

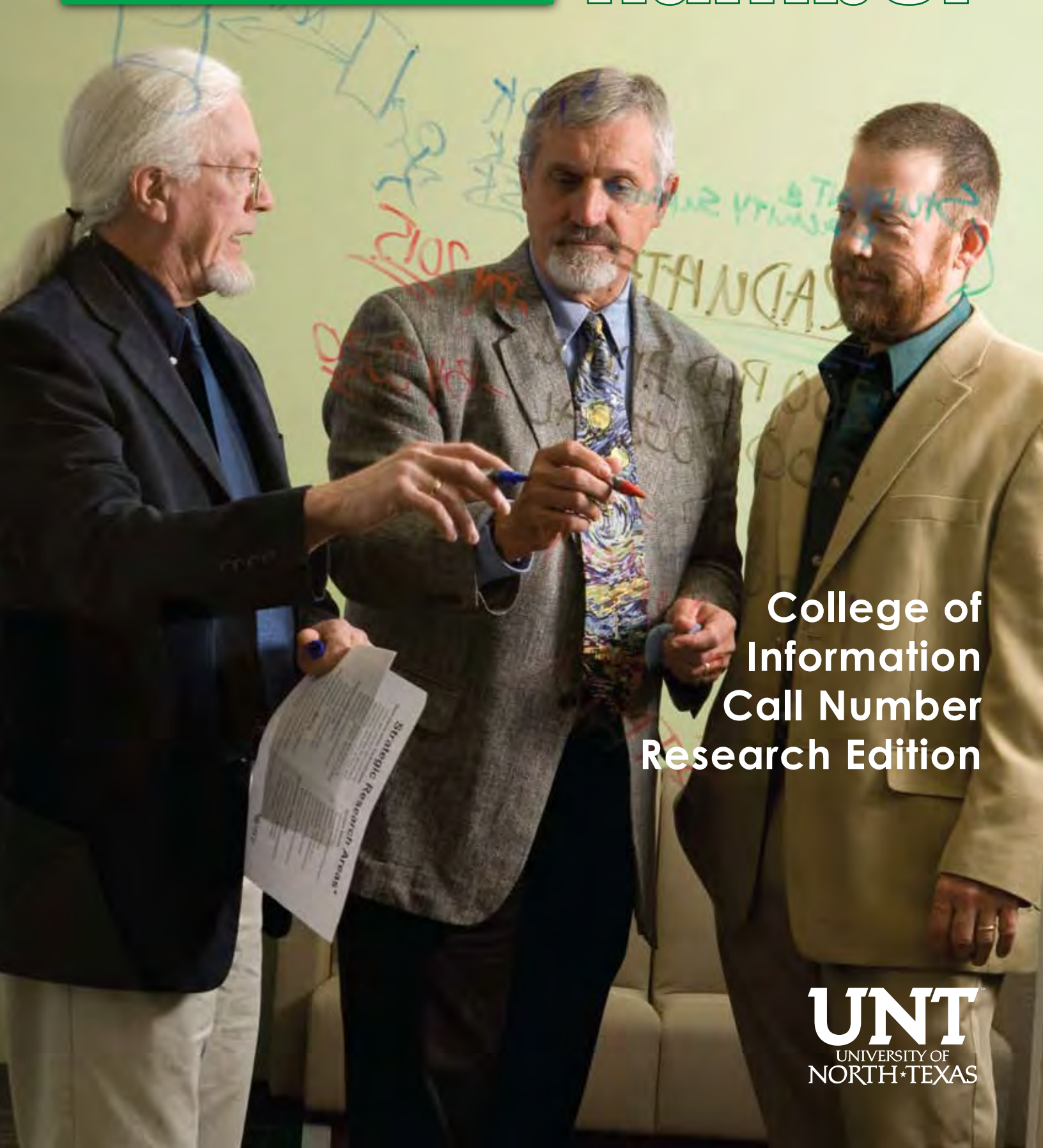


COLLEGE of  
INFORMATION

The intersection of People, Information, and Technology.

# call number

Volume 69  
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College of  
Information  
Call Number  
Research Edition

**UNT**  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NORTH TEXAS

**Cover:** Drs. Jeff Allen, Gerald Knezek, and William Moen

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**Editor in Chief**

Margaret Irby Nichols

**Contributors**

Elvira Aguilar  
 Jeff Allen  
 Ana Cleveland  
 Jurhee Curtis  
 Toby Faber  
 Mary Garcia  
 Martin Halbert  
 Cathy Hartman  
 Michele Lucero  
 Melody McCotter  
 William Moen  
 Maureen Murphy  
 Javier Rocha  
 Linda Schamber  
 Herman Totten  
 Wheeler Press

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 Louis Tong  
 Angilee Wilkerson

## Issue highlights

Research and scholarship, the theme of this issue, is an extremely important one for the College of Information as well as for the alumni. The Feature section, including the Dean's column and a number of other articles, is devoted entirely to the commitment of the College of Information to research and to its role in assisting the University in reaching Tier One status. Almost all other sections include articles that pertain to the topic. I call your particular attention to the \$1.6 million dollar grant just received by Library & Information Sciences in the Departments section and to the Faculty section which provides research interest profiles of a large number of the 33 faculty members in the two departments. The section also includes an article about **Regents Professor Gerald Knezek** who was honored as the UNT faculty member receiving the greatest amount of external research funding. **Drs. William Moen and Jeff Allen**, who were among the top 15 campus wide in funding received, are mentioned as well. These three outstanding researchers are pictured on the cover of this issue. In the Departments section, the interim chairs have devoted their columns to the research efforts in their respective departments. The Alumni section contains an article about the research efforts of several of our graduates.

All sections include other items of special interest: the COI design award and the open access symposium in the College section, and **Dr. Ana Cleveland's** awards

and **Dr. Jim Poirrot's** honors in the Faculty section. The accomplishments of alumni **Adrian Alexander, Cathy Hartman, and Jerilynn Williams** are reported in the Alumni section which also includes news items about many of our alumni. There also are articles about alumni "doing interesting things" and **Chris Albertson's** thirty years at the Tyler Public Library.

There are numerous reports about activities of the College, the departments, students, staff, and alumni contained in this issue, the largest one we have ever produced, 32 pages as opposed to our normal 28. When we realized we would be going over in length, we alerted the Dean. Dr. Totten's reply was that this issue was too important to scrimp on length, and that he would find the funds to cover the excess. We are most grateful.

News of you the alumni is extremely important to us. Please send information about new positions, promotions, honors, publications, conference presentations, retirements, and other news items to me at [nichols2514@charter.net](mailto:nichols2514@charter.net) or to [ci.alumni@unt.edu](mailto:ci.alumni@unt.edu)/ We are always delighted to hear from you.

*Call Number* is now available online at [www.coi.unt.edu/press/](http://www.coi.unt.edu/press/)

Margaret Irby Nichols  
 LIS Professor Emeritus  
 Editor, *Call Number*

### SOME INTERESTING STATISTICS

- COI faculty makes up approximately 3% of all UNT faculty (1057)
- COI external awards (\$3,695,664) comprised approximately 10% of total awards (\$37,676,912) received by UNT
- COI is second, after College of Engineering, in average award per faculty (\$119,215)
- COI ranks first in enrollment increase (47%) in the University with a total of 1,461, up 468 over the previous year
- Since fall 2008, master's LIS enrollment has increased 17.9% to 1,123.

### GRADUATE LIBRARY SCHOOL RANKINGS

In the most recent *U.S. News & World Report's* graduate school rankings, Library and Information Science, included in College of Information, is listed at No. 17 among the Top 20 schools in the country. The Health Librarianship program is ranked in the Top Five nationally at No. 3. The Services for Children and Youth program and the School Library Media program both earned Top 15 rankings, listed at 13<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, respectively.

### REGENTS INCREASE FUNDING TO HELP BOOST RESEARCH STATUS

It was announced May 14, 2010, that the UNT Board of Regents unanimously approved an \$858.3 million operating and capital expense budget, increased from the previous year with \$70.5 million in new funds. The budget will help support the University's plan to become a nationally recognized research institution.

Interim President Phil Diebel stated that the focus during his brief tenure was to ensure the university developed an operating budget and strategic plan that furthered its goals of reaching national research status. With these goals met, Diebel said, there are great opportunities in store for the university. "UNT, over the next five or ten years, will have truly grown," Diebel said. "We have a wonderful opportunity to do wonderful things."

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE RESEARCH ISSUE: THE UNT RESEARCH ENTERPRISE

UNT has set its sights on becoming a national research, or Tier One, university and UNT's research enterprise is a strategic component to reach that goal. Since the arrival of former President Gretchen Bataille in 2006, and of Dr. Wendy Wilkins, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, in 2007, UNT has invested substantial resources to enhance and extend its research enterprise. The investment has taken the form of (1) new facilities such as the \$2.2 million Talon High Performance Computing System (see article p. 7) and (2) the investment of \$25 million in collaborative research clusters that are bringing national and internationally renowned researchers to UNT. These investments have shown major returns in a very short time period. For example, UNT's research expenditures and awards increased more than 60% in FY 2009 from FY 2007.

Within the Office of the Vice President for Research, investment in people is making a major difference. The Office now has three divisions: Research Development, Research Services, and Economic Development. Research De-

velopment was established by Dr. Vish Prasad, Vice President for Research and Economic Development, to provide faculty with support services in developing proposals, identifying funding possibilities, and building interdisciplinary teams to seek large funding opportunities. The Research Services Division focuses on getting the proposals submitted to the agencies, administering the grants that are received, and ensuring compliance with federal rules, such as when a researcher is conducting research on "human subjects." The expanded support with the Office of the Vice President, along with the priority for increased research productivity, is certainly a major factor in the 60% increase in research awards and expenditures.

UNT's trajectory toward national research university status is being supported by legislation passed by the Texas legislature last year. UNT is one of seven universities that are designated by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating board as *emerging research universities*. House Bill 51 will provide new resources and support to the seven universities in their efforts

towards Tier One status. For example, UNT received approximately \$800,000 in matching funds from the State through one of the H.B. 51 initiatives. The National Research Fund, another component of H.B. 51, is a pool of approximately \$500 million that can be tapped by the emerging research universities, but only after certain criteria are met. These criteria include \$45 million in research expenditures annually and the awarding of 200 Ph.D degrees annually. Although meeting these and other criteria on the road to national research university status will present interesting challenges, UNT's leadership and enthusiastic faculty researchers and scholars, combined with continuing investment in the research enterprise provides the critical foundation for our success.

For additional information about UNT's research enterprise, check out the current *UNT Research* magazine, and particularly the article: "UNT Expands Its Research Impact" at <http://www.unt.edu/untresearch/2009-2010/initiatives.htm>

As UNT postures to receive matching research grants through HB51, COI, as you know, is posturing for membership in the iCaucus by sustaining a level of at least \$1 million a year in external funding—a membership that ensures COI's position in global research and academia. In order to achieve this major goal, as well as the goals for continued growth and improvement, several issues must be addressed including the development of COI's research infrastructure, development of faculty and staff, expansion of facilities to accommodate growth of technological availabilities and capabilities, enhancement of distributed learning/teaching and enrollment, regularized curriculum review and revision, increase in external stakeholders, and improvement of planning and assessment practices.

Successful addressing of these issues will transform us from an *emerging* college of interdisciplinary and global research to a renowned college of interdisciplinary and global research with support for state-of-the-art technologies, adequate facilities, and exceptional faculty and staff. Not only will COI ensure its invitation into the iCaucus, but it will also become a major contributor to the university's research initiative.

*Continued on page 4*



As your Dean, I believe the key to the College of Information (COI) meeting the goals of the University to achieve *national research* or *Tier 1* status, is accomplished by making those goals personal to each individual in my charge. Peter Drucker (1) says that this type of management "ensures performance by converting *objective needs into personal goals*." He calls this conversion "*genuine freedom*." I call it *collaborative autonomy*—a phenomenon that is present when all stakeholders in the institution share the institution's goals. With collaborative autonomy, personal goals become shared goals—a situation that perpetuates teamwork and productivity.

Before I outline how I intend to encourage collaborative autonomy among COI faculty staff, and students to embrace UNT's quest to move from an *emerging research university* to *Tier 1* status, it is necessary to mention the *Texas House Research Organization's Analysis*

of *House Bill 51*—an Act signed June 17, 2009 by Governor Rick Perry—that was created to provide funding and incentives for *emerging research universities*. The Analysis, published April 24, 2009, provides working definitions for both *Tier I* and *emerging research university*.

### **Tier 1 is used to describe:**

"the status associated with high-performing research universities. Some attributes of these institutions include membership in the Association of American Universities, having at least \$100 million in federal research grants annually; the size of endowments; the quality of the faculty and the number with membership in one of the national academies; the number of faculty awards; the number of doctorates awarded; and having selective admissions."

### **An emerging research university, like UNT, is used to describe:**

"an institution of higher education that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board determined was a research university that had demonstrated a commitment to developing and maintaining degree and research programs that supported the institution's efforts to improve its ranking among research universities."

DEAN'S LETTER, continued from page 3

So, how do I plan to motivate COI to meet its research goals? With inspiration from Drucker, I intend to promote collaborative autonomy by continuing to:

- Recognize that people—rather than missions, goals, objectives, or plans—are COI's most valuable asset. People are knowledge. Collective knowledge of faculty and staff is essential to successfully meeting COI's research goals and objectives.
- Know the importance of including faculty and staff on decisions about how research goals and objectives are accomplished, as well as giving them the freedom to carry out their work to meet those goals using their own methods and plans.
- Mentor faculty and staff to advance, grow, and develop their careers—the more advanced, mature, and developed the faculty and staff become, the better they are able to facilitate research goals and the more inclined they are to share institutional goals.
- Known that what Drucker calls *planned abandonment* is inevitable. I call it *planning for change*. This is not planning to change goals or objectives in mid-stream, but at the least planning for change in how goals

and objectives are implemented if necessary. Recognizing that change is inevitable takes the sting out of the situation where an old method becomes obsolete and inefficient.

- Emphasize the collaborative autonomy philosophy when meeting with all faculty, all staff, small groups of faculty, small groups of staff, or individuals. Never should it be emphasized only in groups or only individually. This tact reinforces the philosophy and garners trust and loyalty—both vital for collaborative autonomy to thrive.
- Ensure that objectives, plans, strategies, performance goals, and professional development intentions are transparent—a practice that demonstrates my trust of and loyalty toward the faculty and staff.

Although I feel I gained valuable knowledge from my dual service to the University in the past year, I realize that my focus on COI was divided. However, my single focus and the institution of two full-time chairs will free me to devote more attention to promote and realize an increase in the number of external grants in LIS and LT faculties. This will be the first time since the creation of COI that the College has two, 12 month full professors serving as professional chairs.

The unwavering support of your Dean combined with permanent departmental leadership, top-notch faculty, outstanding staff, and talented students provide COI with the momentum and synergy to reach its research goals. COI's accomplishments promise to be greatly instrumental in elevating UNT's *emerging research* status to *Tier 1* status, as well as elevating COI from *ischool membership* status to *iCaucus membership* status.



Herman L. Totten, Dean  
College of Information

(1) Peter F. Drucker, professor of management at the University of Southern California, died 8 days before his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2005. Known as a prolific author and expert of management, he described himself as a *social ecologist*. He was touted as the "creator and inventor of modern management" and known for his creation of the terms *knowledge worker*; his predictions of the information society, privatization, and decentralization; considering people as assets; and the corporation as a "human community." In his later years, he hanged his focus from businesses and corporations to non-profit organizations.

## The UNT Libraries: The Power of Ideas Starts Here!



Martin Halbert

Meeting the research needs of faculty and graduate students is a critical part of the UNT Libraries' vision and mission. Our recently revised vision for the UNT Libraries states that we will advance top tier research and scholarship through innovation and collaboration. Our mission notes that we will integrate the library into the research initiatives of the University and create physical and virtual collections to support scholarship and research by connecting the past, present, and future.

Our commitment to meeting the research needs of faculty and students includes services such as:

- Assistance with creating bibliographies of relevant materials to support a literature review for grant proposals.
- Access to a wide range of electronic databases, journals, and services through the UNT Libraries website including approximately 360 databases containing about 20,000 electronic journal titles and close

to 75,000 e-books, all available to faculty members from their campus offices or other locations.

- E-mail alerting services provided by many of the electronic database or journal vendors. This service sends faculty members an e-mail when new content in the database matches saved search, table of contents, or citation criteria. To participate, one must register with the resource of interest and set up a saved search. For more information about this service see <http://www.library.unt.edu/ris/email-alerting-services>.
- Interlibrary Loan for materials not held by the UNT Libraries. Requests for materials may be made by completing an online form. Faculty members may also request copies of articles, book chapters, and conference papers owned by the UNT Libraries through their ILLiad account. For more information see Faculty E-Delivery Service at <http://www.library.unt.edu/ill/about-interlibrary-loan>.
- Provision of data for faculty research projects. This includes supporting faculty research by providing quantities of metadata

records, text created with optical character recognition software (OCR) from digitized materials, web harvested material, or other large quantities of digital files to be used in research projects related to management, access, storage, and preservation of data.

The Libraries also engage in collaborative research projects with faculty members. Research projects we just completed or recently initiated include a) the IOGENE project that worked with a defined user group to understand their interactions with a digital library system and created a rapid development framework so that systems will meet the needs of information seekers, and b) the just started research to determine methods of building topical collections from massive web harvested data and to develop metrics for reporting collections of web harvested data. College of Information faculty interested in establishing a collaborative effort with the Library should contact the Dean or Associate Dean. We look forward to collaborating with faculty to support UNT's research enterprise.

Martin Halbert, Dean, UNT Libraries  
Cathy N. Hartman, Associate Dean,  
UNT Libraries

# COLLEGE OF INFORMATION RESEARCH ENTERPRISE

The College of Information is committed to contributing its share to the UNT research enterprise. The establishment of the College brought together two UNT units, each with



William Moen

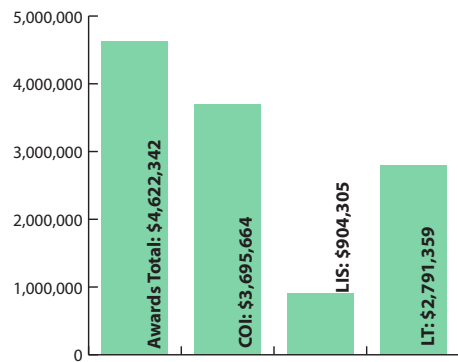
its own track record of scholarly production and research activities. The importance of research, and its integration into the learning experience of our students, is clearly reflected in the College's organizational vision, such as the following value and belief statements:

- Knowledge is advanced through systematic research and the organization, management, use/application of information.
- Discovery, application, integration, teaching, collaboration, assessment and evaluation are fundamental to learner-centered education. <http://www.ci.unt.edu/main/ViewPage.php?cid=79>

Creating new knowledge through research and reflection, and engaging our students in knowledge creation and integration is central to the mission of the College.

