

HBUNNEWS

SUMMER 2007



Morris Cultural Arts Center ...
A Dream Realized

Message from the President

I can hardly believe that my first academic year at HBU is now over. As I write this column, we are between the spring quarter and the start of the summer term. I almost feel breathless as I look back upon the countless meetings and activities that have taken place. Through it all, the greatest joy has been meeting the HBU family and friends of the University. The students, faculty, staff, and alumni have made this experience for Sue and me one of the greatest of our lives. It has been a wonderful year of blessings for us, and it is our genuine hope that we have served HBU in the process.

My mind is full of reasons to give thanks when I think of all that has happened this past year, so forgive me if I reminisce a little too much. Most of all, I look forward to what the coming year will hold, but on this occasion I cannot help reflecting on what a wonderful year this has been.

I have seen the Executive Council, my administrative team, come together in ways that have produced not only our ability to work together well as a team, but also great friendship and collegiality. I am so thankful for the new additions who have joined us. I think quickly of James Steen, who has led so marvelously in Enrollment Management. I am thankful for Dr. Phil Rhodes, who has completely renovated and reenergized the area of Institutional Research and Assessment, which is so important for various kinds of federal compliance as well as accreditation. I must not fail to mention Brian Hurd, our new Vice President for Development. Brian has done a wonderful job of building a new team that will serve the University well for many years to come. Really, it is hardly fair to mention just a few of the new additions to the HBU family without calling the names of all of those who have joined our faculty and staff. Of course, we all serve for the sake of our students, a community that changes some every year but is a constant source of joy and energy for all of us.

There are so many other experiences and people to be thankful for as I think back upon this past year. One of the highlights for me was spending time getting to know the faculty and staff in small groups. In addition to those experiences, Sue was a wonderful hostess for the countless numbers of students who blessed our home with their presence during numerous times of fellowship. Of course, I am truly thankful

for other groups as well: The Guild; the President's Development Council; and the Board of Trustees, a marvelous group of men and women who have provided unbelievable leadership to this University.

We've witnessed quite a few changes this past year: record numbers of student applications; the near completion of the Morris Cultural Arts Center; the planning processes for two new buildings (a residential college and a university academic center); our application to reenter Division I competition in the NCAA; the selection of ARAMARK Higher Education for food services, maintenance, and custodial/environmental services; development of a campus master plan; and numerous academic changes – to mention only two, the faculty's commitment to move from a quarter calendar to a semester calendar by the fall of 2008 and a proposal for the new Honors College.

I could mention many other reasons for excitement on the campus. We have new leadership for alumni relations and University publications. We have an entirely new initiative in terms of University "hosting," and we have made significant steps to improve various processes within our infrastructure by upgrading aspects of our information technology services.

The year has been touched by significant events, including the *Credo* conference and a concert of Krzysztof Penderecki's work which featured the Houston Symphony and the HBU Choral Union, a visit by presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani, and Homecoming.

In closing, I must mention two other areas, the first being the faculty of HBU. I am so deeply impressed with the commitment to students, the academic excellence, and the tremendous spirit of faith and service which characterize the faculty at this University. One of the highlights of this year has been getting to know the faculty, and I can tell you that I am amazed and blessed almost every day by their resilience, their strength, their commitment to excellence, and above all their desire to serve our students.

The second group I will mention is the staff. This University is tremendously blessed by the people who serve on the staff here. I mentioned at the beginning of this article the new people who have joined the HBU family, but it must be noted that all of us as newcomers have joined with a staff of excellence, people deeply committed to the



work of this University. Those of us who have recently joined are privileged to serve here. I want to single out one person who represents the excellence of the HBU family over a long period of time, Dr. Don Looser. Much has been written and said about our colleague this past year and deservedly so. It is very unlikely that the University will ever have someone serve more faithfully over a long period of time than Don Looser. One of the greatest joys of this year has been getting to know him as a marvelous representative of the outstanding faculty and staff who are here.

