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We welcome news about show openings, new jobs, exhibits, new companies, marriages, births and anything else that your fellow alumni and friends of CVAD would like to read about. Please [forward](#) this to others who may wish to receive it. We would like to build our readership!

## Message from Dean Milnes



It's mid-summer and I wanted to make sure to keep you up to date on what is happening in CVAD and to alert you to some new faces, spaces, programming, and initiatives for the Fall.

### Personnel

First off, we have a number of people who unfortunately will not be rejoining us in the fall. As I hope you know, the Voluntary Separation Program proved appealing to four of our faculty and so David Blow, D. Jack Davis, Brent Phelps, and Don Schol will be leaving our faculty at the end of the summer. Also leaving will be Shane Mecklenburger, Chris Bain and Jeff Broome. Shane has taken a new position at Ohio State, Chris at UT, and Jeff is returning to his alma mater, Florida State. We'll miss each of these individuals who have done so much for the college in their time with us!

Re-joining us in the fall in new tenure-track appointments will be Jeff Johnston in Interior Design and Laura Evans in Art Education, who were visiting professors last year. New faculty members Clinton Carlson in Communication Design and Joni Boyd in Art Education will also be joining us.

We are still in process of searching for visiting faculty in Art Education and New Media Art and have searches out as well

# UNT to receive estimated \$8 million estate gift

Denton philanthropist [Paul Voertman](#), right, is planning to donate an estimated \$8 million through a bequest in his will to support student scholarships and other programs.



The Ardoin-Voertman Endowment Funds will be divided among the **College of Music**, the **College of Arts and Sciences** and the **College of Visual Arts and Design** with each getting one-third.

"I hope that this gift provides students the help they need in an increasingly expensive college environment," Voertman said. "To help ease the burden of the cost of attending college, this gift will fund student scholarships and other programs that will ultimately benefit students."

President **V. Lane Rawlins**, said Voertman's gift to UNT is powerful for its direct impact on students and its overall support for the university.

"We've made a promise to students to provide the best education and opportunities to grow," Rawlins said. "And we've rededicated ourselves to becoming

for Senior Lecturers in Core Drawing and Fibers/Weaving and a Lecturer in Art History. With luck, these will all be in place by the time school starts!

We anticipate tenure track searches next year in Communication Design, Art Education (2), New Media Art, Sculpture, Photography, and the iARTA cluster (2) in the fall – whopping 8 searches!

Depending on the budgets there may be more. We have a chance of truly transforming our programs through these interestingly interrelated searches, especially in light of some new opportunities through the Design Research Center and iARTA.

We have been granted an additional half time advisor and will be searching for that person this summer. Welcome, if you haven't already, Mia Dallas in the Advising Office and Jasmine Rose in the Visual Resource Center who both joined us last spring. Joining us this week will be our new Development Director, Susan Sanders. Susan, from Dallas, is an SMU Art History graduate who has an extensive background in fundraising and sales. I am very excited to have her with us!

Several of our faculty colleagues have new titles and roles this summer. Johnnie Stark received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Eric Ligon and Terry Barrett were both promoted to full professor, and Eric Ligon will take over the role of Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs this summer as Maria O'Rourke- Kaplan takes a well deserved vacation and, in the fall, returns to teaching in Fashion Design.

Lari Gibbons will be taking on printmaking classes and a new role as Director of PRINT (replacing David Blow) and leaving her role in core drawing when we are able to hire a replacement. And, I am pleased to say Jerry Austin and Cynthia Mohr have gone through their evaluations as chairs of the departments of Studio Art and Design and will be returning in those critical roles in the fall.



one of the best universities in Texas so that our students can further excel and compete. Mr. Voertman's bequest will help us fulfill our promise to our students and give us momentum in our goal to become the best."



Each college will use at least 40 percent of the funds to provide student scholarships.

Of its allocated

donation, the **College of Visual Arts and Design** will designate:

- 40 percent to create an Ardoin-Voertman Artist-in-Residence position for a nationally renowned artist to teach at UNT; each appointment will be held for up to two years
- 40 percent for student scholarships
- 10 percent to support student grants for research, travel and creative projects
- 10 percent to support a visiting artist and printmaker program in the **Print Research Institute of North Texas (P.R.I.N.T.)**, a fine art press.

