



# Illuminations

Newsletter for the College of Liberal & Fine Arts

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## COLFA Deans' Corner Daniel Gelo, Christopher Wickham, Augustine Osman

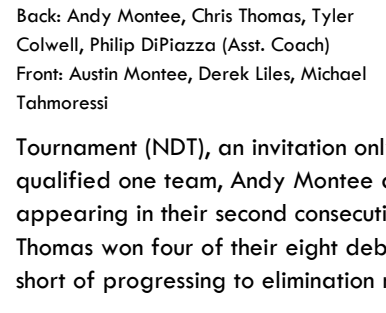
**Dean Dan Gelo** - Dean Daniel Gelo hosted his first 'Lunch with the Dean' on April 1. These occasional luncheons will bring small groups of faculty together for informal talk about the college and our academic careers.

**Dr. Augustine Osman** - Dr. Augustine Osman attended the Council of Research Directors' meeting on April 29. Discussions focused on several research-related issues including the Provost's F&A Distribution Model White Paper (<http://vpr.utsa.edu/StrategicPlan.php>), reviews of all the Centers and Institutes, and the UTSA Research Infrastructure.

**Dr. Christopher Wickham** - Dr. Wickham will be spending part of the summer processing the student learning outcome reports in the Core Curriculum domains. He looks with some pride at the progress COLFA has made on assessment reporting and anticipate high quality reporting this May.

To all COLFA colleagues, a multiple-choice summer: a.) enjoyable b.) productive c.) restorative d.) all of the above

## UTSA Debate finishes tenth in the nation



As the 2009-10 season came to an end, UTSA debaters faced the daunting task of two major national championship tournaments hosted by UC-Berkeley, an eleven day Spring Vacation debate-fest.

Back: Andy Montee, Chris Thomas, Tyler Colwell, Philip DiPiazza (Asst. Coach)  
Front: Austin Montee, Derek Liles, Michael Tahmoressi

At the first tournament, the National Debate

Tournament (NDT), an invitation only competition, UTSA qualified one team, Andy Montee and Chris Thomas, appearing in their second consecutive NDT. Montee and Thomas won four of their eight debates, falling one ballot short of progressing to elimination rounds.

The Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament (CEDA) came next. UTSA entered three teams in the open field of 208 teams from all over the U.S. Montee & Thomas defeated teams from UT Dallas, University of Oklahoma, Liberty, Emory and Louisville in the preliminary rounds. After winning their first two elimination rounds they lost to Towson University on a 2-1 split decision, ending up 6<sup>th</sup> in the tournament. Two other UTSA teams also competed at CEDA: Austin Montee & Derek Liles and Tyler Colwell & Michael Tahmoressi.

At the first tournament, the National Debate

Chris Thomas won 8<sup>th</sup> speaker out of 416 debaters. Montee was 21<sup>st</sup>. Thomas was named to the CEDA All-American Debate Team and Montee was chosen for the Academic All-American Team. Chris Crowe, UTSA Assistant Coach, was elected as CEDA's South-Central Region Critic of the Year. He judged the championship round of the tournament, making him the third critic in debate history to appear on the final panels of the NDT and CEDA in the same year.

UTSA Debate finished the year ranked tenth in the nation, ranked behind schools such as UC Berkeley, Northwestern, Cornell and Emory and ahead of a long list of debate powerhouses: U.S. Military Academy, Harvard, Vanderbilt, UT Austin, Baylor, Dartmouth, and Kentucky.

## Ovations wins prestigious award



COLFA's annual magazine, Ovation, won a CASE award for the second time in two years.

CASE (Council for the Advancement and Support of Education) is an international professional association.

CASE District IV includes 260 schools, colleges, universities and other educational organizations in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico.

Ovation won the Achievement Award (Bronze) - University Communications, General Writing Collection, Ovation, Vol 4, 2009, "Witness to the Fall", "Voices Unheard", and "A Window Into the Hidden World of Myanmar".

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## PRESENTATIONS

**Gregg L. Michel**, Department of History, presented a paper entitled "Red Squads, Sovereignty Commissions, and COINTELPROs: Government Repression of White Southern Activists in the 1960s," at the *Student Activism, Southern Style: Organizing and Protest in the 1960s and '70s* conference at the University of South Carolina in March.

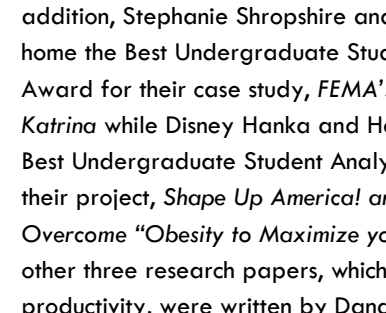
Department of English MA student **Magda Garcia** and doctoral students **Margaret Cantú**, **Larissa Mercado López** presented their research papers at the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies annual meeting in Seattle April 8-10.