We have so many wonderful things to look forward to – new students, new academic programs, new buildings, and creation of a 10-year vision for HBU. But most of all, whatever the future holds, we have enormous reasons to be thankful for those staff, faculty, alumni, and trustees who have served before us: leaders such as Dr. William Hinton and Dr. Doug Hodo, and outstanding faculty and staff like Dr. Claude Rhea, Dr. Opal Goolsby, Dr. Joyce Fan, Dr. Ray Mayfield, and Judy Babb who have meant so much to the history of this school. Tradition is vital to the life of HBU, and the people who have served here throughout our nearly 50 years of history have laid the foundation for a truly great University.

I am thankful to have the opportunity to serve in this place and, with all of you, to work – under God – to make HBU one of the finest Christian universities in America.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert H. Hodge". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

In This Issue

Vol. 45, No. 1

Summer 2007

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HBU NEWS (USPS 252-660) is published quarterly by the Office of Marketing, Houston Baptist University, 7502 Fondren Road, Houston, Texas 77074-3298 and printed by SOUTHWEST PRECISION PRINTERS. Periodical postage paid at Houston, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to HBU News, 7502 Fondren Road, Houston, Texas 77074-3298.

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On the Cover:

Although the seal of HBU was created in 1962, its elements have been used for centuries. The circle, continuous and unbroken, represents eternity. A cross and Bible are within the circle. The reference to John 14:6 in the seal reflects the ideas depicted by the cross and the open Bible: "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh to the Father but by me." The seal symbolizes the University's permanent foundation on Jesus Christ as the resurrected Lord and its proclamation of the Scripture as revealing the eternal wisdom of God.

— Photo by Michael Tims

Founded in 1960, Houston Baptist University, a Texas Baptist institution, is a co-educational, independent university with a growing national reputation for offering academic excellence through more than 40 undergraduate and nine graduate programs. HBU has been ranked in the top tier among the "Best Universities" offering master's degrees in the Western region by *U.S. News & World Report* in its *America's Best Colleges for 2007* edition.

Presidential candidate *Rudy Giuliani visits HBU*



Rudy Giuliani's Presidential Exploratory Committee contacted the University on Wednesday, May 9, to request that HBU serve as the host site for Mayor Giuliani's major address. By Friday, May 11, campus preparations were in place, coordinated by the JoinRudy2008 campaign and the HBU Office of Marketing, along with assistance from many members of the University staff and the Student Foundation.

President Robert B. Sloan Jr. welcomed Giuliani to the HBU campus. He delivered remarks to more than 500 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members gathered in Mabee Theater with overflow in Dillon I. Giuliani discussed his views on a number of political issues.

18-month-old Matthew Damien Mohon of Sugar Land, sporting an "I ♥ New York" T-shirt, captured the Mayor's heart and the audience's attention.

Giuliani noted that it is uniquely American to have opposing viewpoints on some political issues, while at the same time agreeing with many others. "I have profound respect for your views," Giuliani said. "I have profound respect for your education, and I have profound respect for your religion."

Many students on the campus enjoyed the opportunity to listen to such a prominent world leader. "Even though you may not agree on everything [Giuliani] said, it was a great opportunity to have him on campus and hear him speak," junior mass communications, political science, and history major Caleb Feese said.

Beth Zapach, a sophomore secondary education and composite social studies major, told a *Houston Chronicle* reporter, "What a great opportunity for us [HBU] to host an event that discusses issues that affect and contribute to the future of the Presidency."

The opportunity to provide visibility for the campus and build name recognition for HBU was accomplished through phenomenal exposure in all mediums. According to Meltwater News, from May 10, the day the event was



President Sloan is interviewed by national and local media.

announced, through May 15, some 303 US sources and 12 international sources mentioned HBU and Giuliani for a total of 513 articles. The event was covered by all the major television networks.



