

# St. Edward's

UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

FALL 2006 VOLUME 8 ISSUE 1



## down to a **SCIENCE**

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MARC SWENDNER '92

# New Science Building Opens Opportunities

George E. Martin, PhD

On Sept. 8, the university celebrated the opening of the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building. Faculty members and students had already occupied the building, and since classes started in August, the daily routines of the building's users were almost completely formed. But it was important to have this formal celebration so that, if only for a few moments, our community could reflect on the significance of this newest campus facility.

One is struck almost immediately by the size of the building. At 65,000 square feet, it is the largest building on campus and will allow us to grow the Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry programs to more than twice their current size. More important, the quality of the space and of the equipment and laboratories declares a commitment to the highest standards of pedagogy and undergraduate research. Students and faculty will enjoy all the resources necessary for 21st-century scientific inquiry.

**Joseph A. Lucci III, '80**, director of the Division of

Gynecologic Oncology at the University of Miami Sylvester Cancer Center and chair of our Natural Sciences Advisory Board, was on campus in late spring and took time to inspect the building. He was so impressed that he doubled the size of his pledge to A Special Destiny: The Campaign for St. Edward's University.

**Dave Dickson**, vice president of Financial Affairs, tells the story of walking through the building and being grabbed on the arm by a delighted Professor **Henry Altmiller**. Professor Altmiller pulled him into a lab and proudly said, "Come here. I want to show you something. We've got to be one of the few undergraduate programs in the country with a lab this sophisticated."

Like Altmiller, the rest of the science faculty can barely contain their enthusiasm for the building. They should be proud. They worked many hours with RFD Consultants and Moore, Ruble, Yudell Architects to program and design the building. They also played an active role in helping cultivate donors by making presentations on program

goals and achievements and by attending Advancement social functions. Most of all, they helped create the most persuasive fundraisers of all: outstanding students who articulated how the personalized education and collaborative research provided by the St. Edward's science faculty opened up opportunities for research internships and graduate study that they had never thought would be available to them.

The building is also a monument to our donors, who share our educational mission. It was through their generosity that the \$20 million needed for construction of the building was raised. Because of their philanthropy, St. Edward's will continue to provide the highest quality undergraduate education to students from all ethnic and racial groups and from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

The building opening energized the campus community as we crossed into the 2006–2007 academic year. It was another step toward our vision of being recognized as one of the best small universities in the nation. ■

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## LIBRARY 2.0

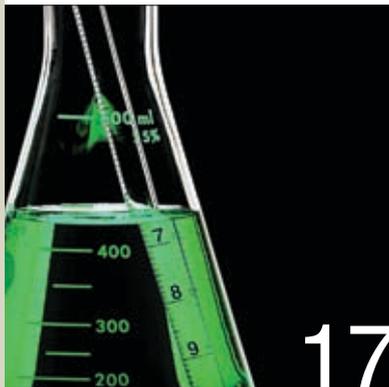
Scarborough-Phillips Library Director Tom Leonhardt speaks on library life beyond Dewey (Decimal).

## SCIENCE AND THEOLOGY

Enemies, friends or partners? Professor of Religious Studies Edward Shirley shares his take.



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## DOWN TO A SCIENCE

The new science building. Bioinformatics. Women and minorities in the sciences. Getting elected. Creativity. Project management. What do they have in common? In the end, they all come down to a science.

## ALUMNI NOTES

- Joe Goldblatt, '75, the first man Donald Trump threatened to fire.
- Diana Manning, '89, protector of presidents.
- Sam Holt, '01, MSOLE '03, Austin Police Department's great communicator.
- Holdings: All covered in beanies.
- From the Archives: Mystery solved.



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## IN EVERY ISSUE

- 2 On the Hill:** Postmarks, Ideas, Culture, Sports, News, Just Curious and Faculty Bookshelf
- 12 Inner Workings:** The Financial Assistance Office
- 13 Special Destiny:** Two lives changed by CAMP
- 15 Future Forward:** Fleck Hall's second coming

## ON THE COVER

Step 1: Mix together stories about science.  
Step 2: Stir.  
Step 3: Wait for a reaction.  
The experiment starts on page 17.

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

### Campaign Momentum Keeps Rolling

A Special Destiny: The Campaign for St. Edward's University has exceeded its financial goal a year ahead of schedule. Campaign fundraising now surpasses \$66 million, and the momentum hasn't stopped. With a new chapel still to fund, the university continues to generate enthusiasm in Central Texas and beyond as alumni and friends have made gifts and encouraged others to do the same before the campaign wraps up on June 30, 2007.

This influx of interest has broken several fundraising records for St. Edward's.

- More than 8,500 people have given to the campaign.
- More than 150 benefactors have committed gifts of \$25,000 or more.
- The number of President's Associates who annually give \$1,000 or more has reached its highest level — more than 350 members.

In grass-roots efforts springing up from coast to coast, alumni chapters have been building on the campaign's success to grow and do more for their members and communities, such as volunteer service events for the university's Founder's Day in October. If you're interested in getting involved with your local alumni chapter, contact **Kippi Griffith** at [kippig@stedwards.edu](mailto:kippig@stedwards.edu).

### New Science Building Opens

The John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building formally opened its doors on Sept. 8 in a ceremony that included a speech by university trustee **John H. Bauer, '62**. Before the crowd, Bauer remembered his friend John Brooks Williams, owner of Houston's Markle Steel Company, whose estate gave a total \$12.5 million for construction of the north building and the south building that is slated for construction in 2010. The support makes John Brooks Williams' gift the largest in the university's history. Bauer served as executor of the Williams estate (*see stories beginning on page 22*).

### Title V CAMP Challenge Met Early

Meeting the U.S. government's Title V fundraising deadline with two weeks to spare, St. Edward's added more than \$1 million to scholarships for its College Assistance Migrant Program. The university extends special thanks to the lead donor, the Barrow Foundation, as well as the following: The Betsy and Hughes Abell Family Foundation; AT&T; Mr. and Mrs. **Dennis R. Berman**; Mr. and Mrs. **Ruben R. Cardenas, hs '47, '51**; **David and Dealey Herndon**; Alice Kleberg Reynolds Foundation; **Felipe Santos, '82**, and **Janet Wright-Santos, '82**; and Trull Foundation.

### President's Associates Celebrate 25 Years of Philanthropy

It all started in 1981. Thirty-two members of the St. Edward's community gathered together and agreed to donate \$1,000 annually to support the university. Over the past two decades, the President's Associates have continued to give, their ranks swelling to more than 350 members who represent every aspect of the university, from alumni and parents to faculty and friends. Celebrating the group's 25th anniversary this year, the university is grateful for the commitment of donors such as Gloria and the late **James Ikard, hs '49, '53**, who have been President's Associates since the beginning. These donors and all President's Associates make a tremendous impact at the university. To become a President's Associate today, please contact **Mollie Butler** at 512-416-5888 or [campaign@stedwards.edu](mailto:campaign@stedwards.edu)

For more information on *A Special Destiny: The Campaign for St. Edward's University*, click "Giving" at [www.stedwards.edu](http://www.stedwards.edu) or contact Vice President of University Advancement **Michael F. Larkin** at 512-448-8452 or [michaell@stedwards.edu](mailto:michaell@stedwards.edu).



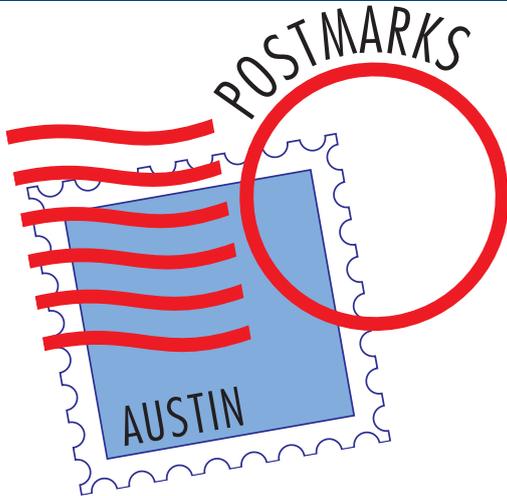
## Construction Update CHANGE IS STILL GOOD

It seemed like the construction would never end on campus this summer, but when the dust had settled at the start of the fall semester, the hilltop had been nipped and tucked with a noticeable makeover. A few of the more notable changes follow.



KATY ROGERS '08

- **A new arbored seating area** southwest of Moody Hall, with a vine-covered trellis to provide shade for two old-fashioned wooden swings, three benches, five tables for up to 20 people and a crescent-shaped fountain.
- **A new fountain at Jones Courtyard** built against the Fondren Hall wall.
- **A wood trellis** supported by a four-foot brick wall with eight-foot columns on the walkway between Moody Hall and Fondren Hall, screening the view of the parking lot.
- **New crosswalks** on University Circle to Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel and on Moody Drive to Dujarié Hall; a **shaded pedestrian path** on the north side of Trustee Hall for trips from Main Building to the north and west sides of campus; and a **sidewalk** straight to the entrance of East Hall, which has a **new shaded area** near the front entrance.
- Seven new classrooms and two meeting rooms on the first floor, plus a lounge/lab and break room on the second and third floors of the university's **Professional Education Center** in the Arboretum area.
- Ground broken this fall on a **new Casa** behind Moreau and Dujarié halls, providing approximately 70 living spaces for upperclassmen beginning in Fall 2007.
- Grand opening of the **John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building**. (*see story at left and beginning on page 22*)



### All the News That Fits

Great job on the magazine, as usual. Just a quick note on the “From the Archives” photo appearing in the Spring 2006 issue.

It was taken in one of the dorm rooms of Doyle Hall on Friday afternoon, Oct. 12, 1962, by **Bob Singel, '64**, or **Bill Hoppe, '64**, photo editors for the St. Edward's student newspaper, *The Hilltopper*. The photo appeared in the Friday, Oct. 26, 1962, edition. I was a senior that year and editor of the paper, a dubious job at best, full of more enthusiasm than great journalism, though we did receive several Associated Collegiate Press recognition awards at the end of the year. For exactly what, I cannot recall.

The headline over the photograph in question read “*In time of crisis, the topper stops everything (even in crowded bomb shelters).*” Bomb shelters were quite the rage back then. It is interesting to note that the students in this particular photograph are reading the previous edition of *The Hilltopper*, in which a similar photo appears, taken on the front steps of Holy Cross Hall, a senior dorm at the time. The message in the photo was intended to encourage subscriptions from friends and alumni for the annual fee of \$2. Needless to say, the response was less than overwhelming.

But the real story between the pages of that photo extends well beyond the 20 or so young men crowded into a room, seemingly engaged in the latest news. A few may recall an ad for a chicken dinner costing only 50 cents at the Split Rail Inn on South Lamar or that an eight-pound load of dry cleaning ran \$1.50 at the Laundry and Cleaning Village on South Congress. Right down the street, Humphrey Bogart was starring in *The Caine Mutiny*.

The news came in biweekly doses, normally 12 pages. It held to the center of campus life, mostly: Five new tennis courts were due to be completed by the end of the school year; **Ray Kortan, '63**, gave free haircuts in Holy Cross Hall and free advice as the newspaper's “Ghost Writer.” Guys like **Francis “Toad” Horning, '63**, and campus tennis celebrity **Dan Dwyer, '63**, wrote regular columns and helped put the paper together. **Mike Zalsmann, '63**, kept us informed of our great sports programs with the help of **Ron Wallace, '63**, **Joe Ross, '66**, and **John Lucas, '65**.

It was a time of great St. Edward's basketball, with the fighting Hilltoppers in the Snakepit chewing up the St. Mary's University Rattlers 65-55 after an earlier defeat. Later that season they beat Texas Wesleyan 88-74 with guys like **John Schneider, '64**, **Vic Orlowski, '63**, and **Paul McDermott, '65**, doing us proud. The Tigers made intramural football history that year — greats like **Bob Davidson, '63**; **John Hoffman, '64**; **Rick Schultz, '63**; **Tony Lynch, '63**; **Steve “the Mailman” Miller, '63**; **Gill Stansbury, '63**; **Leo Bourgeois, '64**; **Dominic Culotta, '64**; **Neal F. Harrison, '63**; and **Deke Prendergast, '63**, ending the season 6 and 10.

We were all drawn deeper into the world of art, music, dance and drama by the brilliantly written weekly column *Art World*, by the now famous-in-his-own-right artist and critic **Mike Tracy, '64**.

In some ways, that tiny newspaper reminded us that a world existed beyond our own. In the skies over Texas, satellites were beginning to wink at us. An African exchange student by the name of **Athanasius Njoku, '64**, from Nigeria, took up residence as a student and brought many of us to a startling awareness of Arab socialism and neocolonialism — matters of grave importance that would come into clearer focus long after we moved on.

Back then 31 states and 13 foreign countries were represented on campus. In Fall 1962, 103 students arrived from Indiana and California as well as 18 from Connecticut and 19 from Michigan.

In literature, J.D. Salinger became a household name with the publication of *The Catcher in the Rye*, and William H. Whyte's controversial *The Organization Man* was also popular. Tuition at St. Edward's hit a new high of \$625 per year,

a bargain when you consider that private universities were on average charging \$731.

And while photos and stories of the Homecoming bonfire kindled our spirit, they also made us keenly aware of the rapid passage of time. That year the St. Edward's sustentation program was just beginning to get underway. Building plans were reported, but few of us could foresee the destiny of the remarkable university 40 years later.

I returned to the hilltop campus for the first time a few years back. All the aforementioned news came whispering into my head across the still-magnificent open space overlooking the Austin city limits. The other day the same magical recollections occurred when I came across the archival photo in this issue.

Who in the photograph would not remember some of those events? Who could not recall in his own time the likes of some of the great professors — **Pete Pesoli** and **Holy Cross Brothers Simon Scribner, Edmund Hunt, Dunstan Bowles, Romard Barthel** and **Daniel Lynch**, and countless others. Our lives were defined by these men. That was the real news back then.

In some strange way we were all in the same room on Friday afternoon, Oct. 12, 1962, even those students not in the photograph. I am quite certain the news is still the same: At St. Edward's University everything is different but nothing has changed.

Sincerely,

**Norman DeTullio, '63**

*Trumbull, Conn.*



Read more about this photo shoot from one of the participant's perspectives on page 45.

## “MANY FACES OF ISLAM” FOR ALL TO SEE

This year's Freshman Studies theme, “The Many Faces of Islam,” has already inspired several campus events open to the entire St. Edward's community. When freshmen haven't been reading the common book *What's Right with Islam is What's Right with America*, they'll have seen the specially commissioned play *Kneeling Down at Noon* by adjunct Theater Arts instructor **Steve**

**A Freshman Studies 2006 Program**

THE MANY

FACES OF

ISLAM

**Moore** and speakers from various branches of Islam. Two upcoming events are open to the wider St. Edward's community: the Living Together Conference, an interfaith dialogue on misconceptions of Islam and Christianity (Oct. 28, 1 p.m., Mabee Ballrooms A&B), and Visiting Writers Series: Naomi Shihab Nye, a one-hour reading with the Palestinian poet followed by audience questions and a reception (Nov. 14, 7:30 p.m., Mabee Ballrooms A&B). More “Many Faces of Islam” events are planned for the spring. Learn more by visiting “Calendar” at [www.stedwards.edu](http://www.stedwards.edu).

## LEARN TO THINK ... AND ASK

For five years, viewers of advertisements from St. Edward's University have been advised to “Learn to think.” Now they're being asked to question what they think.

The new television, print and radio ads pose questions to viewers that highlight the way St. Edward's can help them find an answer. “Who did it?” asks one commercial over fast-paced, *C.S.I.*-esque shots of a crime scene. “Learn to collect, process, analyze and preserve evidence. Tackle legal issues. And uncover the answer as a forensic crime scene investigator.”

The ads, which debuted in late September around Central Texas, build on the university's Learn to Think integrated marketing campaign, which won national awards, including the Circle of Excellence Gold Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

## ST. EDWARD'S TRIATHLETES

In June, 11 staff and faculty members, alumnae, and students swam a half mile, biked 12 miles and ran three miles for the women's Danskin Triathlon to support the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

The participants were (from left to right): **Laura Cortez**, MBA '04, career services coordinator for Career Planning; **Leslie Nairn**, secretary, Office of International Education; **Mary Katherine O'Brien**, international advisor, Office of International Education; **Cheri Hansen**, director of Advancement Services; **Erin Ray**, director, Office of International Education; **Liz Holliday**, adjunct instructor, School of Humanities; **Bianca Aguilar**, '04. **Not pictured: Lindsey Taucher**, '94, advising specialist, School of Behavioral and Social Sciences; **Lisa Hernandez**, assistant professor, University Programs.



## RESEARCH ROUNDUP

**Craig Campbell**, New College assistant professor, was one of 10 teachers chosen from across the United States to visit Jordan last summer as part of the U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad program. During the five-week trip, Campbell attended the Contemporary Arab Culture and Society seminar, visited key archaeological and historical sites in Jordan, and stayed with a Jordanian family to experience the culture firsthand.

