidenced by accolades from entities such as U.S. News & World Report and The New York Times. Here’s how the vision became a reality.

First, university leaders created a set of seven strategic priorities, from increasing enrollment to building new facilities. As tangible and measurable steps for accomplishing the vision, the priorities would drive daily operations and garner outcomes that would improve name recognition and visibility — an ambitious plan, to say the least.

Brother Richard Daly, CSC ’61 remembers listening to Martin present the details to the university’s Board of Trustees. “I kept thinking, ‘He really believes we can do this. Well, I guess we can,’” says Daly, a Trustee who also sat on the search committee that hired Martin. “He helped us see the bigger picture, the global picture.”

The objectives the board and President Martin established were bold ones for any institution: adding and renovating buildings, expanding the student body, enhancing its academic quality and hiring more faculty members. But every goal was rooted in the university’s original mission: to provide a personalized education that enables students to find their purpose in life. The growth and change that were coming to St. Edward’s were ultimately new expressions of its 125-year-old Holy Cross ideals.

“The emphasis of the 2010 plan was a continuous commitment to excellence and quality improvements, in the context of Holy Cross values,” Martin says. “Every accomplishment was driven by those goals.” With this philosophy as the foundation of the strategic plan, three driving principles began to emerge during those first crucial planning sessions — academic excellence, carefully managed growth and collaboration.

continued on page 14
The university was also careful to preserve its intimate learning environment even as enrollment grew. More faculty members, virtually all with the highest degrees in their field, were hired to maintain the 14-to-1 student-faculty ratio and small classes that are the hallmarks of a St. Edward's education.

By capitalizing on its existing strengths of diversity and personalized education, St. Edward's was able to invest in new strategies to promote academic excellence. The university added 30 programs for undergraduates and 13 for graduate students and secured funding for 79 additional scholarships. New resources like the Office of Sponsored Programs helped faculty and staff pursue additional grants and earn funding from entities like the National Science Foundation and the Kellogg and Keck foundations. Students and faculty members collaborated on research, which inspired students to pursue their own research projects through prestigious awards like the Fulbright. And capital improvements — including 11 new buildings and six renovations — enhanced the learning environment where this took place.

“All of these improvements are an investment in our educational experience,” says Martin. “Each signals to our students that we think quality is important — and that they are our most important investment.”

Achieving Recognition

It wasn’t long before the university’s commitment to excellence brought it national attention. By 2003 — just four years into the plan — St. Edward’s had made U.S. News & World Report’s annual list of “America’s Best Colleges.” Today, it ranks 21st in its region for institutions that grant master’s degrees.

Other honors recognized the university’s fidelity to its core values. The New York Times, for example, noted the university’s commitment to diversity by naming St. Edward’s to its “Colleges of Many Colors” list. The Princeton Review called St. Edward’s one of 81 “Colleges with a Conscience” in a salute to its emphasis on social justice.

Perhaps the most notable recognition is the university’s 2009 ranking in U.S. News & World Report as one of five up-and-coming institutions in the West. This honor, determined not by statistics but by the votes of leaders at peer institutions, means colleagues at comparable schools are aware of the university’s efforts across the board — in academics, facilities, recruiting and faculty.

“It means fellow academic leaders are aware of the challenges of making all these changes at once, and that they are talking about our accomplishments,” Martin says.

“It’s not easy for a university to pursue so many goals simultaneously. “There are other institutions around the country that have grown,”
Br. Daly says, “But can you do that and increase SAT scores by 100 points? Can you increase the diversity of your population and maintain access for the underserved? And can you grow and attract new students at the same time you are improving your facilities and programs?”

To juggle all these priorities, the university has had to maintain strong collaboration and communication among its departments. The accomplishment of the strategic priorities required commitment from everyone on campus. In other words, says Martin, “By breaking down the traditional silos that sometimes exist across campus, we created momentum, strengthened our community and discovered new opportunities for advancing our priorities.”

Increasing Collaboration

For example, the formation of the Holy Cross Institute created an ongoing conversation about heritage and identity not only within the university community but also among Holy Cross schools across the country. The institute helped reestablish ties with Holy Cross secondary schools, which led to more students from these schools enrolling at St. Edward’s.

Telling the story of St. Edward’s to donors required communication between the fundraising offices and everyone else on campus. When the most recent comprehensive campaign concluded in 2007, it had raised $70.3 million — more than two-and-a-half times what the previous campaign had brought in. In total, about 9,500 donors made contributions that, among other things, added almost $30 million to the endowment and $21.3 million for scholarships.

The key was commitment and collaboration, says Trustee and campaign co-chair Carolyn Gallagher. “George Martin and the Board of Trustees were totally committed to our vision of becoming one of the best small universities in the country,” she says. “With their leadership, and the hard work of an outstanding development staff, we were able to complete the most successful fundraising campaign in university history.”

And the success of the campaign extended to the campus itself, where each year more than 80 percent of faculty and staff contributed gifts back to St. Edward’s. “That’s a phenomenal number,” Martin says. “The wonderful generosity of the faculty and staff demonstrates their belief in and their investment in the institution.”

The university’s success began to attract the attention of outside entities from around the world. Building on the momentum of internal collaboration, these organizations partnered with St. Edward’s to increase opportunities for its students. In addition to the university’s relationships with schools in Germany and Mexico, ties were established with institutions in the Middle East, Argentina, Costa Rica, Scotland and Japan.

Most notably, St. Edward’s established a presence in France, a collaboration with the governments of Angers and Anjou, the Université Catholique de l’Ouest, and the Institut Bois-Robert. On the university’s portal campus in Angers, France, St. Edward’s offers traditional study abroad experiences; professional development in international business and business English; and the First Year in France program that prepares international students to attend American universities as sophomores. St. Edward’s in France will soon add bachelor’s- and master’s-level courses for both American and European students. In addition, St. Edward’s has partnered with Apple® in France to incorporate new technology into student research projects.

These international collaborations are laying the groundwork for an increased emphasis on global engagement, says Sr. Jurick. “We will forge strong partnerships to expand the university’s reach and enhance the global foundation already established across the curriculum. As a result, all of our students will be better prepared to work and live in a global culture.”

Building on This Platform

Martin emphasizes that international education is the only way to prepare young people for their future in a global economy. “The story of the second half of the 20th century was the mobility of Americans throughout the U.S., and the story of the 21st century will be the mobility of Americans throughout the world,” he says. “Students will be changing careers and jobs more often, and changing where they live more often. The only way to prepare students is to teach them to navigate within unfamiliar cultures and societal structures.”

That’s the goal of the Office of Global Initiatives, headed up by Associate Vice President Tom Evans. “We want to bring the world to all university students and bring the university to people in many other locations around the world,” says Evans. “How do we do that? Through innovative study programs, delivered both traditionally and digitally.”