The **College of Music** will set aside:

- \$1.3 million of the gift for student scholarships
- \$1 million for opera productions
- up to \$1 million for student travel and recording.

The **College of Arts and Sciences** will use:

- half of its allocated donation for student scholarships

Please congratulate all of these individuals when you see them! Their promotions and new appointments are well deserved. My thanks also to all of the faculty who have been involved in the reviews and RPT processes these promotions and reappointments require. The associate deans and faculty members who coordinated the chair evaluations did an especially important and effective job for us.

## Spaces

Jean Miller is working with the Provost's office, Facilities, and our faculty and staff on a host of building projects this summer. Check out the really blue lockers on the third floor. A number of office changes have prompted a list of painting and remodeling projects in the Art Building and Scouler Hall, but the big changes will be in Curry Hall this summer, where CVAD is taking over the third floor for facilities for New Media Art, Communication Design, and iARTA.

We will move the New Media lab from ART 231 there this summer along with the faculty, TA and adjunct faculty offices, and the server farm from Bain Hall. When the New Media Art labs move out of ART 231, we will be moving the color printing equipment from the General Computer lab to ART 231.

Thanks to Michael Baggett, Kacey, and Craig, we now have software available to track printing costs and monitoring print use. We will begin charging for plotter prints this fall, which should help distribute costs and slow down the escalating student fees to cover printing costs. We will also be able to upgrade faculty and staff computers this summer, with seventeen of our faculty receiving new computers and additional equipment being made available as we upgrade labs.

When the Business College moves to its new building this fall, the Business Classroom Building primarily will be used to house academic service offices for the university. The move will also free large lecture room space in the building, which may provide us the opportunity to move the core lectures to that building this fall. We're looking into that

- the remaining half for the College of Arts and Sciences Excellence Fund, which will be used to recruit, retain and recognize excellence in teaching, research and scholarship by College of Arts and Sciences faculty.

Voertman, a longtime benefactor to UNT, created the annual Voertman art competition in 1960 to give students an opportunity to have their work reviewed by an art professional.

He supported the commission, building and installation of the [Richard Ardoin-Paul Voertman Concert Organ](#) in the **Murchison Performing Arts Center** with the \$1.5 million Voertman-Ardoin Memorial Fund. The organ was inaugurated in 2008. Through the years, he has consistently provided various gifts to continue to support students at UNT. In 2009, Voertman earned the [Outstanding Alumnus Service Award](#) from UNT, and in 2010, the university named the [newly renovated Voertman Concert Hall](#) in the **Music Building** in his honor.

Voertman began his studies at UNT at age 5 in the North Texas State Teachers College Demonstration School and continued at UNT through his sophomore year in 1947. He transferred to the University of Texas, where he graduated in 1949.

After the death of his father, he took over management of the Voertman store, 1314 W. Hickory, which he operated for 38 years.

now.

Another change this summer will be the establishment of a satellite Advising Office in Hickory Hall. We will set up an advising office there in anticipation of our further occupation of the rest of Hickory Hall next summer, which will happen once the student services offices are in the Business Building and the Economics Department moves back to Wooten Hall. One full time and one part time advisor will be assigned there to help with the freshmen and new students who take drawing classes there. Lots of planning to do in the mean time!

## Programming

The UNT Art Galleries are active through the summer with a MFA show open in the main and North galleries in the Art Building, a Communication Design show in the Lightwell, and the VAST (Visual Art Society of Texas) Exhibition in the Cora Stafford Gallery.

Be sure to check out the ceramics sale in Oak Street Hall this coming week – a great chance for purchasing that cup or container you really need and have been wanting! See our announcement page on the web for details.

Next year, all receptions in the student galleries and the main gallery will be scheduled on Thursdays from 5-7 pm to facilitate planning and attendance. This will coincide with the scheduling of free music performances at the UNT on the Square Gallery each Thursday at 7 pm and openings at that gallery Thursday evenings as well. We hope this way to establish our own gallery walk!