The Biology program in the School of Natural Sciences received a \$230,000 grant in Summer 2006 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for student research opportunities in forest and rangeland ecology. The grant was awarded to professors **Allan Hook** and **Bill Quinn**, who will lead the three-year project in which selected students will benefit from a research internship coupled with a related field internship with the U.S. Forest Service.

## DORST DOES JEOPARDY

Last spring, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing **Doug Dorst** appeared on the television game show *Jeopardy*. During five appearances (including the “Tournament of Champions”) in which he won \$72,902, he answered a total of 90 questions on topics ranging from country music to professional football to British royal succession. But which question was hardest? Dorst cites the following as his biggest challenge:



Question: “Shah Jahan, Ranjit Singh and Queen Victoria all possessed a famous one whose name means ‘mountain of light.’”

Answer: What is a diamond?

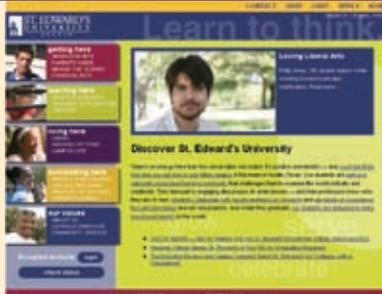
“I spent the better part of the 30 seconds trying to figure out whether it was asking for something specific or general, which is what made it particularly difficult,” says Dorst. “I went with ‘diamond,’ thinking that it wasn't just wrong, but laughably wrong. No one was more surprised than I was to find out otherwise, which, I'm told, was pretty evident to everyone watching.”

## HILLTOP HAPPENINGS

## MAY

**Launch of  
gotostedwards.com ▶**

The new undergraduate admission site went online to help potential Hilltoppers navigate the college search process.

**Peru Immersion Trip**

Thirteen students and four staff members volunteered approximately 800 hours in the poverty-stricken community of Canto Grande, Peru, as part of Campus Ministry's third annual Peru Immersion Experience. During the 10-day trip, students volunteered at Fey Alegria, a primary education facility, and Yancana Huasy, a facility for mentally and physically challenged children and adults.

## JUNE

**◀ Cleary Visit**

Holy Cross Superior General Hugh Cleary visited campus to discuss Holy Cross Institute business and the upcoming beatification of Holy Cross founder Basil Moreau (see story, page 6).

**Brother Richard Daly, CSC, '61,  
Retirement**

A reception honored Brother Richard Daly's 30 years of service to the Texas Catholic Conference.

## JULY

**McNair Summer Research Symposium ▶**

Twenty-one McNair Scholars who participated in a summer research program presented their scientific delvings at this conference on campus.



## AUGUST

**◀ Welcome Days**

St. Edward's feted its 699 new freshmen with two weeks of events that included a luau, barbecues, a Mass of the Holy Spirit, a Soul Food Sunday feast, and a soccer game against new conference rival UT-Permian Basin. In the middle of the celebration, President **George E. Martin** inducted the students into the academic community at the Medallion Ceremony.

## SEPTEMBER

**New Science Building  
Grand Opening**

To the roar of helium-filled balloons exploding under a flame, the tinkle of grapes dipped in liquid nitrogen breaking on the floor, and the sights and sounds of other flashy experiments in progress, the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center-North Building officially opened its doors on Sept. 8. (Read more about the building on page 22.)

**◀ Sept. 11 Memorial Prayer Service**

Students, faculty and staff gathered at Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel for a prayer service in remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001. Campus Ministry led the service.

## ACCOLADES

For the fourth consecutive year, **U.S. News & World Report** recognized St. Edward's University among the top 25 master's-granting institutions in the western region. St. Edward's is one of only four Texas colleges to be ranked in the top 25.

The **College Assistance Migrant Program at St. Edward's** received the **2006 Texas Aguila Award in Education**, given to those who provide confidence and encouragement to the Hispanic community. The award recipients were honored on April 26 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Austin.

St. Edward's ranked among the top 10 universities in the nation for the number of **Gilman Scholars** this year. Five students from St. Edward's were awarded **National Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships** ranging from \$2,600 to \$5,000 for study abroad this fall:

**■ Jesus Beltran, '07**

*Major:* Latin American Studies and International Relations  
*Destination:* Argentina

**■ Randi Butler, '08**

*Major:* English Literature (with German minor)  
*Destination:* Germany

**■ Erik Ferchill, '07**

*Major:* History and International Relations  
*Destination:* Croatia

**■ Sara O'Hearn, '07**

*Major:* International Relations  
*Destination:* United Arab Emirates

**■ Monica Saldivar, '07**

*Major:* International Business and Spanish  
*Destination:* Mexico

The **Academic Planning Support Services** advising program, "A Model for Freshman Academic Success," was selected as one of two Outstanding Institutional Advising Program Certificate of Merit recipients from the **National Academic Advising Association** as part of the 2006 National Awards Program for Academic Advising. The award was presented during the annual NACADA national conference this October.

The **Office of Human Resources** won the **2005 HR Service Excellence Award**, placing third in its category of employers, as a result of an HR customer satisfaction survey conducted in November 2005. The award recognizes the best Human Resources departments in North America by assessing and benchmarking participating HR departments' levels of customer service.

## MOREAU: BEATIFICATION BOUND

**Q&A** In 2007, Basil Moreau, founder of the Congregation of Holy Cross, will be beatified in a convocation to be held in Le Mans, France, where he founded the order. *St. Edward's University Magazine* spoke with **Father Hugh Cleary, CSC, superior general of the congregation**, about what this means for the legacy of Moreau and Holy Cross.

### **What does it mean to be beatified?**

It's the third stage in a process. The first is Servant of God, when the community says, "We want to present this person to the church as a candidate for canonization." A whole study's done on the person's life, and then the next step is Venerable, which Moreau is now. That's where the virtues of his life are examined, and if a miracle's happened, he moves on to Beatified. Under our new pope, the beatified person is something of a saint for his or her community. It's sort of a local canonization. And if there's another miracle after the beatification, then the person is canonized for the whole church, achieving Sainthood.

### **How long has Moreau been a candidate for beatification?**

The process for Moreau began in the 1950s. The Congregation of Holy Cross had the miracle for Moreau, but the process got less attention in those days. Rather than spending the money on beatifications, the church could start a clinic. So in the 1960s, the process was placed on the back burner. Now it's become important again, and only one

miracle is required instead of two. We have that miracle for Moreau — a relic of his was placed on a woman's chest as she nearly died after a stillbirth, and she lived.

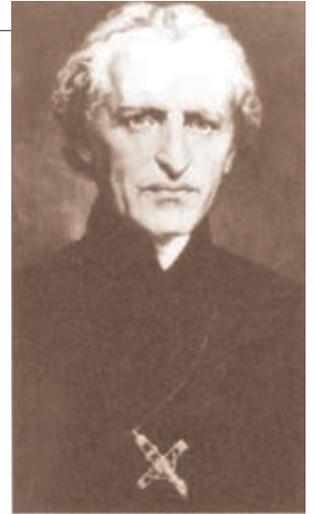
### **What has to happen before Moreau can move on to achieve sainthood?**

Once he's beatified, the worshipful have to ask for a favor from Moreau; they must pray for a miracle. The church will look for a new miracle after 2007, one that will be a result of his beatification. The miracles are usually medically related.

### **Other than to help achieve a miracle, why would people pray to Moreau?**

Because he believed "the cross is our only hope." He said that we have to have hope in the cross even when things seem hopeless. It helps us go that extra mile.

For more information on beatification events, visit [www.holycrosscongregation.org](http://www.holycrosscongregation.org).



## CAMPUS CALENDAR

Nov. 7

**The Most Reverend Bishop John McCarthy Lecture Series on the Catholic Church in the 21st Century** presents Mary Ellen Sheehan, IHM  
5 p.m., Jones Auditorium, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center

Nov. 22–25

**Thanksgiving Holiday Break**

Dec. 1

**Fall 2006 Honors Thesis Symposium**

Featuring students presenting their research and creative efforts in fulfillment of the Honors Program requirements. For more info, visit [www.stedwards.edu/dasx/honors/honors.htm](http://www.stedwards.edu/dasx/honors/honors.htm).  
1–5 p.m., Mabee Ballrooms A&B, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center

Dec. 8

**Festival of Lights**

6–10 p.m., Main Building Lawn

Dec. 16

**Fall Graduation Ceremony**

## A FRESH START

The joys and perils of taking risks to impress teenage girls. The general lack of the Jedi "Force" among teenage boys. People watching at the Department of Motor Vehicles. How one could theoretically subdue the canine residents of a wolf pit with the soothing sounds of vocalist Enya.

These were just a few of the essay topics explored in the applications of this year's 699-member freshman class at St. Edward's. Several of these students have also pursued intriguing interests prior to their arrival on the hilltop, such as:

- Sheep farmer in the Netherlands for a year
- Recording-studio owner
- Member of band signed to a local label
- Graduate of GirlsFilmSchool at College of Santa Fe
- Owner of party-assisting business
- Competitive fencer



STEWART JARMON, '07

The largest and most academically advanced group of freshmen yet, the students have an average of 1129 on their SATs and 51 percent graduated in the top quarter of their high school class.

## HILLTOPPERS GO PRO

From the racetrack to the roller-skating rink, St. Edward's University has left its mark in the world of professional sports. Here are a few of the Hilltoppers who have turned a casual interest in sports into something more.

### Drivers, Start Your Engines

Imagine driving 180 miles an hour in a car whose inside temperature reaches 130 degrees for four straight hours. As you round each turn, four g's push your body and head back against the seat. If you're **Tavo Hellmund, '89**, professional NASCAR driver, it's just another day at work.

Born in Mexico City and raised in Austin, Hellmund graduated from racing high-performance 100-mph karts to quarter midgets (one-quarter-scale midget race cars) in San

Antonio, Houston and Monterrey, Mexico. He explored stock car racing in North Carolina and Formula One racing in Europe before settling on stock cars in the southeast United States.

Hellmund is the only Mexican driver to win in the NASCAR Grand National Division West Series, where he races as an independent without sponsorship. He has a career record of 12 starts, one win, six top-five finishes and seven top-10 finishes.

**America's Pastime: Like Father, Like Son**  
**Terry Puhl** spent 15 seasons as an outfielder for the Houston Astros and Kansas City Royals from 1977 to 1991, earning the highest fielding percentage for an outfielder in league history. Now here comes the son.



LORI MAJWAR, MBA '05

Named to the All-Heartland Conference team the past two seasons with the Hilltopper baseball team, **Stephen Puhl, '06**, (above) was selected by the New York Mets in the 17th round of the 2006 draft in June. Since then he's served as catcher for the Brooklyn Cyclones and the Kingsport Mets, two minor league teams affiliated with the Mets that play on Coney Island and in the Appalachian Mountains, respectively. He also plans to graduate from St. Edward's in December with a BBA in Finance.

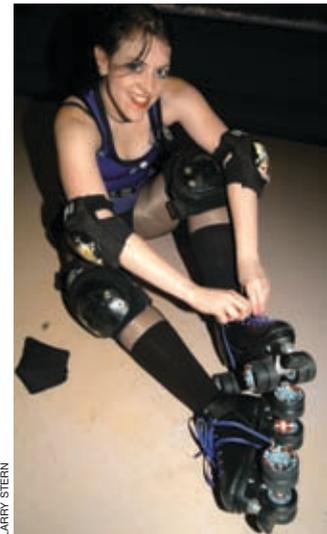
"It started with my dad bringing me up playing the game," Puhl says. "Now, I have the opportunity to show people what I can do on the field."

### Keeping Austin Weird, One Rink at a Time

In a break from their lives and full-time jobs, **Virginia Evans, '01**, aka Cheap Trixie (right); **Jenny Olender, MBA '00**, aka Apocalippz; and Technical Specialist for Mary Moody Northen Theatre **Michelle Heath**, aka Speedy Marie, don their alternate personalities once a month to battle each other at Austin's Playland Skate Center as Texas Roller girls. Made up of four teams and owned and operated entirely by the players, the Roller girls regularly play to sellout crowds of more than 1,000 people. Their bouts have helped renew interest in a sport that involves scoring points by lapping an opposing team. Evans says Texas Roller girls were approached to do the *Roller girls* reality show on the A&E network but decided not to participate, so an alternate league accepted the TV deal.

"We don't want to simply be a gimmick," says Evans. "We want people to know that we're here to stay."

— Hans Christianson



LARRY STERN

## HIGHLIGHTS

### Golf

The **men's golf team** competed in May at the 2006 NCAA Division II Regional Championships in Duncan, Okla., its third appearance at regionals. The team also tied for third at the 2006 NCAA Division II South Central Super Regional Tournament. The **women's golf team** finished third out of six teams at the 2006 NCAA Division II West Regional Tournament in Muskogee, Okla. Sophomore **Allison Kinser** finished fourth at the tournament and competed at the 2006 NCAA Division II Women's Golf National Championships. She tied for 37th. Freshman **Emily Kvinta** was named Heartland Conference Women's Golf Player and Freshman of the Year.

### Softball

Playing in its first NCAA women's softball tournament in program history, the **softball team** advanced to the 2006 NCAA Division II South Central Regional Tournament. The team set a school record for most wins in a season with a total of 45. **Amy Coulter**, softball head coach, was chosen as the Heartland Conference Coach of the Year. Senior **Lindsey Heye** was named the 2006 Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association Division II Third Team All-American.

### Tennis

For the first time in school history, the **men's tennis team** advanced to the Elite Eight in the NCAA Division II tournament with a 5-0 win over Kutztown University at Plaza Tennis Center in Kansas City, Mo. The team was named Heartland Conference champion and made it to the National Championship quarterfinals. Junior **Walter Valarezo** was named Heartland Conference Men's Tennis Co-Player of the Year, and Head Coach **Russell Sterns** was selected Coach of the Year.

### Women's Soccer

The women's soccer team is ranked 21st in the NCAA Division II NSCAA/Adidas National Poll. The team has won four straight matches and outscored opponents 18-1. Victories over 12th-ranked Regis and 26th-ranked Central Oklahoma have highlighted a season that has produced five shutouts for the defense.



## LIBRARY 2.0

Q&A

Guess what word was unanimously voted “most useful” by the American Dialect Society recently. Google. And “most likely to succeed”? Blog. Seeing a trend? Technology has saturated American culture, nowhere more than the modern university, where 73 percent of college students say they prefer the Internet to the library when searching for information, according to a recent study.

What does that mean for today’s university library? Scarborough-Phillips Library Director **Tom Leonhardt** explored that very question last spring during a talk at a national symposium for academic library directors, while serving as chair of the American Library Association’s Committee on Accreditation. Leonhardt, who regularly writes columns for library periodicals *Against the Grain* and *Technicalities* and has edited five books (see “Faculty Bookshelf,” opposite), bypassed the blogosphere and sat down with *St. Edward’s University Magazine* for a good old-fashioned, face-to-face chat.

### How are libraries adapting to technology?

Libraries have always been leaders in providing resources for learning. But software and hardware have come a long way, and they’re pushing things forward even faster. There’s a big move, for example, to totally change the way we do cataloging because people want an online resource that works like Google. It’s what they know, and it’s constantly improving.

### How has technology affected the relationships among librarians, professors and students?

The concept of a “teaching library” was first used in the 1950s and 1960s, when universities saw an influx of students coming through on the GI Bill. Veterans, many of them first-generation college students, needed training to access library resources. These days, new students and faculty members alike are increasingly more tech savvy. They are generally more adept with online and digital resources, and they’re also more demanding about what resources they need from us.

### What will the library of the future look like?

Electronic access to library resources will continue to be a priority, but libraries are also becoming more social places. Students come to the library to study in groups and write papers. Others, particularly older students, want the more traditional silence and solitude. Libraries have to account for both kinds of patrons, providing more meeting areas while also offering quiet spaces like no-computer zones.

### What will the librarian of the future look like?

University librarians will work more directly with faculty members. We’ll meet with them to talk about their syllabi and assignments, and we’ll educate them about the library resources that will be most helpful for their students. We’ll continue making in-class presentations directly to students, but we’ll focus our efforts on freshmen and sophomores. We can’t accomplish a lot in a 50-minute class period, but we can lay the groundwork so that when students are seniors and are typically doing more in-depth research, they’ll remember that we’re here to help.

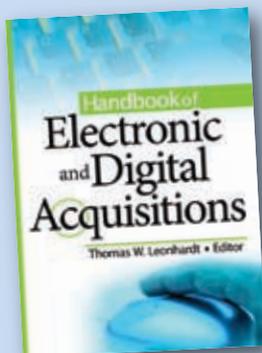


JESSICA ATTIE '04

## FACULTY BOOKSHELF

**Charles Hauser**, assistant professor of Bioinformatics, co-authored the paper “The Generation of a Unigene Family for *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* Using Contiguous Expressed Sequence Tags Verified by Genomic Sequences,” published at the International Conference on Pattern Recognition.

**Tom Leonhardt**, director of Scarborough-Phillips Library, edited his fifth book, *Handbook of Electronic and Digital Acquisitions*, which steers librarians through evaluation, selection and management of electronic resources as they expand their collection-development policies to include electronic databases.