Evans and his team are already working to create relationships based on the France model in Scotland, Asia and the Middle East. “We will take special care to develop programs that are sustainable and built on relationships,” he says. “We will also focus on magnifying components of the university’s brand — and complementing the St. Edward’s mission.”

As these efforts indicate, St. Edward’s is already preparing its next strategic plan, even as it celebrates its strategic accomplishments and national recognition of the last decade. “We must continue to implement goals that give purpose to what we do as educators — providing an increasingly diverse and academically talented student body with a personalized educational experience that emphasizes critical thinking and social justice,” says Martin. “We continue to transform hearts and minds as we help students understand their place in the world.”
TIMELINE: CHANGE ON THE HILLTOP
A short history highlighting the construction and renovation instigated as part of the 2010 Strategic Plan, and the acclaim the architecture has achieved.

2002

2003

BASIL MOREAU HALL

2005

JACQUES DUJARIE HALL

2006

NATURAL SCIENCES CENTER

CONSTRUCTION

John Brooks Williams

CONSTRUCTION

FLECK RENOVATION

The first phase of a collaborative design offers spacious labs with leading-edge technology and energy-saving design elements to support the university’s efforts to decrease consumption of natural resources.

2008

The original Fleck Hall was completed in 1958 in just nine months. The renovation added a third floor. The new Fleck Hall hosts faculty office, conference rooms and some of the best views of downtown Austin.

2009

DOYLE RENOVATION

PARKING GARAGE

The renovation focuses on green retrofits and an expansion that adds new classrooms, psychology labs and offices.
In 2003, Trustee Hall received a Design Excellence Award from the Austin chapters of the American Institute of Architects and the American Society of Interior Designers. It was also featured in the July 2003 issue of Architectural Record, the nation’s leading architectural journal.

For upperclassmen seeking an alternative to residence hall living, the Casitas offer house-style living, allowing students to share a common courtyard with Basil Moreau Hall.

The complex garners worldwide recognition in Architectural Review in London, The Plan in Italy and Texas Architect magazines. It was also elected by Polis blog as one of the “Best Architecture Projects of 2009.”

**2010: Strategic Priorities**

**THE VISION STATEMENT AND PRIORITIES**

“St. Edward’s University will attain recognition as one of the best small universities in the country, characterized by our Holy Cross tradition of academic excellence and personalized educational experiences.”

1. Increase enrollment to give more students the opportunity to benefit from a personalized education
2. Expand the diverse, high-quality faculty and staff to ensure educational excellence
3. Provide exceptional student experiences through innovative academic and campus life programs
4. Enhance facilities and technologies to educate today’s and tomorrow’s learners
5. Steward resources wisely to assure the university’s future
6. Secure philanthropic relationships to support the university’s mission
7. Advance the university through integrated marketing

**2010: The Results**

Since he came to the university in 1999, President Martin has led St. Edward’s in its effort to gain national recognition as one of the best small universities in the country.

- Increased freshman class from 368 to 757
- Increased six-year graduation rate to 67%
- Increased overall enrollment from 3,000 to 5,300 students
- Achieved recognition in 2010, as U.S. News & World Report ranked St. Edward’s 21st among master’s-granting universities in the West; the publication also names it one of the “Up and Coming Schools” identified by its academic peers
- Increased total fundraising to more than $83 million
- Formed partnerships to establish a spectrum of educational programs around the world as part of the university’s global engagement initiative
2010: FACULTY FOCUS

You could argue that St. Edward’s University faculty constitutes some of the most interesting people in Austin. Take, for example, the professor who logs 12 international trips a year to explore global business issues. Or the professor who gathered oral histories of a generation of Latina women to learn how their experience serving in World War II helped them elevate their families to the middle class.

In the past 10 years, the number of faculty has grown from 289 in fall of 1999 to 500 in fall of 2009 to maintain the low student-to-faculty ratio. They bring a world of new experiences to the St. Edward’s community, contributing to its increasingly competitive academic offering.

01 SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES

Gary Pletcher
Assistant Professor of Management,
Director, Global Business and Social Justice Institute Chair.

SAMPLE COURSES
Teaches seminars in Foreign Business to places as far-flung as Bratislava in Slovakia, and Global Business Capstones to destinations such as Frankfurt-Koblenz, Germany

RECENT RESEARCH
Helped develop The Global Business and Social Justice Institute, which works with nonprofits in other countries to offer study abroad courses that support the education, health and well-being of socially and economically disadvantaged people in various regions of the world.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
In a given year, Pletcher averages 12 international trips to locations like Germany, France, Ireland, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Costa Rica, Belize and China. Pletcher leads students as they study the challenges and rewards of doing business in foreign countries, by consulting for companies, nonprofits and other organizations.

02 NEW COLLEGE

Joanne Rao Sánchez
Professor of History

SAMPLE COURSES
Teaches European, World, Women’s, Mexican, and Mexican-American Histories, as well as Critical Thinking and Research and Moral Issues in Society

RECENT RESEARCH
Contributed a chapter titled “The Latinas of World War II: From Familial Shelter to Expanding Horizons” in Beyond the Latino World War II Hero: The Social and Political Legacy of a Generation.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
Writing the chapter inspired further research into the Latina nurses of World War II. “Little has been written about their contributions, so I want to give these women the recognition that they deserve,” she says. She also trains students in oral history interviewing techniques.

03 SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Kris Sloan
Associate Professor of Education

SAMPLE COURSES
Leads undergraduate and master’s-level classes in Teaching, including Foundations in Education

RECENT RESEARCH
Studies the way current accountability policies influence schools, which has inspired a book: Holding Schools Accountable: A Handbook for Educators and Parents. More recently, he’s traveled as far away as Jerusalem to present research on what he calls “The Curriculum of Denial,” meaning the ways schools contribute to denials of scientific theory and historical evidence.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
Students in his Foundations of Education courses help him research the ways current accountability policies influence, or even facilitate, school segregation.
“We’re looking for the next generation of educational leaders. I’m not about training people to simply follow the rules — I’m about helping them become educators who can transform, even re-imagine, the current system.”

Jean McKemie
Professor of Mathematics

SAMPLE COURSES
Teaches Calculus I, Advanced Calculus, Complex Analysis

RECENT RESEARCH
Studies geometric function theory, which explores the interaction of geometry with analytical conditions on functions. The field has several applications for other math areas such as partial differential equations and harmonic analysis. “The main significance of my results is to provide tools so that other branches of mathematics and science can use them,” she says.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
McKemie has supervised students in fields related to hers and other interests, such as chaotic dynamical systems, Sudoku and Cayley tables, and even genetic algorithms and ligand design with a Math and Chemistry major.