Mayor Giuliani responds to a student's question regarding his handling of the intense media attention expected throughout the 2008 presidential campaign.

HBU applies to rejoin NCAA Division I

HBU applied in April to rejoin the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) as a Division I member. The formal announcement was made by President Sloan and Director of Athletics Ron Cottrell.

The Huskies left the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) at the end of the 2006-07 school year.

“Membership in the NCAA will provide benefits and visibility for the University which will impact our students, athletes, coaches, alumni, and the entire HBU community,” Sloan said. “First and foremost this will help us build a stronger campus atmosphere. We are already experiencing a unique time in the life of HBU with the development of new academic and student life programs and an anticipated growth in enrollment.”

HBU was a member of the NCAA from 1967 until 1990 and competed as a Division I member from 1973 until 1989. HBU left the NCAA for the NAIA in the fall of 1990, joining the Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC) as a charter member in 1998.

While a member of the RRAC, the Huskies won 40 conference championships and competed in 35 NAIA National Tournaments. HBU has received the league’s All-Sports Award eight times.

“We have enjoyed a great deal of success at the NAIA level, but now it is time to return to the NCAA and make our mark there,” Cottrell said. “With the vision that has been established under the new leadership of Dr. Sloan, it is the natural progression for our university, as well as our athletic department.”

As a member of the NAIA, the Huskies competed in basketball, baseball, and soccer for men; and basketball, softball, volleyball, and soccer for women. Track and field (indoor and outdoor) and cross country for both men and women have been added for the 2007-2008 season. HBU will add one more sport before the fall to bring the number of HBU sports to 14, the number required for compliance with NCAA Division I membership.

“With the addition of the men’s and women’s track program, six sports have been added in keeping with our application for NCAA membership,” Sloan said. “This will provide exciting opportunities and greater visibility for the University and will bring added value to our University athletics and our student recruitment efforts.”

The Huskies will compete as an independent as the University continues to explore conference affiliation options.

— *Jacque Cottrell*

“Athletics is an integral component of the college experience, and competition at this level is consistent with our desire to reach a higher standard of excellence in every aspect of University life.”

— *President Sloan*

HBU May Commencement

The future begins now for each of the 165 students who earned degrees from HBU in May. Newly-minted HBU graduates have a seemingly endless array of opportunities and options: continue with post-graduate studies; teach tomorrow's leaders; attend dental, medical, law, or pharmaceutical school; embrace mission work in various areas of the world; climb the corporate ladder; or create music and art for audiences to enjoy. The decisions are big but exciting and full of promise. Regardless of where the future takes them, these graduates will forever remain HBU alumni. Now in its 42nd year, HBU has more than 14,500 alumni. Congratulations, grads!



President Sloan and HBU Trustees David Stutts BS '82, Rev. Larry Womack BA '79, and Jack Carlson, chairman



Honor graduates Jennifer Barton, Ericka Zieschang, and Rachel Mixon review the Commencement program. Barton, an art and English major, read the scripture for the day; Zieschang and Mixon, both music performance majors, performed the prelude duet *Pie Jesu* by Andrew Lloyd Weber.



The University conferred the title Distinguished Professor on retiring Moody Library Director Jon Suter.



President Sloan presents Dr. Don Looser, joined by wife Elsa Jean, with a proclamation naming him Vice President Emeritus.

A Lifetime Educating and Serving Others: Dr. Norma Lowder

When Dr. Norma Lowder received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters at graduation, she also received a standing ovation. The audience not only focused on the citation read; many were reconciling the white-haired lady in academic regalia on the stage with the white-haired lady they'd seen tenaciously pushing her walker as she made her way across Friendship Bridge to wherever students might be.

Lowder chose to live at University Place for its proximity to HBU, but she did not anticipate that she would be a significant force in the lives of so many of its students. Today she attends recitals and dramatic productions, Convocation, and guest lectures. She generously contributed a rare folio volume on Chartres Cathedral to Moody Library; the climax of her donations was the Gilbert & Sullivan collection of books, scores, recordings and memorabilia, known as the Robert Linder Collection. Her commitment to the School of Music has earned her the title Distinguished Mentor Emeritus.