**Stephanie Martinez**, assistant professor of Communication, published “Informative Connections: Enhancing Public Speaking Assignments with Service Learning” in *Communication Teacher*, an anthology. She also reviewed *Risky Rhetoric: AIDS and the Cultural Practice of HIV Testing* by J. Blake Scott in the *Southern Journal of Communication*.

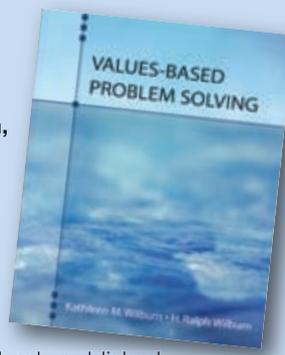
**Catherine Rainwater**, professor of English, published three creative nonfiction essays in *New Texas* and *Fourth River*. She also edits the *Ellen Glasgow Newsletter* twice a year.

**Brian W. Smith**, assistant professor of Political Science, co-authored “Friends of the Earth? Partisanship, Party Control of Congress, and Environmental Legislation in Congress,” which appeared in the March 2006 issue of *Politics & Policy*. Smith also appeared in a number of TV news interviews discussing local elections.



**Kris Sloan**, assistant professor in the School of Education, recently published *Holding Schools Accountable: A Handbook for Educators and Parents*. He also co-edited *Curriculum for a Progressive, Provocative, Poetic and Public Pedagogy*, released earlier this October.

**Kathleen Wilburn**, assistant professor of Management, and **Ralph Wilburn**, assessment coordinator in Institutional Research, have co-authored *Values-Based Problem Solving*. Proceeds from the book, published by Kendall/Hunt, will benefit School of Management and Business scholarships.



## MEET THE SPEAKERS: INSULZA AND GOULDING

Under the leadership of Interim Chair **Joseph S. Tulchin**, the Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance continues its season of international forums with two experts on the United Nations speaking on the future of the organization.

**José Miguel Insulza** was elected in May 2005 to serve a five-year term as secretary-general of the Organization of American States. After taking a lead role in Chile’s political movement toward democratic elections in 1990, Insulza has held a number of high-level government posts, most recently as Chile’s vice president of the republic and minister of the interior.



His lecture, “**The Role of Regional Organizations within the United Nations**,” takes place Monday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center.

**Sir Marrack Goulding, KCMG**, is warden of St. Antony’s College at the University of Oxford, a position he has held since 1997. Previously he served as the United Nations’ under-secretary-general for Special Political Affairs (1986–1993) and under-secretary-general for Peacekeeping Operations (1993–1997). Before joining the United Nations, he served for 27 years in the British Diplomatic Service, mainly in the Middle East and northern Africa and in New York.



His lecture, “**The Role of the United Nations in Conflict Prevention, Management, and Resolution**,” takes place Thursday, Nov. 16, at 7 p.m. in Jones Auditorium, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center.

For more information, contact the Kozmetsky Center at [kozmetkskycenter@stedwards.edu](mailto:kozmetkskycenter@stedwards.edu) or 512-233-1678.

MULTIMEDIA

A roundup of artistic endeavors from within and outside the St. Edward's community.

FILM

Taking the notion of an Austin original to new extremes, the makers of independent film *Fall to Grace* not only shot entirely in East Austin and featured music by local bands, they filled the cast with Hilltoppers. The film, following the stories of three young people, includes a cast with alumni **Bhagarit Crow**, an adjunct instructor of Theater Arts at St. Edward's, **Gabriel Luna, '05** (right, with *Kira Pozehl*), **Jeffery Mills, '02**, **Adriene Mishler, '06**, **Dean Stafford, '06**, and **David Stokey, '95**. Mary Moody Northern Theatre Business Manager **Annie Suite** served as acting coach. Alumni got involved through the efforts of **Vicki Boone**, former MMNT adjunct instructor, and *Fall to Grace* writer/director **Mari Marchbanks**, whose husband, Greg, is a former university trustee. *Fall to Grace* premiered at the 2006 South by Southwest Film Festival in March and opened regionally in theaters in Austin, Seattle, Minneapolis and Atlanta in June and July.



JAY P. LIPA

THEATER



COURTESY OF STEVE MOORE

Imagine a society filled with violence, bigotry and paranoia — in short, a world where clowns are to blame for every ill. This is the premise of *Not Clown*, an original play co-written in 2004 by adjunct instructor **Steve Moore** for his Austin-based Physical Plant Theater. In March, he took the production on the road to New York City for a two-week run at the Off-Off-Broadway Soho Repertory Theatre. The *New York Times* review called *Not Clown* "cunning" and "hilarious." In November, Moore will debut a new work at the Mary Moody Northern Theatre — *Kneeling Down at Noon*. Moore collaborated with 15 Theater Arts student-writers, area Muslims and Islamic scholars to create the original play that explores the religion of Islam.

TELEVISION

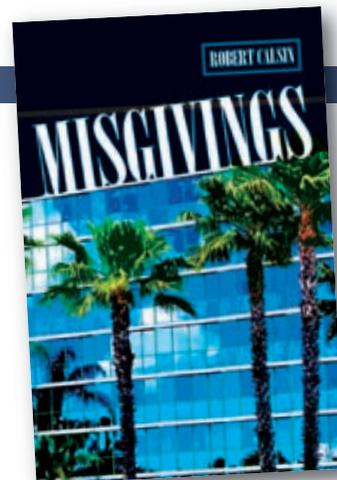
In a way, portraying a train-crash victim impaled against a young woman in an episode of *Grey's Anatomy* that aired in October 2005 wasn't much of a stretch for **Bruce A. Young, '77**. He's played a variety of television and film roles during the last three decades, some equally bizarre: an immortal on *Highlander: The Series*; a police captain in *The Sentinel*; and transvestite prostitute Jackie in *Risky Business* with Tom Cruise. So far this year he's kept the roles more traditional, playing a corrections officer on *Prison Break* and a doctor on *The Unit*.



BOOKS

**Peary Perry, '09**, published his first novel, *Manuel Muldoon*, in July through PublishAmerica. Set in a sleepy Texas town, *Manuel Muldoon* is a mystery involving a naive writer-to-be, a jealous roommate, a crooked banker in league with a crooked cop and a drug-money-laundering operation.

In March, **Robert Calsin, '68** (right), published his first novel, *Misgivings*, a thriller set in the world of high finance, through BookSurge Publishing, a subsidiary of Amazon.com.



FALL 2006 ARTS EVENTS

**THEATER**

Nov. 8–19

***Kneeling Down at Noon***

By Steve Moore and the writers of the Islam Project; directed by Katie Pearl

Mary Moody Northern Theatre  
Wednesday–Saturday, 7:30 p.m.;  
Sunday, 2 p.m.

Austin playwright Steve Moore, (*Nightswim*, *Not Clown*, *The Kindermann Depiction*) accepted this commission to explore Islam, a religion most Americans either don't get or get wrong. Together with 15 student writers (and help from Muslims and scholars of Islam), he has created a new play that honors the gentleness, generosity and grace of this often misunderstood and much-maligned faith.

Dec. 4 and 5

**10-Minute Play Festival**

Mary Moody Northern Theatre  
5 and 8 p.m.

**FINE ARTS**

Oct. 13–Nov. 5

***Queen Takes All: A Song for Paula***

Sculpture by T. Paul Hernandez

St. Edward's University Fine Arts Gallery  
Gallery hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.;  
Sunday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

See story, right.

Nov. 10–Dec. 3

***Down in the River Bottoms/***

***Broadnax Creatures***

Randy Broadnax, a noted Texas ceramic artist, drew from his Louisiana roots for inspiration when creating the Down in the River Bottoms ceramic creatures. Broadnax is particularly noted for his work with raku and salt.

**MUSIC**

Nov. 2–4

***Art Isn't Easy, The Musical Mind of Stephen Sondheim***

Omni Singers

Public, \$8; Staff/Faculty/Students/Seniors, \$5  
7:30 p.m., Mabee Ballroom, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center

Nov. 8

***Instrumental Music Concert***

SEU Jazz Band and Chamber Music

Ensemble

7:30 p.m., Maloney Room, Main Building



LIVING IN WONDERLAND

"If I had to create a scenario to describe my work, it would look like this — Gianlorenzo Bernini rising from the grave to redesign *Peewee's Playhouse* under the direction of Zora Neale Hurston." — T. Paul Hernandez

How's that for an artist's statement? Even for those who catch all his references,

T. Paul Hernandez rarely fails to surprise. The sculptor's latest project is no exception.

*Queen Takes All: A Song for Paula*, on display at the St. Edward's University Fine Arts Gallery through Nov. 5, recreates the imaginary world loosely based on *Alice in Wonderland* that he and his friend Paula dreamed up as children. Like his other pieces, the work blends fanciful images with allegory and a touch of political satire to challenge the order of importance we place on different levels of life forms. (It also includes a sound component created by New York-based musician Carolyn Cremona.)

Hernandez, an associate professor at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, has received four Art in Public Places commissions and a National Endowment for the Arts/Mid-American fellowship in sculpture. He lives in Manchaca, where he operates a studio to produce sculpture that he appropriates from concrete yard statuary, among other influences.

As he put it recently, "I was born on an experimental sweet potato research plantation in Southern Louisiana, and that probably explains a lot."

Nov. 12

***The Ridiculous to the Sublime***  
Madrigal Chamber Choir and University Chorale

7:30 p.m., Maloney Room, Main Building

Nov. 14

**Visiting Writers Series: Naomi Shihab Nye**

7:30 p.m., Mabee Ballrooms A&B

A one-hour reading with the poet, followed by audience questions and a reception.

Nov. 19

**Viva Italia!**

An evening of Italian song and food to benefit the SEU Choral 2007 trip to Italy.

Public, \$15; Staff/Faculty, \$12; Students, \$5

7:30 p.m., Maloney Room, Main Building

Nov. 27

**Vocal Celebration Concert**

7:30 p.m., Maloney Room, Main Building

Learn more about arts events at St. Edward's University by visiting "Calendar" at [www.stedwards.edu](http://www.stedwards.edu) or call:

**Mary Moody Northern Theatre:** 448-8484

**Music Program:** 428-1297

**Fine Arts Gallery:** 448-8685

Reporting by Jeff Benzing, '07, Hans Christianson, Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05, Robin Pier, '08 and Steve Wilson.

GALLERY WATCH

# Thanks

## for the Assist

By Hans Christianson

Step into Student Financial Services at any point in the day and you're not likely to see the same people behind the front desk twice. That's because in the high-speed bustle of a day, the staff of 18 rotates duties, alternating who fields questions about loans, who answers the phones, who accepts tuition payments, and who counsels students and parents on financial matters. It's an efficient way to ensure that amid all the number crunching, one of the busiest offices on campus never loses sight of its mission: to help make a private education affordable.

"Our goal is to provide the best customer service for our students, from the beginning to the end," says **Doris Constantine**, Student Financial Services director. And when she says "beginning," she means it. To help students and parents decide whether they can afford St. Edward's, her staff sends out the first financial award letters in early January to students who have been accepted. Most schools wait until March or April.

Separated into a student services division for awarding financial assistance and an accounts receivable unit for billing and collecting tuition, Student Financial Services is a bit of an anomaly in higher education. Most schools have two separate offices: a financial assistance office and a student accounts office. St. Edward's ran things the same way until Vice President of Financial Affairs **Dave Dickson** combined the two entities in 1996 to maximize service.

The result is "a true merger, not just two operations sharing the same space," says Dickson. When a prospective student applies



DAVID HILL

and is accepted to St. Edward's, he or she is automatically assigned a personal financial advisor, who stays with the student all the way through graduation. For some students, contact with the office stays strictly minimal — it's where they send their tuition payment. Other students rely on the office on a regular basis for student grant counseling, loans and help with additional ways to finance their education.

Student Financial Services also enjoys some of the highest praise on campus — another anomaly. In focus groups conducted by research

firms Scannell & Kurz and the Spelman & Johnson Group, the office received high marks for its customer service from students, alumni and parents. The May 2003 issue of *University Business* magazine touted the office as a model for other colleges and universities.

"It's becoming in vogue for universities to merge their offices like ours, but being trendy has never been our goal," says Constantine. "We strive to be approachable, realistic and nonbureaucratic. I think our students appreciate that." ■



JESSICA ATTIE, '04

# fruits of knowledge

By Hans Christianson

When **Felipe Santos, '82**, and **Janet Wright-Santos, '82**, arrived at St. Edward's in the late 1970s, their lives completely changed. No longer were they traveling across the country five months a year, picking fruits and vegetables from the fields alongside their families and other migrant farm workers. Now they were both first-year students in the university's College Assistance Migrant Program.

"CAMP gave us the opportunity to enter a world vastly different than the one from which we came," says Felipe. "Instead of picking fruits and vegetables and traveling from state to state, we picked the fruit of knowledge from professors and students, who were often from different states and countries."

During this time, Felipe and Janet met. He studied Chemistry, she Criminal Justice. Both say that several of the Holy Cross Brothers and other faculty members had a tremendous effect on them. Janet cites Associate Professors of English **Brother John Perron,**

**CSC**, and **Cecil Lawson, '76, Brother William Dunn, CSC**, and Professor of English **Virginia Dailey** as faculty members who had a particular impact on her life.

"CAMP rescued me from the fields, but St. Edward's saved me," she says. "For the first time in my life, I learned that my community wasn't divided by railroad tracks like Belle Glade, Fla., where I grew up. My community was the whole world. This is something I try to pass on to my own children every day."

Felipe went on to earn his MD from the Baylor College of Medicine in 1986, and Janet received a Master of Social Work from Barry University in 1990. But their involvement with CAMP didn't stop after they left St. Edward's. Felipe, now a board-certified neurologist in Corpus Christi with his own practice, Ambulatory Adult Neurology, and Janet, the practice's office manager, have made gifts to CAMP totaling more than \$50,000. One of the gifts in 2005 (the same year they

received the Distinguished Alumni Award at Homecoming) gave all of that year's CAMP students the opportunity to attend the Mary Moody Northen Theatre production of *César and Ruben*, a play written by actor Ed Begley Jr. about the friendship between migrant-farmworker-rights activist César Chávez and *Los Angeles Times* columnist Ruben Salazar.

While the couple gives back in other ways — through a small business program that helps underprivileged students at Texas A&M and through Janet's volunteer efforts at various Corpus Christi nursing homes — CAMP and the access to knowledge it gave them remains a focus of their attention. "Education is what provides hope for a better world," says Felipe. "Education is the great equalizer."

Both say they'd like to see current and future CAMP students not only continue to learn once they leave St. Edward's but also remember to help others. As Janet puts it, "The St. Edward's mission is our mission." ■



Fleck Hall (*above*), soon after its construction in 1958; (*opposite*) Fleck as it will be in 2007.

Fleck Hall:  
**Built Fast  
& Made to Last**

By Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05



**W**e've got a lot of work to do.

That was **Holy Cross Brother Simon Scribner's** first thought when he arrived on the hilltop in 1946 with new president **Brother Edmund Hunt, CSC**. Enrollment had plummeted. Buildings were in shambles. The grass needed to be mowed. And 15 million soldiers were returning from overseas, more than 2 million planning to attend college on the GI Bill — some at St. Edward's.

The university needed to expand ... fast.

To accommodate these immediate needs, St. Edward's acquired five temporary — and inexpensive — war surplus buildings from nearby military bases. Opting for speed and durability over aesthetics, administrators also added several permanent structures over the next decade. Fleck Hall, built in 1958 in just nine months, was part of that new construction. Its functional, flat-topped, "concrete shoebox" design accommodated 10 science labs, three classrooms and 13 offices in just 17,000 square feet.

After nearly five decades, however, sturdy Fleck could no longer keep pace with

the university's needs for technology and space. That's why the building was originally scheduled to be demolished when the new John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center-North Building opened this fall (see story, page 22). But architect **Arthur Andersson**, who designed Trustee Hall, the first building completed in the university's master plan in 2002, convinced administrators that Fleck was worth saving.

"Most campuses have these post-World War II workhorses, and on most campuses, nobody likes them," says Andersson. "But these buildings do what they were designed to do expertly: They were easily manufactured and easily constructed, so they are adaptable. They have a defined and consistent grid."

The main selling point was Fleck's foundation. "I wanted everyone to think long term, beyond 30, 40, 50 years. Fleck is concrete; it's built like Rome — and like Rome, it will still be here in 2,000 years," says Andersson. "I wanted to utilize that staying power, to get down to the essential materiality of the building."

Andersson found Fleck so structurally sound, he suggested a third floor — and another 8,000 square feet — featuring glass-walled conference rooms and an executive dining room. The new floor will showcase views of both the heart of campus and downtown Austin. An extended overhang on the south wall will deflect the sun and reduce energy costs.

Just like the Fleck of old, the renovated building will subtly complement the campus's more opulent buildings when it reopens in 2007. "Fleck is always going to be a background building," says Andersson. "It can't compete with the campus *grandes dames*, Main Building and Holy Cross Hall, but we don't want it to. That's not why it was built."