Richard Bautch
Associate Professor of Humanities, Associate Dean of Humanities

SAMPLE COURSES
Teaches Biblical Hebrew and Jewish Literature

RECENT RESEARCH
Studies Israelite religion during the Persian period, which has inspired the books Developments in Genre and Glory and Power, Ritual and Relationship. The latter analyzes the key themes of the Sinai covenant during the Persian period. His next book will be an examination of how other covenants influenced religion and Jewish life during the Persian period.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
He’s helped students present projects at conferences, including an analysis of Joseph, son of Jacob; a study of the concept of messiah in the century when Jesus lived; and a comparison of a Qumran sundial with Qumran texts about calendrical issues.

Bill Nichols
Associate Professor of Global Studies, Chair of International Affairs

SAMPLE COURSES
Leads a six-week study abroad program to Seville, Spain, and teaches European Politics, American Foreign Relations and International Relations at St. Edward’s in France

RECENT RESEARCH
Studies Spanish national security and foreign policies in the post-9/11 era.

RECENT RESEARCH WITH STUDENTS
He’s supervising theses on topics such as the effect of French cultural nationalism on female Muslim immigrants trying to assimilate and the popular presentation of terrorist movements in contemporary European film.

“Most of our graduates, regardless of their major, will probably have some sort of international component in their careers, and hence the university’s focus on the larger world is absolutely essential.”

“Growth has meant larger departments, so it has been nice to welcome new faculty with different research expertise.”

“Our academics are improving along the standard lines of assessment, to be sure, but they are also improving qualitatively through the special rapport that exists between students and faculty.”

“Growth has meant larger departments, so it has been nice to welcome new faculty with different research expertise.”

“Most of our graduates, regardless of their major, will probably have some sort of international component in their careers, and hence the university’s focus on the larger world is absolutely essential.”

“Growth has meant larger departments, so it has been nice to welcome new faculty with different research expertise.”

“Most of our graduates, regardless of their major, will probably have some sort of international component in their careers, and hence the university’s focus on the larger world is absolutely essential.”
Most students go to college looking for what academia has to offer them. But Caroline Morris helps students realize what they have to offer academia.

Since 2008, Morris has been the director of Fellowships at St. Edward’s. Her job is to help students connect who they are and where they come from with an academic future that will make a difference in the world.

Take St. Edward’s student Jarymar Arana ’11 from Brownsville, a small, mostly Mexican-American town nestled on the southernmost tip of Texas. When Arana was in high school, she acted as a kind of community activist, organizing clean-ups and getting her neighbors energized about environmental issues. At St. Edward’s, Arana has found academic success in her major, Environmental Science and Policy, and this past fall, with the help of Morris, she won environmental scholarships from the Udall Foundation and the Environmental Protection Agency. In fact, the EPA office in Houston created a Borderland 2012 project internship just for Arana after reading about her background.

“Obviously, Jarymar is an outstanding student,” says Morris. “But I also think she was selected by the EPA so they can pick her brain about how to communicate with small, Hispanic communities.”

Convincing high-performing students that their backgrounds and interests can make a difference in the world is an important step toward priming students for the rigorous fellowship application process. But first, Morris identifies those students with a strong academic record. Morris reaches out to students with a GPA of 3.7 and above, then narrows down the list to those willing to go through the six-month long application process.

Then, in a series of one-on-one conversations and using writing exercises adapted from the more rigorous applications, Morris helps students connect their backgrounds and passions with their futures. Essentially, the applications require students to look 10 years down the road and imagine how they would be a leader in their chosen fields. It’s an exercise almost every student would benefit from, but Morris helps students compile their futures in the detailed, compelling way the applications demand.

“The students who apply have to have a vision. I think Jarymar learned that what she knew and where she comes from matters a lot in the world.”

Other winners in 2008–2009 included Amanda Bartenstein ’09, English Literature, who became the fifth Fulbright in a row for the university, winning an English teaching assistantship in Germany; and Aaron Helton MSCIS ’09, a graduate student, who was awarded a Presidential Management Fellowship.

Arana, Bartenstein and Helton, along with the 30-plus students who are waiting now to hear about their 2010 submissions, should be commended, Morris says, for their commitment to the process and their academic careers. Whether or not they win the fellowship is almost beside the point.

“If students win, it’s a remarkable achievement, for them and for the school, but even if they do not, they gain clarity about what they want their futures to look like,” says Morris.
Last summer, thanks to the new Bridge to College Success program, Deran J. Ramos ’13 was off to a great start as a St. Edward’s University freshman. The new program, an extension of the already successful College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), aims to give first-generation college students more confidence in core academic knowledge. “I knew I needed to take advantage of the opportunity,” says Ramos. “Most college students become overwhelmed, and I didn’t want that to happen to me.”

Ramos is among the first students to be a part of the Bridge program, funded with a $100,000 Wal-Mart College Success Award. The Council of Independent Colleges selected St. Edward’s for the award, which is given to institutions with a proven commitment to first-generation students. The grant allowed the university to pilot a program it had wanted to initiate for some time as part of its ongoing commitment to providing educational opportunities for students of varied cultural, religious, educational and economic backgrounds.

With funding in place, Esther Yacono, director of both programs, found the staff, housing and resources for 17 students to complete four weeks of intensive study in July. This year, the goal is for 20 students to complete five weeks of intensive study.

Yacono says the students helped by Bridge and CAMP are an invaluable addition to the makeup of the university. “They bring a diverse outlook and help us to actualize our Holy Cross mission,” says Yacono. “We want these students to become more confident about themselves and their abilities. This program gives them the instruction they need to form that strong academic foundation.”

Ramos agrees that what he learned last summer has been valuable. The writing concentration helped him in his coursework, and the reading component sharpened his critical thinking and analytical skills. And staying in campus housing gave him a chance to taste a little more of campus life outside the classroom.

Yacono says she’s fortunate to oversee a program with such staunch university support. As one of the earliest universities to participate in the nationwide CAMP movement, St. Edward’s has grown a network of faulty and alumni who offer critical support for first-generation, Hispanic students. “In fact, St. Edward’s is probably one of the best places for first-generation students,” she says.
Take a walk into the first floor of Doyle Hall and you may think you’ve stepped onto the set of CSI or Law and Order. You’ll find everything you might need for questioning subjects and analyzing data.

Inside, there are two observation labs with corresponding viewing rooms divided by one-way glass. The nearby biofeedback lab is equipped with a wall-mounted flat screen TV, relaxation chair with sensors attached to subjects to measure their physiological responses, and a high-powered computer to run the biofeedback software. In the experimental lab, rows of computers collect, analyze and disseminate the data. Together, these mini labs make up the university’s new state-of-the-art Psychology Lab.