Research productivity can be analyzed by numerous measures. To give a sense of COI faculty's research activities, the following provides quantitative counts related to external funding and research proposals for the fiscal year 2009 (Sep 1, 2008 – Aug 31, 2009).

## Awards

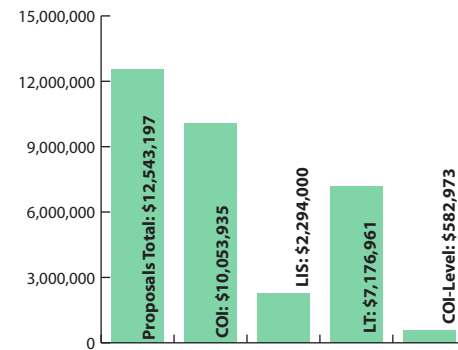


- A total of 16 COI faculty and staff members (15 from LT and 1 from LIS) were involved in 13 grant awards from external funding agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Texas

Education Agency, the U.S. Department of Education, and others

- Grant awards received by UNT that involved COI faculty totaled **\$4,622,342**
  - Total of that amount accruing to COI faculty and staff members on multiple-investigator proposals was **\$3,695,664**
  - Total LIS faculty and staff awards: **\$904,305**
  - Total LT faculty and staff awards: **\$2,791,359**

## Proposals



- A total of 21 COI faculty and staff members (14 from LT and 7 from LIS) were involved in 25 grant proposals submitted to 10 different external funding agencies.
- Grant proposals total **\$12,543,197**
  - Total of that amount accruing to COI faculty and staff members on multiple-investigator proposals was **\$10,053,935**
  - Total LIS faculty and staff proposals: **\$2,294,000**
  - Total LT faculty and staff proposals: **\$7,176,961**
  - Total COI-level proposals: **\$582,973**

How do these numbers relate to the broader UNT research enterprise in FY2009? The size of the COI faculty and the award amounts when compared to other UNT colleges present some pleasantly surprising findings:

- COI tenured and tenure track faculty (n=31) make up approximately 3% of all UNT faculty (n=1057) and COI is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> of the 9 colleges of number of faculty.

- COI external awards (\$3,695,664) comprised approximately 10% of total awards (\$37,676,912) received by UNT.
- COI is second (after College of Engineering) in average award per faculty.
- COI is fourth in total awards, after College of Arts and Sciences with 418 faculty members, Engineering with 74 faculty members, and Education with 106 faculty members.

Nurturing, supporting, and expanding the COI research enterprise is a top priority of both Dean Totten and me, as Director of Research. The funding environment for research grants is increasingly competitive, and COI is leveraging its resources in supporting faculty members interested in pursuing research funding. Currently, in collaboration with Kathryn Clodfelter, the Associate Director of the Texas Center for Digital Knowledge, we work with faculty members to develop proposal ideas, review and edit drafts of the proposals, help develop budgets, and communicate with UNT's Office of Research and Economic Development on questions and concerns faculty have about their proposals, the submission process, and rules and regulations. The Dean is using funds received by the College from the overhead charges on existing grant awards as seed money to invest in faculty ideas and activities in the expectation that such investments will yield more successful grant proposals.

In my nearly 15 years as a UNT faculty member, I now see both an excitement for and the promise of a new UNT's research enterprise, which has been emerging and taking shape in just the past several years. UNT is investing in the institution's research potential, and so too the College is investing in its faculty to pursue new levels of success in their research efforts. Increased research productivity that results from these investments has multiple benefits, including increased status for our faculty, more opportunities for students to become involved in COI's research enterprise through assistantships, and also the integration of research findings into the learning experience of our students.

William E. Moen, Associate Professor  
Director of Research for COI  
Director of TxCDK

## COLLEGE OF INFORMATION RESEARCH CENTERS

### Texas Center for Digital Knowledge (TxCDK)

The Texas Center for Digital Knowledge, founded in 2001, is an interdisciplinary research center housed in the College of Information. Under the direction of **Dr. William Moen**, TxCDK provides research proposal development and ongoing project support services to College faculty members and their collaborators and also manages programs to support PhD students' research and presentation activities. The Visual Thinking Lab, the Intelligent Information Access Lab, and the emerging Information Research and Analysis Lab work under the umbrella of TxCDK. (see descriptions below)

Website: [www.txcdk.unt.edu](http://www.txcdk.unt.edu)

### Texas Center for Educational Technology (TCET)

The Texas Center for Educational Technology was established in 1990 as a statewide center for research in educational technology. Under the direction of **Dr. James Poirot** in the Department of Learning Technologies, TCET is



TxCDK staff

completing the 3-year, Department of Education-funded, BEGIN (Beginning Educators Gain Instructional Nurture) project to recruit and support future teachers to work in high-need content areas in high-need schools.

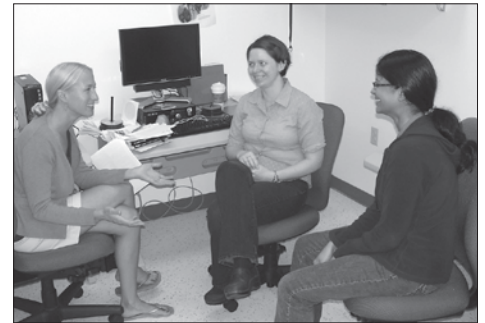
Website: [www.tcet.unt.edu](http://www.tcet.unt.edu)

### Institute for the Integration of Technology into Teaching and Learning (IITTL)

The Institute for the Integration of Technology into Teaching and Learning was founded in 1999 to conduct research and

implement best practices in the area of teaching and learning with technology. Under the direction of **Dr. Gerald Knezek** in the Department of Learning Technologies, IITTL received a National Science Foundation ITEST (Innovative Technology Experiences for Students and Teachers) award for "Middle Schoolers Out to Save the World", where students learn about science and sustainability while monitoring home energy use.

Website: [www.iittl.unt.edu](http://www.iittl.unt.edu)



IITTL student researchers

## COLLEGE OF INFORMATION RESEARCH LABS

### Educational Computing Research and Development Lab (ECRDL)

The Educational Computing Research and Development Lab offers several services to assist Computer Education and Cognitive Systems (CECS) faculty, doctoral students, and staff in achieving their academic goals in the areas of Educational Computing, Instructional Technology, and Technology-based Learning Systems. CECS faculty include **Drs. Demetria Ennis-Cole, Greg Jones, Gerald Knezek, Lin Lin, Cathleen Norris, James Poirot, and Scott Warren**.



Student assistance at ECRDL

### Technology and Applied Research in Autism Lab (TARA)

The grand opening for the newest of the Learning Technologies Department labs took place on February 13, 2010. The new Technology and Applied Research in Autism Laboratory is designed to study and help parents and caretak-



Drs. Jeff Allen and Demetria Ennis-Cole with Dean Totten at TARA opening



Website: <http://tara.unt.edu/>

### Design+Research Initiative Lab (DRIL)

Established in 2006, the Design+Research Initiative Lab creates digital designs for learning that are systematically studied for

their effectiveness. Findings will lead to the development of digital designs that capture students' imaginations and improve learning in all settings.

Website: <http://www.lt.unt.edu/research.html/>



Design and Research Lab: Drs. Jones and Knezek with student Okyoung Lim

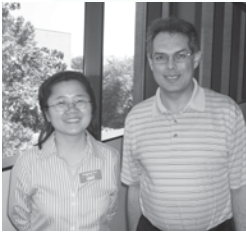
### 3D Learning Environment Research Lab (3DLER)

Established in 2005, the purpose of the 3D Learning Environment Research Lab is to research the impact of 3D learning environments on teaching and learning. Under the direction of **Dr. Greg Jones**, the 3D Lab is looking into how 3D environments impact learning and how such technology can be deployed into educational settings. A 3D environment creates a context or scaffolding for interaction using 3D presentations to engage and/or immerse the student into a situation for learning.

Website: <http://courseweb.unt.edu/gjones/3DOLElab.html>

## TEXAS CENTER FOR DIGITAL KNOWLEDGE (TxCDK) RESEARCH LABS

### Intelligent Information Access Lab (IIA)



*Drs. Chen and Ruiz*

Under the direction of **Drs. Jiangping Chen** and **Miguel Ruiz**, the Intelligent Information Access Lab conducts cutting-edge research and development in cross-language information access, multimedia retrieval, information filtering, and user interaction issues. It also investigates the application of IIA technologies to solve problems related to digital libraries, knowledge management, biomedical informatics, education, and information seeking behavior.

### Information for Research and Analysis (IRA)

Under the direction of **Dr. Kim Nimon**, the emerging Information for Research and Analysis lab provides a virtual network of existing expertise in advanced research and statistical methods as well as a physical place where College of Information faculty and students can use advanced statistical software and obtain research methodology guidance. The lab will hold exchanges where students practice presenting and faculty share research experiences and will serve as a consulting resource to community organizations and businesses.

### Visual Thinking Lab (VTL)

Under the direction of **Dr. Brian O'Connor**, the Visual Thinking Laboratory explores ways humans interact with the territory at the juncture of image and meaning. **Dr. O'Connor**, VTL co-founder **Dr. Richard Anderson** (PhD '06), and students **Melody McCotter** and **Patrick McLeod** presented a poster of their research on computational analysis of structure of Looney Tunes at the 2010 iConference. **O'Connor** and **Anderson** also had a photographic study of Soil Conservation Service Retardation Pond #16 accepted for the Water Art exhibit at the UNT on the Square gallery.



*Dr. O'Connor and students at VTL*

## TALON: UNT'S NEW HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING SYSTEM

In November 2009, UNT unveiled Talon, its newest computer cluster, which brings high performance computational (HPC) resources to UNT faculty and researchers. The cluster is a set of individual servers that can work together, combining their individual resources, to run large-scale computing programs. Talon consists of 224 Dell R410 compute nodes and has a peak performance near 17 teraflops (a measure of computing instructions per second). Acquisition of this new computing resource represents another aspect of UNT's effort to expand research activity in a number of areas and greatly increases the computing resources available to researchers. UNT faculty whose research and scholarship require use of computationally-intensive applications (e.g., simulation, modeling, text and data mining) will find Talon to be an extraordinary asset. In addition to UNT faculty, Talon resources may be used by UNT graduate or undergraduate students who are working with faculty or other principal investigators that have been approved to use the cluster. Talon joins



*Dr. Jiangping Chen*



*Dr. Greg Jones*

the other UNT computer clusters as part of the evolving research infrastructure that can make UNT more competitive when applying for federal and other grants.

Two College of Information faculty members have been involved in the HPC purchase and use policy. **Dr. Greg Jones** (LT) was a member of the committee that established requirements and technical specifications for Talon prior to its purchase. **Dr. Jiangping Chen** (LIS) serves on the HPC Advisory Committee that has developed usage and other policies related to Talon.

For more information, see: <http://citc.unt.edu/hpc/content/user-information>.

### COLLEGE OF INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION

**Herman L. Toffen**  
Professor and Dean

**Linda Schamber**  
Associate Dean  
Associate Director Ph.D. Program

**William Moen**  
Director of Research  
Director Texas Center for Digital Knowledge

**Philip Turner**  
Special Assistant to the Dean for Distributed Learning and Learning Enhancement

### LIS FACULTY

**Linda Schamber**  
Associate Professor  
Interim Chair

**Yvonne Chandler**  
Associate Professor  
Director Georgia and Nevada Cohorts

**Jiangping Chen**  
Assistant Professor

**Ana D. Cleveland**  
Regent Professor  
Director Houston Program

**Donald Cleveland**  
Professor Emeritus

**John Corbin**  
Professor Emeritus

**Yunfei Du**  
Assistant Professor

**Larry Enoch**  
Lecturer

**Elizabeth Figa**  
Associate Professor

**Martin Halbert**  
Associate Professor

**Janet Hilbun**  
Assistant Professor

**Shawne Miksa**  
Associate Professor

**William Moen**  
Associate Professor

**Margaret Irby Nichols**  
Professor Emeritus

**Brian O'Connor**  
Professor

**Guillermo Oyarce**  
Associate Professor

**Miguel Ruiz**  
Associate Professor

**Linda Schamber**  
Associate Professor

**Barbara Schultz-Jones**  
Assistant Professor

**Carol Simpson**  
Associate Professor  
(modified service)

**Barbara Stein Martin**  
Hazel Harvey Peace  
Professor of Children's Services

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**Dale Thompson**  
Assistant Professor

**Philip Turner**  
Professor

**Maurice Wheeler**  
Associate Professor

**LT FACULTY**

**Jeff Allen**  
Professor  
Interim Department Chair

**Demetria Ennis-Cole**  
Associate Professor

**Judith Enriquez**  
Assistant Professor

**Greg Jones**  
Associate Professor

**Gerald Knezek**  
Regents Professor  
Director of the Institute for the  
Integration of Technology  
and Learning

**Jie "Jessica" Li**  
Assistant Professor

**Lin Lin**  
Assistant Professor

**Kim Nimon**  
Assistant Professor

**Cathleen Norris**  
Regents Professor

**James Poirat**  
Regents Professor  
(Modified Service)

**Scott Warren**  
Assistant Professor

**Jerry Wircenski**  
Regents Professor

**Michelle Wircenski**  
Professor

**STAFF**

**College of Information**

**Elvira Aguilar**  
Marketing Specialist

**Kathryn Clodfelter**  
Associate Director TxCDK

**Jurhee Curtis**  
External Affairs and  
Alumni Relations

**Toby Faber**  
Academic Counselor

**Mary Garcia**  
Advancement Associate

**Diane Green**  
Assistant to the Associate Dean  
and IIS PhD Program

**Stephanie Horne**  
Digital Imaging Coordinator

**Theresa Jackson**  
Assistant to Academic  
Budget Officer

**Paula King**  
Special Assistant to the Dean

**Yiheng Liang**  
Technology Support Assistant,  
TxCDK

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## COI HONORED WITH OFFICIAL DESIGN AWARD

The College of Information has received the Pewter Award for its official design element from the 2010 Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District IV. (The design can be found on the back cover of this publication.) The primary objective of the design was to illustrate the College as a new member of the iSchools organization and create an identity as a nexus of learning, research, information, and technology to facilitate the creation and assimilation of knowledge, innovation, and performance. In Dean Herman Totten's message to

Jurhee Curtis, COI External Affairs Coordinator, he stated "Let me be the first to congratulate you for your leadership in securing an outstanding logo for the college."

CASE is the largest international association of education institutions, serving more than 200 universities, colleges, schools, and related organizations in 46 countries. It is a leading resource for professional development, information, and standards in the field of education fund raising, communication, and alumni relations.

## iSCHOOLS CONFERENCE



The 5<sup>th</sup> iSchools conference was held at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, February 3-6, 2010, with **Dean Herman Totten** and **Drs. William Moen, Linda Schamber**, as well as other faculty and students, in attendance. iSchools, to which the College of Information belongs, are a collaboration of 26 information schools from across the country that have gathered together to build awareness of, support for, and involvement with the information field. Each school is expected to have substantial sponsored research activity (an average of \$1 million in research expenditures per year over three years), engage in the training of future researchers, and commit to progress in the information field.

Website: <http://www.ischools.org/site/about/>  
Stephen Wolfram, founder and CEO of Wolfram

Research served as keynote speaker. Building on his best-selling book, *Mathematica, a New Kind of Science*, released in 2002, and the success of Wolfram Research, he in 2009 launched Wolfram/Alpha, an ambitious, long-term project to make as much of the world's knowledge as possible computable and accessible to everyone.

UNT faculty and students presenting poster and paper sessions included: **Drs. William Moen, Yunfei Du, Scott Warren, Jeff Allen, Herman Totten, Greg Jones, Brian O'Connor, Kim Nimon** and **Gerald Knezek**; students **Jane Huang, Melody McCotter, Rhonda Christensen, Tandra Tyler-Wood, Okyoung Lim, Williama Neaville, Richard Anderson, Patrick McLeod, Mariya Gavrilova, Wandee Tangsathitkulchai, and Peemasak Angcun.**

## COI ALUMNI INDEPENDENCE DAY TOUR OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Following the highly successful New York City tour last summer, this year's Alumni Society will sponsor a tour to Washington, D.C., June 30-July 5. In addition to the behind the scenes tours of the Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution, and other points of interest, the group will be offered a 4<sup>th</sup> of July Potomac Riverboat cruise and fireworks and will have time to explore D.C. on their own. The group will be housed at the Marriott near Georgetown and Dupont Circle, Premier West End, Metro Line, with shopping, and restaurants.

**College of Information Alumni Society**  
*Stay Connected. Stay Informed. Join today.*  
**Membership form found online at**  
[www.coi.unt.edu/alumni](http://www.coi.unt.edu/alumni) or  
[ci-alumni@unt.edu](mailto:ci-alumni@unt.edu)

## LAZEROW MEMORIAL LECTURE



Dr. Harry Bruce

Dr. Harry Bruce, Dean, School of Library & Information Sciences, University of Washington, and iSchools Coordinator Elect, 2010-2012, presented the Lazerow Memorial Lecture at Discovery Park on December 4, 2009. His topic was "iSchools Trends in Education & Research: Challenges and Recommendations."

Dr. Bruce's research and teaching focus on human information behavior, information seeking and use, and personal information management in networked information environments. His research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the Washington State Library, and the Australian Department of Employment Education and Training.



## THE DOCUMENTS ACADEMY MEETING

The Documents Academy, DOCAM 10, hosted by the College of Information (COI) and the Texas Center for Digital Knowledge (TxCDK), met on March 19-21, with Michael Buckland, Professor Emeritus at University of California, Berkeley, as keynote speaker. His speech was titled "The Suitable Arrangement of Documents." Dr. Buckland, who serves as co-director of Electronic Cultural Atlas Initiative, is the author of several books on topics in information systems and library services. He is a past-president of ASIS&T. Some 70 attended the keynote address and more than 40 were present on the following day.

Those making presentations at the meeting included: PhD students—Pok Chen, Nathan Hall, Melody McCotter, Patrick McLeod, Mel White; alumni—Daniel Alemneh (PhD '09), Rich Anderson (PhD '06), Diane Neal (PhD '06), Mark Phillips (MS '04), Ndirango (David) Wachanga (PhD '07) Miguel Ruiz (LIS faculty).

Universities represented include: UNT; University of California, Berkeley; University of Western Ontario, Canada; University of Tromso, Norway; University



Dr. Buckland, keynoter

of South Toulon Var, France; Linnaeus University, Vaxjo, Sweden; Indiana University; Huntington University, Canada; University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; and Drexel University.