Honoring that original purpose has become the university's goal for many of its older buildings, says Andersson. "Sustainability isn't the easy choice. Figuring out how to keep a building is difficult, especially in our consumption-focused society," he says. "By emphasizing what these structures were designed to do, we can tap into the energy and spirit of the original builders." ■

**Fleck: Old & New**

	1958	2007
Square feet	17,000	25,000
Stories	2	3
Classrooms	3	9
Labs	10	—
Offices	13	11
Conference rooms	—	8
Occupants	School of Natural Sciences	School of Education



LORI NAJVAR, MLA '05

# Science and Theology: Enemies, Friends or Partners?

By Edward Shirley

**Edward Shirley** (above) and **Charles Hauser** co-teach a section of Freshman Studies called “Science and Theology: Enemies, Friends or Partners?” Growing steadily over the past five years, the class has reached 115 freshmen this year. St. Edward’s University Magazine asked Shirley to share his views on why everybody’s so interested in science and theology these days.

A major source of knowledge on both science and theology for many freshmen is the popular media, whose coverage is usually non-nuanced, is dichotomized and misses the point. For example, it is not unusual even in 2006 to read that recent curriculum controversies over creationism boil down to “the old religion versus science question.” The fact that most Christian denominations do not take the two creation stories in Genesis literally and have no problem with the theory of evolution gets ignored. That’s because it ignores the fact that such cases often involved “scientists” on the creationism side and Scripture scholars and theologians on the “evolution side” — which doesn’t fit our black-and-white view of the world.

The nuance-free mediascape in which students have been raised does not mean

they lack strong views. In fact, students can be afraid of science but have no problem making bold theological declarations. They are often, at best, intellectual “schizophrenics” who bifurcate their knowledge — putting religion in one area of their brain and science in another. It is not unusual to hear statements from them like “I believe the scientific theory of evolution but also believe that the world was created in six literal days.” At worst, they feel they must reject one point of view or the other: Either they retreat into a primitive, pre-scientific worldview, or they jettison religion without thinking through the decision.

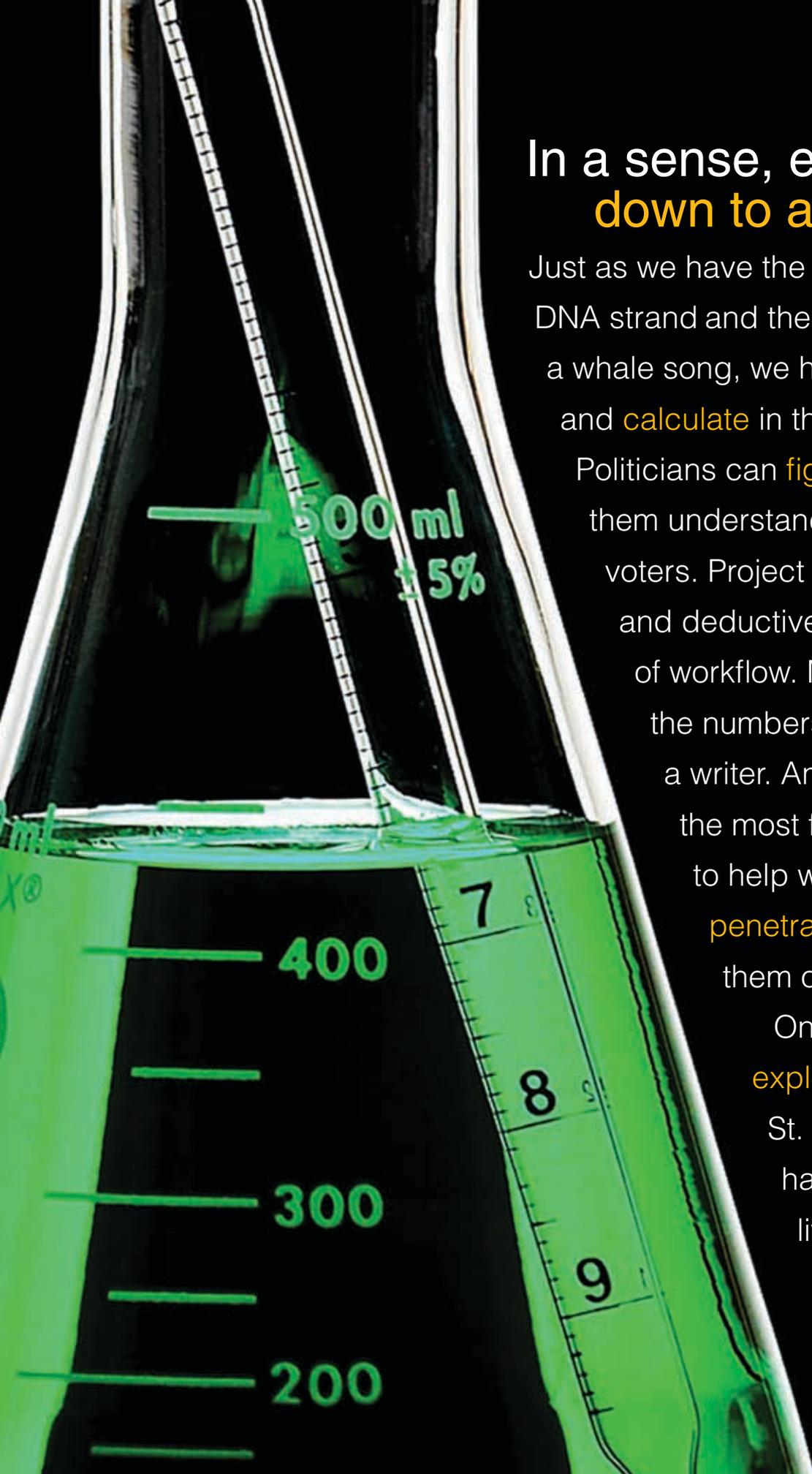
The class we teach focuses on science and theology, not science and religion. Theology is an academic discipline; religion is not. While science methodically studies the physical world, theology methodically studies religious questions. It is important for students to realize the possibilities and limits of both disciplines. Science and theology both explore the world in an orderly way, are grounded in a “received” body of knowledge and respond to new experiences in a systematic manner. For example, “Electrons revolve around the nucleus of an atom” is not science, nor is

“Christians believe in the Trinity” theology. These are statements that are results of long investigative processes. Students need to understand those processes to know the world around them.

But is there a relationship between science and theology? And if so, what is the nature of that relationship? Does the fact that they exist in distinct intellectual realms make them incompatible? Is it possible that they share a relationship like that between seeing and hearing — different structures and functions, but together giving a fuller experience of the world around us?

Chuck and I don’t give answers; we just introduce students to the questions. By the end of the semester, students should have a more sophisticated approach to both science and theology. And perhaps a more nuanced view of the world. ■

*“Hilltop Voices” features perspectives on the St. Edward’s experience in the words of students, alumni, faculty and other members of the university community. Send in an essay for consideration by e-mailing [stevew@stedwards.edu](mailto:stevew@stedwards.edu).*



## In a sense, everything comes down to a science.

Just as we have the eyes to **see** the art in a DNA strand and the ears to **hear** the music in a whale song, we have the minds to **quantify** and **calculate** in the least-expected places. Politicians can **figure** out formulas to help them understand the seeming whims of voters. Project managers can **apply** logic and deductive reasoning to the chaos of workflow. Mathematicians can **run** the numbers underlying the words of a writer. And educators can **engineer** the most favorable conditions to help women and minorities **penetrate** the barriers that keep them out of fields like ... science.

On the following pages, **explore** how people from the St. Edward's community have **experimented** in their lives and careers — and **achieved** favorable results.

## JOINING THE CLUB

The 1950s were a great time to be in science and engineering ... for white males. The number of jobs in the field grew an average 17 percent in that decade, according to the National Science Foundation, yet women and minorities remained woefully underrepresented.

Today, this historical trend hasn't exactly been reversed, but it has been steered in a better direction. Since 2000, women have received half of all science and engineering degrees, while minorities have completed 28 percent. At St. Edward's University alone, more than half of all School of Natural Sciences students are women, and 51 percent are ethnic minorities. Here's a look at two students and an alumna who have found a place in a once-exclusive club.

# PILLI POWER

By Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05

About 15,000 people — “everyone who’s anyone in the study of bacteria, fungi and viruses,” according to reports from the science blogosphere — got together in May to hash through the latest research from the microbiology world. That hot-topics list included work coming out of one particular lab at St. Edward’s University.

Among the more than 2,900 researchers asked to present was **Paulina Hernandez, '08**, who has spent the last year and a half studying a tenacious bacterium called *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. It doesn't need much to survive. It thrives in bodies already weakened by diseases like cancer, AIDS and cystic fibrosis. And it's resistant to most antibiotics. All this adds up to one scary scenario that scientists would love to remedy: *P. aeruginosa* easily infects places it really shouldn't be, like the human lung, burned skin tissue and the blood stream.

### Beyond the Microscope

But when Hernandez took the stage in May to discuss her research on *P. aeruginosa*, she had something a little less weighty on her mind. Namely, a touch of stage fright.

“I started realizing that people from all over the world were going to be there — and people who knew *P. aeruginosa* 10 times better than me were going to ask me questions!” she says. To quell her pre-presentation jitters, the bilingual English and Spanish speaker concentrated on repeating some of the toughest words in her presentation: *agar, agar, agar* (with emphasis on the first “a,” not the second); *assay, assay, assay* (which sounds almost like “essay”). The distraction helped her find her focus.

“In the back of my mind I kept thinking, ‘Why should I be nervous if I know the information I need to present?’” And after logging more than 350 hours in the lab and doing a practice run at the Texas Academy of Science in March, she had indeed mastered the data.

## A Locomotion Notion

Hernandez's research focused on figuring out which of *P. aeruginosa's* 5,570 genes helps the bacteria move across a solid surface — and start causing an infection. *P. aeruginosa* scoots along with the help of tiny fingerlike tendrils called pili. It can also produce a sticky mucus that helps it avoid attacks from the human body's immune system. Scientists think that if they can stop *P. aeruginosa* from producing the pili in the first place, they can slow it down and reduce the infection rate ... or at least the infection's staying power.

Enter Hernandez, who tackled her project with guidance from Assistant Professor of Biology **Patricia Baynham** and funding from Baynham's four-year National Science Foundation grant. Building on an international genetic database of *P. aeruginosa* and research already published by Baynham in the *Journal of Bacteriology*, Hernandez homed in on a particular protein and a set of seven locomotion-causing genes. She replicated *P. aeruginosa's* DNA to get a sample large enough to see whether the protein had bound itself to one of the genes. Binding, she knew, would be one of the first signs that the bacteria could still generate pili.

And one gene did react — but it was one that scientists had already identified as being responsible for creating the slimy, immune system-resistant mucus. Since none of the other genes in her experiment paid attention to the protein, Hernandez deduced they couldn't be working with it to produce pili.

## When Wrong = Right

But a conclusive “no” is sometimes just as important as a “yes,” Hernandez says, and the American Society for Microbiology agreed. The group accepted her research abstract in February and awarded her a scholarship to help cover transportation costs to present at its



KATY ROGERS '08

**Paulina Hernandez, '08**, on the hunt to find out how bacteria get around.

annual conference in Orlando, Fla., in May ... where she found herself dogged by that sudden case of nerves.

But by the time Hernandez made her presentation, she had the pronunciation (and the other particulars) down pat. Though the project was her first research experience, she had learned every step of the research process by doing it herself — from overseeing the DNA replication chain reaction to creating just the right gel mixture to analyze the gene strands. And in some cases, she learned by redoing and re-redoing.

“In the beginning, I would ask myself so many questions. Am I doing it right? Am I remembering everything Dr. Baynham said? But that's the beauty of it — it always goes wrong the first time!” she says. “The

best part was that I was really learning from my mistakes. I was actually applying my knowledge from class to my research. The whole experience challenged and improved my analytical thinking and taught me to brainstorm and solve unforeseen problems.”

## The Clinical Connection

Based on her research, scientists can now move on to study which of the bacterium's remaining 5,563 genes may interact with the protein to produce pili. But Hernandez is moving on to study more complex organism: humans. When she graduates in 2008, she plans to attend medical school. To help prepare for the strenuous application process, she spent the summer in West Texas completing two internships, one at El Paso's Providence Hospital and one across the border at the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social in Juárez, where her father works as a doctor.

Unlike the lab, where she was one step removed from the patients her work might ultimately help to save, her work at the hospitals offered a direct connection. During her 11-week internships, she helped with everything from giving out medications and monitoring neonatal patients to changing bandages and cleaning wounds.

“I like talking to patients because they always have an interesting story. Many have few resources and a vision of life very different from mine,” she says. “I always learn something new — not only medically, but a wealth of wisdom about life.”

There's another bonus, too: Her patients aren't interested in all the scientific jargon; they just want her to care for them. ■

# TROPICAL paradigm

By Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05

**Xenia Saavedra, '86**, leans against a lanky mangrove tree and carefully positions her muddy boots in the spaces between its tangled ball of roots. Sweaty and covered in thick grime, she unwraps a homemade sandwich and takes a bite. Then the mosquitoes descend, a swarming armada of pea-sized bombers. They want a taste, too ... of her.

Aggravating? No, beautiful, says Saavedra, who found herself among the mangroves and mosquitoes in the early 1990s as a data manager technician for the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute's Oil Spill Project. Even while documenting the devastation — a storage tanker spilled 38.3 million liters of crude oil into the Isthmus of Panama's north shore in 1986 — Saavedra was most struck by the area's overwhelming peacefulness. Despite oil still flowing through the water in some places, she found small but hopeful signs of recovery among the mangrove forests, sea grasses, coral reefs and algae. She also found "a passion for what I do."

That passion has permeated her career at STRI since she returned to her native Panama after earning degrees in Biology and Computer Science at St. Edward's. Before joining the oil spill project, she managed data for a STRI initiative that studied iguana behavior and taught *campesinos*, local farmers, to improve their livelihoods by raising the lizards rather than destroying their rainforest habitat for subsistence farming. She also spent seven years helping to analyze how the Isthmus of Panama's rise from the ocean floor some 3 million years ago has affected everything from human migration to South America to coral reef creation in the Caribbean.

Gathering ecological data for a living has given Saavedra an appreciation for something a little less concrete ... her own purpose. "Working with information that is millions of years old makes you think about your own life and what you want to do with the little piece that's awarded to you," she says. Thanks in part to that realization, she gave up field work and "feeling the science in my hands" in 1999 for an administrative position. The new role offered her the chance to "understand the institution, not only the project. I can see who's doing what on the terrestrial side, on the marine side, and what initiatives are to come."

These days, as STRI's scientific project manager, she coordinates what scientists in the field need for the institute's more than 500 projects and reports back to Smithsonian headquarters in Washington, D.C. And while she's developed a broader perspective of STRI's mission, she says the challenge is getting others to see the value. "An engineer once asked me, 'What good are all those projects studying a bee or a plant for hours? What does investing so much money do for us?'" she says. "I can't comprehend how divorced many people are from their own Earth. If they could understand, they could help save our planet, our water, our forests — everything." ■



COURTESY OF XENIA SAAVEDRA, '86

Jungle love fuels the work of **Xenia Saavedra, '86**, at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.



JASON JONES

Dahlia Campbell, '07, follows her nose to a future PhD.

# sweet smell of science

By Robin Pier, '08

As a child, **Dahlia Campbell, '07**, had a peculiar fascination. She wanted to know what substances made up products such as perfumes and cosmetics. By the time she reached college, she'd learned they had a name for people like her: chemists.

Growing up poor in Westmoreland, Jamaica, presented challenges to Campbell's education, but with her family's encouragement she always managed to come out at the top of her classes. When it came time to seek higher education, she went to live with her father in the United States and enrolled at St. Edward's University.

Awarded Title V and Welch Foundation research scholarships her first two summers after enrolling, Campbell spent 10 weeks last summer conducting research through a McNair Scholarship, which helps minority, low-income and first-generation students plan for graduate study. For the program, she turned down offers from Ohio State and

Purdue universities to conduct research at Michigan State.

Last year at St. Edward's, she satisfied her childhood curiosity when she studied what goes into a bottle of perfume. She bought two bottles of Black by Kenneth Cole, one at Wal-Mart for \$35 and one at Nordstrom for \$65. Using a gas chromatograph to separate the components of each bottle and a mass spectrometer to identify those materials, she compared the ingredients to see if the Nordstrom version was worth the extra money. Campbell found a few differences between the perfumes, but not as many as she had expected. "If I were to continue this research, my question would be whether the differences are significant enough to cause such a huge difference in the prices," she says.

At Michigan State, Campbell studied the opposite end of the aroma spectrum when she used the gas chromatograph and mass spectrometer to find a unique chemical

"fingerprint" for identifying diesel samples, which could be used to help forensic scientists solve crimes.

When her program ended at Michigan State, Campbell presented the diesel research at the McNair Scholars conference there. She'll also present it at the National McNair Conference in Wisconsin this November. She's presented her perfume research with **Henry Altmiller**, professor of Chemistry, at the McNair Scholars Conference and Welch Conference at St. Edward's, at the University of Maryland, and at the American Chemical Society National Conference. Campbell plans to graduate in Fall 2007 and pursue a PhD in Chemistry. After that, she hopes to teach at the university level and continue her research in forensic and analytical chemistry.