Lowder has spent a lifetime educating and serving others. Principal of Houston's High School for the Performing and Visual Arts for twelve years, her four decades in education were honored with the Distinguished Teacher in the Arts Award from the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. The piano lessons she began in Akron, Ohio, translated into a music ministry of almost 40 years at Bellaire United Methodist Church, where she attended service with her late husband Earl. For her devoted service, she was named Organist Emeritus and was invited to perform the *Toccata*, from the 5th Symphony by Charles Widor, at the church's 60th anniversary. The Texas Association of Homes and Services for the Aging honored her philanthropic work with the Volunteer Achievement Award in 2001.

Lowder's ministry extends to the frozen tundra of Unalaska, a small island 800 miles southwest of Anchorage, a place with, according to her, "the shortest runway in North America." One Christmas while visiting Steve Lambert, a former student and Bellaire United Methodist Church member who is now a pastor in Unalaska, Lowder undertook a project to research Methodism in the Aleutian Islands. Her work yielded two books: *We Gratefully Come, Remembering, Rejoicing* and *The Great Physician*. Lowder witnessed the laying of the cornerstone and dedication of the Unalaska United Methodist Church and played *Godspell* for the church's community musical. She also selected an Ibach piano for the church. In 2000, Lowder was recognized by both the Alaska Missionary Conference and the Texas Methodist Annual Conference.



A committed Christian and teacher, Lowder exemplifies the qualities that HBU represents. As an ambassador to greater Houston, she asserts that HBU is a "premier academic Christian institution"; as a faithful supporter of student activities, she "prepares students for meaningful lives of work and service to God and to the peoples of the world." Through her generous contributions to University programs and by her personal example, Lowder provides the foundation for the intellectual, spiritual, moral and professional growth HBU aspires to as a Christian university.

— Dr. Constantina Michalos

The Legacy of a Lady: Dr. A. Diane Williams



As a longtime friend of Houston Baptist University, she has worn the mantle for many important service roles, and on Commencement Day, A. Diane Williams BA '93, donned an academic robe as she received an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters.

Williams was recognized for her many years of dedicated service to the University, including serving on the Board of Trustees, where she held the reins as chairman in 2004. Williams chaired the presidential search committee, which brought Dr. Robert B. Sloan Jr. to HBU as its third president; she also co-chaired the Chapel Committee for the Morris Cultural Arts Center. The entrance to the Belin

Chapel is named the Williams Chapel Foyer in honor of Dr. Williams and her husband Stanley, and the Williams Fountain has generously been provided as a part of the Morris Cultural Arts Center. Williams is also a member of The Guild.

Williams' passion for Christian education comes from two sources – her Christian heart and a passion for the education of young people, an interest that developed as a tribute to her daughter Denise, who lost her life in an automobile accident at the age of 16.

Williams has passed her legacy on to many other members of her family. Her daughter Dawn Trozzo and daughter-in-law Dena Williams are members of The Guild, and son-in-law Clay Trozzo earned his MBA from HBU in 1996.

“The most enjoyable aspect of my service to Houston Baptist University has been to see my whole family get involved ... from my husband co-chairing the building campaign of the Morris Cultural Arts Center to our grandchildren who have enjoyed Husky basketball games,” Williams said. “Perhaps some of them will make HBU their alma mater!”

As a proud alumna, Williams awaits the possibility of her grandchildren attending HBU; she has already done her fair share of recruiting future alumni. Her great nephew Ryan Sherrod will be a freshman at the University this fall. He has lived in Atlanta, Ga., for the last seven years and is looking forward to getting back to Texas.