## DEBATE TO BE LAUNCHED ON OPEN ACCESS TO FACULTY RESEARCH ARTICLES

UNT will become the first public university in the state to begin a focused discussion on an open access policy when it hosts the Open Access Symposium May 18, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the Gateway Center. The open discussion is sponsored by the UNT's Office of the Provost and the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the College of Information, and UNT Libraries. According to **Dr. Martin Halbert**, dean of UNT Libraries, "the symposium may be the catalyst to position UNT as a state leader in open access. A UNT plan toward open access to materials created by faculty will depend on how progressive our faculty wishes to be in promoting their research." Dr. Halbert pointed out that campus repositories are not intended to replace publishers of scholarly journals, but that they do offer many advantages for digital dissemination and preservation of published research. "By implementing an open access policy at UNT, our researchers will have a greater impact by reaching a much broader audience," he stated.

**Dr. William Moen**, associate professor, director of research for COI and director of TxCDT, who is co-organizer of the Open Access Symposium, said electronic access to a scholarly article doesn't threaten the article's copyright. "The copyright protects intellectual property even if access is given openly on the Web," he said.

Dr. Stevan Harnad, Canada Research Chair in Cognitive Science at Universite du Quebec a Montreal and founder of the American Scientist Open

Access Forum, who has been a vocal advocate for open access to scholarly literature since the early 1990's, is the symposium's keynote speaker. Other speakers include: Clifford Lynch, executive director of the Coalition for Networked Information; R. Michael Turner, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago; David E. Shulenberg, vice-president for academic affairs at the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities; Tyler O. Walters, associate director for technology and resource services at the Georgia Institute of Technology's Library and Information Center; David Eltis, the Robert W. Woodruff Professor of History at Emory University and co-editor of "Voyages: The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database," a free and interactive Web-based database that documents the slave trade from Africa to the New World between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries; and Heather Joseph, executive director of the Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition since 2005.

For more information about the symposium and its speakers and open access see <http://openaccess.unt.edu> or contact William Moen at 940-565-2473.



National Open Access logo

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**Alan Livingston**  
Technical Services Manager

**Gary Mathews**  
Technology Services Group Manager

**Myrna Medina-Orbock**  
Assistant to the Academic Counselor

**John Pipes**  
Admissions Specialist

**Josephine Reyna**  
General Access Computer Lab Manager

**Tisha Slagle**  
Academic Budget Officer

**Shelly Zhu**  
Office Assistant TxCDK

### LIS DEPARTMENT

**LeAnne Coffey**  
Assistant to the Chair

**Charlotte Thomas**  
Web Institute Coordinator

### LT DEPARTMENT

**Mary Kathy Belcher**  
Program Project Coordinator

**Mary Chandler**  
Program Project Specialist

**Rhonda Christensen**  
Research Scientist IITL

**Lynne Cox**  
Program Project Coordinator CTE

**Elizabeth Dolliver**  
Program Project Coordinator

**Lemoyne Dunn**  
Program Project coordinator TCET

**Pam Gentry**  
Program Project Specialist CTE

**Jessica Hogue**  
Administrative Assistant TCET

**Rebecca How**  
Program Project Specialist CTE

**Maureen Murphy**  
Project Manager  
BAAS Recruiting Initiative

**William Neaville**  
Program Project Coordinator IITL

**Alicia Panning**  
Administrative Specialist

**Martha Peet**  
Director TCET

**Vincent Santa Maria**  
Computer Support Specialist

**Pamela Scott-Bracey**  
Program Project Coordinator CTE

**Holly Smith**  
Program Project Coordinator CTE

**Renee Tonquest**  
Program Project Coordinator CTE

**Cindy Trussell**  
Administrative Coordinator

**Clifford Whitworth**  
Program Project Coordinator TCET

## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCES RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT

The Robert and Ruby Priddy Charitable Trust has awarded the Department of Library & Information Sciences a major grant to assist rural public libraries in Texas. Funding amounting to \$1,599,222 will support a three-year project, Promoting & Enhancing the Advancement of Rural Libraries (PEARL).

The PEARL project will assist approximately 105 targeted rural libraries to create a Community Outreach Plan and train library staff in the use of the plan. The project will also create a resource center website, develop an actual and virtual community for peer interaction among rural librarians, and provide two annual workshops for participating librarians along with two annual forums. The project also provides funding for five graduate students to earn a Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS) with an emphasis in rural librarianship.

Dr. Yunfei Du, the Principal Investigator for the project, said that "Public libraries in rural communities are facing enormous challenges." He pointed out that "they are experiencing an increase in demand for services while simultaneously dealing with declining tax bases, lack of an educated workforce, decreasing funding, and an aging population."

"Public libraries are often an under-appreciated and under-utilized resource in rural communities," said Dr. Herman L. Totten, Dean of the College of Information and director of the project. "To address this problem, libraries need to take a leadership role in creating effective partnerships with local organizations, government agencies and social institutions in order to meet the demands of the range of library users they serve."

The Robert and Ruby Priddy Charitable Trust, established in Wichita Falls, TX in 2001,

*continued on page 11*



Dr. Yunfei Du and Dean Herman Totten

## RESEARCH IN LIBRARY & INFORMATION SCIENCES



Linda Schamber,  
Associate  
Professor  
LIS Interim Chair

As you peruse the research agendas of the LIS faculty summarized in this issue (see pp. 15-18), I hope you share my pride in the diversity and progressiveness of their interests. You'll find the latest thinking on everything from people and professions to systems design and information issues. At the same time, I hope you'll notice how essentially relevant and useful their work is to the world of information practice. Perhaps this is not what you expect of academic or scholarly research; I know that's not the vision that everyone holds.

Of course, research is conducted by others outside the academy, including by our alumni who are information professionals and industry researchers (see p. 25). So what makes academic research different?

First, academics have the luxury, and in fact the mandate, to explore phenomena across information environments; that is, to not confine them to the problems of a local library or information setting. Although they may

conduct a study in a specific setting, it is with an eye to reaching generalizable conclusions, or conclusions that will transfer to other similar settings.

Second, academics use and develop theories, which are by definition generalizable. My own area of human information behavior, for example, employs theoretical models derived from observations of certain types of people that may be useful for understanding other types of people; for example, children and adults. Even writings that seem quite abstract—theoretical, philosophical, or epistemological—address important questions for information practice. For instance, essays that attempt to define concepts of document, information, or knowledge address the core of professional challenges in representing and organizing rapidly evolving forms of expression such as digital objects and social networking.

Third, academics are highly skilled in research methods and techniques: the means to collect and analyze data and to design and test systems in a controlled and systematic fashion. This is part of their career description, along with the skills of teaching.

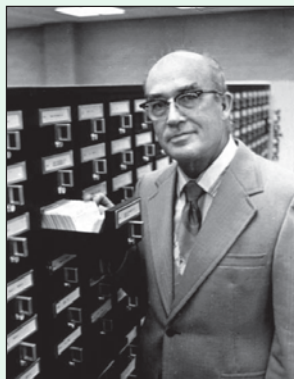
Fourth, academics disseminate their work in peer-reviewed publications in order to build

*continued on page 11*

## DR. DAVID AIKEN WEBB – 1917-2010

Dr. David Webb, longtime UNT libraries director, died in his home at Good Samaritan Village, Denton, May 4, 2010, at the age of 92. Memorial services were held at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Denton on May 7.

When Dr. Webb came to UNT in 1953, he served both as director of libraries and of the Department of Library Service. During his years as head of the LS Department, he instituted the Master of Library Science (MLS) degree, replacing the earlier Bachelor of Science in Library Science (BS in LS), a 5<sup>th</sup> year post graduate study that had been the standard professional degree for some years. He subsequently guided the department through the review and accreditation of the master's program by the American Library Association in 1965-66. Dr. Webb relinquished his directorship of the LS Department when Dr. C. Glenn Sparks



Dr. David Webb

succeeded him in 1967. In his 25 years as director of libraries, Dr. Webb's leadership resulted in many innovations such as opening the library stacks to students, building the present day UNT Willis library, and integrating computers into the library.

Dr. Webb received the bachelor's degree in English and French from the University of South Carolina, the BS in LS degree from Emory University, the Master

of Library Science degree from the University of Michigan, and the doctorate from the University of Chicago. Prior to coming to UNT, he served on the library staffs at Georgia Tech and Rice University.

He is survived by his daughter Dr. Becky Jones, son Chris Webb, and grandsons William, Samuel and Benjamin Jones. His beloved wife Ruth died several years ago.

## Latest Issue of North Texan Features Librarians In Non-Traditional Settings

Have you looked at the spring (and latest) issue of the *North Texan: A University of North Texas Publication for Alumni and Friends*? If not, please do so. The issue includes an article titled "Evolution of a Librarian" that features four LIS outstanding graduates: **Tim Stettheimer**, **Gary Jennings**, **Jana Hill**, and **David Bigwood**. The article focuses on these and other graduates of the College of Information who are using their master's or doctoral degrees in library or information science in settings beyond public, school, college, or university libraries.

Tim Stettheimer (Ph.D. '00) is regional chief information officer for Ascension, the nation's largest Catholic nonprofit health system, located in Birmingham, AL. Gary Jennings (MLS '74) is librarian for the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, located in Fort Worth. Jana Hill (MS '03) serves as associate registrar of collection information for Fort Worth's Amon Carter Museum. David Bigwood (MS



Clockwise from top left: Tim Stettheimer, Gary Jennings, David Bigwood and Jana Hill

Lynnette Jordan was a Platinum Star awardee and Tim Stettheimer a Rising Star awardee for the LIS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

The *North Texan* is mailed to graduates, or it can be accessed online at <http://northtexas.unt.edu/issues/spring-2010/>

'93) digitizes and catalogs tens of thousands of photographs as assistant manager of library services at the Lunar and Planetary Institute in Houston, a research institute funded by NASA. The article discusses the professional responsibilities of each of these LIS graduates and includes quotes from them along with others from **Dean Herman Totten**, who states that "it is a new revolution in the information revolution." The article also refers the reader to an article about **Lynnette Jordan** (BA '78), Global Information Management Services Advisor, ExxonMobile Global Services Company, at <http://northtexas.unt.edu/online/>

*Schamber, continued from page 10*

on and share new knowledge in the tradition of science and scholarship. I encourage you to read the publications of our faculty, not only to learn about their research, but also to know them beyond their personas as teachers.

Even these broadly stated differences are not exclusive to academic research. In fact, academic and professional research are fundamentally complementary. Real-world practice provides problems that both practitioners and scholars strive to solve; scholarly theory provides general perspectives and methods for understanding and solving problems; and practice provides the evidence that proposed solutions work. A clever researcher can even make one study, based on the same research problem, location, and method, serve both purposes, producing a technical report with applied results and a peer-reviewed article with theoretical results.

In short, it's no stretch at all to find academic research relevant and useful to information practice. LIS is a professional field. Our faculty members come from the information professions and give back to them in teaching and research. Our field is all about knowledge, which we love and promote regardless of our career roles. In the words of Francis Bacon: "The pleasure and delight of knowledge and learning, it far surpasseth all other in nature."

## LIS BOARD OF ADVISORS MEETS

At their annual meeting, that took place at the Gateway Center, March 1, 2010, the LIS Board of Advisors (BOA) was welcomed by **Dean Herman Totten** and received an update on the state of the department by Interim Chair **Dr. Linda Schamber**. The focus of the Board's discussion groups during the morning was on the department's mission, vision, goals and objectives. Following the luncheon, at which the board received greetings from board chair **Tyronne Cannon**, members made reports resulting from the group discussions. The Board serves as a "sounding board" for the Dean and faculty by providing insight and feedback related to programs and the accreditation process and guidance in other matters such as the long range planning process, public relations, faculty recruitment, and outside funding. **Katherine Hoffman** was elected Board chair for 2011. (See names of board members pp. 11-12)

*MAJOR GRANT, continued from page 10*

has focuses on Liberal Arts Education, Pre-K-12 Public Education, Community Healthcare, and Rural Public Libraries. The Trust makes significant grant awards that enable people to make positive changes in their lives and their communities.

**Kathy Hoffman**, chair, ex dir, Research Medical Library, University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston; **Rosie Albritton**, dir lib servs, Prairie View A&M University; **Adrian Alexander**, dean of libr, University of Tulsa; **Jacqueline Allen**, dir of libr & imaging servs, Museum of Art, Dallas; **Martha Bedard**, dean of univ libr and prof of librarianship, University of New Mexico; **Barry Bishop**, dist lib info servs dir, Spring Branch ISD, Houston, Tx; **Barbara Blake**, assist coord., West Texas Library System, Lubbock, TX; **Holly Buchanan**, assoc vp for knowledge magt & IT, and dir, health science library, University of New Mexico; **L. Maximilian Buja**, ex dir, Houston Academy of Medicine, Texas Medical Center Library, Houston; **Tyrone H. Cannon**, dean, univ libr, University of San Francisco; **Sharon Carr**, dist lib dir, El Paso (TX) ISD; **Margaret Carroll**, former magr for Microsoft Corp, Las Colinas (TX) Library; **Johnny Carson**, natl acct magr, Brodard Company; **Lisa Casto**, dir of lib servs, Art Institute of Dallas; **Marianne Comegys**, chair, dept of med libr sc, LSU Health Sciences Center, Shreveport, LA; **Coleen Cook**, dean, Sterling C. Evans Library, Texas A&M University; **Susan Curzon**, dean, University Library, California State University, Northridge; **Daphne DeLeon**, div admin, Nevada State Library, Carson City; **Gail Dickinson**, asst prof, Dept. of Edu Curriculum & Instruction, College of Education, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, CA; **Carol Doll**, prog dir, school Librarianship, Dept. of Education Curriculum & Inst, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, CA; **Laurie Evans**, dir of libr, Dallas Public Library; **Joshua Ferraro**, pres tech, LibLime, Athens, OH; **Teena Garvin**, lib coord, Garland (TX) ISD; **Rhoda Goldberg**, interim dir, Harris County Public Library, Houston; **Sharon Gullett**, lib media consult, Tyler, TX; **Martin Halbert**, dean, UNT Libraries; **Deborah Halsted**, acting dir, Houston Academy of Medicine Texas Medical Center Library, Houston; **Fred Health**, vice provost and dir of gen libr, University of Texas at Austin; **Norman Howden**, asst dean edu resources, El Centro College, Dallas; **Joan Howland**, prof of law & assoc dean for info & tech, University of Minnesota Law School; **Joan Jarosek**, Jones Day, Dallas;

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**Sara Jones**, dir, Carson City (NV) Library; **Lynnette Jordan**, Project Delta infor mgr, Exxon Mobile Corp, Houston; **Bonnie Juergens**, ex dir, Amigos Library Services, Dallas; **Obidike Kamau**, lib dir, Texas Southern University, Houston; **Rhonda Keaton**, librn relations constl, LexisNexis, Ft Worth; **Melody Kelly**, LIS adj faculty, Denton; **Leona Kemp**, virtual librn, UNT-Dallas Campus; **Jana Knezek**, dir of lib and textbook servs, Northside ISD, San Antonio; **Rhea Lawson**, dir of librs, Houston Public Library; **John Leggett**, assoc dean for digital initiatives, Texas A&M University Libraries, College Station, TX; **Michelle Malizia**, assoc dir, National Network of Libraries of Medicine South Central Region, Houston Academy of Medicine; **Kevin Marsh**, network servs librn, Texas State Library, Austin; **Kay McBride**, coord of lib servs, Pasadena ISD, Pasadena, TX; **Gillian McCombs**, dean and dir, Central University Libraries, Southern Methodist University, Dallas; **Blythe McCoy**, librn rels mgr, Thomson West; **Sandra McLeroy**, lib tech spec, ESC Region 6, Huntsville, TX; **Joan Mitchell**, ed in chief, OCLC, Inc.; **Susan Phillips**, assoc dean/dir of law lib and prof of law, Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, Ft Worth; **Eva Poole**, dir of librs, Denton (TX) Public Library; **Judy Rasberry**, edu coordn, Medical Center of Lewisville, TX; **Farzaneh Razzaghi**, dean of lib, University of Texas Pan American, Edinburg, TX; **Michelle Rigual**, law lib dir, assoc prof of law, Texas Wesleyan School of Law, Ft Worth; **Dana Rooks**, dean of librs, University of Houston Libraries; **Kathy Royal**, LIS adjunct faculty; **Peggy Rudd**, Dir and librn, Texas State Library, Austin; **Ramero Salazar**, lib dir, San Antonio Public Library; **Larry Sall**, dean of librs, University of Texas at Dallas; **Gerald Saxon**, dean of librs, University of Texas Arlington; **Patricia Smith**, ex dir, Texas Library Association, Austin, TX; **Laurie Thompson**, asst vp for lib servs, UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas; **Paul Thompson**, assoc prof, comptr sc, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH; **Costas Tsatsoulis**, dean, UNT College of Engr; **Clarice Weeks**, lib dir, Paul Quinn College, Dallas

### HAZEL HARVEY PEACE SPRING EVENT

A spring 2010 event took place on February 20<sup>th</sup> to raise money to further the goals of Hazel Harvey Peace through children's research, information, libraries and scholarship took place on February 20. At the morning session, a panel consisting of academic,

public, secondary and elementary school librarians focused on how students K-12 can be better prepared for their future academic life and the workplace. Following lunch, the afternoon consisted of workshops that extended discussions with the experts.



From left to right—*Dr. Robert Martin (panel leader), Robin Henry, Teresa Crafton, Marilyn Joyce, Annie Downey.*

### ON THE SUBJECT OF RESEARCH



*Dr. Jeff M. Allen, Professor  
LT Interim Chair*

Research is the cornerstone of the Department of Learning Technologies. Quite literally, we began with the subject of research as we formed our department. Our faculty first determined our broad areas of interest: Learning, Performance and Computing Technologies. These three constructs form the backbone of our research areas, our degree plans, and our guiding philosophies.

Through each of these constructs, faculty members conduct their own specialized research in areas such as: learning and performance innovation, autism spectrum disorders, creation and distribution of knowledge and learning, developing and testing formal models of technology integration, advancing strategic employee development in organizations, youth development through new media and technologies, human factors, workplace spirituality, use of existing and emerging technologies to improve student literacy, motivation to learn, career and technical education, learning styles, and authentic assessment.

This spring, we are completing the redesign of our degree programs at the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral levels to provide three distinct areas of study (learning, performance, and computing) with a number of exciting concentrations within each. Connecting degree programs much closer to faculty research provides an opportunity for students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to become more knowledgeable of the connection between classroom education and faculty research.

The Department of Learning Technologies utilizes theories, systems, processes, and tools that

advance society by improving skill sets, promoting global and local connectivity, and increasing the productivity and knowledge of society.