The new lab provides undergraduate Psychology majors at St. Edward’s the opportunity to conduct research alongside professors that is normally reserved for the graduate level. “Our students now have real, usable space to conduct studies,” says Professor of Psychology Sara Villanueva Dixon. “They’re motivated to get in the lab and interact with participants. It’s great to see their enthusiasm.”

One of these psyched students is Audrey Fischer ’10. She’s been assisting Dixon as head student researcher in a multi-semester study examining family dynamics — parent/child relationships and parenting styles across ethnic groups. Over the course of the projects, Audrey and eight other students will interview and observe 200 families in the Austin community.

“I feel that I have been given an opportunity not many undergraduates are given,” says Fischer. “That’s one of the truly amazing aspects of St. Edward’s University — students are allowed to learn at their own pace and given ample opportunity to work in the field of their choice.”

Over in the biofeedback lab, Professor of Psychology Helen Just is working with six senior Psychology majors on a study of how biofeedback may reduce stress and affect cognitive function. Specifically, Just is exploring if biofeedback training can affect comprehension scores on the GRE. The abstract for the research project was accepted for the Southwestern Psychological Association Conference in Dallas in April, where four of the six student researchers presented. Just and her team have found positive preliminary results — participants in the current study raised their scores by over 15 percentage points simply by training their bodies to de-stress.

“We found that classical music was more effective at facilitating relaxation, over white noise and slow jazz,” says Just. “Obviously, follow-up studies will need to be done with a larger sample size, but these results are intriguing and very promising.”
IN INSPIRED ABROAD

IN STUDYING ABROAD, THREE STUDENTS NOT ONLY FOUND PERSONAL GROWTH, THEY DISCOVERED THEIR PERSONAL MISSIONS.

Flora Ortega ’09
Conquering human rights abuses through film

After back-to-back study abroad trips to Mexico and France, where she spent her time out of class interning at Cinespaña, a large Spanish film festival, Ortega came to discover her passion for writing about Latin American films.

In the middle of a meeting about her Honors thesis on depictions of human rights in film, Barbara Filippidis, director of the Honors Program, asked Ortega if she had ever thought about making her own documentaries. The idea stuck with her, and after graduation she and two friends co-founded the independent film company Producciones Chilam Balam to produce works about human rights issues in Latin America.

Ortega and her friends recently traveled to Uruguay to document a referendum to annul La Ley de Caducidad, a law that protects the armed forces from legal prosecution for their human rights violations during Uruguay’s 12-year dictatorship.

“My studies abroad cultivated my sense of adventure,” she says. “They built the courage and experience I needed to travel to Uruguay and take on this independent project.”

What’s Next

Ortega plans to take the documentary to film festivals, developing new film projects and applying to graduate programs in Latin American Studies to focus on Latin American film history.

Kristina Candito ’11
Discovering volunteer opportunities abroad and at home

In France last summer, with a group of student photographers led by Professor of Photocommunications Joe Vitone, Candito worked on a photo essay about housing dislocation, community organization and political refugees in the area.

As she worked on her essay, she was invited to one of the weekly events hosted by Food Not Bombs, an international group that shares free vegan and vegetarian meals with hungry people in more than 1,000 cities around the world. Candito started volunteering each week and, upon her return to St. Edward’s, began volunteering with the Austin chapter about seven hours a week.

What’s Next

Candito plans to continue traveling abroad and volunteering somewhere overseas before graduate school. “Before I went to France, I still wasn’t sure exactly what I wanted to do,” she says. “Traveling and volunteering fulfilled me more than anything else, so now I know that I need to go learn more and help out anywhere that I can.”

Bobby Chiu MSPM ’09
Creating local, sustainable economies

Chiu was part of the Casa Luz project, in which students from the St. Edward’s School of Management and Business supported a home for young, abused mothers in Costa Rica. The team of students helped form strategic plans that would optimize the organization’s capital budget for facility upgrades. Chiu managed the operations team, coordinating the deliverables with team members to keep the project on track.

After graduating from St. Edward’s, he traveled to Blantyre, Malawi, to volunteer for Project Peanut Butter. There, he assisted with manufacturing and distributing ready-to-use, therapeutic foods for malnourished children. “I’m most interested in making social and environmental changes by using my skills to work with others in developing countries,” says Chiu.

What’s Next

Chiu recently began pursuing a master’s degree in Environmental Science and Policy at Washington D.C. campus of Johns Hopkins University. He plans to go into international economic development after graduation and focus on sustainability. “There are too many developing countries exhausting their natural resources for the sake of economic progress,” he says. “We can advance economically without compromising environmental concerns.”
The Journey Home

A NUMBER OF ALUMNI GROUPS AND UNIVERSITY FAMILIES GATHERED ON CAMPUS IN FEBRUARY TO CELEBRATE HOMECOMING AND PARENTS WEEKEND 2010, WHERE THEY COULD RECONNECT WITH OLD FRIENDS AND SHARE MEMORIES OF THE EVER-EVOLVING COMMUNITY THAT REMAINS SUCH A SPECIAL PART OF THEIR LIVES.

Class of 1960

This year marks the 50th reunion for the Class of 1960, which celebrated with a number of campus events and by contributing the largest class gift to the university on record, $600,000. The gift was inspired by an initial gift by Germain Boer ’60. “The idea of the class gift was to set a precedent and institute a challenge for subsequent classes celebrating their 50th,” says Ted Popp ’60, who has served on the St. Edward’s Board of Trustees for more than 30 years. “The 1960 class was fortunate that Boer’s gift was included in the class gift.”

Many of the reunion attendees said they were glad not to have missed the rare occasion to share memories with old friends. “The opportunity to spend quality time with close friends, and to reconnect with classmates I had not seen since graduation, was priceless,” says John Holm ’60. “The university certainly did its part to make the reunion enjoyable, and had I not gone, I would have been very disappointed.”

Class of 1970

This year also marks the 40th reunion for the Class of 1970, which is the class that, in the words of Tom Terbrueggen ’70, “witnessed some of the most searing memories of the second half of the 20th century. It started with three days of peace and music and ended with 13 seconds of chaos in Ohio. It was the best of times. It was the worst of times.”

This extraordinary class also developed and formalized the first independent student government in the school’s history. And it was the first co-ed class at St. Edward’s. Attendees shared some of the memorable situations those first women found themselves in. Nancy Springer-Baldwin ’70 shared the story that the dormitories for the women were not finished in time for orientation in 1966, and arrangements were made for the women to stay in the old dormitories for nurses at Seton Hospital. This example of adaptability, of both the women of the class of 1970 and the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary who led them, highlights the courageous spirit of those who helped shape the future of St. Edward’s.

