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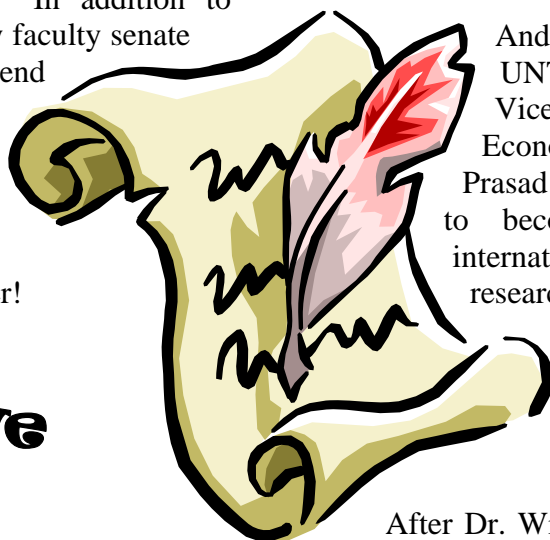
News & Gossip from the Institute of Applied Economics

*Once again, it's time to check in on what's going on at UNT.
So, pour yourself another cup of coffee and dive on in!*

And the Winner is...

Our own Dr. Terry Clower was elected to the position of Chair of the Faculty Senate for fiscal year 2009. This appointment will give Dr. Clower insight into higher education administration. In addition to presiding over the monthly faculty senate meetings, he will attend various deans meetings and committee meetings. He is looking forward to the challenge that this appointment brings. Congratulations Dr. Clower!

linguistics and former dean of the College of Arts and Letters at Michigan State University, has been on the job for just over a year now. She and Dr. Bataille are working together to lead UNT into the future.



And, Dr. Vish Prasad joined UNT in a revamped position as Vice President of Research and Economic Development. Dr. Prasad is leading UNT's mission to become a nationally (and internationally) recognized research university. Our faculty has met with Dr. Prasad and look forward to working with him as we pursue research projects.

Executive Episodes

As reported in our last issue, UNT has a new president. Dr. Gretchen Bataille came on board as the 14th President of UNT in August 2006. Dr. Bataille's arrival brought (and continues to bring) changes around campus.

A new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs joined UNT in August 2007. Dr. Wendy Wilkins, professor of

After Dr. Wilkins' joined UNT, one of the first orders of business for the President and Provost was to extend Dr. Tom Evenson's appointment as Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Community Service. Dr. Evenson is working with faculty and staff to evaluate the uniqueness of our college, and to determine our place in UNT's mission. We anticipate that many changes, including changes to our own Institute, will be implemented over the next several months.



Bad's Blotter.....

In addition to his regular research responsibilities, Dr. Weinstein took a semester break from teaching last year and spent a month as a Visiting Researcher at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia. Dr. Weinstein entrusted the daily operations of the Center and Institute to the rest of us and spent the month of October 2007 in The Land Down Under. Now, a year later, he offers the following thoughts on recent economic occurrences here in the US.

The past month has been tumultuous for the state of Texas and the nation, with Hurricane Ike wreaking devastation on the Gulf Coast and a financial tsunami battering Wall Street and Main Street. Congress and the White House have crafted a trillion dollar bailout program to help put America's—and by extension the world's—financial institution back on a firm footing. Clearly, this is not the time to be playing the blame game. The global economy is on the edge of a precipice, and a wrong move by US policymakers could push it off the cliff. The result would be a prolonged worldwide recession, further loss of home equity, an even deeper plunge in the stock and bond markets, and the evaporation of retirement assets for America's rapidly aging population. This debacle would also be accompanied by rising interest rates and higher inflation, further worsening the economic outlook.

On the other hand, one has to believe that somehow we'll muddle through this mess. We've had financial panics and meltdowns in the past, and the economy has weathered those storms—though it took World War II to get us out of the Great Depression. But we're not going to have a repeat of the 1930s because such a scenario would be politically unacceptable. Finally, we need to remember that America is too big to fail. The rest of the planet has a vested interest in keeping us financially secure; and the reality is that foreigners will have to lend us a large part of that trillion dollar borrowing plan because we don't save enough here at home.

Maybe the most positive fallout from this year's financial crisis will be a return to thriftiness on the part of American households. With a large and growing share of our population approaching the twilight years, saving for a comfortable retirement is more important than ever.

New Contact Information

Recent changes have affected both our snail-mail and e-mail addresses. Please note the following:

Mailing Address:

1155 Union Circle #310469
Denton, TX 76203-5017

Dr. Weinstein: Bernard.Weinstein@unt.edu

Dr. Clower: tclower@unt.edu

Dr. McKee: mckee@unt.edu

Lisa Gage: lgage@unt.edu

Students & Scholarships

Since our last issue, four students have completed their degree and graduated, with several working toward the goal for fall 08 or spring 09 graduation. We have approximately 23 students in various stages of progress toward the degree.