"My family believed that I should study here in the United States," she says. "They were right when they thought I would find more opportunities to achieve what I wanted to do." ■

When most people think of science labs, one of two images comes to mind: a mad scientist rattling around the stone floor of a dimly lit space or researchers in radiation suits handling smoking beakers with tongs in a sterile white room. The design of the Biology and Chemistry labs in the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building at St. Edward’s shatters both these stereotypes.

# The Science



# of Design

by Hans Christianson

On opening its doors in August, the newly constructed John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building gave students and faculty members alike a taste of the next generation in science labs. Each room comes decked out with blond wood cabinets and ample windows — the tabletops are the darkest features. To anyone passing by, the labs display science at work: professors and students engaged in upper-level experiments with high-tech equipment. The architects call this approach “see-through science.”

## This isn't your grandfather's science lab

Demos, a British think tank, popularized this new movement in 2004 with its 72-page pamphlet *See-through Science: Why Public Engagement Needs to Move Upstream*. This influential work encouraged the worldwide scientific community to work at increasing public understanding and support for science. That philosophy fits the School of Natural Sciences' goal to engage science majors and non-majors alike.

“Our desire is to invite students to science and give them a chance to interact with the equipment and experiments, even if it's from a distance,” says **Charlie Bicak**, dean of the School of Natural Sciences. “We want to provide a window to the world of science.” To that end, the building places upper classman labs on the ground floor, while lower classman labs and general classrooms live on the second floor. “As first- and second-year students walk by the upper-division labs, they'll get a sense of where they'll be headed in a few years,” says Bicak. “They'll see the close working relationship between faculty members and students.”

The building's greenhouse complex was created with just such a working relationship in mind. Located on the third floor overlooking Woodward Street, the complex (named in honor of Biology Professor Emeritus **Jimmy Mills**) contains two separate greenhouses, allowing students and faculty members to conduct simultaneous research in differing climates.

## It takes a science faculty to design a building

Plans for a new science facility on campus, the first in more than 40 years, began in August 2001 during a weeklong Natural Sciences faculty retreat. The school had outgrown Fleck Hall, its home since 1959. Research Facilities Design, a Santa Monica-based architectural firm with a specialty in science buildings, came up with a design that met everyone's needs: multiple smaller labs for Biology, one large lab for Chemistry and state-of-the-art, comfortable classrooms for everyone.

“The university wanted to create a hands-on laboratory environment for students,” says RFD architect Rick Heinz. “We designed all of the classrooms and labs to support and integrate technology like audio-visual equipment into the teaching model.”

Another architecture firm based in Santa Monica, Moore, Ruble & Yudell, took the plans and got to work on the structure's overall design and schematics. As the process moved forward, the designers and the university came to agree that they had a fairly complex building on their hands. The Biology and Chemistry “wet” labs needed

special ventilation and plumbing, while the Computer Science and Physics “dry” labs required intense wiring and other technology. The best solution they found: keep them separate. The north building houses Biology, Chemistry and related programs. The south building, slated for 2010 (*see story on page 24*), will contain Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics.

## Making campus safe for science

With the addition of the center to campus, the School of Natural Sciences expects to see an increase in science majors — and it's ready. Three of the five classrooms in the north building are designed to be converted into lab space when the need arises. Other rooms will also house general science students and classes from other schools and disciplines like French, Psychology and History.

“We want people to see this building as a universitywide resource,” says Bicak. “It's a place where students will feel comfortable spending time.” ■

LORI INALVAR, MIA '05

# STATS

7,600 SQUARE FEET OF GLASS ■ 121 WINDOWS ■ 9 MILES OF PIPING ■ 17 LABS  
■ 3,800 CUBIC YARDS OF CONCRETE ■ 550 TONS OF STEEL ■ 235,000 BRICKS ■  
3 DAYS TO RELOCATE CHEMICALS ■ 18,000 SQUARE FEET OF METAL ROOF SHINGLES



The Dr. Jimmy T. Mills Greenhouse Complex, located on the roof of the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center—North Building, has automated shades that help regulate temperature.



## South Building: Cool and Dry

By Hans Christianson

It's 2010.

At a computer lab in the newly opened south building of the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center, a Computer Science student executes a complicated command. Too complicated, as it turns out. The screen goes black. System crashes in this near future are common enough; the difference is that this particular mishap doesn't take out nearby computers. The student has connected to a so-called sandbox server isolated from the others, allowing him to write and develop programs without the danger of crashing the main servers. This is just one of many advanced features planned for the \$15 million south building scheduled to open in 2010.

Designed for the “dry” sciences — Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics — the building will feature general classrooms outfitted with computer workstations, math tutoring and research labs, and a seminar room, along with a general physics lab and faculty office space. An expansive 200-seat auditorium will accommodate campus gatherings and lectures.

A \$7.5 million gift from the estate of Houston businessman John Brooks Williams, owner of Markle Steel Company, funded much of the center's north building. The estate followed with two additional gifts toward construction of the south building, bringing the total commitment from the estate to \$12.5 million. Williams' longtime friend, university trustee **John H. Bauer, '62** served as executor of Williams' estate.

- 70 BOXES OF CHEMISTRY GLASSWARE TRANSPORTED
- 950 KINDS OF CHEMICALS MOVED IN 60 55-GALLON DRUMS
- 14,000 SQUARE FEET OF STAINED CONCRETE FLOORS

## Challenges of the transfer

By Robin Pier, '08

When relocating from Fleck Hall to the John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building, faculty and staff members only went from one end of campus to the other. But they may as well have moved across the country, given the trickiness of transporting chemicals, equipment and specimens accumulated over decades.

### Chemicals

To safely handle a huge cache of potentially volatile compounds, the program hired San Antonio–based Clean Harbors Environmental Services. Under the direction of Chemistry Professor **Eamonn Healy**, the company divided the chemicals into five categories — general, flammable, corrosive, oxidizing and high hazard (these being either highly toxic or highly explosive) — before getting to work.

After packaging and shipping 280 pounds of expired chemicals for disposal before the move, Clean Harbors placed the rest of the collection into 60 55-gallon drums sealed on the top with vermiculite. In all, it took the company three days to move more than 950 different chemicals.

### Equipment

As if packing and moving 70 boxes of glassware and a wide array of delicate research-grade scientific instrumentation wasn't challenging enough, there was the very expensive nuclear spectrophotometer to think about. Movers attached the device to a hydraulic lift and, with arduous care, lifted it onto the bed of a truck for a protracted drive to its new home — where they repeated the process in reverse.

Professors and students moved most of the other equipment on their own, though the job was not without its risks. "Everything in Fleck is rickety, even the ladders in the Biology stockroom," says Associate Professor of Biology **Fidelma O'Leary**. "I bubble-wrapped a student, **Paulina Hernandez, '08**, to prevent injury. We picked her up and placed her on a stool — she became the 'Statue of Liberty from Fleck labs.'"

### Specimens

Everything from snakes and fish to vertebrate skeletons and preserved organs managed to survive the transfer. Biology Professor **Bill Quinn** also had to divvy up a collection of pressed plants — some as old as 180 years — and transport them box by box.

### Faculty

Professors who moved into their offices right away had to deal with the noise of almost-finished construction, causing a few headaches. O'Leary says, "It was so noisy, you could see people's lips moving but couldn't hear a word."

Even so, the faculty found some degree of fun amid the chaos. Administrative Coordinator **Laura Munoz** and O'Leary took a break one day to play bubble-wrap football. "One of us would brace behind a roll of bubble wrap, and the other would charge," says O'Leary. "Moving the roll and opponent across a line meant victory. I won, only because my running shoes offered way more traction than Laura's shoes." ■



PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS, '08



The work of Charles Hauser (*center*), assistant professor of Bioinformatics, places him at the nexus of several disciplines. Anna Unruh, '10, and Richard Ragland, '10, help him with a project.

# The New Scientist

Charles Hauser and the Bioinformatics Revolution

by Hans Christianson

On any given day, Assistant Professor of Bioinformatics **Charles Hauser** is one busy scientist. Depending on the project, he might be hanging out in the Computer Science Advanced Computing Lab generating phylogenetic profiles, examining 3-D models of proteins, or working in the lab with students to determine the role genomic modeling plays in sustained algal H<sub>2</sub> photoproduction with help from the Natural Renewable Energy Lab in Colorado. As a bioinformatician, he interacts with scientists from disciplines that traditionally have had little in common. When he says, “Everyone brings a different perspective,” it’s not just an opinion: It’s the operating principle of his field.

If you're not familiar with bioinformatics, you're not alone. A recent *New York Times* story describes the discipline as "a word people remember because they don't know what it means." A relatively new field, bioinformatics combines elements of biology and the computational sciences to give scientists statistical tools to sift through copious amounts of data.

Bioinformatics has recently taken on greater prominence due in part to its role in the completion of the Human Genome Project in 2003. The project, a joint effort between the U.S. Department of Energy and the Human Genome Research Institute, set out to sequence all of the genes in the human body. The human genome contains the field guide to the body's complete DNA structure — 3 billion base pairs spread throughout 23 chromosomes. "This is the first step in getting everything in the human body mapped out," says Assistant Professor of Biology **Patricia Baynham**, whose own projects have benefited from this field. "We still have to research what particular genes are causing which diseases, but now we know where to find them."

While many scientists have traditionally worked in isolated research, the Human Genome Project created a need for cooperation across several disciplines. Hauser, a molecular biologist and biochemist, got into Bioinformatics when he worked on a project with the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute sequencing algal genes under a variety of environmental stress conditions.

"None of us knew how to pull it off," Hauser says. "We all ended up learning new skills like programming and statistics and building databases. That's how most scientists get involved with Bioinformatics, through either need or necessity."

The discipline fills a growing need at a time when the role of all scientists is changing. Bioinformatics, by drawing on expertise across the natural sciences, provides new tools to analyze the large sets of data generated by the science of genomes and genes.

Recruiting has already begun for the next generation of bioinformaticians. The Bioinformatics program at St. Edward's is one of just 17 programs selected to participate in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Genomics Education Partnership. Through a partnership with Washington University and the Genomic Sequencing Center, Bioinformatics students at St. Edward's work as part of a larger research team working on the sequencing and annotation of part of a genome.

At St. Edward's, students choose from one of three areas of specialization within the Bioinformatics field:

- Biomathematics teaches students the quantitative skills to tackle such problems as the development of mathematically modeling ecosystems and physiological processes.
- Genomics provides students the experimental and computational research skills for fields in which scientists are working to understand how cellular systems function in contrast to individual genes.
- Simulation and Modeling trains students to use advanced computer skills in modeling and programming to work in network simulations, artificial intelligence and structural genomics, to name a few.

Bioinformatics appeals to students with a unique set of interests, says Hauser. "The ideal student is drawn to biological questions and is comfortable with computational tools."

While Bioinformatics doesn't offer a panacea for all that ails humanity, the field's greatest achievement so far, the Human Genome Project, has led to a much better understanding of several of the most complex diseases humans face.

"It's really unlocking doors," says Hauser. "Humans will always be under attack from pathogens and disease, but we are all currently building a much better understanding of how the wars are won and lost."

bioinformatics:  
a word  
people  
remember  
because they  
don't know  
what it means

# Bioinformatics

at St. Edward's  
Despite the newness of the discipline and the program, St. Edward's hosts a number of Bioinformatics-related research projects.



**Genomics:** **Charles Hauser**, assistant professor of Bioinformatics (*left*), and **Sharon Weber**, assistant professor of Computer Science, are collaborating on a project to construct phylogenetic profiles for the unicellular green alga, *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*. Weber and Computer Science alumnus **Cameron Rivers, '06**, made an algorithm in the university's Advanced Computing Lab that Hauser and students use to identify protein sequences from comprehensive databases.



**Molecular Modeling:** **Peter King** (*right*), assistant professor of Biology, **Eamonn Healy** (*left*), professor of Chemistry, and Hauser are exploring potential drug interactions with HIV integrase, one of four enzymes found in the virus. King acts as lead investigator, while Healy provides computer modeling. They hope to predict how mutations in integrase will affect the binding of integrase-inhibiting drugs due out next year for AIDS patients. Hauser will determine the frequency of the mutations.



**Biomathematics:** **Michael Saclolo** (*right*), assistant professor of Mathematics, advises Mathematics major **Daliah Maurer, '06** (*left*), on a project that examines pre-existing models of HIV to determine how well they mimic the function of the real thing. King provided the Biology background and initial direction for the project. ■

PHOTOS BY DAVID HILL



THE SCIENCE  
GETTING OF  
ELECTED

by Hans Christianson

The **FIRST RULE OF POLITICS** is to get elected. The second rule of politics is to stay elected. How you tackle these challenges is all in the details. Just ask this cross-section of politically involved alumni and faculty from St. Edward's.

### STEP 1

#### Understand the Swing of Things

No candidate will ever attract every voter, but he or she can even the odds with leg work, says Professor of Political Science **Neal Wise**. Candidates must sort available voters into three categories: safe, leaning and competitive. The safe voter will go with a straight party candidate, generally Republican or Democrat; the leaning voter may have traditionally gone for one party in the past but is open to switching sides; and the competitive voter is the most lucrative and the hardest to get — with no established party affiliation and little to no voting record. In other words, the “swing voter.”

“Everyone wants to know how to win the swing voters,” Wise says. If people aren't motivated by party label or issues, they often will focus on a candidate's image. “Do I like this candidate?” “Can I relate to this candidate?” Perception is everything. In the current political climate of red and blue states, the new swing voter may be the independent voter, he says.

Texas State Rep. **Dennis Bonnen**, '94, has his own strategy for attracting voters — he makes a point to reach out to all of them, whether they voted for him or not. You never know who the most influential person in a room will be, Bonnen says. It could be the farmer in the overalls who knows everyone in town or the college student who has never voted before but is looking for a candidate to support in an upcoming election.

#### Establish Home Base

Identifying with a particular group of voters has always been crucial to a successful campaign. In the 2004 presidential election, Howard Dean picked up nomination steam from younger voters with his antiwar message while President George W. Bush lobbied heavily for the vote of evangelical Christians and residents of the heartland. In Texas District 21, congressional challenger John Courage is building his base in Austin among college students with the help of Communication major **Meredith Adams**,

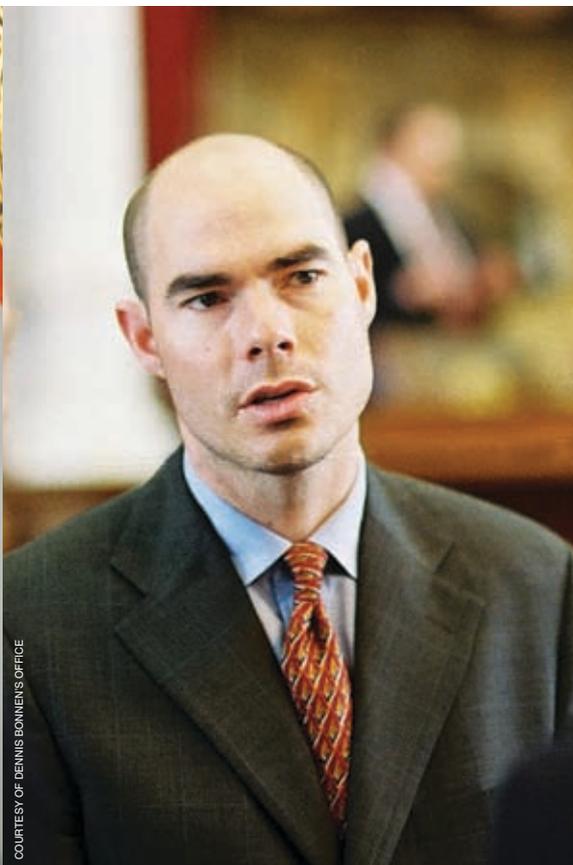
'07, who spent six months as his campaign's communications director.

### STEP 3

#### Say It With the Internet

The Internet has changed the way campaigns attract potential voters — candidates must now promote their message to voters who scan their news rather than read it. While Travis County Commissioner **Margaret Gomez**, '91, MLA '04, hasn't completely abandoned traditional marketing methods such as brochures and fliers, she diligently maintains a web site with her stance on issues. “I know that people won't read everything, so I keep the messages clear and concise, and I point them to my web site,” she says.

To court techno-minded voters and better understand their concerns, Courage met with bloggers at the Democratic State Convention. With help from Adams, he runs [courageforcongress.org](http://courageforcongress.org) and targets students ([studentswithcourage.com](http://studentswithcourage.com)), environmentalists ([conservationwithcourage.com](http://conservationwithcourage.com)), and veterans ([veteranswithcourage.com](http://veteranswithcourage.com)).



(from left to right): Margaret Gomez, '91, MLA '04, Dennis Bonnen, '94, and Meredith Adams, '07, plug into electorate power.

“ In the current political climate of red and blue states, the new swing voter may be the independent voter ”

— Neal Wise, professor of Political Science

President Bush even though he actively campaigned for them, while in 2000, Al Gore refused campaign help from then-President Bill Clinton.