Faculty research in the university adds a deep richness to the student experience that is not encountered in any other educational setting. Faculty research directly affects the planning of degree programs, degree plans, course syllabi, and lectures. As UNT strives to become a national research university, scholars in the Department of Learning Technologies must continue to integrate their research into the classroom and degree program experiences.

A new state program (HB 51) was created to help emerging research universities like UNT become top tier research universities and compete nationally for students, faculty and research dollars. "As one of Texas' seven emerging research universities, UNT has set its sights on becoming a top national research — or tier one — university. To get there, UNT is building on its strengths as a comprehensive institution with global reach and investing millions in its faculty, graduate students, academic programs and research facilities. To ensure the university continues to meet its goals, we are being innovative in how we invest in programs that support students, attract first-rate faculty, make funded research possible and keep scholarship and creative activities across the board vibrant. We are well positioned to become a national research university because we have a strong foundation on which to build."<sup>1</sup>

The research capacity of Department of Learning Technologies is simply amazing. In 2009, the department secured \$2.79 million in external funding. In November, the Office of Research and Economic Development hosted its annual research reception to honor UNT leaders in research, scholarship and creative endeavors. During this event, the office honored two Learning Technologies faculty. Dr. Gerald Knezek received the "Competitive Funding

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Award" honoring the principal investigator who, during the preceding fiscal year, was awarded the highest amount of competitive extramural research grant funding that promoted the mission of UNT. 2010 will be a good research year for UNT and the department.

A favorite quote states, "To talk in public, to think in solitude, to read and to hear, to in-

quire and to answer inquires, that is the business of a scholar." It is difficult, as a faculty member at a research institute, to separate my teaching, research and service scholarship. I also realize that it is difficult for others to understand the intimate relationship between research, teaching and service scholarship. The health of one promotes the health of another. Thus, the department strives to integrate all aspects of scholarship to enhance student outcomes.

Research is a cornerstone of great universities just as research is the cornerstone of our department. The Department of Learning Technologies is a research leader at the University of North Texas. Please enjoy this issue that highlights many of the research accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni.

1: <http://www.unt.edu/untresearch/2009-2010/initiatives.htm>

## SITE AND AACE CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

The Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE) and the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE) joined forces for their annual conferences, both meeting in San Diego, CA, March 29-April 2. The Learning Technologies Department presenters at the two conferences included:

**Ruby Bohannon** (student), "Location, Location, Location: An Exploration of Location-Aware Learning Games for Mobile Devices"

**Dr. Rhonda Christensen** (MS '92, PhD '97), **Dr. Gerald Knezek** (faculty), **Rebekah McPherson** (MS '05), **Dr. Tandra Tyler-Wood**, "Integrating Science Curriculum into a Computerized Classroom Simulation"

**Dr. Rhonda Christensen** (MS '92, PhD '97), **Dr. Gerald Knezek** (faculty), **David Gibson**, **Amber Ellison**, **Okyoung Lim** (students), "No More Standing-by for Middle Schoolers: Project Updates from Middle Schoolers Out to Save the World (MSOSW)"

**Dr. Lemoyne Dunn** (PhD '04), **Dr. Martha Peet** (PhD '03)), "A Taxonomy of Teacher-Created Class Websites: Increasing the Educational Value of Class Websites"

**Dr. Tandra-Tyler Wood**, **Amber Ellison**, and **Michael Sayler** (students), "Depicting Gifted Students in a Simulated Classroom: Effects on Pre-Service Teacher Perceptions"

**Dr. Judith Enriquez** (faculty), "Writing Presence: Making Absence Present in Online Pedagogy."

**Jonathan Gratch** (student) "Teacher Perspectives: What Makes a Video Game Effective in the K-12 Classroom?"

**Dr. Greg Jones** (faculty), "Problems Encountered When Implementing a 3D Multi-User Virtual Environment into Formal K-12 Settings."

**Anita Kliever** (MEd '05) and **Dr.**

**Lemoyne Dunn** (PhD '04), "Professional Development for Communities of Practice."

**Dr. Gerald Knezek** (faculty), **Dr. Rhonda Christensen** (MS '92, PhD '97), "The International Handbook Summit Call to Action for Learning with Technology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Next Step," Part 1 and Part 2

**Jennifer Lee**, **Anjum Najmi** (students), **Dr. Scott Warren** (faculty), "An Analysis of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning through Problem-Based Learning and Alternative Reality Gaming"

**Dr. Lin Lin** (faculty) and **Chris Bigenho** (student), "Cognitive Load in Different Media Environments: When Does Note-taking Help Memory Recall?"

**Anjum Najmi** (student), "How a Design Model with Behaviorist Underpinnings Can Offer a Framework for Learning, Anytime, Anywhere"

**Buncha Samruayruen** (student), "Improving Instructional Design for Online Learning by Using the Online Top-Down Modeling Model"

**Linda Stromberg** (student), "Enhancing Field-Based Learning with Online Interaction"

**Shanyuan (Shelly) Zhu** (student), "Games, Simulations and Virtual Environment in Education"

### A tribute:

According to **Dr. Gerald Knezek**, faculty and president of SITE, much of the success of the



Participants at conference

conference was due to PhD students **Jonathan Gratch** and **Shelly Zhu**. Jonathan organized the eight student volunteers who worked the UNT exhibit; he seemed to always be at the exhibit area during the three days of the conference, selling the LT programs. Shelly managed the transportation of the recruiting materials, set up and take down, and return shipping. Dr. Knezek says that "the SITE conference recruiting was successful due to the efforts of these two outstanding LT PhD students."

## ISTE PRESENTERS

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) conference will meet in Denver, CO, June 29-31. UNT LT speakers include the following:

**Amber Ellison** with **Dr. Rhonda Christensen** (MS '92, PhD '97), **Dr. Gerald Knezek** (faculty), **Pamela Peak** and **Dr. Tandra Tyler-Wood**, "Introducing Preservice Teachers to Sim-School, A Computerized Classroom"

**Dr. Greg Jones** (faculty) and **Dr. Scott Warren** (faculty) with **David Gibson** and **Constance Steinkuhler** (students), "Games, Simulations, and Virtual Environments for Learning and Teaching;" and "Games and Simulations (SIGGS) Gathering"

**Dr. Greg Jones** (faculty) with **Dr. Scott Warren** (faculty) "Chalk House: Report and Use of Educational Trials."

**Kelley King** with **Julie Schellen** (students), "Preservice Teachers' Practice in a Simulated

Classroom: A Grounded Theory.

**Gerald Knezek** (faculty) with **Dr. Rhonda Christensen**, **Amber Ellison**, **Okkkyoung Lim** and **Dr. Tandra Tyler-Wood**, "Middle-Schoolers Using Technology to Monitor Standby Power: First-Year Findings."

**Jennifer Lee** with **Anjum Najmi** and **Robert Wright** (students), "Helping Latino Students Succeed through an Online Community of Learners"

## DR. GERALD KNEZEK RECEIVES AWARD



*Drs. Moen, Knezek, and Allen*

The UNT Office of Research and Economic Development hosted its annual Research and Creativity Awards Presentation at a reception honoring UNT leaders in research, scholarship and creative endeavors on November 2, 2009. Six awards, five of which were newly created, were handed out to recognize outstanding faculty researchers. **Regents Professor Gerald Knezek**, LT faculty, was recipient of the Competitive Funding Award, which honors the Principal Investigator who, during the preceding fiscal year, was awarded the highest amount of competitive external research grant funding that promotes the mission of UNT. See <http://research.unt.edu/Awardsforresearchandcreativity.htm/>

His National Science Foundation ITEST grant "Middle Schoolers Out to Save the World," studies how a technology based program can enhance science education while helping students monitor energy consumption. In his announcement of the award to faculty and staff, **Dean Herman Totten** said, "Dr. Knezek, we are proud to have you as our colleague. You bring distinction and honor to UNT, COI, and LT."

**Drs. William Moen** (LIS faculty) and **Jeffrey Allen** (LT faculty) were in the top 15 UNT faculty members in terms of all external awards: Top External Funding Recipients for Fiscal Year 2009.

## Dr. Ana Cleveland Receives Three Honors

Regents Professor Ana Cleveland, of the Library & Information Sciences faculty, is the recipient of three honors, the most recent of which is the 2010 Ida and George Eliot Prize, awarded to her and her husband, LIS Professor Emeritus **Donald Cleveland**, for their book, *Health Informatics for Medical Librarians* (Neal-Schumann Publishers, Inc.). The Eliot Prize is awarded for a published work from the previous calendar year that has been deemed the most effective in furthering medical librarianship.

Early in 2009, Dr. Cleveland was also named the 2010 Janet Doe Lecturer, the highest honor accorded a member of the Medical Library Association. The Ida and George Eliot Prize will be presented and her lecture delivered at the 2010 MLA conference to be held in

Washington, D.C. in May 2010.

At the annual meeting of the Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE), Dr. Cleveland received the 2010 ALISE Award for Teaching Excellence in the Field of Library and Information Science Education. The award is based on evidence of regular and sustained excellence in teaching in the library and information science area, contributions to curriculum design which demonstrates subject expertise and the ability to integrate new developments in library and information science, evidence of mentoring students, alumni, and/or practicing professionals outside the classroom, and the use of effective and innovative teaching methods.



*Drs. Donald Cleveland and Ana Cleveland*

## Dr. Jim Poirot Honored at TCEA Annual Conference

A reception honoring Regents Professor Jim Poirot, Learning Technologies Department, held on February 11, 2010, in Austin during the 30<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA), recognized his 34 years of service to UNT and his involvement in founding the Association. The nationally recognized TCEA conference showcases the latest in cutting-edge products, educational technology training, and relevant speakers, with some 12,000 registered participants and 900 exhibitors

The nucleus of TCEA grew out of a class of 24 teachers from the Dallas ISD who gave up their off hours and weekends to enroll in a UNT graduate computer science class in spring 1980. While tuition and fees were paid by a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the teachers took the class because of



*Jim and Peggy Poirot with children Jeff and Pamela and grandson Stephen.*

their dedication to children, their commitment to quality education, and their wish to stay above the curve in learning technologies.

With less than \$3,000 remaining in the

NSF grant, Dr. Poirot, who was responsible for the grant and the class, obtained permission to use the funds for an organizational meeting of technology-using educators. At a meeting, held at UNT on May 3, 1980, with 135 from across the state in attendance, it was determined that an association should exist. Ninety-five of those present paid the \$10 dues to become charter members of what would become TCEA. During the next few months, a charter was created and a slate of officers proposed. The charter was approved and officers elected at a meeting held at UNT on October 4, 1980. Dr. Poirot served as the organization's first president and has continued his involvement in the organization since that time.

Due to snow in the DFW area, Dean Herman Totten and many faculty and staff were

*Continued on page 15*

## FACULTY RESEARCH INTERESTS



**Dr. Ana Cleveland,**  
Regents Professor

Dr. Ana D. Cleveland's research is in the areas of health informatics and health sciences librarianship. Specifically, she has focused her attention on four main areas: (1) the role of medical librarians in health informatics initiatives; (2) the health information behavior of diverse populations; (3) Web 2.0 technologies in medical libraries; and (4) the literature of translational medicine. In all her research endeavors, Dr. Cleveland strives to produce work that can have practical applications to health information environments.

- Cleveland, A.D., & Cleveland, D.B. (2009). *Health Informatics for Medical Librarians*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers.
- Cleveland, A.D., Philbrick, J., Pan, X., Yu, X., Chen, J., O'Neill II, M., & Smith, L. (2009). "Quality Health Information on the Internet: Developing a Diabetes Pathfinder for the Chinese Population," *Journal of Consumer Health Information on the Internet*, 13(4), 313-333.



**Dr. Jiangping Chen,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Chen conducts research in the areas of intelligent information access and digital libraries. Her recent projects explore theoretical framework of cross-language information access and usefulness of online translational services for digital libraries. She submitted an IMLS National Leadership grant proposal titled "Enabling Multilingual Information Access

to Digital Collections: An Investigation of Metadata Records Translation." She is offering a new course in summer 2010: SLIS 5960 Multilingual Information Access ([http://max.lis.unt.edu/courses/MLIA\\_SYLLABUS.pdf](http://max.lis.unt.edu/courses/MLIA_SYLLABUS.pdf)) to involve students in her research.

- Chen, Jiangping & Bao, Y. (2009) "Cross-language Search: The Case of Google Language Tools," *First Monday*, 14(3). <http://firstmonday.org/htbin/cgiwrap/bin/ojs/index.php/fm/article/view/2335/2116>.
- Chen, Jiangping & Bao, Y. (2009) "Information Access across Languages on the Web: From Search Engines to Digital Libraries," Online Proceedings of 2009 annual conference of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, November 7-11, 2009.
- Chen, Jiangping & Ruiz, M. "Towards an Integrative Approach to Cross-language Information Access for Digital Libraries," Proceedings of SIGIR 2009 Workshop: Information Access in a Multilingual World, Boston, MA, July 23, 2009.



**Dr. Yunfei Du,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Du's research interests include information behavior, digital literacy, online learning, and evaluation and assessment. Digital media resulted in multiple changes in academic library settings, new generation of library users, new patterns on digital reading, and the information use of social media. Dr. Du has published in peer-reviewed journals such as *Library & Information Science Research*, *LIBRI: International Journal of Libraries and Information Service*, and *Journal of Education for Library and Information Science*. (See article on major grant received on p. 10.)



**Dr. Elizabeth Figa,**  
Associate Professor

Dr. Figa is an ethnographer/information scientist who studies information seeking behavior, information use patterns, and the information needs of specialized groups. Her current research, for which she recently received a UNT Research Opportunity grant, focuses on a scientific group called Micropaleontologists/Biostratigraphers who do wellsite and laboratory examination of microfossils to make informed decisions during oceanic-based oil drilling. She is interested in their

unique forms of knowledge management and their information needs.

- Figa, Elizabeth, Bone, T., Macpherson, J. (2009) "Faculty-librarian Collaboration for Library Services in the Online Classroom: Student Evaluation Results and Recommended Practices for Implementation," *Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning*, 3(2), 67-102.
- Figa, Elizabeth & Bone, T. (2009) "Librarian on Board! Online Classroom Library Services to Distance e-Learning Students: A Service Analysis Using Survey and Interview Research Techniques," *Texas Library Journal*, 85(1), 14-19.



**Dr. Shawne Miksa,**  
Associate Professor

Dr. Miksa's main research focus recently has been on the emerging Resource Description and Access (RDA) standard for bibliographic data management and access. She is the past chair of the RDA Implementation Task Force, a national task force of the ALA's Association of Library Collections and Technical Services (ALCTS). She is completing a cataloging and classification textbook on RDA for Neal Schuman Publishers, teaches an experimental course on RDA, and provides virtual presentations on the subject.

- Chung, E., Miksa, S., & Hastings, S.K. (in press). "A Framework of Automatic Subject Term Assignment for Text Categorization: An Indexing Conception-based Approach," *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*. Retrieve at <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/123263033/PDFSTART>
- Miksa, S. (2009). "Resource Description and Access (RDA) and New Research Potentials," *Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 35(5), 47-51.



**Dr. William E. Moen,**  
Associate Professor

Dr. Moen conducts research and development projects to explore the representation of information objects through various metadata schemas; the design and implementation of digital repositories to store the objects and their metadata; and flexible approaches for discovery, findability, and retrieval of digital information. He is currently Principal Investigator on an IMLS-funded grant with

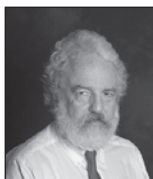
DR. POIROT, continued from page 14

unable to attend the reception honoring Dr. Poirot, though many of his family members, close friends, colleagues, and associates were in attendance. In the absence of Dean Totten, Dr. Jeff Allen, Interim Learning Technologies Chair, served as emcee. Speakers included long-time colleague, Regents Professor Gerald Knezek, and Dr. Poirot's son, the Reverend Jeff Poirot. Dr. Poirot was presented a crystal award inscribed with the UNT logo and the words "For Distinguished Scholarship and Service." Following an introduction of family members and presentation of long stem red roses to Mrs. Poirot, the program concluded with a photo slide presentation documenting the Poirot family through the years. (See article on Poirot Endowment on p. 31.)

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the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, as well as a Co-Principal Investigator on a NSF-funded project led by two faculty members from the Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies.

- \* Moen, W.E., Huang, J., McCotter, M., Neill, A. & Best, J. (2010). "Extraction and Parsing of Herbarium Specimen Data: Exploring the Use of the Dublin Core Application Profile Framework", in *iConference 2010 Proceeding*. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Feb 3-6, 2010 (pp. 154-160.) [http://nora.lis.uiuc.edu/images/iConferences/2010papers\\_Allen-Ortiz.pdf](http://nora.lis.uiuc.edu/images/iConferences/2010papers_Allen-Ortiz.pdf)
- \* Moen, W.E. (2009). "Designing and Implementing a Learning Object Repository: Issues of Complexity, Granularity, and User Sense-Making." 4th International Conference on Open Repositories, Atlanta, GA, May 2009. <http://hdl.handle.net/1853/28442>



**Dr. Brian O'Connor,**  
Professor

Dr. O'Connor conducts research in thinking in, with, and about photographs; personal strategies for information seeking; and conceptual bases for bringing documents to the point of use. He has been awarded a faculty development leave to write a book on the future of photographs as documents from an entropy and signal processing perspective; the tentative title is *Hacking the Universe, Hacking the Heart*. Dr. O'Connor is director of the Visual Thinking Lab.

- \* O'Connor, B. (2009). "Reconstructing BelLOUR: Automating the Semiotic Analysis of Film," *Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 35(5), 31-40.
- \* O'Connor, B. (2009). "Photography Changes Our Environmental Awareness," *Smithsonian Photography Initiative*. Retrieved from <http://click.si.edu/VisitorStory.aspx?story=654>



**Dr. Guillermo Oyarce,**  
Associate Professor

A member of the UNT research cluster Sub-Antarctic Biocultural Conservation and Research, Dr. Oyarce has submitted a PASI (Pan-American Advanced Studies Institutes) grant proposal to the National Science Foundation. The proposal is to organize a high level training institute on ecological information issues from field data collection through sensors, to data gathering, storage and analyses. The proposal involves interdisciplinary collaboration

with university partners in the United States, Chile and Argentina.

- \* Caidi, N., Rieh, S.Y. & Oyarce, G. (2010). "Collaborative Information Seeking and Sharing: The 9th Symposium of SIG/USE," *Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 36(3), 39-41.



**Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones,**  
Assistant Professor

At the heart of Dr. Schultz-Jones research is the relationship between K-12 student learning and achievement and the roles that the school library plays in enabling the journey from information to knowledge. This research encompasses collaboration networks, using social network analysis as an emerging area for school libraries; the school library as a learning environment, building on the extensive body of research concerning classroom learning environments; and the organization of resources for discovery and access. A \$4,000 grant in 2008 enabled Dr. Schultz-Jones to conduct social network research within the school library environment and resulted in an article published in *Knowledge Quest*, The Official Journal of the American Association of School Librarians (AASL), titled "Collaboration Opportunities in the School Social Network; School Library Media Specialists Connections," (2009), 37(4), 20-25.