**Bernadette Andrea**, Department of English, presented papers this semester at three major conferences: "Exploring the Renaissance 2010: An International Conference" (Corpus Christi), the 38th Annual Meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America (Chicago), and the 56th Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America (Venice, Italy).

**Dr. Rebekah E. Smith**, Department of Psychology, recently made several presentations regarding her research on prospective memory. Presentations include:

- "The Isolation Effect in Young and Older Adults" at the biannual Cognitive Aging Conference in Atlanta.
- "Prospective Memory: Individual Differences in Personality and Working Memory" at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association in Chicago with psychology graduate student Deborah Persyn and psychology undergraduate Patrick Butler
- Co-author presentation entitled "The Cost of Prospective Memory: A Diffusion Model Analysis" in a symposium at the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of Experimental Psychology in Saarbrücken, Germany.

## UTSA communication students set records and win awards at international conference



The Department of Communication students again set a new record for having the most student papers from a single university accepted for presentation and publication at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual International

From R to L: Disney Hanka, Stephanie Shropshire, Heather Harper, Ali Kanso, Paul LeBlanc, Sarah Phinney, Giselle Guadron

Academy of Business Disciplines (IABD) Conference held in Las Vegas, NV, April 8-10. Dr. H. Paul LeBlanc III, Associate Professor in the Department of Communication also presented a paper at IABD and was also awarded the Outstanding Service Award by The Board of Directors of the IABD in appreciation for dedicated service as Associate Editor of the Business Research Yearbook.

Eight UTSA students had 5 research papers accepted for presentation and received publication in the blind-reviewed *Business Research Yearbook*, Volume XVII, 2010. The papers propose practical public relations solutions to problems faced by U.S. profit and non-profit organizations. As a result, UTSA received from IABD the High Caliber of Students' Research Productivity Award for the fourth time in six years. In addition, Stephanie Shropshire and Sarah Phinney brought home the Best Undergraduate Student Analytical Paper Award for their case study, *FEMA's Response to Hurricane Katrina* while Disney Hanka and Heather Harper received the Best Undergraduate Student Analytical Paper Award for their project, *Shape Up America! and Childhood Obesity Overcome "Obesity to Maximize your Life" Campaign*. The other three research papers, which contributed to the research productivity, were written by Dana Baker, Andrea Lopez, Amina Lovell, and Giselle Guadron. All papers were class projects.

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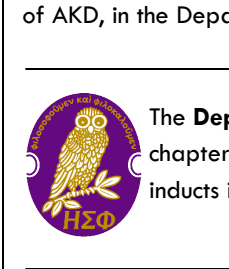
Dr. Ahmad Tootoonchi, President of the IABD and Dean of the College of Business at Frostburg State University, MD, said, "UTSA Students did an absolutely outstanding job in the way they presented their papers, and generated a high level of participation from the audience in the session at our 2010 IABD Conference. I am happy to know that the reviewers recommended their papers for publication in our IABD *Business Research Yearbook*. It was with a great deal of pride and pleasure that we presented the UTSA Communication Department with the 2010 IABD 'High Caliber of Students' Research Productivity Award' as we did in the past several years; deservedly." He added, "We value the UTSA Communication Department's contribution to our organization's growth and development, and look forward to see more students from UTSA participating at our 2011 Conference in New Orleans, LA".

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## NEWS & NOTABLES



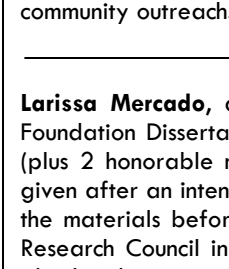
**Leslie Raymond**, Department of Art and Art History, and her partner Jason Jay Stevens were recently awarded an IDEA Fund grant for their project "Panorama Marfa". Their project "Panorama Marfa" is a multiple-screen video and multi-channel audio installation in Marfa, Texas that is part of a larger body of work reinterpreting the traditional panorama and cyclorama forms of Marfa, it includes video shot in the West Texas landscape along with an original score. The Idea Fund is an innovative re-granting program for Texas-based artists, administered through Aurora Picture Show, DiverseWorks Artspace and Project Row Houses, and funded by The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.