“When I suggested he come to HBU, he was elated when he heard about the University from me, checked out our website, and visited the campus!” she said. “It is so enjoyable to see how students blossom at HBU. I know that will happen in Ryan's case as it has happened in a student we are sending there now.” Williams is referring to the daughter of a long-time employee of theirs who is currently in her fourth year at HBU.

While Williams has most enjoyed the opportunities HBU has provided for family involvement, she considers her highest HBU accomplishment to be chairing the search committee which brought Dr. and Mrs. Sloan to HBU.

“We are already seeing great things happening at HBU and anticipate many more exciting things in the future because of their vision,” she said. “Their love for students impresses me so very much because the students are what it is all about!”

— Vivian Camacho BA '91

Dr. Don Looser retires *after 43 years*

Dr. Don Looser joined Houston Baptist College in 1964 as an assistant professor of music. He went on to serve in roles of increasing responsibility: assistant to the president for academic affairs, dean of Smith College of General Studies, vice president for administrative affairs, and then vice president for academic affairs.

Asked to reflect on more than 40 years of service, Looser recalled the people he encountered. "I am overcome in the recollection of the depth of my experience with exceptional people: colleagues, students, trustees, and friends of the University. At first, they were my mentors. But as the years passed, the heritage I had been given became increasingly my own responsibility to sustain and inculcate."

Looser is currently at work on a history of the University. Look for excerpts in future issues of the *HBU News*.



Dr. Jeannette Clift George, director of the A.D. Players (center), celebrates the event with the Looser family: from left to right, front row, granddaughters Avery and Brock Looser; back row, Millie Brumble, Dr. Looser's mother; Elsa Jean and Don Looser; daughter-in-law Beth; and son Greg Looser.



President Sloan, Dr. Bruce Belin, Stanley Williams, and President Emeritus Doug Hodo



Colette Cross, Jack Purcell, Ed Finlay, and Linda Higginbotham join HBU staff and friends in singing a musical tribute written especially for the occasion by Dr. John Yarrington, director of the School of Music.



Dana and Max Grigsby, HBU trustee, and Karen Carlson



Dr. Diane Williams BA '93, First Lady Emeritus Sadie Hodo, and Morna Wall

“His dedication and commitment to the University are unparalleled, and I know the HBU family will join with me in thanking Don for his historic and substantial contributions to HBU.”

—President Sloan

Suter steps down as library director



DR. JON SUTER, DIRECTOR OF THE MOODY LIBRARY

Jon Suter has always loved books. His mother taught him to read at the age of three; by the sixth grade, he was reading at the college level. Today, he reads 400-500 books a year.

Dr. Suter is interested in virtually all academic subjects. He holds degrees in English, History, Spanish, Library Science, and Academic Library Administration. Suter can converse at will with scholars on the history of most subjects. He has written about and taught classes on a variety of topics, including Shakespeare, Dickens, comic books, mystery novels, film, and other elements of popular culture. Although he is retiring, Suter will continue to teach in the Master of Liberal Arts program.

Dr. Suter's commitment and support of HBU cannot be measured. Never one to boast about himself, it was only under continued prodding that he admitted personally purchasing and donating more than 20,000 books and a majority of the CD collection to HBU's Moody Library during his tenure.

Dr. Don Looser, vice president for academic affairs, summarizes the feelings of many of Suter's friends and colleagues: "Jon Suter is one of a kind! His breed, if there were ever others, is extinct. He is a best friend of all who know him ... Replace? No. Rejoice that our paths have crossed? Yes, yes, and yes."

— Dr. Rhonda Furr

Three retire after *years of dedicated service*



DR. T. JOHN ALEXANDER, PROFESSOR IN SOCIOLOGY

Honored by the University in 1990 with the Opal Goolsby Outstanding Teaching Award, Alexander is an excellent teacher who gracefully balanced his commitments in the classroom with a variety of administrative responsibilities, including leadership roles as the athletic director (1990-1994) and the interim dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences (2001-2002). Alexander also served for several years as an assistant softball coach.