Class of 1985 and 2000

This year’s Homecoming also marked the 25th reunion for the Class of 1985, which graduated in the university’s centennial year, when there was a sense of newness and optimism on campus. This rings true of the feeling on campus today as we complete one strategic plan and begin planning for the next one. The class of 2000 also celebrated its 10-year reunion, and many who returned were amazed at the transformation the campus has undergone. Attendees were reassured that, despite the changes, this was a place we can still call home.

St. Edward’s High School Class of 1960

The high school class of 1960 celebrated its 50th reunion and the many friendships that have remained intact since graduation. The high school class of 1960 was inducted into the Golden Guard during Homecoming Weekend and gathered on Friday evening to honor one of their own, Ray Solcher hs ’60, who received one of the Distinguished Alumnus awards. The class gathered again in May to formally celebrate its 50th reunion.

Maryhill College

This year, St. Edward’s celebrated the women of Maryhill College, a coordinate college for women, which was established at the university in the fall of 1966. Maryhill, which admitted 70 students the first year, was administered by the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. By 1969, the faculty and students of St. Edward’s had called for the transfer to a co-educational system which, was established in 1970, but the 125th year marks a timely opportunity to recognize those who were dedicated to Maryhill College and St. Edward’s University.

At the opening Homecoming event, Brother Richard Daly, CSC ’61 said, “The spirit of Maryhill College came from the women who were recruited as students, the IHM Sisters who shaped the identity of Maryhill, and the university community who, as called to do through our mission, had the courage to take a risk, which further defined our future. We are sincerely appreciative to all those who made an impact on Maryhill College and St. Edward’s.”
Students and their families participate in numerous events on the hilltop during Parents Weekend. Because so many other family members join the gathering each year, the 2011 event will be renamed Family Weekend. Make sure to save the date now: Feb. 26–27, 2011. Hope to see you there!

PHOTOS BY ABI JUSTICE '04 AND JESSICA ATTIE '04
It was noon in Rome on Dec. 11, 2009, when Pope Benedict XVI announced that the new bishop of the Corpus Christi Diocese would be Monsignor W. Michael Mulvey hs ’67, ’71 who was then administrator of the Diocese of Austin. Monsignor Mulvey got the news later that day. Though he’d considered priesthood since elementary school, now-Bishop Mulvey could have never been prepared for that call.

Bishop Mulvey was born Aug. 23, 1949, the second of six children. He enjoyed a Catholic education, which included St. Edward’s High School and St. Edward’s University. And yet, Bishop Mulvey says, he didn’t fully appreciate the community in which he was raised. “Looking back, I now realize being in that Catholic environment during college was very important to me.

“Being able to go to daily Mass on campus with students and faculty, at a time in my life when I probably needed it the most, expanded my understanding of the church and all the vocations available through the church.”

While choosing to become a priest and then ascending to the rank of bishop is more of a calling than a career plan, Mulvey says every college student faces the same questions when considering a career. “Sometimes when people are considering a vocation, they ask themselves, ‘What can it offer me?’ But St. Edward’s creates an environment where students can look at it differently, he says.

“College is a time in our life when we all search not only for vocation but for faith as well. I urge young people to take advantage of St. Edward’s, be a witness of their faith and consider service to their own peers — the group they’re going to be working for and serving after St. Edward’s — and to begin that service now and find their place in the community.”

Bishop Mulvey was installed and ordained on March 25.
On Thursday, Aug. 25, 2005, Sarah Olim ’06 arrived at Tulane University in New Orleans to start her junior year. She carted a few boxes up to the third floor of her off-campus apartment. She went out with friends, catching up at The Boot, a favorite hangout, and soaking up the festive New Orleans vibe she had missed over the summer.

Some 850 miles away, Hurricane Katrina roared through Miami, Coral Gables and the Everglades before heading back to sea. Over the Gulf of Mexico, it lost strength, regained it, and veered west toward Louisiana.

The next day, Olim visited a few other favorite spots — Ms. Mae’s and the Maple Leaf — with another friend before heading back to her apartment to watch the Weather Channel amid news of an imminent evacuation. The only thing she remembers thinking: “I can’t believe this is going to happen.”

Saturday morning, Aug. 27, Olim threw three days’ worth of clothes into an overnight bag and coasted her black Acura into Louis Armstrong Airport on fumes, holding a ticket on a plane bound for her hometown of Houston. A day and a half later, Katrina struck Louisiana three times. It raced through buildings and levees with winds routinely gusting to 125 miles per hour and flooded some areas by more than 10 feet.

New Orleans was devastated. So was Olim. “I was sick, horrified, disgusted,” she says. “All of the things we’d always heard ‘could happen’ actually were happening.”

But she couldn’t take much time to process the disaster. With Tulane closed for the semester, Olim found herself university-less, two years into a Cell and Molecular Biology degree. After talking to friends in Austin, she called St. Edward’s.

continued on page 28
continued from page 27

“It was the single best experience I have ever had with any administrative group,” she says. “I drove to campus after speaking with someone by phone, was met in person, applied on a computer in one of the student lounges, and enrolled in classes just a couple of hours later.”

In fact, a number of students affected by Katrina enrolled at St. Edward’s. Some came to find the university a better fit than the schools they originally planned to attend. While a junior at Loyola University, Kehylis Vazquez ‘07 first evacuated to Orlando, Fla., and enrolled in three classes at a large public university. But she found the campus too big.

When she visited friends who had evacuated to Austin, she discovered St. Edward’s. A few months later, the Marketing major was walking to Trustee Hall and taking a full load of business courses. “I fell in love with the beautiful campus and architecture, the counselors made me feel very welcomed, and the small classes were a plus,” she says.

Vazquez graduated two years later with a bachelor’s degree in Marketing. Now, she is finishing her first year of law school in Puerto Rico — a dream she wasn’t sure she could fulfill as she watched Katrina ravage her city. “I went back to New Orleans twice after Katrina. Both experiences were devastating,” she says. “The city was destroyed, dirty, abandoned and empty. A place I had lived so many happy memories was long gone.”

Olim, who returned to Tulane when it reopened and is in her third year of dental school at the UT–Health Sciences Center, remembers feeling similar emotions. “I was in a situation unlike any I had ever experienced, and I was having difficulties coping that I had never previously had,” she says. “But my professors at St. Edward’s were engaged and caring. The education I got was fantastic.”

Both Olim and Vazquez have moved on, but have not forgotten. Says Vazquez, “Both Austin and New Orleans have a very special place in my heart and college memories.”

1960s
Charlie Clements hs ’63, of Brookline, Mass., was named executive director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government in February.