**Dr. Norma Cantú**, Department of English, was honored by the Veteran Feminists of America at a ceremony in the Dallas Museum of Women on March 19, 2010. (photo with Gloria Steinem who gave the award is attached)

The Department of Sociology is pleased to announce UTSA has received national recognition in 2010 with the installation of the Alpha Xi of Texas Chapter of Alpha Kappa Delta (AKD). AKD is the international honor society for sociologists, which was founded in 1920 by Dr. Emory S. Bogardus at University of Southern California. The purpose of the honor society is to promote scholarship, but the focus has always been fellowship for students, both at the graduate and undergraduate levels. For more information, please contact Dr. Xiaohu Xu, chapter representative of AKD, in the Department of Sociology.

The Department of Philosophy and Classics was recently approved to start a new chapter of Eta Sigma Phi, the Classics Honor Society, at UTSA. Eta Sigma Phi hopes to induct its first members this semester.



**Juan Livas**, a graduate student in the Department of Sociology recently received 2<sup>nd</sup> place for a photo essay at the Southwestern Social Science Association Annual Conference. His essay, entitled *Social makeup and resources of a community*, was a study exploring the resources of three sectors of a community- the Southside, Eastside, and Westside. From this study, photographs were taken of each sector that depicted the community including its residents, business practices, and most importantly, culture. These photographs display the culture of this community through its residents, their beliefs, and resources. The photos demonstrate social problems and the need for additional resources and community outreach.

**Larissa Mercado**, a graduate student in the Department of English recently received a Ford Foundation Dissertation Award. Larissa's award brings the department's tally to four recipients (plus 2 honorable mentions), an unprecedented number for this national award. The award is given after an intense review panel of approximately 15-25 distinguished faculty scholars review the materials before and during a referee panel meeting at the headquarters of the National Research Council in Washington, D.C. that lasts two days. It is a rigorous process and only the absolute best projects survive to the final round of review, which lasts the greater part of the final day's deliberations.

The other Department of English Ph.D. student awardees include:

- Marco Cervantes (Ford Dissertation) Patricia Trujillo (Ford Dissertation Honorable Mention)
- Patricia Trujillo (Ford Pre-Doctoral Fellowship) Lori Rodriguez (Ford Post-Doctoral Fellowship)
- Christina Gutierrez (Honorable Ford Pre-Doctoral)

On March 11-13, **Jennifer Cahill Clark and Drew Stephen**, Department of Music, hosted the regional conference of the South Central Chapter of the College Music Society. The conference was held at the UTSA Downtown Campus. Over the course of three days, 70 registered attendees from within the chapter boundaries (Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas) and beyond, participated in the presentation of 27 paper and lecture-recitals, three concerts consisting of 14 performances (including three world premieres), 8 posters, and 2 special sessions on music and communication and music and technology.

In Spring 2010, the **Graduate Seminar in World Music** (MUS 5263) made in-depth explorations of three world cultures. Led by Dr. Mark Brill, the seminar first investigated Native American music, which included participation in the United San Antonio Powwow in February, a guest lecture by Apache shaman Sonny Molina, and the performance of several Native American drum songs. The focus of the seminar then moved to Indonesia, and the students explored gamelan music from both Java and Bali. The class held a workshop with Dr. Gordon Jones, an ethnomusicologist at Texas State University at San Marcos and an expert in Indonesian gamelan. The third culture the seminar explored was that of West Africa, and this endeavor was greatly enhanced by the presence of Ghanaian master drummer Jerry Kwashie Dzikoto, who did several performances, workshops and lectures during a week long residence at UTSA. The culmination of the seminar was the world music recital on Tuesday, April 13, which featured performances of the Native American songs, the Wayang shadow puppet show, and Mr. Dzikoto's performance on the Djembe.

Members of the Graduate Seminar in World Music included Jordan Copeland, Dave Divis, Neil Dusseault, Marie Isenhower and Stephanie Keys.

## PUBLICATIONS

**Dr. Tina Zawacki**, Department of Psychology, published a peer-reviewed research article entitled "College Women's Sexual Decision Making: Cognitive Mediation of Alcohol Expectancy Effects" in the current issue of the *Journal of American College Health*. This study was funded by an NIH grant to Dr. Zawacki and her co-authors.

**Bernadette Andrea**, Department of English, published a peer-reviewed book chapter in *The English Renaissance, Orientalism, and the Idea of Asia* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010). She also received a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities (NEH) to participate in a five-week Summer Institute for College and University Teachers at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, DC.

## MAY Calendar of Events

May 1-26 - MFA Thesis Exhibitions. Aaron Muñoz: Absent Tactical Re-Actions And Adam Nowakowski: Clear Expensive Skies. Opening reception Thursday, April 1, UTSA Satellite Space 6-8pm.

April 28-May 6 - Spring BFA Exhibition. UTSA Art Gallery, Main Campus. Closing reception, May 6, 4-6pm.

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