- \* Schultz-Jones, B., & Ledbetter, Co. (2009) "School Libraries as Learning Environments: Examining Elementary and Middle School Students Perceptions." Proceedings of the 13<sup>th</sup> International Forum on Research in School Librarianship at the 38<sup>th</sup> International Association of School Librarianship Annual Conference, Padua, Italy, September 1-4, 2009.
- \* Schultz-Jones, B. (2009). "Examining Information Behavior through Social Networks: An Interdisciplinary Review," *Journal of Documentation* 65(4), 592-631.



**Dr. Dale Thompson,**  
Assistant Professor

An expert on information security and protected information (i.e., intelligence), Dr. Thompson is co-Principal Investigator on a recent interdisciplinary submission to the National Science Foundation related to cyber security. Dr. Thompson recently presented an extension of his dissertation research on workplace views of sensitive information at the Human Factors in Information Security Conference, a first of its kind forum for the exchange of knowledge on

enduring challenges in keeping information and content secure.

- \* Thompson, D. (2010, February). "Sensitive Information in Five Types of Organizations: A View from the Workplace." Paper presented at the Human Factors in Information Security Conference. London, UK.
- \* Thompson, D. (2008). *Sensitive Information: An Inquiry into the Interpretation of Information in the Workplace from an Individual's Perspective Using Qualitative Methods*. (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (Publication no. AAT 3323090)



**Dr. Philip Turner, Professor,**  
Special Assistant to the Dean for Distributed Learning and Learning Enhancement Specialist,  
Center for Learning Assessment and Redesign

Dr. Turner's research and publications are in the area of the application of emerging information and communication technologies to enhance continuing education in libraries and student learning outcomes in general education courses. He received a recent grant for "Development, Testing, and Delivery of Online Training Lessons for College Algebra Instruction" funded by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in 2007, for \$224,256.

- \* Turner, P. (2009). "Next Generation Course Redesign," *Change* 41(6) 10-16.
- \* Turner, P., & Carriveau, R. (in press). *Next Generation Course Redesign*. New York, NY: Peter Lang.



**Dr. Maurice Wheeler,**  
Associate Professor

Socially grounded and interdisciplinary in nature, Dr. Wheeler's research has explored issues of organizational culture and diversity and their intersection with information and the information profession. Using research in applied practice and policy development as a framework, his work explores how information organizations and libraries respond to the need for change, particularly in addressing issues and making decisions related to race, culture and diversity in library education, services (access), staff and special collections.

- \* Wheeler, M. (2010). *African American Faculty in Library and Information Science Education: Status, Trends and Issues*. Manuscript in preparation.
- \* Wheeler, M. (2010). *Politics, Music the Origins of Hate: Minstrel Music Archives and the Reconstruction of Racial Stereotypes*. Manuscript in preparation.

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Learning Technologies



**Dr. Jeff Allen,**  
Professor and Learning  
Technologies Interim  
Chair

Dr. Allen has an aggressive research agenda in learning and performance innovation. He secures approximately \$600,000 annually in federal funding via the Texas Education Agency and plans to extend collaborative opportunities with private corporate entities, public school districts, and community colleges. His 2010 plans include funding opportunities through the National Science Foundation Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings and Division of Social and Economic Sciences.

- \* Allen, J. & Allen, D. (2009). *Learning Resource Systems*. Arlington, VA: Accreditation Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology.
- \* Allen, J. & Allen, D. (2008). *Faculty Improvement Planning and Implementation*. Arlington, VA: Accreditation Commission of Career Schools and Colleges of Technology.



**Dr. Judith Enriquez,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Enriquez' research strives for an international presence and readership with a threefold focus on how technologies change the ways: (1) we relate (social networks); (2) we communicate (computer-/technology-mediated communications); (3) we represent ourselves in relation to (1) and (2) (cybercultures). She builds and leads an interdisciplinary research agenda through alternative ways of thinking about methodological approaches in the context of the Internet and on emerging technologies. This is evident in a recent grant proposal submitted that focuses on implementing STS (science and technology studies) approaches and visual methods towards a patient-centric intervention program for the care and cure of cancer patients in Texas.

- \* Enriquez, J.D. (2009). "From Bush Pump to Blackboard: The Fluid Workings of a Virtual Environment," *E-Learning*, 6(4) 385-399.
- \* Enriquez, J.D. (2009). "Genre Analysis of Online Postings." In L. Dirckinck-Holmfeld, C.R. Jones & B. Lindstrom, eds. *Analysing Networked Learning Practices in Higher Education and Continuing Professional Development*. Rotterdam: Sense, 85-102.



**Dr. Greg Jones,**  
Associate Professor

Dr. Jones's interest is in expanding the way technology can be used to further the creation and distribution of knowledge and learning. His research focuses on the areas of emerging technologies for learning, which include visualization systems for education, virtual communities, telementoring, and multi-user 3D online learning environments (virtual environments). These technologies support learning by the distribution of interaction and feedback across both time and space via interactive forms of multimedia. (See additional information under Faculty Bites and Bytes.)

- \* Jones, J.G., Warren, S.J. & Robertson, M. (2009). "Increasing Student Discourse to Support Rapport Building in Web and Blended Courses Using a 3D Online Learning Environment," *Journal of Interactive Learning Research*, 20(3), 269-294.
- \* Jones, J.G., & Warren, S. (2008). "Three-dimensional Computer-based Online Learning." In J. Voogt & G.A. Knezek (eds.), *The International Handbook of Information Technology in Education* (pp. 893-902). Springer.



**Dr. Jessica Li,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Li investigates the impact of social and economic changes on employee work-related values and attitudes, particularly in China. Extensive interviews in several major Chinese cities were supported by two internal grants – Faculty Research Initiation Grant and Hispanic/Global Studies Initiatives Fund. Dr. Li is part of a joint research group conducting a comparative study of ethical business practices of managers and employees in Brazil, Russia, India and China. One of her research papers has received the cutting edge research paper award at the Academy of Human Resource Development.

- \* Li, J. & Madsen, J. (In press). "Examining Chinese Managers' Work Related Values and Attitudes," *Chinese Management Studies*.
- \* Li, J. & Madsen, J. (2009). "Chinese Workers' Work Ethic in Reformed State Owned Enterprises: Implications for HRD," *Human Resource Development International*, 12(2), 171-188.



**Dr. Lin Lin,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Lin's research includes the impact of media multitasking and online teaching and learning. She has investigated the connections of media multitasking to students' learning habits, goals, styles, self-control, and subject matter expertise. Recently, she received two internal grants—Research Initiative Grant and Junior Faculty Summer Grant—to explore media multitasking attitudes and activities of children and their parents. Her research in online learning is an extension of her dissertation and faculty support work at Columbia University. One of her publications in online learning has been recognized as exemplary faculty research at the Sloan Consortium.

- \* Lin, L. (2009). "Breadth-biased Versus Focused Cognitive Control in Media Multitasking Behaviors." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) USA*, 106: 15521-15522. doi:10.1073/pnas.0908642106
- \* Lin, L., Robertson, T., & Lee, J. (2009). "Reading Performances between Novices and Experts in Different Media Multitasking Environments," *Computers in Schools*, 26(3), 169-186.



**Dr. Kim Nimon,**  
Assistant Professor

Dr. Nimon's research is in the area of human resource development. Her research agenda focuses on improving human performance through the practice of workplace spirituality, the measurement and evaluation of employee attitudes, and the development of quantitative statistical methodologies to assess human performance technology interventions. In all of her research, she endeavors to bridge the gap between research and practice.

- \* Nimon, K., N. Philibert, & J. Allen. (2009) "Corporate Chaplaincy Programs: An Exploratory Study Relates Corporate Chaplaincy Activities to Employee Assistance Programs," *Journal of Management, Spirituality, & Religion*, 3, 231-262.
- \* Zigarmi, D., Nimon, K., Houson, D., Witt, D., & Diehl, J., (2009) "Employee Engagement: Toward a Framework and Operational Definition for Employee Work Passion," *Human Resource Development Review*, 8, 300-326.
- \* Nimon, D. & Williams, C. (2009) "Performance Improvement through Repeated Measures: A Primer for Educators Considering Univariate and Multivariate Design," *Research in Higher Education Journal*, 2, 117-136.

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faculty bits & bytes

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COI Dean **Herman Totten** was one of seven male librarians termed “champions” whose interviews about their careers were published in the Black Caucus American Library Association (BCALA) *Newsletter*, Nov/Dec 2009 issue.

Regents Professor **Gerald Knezek** (LT) attended the inaugural meeting of the Global Learning Conference as president of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education (SITE), one of the conference sponsors. The purpose of the meeting, held in Malaysia, was to serve the growing need for research and development for online learning and educator preparation for Asian countries. He chaired an invited symposium titled the Next Steps Beyond the International Handbook for Information Technology in Education (Voogt & Knezek, eds. Springer, 2008), and hosted a Birds of a Feather session for Asian faculty and educational leaders interested in developing technology and teacher education organizations in their home countries.



**Toby Faber**, COI academic counselor, participated in a program at the 2010 Texas Library Association Conference titled “Introduction to a Great Profession: An Overview of Texas Library Schools.” A panel of representatives from Texas universities that offer library and information science degrees spoke about their respective programs.



**Charlotte Thomas**, LIS Web Institute coordinator, was one of the speakers at the Melvin B. Tolson Black Heritage Center at Langston, OK, on March 10, 2010. In addition to UNT, there were speakers from the University of Oklahoma and Langston College. One of the goals of the event was to encourage more African Americans to join the field.

On April 29, **Javier Rocha**, student assistant to COI External Affairs & Alumni Relations, who is a student in the Department of Physics and member of the 2 O'clock Lab Band, was initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, the largest collegiate honor society dedicated to the recognition and promotion of academic excellence in all disciplines.



**Jessie Shephard**, a student worker in the Advancement office, announces the birth of her son, Shirling Joseph Shephard.



LT staff member Elizabeth Dolliver and her husband Dennis announce the birth of their daughter, Eilanna Grace, born May 3, 2010.

**Jurhee Curtis**, COI External Affairs director, has new twin grandchildren, William Thornton and Audrey, born April 2. They join their twin sisters, Caroline and Olivia, ages 2 ½.



students

SAMUEL MUWANGUZI HONORED

Samuel Muwanguzi, a student in the Interdisciplinary PhD program, has been named UNT's Outstanding International Graduate Student for 2010. In the letter notifying him of the honor, Olga Grieco, director of the International Welcome Center, stated, “UNT-International commends you for your many efforts in support of international activities at UNT and around the world. Future progress in international education and community service activities depends on the continuing involvement and dedication of students like you.” Samuel was presented the award at the International Education Awards Banquet on April 19, and was honored at the UNT Honors Award ceremony April 9. He also participated in additional festivities during International Week. Samuel also was the winner of the 2009-2010 International Education Committee Scholarship of \$1,000.



Samuel Muwanguzi

writer for a Texas corporation. Previously he worked as chief news editor for Radio Uganda and Uganda Television and as a political commentator for the *Ugandan Weekly Topic* newspaper.

In November 2009, Samuel presented a plenary talk, “The Impact of ICT's in Uganda: the Convergence of Radio and Telephony in the Power Contest between

the Resurging Buganda Nationalism and the Central Government,” and a poster session, “Adoption of Open Source Software (OSS) for Uganda: A Social Construction Perspective” (his dissertation topic) at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) in Vancouver, Canada. Fellow student **Tyson McMillan** assisted Samuel with the Power Point presentation.

Samuel abruptly lost his eyesight to glaucoma in 2000 and after multiple surgeries was declared legally blind. He courageously accepted his changed eye condition, but refused to let the disability deter him from pursuing further studies. He spent a year at the Criss Cole Center for the Blind in Austin, undergoing training in blindness development skills that enabled him to regain his independence, confidence, and competence.

Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD Students Receive Travel Awards

Travel grants for students in the PhD program are made possible with funding provided by the College of Information. Travel funds may be used by students to support participation at professional and scholarly meetings and conferences where they are presenting papers, serving on panels, showcasing posters, or participating in committees or other governance activities. Students who received travel awards for the 2009-2010, along with the association, include:

- International Association of School Libraries, **Jan Reed**
- Western Association of Criminal Justice, **Mehmet Demircioglu** and **Mehmet Odabasi**
- South Central Chapter of the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, **Jodi Philbrick**
- American Society for Information Science and Technology Annual Meeting (ASIS&T)
- **Nathan Hall**, **Tyson McMillan**, and **Samuel Muwanguzi**
- Association for Library and Information Science Education Annual Conference and American Library Association Midwinter, **Pok Chin**, **Karen Snow**, and **Christine Walczyk**
- iConference, **Peemasak Angchun**, **Wandee Tangsathitkulchai**, and **Melody McCotter**
- Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, **Mehmet Demircioglu**
- Texas Library Association Annual Conference, **Idris Guclu** and **Karen Snow**
- Electronics Visualization & the Arts, **Tami Sutcliffe**

## LIS AND PHILIP TURNER PROJECT AWARDS

Five students received the 2009-10 Lis and Philip Turner Project Awards: **Dennis Ryan Cassidy, Jani Francis Okai, Jarvis Sims, Robert Varner, and Berika Williams.** The awards are given for outstanding research papers or projects.



Dennis Ryan Cassidy, who began the LIS program in fall 2008, expects to graduate in December 2010. After graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington, he spent a year working in the private sector before deciding to return to school.

He hopes to pursue a career in academic librarianship. In his free time, he enjoys reading, writing, and playing video games.



Jani Francis Okai, now in her second year of the Master's program on campus, completed her undergraduate studies at Stephen F. Austin State University. Her areas of interest are health informatics, web design and development, and information systems. She is a student member of the Special Library Association.



Jarvis Sims, a student in the Georgia Cohort, manages computer services for the six branches of Hall County Library System in Gainesville, Georgia. (see Student News section for additional information about

his work). He has worked as a graphic artist, art director, and computer technician for various corporations including AT&T. He has a seven month old son Jackson and lovely wife Ebony Sims.



Robert Varner, a student in the Georgia Cohort, works at Emory University Woodruff Library. He is one semester away from earning his Master's degree and looks forward to a career in academic libraries.



Berika Williams, a student in the Houston program, holds a degree in radio television and film from UNT with an emphasis in writing. She reports that she appreciates the challenges of her LIS classes, and that her favorites are Data Modeling, 5717

WWW Dynamic Control Structures, and Information Architecture. "I have learned new skill sets and enjoyed the classes offered at UNT," she says. "I am excited to receive the Turner Award and proud of my fellow teammates from the Information Architecture class."

In fall 2009, the College of Information granted 124 degrees: LIS 93 masters and 1 PhD; LT 22 bachelors and 8 masters

### LIS Bachelors

Veronica Lee Clark, Andrea Lauren Spencer

### LIS Masters

Misty Kathleen Adair, Viral Amin, Leah Ardis, Alma Avina, Angela Bamba, Diane Bashaw, Steven Baskin, Lori Betzen, Holly Bowden, Julie Brem, Jennifer Britton, Alison Brocklebank, Chedra Brown, Len Bryan, Esther Buchanan, Lacy Cain, Mercedes Castaneda, Christina Cool, Debi Croney, Virginia Davis, Gregory Dawson, Alane Deshotels, Dianne Dragoo, Kristina Drury, Rebecca Duffon, Rachel Eaton, Heather Firchow, Dara Flinn, Kathleen Fultz, Amanda Galliton, Carrie Gaxiola, Linda Gee, Cynthia Gillespie, Jocelyn Giner, Jose Arturo Gonzalez, Laura Gonzalez Vasquez, Kelly Griffith, Laura Gutierrez-Ross, Glenda Harlow, James Harrison, Courtney Hetzer, Christina Hicks, Yujung Hu, Kayla Jackson, Tasha James, Julia Jenkins, Carly Johnsey, Renee Kirchner, Conni Kitten, Janet Lance, Cassandra Mackie, Anne Maese, Lura Manley, April Martinez, Barbara Mayers, Bryan McKinney, Curren McLane, Lorraine Mejia-Green, Tereza Merlo, Robbie Monteleagre, Myra Moss, Loren Ottis, Gustavo Paredes, Carolyn Patton, Rachel Pettitte, Erika Riggan, Robin Robinson, Amanda Rose, Elizabeth Rowe Rawlinson, Jeanette Runion, Rebecca Russell, Amber Sady, Diana Saucedo, Allison Scheu, Jacqueline Shannon, Tobin Sheon, Jill Stewert, Paul Signorelli, Cecily Small, Amanda Stinson, Jennifer Stone, Tabatha Sustaita-Robb, Simona Gabriela Tabacaru, Brenda Talent, Amy Templer, Teresa Thomas, Sean Tibbitts, John Trischitti III, Juanita Truelove, Phuong Vu, Russell Wagner, Jessica Webb, Mariel Williams, Kara Wilson, Megan Woods, Amber Wu

### LIS PhD

Joy Aswalap

### LT Bachelors

Julie Anderson, David Anderson, Alecia Bonsall, Marion Brantley, Leah Dixon, Douglas Drum, Curtis Foster, James Garner, Alexander Harrell, Michelle Henderson-Hughes, Mikal Hensarling, Stephen Ladd, Christopher Moore, Thomas Nunn, Frank Ramirez, James Rollins, Jason Shiba, Clara Sikich, Paula Sullivan, Scott Sullivan, Milton Velez, Joshua Watson

### LT Masters

Jeffrey Archer, Linda Janoe, Amber McElveen, Alanna Mercy, Brandon Moore, Karla Swanson, Miranda Thompkins, Megan Vadasy

## Student Visits South African Libraries

In October 2009, **Tine Walczyk** (LIS PhD student) joined 28 U.S. librarians on a nine day visit to libraries and librarians in South Africa. The tour was jointly sponsored by the non-profit, non-governmental organization People to People and the American Library Association. <http://www.peopletopeople.com/OurPrograms/CAP/Pages.default.aspx>

At the start of the visit, the delegation met with Rachel More from the Library and Information Association of South Africa to learn about the state of librarianship in South Africa and the country's Library and Information Association. During their stay, they visited libraries in the community of Soweto, a joint U.S. and South Africa venture which provided one of the free spaces in South Africa during the apartheid years; the University of Pretoria, the leading research library; the University of South Africa; the Mae Jemison U.S. Science Reading Room on the main campus of the University of Pretoria; the National Library of South Africa; the Cape Town Central Library; and Stellenbosch University Library. Tine says that "the experience was a life changing event... The program not only afforded me the opportunity to interact with librarians from all types of libraries from all around the U.S. but to also



Tine Walczyk at the Cape of Good Hope

see librarianship in an international context."