In the Courage campaign, Adams faces the daunting obstacle of promoting a “blue state” candidate in “red state”—Texas. Her strategy is simple: get away from polarizing labels like Democrat and liberal and focus instead on the person. “When people think about John Courage, we want them to remember three things about him: He’s a teacher, husband and veteran,” she says.

more breathing room with her four-year term, typically spending the first three years dealing with the daily duties of her job as a county commissioner and saving the next campaign for the final year. On a localized nonpartisan level like the Round Rock school board, board President **Diana Maldonado, '00**, navigates difficult education issues the district and community and doesn’t stop until the next election every three years. The approach helped her win a second term this year.

“Our local issues are impacted by decisions made by state legislators,” says Maldonado. “So when constituents get upset with taxes and issues, we’re the first on the line of fire.”

Bonnen and Gomez face an additional obstacle: working with openly partisan colleagues. It’s something they’ve both faced before. “It’s important to remember that we’re not elected to just represent one party,” Bonnen says. “We represent everyone in our district, and however you vote on an issue, you want to be sure you’re comfortable explaining it to the Rotary Club back home.” ■

### Deal With the Baggage

STEP 4

As campaigns pick up momentum, candidates must often balance their personal stance on issues with attacks on their character and inevitable fallout from the baggage of their party’s less popular votes in Washington, D.C. Wise says that hot-button issues and party faux pas may not be as important on the local level, but can be damaging on a national level. For instance, during this campaign season, some Republican congressional candidates have distanced themselves from

### Keep on Running

STEP 5

The challenges don’t end after a successful election. Candidates like Bonnen, who serve two-year terms, if elected, must prepare for the next election cycle soon after Election Day. Along with cultivating and maintaining support among constituents in his district, he has to be in Austin regularly to work and vote on legislation. Gomez enjoys a little

# THE SCIENCE

# of Project Management

By Steve Wilson

1

*In a business world rapidly transformed by technology, worldwide competition and other factors, project managers are the people who can get things done. That's why they make \$90,000 a year on average.*

4

*Here's a taste of how project managers organize and oversee a project. This is just the first step: defining the project.*

2

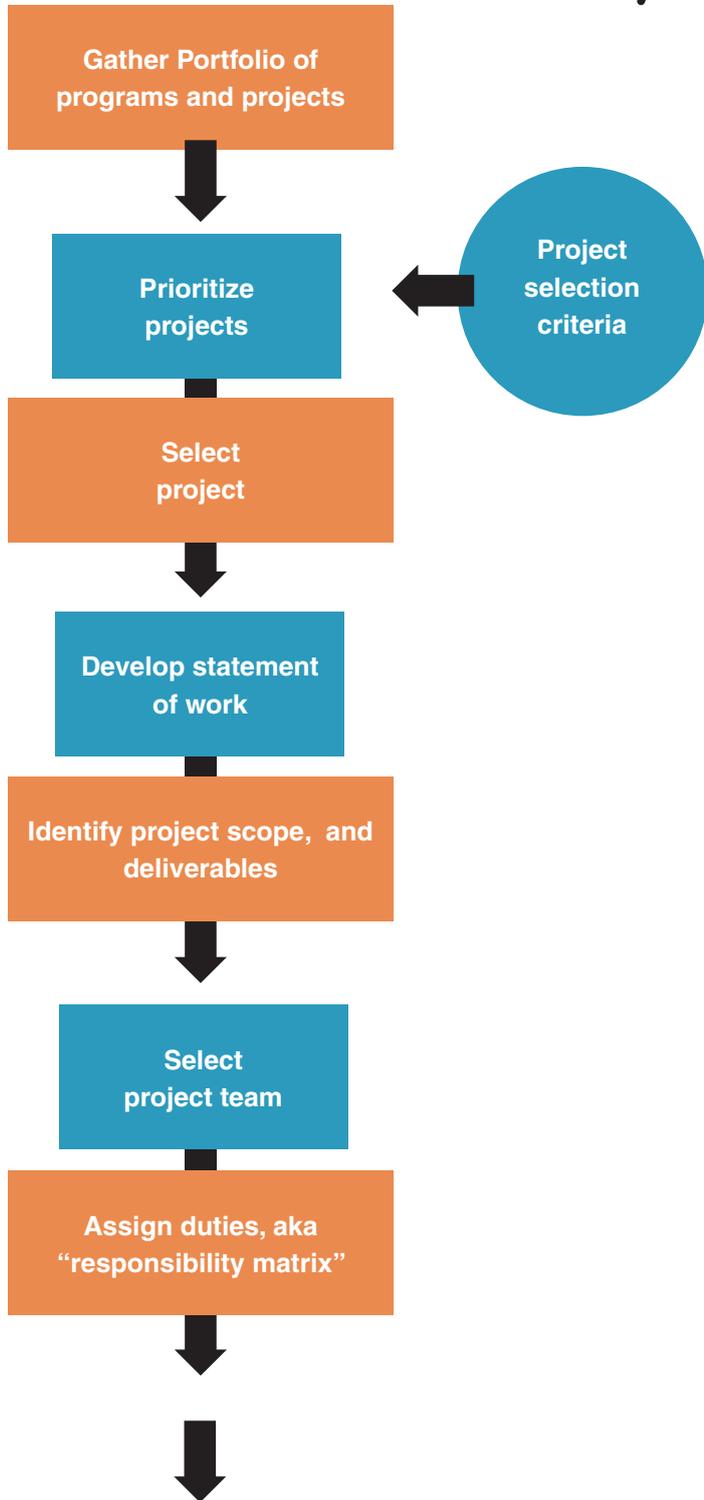
*The number of people in the field keeps growing. Membership in the Project Management Institute has more than doubled since 2003.*

3

*To meet the demand in this field, the School of Management and Business introduced a master's degree in Project Management this fall.*

# PLANNING A PROJECT

## Step 1: Project Definition



5

*It gets even more complicated after this. The more complex a project, the harder the steps are to follow.*

*To achieve that level of expertise, project managers need certificate-level training and, even better, a master's degree, says School of Management and Business professor John Loucks, director of the project Management program at St. Edward's.*

6

*"More and more companies realize that today's projects have become so involved, they need more than someone with common sense to get them done," says Loucks. "They're looking for someone with the education to do it right."*

*To learn more about the program, contact Loucks at [johnsl@stedwards.edu](mailto:johnsl@stedwards.edu).*

## Step 2: Project Planning



WRITE BY NUMBER

# The Science of Creativity

By Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05

**F**ounding father James Madison would probably feel vindicated if he were alive today. William Shakespeare might be a little anxious. And Jackson Pollock would probably ... well, he'd probably throw a little paint around.

Why? Stylometry, the evolving science of measuring creativity. Thanks to the analytical power of modern computers, scientists can now take creative works — books, plays, paintings, musical compositions — and quantify

things we often think of as immeasurable, like literary style or paintbrush technique.

It's really nothing new, says **Michael Saclolo**, assistant professor of Mathematics. "You can take any characteristic — a cultural tradition, a DNA sequence, a linguistic phenomenon — and trace its evolution. Those methods have been around a long time," he says. "Only now, we have newer, faster tools."

Case in point: Madison, Shakespeare and Pollock. Over the years, scholars had unmasked the "anonymous" authors of all but 12 of the 85 essays in the Federalist Papers. Thanks to various stylometric tools, it's now

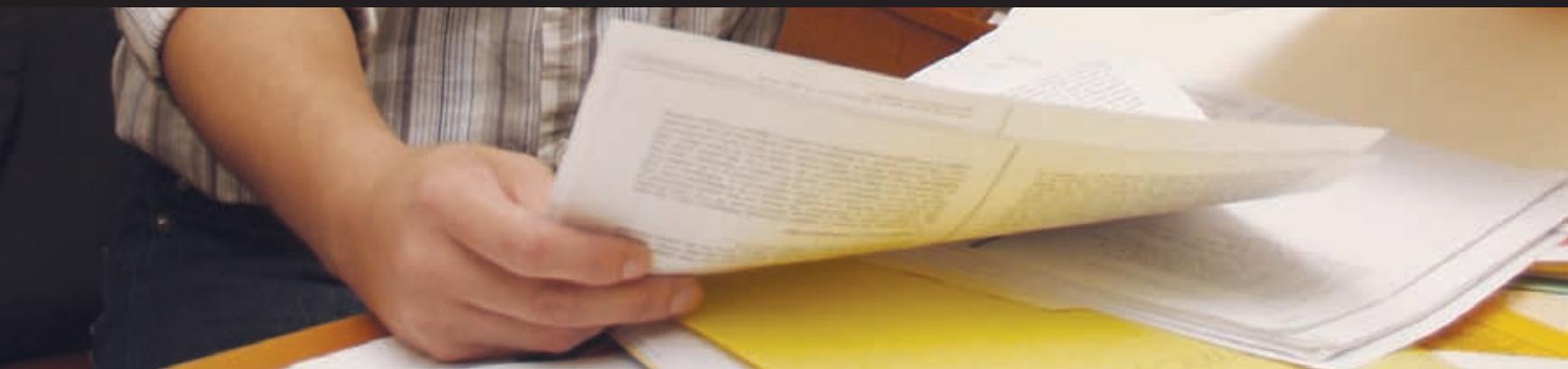
clear that Madison penned those last 12. Likewise, by unearthing similarities between the Bard's style and some of his contemporaries, stylometry has provided further fodder for literary critics who question his identity. And just last year, six recently discovered Pollock paintings turned out to be fakes, thanks to a stylometric analysis applying fractal geometry to Pollock's famous drop-painting technique.

## Really Rabelais?

It's the "whodunit" angle that most interests Saclolo, who's putting a twist on the technique by analyzing literature in another language.



Michael Saclolo, assistant professor of Mathematics, has devised a method for calculating the literary style of French writer Rabelais to sniff out counterfeits in his canon.



# The word-order-frequency technique uses a computer to count the frequency of an author's "bread and butter" words. This usage is hard to imitate.

Since 2005, he's been applying a brand of stylometry called "information categorization" to a series of novels by French author François Rabelais. A 16th-century satirist, monk and doctor, Rabelais published four novels before his death about father-and-son giants named Gargantua and Pantagruel. A fifth installment appeared after Rabelais' death, but scholars doubt he wrote it, or at least all of it.

Saclolo's academic training is uniquely suited to the literary detective work. He has an MA in French, with a specialty in Renaissance literature, and an MA and PhD in Mathematics. He speaks four languages (English, Tagalog, French and German), is proficient in Russian, and can "get by" in Arabic, Italian, Japanese, Latin and Spanish. And combining his seemingly disparate academic interests is second nature. "So many of my students say, 'I'm not a math person; I'm a humanities person.' But I don't see the delineation," he says. "To me, they're not mutually exclusive."

In fact, they're complementary. Saclolo's literary knowledge gives him the inside scoop on what makes Rabelais' works unique, namely his bawdy, unconventional style. Since the French language was still evolving in the 16th century, Rabelais created his own set of spelling and grammar rules. He borrowed directly from Latin, Greek and Italian and made up colorful words and expressions his native tongue lacked. He also routinely dogged the French elite's abuse of power and included his own ideas about liberty and utopia. Government leaders, academics at the Sorbonne and higher-ups in the Catholic Church unanimously panned his works. His unique stylistic "thumbprint" left its mark on the French language — and that makes his works ripe for a quantitative study today.

## Made to Order

How? Through an analysis called word order frequency. First tested in 2003 by American and Taiwanese scientists, the method uses a computer to count so-called bread-and-butter

words, those that are so common authors use them almost instinctively. This subconscious usage is hard to imitate, so it's a fairly safe bet that any texts with similar word counts come from the same author.

It's all about distance. Saclolo first generated a preliminary list of the top 11 words in each book. Then he plotted the results with the same method evolutionary biologists use to study similarities among organisms. The technique applies here because "no matter what you're studying, you're measuring the distance between two things," Saclolo says. "If there's not much distance, the two things are similar, based on the notion of 'similarity' you've defined. In my case, the distance is calculated based on word frequency."

The distance Saclolo found spoke volumes: Rabelais' disputed fifth book stood out from the others. "I don't want to get too excited, but so far, my model is predicting something very consistent with the common thought that another writer was involved," Saclolo says. "After a while, I suspect the values will stabilize, no matter how many more of the common words I add."

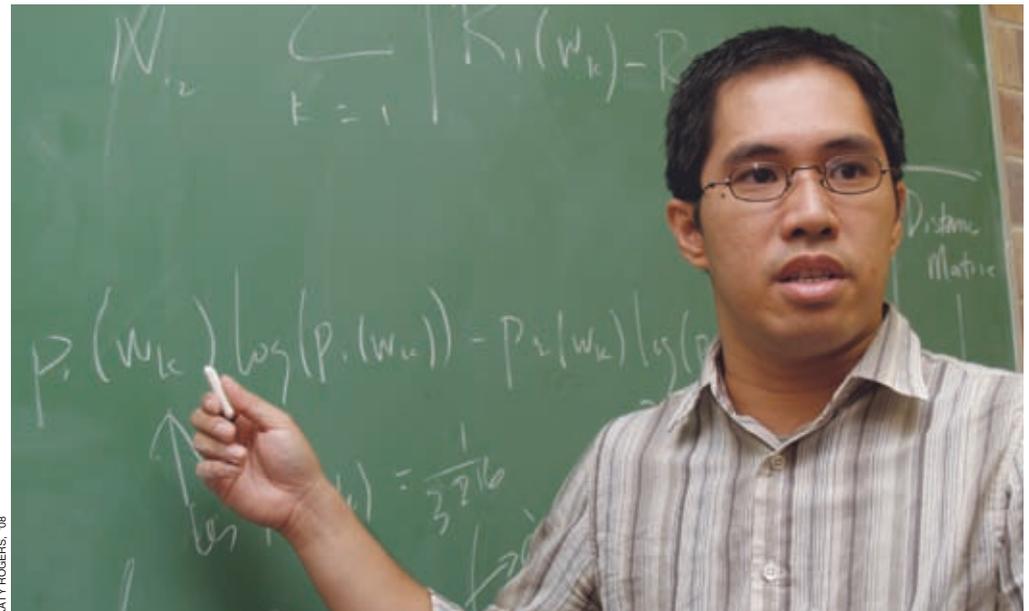
## The Great Perhaps

Saclolo continues adding more words to his count, devising strategies for dealing with gender, tense and other language variables. Another challenge is the word-tally differences between the two published word-count databases he's relied on so far. On top of that, one of the databases doesn't include all five Rabelais tomes, and the other uses an interface that can't easily generate a word count.

But Saclolo plows ahead. He is considering looking at a "chunk" of each book, perhaps the first 10,000 words. For that strategy to work, he'll need to refine his model to complete an entirely new word count that doesn't rely on the existing databases.

Ultimately, it's not certainty he's after; it's probability. "In my study, in biology, in genetics or in any field, there's no way to prove for sure that you're not missing something. You have to be straightforward about your assumptions," he says. "That's how math works: If we assume this, then this happens. That doesn't mean something else can't have happened, but it's more *likely* mathematically to have happened the other way."

Considering Rabelais' famous last words — "I am off in search of a great perhaps" — the French *auteur* would probably take those odds. ■



KATY ROGERS '08

# ALUMNI NOTES



COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

## From the Archives

**Remember any tails about these two?**

Share your stories about this photo with us:

*St. Edward's University Magazine*

3001 South Congress Avenue

Austin, TX 78704

stevev@stedwards.edu

## 60s

**Dan Collins, hs '60**, of Round Rock, and **Charlie Porfirio, hs '60**, of Austin, organized a June reunion in San Antonio for classmates from St. Edward's High School. Students from the classes of 1955, 1957, 1959 and 1960 attended.

**Ray Solcher, hs '60**, of Houston, and **Mike McShane, hs '60**, of Georgetown, are organizing the next reunion, planned for 2008. Alumni Programs is also organizing a St. Edward's High School reunion, planned for June 15–16 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the high school's closing. For more information, contact Kippi Griffith, MBA '01, at kippig@stedwards.edu.

**Tom Noonan, '61**, of Cincinnati, Ohio, received the Dean S. Leshner Award from the Suburban Newspapers of America in June. The award recognizes outstanding leadership in the suburban and community newspaper industry. Noonan, whose career spans more

than four decades, retired as president of Community Press last year.

**Robert Calsin, '68**, of Lakewood, Ohio, recently published his book, *Misgivings* (see story, page 10).

**Elaine Doherty Leach, '69**, is the medical attache at the American Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.

## 70s

**Paul Borella, '72**, of Norwalk, Conn., became chair of the Religion Department at Trinity Catholic High School in August. He was also recently elected board chair of the Fairfield County Federal Credit Union and treasurer of the Diocese of Bridgeport Education Association.