"John has a gift for helping students to work through difficult and sometimes erudite topics, especially statistics. His wisdom, patience, and sensibility in the classroom, in the meeting room, and on the field will be missed," Dr. Leslie Kennedy Adams BA '86, MLA 87, former associate professor in English and current director of marketing and communications, said.



DR. GARY CLAY, CHAIR OF EDUCATION & KINESIOLOGY

A former superintendent of Friendswood ISD, Clay joined the faculty in 1998. While at HBU, Clay helped to prepare future teachers for lives in education by serving as both professor and mentor. A member of the Graduate Council, he also taught graduate courses in education. Dr. Clay's scholarship and participation in a variety of professional organizations and his depth of experience in school administration enriched his teaching. The University is grateful for his leadership and service.

"Dr. Clay impacted many peoples' lives on both a personal and professional level. He was able to do this because of the sincerity, dedication, and enthusiasm he demonstrated towards each student and colleague. I was very blessed to have Dr. Clay as a mentor, but even more so to have him as a friend," Dr. Joseph D. Brown, dean, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, said.



DR. JOHN LUTJEMEIER, PROFESSOR IN EDUCATION

A devoted teacher and mentor, Lutjemeier touched the lives of hundreds of future teachers during his time at HBU. As a professor, he provided his students with the tools they needed to succeed in the classroom. As director of field experience, Lutjemeier worked to provide teachers with the best opportunity to serve and give. His life's work is truly a living legacy.

"The lessons on creating assessment in Dr. Lutjemeier's class helped me greatly as a teacher. In a district where testing at the content and campus levels was valued for data, best practices in creating assessment was a valuable tool to have as a teacher," Candace Desrosiers BA '94, former Alief ISD middle school teacher and current director of University events and conferences, said.

HBU *Mayfield Outstanding Staff Award ...*

*recognizing staff members for
exemplary service to the University*

“Receiving the Mayfield Staff Award has special significance for me because many of the people I admire and respect on campus have been previous recipients. I consider it an honor to be part of such a distinguished group. It’s a true blessing and very affirming to be recognized in such a way.”