While in South Africa, Tine visited with **Dr. Alberta Mayberry** (LIS PhD '91), who currently serves as the Principal Officer at the U.S. Consulate in Cape Town for the U.S. State Department.

**Corinne Hill** (MS '91), interim director of the Dallas Public Library, was the group leader for a People-to-People/ALA sponsored program to Russia several years ago.

## OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

Honors Day, which has been a spring tradition at UNT since 1950, is designated to recognize students who have excelled in general and specific pursuit of their educational goals, to honor individuals and groups who have made outstanding contributions to UNT, and to provide an opportunity for the University community to pay tribute to its deserving members. Students chosen for recognition this current academic year include:

### Library and Information Sciences

**Ryan Knudson**, Outstanding Information Science MS student



Ryan, who graduated summa cum laude from Texas Woman's University 2002, holds an MA in linguistics and a TESOL certificate from UNT and has been on the Dean's List and President's List. In his spare time, he maintains his 4<sup>th</sup> degree black belt in Boogie Bi Jutsu.

**Kristi Starr**, Outstanding Library Science MS student



Kristi, a former German and English teacher from Pflugerville, TX, who now resides in Lubbock, eagerly anticipates interviews for a school librarian position. "I am both a little excited and a little sad to be at the end, thanks to an incredible faculty and engaging, encouraging friends I've made through my courses," she says. Kristi and her husband Brian have three children.

### Learning Technologies

**Patricia Graham**, Outstanding Undergraduate student



Pat works 40 hours a week in the UNT Police, Parking & Transportation Department and has taken her courses in the BAAS ATPI program online. Her focus is toward the business world. She says she has learned a lot about computer applications, making presentations, and preparing training classes, as well as grown personally and become a more capable employee during her coursework. In her few moments of spare time, she enjoys the outdoors, going to the lake, fishing, and working in her yard.

**Jenny Wakefield**, Outstanding Technologies MS student



Jenny is graduating this spring with the MS in Computer Education and Cognitive Systems – Teaching and Learning with Technology. She received the BAAS from UNT in December 2007. In the fall, she will enter the Educational Computing doctoral program. She works at University of Texas Dallas in the Office of Student Services and Assessment where she has edited several books and newsletters, designed graphics and instructional designs, created

and maintained websites for institutions, companies, organizations, and individuals. Her latest website is the UT Dallas "Student Second Life Success," that supports the experimental program she has developed.

**Anjum Najmi**, Outstanding Technologies PhD student



Anjum, who began her doctoral study in 2006, has research interests in new media, games and simulations, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Her dissertation focuses on self-regulated learning in the unique setting of distributed learning. She is a teaching fellow in the Learning Technologies Department and works as a graduate library assistant for the Digital Projects Lab in UNT Libraries.

**Joanna Shaw**, Outstanding PhD student



Joanna will graduate in May 2010 with a PhD in Applied Training and Performance Improvement. Her dissertation, titled "A Study of Student's Perceptions of Blended Learning Environments at a State-supported Postsecondary Institution," includes blended learning, generational cohorts, and human resource management. She currently teaches a variety of management and human resource management courses at Tarleton State University (TX). She and her husband have ten month old twins, Allie and Ella. She says that her greatest accomplishments thus far are having twins and six months later defending her dissertation. She now looks forward to enjoying the twins and spending more time with her husband.

**Mariya Gavrilova**, Outstanding MS student



Mariya, a native of Sofia, Bulgaria, holds the BA degree from Missouri Southern State University where she received a number of honors including Outstanding Honors Graduate. In June 2009, she was awarded the Roger P. Lette Scholarship from the UNT SHRM chapter. She was a recipient of the Jim Wilkins Excellence in Education Student Scholarship award from the HR Southwest Conference and Dallas Human Resource Management Association. In summer, she will receive the two year UNT Multicultural Scholastic Award for study toward an additional advanced degree. Her research interests include diversity training, belief and attitude formation, employee retention, employee motivation, leadership development, and team dynamic.

## BETA PHI MU INDUCTEES

The UNT Beta Lambda chapter of Beta Phi Mu, the international library and information studies honor society, extended invitations to 21 students in fall 2009, 19 at the Master's level and two at the doctoral level. In spring 2010, there were two at the doctoral level and 28 at the Master's level. Selection for membership is made by faculty invitation and is based on academic performance and professional promise. Only 25% of the graduating class who meet the criteria for selection can be considered. Students selected represent a cross section of the LIS population: distance and in-resident students, students representing a variety of programs of study, and international students.

**Dr. Elizabeth Figa** serves as chapter advisor.

Fall 2009

### Doctoral students

Joy Aswalap, Elise Lewis

### Master's students

Angela Bamba, Diane Bashaw, Jennifer Britton, Mercedes Castaneda, Virginia Davis, Alane Deshotels, Rebecca Dutton, Rachel Eaton, Dara Flinn, Jocelyn Giner, Jose Arturo Gonzalez, Laura Gutierrez-Ross, Julia Jenkins, Lorraine Mejia-Green, Erika Riggan, Elizabeth Rowe Rawlinson, Paul Signorelli, Tabatha Sustaita-Robb, Phuong Vu

Spring 2010

### Doctoral students

Rebecca Baker, Serkan Tatil

### Master's students

Jasmine Alfricwala, Heather Aston, Ralph Ayala, Katy Bleyle, Damian Brum, Amanda Cobb, Jenelle Drymalla, Kathleen Dziminski, Jaime Eastman, Alice Harrigan, Kimberly Knief, Ryan Knudson, Daniel Le, Pam Leslie, Traci Marlowe, Sally McConathy, Andrea Mott, Jose Noriega, Cynthia Ramos, Barbara Rivas, Kristi Starr, Geri Swanzy, Gita Thamban, Megan Treseder, Laura Venhaus, Rowena Verdin, Eric Willman, Katrina Zannier



Todd Spinks

Brown bag lunches for Interdisciplinary Information Science PhD students take place at noon on Thursdays. Topics are varied at these sessions covering such areas as the Student-Faculty Grant Program. **Todd Spinks** (PhD '09), director of UNT's Office of Sustainability, was a recent speaker.

In fall 2009 the Houston Program All School Day featured a dialogue with Dr. Rhea Brown Lawson, director of the Houston Public Library System who spoke on "Putting Your Best Foot Forward." The Houston Program hosted a Grad Party/Book Swap Mixer on May 6, 2010.

Students and alumni staffed the LIS recruitment booth at the Virginia Library Association Conference, and at the California Special Libraries Association conference.



L to R: Patricia Hedden, Stephanie H. Gardner, Dallas Bunch, Elizabeth McDaniel, Allison Armstrong

The topic of LISSA Los Angeles All School Day, held in Los Angeles on May 22, 2010, was "Exploring your opportunities: what's at the end of the rainbow?"



Zoe Baker

**Rebecca Baker**, LIS PhD student who defended her dissertation April 1, her husband John, and son JJ announce the birth of Zoe

Elizabeth Baker, born December 21, 2009. Rebecca says Zoe is mostly sedentary with a penchant for naps and frequent snacking, likes milk, laughing, being held, and men who aren't afraid to burp her. She dislikes wet diapers, loud noises, waiting for anything, and her car seat.



Sophia Barnes

**Svetlana Barnes** (LIS PhD student) has a baby girl named Sophia, born in November.

**Mariya Gavrilova** (LT master's student) is one of two student representatives on the search committee for a new UNT president.

**Kai Williams Slaton** and **Grace Rosales** (LIS students in California Cohort) received travel grants to attend the 2010 American Association of Law Libraries annual conference in July.

**Megan Hodge**, a member of the Virginia/West Virginia Cohort and president of its LISSA branch, organized a find-a-job-in-federal-libraries chat with panelists from a variety of federal/military libraries who discussed the job market for 2010-11 and offered tips for interviewing, resumes, and other such topics. The chat session was made available to the whole SLIS community through the Wimba classroom in the SLIS Village, April 7, 2010.

The Southern California Association of Law Libraries awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to **Cheryl Kelly Fisher**, a student in the California Cohort.

**Roy Cummings** and **Teneka Taylor**, students in the Georgia Cohort, were awarded the REACH21 Spectrum Leadership Scholarship to attend the Spectrum Institute in Washington, DC, in June. The Institute brings together LIS students and graduates from across the country to network, learn models of cross-cultural leadership, reaffirm professional values grounded in service to diverse communities, develop career skills, and connect with a wide-range of leaders and potential mentors.

**Jarvis Sims**, LIS student in the Georgia Cohort, was featured in *TechSoup for Libraries: Learning and Resources for Libraries*, an initiative of TechSoup Global MaintainIT Project from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Jarvis, who is technical services manager for the Hall County Library System headquartered in Gainesville, GA, has learned invaluable lessons, both from his experience managing computers for the existing six branches and in planning for the construction of new branches. The system has over 250 computers in all. (see also Turner Awards article p. 20)



Grace Rosales

**Grace Rosales** (LIS, California cohort student), who is serving as reference librarian for Knowledge Services, is the recipient of the \$3,800 scholarship from the American Association of Law Libraries as well as one from the Southern California Association of Law Libraries. She also received the Special Libraries Association Legal Division New Members travel grant, amounting to \$1,500, to attend the Association's 2010 annual conference in New Orleans.

**Megan Rush**, president of the LISSA on campus, reports that in the past year LISSA has arranged two "All School Day" lecture events, hosted days of speakers on the topic of library advocacy and on digital libraries, tours of the Rare Book Room at the main campus library and of the Dallas Public Library, and several social events. At the spring All School Day on 27, attendees learned about innovative digital library services, digital curation, and working in a digital library environment from students, faculty, and professionals.



Maruja with Library Director Landers

**Maruja Lorica** (LIS student), has been appointed as a member of the City of Irving (TX) Public Library Board, which serves in an advisory capacity to the library director and the City Council on matters related to the operation of the system. The system consists of a central library and four branches.

**Lindsey MacIntyre** (student) has been moved from the Dean's List to the President's List for fall 2009.



Two or the four scholarship awards given by the Virginia Library Association were presented to students in the Virginia Cohort, **Megan Hodge** (far right) and **Deborah Sweeney** (second from left).

## Georgia Cohort Mentors And Protégés Event

An event held at the Morehouse College Martin Luther King, Jr. Collection on January 31, 2010, not only provided an opportunity for mentors and protégés to re-connect at the beginning of the spring semester, but showcased the collection's renovated space. The staff provided light refreshments for the event. Collection director Gail McClenney and other staff members, and Carey Doss Williams, the cohort manager, welcomed some 25 program students and served as tour guides.



## ALISE Annual Conference Participants

Several LIS faculty and graduates participated in programs held during the annual American Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) conference in Boston January 11-15, 2010. **Dr. Barbara Schultz-Jones** (faculty) was a panelist with two programs: "Open Source Software Collaboration Efforts in Libraries and Library Education," and "Sharing Digital Learning and Research Objectives." **Jodi Philbrick** (MS '01) moderated a contributed papers session. **Dr. Yunfei Du** (faculty) presented "Information Seeking and Avoidance in Collaborative Learning: A Case Study from a Graduate Reference Course." **Karen Snow** (MS '03, PhD student) and **Gretchen Hoffmann** (MS '92) organized a contributed papers session.



from left to right: Janet Swan Hill, Arlene Taylor, Michael Gorman, Karen Snow, and Gretchen Hoffmann

## Special Message for Employers and Supervisors at Schools, Libraries, Business, Organizations

Do you have assistants, technicians, or other personnel in your organization who need specialized training in order to qualify for more responsible positions? Employers and supervisors may wish to encourage some of their staff members to pursue the online Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences (BAAS) degree in Applied Technology and Performance Improvement (ATPI) offered through the College of Information Learning Technologies Department.

The BAAS program provides a direct path to a four-year bachelor's degree after earning a technical or applied degree from a community college, or by the acceptance of technical, applied, or military credits from approved institutions. Through the acceptance of these unique credit types, the BAAS minimized the number of transfer credit hours often lost in other types of degree programs.

The courses for the BAAS in ATPI can combine almost any technical area of study with career development courses to cultivate a professional career path. Areas of emphasis are available within learning, computing, or performance. And, **courses for this program are available 100% online and taught by**

**faculty regarded for their innovative practices in distance learning.**

The BAAS program combines credits with multidisciplinary or professional development course work for a degree that is individually oriented. Each degree plan is unique and based upon the person's background and career plans. For persons who hold a community college degree, basic course requirements may have been met enabling the student to pursue a specialized area. In instances where military or other course credits are transferable, the student may have an inverted or completion degree plan requiring that basic course requirements be met.

Many BAAS alumni use their degrees as a springboard to pursue graduate study in many fields, including library and information sciences. College of Information LIS courses are also offered online, making both degrees available from any geographical location.

COI is excited to offer the ATPI BAAS degree. To find out more about it, see [www.baas.unt.edu](http://www.baas.unt.edu), contact Dr. Maureen Murphy, project manager [Maureen.murphy@unt.edu](mailto:Maureen.murphy@unt.edu) or Toby Faber or Valerie Luetkemeyer at [CI-Advising@unt.edu](mailto:CI-Advising@unt.edu)

## Chris Albertson Begins 30<sup>th</sup> Year at Tyler Public



Chris Albertson (MLS '73) began his thirtieth year as City Librarian for the City of Tyler (TX), March 16, 2010. Married to the former Sarah Daugherty (MLS '73) he and Sarah (Sally), who is currently retired, have three grown children and two grandchildren. Chris came to Tyler in 1981 from the position of City Librarian in Orange, TX.

Over the years Chris has had the chance to work with several other North Texas library science alums at the Tyler Public Library, and, at present, **Pauline Eng**

(LIS MS '05) and **Lori Lawrence** (LIS MS '00) are on the professional staff there.

Chris says that "the time seems to have passed very quickly and although much has changed in the profession in the past three decades what hasn't changed are the values and vision inculcated during my time at North Texas, most especially the Beta Phi Mu motto, *Aliis inserviando consumer* (consumed in the service of others) which I consider a suitable guidepost for all information professionals."

## PHI KAPPA PHI INDUCTEES

On April 29, 88 COI students (6 undergraduates, 76 master's, 6 doctorate) were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi, the largest collegiate honor society dedicated to the recognition and promotion of academic excellence in all disciplines.

Undergraduate: Jamey Wayne Brooks, Joan B. Fields, Loren Patrick Marvin, Nicholas William Nurge, Clair Dennise O'Brien, Joshua Paul Watson

Master's: Vilma Betancourt, Jody Braswell, Cheryl Brooks, Tracy Bulot, Jennifer L. Burzenski, Amanda Cobb, Charlie Jack Dean, Jennifer DeLett-Snyder, Jenelle Drymalla, Kathleen M. Dziminski, Jamie Eikenberry, Ronald William Forhan, Veronica S. Garcia, Evelyn Garvin, Lori Gouner, Michelle R. Greer, Brenda K. Gunter, Megan Hall, Alexa Morgan Hapgood, Mary S. Hardt, Alice Kathleen Harrigan, Megan Lorraine Hodge, Richard H. Horab, Patrick J. Horn, Adrianna Claar Hughes, Conni Kitten, Nancy Jo Lambert, Cynthia Lynn Christ Lancaster, Janet Lance, Vivian Lee, Pamela Jean Leslie, Linda Twells Loop, Olga M. Lopez, Maruja D. Loricca, Judann Luening, Shae Martinez, Margarite Janice McCandless, Bruce Nathaniel Miles, Jonathan Craig Miller, Kimberley J. Miller, Kathy Mitchell, Ashli Adele Montgomery, Christine Tien Nguyen Nelson, Carolyn Sue Bloom Patton, Joy Marie Perrin, Erin M. Petty, Fred R. Porta II, Michael Purdy, Jolanta M. Radzik, Jennifer Ramirez, Cynthia O. Ramos, Cheri Trinette Paul Rios, Jennifer Lynn Rodman, Nicole Rodriguez-Terrell, Kellie Schuessler, Deborah J. Sellars, Deborah Linder Simmons, Aaron Michael Smith, Connie L. Smith, Kristi J. Starr, Elizabeth A. Stearns, Jonathan Breckenridge Stovall V, Matthew E. Strauss, Jennifer Suttcliffe, Sarah Fischer Scully, Linh T. Uong, Laura Northern Venhaus, Rowena Raquepo Verdin, Jennifer Walker, Susan Wheeler, Berika Suzel Williams, W. Cole Williamson, William Taylor Willmann, Emily C. Wilson, Jonathan Wilson, Katrina Zannier

## ADRIAN ALEXANDER

### Outstanding Alumni



Adrian Alexander (MS'76 and Certificate of Advanced Study), who is the first R.M. and Ida McFarlin Dean of the Library at the University of Tulsa, has served in that position since February 2007. Prior to his current appointment, he was

Executive Director of the Greater Western Library Alliance, a non-profit consortium representing 31 academic research libraries. In his nine years at GWLA, he organized and managed a variety of collaborative library projects, including cooperative collection development, electronic database licensing, digital library development and interlibrary loan. His somewhat non-traditional career path also

has included 13 years on the commercial side of the information industry, in a variety of sales, sales management, and marketing management roles with a major serials subscription company. Prior to his commercial experience, he served for five years as a reference librarian at UNT.

Adrian has published over two dozen journal articles in the professional literature on a range of topics that include journal pricing trends, intellectual property issues, and electronic publishing and management. He has served on the editorial boards of three peer-reviewed library science journals and was a senior fellow in academic library administration at UCLA's Graduate School of Education and Information Studies in 1999. He currently serves on the Boards of Advisors at UNT LIS and the School of Library Information Studies at the University of Oklahoma. He also serves on the board of Directors of the National Science Foundation's

EPSCoR Science Information Group (ESIG), a consortium of over 50 university libraries in 22 states and U.S. territories.

Adrian was a co-founder of BioOne, Inc. (<http://www.bioone.org>), a non-for-profit, electronic publishing enterprise which launched a new scholarly publishing model based on collaboration between scholarly societies and academic libraries. He also serves on the company's Board of Directors as Treasurer from its incorporation in January 2000 until he left the Greater Western Library Alliance in early 2007. BioOne now provides electronic access to 160 publications, including open access journals, from over 120 publishers.

In addition to his career in the library and information field, he also is a professional actor and has been a member of the American Federation of Radio and Television Artists (AFTRA) since 2004.

## CATHY HARTMAN

### ASSOCIATE DEAN OF UNT LIBRARIES



Cathy Hartman (LIS MS'91) has been named UNT Associate Dean of Libraries. Dr. Martin Halbert, dean of UNT libraries, in announcing the appointment, stated, "My selection of Cathy for this position was based on her broad experience and the fact that in her years as an assistant dean Cathy has clearly demonstrated her capabilities in leadership, innovation, and resourcefulness in attracting sponsored funding for new library services. The aptitude

that Cathy has demonstrated for entrepreneurial innovation in digital library services will be invaluable as the UNT libraries seek to attract even more sponsored funding in coming years."