Br. Richard Gilman, CSC ’65, of Notre Dame, Ind., has announced his plans to retire as the president of Holy Cross College effective this year. His plans include helping to develop a new professional educational initiative in Ghana, West Africa, and spending some time improving his Spanish.

Willie Williams hs ’64, of Austin, was selected as the recipient of the 2010 Torch Award–Community Leader, which acknowledges an individual’s efforts to improve the lives of persons affected by mental health issues. The award is given by the Central Texas African American Family Support Conference.

Williams Kooser ’66, of Wilmington, Del., announced his retirement in June 2010 as president of the St. Patrick’s Center, Inc., a senior and community center that provides food and services to the needy in Wilmington.

1970s
Robert J. Hauert ’73, of Atlanta, has been named Deacon of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Mike Aanstoos ’76, of Houston, recently retired after serving 33 years with the Internal Revenue Service as a Supervisory Internal Revenue Agent.

1980s
Gary Cadwallader ’86, of Ormond Beach, Fla., directed The Giver, a play that ran from January through February at the Universal Orlando Theatre.

Jeremy Cole ’84, of New York City, directed an off-Broadway show called Conviction in March.

Eliseo Elizondo ’87, MBA ’98, of Taylor, won a place on the board of the Taylor Independent School District. Elizondo is employed at Freescale Semiconductor in Austin.

Barbara E. Hartle MAHS ’89, of Houston, was tapped by Houston Mayor Annise Parkerto to lead Houston’s Municipal Courts as Chief Presiding Judge.

1990s
Donald McCurry ’90, of Stover, Mo., has been welcomed as a new member of the local SCORE chapter in Lake of the Ozarks, Mo.

Andrew V. Reid ’91, of Houston, has been elected President and COO of Treaty Energy Corporation in Houston. He was also named a director of the company.

Gigi Bryant ’93, of Austin, has been named Austin chair of the Family and Protective Services Council for a term to expire at the pleasure of the governor. The council protects children and individuals who are elderly or have disabilities from abuse, neglect or exploitation.

Susan Eason ’93, of Austin, appeared in the Austin American-Statesman for her work as executive director of the Arc of the Capitol Area, a nonprofit that serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Ryan Kellus Turner ’94, of Austin, has been elected to membership in the Fellows of the Texas Bar Foundation. Fellows of the Foundation are selected for their outstanding professional achievements and their demonstrated commitment to the improvement of the justice system throughout the state of Texas.

continued on page 31

BIRTHS

To Gabriela Diaz ’06 and husband Philip Jones ’07, daughter Viviana Italia on June 13, 2009.


To Christyana Hopkinson ’00 and husband Paul, daughter Xochitl Noel on Feb. 17, 2010.
“During that year, my eyes were opened to the enormity of human need, and my perspective was forever changed.”

— Amber Fogarty '00

Going Where She’s Needed

DESPITE A PROMISING CAREER IN MARKETING, FOGARTY STEPPED OFF THE CORPORATE LADDER TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

When Amber Fogarty '00, MBA '04 started her MBA, the call of the corporate world steered her away from considering a career in nonprofits. Just as she prepared for her first MBA classes, the software company where Fogarty had interned while still an undergraduate offered her a job as a marketing assistant. The company had promoted her up the ranks to marketing communications manager before she’d even completed her degree. Though she found her mother’s career as a social worker inspiring, Fogarty began to assume her only involvement with nonprofits would be on the sidelines.

“I was always passionate about volunteerism,” she says. “But at the time I felt that I could make the greatest contribution to the nonprofit sector as a volunteer and philanthropist.”

All that changed during her final semester in the MBA program. In her Capstone course, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Management Dianne Hill brought in nonprofit leaders to talk with the class. “The wheels started turning in my head,” says Fogarty. “I began wondering if my career path was the one God intended for me.”

After she graduated, Fogarty moved to Phoenix, Ariz., to volunteer as a Holy Cross Associate full-time for a year at a homeless services organization called André House. Her work there ignited in her a passion for confronting poverty head on.

“During that year, my eyes were opened to the enormity of human need, and my perspective was forever changed,” she says. That revelation led to a development position at the University Catholic Center at UT–Austin and then her current role as director of fundraising and communications at Front Steps of Austin.

For more than a year, she’s been in charge of raising funds and awareness for the homeless shelter and resource center. The only work she’s found as fulfilling has been her recent plunge back into academia.

Fogarty taught Business Communication classes as an adjunct instructor at St. Edward’s in 2009, building on a similar teaching post at the university in 2006. Once her two young children have grown, she hopes to pursue a doctorate degree and become a full-time professor.

“I learned so much from my professors who had many years of professional experience,” she says. “My own professional experience, both in the corporate and nonprofit sectors, offers a unique perspective to students, especially those who are deciding on their professional futures.”
Adventure of a Lifetime
ST. EDWARD'S CONTINUES TO INSPIRE ALUMNI TO SERVE IN THE PEACE CORPS.

In February, Ashley Dunn '10 left Texas for Uganda, where she'll work for the Peace Corps until April 2012. In Uganda, she’ll put her Education degree to practice at primary elementary schools and teacher colleges to train primary school teachers. When she returns, she plans to get a master’s degree in Special Education and begin teaching pre-school programs for children with disabilities.

Like many alumni before her, Dunn says her studies at St. Edward’s supported her interest in the program. “As I studied more and worked in the local Austin public schools, I realized how much I wanted to help children who didn’t have the same opportunities that I did growing up. Without the St. Edward’s Education department and all of the support I received from the Education professors, I wouldn’t be as passionate about children and improving their quality of learning.”

But one doesn’t just decide to join the Peace Corps. To prepare, Dunn went through an intensive 10-week training period prior to leaving for the site where she would be stationed. She went through training in Wakiso, the district that surrounds the capital city of Kampala. The training took place six days a week and included language and culture training, as well as studying Ugandan history, the school curriculum and learning about safety, security and health. Trainees also learn life skills such as gardening, composting and cooking.

“I always knew I wanted to volunteer after I graduated from college,” says Dunn. “The Peace Corps was the best fit for me because the time commitment of 27 months was substantial enough to where I thought I could actually make a difference.”

As she adjusts to Africa, Dunn reports she’s adjusted to the new culture quite well. She sleeps under a mosquito net and takes a malaria pill daily, but otherwise, she says, “The food actually isn't that bad. The fruit here is so fresh and sweet — it is by far my favorite thing to eat. The country is beautiful and the weather is just like home.”