Eduardo Borges

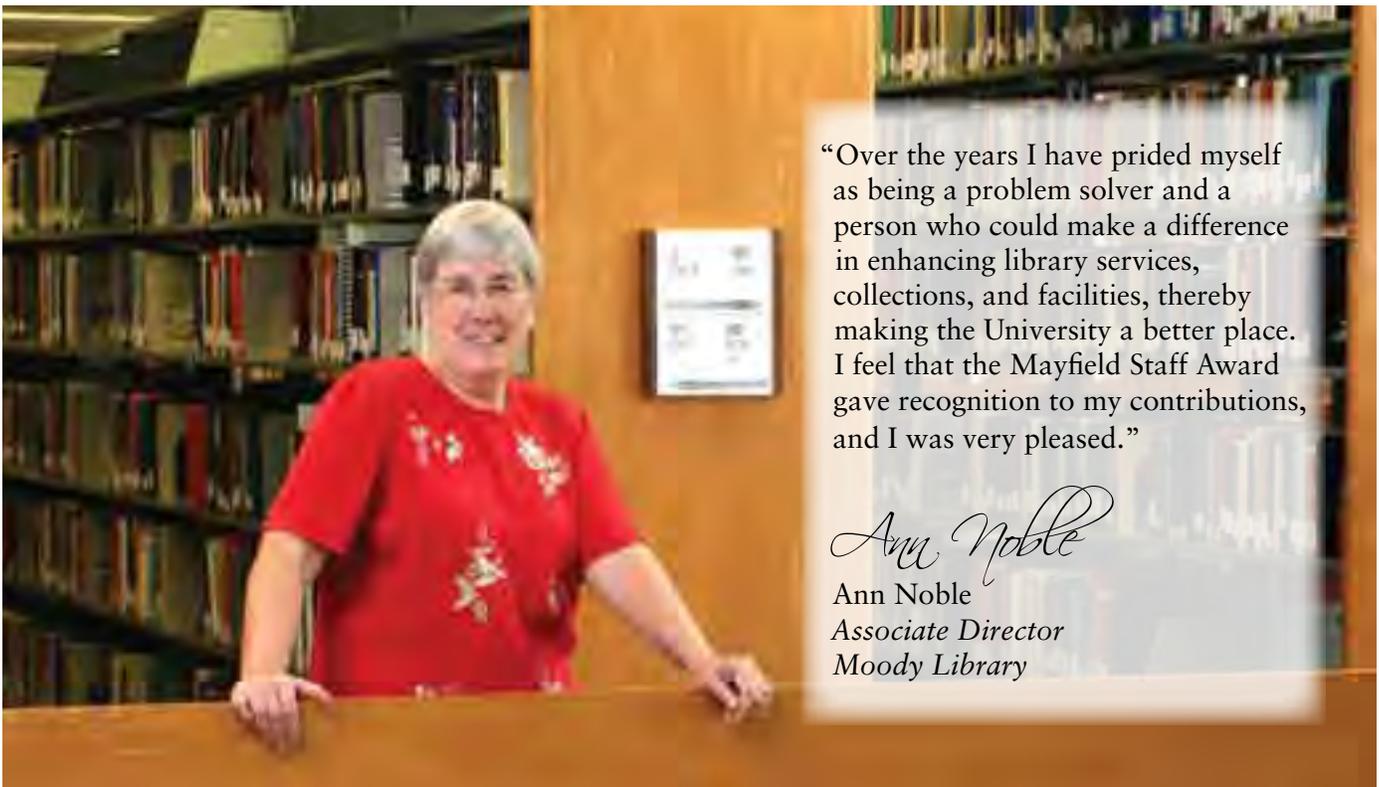
Eduardo Borges
Director
Office of Admissions



“Over the years I have prided myself as being a problem solver and a person who could make a difference in enhancing library services, collections, and facilities, thereby making the University a better place. I feel that the Mayfield Staff Award gave recognition to my contributions, and I was very pleased.”

Ann Noble

Ann Noble
Associate Director
Moody Library



Opal Goolsby Award for Outstanding Teaching ...

*a mark of distinction for University faculty
who have made a life-long commitment to teaching excellence*



“Having an opportunity to be a faculty member was a chance to do something incredibly meaningful every single day. I was surrounded by people who mentored me and taught me to teach - and that part of the HBU culture overwhelmed me. Being acknowledged with a teaching award at a university with so many incredible teachers is humbling, and it reminds me that teaching, or the opportunity to teach, is a gift.”

Alexis Knapp

Alexis Knapp MS '00
*Associate Dean and assistant professor
Undergraduate Programs in Business*



“I was both honored and humbled to be nominated for the Opal Goolsby Award. It is such a high honor. Honestly, I didn't think I would receive the award; there were several other great candidates. For me, the reward was knowing that students nominated me in the first place!”

David Adcock

David Adcock
*Instructor
Christianity and Philosophy*

Admissions soar under Steen's leadership

August 24, 2006 is a date James Steen will always remember. It's the day President Sloan called to invite Steen to join his new leadership team at Houston Baptist University. "It was a phone call that changed my life forever," Steen said. At the time, Steen was serving as assistant vice president of enrollment at Baylor University. Waco was "home" to Steen, who earned both his bachelor's and MBA from Baylor, but when the call came, he didn't think twice about making the move to HBU.

"It was an opportunity to work with one of the godliest men in higher education. Everything about it was perfect because the Lord was in it," Steen said.