**Donald Willett, '72**, of Galveston, co-edited *Invisible Texans: Women and Minorities in Texas History* with Stephen Curley. The book, published by McGraw Hill in 2004, includes a chapter titled "Trials, Tribulations and Good Times:

## MARRIAGES

**Donald Penner, '60**, to Kathryn Penner on Dec. 8, 2005, living in Bradenton, Fla.

**Kimberly D. Edwards, '89**, to Alejandro Tamayo on May 20, living in McAllen.

**Mark D. Johnson, '89**, to Carolyn Warren on May 26, living in Austin.

**Mia (Maria) E. Hosty, '93**, to Scott Riffett on June 3, living in Bastrop.

**Wednesday Bowyer, '95**, to Timothy Neering on Aug. 5, living in Longmont, Colo.

**Joe Stephen Fay, '98**, to Lisa Fay on March 12, 2005, living in Dallas.

**Nicole Lynne Smith, '99**, to Bruce Beam on Oct. 23, 2004, living in Edmond, Okla.

**Rebecca Monninger, '01**, to Darald Berger on July 23, 2005, living in Pflugerville.

**Sharon St. Aubin, '02**, to **James Rossie, '02**, on June 22, 2002, living in Round Rock.

**Richard J. Ybarra, '02**, to Su Mi Kim on June 10, living in Seoul, South Korea.

**Loralynne Dickey, '03**, to Samuel Evans on April 29, living in Austin.

**Brooke Jackson, '03**, to **Corey White, '03**, on April 29, living in Houston.

**Michael Guerra, '04**, to **Kelly Dillon, '04**, (right) on May 20, living in Austin.

**Ashlie Kelly, '05**, to Cpl. Matt McKenzie on July 9, living in Houston.

**Jennifer Harrell, MLA '06**, to Nick Pyka on May 25, living in Fredericksburg.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Austin

**Nov. 4:** Austin Women's MBA Network Community Service Event: Spirit Reins Ranch, 2055 County Road 284, Liberty Hill, Texas

**Nov. 8:** How to Boil Water — Business Etiquette Dinner, Mabee Ballrooms, Robert and Pearle Ragsdale Center, 5:30–8 p.m. \*

**Nov. 9:** Alumni Chapter Happy Hour

**Nov. 16:** How to Boil Water — Personal Finances, 6:30–7:30 p.m., Maloney Room, Main Building\*

**Nov. 25:** Austin MAHS Chapter Community Service Event: Blue Santa Toy Drive/Parade

**Dec. 7:** Graduation Party

**Dec. 14:** Alumni Chapter Happy Hour

## Washington, D.C.

**Dec. 5:** Alumni Chapter Happy Hour

\* An ongoing series of tips and techniques for making life decisions.

Westering Women in Frontier Texas, 1821–1870" by Professor of American Studies **Paula Mitchell Marks, '78**.

**Frank M. Leonard, '73**, of Tallahassee, Fla., was appointed assistant professor of Criminal Justice at Tallahassee Community College beginning this fall. Previously, he spent 23 years with the Florida Department of Corrections.

**Capt. Richard Lamb, '75**, of Rockport, facilitated the 2006 United States Maritime Literature Awards ceremony in Annapolis, Md., in May. He co-founded the awards in 1997 and has secured the USS Sequoia presidential yacht, a national historic landmark that has served presidents

since Herbert Hoover, as the site of next year's ceremony.

**Vincent J. Tramonte, '75**, of Galveston, received the 2006 Chamber Business Leadership Award in June from the Galveston Chamber of Commerce and the Galveston Chamber Partnership. The award recognized his honesty, integrity, compassion, commitment to community service, and ethical treatment of co-workers, customers and business associates.

**Mary Marquez, '77**, of Austin, was named Bridge Point Elementary School's 2006 Teacher of the Year in April. A teacher for 29 years, she has spent 17 years in the Eanes Independent School District and has taught third grade at Bridge Point for two years. She was selected for the award by her fellow teachers.

## 80s

**Nick Dayton, '80**, of Lake Forest, Ill., is director of business process for Hospira Inc. He was recently appointed to the 2006 Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award Board of Examiners. As an examiner, Dayton will review award applications and conduct site visits for the program, which is managed by the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology. Nick and his wife, Marcia, have two children, Alexandra, 11, and Isabelle, 8.



COURTESY OF GUERRAS

## ALUMNI CONTACTS

**Austin**

Chris Ragland, '05  
chris@raglandfamily.net

**Chicago**

Neil Brown, '02  
neil.brown1@comcast.net

**Corpus Christi**

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**Dallas/Fort Worth**

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robypn@stedwards.edu

**Gulf States International**

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Yasser Abdulla, '88

yabdulla@arcapita.com

**Houston**

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robypn@stedwards.edu

**Los Angeles**

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freemon22@hotmail.com

**MAHS**

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Inoskey@yahoo.com

**MBA**

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kippig@stedwards.edu

**Miami**

Giovanna Garcia-Pons, '97, MBA '03  
gioarias@aol.com

**Rio Grande Valley**

Robyn Post  
robypn@stedwards.edu

**San Antonio**

Patrick Valdez, '94  
patrick.valdez@utsa.edu

**Washington, D.C.**

Jeremías Alvarez, '01  
dcseualumni@hotmail.com

## PROFILE

## In Any Event

## Joe Goldblatt, '75

Joe Goldblatt, '75, has become an international authority on event planning. The senior lecturer and executive director of professional development and strategic partnerships in Temple University's School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, he's produced hundreds of events for luminaries (including two U.S. presidents) and authored, co-authored and edited 15 books and hundreds of articles. *St. Edward's University Magazine* spoke with Goldblatt about his career.

*Did your experience at St. Edward's help prepare you for your future career?*

Yes. From the nurturing I received from **Sister Anne Crane, IHM**, to the career advice of **Father Leroy Clementich, CSC**, I was guided and encouraged to follow my dreams. As a result of the hilltop experience, I did exactly that.

*You encounter lots of celebrities in your line of work. Any stories to share?*

When I produced the opening of the Donald Trump Taj Mahal Resort and Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., Mr. Trump came to the rehearsal and said, "If this is not perfect, you are fired!" That may be the first time he ever said those words. Well, the event was perfect, of course, and he wrote a glowing letter. I treasure that memory today.

*Is there a particular type of event that you would still like to plan?*

My first grandchild's first birthday! Now if I can only get my sons to cooperate and have grandchildren.

— Mia Sims, '08



COURTESY OF JOE GOLDBLATT, '75

**Dwight J. Luckett, '80**, of Canton, Miss., was promoted to superintendent of the Canton Public School District in July.

**Anthony Ross, '84**, of Pflugerville, is an audit manager for Austin Energy. In July, he was named secretary of the Texas Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Kay Milam, '85**, of Louisville, Ky., is directing *The Butterfly Trees*, a documentary capturing the annual 2,500-mile migration of monarch butterflies from Canada and the United States to the oyamel fir forests in central Mexico.

**Rock Morille, MBA '85**, of Houston, is senior director of facility services at the Baylor College of Medicine.

**Paulo Andres Contreras, '86**, of West Hollywood, Calif., represents actors as a talent manager and is co-owner of Link Talent Group. He also owns the Actors' Network, which helps actors understand and manage the business aspects of their careers. An actor for many years, he spoke to Theater Arts majors at St. Edward's in April.

**Thomas Bolin, '88**, of De Pere, Wis., was named in April as 2005–2006 Educator of the Year at St. Norbert College, where he is an associate professor of Religious Studies.

**Mark D. Johnson, '89**, of Austin, was promoted to senior vice president in the Business Banking Group at Wachovia Bank last spring.

## 90s

**Kathleen Barina, '90**, of Harker Heights, joined the city of Temple as deputy attorney in September 2003 after practicing law with her husband, Bobby, for several years. They have two children, Kallihan, 13, and Joaquin, 1.

**Gaynelle Gosselin, '91**, of West Palm Beach, Fla., recently completed an intensive three-year teacher training course in the Alexander Technique, which focuses on consciously changing coordination behaviors like movement, posture, breathing and tension patterns. She teaches privately and in the Department of Dance at Palm Beach Atlantic University.

**Paul Minor, '91, MAHS '02**, of Austin, celebrated the release of his latest album, *Shadow Figure*, in June.

# PROFILE

## Watch Over Me

**Diana Manning, '89**

If you've ever watched a presidential motorcade, chances are you may have seen Special Agent **Diana Manning, '89**, running alongside the car wearing a black suit and sunglasses. For the past 11 years, she has investigated identity theft and counterfeiting along with protecting former presidents and visiting dignitaries for the U.S. Secret Service. She gave *St. Edward's University Magazine* an insider's view of her job.

**Who's the best-known person you've watched over?**

I spent four years protecting former U.S. President Gerald Ford and his wife, Betty. I lived and traveled with them — he actually received as many threats as the current president.

**What's a difficult part of your job?**

It's difficult guarding children. You find yourself getting close to them, but you can't be their friend.

**Is it odd spending so much time protecting people you may disagree with politically?**

It doesn't matter if you agree with them or like them or not; you still have a job to do.

**How has the time you spent at St. Edward's affected your job?**

Since I was an Art major with a Business minor, I learned how to look for details and really notice things. That has really helped out in investigations.

**What do you think of Hollywood's portrayal of the Secret Service?**

Some of it is accurate, some of it is silly. For example, female agents don't wear evening gowns — we usually wear dressy suits.

— Hans Christianson



COURTESY OF DIANA MANNING

## ALUMNI BOARD

Simone Talma, '91, MBA '02, *chair*  
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Christyana Ramirez, '00,  
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Richard Allen, MBA '01  
Kay Arnold, '04  
P.R. Avila, '96  
Jessica Burkemper, '07,  
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Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98  
Diane Gilley, '92  
Dave Hughart, MLA '05  
Brother William Nick, CSC, '64  
*Holy Cross representative*  
Bob Oppermann, '56  
Rich Ries, '57  
Donna Rodriguez, '87  
Joel Romo, '94  
Chad Skinner, '97  
Tony Tijerina, MBA '98  
Ann Waterman, MBA '99  
Bill Zanardi, *faculty representative*

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Don Cox, '69  
Eliseo Elizondo, '87, MBA '98  
Marilyn O'Neill, '74  
Maurice Quigley, hs '50  
Tom Ryan, '63  
Paul J. Tramonte, '91  
Frank Woodruff, '69

*Alumni are elected to the board of directors for rotating three-year terms and may serve for up to six years. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, contact Kippi Griffith, MBA '01, at kippig@stedwards.edu.*

## 90s cont.

**Gigi Edwards Bryant, '93**, of Austin, was appointed by Gov. Rick Perry to the Texas Family and Protective Services Council in July. The council advises the state's Department of Family and Protective Services, one of four agencies in the Health and Human Services Commission. Bryant runs a business development consulting firm and is an active member of the Downtown Rotary Club, the American Association of University Women and Leadership Austin.

**Taj McWilliams-Franklin, '93**, a forward/center for the Connecticut Sun, was selected as a reserve for the WNBA All-Star team in July. In the game, she scored 10 points and made six rebounds. McWilliams-Franklin is tied for second in the league for rebounds per game (9.6), and she ranks third in total rebounds (270) and double-doubles (10). She is also 31 points away from 3,000 career points.

**Matthew Moisan, '93**, of Carrollton, became an assistant controller with ThePlanet.com, a web-hosting company located in Dallas, in May. He would like to hear from classmates at mgmoisan@comcast.net.

**Sherri Griffith Powell, '94**, of Austin, is the director of E911 for Vonage. She helps Vonage provide 911 service for customers in 12 states.

**Juliane L. Leighton, '94**, of Brookings, Ore., practices internal medicine at the Sutter Coast Health Center.

**Morgan D. Lerner, '94**, of Washington, D.C., is a property and assets manager for Delbe Real Estate. Previously, he spent four years teaching world history and U.S. government at a Houston inner-city high school and working with at-risk youth.

## FUTURE HILLTOPPERS

To **Kathleen Barina, '90**, and Bobby Dale Barina, of Harker Heights, son Joaquin John on March 12, 2005.

To **Marc Swendner, '92**, and Cyndi Swendner, of Pflugerville, daughter Caelyn Meredith on July 17. *(below, right, with their son Rowan, 3)*

To **Rebecca (Piñeda) Thomason, '92, MAHS '00**, and **Karl A. Thomason, '92, MBA '97**, of Austin, son Patrick Andrew on Aug. 25, 2005.

To **Stacie Nemece Massey, '93**, and Troy Massey, of Austin, daughter Leigha on Nov. 3, 2005.

To **Dianne Cruz, '94**, and Douglas Williamson, of Pittsburgh, Penn., son Nicolas Cruz on March 27.

To **Joel Romo, '94**, and Denise Romo, of Chappell Hill, son David Joel on April 14.

To **Stacy (Wheeler) Ehrlich, MAHS '96**, and James Ehrlich, of Austin, son James Wheeler on March 6.

To **Christopher Frederickson, '97**, and Michaela Frederickson, of Staten Island, N.Y., daughter Emma Elisabeth on Feb. 7.

To **Lorie (Hoyt) Nguyen, '97**, and **Chuck Nguyen, '96**, of Warren, Maine, son Zan Hoyt Le Cao Nguyen on April 24.

To **Arturo Gonzalez, '98**, and Brandy Gonzalez, of Eagle Pass, daughter Lorelei Arriana on March 16.

To **Margie Trejo Lohmeier, '98**, and Matt Lohmeier, of Austin, daughter Sophia on April 29.

To **Agneris Aycock, '99**, and Brian Aycock, of Harker Heights, daughter Marisa Bryn on April 17.

To **Nicole Lynne Beam, '99**, and Bruce Beam, of Edmond, Okla., son Carson Allan on Dec. 26, 2005.

To **Sonya Butler, '99**, and **Jesse Butler, '99**, of Austin, daughter Avery Anna on May 31.

To **Ann Gonzalez, '99**, and **Joseph D. Gonzalez, '97**, of San Antonio, son Xavier Christian on March 27.

To **Kippi Griffith, MBA '01**, and **Shaun Griffith, '96**, of Austin, son Jackson David on June 29.

To **Saul Alanis, '02**, and Maria Gabriela Alanis, of McAllen, son Saul Jr. on June 15.

To **Paul Sanders, MLA '02**, and Tressa Sanders, of Austin, daughter Ellie FeiYan, on May 26.

To **Christiane Woodley Erwin, MLA '06**, and David Erwin, of Austin, daughter Eleanor Rose on June 17.

## 90s cont.

**Patrick Valdez, '94**, of San Antonio, became assistant dean for undergraduate professional development in the College of Business at UT–San Antonio in August. He oversees the college's Center for Student Professional Development and works to create internship and job opportunities for undergraduates and graduates.

**Wednesday Bowyer, '95**, of Longmont, Colo., is pursuing an Associate of Applied Science certification in Surgical Technology at Aims Community College in Greeley, Colo.

**Clayton Christopher, '95**, of Austin, founder and CEO of Sweet Leaf Tea, received the 2006 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for Central Texas in June. He is also one of 31 finalists for Ernst & Young's national entrepreneurship award, which will be given in Palm Springs, Calif., in November.

**Jill Seidenberger, '96, MLA '04**, of Belton, is caretaker for Cedarbrake Retreat Center, which is owned and supported by the Diocese of Austin. Previously, she was administrative coordinator in the St. Edward's University School of Education.

**Del Watson, MBA '96**, of Austin, is director of Human Resources Planning for the McCombs School of Business at UT–Austin.

**Philip Anthony Lamsens, '97**, of Fort Worth, was promoted to partner in the law firm of Shannon, Gracey, Ratliff & Miller in June. He specializes in bankruptcy, reorganization, creditors' rights, business torts, commercial litigation and insurance.

**Michael Lucas, '97**, recently completed a clerkship with Judge Catherine Blake of the U.S. District Court in Maryland and has accepted a position with the Washington, D.C., office of Trial Lawyers for Public Justice, a national public interest law firm with offices in the nation's capital and Oakland, Calif. Lucas attended law school at both the University of California–Berkeley and Harvard University and received his degree from Berkeley in May 2005. He sat for and passed the New York bar in August 2005.

**Gregory Rychlik, '97**, of Cedar Park, earned a certificate in Retirement Planning from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School in July for completing the five-day At Retirement program. Rychlik is one of only 100 financial professionals nationwide to complete the program, which is a partnership between the university and his employer, AXA Advisors.

**Mical Trejo, '97**, of Austin, played Ron, a stressed voice-over radio personality in the Hyde Park Theatre production of *Radio:30* last summer. Trejo, who originated the role in last year's production, is also a radio deejay on Austin's Jammin' 105.9.

**Richard Black, '98**, of Tulsa, Okla., completed his dissertation, "Lone Star Legacies: The Anglo-Texas Mythology and the Idea of America," and earned a PhD in English Language and Literature from the University of Tulsa in August. This academic year he is serving as a post-doctoral fellow at the university.

**Arturo Gonzalez, '98**, of Eagle Pass, teaches second grade at Liberty Elementary. He also coaches the freshman basketball team at Eagle Pass High School's CC Winn Campus.

**Iris Taber, '98**, of Salt Lake City, Utah, accepted a position on the



MARC SWENDNER, '92

## PROFILE

## Community Ties

**Sam Holt, '01, MSOLE '03**

When **Sam Holt's** tour in the Navy was ending in 1979, he asked himself what job he'd want if the whole world were to fall apart. Three options came to him: "I don't want to haul a fire hose around, and I'm not smart enough to be a doctor. I guess I'll be a police officer."

Now an area commander with more than 25 years of service on the Austin Police Department and more than 100 officers under his management, Holt has made it his goal for the past two years to mend the sometimes-strained relationship between blacks and police. At its annual banquet in December 2005, the Austin chapter of the NAACP recognized the dialogue he's developed between APD and the black community with its Dewitty/Overton Award.