IN MEMORIAM

Harold Weissler ’37, of Austin, on March 9, 2010.
Martin Zapalac hs ’49, of Houston, on Feb. 11, 2010.
Robert Rock ’50, of Dallas, on March 8, 2010.
James C. Gravis ’51, of Houston, on Dec. 25, 2009.
Clayton Craig Christopher '95, of Austin, stepped down in April as CEO of Sweet Leaf Tea, the company he co-founded. He was named 2010 Austinite of the Year at the Austin Under 40 Awards, and he recently spoke at the launch of Slow Money Austin, a new organization promoting capital opportunities for local, organic and sustainable food enterprises.

Sally Gillam '95, of Austin, St. David’s South Austin Medical Center’s chief nursing officer, was elected to serve as the Texas Organization of Nurse Executives representative to the Texas Peer Assistance Program for Nurses advisory committee. Gillam has been a chief nursing officer at St. David’s for more than 20 years.

Harry Pape, II '96, of Delaware City, Del., has been named executive director of Delaware County Habitat for Humanity.

Ron Mattocks '98, of Houston, published a book, Sugar Milk: What One Dad Drinks When He Can’t Afford Vodka. Mattocks writes Clark Kent’s Lunchbox, one of the top parenting blogs in the country, and is a regular contributor to Houston Family Magazine.

2000s

Gustavo Hernandez MBA '02, of Austin, organized a soccer tournament in March to raise money for Villa Esperanza, a nonprofit organization he co-founded to help first-generation college students from Austin succeed. If you are interested in volunteering for Villa Esperanza, please contact Gus at gh@gustavohernandez.com

Mark Holt '02, of Austin, was named chief operations officer of Apogee, which offers fully integrated broadband, cable and voice services for residential networks for schools and campuses.

Brandon Benavides '03, of Washington D.C., was named content producer for the news station NBC4.

Cameron Dennis '03, MSCIS '07, of Austin, moved his business, Austin Amplifier, to a new location in the Hyde Park neighborhood of Austin.

Mike Hollis '03, MLA '07, of Austin, received his doctoral degree in Education from Texas State University, and has been awarded a post-doctorate grant from the U.S. Air Force Academy and National Science Foundation to spend 18 months researching innovative teaching techniques in undergraduate engineering courses.

Amanda Beck '05, of San Antonio, a communications specialist for UT–San Antonio, was interviewed for a San Antonio Express–News article about the employment of more women on college campuses.

Bradford Harwick '05, of Austin, has been named vice president of Bury and Partners in Austin.

Xavier Bell '06, of Georgetown, recently opened a new restaurant in that city called Courthouse Subs.

continued from page 28

Fred McNair

Frederick Louis McNair hs '63, '67, died in March in Mexico City at age 64. Born in Austin, McNair graduated St. Edward’s High School in 1963 and served two years active duty in the United States Marine Corps after graduation from St. Edward’s University. Named Distinguished Alumnus of the University in 1978, he was a member of the St. Edward’s Andre Associates, the St. Edward’s Heritage Society and Alumni Chair of the university’s A Special Destiny capital campaign. McNair served on the Alumni Board of Directors for eight years and served on the Executive committee as Chair of the Alumni Programs Committee. His daughter, Amy, followed in his footsteps and graduated from St. Edward’s in 2004. “While serving under his leadership on the St. Edward’s Alumni Board, I learned much from him about commitment and service to family, faith, and community,” says Frank Moore hs ’63. “I miss him already, and am so grateful that we shared space and time on this journey.”

IN MEMORIAM

Brother James P. Kell, CSC

Brother James P. Kell, CSC ’56, passed away in April. He converted to the Catholic Church while in the U.S. Air Force and entered St. Edward’s University to complete his undergraduate studies. Here, he met the Brothers of Holy Cross and pronounced his perpetual vows at Sacred Heart Church on the University of Notre Dame campus in 1959. He earned a master’s degree from that school and a master’s degree in Library Science from Rosary College in River Forest, Ill., then taught on several high school campuses across the country, including St. Edward’s High School. In 1988, he joined St. Edward’s University as a general counselor.

IN MEMORIAM

Lloyd Grove '51, of Corpus Christi, on Jan. 24, 2010.


Thomas Adams hs ’56, of Manor, on March 29, 2010.
From Bosnia to Austin

A REFUGEE FROM WAR-TORN BOSNIA FINDS RESPITE AMONG THE TREES OF CENTRAL TEXAS.
By Stacia Hernstrom MLA 05

Frothy white rivers rushing down mountaintops and over lush, green hills. Groves of plum, apple and pear trees dotting the countryside. Native nuthatches and larks singing to each other through the foliage. Gunfire ringing out.

Such was Bosnia in the 1990s, when a civil war and genocide ravaged forest and farmland alike and made refugees of half the population, including Emsud Horozovic MBA '08. And while he's visited a couple of times since he left, he says, “I wouldn't live there again.”

In the 16 years since he sought asylum in the United States, he has worked to celebrate the natural beauty in his adopted Central Texas homeland. He started out as a volunteer and technician, then an arborist, for the city of Austin. For the last decade, he's been forestry manager for the city of Round Rock. Along the way, he perfected his English, adapted to life in America and completed an MBA at St. Edward's.

As a young man, Horozovic traveled to neighboring Croatia for his undergraduate degree in Forestry Engineering, then worked as a project engineer at a woodworking machinery factory. As an arborist in Austin, he saw the opportunity to preserve and protect nature rather than harness it. “It is our duty to try to serve in ways that are bigger than ourselves,” he says. “One way to do that is to sow seeds and plant trees, though we may never see final growth or get credit for it. Think about landscaping and trees in your urban area — they are the only remaining connection that we have to nature. We cannot grow more land.”

Tending nature has also been an opportunity to tend to himself. “When I moved to Texas, I decided to choose an occupation that would allow me to heal emotionally and rest my soul,” he says. “I wanted to do something that was more than a paycheck.”
David Van Goethem '06 of Elgin, was sworn in as an officer for the Elgin Police Department. Van Goethem has 23 years of active and reserve duty in the U.S. Army and has completed two tours of Iraq.

Rachel Armbruster '07, of Austin, has launched a planning and advisory company, Armbruster Consulting, that provides tactical fundraising and awareness solutions to cause-minded organizations.

Carol Buchanan MAHS '07, of Elgin, ran for trustee in District 4 of the Elgin School Board. The election took place on May 8.

Mark Newton Rose MLA '08, of Austin, general manager and chief operating officer of Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative was the featured speaker at the annual Washington County Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Foundation of Brenham’s banquet.

Lamont Slater '08, of Worcester, Mass., has been accepted into the doctoral program at Salve Regina University in Newport, R.I.

Andrew C. Cannata '09, of Austin, opened in John & Jen, a two-actor musical at the Penfold Theatre in Austin.