Cathy, the recipient of a number of prestigious awards, was named a "Digital Preservation Pioneer" by the Library of Congress in 2008. The news release announcing the honor addressed the importance of the CyberCemetery, an archive of government websites that have ceased operation, in which she played a leadership role in creating. The following year she received the Public Access to Government Information Award from the American Association of Law Libraries and the Documents to the People Award from Lexis-Nexis/Godart/ALA. She was named one of the Platinum Stars during the SLIS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

## Dallas Public Director Laurie Evans Retires



Laurie Evans (LIS MLS '73) is retiring as director of the Dallas Public Library System on June 2, 2010. In the letter announcing Laurie's retirement, City Manager **Mary Suhm** (LIS MLS '74) enumerated

some of the director's accomplishments. Named were the establishment of Bookmarks at Northpark Center, a one of a kind children's library in partnership with a shopping mall; the initiation of a project which developed and

opened two co-located libraries in cooperation with the Dallas Independent School District, which have become models nationwide for such cooperative ventures; Discovery Wall, a program that will transport children in real time to the four corners of the world, a signature feature of the newly renovated Children's Center downtown to be opened this winter; and the Every Child Ready to Read in Dallas program, which has reached 40,000 children in the city. Ms Suhm also spoke to the success of Laurie's philanthropy and grant programming, which has added a million dollars in each of the past three years to supplement city dollars in supporting the library's work, and to the 50% increase in usage of the library system over the past 5 years.



**Corinne Hill** (LIS MS '95) will serve as interim director of the library system. During her 15 years in the library profession, Corinne has managed public services, technical services, and is

currently the Assistant Director of Resource Management at Dallas Public Library. In 2004, she was recognized by *Library Journal* in their listing of Movers and Shakers of the profession. Corinne serves on the COI Alumni Society Board.

## ALUMNI RESEARCH EFFORTS

**Amy Eklund** (LIS MS '06), catalog librarian, Georgia Perimeter College, co-presented with **Serhiy Polyakov** (MS '04, PhD student) "Comparing Cataloging Practices: An Analysis of MARC Use by Georgia Catalogers," at the Georgia Council of Media Organizations conference in 2007 and at the Georgia Academic Library Research Forum in 2009. This was a follow-up study to the MARC Content Designation Utilization project, 2005-2007, for which she was a research assistant in 2005-2006. With **Drs. William Moen** and **Shawne Miksa** and others, she co-authored the paper "Comparison of MARC Content Designation Utilization in OCLC WorldCat Records with National, Core, and Minimal Level Record Standards," published in the *Journal of Library Metadata* (Jan-June 2009 issue). She then presented this research at the ALCTS CCS Forum on "The Future of MARC" held at American Library Association conference in July 2009. She will present an invited paper for the ALCTS session at ALA on June 27, 2010, titled "Cataloging and Beyond: Publishing for the Year of Cataloging and Metadata Research."



Robert Hancock

**Robert Hancock** (LT PhD '05), assistant professor at Southeastern Louisiana University, says his research interests are varied and based upon his love of technology and his need to see technology used as a tool for leveling the playing field. He is co-producer of LAMBERT, a software/hardware system that connects the digital and physical world by providing a platform for young deaf children to select tangible toys and instantly view American Sign Language (ASL) multimedia videos without having computer skills. He has published in several journals including *Highlights in Teaching and Teacher Education* and *Journal of International Learning Research*. His paper with G. Knezek and R. Christensen won the Best Research Paper Award for the International Society for Teacher Education (ISTE) SIGTE.



Gale Hannigan

**Gale Hannigan** (LIS PhD '00), professor and librarian for Medical Informatics Education, Texas A&M Medical Science Library, has been on Faculty Development Leave since 2009 to conduct a study on the informatics opportunities for medical librarians. She

also is investigating the nature of informatics education in health sciences libraries and informatics centers with a focus on evidence-based medicine. Most recently, she has worked with colleagues at McMaster University, the University of North Carolina, Duke University and the University of New Mexico. She also has developed an evidence-based medicine tutorial for the World Health Organization partnership with publishers (HINARI) website.



**Christina Hoffman Gola** (LIS MS '04) and LIS current student **Billy Hoya** received a one-year University of Houston Libraries' Micro-Grant to experiment with and compare E-Readers. The University of Houston Libraries' Micro-Grant program, a part of an internal Strategic Directions Initiative, is designed to help foster innovation and new services. Funds were used to purchase three Amazon Kindles, three Sony readers, three Apple iTouches, each loaded with the Amazon Kindle App and about 30 e-books preloaded on each device.

The project began with a six month controlled study in which a team of nine librarians experimented with each device for two month trial periods. The team members had options to experiment with the pre-loaded books, purchase new e-books with personal funds, or download e-books with NetLibrary and Springer E-books. The second stage of the project, which will begin in May 2010, will trial a loan program with all library staff. As of March 2010, the research has yielded very interesting results regarding the positive and negative aspects of each device and their potential use in library services.

Christina and Billy presented preliminary results at the 2009 Texas Library Association District 8 conference and the 2010 Handheld Librarian Conference. Several more presentations and publications are planned upon completion of the project. Contact Christina with questions at [chgola@uh.edu](mailto:chgola@uh.edu)

**Holly M. Hutchins** (LT PhD '04), is an assistant professor of Human Resource

Development at the University of Houston. Her primary research areas are in training transfer, organizational crisis management, and e-Learning design. Dr. Hutchins' publications in these areas have appeared in several U.S. and international journals, notably *Human Resource Development Quarterly*, *Performance Improvement Quarterly*, *Human Resource Development Review*, *Journal of Workplace Learning*, and *the International Journal of Training and Development*. One of her articles on e-Learning design was selected as one of the 2009 Highly Commended articles in the *Journal of Workplace Learning*. She is also active in grant funding, and currently serves as a co-PI on a National Science Foundation grant examining learning outcomes from a mechanical engineering "smart platform" teaching tool. Dr. Hutchins also has been recognized for her teaching practice, having recently won the College of Technology Fluor Award for Teaching (2008) and the University of Houston's Teaching Excellence Award (2009). Her training design and consulting work includes working with Exxon Mobil, Key Energy Services, Neiman Marcus Corporate, and Waste Management. She also conducts international training sessions on leadership development as part of the Libya Knowledge Transfer program. She is one of several faculty members who were involved in training Libyan engineers on project management during their 10-week stay in Houston.



Lynne Simpson-Scott

**Lynne Simpson-Scott** (LIS PhD '09) researched the correlation between adolescents' self-esteem and how they evaluate their ability to find information, investigating whether that correlation varied according to race and gender. She compared the scores of 10<sup>th</sup>-graders on two tests. One measured self-esteem and the other indicated how they felt about their ability to gather information for schoolwork or personal use through face-to-face communication, computers, and print media. She found a statistically significant correlation for all groups measured, with the exception of African American males. The research may help schools create consistent policies for developing information seeking skills in all adolescent groups. Lynne is an assistant professor in the science and engineering division of the Edmon Low Library at Oklahoma State University.



in memoriam

**Nelda Nelson** (BA '46),  
02/14/09, Albuquerque,  
NM

**Marcia Coale** (BA '53,  
MEd '56), 02/23/09,  
McKinney, TX

**Bonnie Flyr** (BA '50)  
3/4/98, Columbia, MD

**Peter Wei He** (MS '91, MS  
'93), 1/7/06, Rosalyn, PA

**Gary Hipps** (MLS '80),  
04/16/09, Seneca, SC

**Daniel Jordan** (BS '91,  
MS '98), 09/26/07,  
Dallas, TX

**Kevin Miller** (BAAS '03,  
MS '06), 05/03/09,  
Fort Worth, TX

**Kathryn McMillion**  
(MS '96), 10/14/07,  
Corsicana, TX

**Bobbie Miller** (MA '83,  
MS '93), 07/16/09,  
Saint Louis, MO

**Mayre Springer** (BA '70),  
2/15/07, Austin, TX

**Betty Pope** (BA '70),  
12/16/09, Clinton, MS

**Louise St. John** (BA '54),  
11/10/08, Arlington, TX

**Lillian Walsh** (BA '58),  
03/09/09, Atkinson, NH

**Ruth Webb** (EdD '02),  
2/6/09, Wichita Falls, TX

Richard McCoy, husband  
of **Blythe McCoy** (MS  
'07), Advisory Board  
Member, died during  
a scuba diving trip to  
Florida November 15,  
2009. Blythe is the librarian  
relations consultant for the  
Thomson West Company.

## Jerilynn Williams Named TLA President-Elect

Jerilynn Williams (LIS MLS '79) has been elected 2011-2012 TLA president and will serve on the association's Executive Board as president-elect during 2010-11. Her presidency will follow that of another LIS graduate, **Maribel Garza-Castro** (LIS MS '03), the current TLA president.

Jerilynn began her career as a school librarian, but after 20 years she moved into the public library field. In 1989, she became coordinator of the Houston Area Library System, where she earned a reputation as being innovative, entrepreneurial, and business like. She currently serves as director of the multi-site Montgomery County (TX) Memorial Library System, a position she has held since 1997.

Well-known for her stalwart defense of intel-



lectual freedom, Jerilynn has received several awards in the area. In 2003, she received the prestigious Pen/Newman's Own First Amendment Award as well as the SIRS Intellectual Freedom Award. The following year, she received the Houston Trial Lawyer Foundation First Amendment Award.

In 1991, Jerilynn was one of eight librarians elected to represent Texas at the Second White House Conference on Libraries and Information Services. In 2006, she received the TLA

Lifetime Achievement Award, the Association's highest honor. She was named LIS Outstanding Alumni in 2000, and in 2009 received one of the ten Platinum Star Awards presented as a part of the LIS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Other LIS alumni elected to TLA positions include:

- **Rebecca Belknap** (MS '05), Treasurer, District #7
- **Willie Braudaway** (MS '03), Chair-Elect, Genealogy Round Table
- **William Buckner**, (MS '90) Secretary/Treasurer, Genealogy Round Table
- **Donell Callender** (MS '02), Chair-Elect, Library Instruction Round Table
- **D.L. Grant** (MS '05), Chair-Elect, Black Caucus Round Table
- **Faye Hagerty** (MS '03), Secretary, Texas Association of School Librarians
- **Laura Heinz** (MS '98), Chair-Elect, College & University Division and Chair-Elect, Supervision, Management, and Administration Round Table
- **Kimberly Herrington** (MS '08), Chair-Elect, New Members Round Table
- **Teresa Tongio Holden** (MS '06), Secretary/Treasurer, Reference Round Table
- **Karen Hopkins** (MS '76, Councilor, College and University Division
- **Donna Kearley** (MS '97), Chair-Elect, District #7
- **Shawn Miksa** (LIS faculty), Councilor, Cataloging and Metadata Round Table
- **Marjorie "Jorie" Nissen** (MS '07), Treasurer, District #8
- **Christine Ramsey** (MS '08), Secretary/Treasurer, Supervision, Management, and Administration Round Table
- **Monica Rivero** (MS '06), Chair-Elect, Children's Round Table
- **Kelly Skovbjerg** (MS '96), Treasurer, Public Libraries Division
- **Mary Wagoner** (MS '04), Chair-Elect, TALL Texans Round Table
- **Dean Washington** (MS '00), Secretary/Treasurer, Black Caucus Round Table

## Alumni, did you know?

- The College of Information ranked first in enrollment increase (47%) in the University with a total of 1,421 in the two departments, up 468 over the previous year.
  - Since fall 2008, LIS master's enrollment has increased 17.9% to 1,123.
  - In its graduate school rankings, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked the LIS Health Librarianship program 3rd in the nation.
  - The UNT Board of Regents unanimously approved an \$858.3 million operating and capital expense budget, increased from the previous year with \$70.5 in new funds designed to help support the University's plan to become a nationally recognized research institution.
- See p. 2 for more interesting facts and figures.

## Presenters and Key Persons at 2010 TLA Conference

University of North Texas LIS alumni and faculty played key roles at the Texas Library Association annual conference in San Antonio, April 14-17. **Maribel Garza-Castro** (MS '03) served as president-elect and took over the reins as 2010-11 president of the Association at the end of the conference.

Conference program presenters included: **Susan Allison** (MS '86), **Lea Bailey** (MLS '76), **Cecilia Barham** (MS '00), **Cindy Batman** (MS '03), **Joyce Baumbach** (MS '93), **Sian Brannon** (MS '99), **Carolyn Davidson Brewer** (MS '96), **Margaret Carroll** (student), **Jesse Paul Ephraim** (MS '03), **Toby Faber**, (MS '04 and COI staff), **Lorin Fisher** (MS '00), **Dara Flinn** (student), **Amy Fuller** (student), **Barbara Fullerton** (student), **Susanna Garza** (student), **Violeta Garza** (MS '08), **Laura Heinz** (MS '98), **WyLaina Hildreth** (MS '03), **Starr Hoffman** (MS '06), **Gretchen McCord Hoffmann** (MS '92), **Charla Hollingsworth** (MS '07), **Stacey Irish-Keffer** (MS '97), **Linda Kay** (MS '04), **April Kessler** (student), **Diane Lutz** (MS '98), **Barbara McArthur** (MS '06), **Amanda Rhodes McKenzie** (MS '08), **Frances May** (MS '84), **Shawne Miksa** (faculty), **Mary Milligan** (MLS '75), **Cristine Mitchamore** (MS '02), **Liz Philippi** (MS '03), **Kimberly Picozzi** (MS '02), **Mary Lynn Rice-Lively** (MS '81), **Sara Romine** (MS '04), **Barbara Schultz-Jones** (faculty), **Stephanie Shipman** (MS '02), **Scott Simon** (PhD '05), **Kelly Skovbjerg** (MS '96), **Karen Snow** (MS '03), **Adam Spana** (MS '08), **Leslie Stapleton** (MS '07), **Colleen Tedford** (MS '07), **Janis Test** (MS '79), **Jason Thomale** (MS '05), **Ben Toon** (MS '94), **Kimberly Vardeman** (MS '08), **Kelli Wilder** (MS '07), **Jerilynn Williams** (MLS '79), **Allison Wilson** (MS '07), and **Adam Wright** (MS '95). **Dede Rios** (MS '04), was a member of the Local Arrangements Committee.



## LIS Alumni Attending the 2010 TLA Tall Texans Institute

The annual TLA TALL Texans Leadership Development Institute, scheduled for June 13-17, 2010, at Montserrat Retreat Center, Lake Dallas, TX, will include ten LIS alumni among its 24 participants. The Institute, a major TLA activity, provides a five day intensive learning experience in the development of leadership skills. Attendees selected to attend the institute must be TLA members currently employed in the field who have had at least five years of experience in a professional level position.

This year's LIS alumni participating include: **Devery Johnson** (MS '06), outreach coordinator, Montgomery County Memorial Library System; **Sarah Naper** (MS '98), government documents

librarian, Texas State University; **Dede Rios** (MS '04), director of library services, Bruce A. Garrett Medical Library, San Antonio; **Cindy Rogers** (ME '90), PK-12 librarian, IDEA Academy, Donna; **Martha Rossi** (MS '04), library services & media specialist, Education Service Center 20, San Antonio; **Roberto Salinas** (MS '05), branch manager, Dallas Public Library; **Edward Smith** (MS '97), coordinator, Abilene Library Consortium; **Carrye Syma** (MS '03), social sciences librarian, Texas Tech University; **Teresa Thiim** (MS '05), youth librarian, Fort Bend County Libraries; and **Craig Wheeler** (MS '02), head of reference services, Texas A&M Commerce.

## FEATURED GRADUATES

### Library and Information Sciences



Arne Almquist

**Arne Almquist** (PhD '06), says that he is "happier every year that passes since I finished the PhD." He is putting the doctorate to work, he says, even if not directly in the classroom. His recent accomplishments as associate provost for library services at the W. Frank Steely Library, Northern Kentucky University are impressive.

Arne reports that the University is now enrolling students in a Bachelor of Library Informatics degree program through the College of Informatics, a project that he has worked to shepherd over the past few years. The program is a 2+2 completer, articulated with the associate's degree in library technology offered by Bluegrass Community College in Kentucky. "Every step of the program is fully online," he says, "which addresses the needs of library staff in more isolated counties. The goal is to incrementally improve the knowledge and skills of library service providers while better preparing them to pursue the Master of Library Science degree."

Arne also reports that he has shepherded a project resulting in the university receiving an IMLS grant of almost \$1 million dollar which will provide scholarships for 50 non-degreed public librarians in remote rural, high-poverty counties throughout Kentucky. Almost one-third of public library directors in the state lack a degree of any kind. The project will provide scholarships and stipends to buy laptops, high-speed internet access, and textbooks to library staff in the targeted counties. They also are providing web-based mentoring service in which MLS-degreed public library directors are matched with non-degreed directors and degreed frontline librarians with non-degreed frontline staff. Funds for travel to conferences will better integrate the scholarship recipients into the professional community.

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College of Information fan page

**Learning Technologies (formerly Technology and Cognition in the College of Education)**



Travis Brewer

Travis Brewer (PhD '07) has utilized his wealth of human resource development and organizational development in government, nonprofit, and for-profit organizations. He currently supports global talent development initiatives for Fluor Corp., a public owned engineering procurement, construction, and maintenance service organization, a Fortune 500 Company headquartered in Las Colinas, TX, with 41,000 employees based in over 35 countries. Travis's latest initiative was to lead a team in the development of a global coaching program. He also is working on a project to develop metrics for human resources. The metrics will help HR manage its business and demonstrate how it adds value to the company.

In his previous role with Fluor, Travis partnered with

the business lines within Global Services to provide best-in-class customized solutions to help address human performance issues and opportunities for improvement. He employed a systemic and systematic approach to identifying ways to help people achieve top performance. Travis's services included need assessment, performance improvement analysis, root cause analysis, coaching, learning solutions, and alignment consulting and facilitation.

With VarTec Telecom, Inc., Travis held the position of senior trainer/developer. His responsibilities included oversight of the management development program. He developed, taught, and evaluated management courses as well as non-management courses. He spent time one-on-one with supervisors and managers coaching them through employee-related issues. He also spent time analyzing performance issues and helped implement solutions that aligned performance with Strategic goals of the business.

**ALUMNI DOING INTERESTING THINGS**

**Library & Information Sciences**



Ann Branton

Ann Branton (MS '90) has had a very active and successful career at the University of Southern Mississippi where she is currently head of the Bibliographic Services Department, University Libraries. She completed a year as vice president of the Mississippi Library Association

in 2009 and began her term as president in 2010. One of the primary responsibilities of the Association's vice president is to organize and plan the annual conference each fall. This past October, the Mississippi Library Association celebrated its centennial year as a professional library organization. The conference theme was Eco-friendly Libraries. This coming year Ann will serve as the Association's 101<sup>st</sup> president.