Recipients of departmental scholarships since fall 2006 include Mehmet Adalar, Bobo Agbetuyi, Chuck Dart, Ali McCullough, Rueben Mwangeka, and Girish Oli. These scholarships were possible because of funded research projects of the Center for Economic Development and Research, incentive funds received from the Dean's Office, and the Luker Endowed Scholarship Fund.

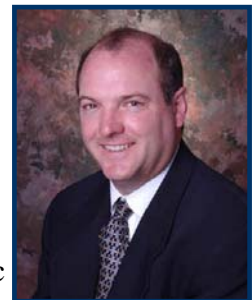


As always, we need your help to build our scholarship fund so that we can continue to help AECO students. Tax deductible donations to the Economic Development Scholars fund can be mailed to the UNT Office of Development, 1155 Union Circle #311250, Denton, TX 76203-5017. Please note on your donation that it is intended for the Economic Development Scholars fund, Account 76549.

Or, you can mail your donation directly to us at 1155 Union Circle #310469, Denton, TX 76203-5017. We will deliver your check to the UNT Office of Development and provide them with all information that they need to deposit it into our account and send you a tax receipt.

Clower's Corner.....


In addition to his previously mentioned duties as Chair of the UNT Faculty Senate, Dr. Clower is staying busy with Center clients, academic research publications, and community volunteer work. On the academic front, Terry has been working with Center graduate assistants examining economic development strategies in smaller metropolitan areas of the US. He currently has a book proposal under review with Andrew Beer, Chris Paris, and other international colleagues on current housing issues. Dr. Clower was recently named editor for the Americas for a new international journal, *Regional Science Policy and Practice*. He continues to serve on the editorial board of *Applied Research in Economic Development*. Rounding out his professional activities, Terry also continues to serve on the board of directors for the Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER) and as president of the Ross Avenue Baptist Church Foundation, a small 501-c-3 with about \$1 million in assets that supports community services in near east Dallas neighborhoods. Terry and his wife Julie are working on their country house plans, which they hope to build in 2009, if there are any mortgage lenders left in business by then!



Housing Symposium

During the fall 2006, Dr. Terry Clower applied for and was awarded a Hispanic and Global Studies Initiatives Fund grant from UNT. This grant allowed Dr. Clower to host the “21st Century Housing Issues: An International Symposium” at UNT on April 30, 2007. Dr. Clower was able to bring in housing experts from four international universities as well as local experts.

International speakers were:

	Prof. Andrew Beer , School of Geography, Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia
	Prof. Tom Carter , Department of Geography, University of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada
	Prof. Paul Dalziel , Commerce Division, Lincoln University, Lincoln, New Zealand
	Prof. Chris Paris , SCOBE, Faculty of Engineering, University of Ulster, Magee Campus, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom



Professor Tom Carter (Ca) (left) listens as Professor Andrew Beer (Au) (right) answers a question posed by an audience member during the panel discussion.

Local experts included keynote luncheon speaker A. Cynthia Leon (Regional Director for Region VI of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), Michael Backman (Director of Multi-Family Housing for Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and New Mexico for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development), and Barbara Holston (Executive Director of the Fort Worth Housing Authority).



UNT Prof. Don Lyons and Paul Hendershot (left to right) take notes during one of the presentations at the Symposium. Paul Hendershot (MS '06) is Director of Research at the Dallas Regional Chamber of Commerce.



Professor Chris Paris (NI) (left) responds to a question during the panel session as Professor Paul Dalziel (NZ) (right) looks on.



Barbara Holston (left) looks on as Prof. Don Lyons (center) and Prof. Stan Ingman (right) ponder a question from the audience during the panel discussion.

The symposium also included a panel session in which the international guests, Barbara Holston of the Fort Worth Housing Authority, and UNT professors Dr. Stan Ingman (Professor of Applied Gerontology and Director of the Center for Public Service) and Dr. Don Lyons (Professor of Geography). Dr. Clower served as host and moderator during the symposium.



Dr. Gretchen Bataille chats with Dr. Weinstein prior to being seated for the luncheon.

Overall, the symposium was attended by over 50 persons from DFW area businesses and the university. UNT President Dr. Gretchen Bataille was able to attend the luncheon, meet our international guests, and get a sense of the Center's purpose and role at UNT.

Following the Symposium, Drs. Clower and Weinstein hosted a dinner at a local Thai restaurant for our international guests



Around the table: Dr. Weinstein, Dr. Andrew Beer, Maeve Paris, Dr. Chris Paris, Dr. Clower, Dr. Tom Carter, Dr. Paul Dalziel, and Julie Clower.



Around the table: Dr. Weinstein, Dr. Andrew Beer, Maeve Paris (hidden), Dr. Chris Paris, Dr. Clower, Dr. Tom Carter, Dr. Paul Dalziel, and Julie Clower.



Speaking of International Issues...