A high school dropout raised in government-assisted housing, Holt joined the Army and then the Navy, earning his GED and an associate's degree from Austin Community College along the way. Once he made lieutenant with APD, he knew he had to take his education further to be an effective leader. After graduating from St. Edward's in 2001 with a BS in Criminal Justice, Holt went on to pursue an MS in Organizational Leadership and Ethics, a program started by Associate Professor **Allan Pevoto**. From Pevoto, Holt says he learned the value of relationships.

"If you build relationships with people," Holt says, "you get a lot more done than if you're just trying to manage them."

— **Jeff Benzling, '07**

COURTESY, AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Rebecca (Monninger) Berger, '01**, of Pflugerville, began teaching life skills to first-, second- and third-graders at Barrington Elementary School this fall. Previously, she taught resource skills to students in kindergarten through third grade.

**Paul Goebel, MBA '01**, of Denton, was named founding director of the Student Money Management Center at the University of North Texas–Denton in October 2005. The center provides students with the information, knowledge and skills they need to manage their personal finances with confidence as responsible adults and citizens.

**Michele Kay, '02, MLA '05**, became an assistant professor of Journalism at St. Edward's University in August. She is teaching journalism courses and advising the *Hilltop Views* student newspaper.

**Clarissa Morales, '02**, of Newark, N.J., recently completed her first year of law school at Rutgers School of Law–Newark. She also worked as a law clerk for Seeger Weiss LLP in March where she participated in the discovery and complaint process for mass tort litigation against Merck for its drug Vioxx. In June, she began externing with a judge in the Superior Court of New Jersey.

**Brooke Jackson, '03**, of Houston, is a financial analyst at SYSCO. Classmates **Miranda (Way) Mayahi, '03, Cindy Wright, '03, and Kelly Dacy, '04**, served as bridesmaids at her April marriage to **Corey White, '03**, who is an accountant with El Paso Corp.

**Lee Tallier Jr., '03, MLA '05**, of Austin, presented "Paquimé (Casas Grandes): Crossroads of Culture for Mesoamérica and the Southwestern United States" at the annual Southwest Council of Latin American Studies conference in Albuquerque, N.M., in March.

**Jeff Trower, MLA '03**, of Austin, received the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award from St. Edward's at Honors Night in April. He also recently began a position as an advising specialist in the university's Center for Academic Progress.

**Loralynne (Dickey) Evans, '03**, recently switched companies and is working for Waggener Edstrom Worldwide as an account executive.

**Amy Bush, MLA '04**, of Austin, was one of 45 women from across the country selected last June to attend the Power Pipeline program, which was created in 1996 by the Foundation for Women's Resources. The program strives to advance and improve the personal, economic and professional status of women by inspiring new generations of women to make an impact in their communities.

**LaTonya (DeLucia) Motley, '04**, of Gardena, Calif., graduated with an MS in Instructional Design and Technology from California State University–Fullerton in May with a 4.0 GPA.

**John Woods, MSOLE '04**, of Austin, is an education consultant at Pink Elephant, which offers conference, education and consulting services to public and private businesses. As a consultant, he leads two-day courses in Information Technology Infrastructure Library for Fortune 1,000 companies.

**Lisa Jackson, MLA '06**, of Austin, is an intern at Texans for Peace, which serves as a central source for information about peace and justice organizations and events across Texas. She helped organize the second annual Teaching Peace in Texas Conference held in San Antonio in October. ■

## 90s cont.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder team with the Veterans Affairs Salt Lake City Health Care System in January. She recently completed a year of post-doctoral studies in San Antonio and became a licensed psychologist in Texas. She would like to hear from classmates at [iristaber@msn.com](mailto:iristaber@msn.com).

**Alicia Pacey, '00**, is currently living and working in New York City.

**Ernie Smith, '00**, of Austin, opened the Hill Country Coffee Company in July. The coffeehouse offers fresh coffee, fine food, decadent desserts and a warm, comforting environment. Smith's investors include **Katie Storms, '04**, and her family. Visit him on the web at [www.hillcountrycoffee.com](http://www.hillcountrycoffee.com).

**Justin Leach, '00**, completed a master's degree in Diplomacy and Middle East Studies at Australia National University in Canberra, Australia, in 2005. He is pursuing a PhD there in Middle East Studies focusing on the Sudan, where he spent some years as a child.

## 00s

**Joe Fay, '00**, of Richardson, is a consignment coordinator in the Americana department at Heritage Auction Galleries in Dallas. He prepares rare books, manuscripts and political memorabilia for public auction. He and his wife, Lisa, recently celebrated their first wedding anniversary in London.

# UPDATE

## ALUMNI PROGRAMS

### CAMPUS NEWS

The St. Edward's University Office of Alumni and Parent Programs spent the summer and beginning of the fall holding events and planning others. Here's a look at a few of the office's recent activities.

#### Mission Possible! 2006 Alumni Leaders Conference

On June 9–11, 36 alumni representatives accepted their assignment and converged on the university campus for the Mission Possible! 2006 Alumni Leaders Conference. The weekend's participants included leaders, admission volunteers and alumni board members from six of the university's 11 established and developing alumni chapters. The event opened Friday night with a dinner in the Maloney Room, where attendees ate and conversed with current students, faculty members and campus staff members. On Saturday morning, the group attended a student panel, took a tour of campus to get familiar with new construction, such as the new John Brooks Williams Natural Sciences Center–North Building (see story, page 22), and listened to a presentation on the state of the university. That afternoon, they went to breakout sessions to plan activities and development opportunities for the upcoming year and then took a cruise on Town Lake in the evening. Everyone reconvened Sunday for an awards ceremony and a debriefing session, during which chapter leaders shared upcoming challenges and ideas for increasing alumni involvement.

### CHAPTER NEWS

**Austin:** In April, nearly 30 alumni attended the Graduation Party to welcome the Class of 2006 into the Alumni Association. The next month, 25 alumni and guests helped organize and restock the food pantry for Caritas of Austin. In the summer, a record of more than 220 alumni and guests made it to the fifth annual Alumni Night at the Ballpark with the Round Rock Express. As fall approached, recent alumni learned about graduate school admission at a gathering in the "How to Boil Water" series in September and then mingled at the annual fall happy hour in October. Later that month, recent alumni networked at a Career Grooves event aimed at alumni involved in the arts and entertainment industry. Alumni also celebrated Founder's Day that month by volunteering at Caritas of Austin.

Upcoming fall events for recent alumni include "How to Boil Water" events on etiquette (Nov. 8) and personal finances (Nov. 16) and all alumni are invited to the December Graduation Party to meet the newest members of the alumni community (Dec. 7).

**Corpus Christi:** In August, 20 alumni, parents and guests attended Alumni Night at the Ballpark with the Corpus Christi Hooks. Plans are underway for a late-fall community service project to decorate for the holidays at Arch, a temporary shelter for abused children. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Los Angeles:** More than 20 alumni, parents and guests enjoyed a picnic and Willie Nelson concert at the Hollywood Bowl in September. Future events include meeting with President Martin in spring 2007 and a sporting event. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Rio Grande Valley:** In October, alumni and parent volunteers sorted, packaged and boxed food products for clients of the Food Bank of the Rio Grande Valley in celebration of Founder's Day. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee and plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Dallas/Fort Worth:** In June, 20 alumni attended Alumni Night at the Ballpark at Ameriquest Field and watched the Texas Rangers battle the Minnesota Twins. In celebration of Founder's Day, alumni joined together to fight breast cancer in the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and dined together at Panera Bread following the event.

**MAHS:** The MA in Human Services chapter welcomed nearly 40 alumni and current students at its inaugural Austin brunch event in June. Plans are underway for monthly mixers, community service projects in November with Operation Blue Santa, Bikes for Kids and more.

**San Antonio:** In October, alumni honored Founder's Day at brunch with the Holy Cross Brothers of Andersen House. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

#### Orientation Panels

From June through August, alumni spoke to incoming freshmen and their parents about the power of a St. Edward's education during this summer's orientation sessions.



#### Career Connections

In June, Alumni Programs and Career Planning co-hosted the second annual Career Connections event for New College and graduate alumni and current students. Around 50 people attended to hear **Larry Temple, '98**, executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission, deliver a keynote address, as well as 13 alumni panelists and other guest speakers.

#### Alumni Board of Directors Meeting

The Alumni Board of Directors met Oct. 6–7 to discuss university initiatives and the impact of alumni on the success of the university. Initiatives such as regional alumni programming, alumni involvement opportunities and increasing awareness of The St. Edward's Fund were planned.

**Chicago:** In celebration of Founder's Day, the chapter hosted a community service project for the Chicago Marathon (Oct. 21) and held a dinner at Grace O'Malley's restaurant. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Houston:** Alumni volunteers celebrated the spirit of St. Edward's by volunteering at the Houston Food Bank in honor of Founder's Day and dining together at Taquerias Arandas. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Evansville, Ind.:** President **George E. Martin** and Director of Campus Ministry, **Father Rick Wilkinson, CSC**, spoke with alumni and guests at the Kennel Club in June.

**Austin Women's MBA Network:** Join fellow MBA alumnae at Austin's Spirit Reins Ranch on Nov. 4. Enjoy fall horseback riding along the trails with a guide and then volunteer for various projects at the ranch, which offers equine therapy for at-risk youth and autistic children. The chapter continues to sponsor monthly luncheons.

**Miami:** Chapter leaders met for brunch in August to plan future events, including taking in a performance at the new Carnival Center for the Performing Arts, meeting with President Martin and attending a Marlins game in spring 2007. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

**Student Alumni Association:** In October, SAA hosted the Career Grooves event on networking in the arts and entertainment industry. Members also attended the Austin monthly happy hour. The group will plan the December Graduation Party.

**Washington, D.C.:** In September, the chapter welcomed 20 alumni, parents and guests at Alumni Night at the Ballpark with the Washington Nationals. In October, alumni and parent volunteers honored Founder's Day by prepping and packaging meals for Food & Friends, an organization that delivers meals to people living with HIV, AIDS and other life-challenging illnesses. The chapter seeks volunteers to serve on a steering committee to plan future alumni events. If interested, please contact Robyn Post at [robypn@stedwards.edu](mailto:robypn@stedwards.edu).

### ONGOING EVENTS

**Austin Monthly Networking Happy Hours**  
Second Thursday of the month

**Austin Women's MBA Network**  
Fourth Monday of the month

Click "Get involved" at [www.stedwards.edu/alumni](http://www.stedwards.edu/alumni) to find news and events in your area, or call 800-964-7833 or 512-448-8415.



## HOLDINGS: HILL OF BEANIES

*"Holdings" profiles objects in the permanent collection of the Scarborough-Phillips Library Archives and Special Collections.*

What better way to welcome a green bunch of "frosh" — freshmen, that is — than to give each of them a stylish blue and gold beanie stitched with an "E"? And then, of course, to make them don the hats for an entire fall semester while performing duties such as singing the alma mater or shining shoes at an upperclassman's command? Failure to satisfactorily comply could result in an impromptu buzz haircut or the odious task of pushing a peanut across the sidewalk ... with one's nose.

The legendary freshman beanie made its appearance on the hilltop after World War II, and the tradition lasted until 1970, when St. Edward's became coed. Originally part of a semester-long orientation sponsored by the all-powerful Student Activities Council (a body comprised of each class president and student representatives from the residence halls and academic colleges), beanie wearing went from mandatory to optional — though highly recommended — in the mid-1950s.

Freshmen ended their semester of orientation with initiation week: the Turkey Trot dance, Mass followed by an afternoon toiling in service to the seniors, the Beanie Bowl football showdown versus the sophomores, mud-pit tug of war, a bonfire the freshmen built and guarded from upperclassmen sabotage, and a basketball game (usually against rival St. Mary's University).

Freshmen tossed their beanies into the bonfire at the end of initiation week, thus officially shedding their E's and becoming fully vested Edsmen.

— *Stacia Hernstrom, MLA '05*

*These days, St. Edward's has traded initiation week for Hilltopper Welcome Days. Read about the new freshman class on page 6.*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Pierce Meagher, '29**, of Overland Park, Kan., on March 2.  
**William Michael Donohue, '31**, of Houston, on Sept. 10.  
**Joseph Robert Morris, '39**, of Fort Worth, on March 10.  
**Philip G. Reynolds, '40**, of Gonzales, La., on Sept. 7.  
**Lawrence E. Ackels Sr., '43**, of Dallas, on April 12.  
**John E. Dullahan, '43**, of Houston, on April 19.  
**Fred W. Kunkel, '43**, of Tulsa, Okla., on March 27.  
**James L. Ikard, hs '49, '53**, of Las Cruces, N.M., on April 21.  
**Joseph R. "Dick" Palermo, '55**, of Vicksburg, Miss., on June 11.  
**Robert L. Qualia, hs '55, '58**, of Del Rio, on Aug. 22.  
**Joseph J. Balander, '56**, of Austin, on Feb. 11, 2005.  
**Jerome Godinich, '56**, of Galveston, on Aug. 8.  
**Francis Heyde, '56**, of San Antonio, on Sept. 14.  
**Herman "Doc" Weinert III, '56**, of Galveston, on April 19.  
**Donald F. Tremmel, '58**, of Biloxi, Miss., on Nov. 27, 2005.  
**Peter P. Baltrinic, '62**, of Akron, Ohio, on March 29.  
**Albert F. Mikulencak Jr., '62**, of Woodway, on March 23.  
**Robert J. Risher, '63**, of Austin, on May 14.  
**Sister Nancy Ann Johnson, IWBS, '64**, of Corpus Christi, on June 11.  
**Gerald E. Link, '65**, of Forth Worth, on Dec. 6, 2004.

**John William Meaney, hs '67**, of San Antonio, on March 25.  
**William Griffith Gossett, '71**, of Sunset Valley, on July 12.  
**Lt. Col. (Ret.) Everette E. Frazier, '73**, of San Antonio, on Feb. 14, 2005.  
**Walter E. Darling, MBA '74**, of Rockford, Ill., on March 27.  
**Robert A. Patterson, '75**, of Austin, on Sept. 22, 2005.  
**Stella Belmarez, '80**, of Muskegon, Mich., on May 12, 2005.  
**Carolyn A. Lashare, '80**, of Austin, on Dec. 16, 2005.  
**Dola Escalante, '82**, of Austin, on Oct. 2, 2005.  
**Don R. Kelly, '87**, of Tampa, Fla., on May 21.  
**John H. Laurie III, '87**, of Austin, on Nov. 19, 2005.  
**Gay Ann Simmons-Posey, MBA '02**, of Austin, on April 17.  
**James Henry Leonard, '09**, of Houston, on Aug. 30.  
**Louise W. Carnes**, of San Antonio, on May 28.  
**Brother Walter Foken, CSC**, of South Bend, Ind., on April 6.  
**Alfred A. King**, of Austin, on March 25.  
**Brother Barry Lambour, CSC**, of Notre Dame, Ind., on June 30.  
**Peggy Lewis**, of Austin, on Aug. 7.  
**Bonnie J. O'Neal**, of Austin, on April 15.  
**William F. "Bill" Pfuderer IV**, of Austin, on June 12.  
**Earl A. Swift**, of Houston, on May 30.



## FROM THE ARCHIVES: MYSTERY SOLVED

### Believe What You Read in the Paper?

When he attended St. Edward's University, **Larry Mauer, '61**, found the Hilltopper student newspaper to be "a decent little rag." But did he and his fellow freshmen in Doyle Hall look forward to the publication's weekly delivery with the enthusiasm this photo implies? "We didn't anticipate it that much," says Mauer. It's his younger head sticking up between the two papers in the top right corner. "This was deliberate hype for the paper."

A dormitory photo shoot to promote the paper wouldn't have been hard to organize — the photographer simply had to walk down the hall and gather up students avoiding their studies after dinner. "Anything for a diversion," says Mauer, pointing out how some of his fellow classmates had already switched into their pajamas, indicating the shot took place in the evening and, hence, possibly at the last minute.

The attentive eye will note cigarettes in the mouths of a few readers. The dorms had no restrictions about smoking in those days. "Some people moved up to a pipe." Not Mauer. "I found it made me lose my appetite."

But some of Mauer's other collegiate interests stuck: His wife, Sharon, a student at St. Mary's High School down the road, and computers, which he first experienced on an early IBM mainframe at St. Edward's. He thanks that early exposure for his career as an IT administrator for EarthBalance, an environmental consulting firm.

Newspaper read-ins weren't the only dorm-life shenanigans Mauer recalls. He'll never forget the shaving cream fights — the sort of foamy confrontation that could well have broken out after the gathering depicted here.

"Four or five guys from one floor would get together, go to a floor above or below, and then spray whoever they passed," says Mauer. "Those people would retaliate, and it would keep going until a reactor [who lived on every floor] would come out and tell everybody to clean it up."

— Steve Wilson

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in touch

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A fun vacation, volunteering, a job change — whatever your news, share it with friends and classmates via *St. Edward's University Magazine*. Submit your news by Dec. 15 to be considered for the next issue. If your address or other information has changed, please let us know.

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Former Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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