Philip Montgomery

Philip Montgomery (MS '05), Archivist/Special Collections Librarian, Rice University, has turned his LIS capstone project, for which Dr. William Moen was advisor, into an exciting result. He has put Mirabeau Bonaparte Lamar's handwritten travel journal into digital format.

The journal is written in continuous narrative form, with frequent historical or descriptive passages inserted, covering the months June-October 1835, the period during which Lamar apparently made his decision to settle in Texas permanently and join in the Texian battle for independence from Mexico. Lamar served as commander of the cavalry at the battle of San Jacinto

and as the Republic of Texas second president. The journal can be seen at <http://scholarship.rice.edu/handle/1911/21658/>

Philip reports that the project gave him experience with Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) and other forms of metadata. "It introduced me to the problems of digital repositories and taught me about Dspace. And it showed me that the problems are not just technology but also involve staff and library resources in ways I could never imagine. Finally, it taught me that digital projects are not projects for lone wolves. Digital projects, like most projects in libraries, involve lots of people working together."

Philip received one of the Rising Star Awards, presented during the LIS 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration.

Susie Steeves (MS '05) and two of her colleagues at the Keller (TX) ISD were selected to receive the Library Instruction Project of the Year Award from the TLA Library Instruction Round Table. After realizing that no age appropriate materials existed for Texas historical figures, such as Henriette King, John C. Keller, and William Jenkins Worth, the librarians took matters into their own hands by writing the biographies themselves. Designed to meet Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) objectives, each biography incorporates a table of contents, glossary, and index, has corresponding puzzles, games, and activity sheets designed to reinforce the information, and is available as a Microsoft PhotoStory to meet the needs of diverse learning styles. So far, biographies for Stephen F. Austin, Worth, and King are being used by over 4,600 kindergarten and second grade students throughout the district's 21 elementary schools. More biographies are being planned.

**Learning Technology (formerly Technology and Cognition in the College of Education)**



Rusty Freed

Rusty Freed (EdD '06), Department Head/Associate Professor of Management, Department of Management, Marketing and Administrative Systems, Tarleton State University, also serves as College Coordinator for Off-Campus Programs. His department, the largest in both

the College of Business Administration and at the University, with 22 full-time and 20+ part-time faculty, offers 11 undergraduate degree programs and three master's degrees with programs offered in Stephenville, Waco (in partnership with McLennan Community College's University Center), Fort Worth, and online.

Since completing the doctorate, Rusty has spent much of his time expanding the department's traditional baccalaureate degrees to off-campus/remote sites and working with various academic departments on the creation and expansion of non-traditional degrees such as the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Applied Science. These programs are helping to meet the needs of today's adult population who have significant work experience and/or technical training, but have not been able to complete the bachelor's degree.

In addition to his work with these programs, he has served on numerous university and college committees and task forces and made presentations at professional conferences on the topics of university/community college

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Send your news to  
**Margaret Irby Nichols**  
Editor, Call Number  
[nichols2514@charter.net](mailto:nichols2514@charter.net)

## 1970s



Mary Suhm

**Mary Suhm** (LIS MLS '74), Dallas City Manager, received the Jubilee History Maker Award from the Dallas Historical Society at a luncheon held at the Fairmont Dallas hotel, November 10, 2009. The award is one of several that recognize leaders in several different fields who have made singular contributions to the quality of life in Dallas and the surrounding area. Outstanding individuals are selected for this honor from nominations solicited from the Dallas community.

## 1980s



Emily Hobson

**Emily Hobson** (LIS MS '84), Marshall (TX) Public Library was named an Every Day Hero in an article in the *Marshall Messenger*, the local newspaper. She was quoted as finding joy in connecting people with books.

## 1990s

**Joyce Baumbach** (LIS MS '93) has retired as director of the Plano Public Library System.

**Cathy Hartman** (LIS MS '91) and **Dreanna Belden** (LIS MS '03), UNT Libraries, have received word that UNT Libraries will be a subcontractor for the Oklahoma Histori-



Cathy Hartman

cal Society grant of \$307,000 to digitize approximately 100,000 pages of Oklahoma newspapers. The University Libraries also received a grant to investigate collection needs for some 3,200 government agency material archived when President Barack Obama took office in January 2009. Cathy Hartman said that "the project investigation will attempt to classify the materials captured in the End-of-Term Archive using the Superintendent of Documents Classification Number System which has been used to organize government information for more than 100 years."

**Jane Reynolds** (LIS MS '94) is now library director of Dallas Christian College, Farmer's Branch, TX. She was previously a law librarian, serving 21 years in four Dallas law firms, including ten years as manager of library services for Jenkins & Gilchrist. In 2007-8, she was president of the Dallas Association of Law Librarians, a chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries. Jane has long connections with UNT. Her father George Hardin retired in the 1980s as Deputy Controllor. Her mother Fran worked in the library when she was a student in the later 1940s, and her sisters Nelda and Liz were employed at the University over extended periods of time.



Michele Lucero

## 2000-2005

**Michele Lucero** (LIS MS '04), library relations manager, West, A Thomson Reuters Business, is one of the seven members of the Special Libraries Association Student and Aca-

demie Affairs Advisory Council Committee for 2009-11. The UNT California State University Northridge Cohort is one of the schools she is responsible for communication with on deadlines for reports, scholarships, and other matters.



Michelynn  
McKnight

**Michelynn McKnight** (LIS PhD '04) has received tenure and promotion to associate professor at the School of Library & Information Science, Louisiana State University. Her book titled *The Agile Librarian's Guide to Thriving in Any Institution* has been published by ABC Clío Libraries Unlimited.

**Pamabaniska King** (MS '03) has received tenure and promoted to Librarian II at Auburn University Libraries

## 2006 to date



Roger Bowles

**Roger Bowles** (LT EdD '06) has been promoted to department chair and professor in the Biomedical Equipment Technology and Medical Imaging Systems Technology Departments at Texas State Technical College, Waco. Due to the changes in the biomedical equipment technology field (medical equipment and information systems are merging), he decided to pursue a second master's degree in computer information systems at Tarleton State University, completed in 2009. Recently, he was invited by the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, D.C. to be a grant reader for the "Information Technology  
*Continued on page 30*

## ALUMNI DOING INTERESTING THINGS *continued from page 28*

partnerships and non-traditional baccalaureate degrees. He is also active in the local chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society involving faculty, staff, and students. In his spare time, Rusty attempts to keep up with his wife Julie, a public school librarian, their 7<sup>th</sup> grade daughter Jeyton, an avid cheerleader, and daughter Carly, a junior kinesiology major at Tarleton.

**Ellen Harris** (EdD '01), currently an adjunct faculty member in the COI Learning Technologies Department, retired from AT&T after over 29 years of service as an operator, a trainer, and an account representative in the Marketing Department. Since retirement, she has utilized her skills learned at UNT as academic technology coordinator at the Lamplighter School of Dallas where she teaches students to use the computer and the staff to use technological equipment such as computers, digital cameras, and Microsoft Office. She also does volunteer

work at Distributive Education Clubs of America, Incorporated (DECA) helping students develop skills for successful business careers, build self-esteem, experience leadership and practice community service.



Philip Plubell

**Philip Plubell**, who is starting his fourth semester as an instructor in the Health and Public Administration program at Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX, reports that he now happily tormenting his own graduate students. He is combining his Master's degree in Public Health (MPH) with his doctoral work in the LT Applied Technology Training & Development program (all but dissertation). Phil was able to complete all of his doctoral work and pass his qualifying exams while also working as a fulltime computer and electronics instructor for a technical education

program in Wichita Falls, teaching adult continuing computer education classes at Midwestern, and raising a child with cystic fibrosis.

Phil has co-authored several papers and presentations with his faculty colleagues and his graduate students, and is working toward completing his dissertation, a study of the comparative effectiveness of high-fidelity patient simulators (robot patients) vs. the traditional method of training new nursing hires.

"I have found practical uses for the skills and knowledge that I gained in the ATTD program every single day," he says. "In particular, my professors provided me with insight into the unique practical application of learning needs of the adult learner. The central core of what I learned to ask in the ATTD training is 'Where are you now, where do you want to be, and how do you get from here to there?' I find this skill set is tremendously useful in my own life and in the lives of my students."

Professionals in Health Care: Community College Consortia to Educate Health Information Technology Professionals in Health Care” funding opportunity.



Mary Jo Dondlinger

**Mary Jo Dondlinger** (LT PhD '09) was selected to receive this year's Robert M. Gagne Award for Graduate Student Research in Instructional Design from the Association for Educational Communications and Technology, the organization's highest award for graduate students based on dissertation work. The award, which includes a \$250 check and \$100 rebate on the awardee's convention registration fee, is given to a graduate student who has made a significant contribution to the body of knowledge upon which instructional design practices are based.



Cassandra Evans

**Cassandra Evans** (LIS MS '09), a new public service librarian at Tarrant County College Northwest campus, is serving as Membership Secretary of the Reforma RioTrinity chapter (DFW). She has announced that four Reforma RioTrinity scholarships are available to Reforma members to attend a master's program in library and information sciences. More information is available at <http://www.reforma-riotrinidad.info/>

**Maristella Feustle** (LIS MS '10) has created a website debunking stereotypes of librarians. It's fun! <http://youknownothingofmywork.bravehost.com/>

**Chad Freeze** (LIS MS '09) is now director of the Corsicana (TX) Public Library.

In its November 6, 2009 issue, the *New York Times* highlighted the Dallas Public Library for its use of their "Times Best Sellers" on their website. Two LIS graduates, **Steve Gaither** (MS '07) and **Mark Gilman** (MS '99) are responsible for the listing.

**Ellen Heavner** (LIS MS '07) is now assistant librarian, Collin County (TX) Law Library.

**Lee Johnson** (LIS MS '06) has published an article titled "Weekly Coffee House" in a book titled *Thinking Outside the Book: Essays for Innovative Librarians*, edited by Carol Smallwood (McFarland, 2008), a collection of shared experiences by and for librarians. This information corrects a note contained in the fall issue of *Call Number*, p. 26.

**Sarah Parramore** (LIS certification), librarian at Oak Meadows Elementary School Manor ISD, was awarded a TLA Christina B. Woll Memorial Fund grant. When graphic novels are purchased with the \$700 award, her library's collection in the area will double in size. The grant resulted from a proposal written as an assignment in SLIS 5345.

**Heather Ridpath Pilcher** (LIS MS '08) is the author of *Beloved Home* (CreateSpace, 2009), a time travel adventure based on actual historical events that happened in Monroe, LA circa 1905. The novel is filled with suspense, excitement, and humor and also is educational.



Susan Schmidt

**Susan Schmidt** (LIS MS '07) is editor of a new monthly publication titled *Medicine for a New Era Digest*.

**Alex Simmons** (LIS MS '06), University of Houston M.D. Anderson Library, has been selected to participate in the ALA

Association of College and Research Libraries Immersion 2010 Teacher Track, to be held July 25-30 at Champlain College, Burlington, VT. The program provides four and a half days of intensive information literacy training and education for academic librarians.



Gailanne Smith

**Gailanne Smith** (LIS MS '09) is librarian at Lakeview Elementary School, Trophy Club, TX. "UNT did a great job of preparing me," she says. "There have been many things to adjust to, but nothing (other than hosting my first book fair) that I haven't felt like I could draw on my master's degree classes to figure out."

**Jose Tamez** (LIS MS '09) is now the assistant director at the Dustin Michael Sekula Memorial Library in Edinburg, TX.

**Bridget Barry Thias** (LIS MS '06) is the library manager at Everest College, Dallas. Bridget also holds a bachelor's and master's degree in journalism from UNT.

**Mary Jo Venetis** (PhD '08) is serving as chair of a subcommittee working on the ALA President Camila Alire's Family Literacy Focus project, an initiative to encourage families in ethnically diverse communities to read and learn together.

## advancement

### Embarking on a New Path to Success

Scholarships are the main focus of our fund raising efforts. As students in great numbers continue to choose the UNT College of Information for their educations, we will continue to provide scholarships to help them reach their goals.

We have had several exciting news events in 2010 we would like to share with our readers.

- The establishment of the James L. & Peggy A. Poirot Endowment, the first endowment in the Learning Technologies Department.
- The establishment of the Dean's Circle of Excellence and the Young Alumni Leadership Circle with charter members in each
- The establishment of a Law Librarian Scholarship

### Leadership Giving Societies

Established in 2010, the Leadership Giving Societies recognize alumni, parents, and friends who make leadership contributions of \$500 (Young Alumni Leadership Circle) or \$1,000 (Dean's Circle of Excellence) or more to the University. Membership in the Leadership Giving Societies is comprised of a distinguished group of University of North Texas, College of Information alumni and friends who support the vision of excellence for the college and its programs set forth by the dean and his leadership.

The Leadership Giving Societies:

- Promote interest and participation in university affairs by alumni, parents, and friends.
- Encourage others to support the university.
- Provide an opportunity for members to be informed of university priorities and to assist the administration in its goals.

Benefits of Membership

- Exclusive communications from the university with up-to-date information on programs, priorities, issues, and events on campus and regionally.
- Invitation to special receptions with the Dean.
- Pre-alumni event meetings with faculty speakers and administrators.
- Donor recognition at special events.
- Specialized name tags provided at university events
- Use of fax, phone, copier, and computer when visiting campus

For more information on the Leadership Giving Societies, please contact Mary Garcia at [mary.garcia@unt.edu](mailto:mary.garcia@unt.edu) or via phone at 940.369.5274.

## DEXTER EVANS Charter Member of the Dean's Circle of Excellence



Dexter Evans earned his bachelor's degree in communications and public speaking in 1992, followed by the master's degree in library and information sciences the following year. At the end of his master's program, he was selected as the School of Library & Information Sciences Outstanding Graduate Student for 1993.

Dexter says he owes much of who he is today to his education at UNT and to his mentor **Dr. Herman Totten**. As the first charter member of the Dean's Circle of Excellence, he is committed to giving back to UNT. The Dean's Circle of Excellence recognizes those who have contributed \$1,000 or more to UNT. Dexter also has been a member of the President's Council since 2005, UNT's annual giving society.

Growing up very poor in Marshall Texas, Dexter saw education as his way up. He felt a "sense of urgency to get through college." Without major scholarships, he worked at a McDonald's restaurant near campus to afford his education. He states that during his graduate work "he was impressed with Dr. Totten's attitude and presence for education." That experience has given him deep commitment to the program and UNT. He hopes future donors understand the impact they can make in helping others change their lives.

Dexter currently is a sales representative for the Southwest Region of H.W. Wilson, a long standing company that offers 78 reference databases to help support today's library research needs.

**CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO  
DEAN'S CIRCLE OF  
EXCELLENCE  
YOUNG ALUMNI LEADERSHIP  
CIRCLE  
JAMES AND PEGGY POIROT  
ENDOWMENT**

Those who may wish to contribute to any of these funds, or to any other fund, should contact Mary Garcia at [mary.garcia@unt.edu](mailto:mary.garcia@unt.edu) or via phone at 940-369-5274.

## CLARENCE ROBERTSON

### First Member of the Young Alumni Leadership Circle



The College of Information is pleased to announce the chartering of the Young Alumni Leadership Circle (YALC) and to recognize **Clarence Robertson** as its first member. YALC recognizes alumni, parents, or friends who make contributions of \$500 to support the vision of excellence for the College of Information and its programs. Clarence states that it is important to be an active young alumni donor because it provides an opportunity to pay it forward. "I strive to be an example and want to help my fellow classmates who have experienced some difficult monetary situations as I have."

Clarence is a unique individual with a passion for the College of Information which is evident in his giving commitment. He is still in school, pursuing a master's in library and information sciences. His donation will begin the law librarian scholarship, his program specialty, and assist in a need which he understands. "It feels great to be a part of something like YALC because I know that others will be encouraged to examine themselves and take into account the

importance of giving."

Clarence earned his Bachelors of Science in Criminal Justice at UNT in 1995. Upon graduation he was left with a daunting question of what kind of career he wanted to pursue. Since 1996, he has worked with three different law firms including Hughes & Luce (now K&L Gates), Diamond, McCarthy, Taylor & Finley LLP, and Jackson Walker LLP. During that period of time, three LIS alumni, **Thom Austin** (MS '91), **Ann Jeter** (BA '75), and **Marty Sheppard** (MS '96), encouraged Clarence to pursue a master's degree in law librarianship. After years of law library experience to build on, their suggestion seemed logical.

During his pursuit of the master's degree, while working full-time, Clarence has received the George Strait Law Librarian Scholarship from the American Association of Law Libraries and a SLIS Dean's Scholarship.

Clarence met his wife of eight years while working part time at the Dallas Theological Seminary Library. The running family joke is that she returned all her overdue books just to meet the new guy working in the library. They have a beautiful nine month old daughter, Micah Jasmine, and as her father proclaims, she is already a genius.

## THE POIROTS CREATE ENDOWMENT

Dr. James Poirot, who has worked at UNT for 33 years and is currently a Professor Emeritus within the Department of Learning Technologies, and his wife Peggy, were prompted to create an endowment in recognition of the superb career he has had at UNT and to recognize those most responsible for allowing him to work at the University for such a long time. The endowment is intended to assist students in seeking a quality education in the learning technologies field. He says that it also enables him to continue his interaction with students. "Students are the reason a university exists and our lifelong ambition has been to make an impact on these students," he says.

In addition to his teaching and research efforts, Dr. Poirot, who retired as a Regents Professor in January 2010, has served as chairman of the Computer Science Department and the Cognitive Systems Department, and as associate dean within the College of Education. He also has held the position of executive director of the UNT's highly successful Texas Center for Educational Technol-



*"My wife Peggy and I have always believed that a good education is the key to success. Supporting our future students of our program will give me and my family a continuing stake in UNT."*

ogy (TCET) (see p. 6). Within the past six years, he has been awarded competitive external grants exceeding \$14 million dollars from federal and state agencies and corporate foundations to benefit UNT and its students.

Dr. Poirot has held leadership positions in a variety of state, national, and international professional organizations, including the Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA), which he was instrumental in founding. He has lectured worldwide with invited addresses given in ten different

countries. (For additional information about Dr. Poirot, see the article concerning the honor he received at the recent TCEA conference on page 14.)

Dr. Poirot and his wife Peggy have been married for over 43 years and have two children, Pamela Sue Ingram and Reverend Jeffrey James Poirot, and a grandson, Steven Wayne Ingram.

Friends, colleagues, and former students of Dr. Poirot who wish to honor him and his outstanding career may do so by contributing to the endowment.



**call number**

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