Speaking of walking tours, for the first time, we are now scheduling tours of CVAD for prospective students and their parents this summer and through the school year. Thanks to Elyce Franks (with input from the chairs and associate deans) we have a trained cadre of tour guides who will be leading regular tours of our main buildings on Fridays and in conjunction with orientations. If you get a chance to visit our website, look up the new “CVAD Tours” page.

Thanks to Marian O'Rourke-Kaplan, we have Virtual Tours of four buildings on that site, along with a CVAD facilities map that Elyce developed, the ArtPath Map put together by Tracee Robertson, Victoria DeCuir and Karen Milnes, as well as a sign-up page developed by Elyce and Kacey Close to facilitate scheduling the tours. Pretty remarkable!

Tracee Robertson has been at work this summer and, helping Lesli Robertson, they have achieved sponsorship from the Mid-American Arts Alliance to tour the Bark Cloth Show nationally. Please see the new gallery website page for more information, and for the new look of the gallery site.

This coming year, Nick Cave, former UNT student and chair of the Fashion Design program at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, will be our IAA Artist in Residence. Tracee chaired a very exciting meeting of faculty from CVAD, COM, and the Dance and Theater Department of CAS to talk with Nick and his assistant via Skype last week. The residency promises to be a milestone in the future role of the arts at UNT.

Already we have five or six CVAD faculty and four to six of their colleagues in other departments and colleges planning for their students' engagement with the artist. Cave will also be the Nasher lecturer this fall and will be exhibiting at UNT on the Square next spring, along with the staging of a major performance piece. We are also working on visits from Tony Cragg and Mark Bradford next year.

The advent of the A-Train to Denton this summer is providing us with the opportunity to expand student and faculty transportation options both in Denton and Dallas. Following the opening of the Design Research Center in Dallas last spring, DRC Director Keith Owens, working closely with Associate Dean Jean Miller and Art Education and Art History Chair Denise Baxter, has been working with representatives of Big Thought, a major non-profit agency in Dallas focused on creativity in education in the K-12 grades. This has a very exciting future.



At the same time, projects with KERA, Cook Children's Hospital, and Downtown Dallas are taking form. It's an exciting period for us, though maybe a bit TOO busy a summer for the participants.

Our students continue to win prizes for their works this summer, bringing home major prizes in fibers, crafts, and fashion design, as well as prestigious internships in many fields. With this level of success, and the increased demand for our courses, we are for the first time establishing higher admission requirements for new undergraduate students in CVAD, which will be in place for fall 2012.

### **Budgets**

There has been no change in our budget for next year, but, if you read President Rawlins' letter Monday, you know that the university anticipates additional revenues beyond the projected budget for next year. I anticipate additional funds to make up at least some of the cutbacks we still face in operating budgets. In the meantime, we should be able to address workloads in some areas and maintain basic levels of support. There is also some good news in fundraising in regard to long-range gifts and additional support for the Nasher Lecture series from sponsors

Nancy Nasher and David Haemisegger. More on those gifts at our meeting in the fall. Future Planning In the coming year, we will be working on a number of issues to really help advance the college, our faculty, and our students. Strategic Planning will be a big part of this as we move toward our next accreditation review in 2012-2013.

Immediately, one major issue will be recruiting and hiring new faculty. With the vacancies we have, we have a chance to move the college programs forward in new and collaborative ways. Thinking of possible synergies between programs will be essential.

Balancing lecturer appointments with more research/creative efforts will help bring new levels of quality to our teaching and prominence to the programs. This will have to be part of the strategic planning: with our new admission standards and the increasing demand for classes, quality control measures and accurate, consistent, and well publicized program and course requirements and pre-requisites will all be essential. We need to have these in place by the beginning of classes this fall if they are not in place already.

So it's an exciting time to be here and I very much want to thank you and Provost Warren Burggren for the support as I start my new term as Dean. Best wishes on all of your activities this summer and I look forward to seeing everyone this fall! Stop in if you are by the Art Building, meet the new people here and tell us what you are doing!

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