IN MEMORIAM

Myra McDaniel

Myra McDaniel, a Trustee of St. Edward’s University for 24 years, died in February. In her lifetime, McDaniel was a champion of higher education in Texas, serving on the boards and foundations of institutions throughout the state. She served as board chair, board vice chair, and chair of the Academic Affairs and Oversight Committee of St. Edward’s, and also had leadership roles for UT–Austin, the Texas Association of Community Colleges, the Law School Admissions Council, Austin Community College, the Community Board for Wells Fargo Bank, St. Luke’s Health Charities and the Austin Public School Foundation. An exceptional, multidimensional leader, Ms. McDaniel helped the corporate and higher education communities address critical legal, social, political, economic and academic matters during a career of service in support of diversity and access to public resources. President George E. Martin says, “She exemplified the standard for which all supporters of higher education should strive.”

Mark Your Calendar!

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2011

Feb. 25, 26 & 27

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2010 was a huge success, and we’re already planning next year’s event. So mark your calendar for Feb. 25–27.

It’s the perfect opportunity for students, alumni and families to share memories and make new ones.

See you on the hilltop!

Look for more news this fall.
CHICAGO
This spring, Chicago-area alumni gathered for a luncheon with the Alternative Spring Break students. “It was great to be able to have lunch with the students. I was pleased to see them taking time out of their spring break to help others. I can’t wait to see what the future holds for these remarkable students!”

— Sara Hassan ’06

EL PASO
El Paso area alumni gathered for a luncheon with the Alternative Spring Break students. “It was great having lunch with such a passionate group of individuals. The Alternative Spring Break students in El Paso truly were engaged in discussing border issues, poverty, and St. Edward’s. They are prime examples of what Holy Cross stands for and what the St. Edward’s mission statement is all about.”

— Rudy Trejo ’08

RIO GRANDE VALLEY
This summer, the Rio Grande Valley will hold its annual Summer Send-Off for incoming St. Edward’s freshmen. Summer Send-Offs provide alumni the opportunity to share their experiences from the hilltop with the newest Hilltoppers and their families.

DALLAS/FORT WORTH
Joan and Martin Rose, parents of Allyson ’03 and Bryan ’00, hosted a Presidential Reception in their home with President George E. Martin. Presidential Receptions are an opportunity for alumni and parents of current students to spend an evening with President Martin and hear the latest news about St. Edward’s University. “Attending the President’s Reception at the Rose family home was a great event. In addition to catching up with old friends, we got to speak with a high school senior from Jesuit named Ian, who had great questions about St. Edward’s. It was so nice to see such a bright young man getting ready to head to the hilltop. I’m glad the Presidential Receptions welcome not only current alumni, but also our future alums.”

— Gordon Markley ’82

HOUSTON
University Trustee Tom Carter and his wife Jeanie, parents of Fowler ’03 and Molly ’09, hosted a Presidential Reception in their home with President George E. Martin. “Having recently moved to Houston it was a great opportunity to meet other alumni living in the area, and a chance to hear President Martin speak about the exciting new opportunities and growth at St. Edward’s.”

— Alan Ahlrich ’00

WASHINGTON D.C.
In March, the St. Edward’s University Ballet Folklorico dancers put on a special performance for Washington D.C. area alumni. “The Ballet Folklorico event was one of our best and most unique events to date; it brought current and former students together to celebrate the dance traditions of Mexico in an amazing setting, our U.S. Capitol. I and many of my fellow alumni enjoyed the professionalism that the dancers displayed both on and off the dance floor. The highlight of the evening was when the alumni in attendance were invited to the dance floor to join the group in a dance. We hope to see them again in the D.C. area soon!”

— Jeremias Alvarez ’01

Wordie Burrow ‘72, of McKinney, Texas on Feb. 9, 2010.
Ed Gallagher ’73, of Rockaway Park, N.Y., on Feb. 19, 2010.
YOUNG ALUMNI NIGHT OUT ▼
More than 50 young alumni were in attendance for our first ever Young Alumni Night Out. Alumni took in a hockey game and enjoyed hot dogs, beer and comfy leather chairs as they cheered on the Texas Stars and the Houston Aeros. If you missed the game this time around, have no fear. Join us next season for another night with the Stars. The Alumni Office would like to thank Stephanie Bazan ’01 for her assistance and for bringing this unique idea to our attention.

AUSTIN ▲
In March the chapter went on a Hill Country Wine Tasting Tour. Alumni took a charter bus to the Spicewood Winery and Becker Winery. “For the Austin Chapter this is a new type of event that we have been working on for a while. Timing and coordination with surrounding events was key in planning this event in conjunction with the APP office. The event was well received by both establishments and alumni present. The event was coordinated by Social Chair Evan Peterson and Community Service Chair Travis Brown. We look forward to having this as an annual event in the future.”
— Michael Hernandez ’06, MSCIS ’07

NEW YORK
Alumni from across the United States gathered in New York City to march in the 249th St. Patrick’s Day Parade. “The parade was such a wonderful experience upon which the Heavens blessed the quarter million marchers and upwards of two million viewers with beautiful and comfortable sunshine. I was blessed to have my family march in the parade this year and we all came away on such an emotional high feeling.”
— John Ryan ’52

Williams Matthews ’79, of Austin, on Feb. 10, 2010.
Everett Hardgrove ’79, of Indianapolis, Ind., on March 9, 2010.
Felix Trejo ’80, of Taylor, Texas, on Jan. 26, 2010.
Jimmy Scott ’85, of Austin, on Feb. 19, 2010.
A balloon release helped mark the University’s 100-year anniversary in 1985. In the white-and-tan sweater, left, Madonna Johnson ’88; in the red sweatshirt, center, Imelda Yepez Mrkacek; in the white sweatshirt with gold letters, Cyndi Perez.

▲ Still friends, 25 years later. Fellow classmate and East Hall neighbor Lydia (Flores) Borrego ’89 (left) with former St. Edward’s students Johnson (middle) and Mrkacek (right).

Mystery Solved: Celebrating the Centennial

“It was all of our first years at St. Edward’s. I believe this photo was taken right before we all released the balloons into the air. I also remember there being a very large anniversary cake, a lot of beautiful historic photos and a lot of guests and visitors on campus that weekend.” — Madonna Johnson ’88, Austin
Don’t lose touch! Keep up with your fellow alumni on Hilltop.Connect!

- Search the alumni database
- Submit your profile and a class note
- View upcoming alumni events
- Find the alumni chapter near you — or start one!
- Plus lots more

Get started now! Just go to stedwards.edu/hilltopconnect

Patty Leach ’05, of Austin.

Arturo Miguel Garcia Jr. ’06, of Austin, on April 18, 2010.

Chelsea E. Proctor ’09, of Austin, on Feb. 24, 2010.

Adjunct professor Patricia B. Clark, of Austin, on Jan. 28, 2010.