Malungisa Eric Zwane received his MS degree in 1997. After graduation, Eric returned to his native South Africa where he currently works as a Project Investment Officer with KNZ Growth Fund Manager (Pty) Ltd., in Durban, South Africa.



McKee's Matters

Dr. McKee continues to teach Arbitration and Mediation and to develop new courses as the ADR Curriculum Coordinator. He also serves as UNT's Faculty Athletic Representative to the NCAA, a position in which he also advises President Bataille and the UNT administration on academic and student athlete welfare issues. We reported previously on this appointment, which he has held for 10 years. In addition, Dr. McKee for some time has co-chaired the Student Appeals Committee that works pursuant to the UNT Code of Student Conduct.

Recently, the UNT Provost appointed him to chair the campus Task Force on the Student Honor Code and Academic Integrity. This Task Force will develop and recommend a comprehensive approach addressing academic integrity as a key component of the academic culture at UNT. During this academic year they will propose the Honor Code, identify educational resources that support academic integrity, and recommend a new plan for handling cases of academic misconduct by students.

In his professional work, Dr. McKee continues to write and speak on topics relating to arbitration and mediation and serves as the Chair of the Southwest Region of the National Academy of Arbitrators for Texas and seven other states.

PACS Circle of Impact

The College of Public Affairs and Community Service (PACS) is home to faculty and students who are dedicated to addressing the need of our communities.

The "Circle of Impact" is the new giving club in the College for those donors who invest \$1,000 or more annually in PACS programs and scholarships. Gifts made to the Circle of Impact can be designated to specific department or scholarship accounts and either be a one-time gift or divided over a year. So, a donation to the PACS Circle of Impact can be designated to the AECO scholarship fund to help our students.

Circle of Impact membership benefits include special invitations to Circle Events with the Dean, name recognition on the PACS website and "Circle of Impact" Wall, and membership in the UNT President's Council (which includes a parking permit and invitations to President Council events).

The next Circle of Impact Event will be in mid-January. To become a charter member of the "Circle of Impact," send check to:

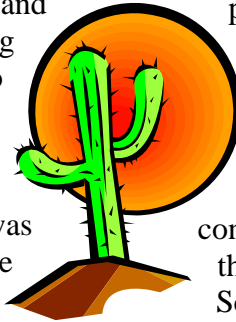
PACS Circle of Impact
University of North Texas
1155 Union Circle # 311340
Denton, TX 76203-5017

For more information, contact Tena Burley by phone at (940) 369-8208 or by e-mail DiscoverPACS@unt.edu

Student Spotlight

Jennifer Graves received her MS degree in 2004. After graduation, Jennifer accepted a job with the Greater Flagstaff Economic Council (GFEC) as Director of Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) and moved back to Arizona. As the BR&E Director Jennifer was responsible for the health and growth of the local basic sector businesses, which included many national and international companies such as Nestle Purina Petcare, Joy Cone Co., and W.L. Gore & Associates. Primarily, she conducted face-to-face interviews and provided assistance with cost cutting programs, including the Arizona Job Training Grant program and the Enterprise Zone program.

One of Jennifer's greatest challenges was the shortage of qualified workforce in the Flagstaff community due to the high cost of living. In an attempt to evaluate and better understand the issue, the GFEC commissioned a study to look at shortages and gaps in training and education and to identify solutions to address the issues found. Jennifer credits the MS degree in Applied Economics as providing tremendous help in this area. She feels that she was able to manage the research project more effectively thanks to the skills and experience she acquired in classes and through her work as a Graduate Research Assistant for the UNT Center for Economic Development and Research. Jennifer was in charge of the entire data gathering for the office, and the analytical training that she had received at UNT proved to be invaluable.



In July of 2007 Jennifer left GFEC to pursue a career opportunity with the City of Scottsdale, Arizona, as an Economic Vitality Specialist. In this new position her focus has shifted to the recruitment of new businesses, both basic sector and retail. Jennifer generates data reports, real estate reports, and maps for clients of all different sizes and is again in charge of creating a demographic profile for the community. Since joining the City of Scottsdale, she has been responsible for the recruitment of a software technology firm, the production of a national television segment featuring Scottsdale's Bioscience industry, and the marketing of Scottsdale at the BIO 2009 and ICSC Global Recon trade shows. Jennifer also works on revitalization projects in the urban core and helps the business services division with business retention and expansion efforts. In October of 2007, Jennifer became a home owner when she closed on her very first condo – she is excited to be living just three miles from her office in Scottsdale. This gives her the opportunity to walk/ride to work and immerse herself in the dynamic growth and re-birth of Southern Scottsdale. Additionally, Jennifer is currently studying for the IEDC exam to become a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) and plans to sit for the exam in January of 2009.



And Finally...

Michael Seman (UNT Geography MS '07) has joined the Center as a part-time Research Associate. Michael is currently looking at PhD programs in geography or public policy at several universities and hopes to begin a program next fall. In the meantime, he is providing valuable assistance on our current research projects.