Steen describes himself as "passionate about Christian higher education," and the enrollment increases under his leadership reflect that passion. He has set a goal of recruiting 500 freshmen for the fall 2007, and he is "energized" by Dr. Sloan's goal of doubling current enrollment within five years. At press time, Steen and his staff had made impressive progress, generating more than 3,900 freshmen applications to HBU. Similar trends are reflected in the numbers for transfer students. Both transfer student applications and admissions are up 26 percent, and inquiries have also increased. These accomplishments landed Steen on the *Chronicle of Higher Education's* 2007 list of "10 Influential Admissions Deans."



Steen visits with students.

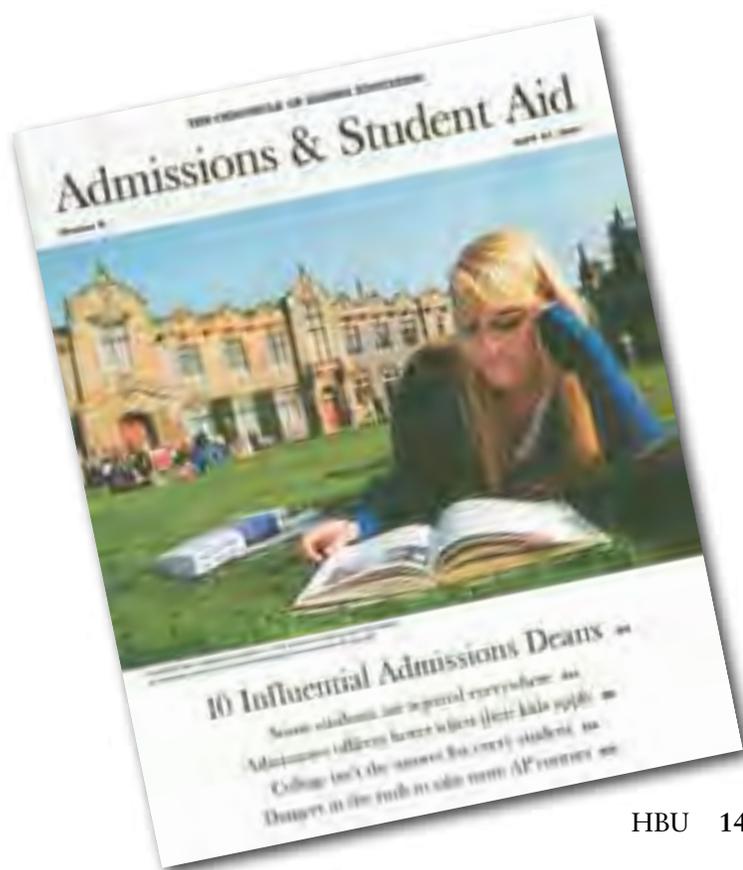
How have Steen and his team achieved these results? "With a good predictive model, one-to-one marketing, and a robust communication flow," Steen explained, "recruiting efforts can center on those students who are likely to enroll." Interested students can now apply using the E-Z Application. This new tool simplifies the process of submitting an application and has helped HBU to increase student inquiries 42 percent — from 10,295 in 2006 to 14,661 in 2007. More importantly, the admissions team has been able to increase freshman applicants by 412 percent in just one year, and actual admissions are up 339 percent.

While final numbers will not be available until September, at press time, 412 new freshmen had committed to enroll at HBU in the fall. Steen has established criteria to confirm which students are planning to attend HBU: signing up for Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) and/or paying a seat deposit, submitting a housing application or housing deposit, or sending written acceptance of a scholarship.

Three sessions of SOAR have been established to streamline the registration process and give incoming freshmen an opportunity to bond with fellow students and faculty through an overnight freshman experience. These sessions will form the foundation of an identity for the Class of 2011.

While Steen is delighted by what he sees so far, he and his team have already begun to build on this year's experience, fine tuning it to use in recruitment efforts for the freshman classes of 2008 and 2009. It is imperative to be on a student's short list of college choices by midterm of his or her junior year. The admissions team has set a goal of being number one on that list.

— Vicki Ikeler



Endowed Scholarships announced at annual banquet

The Endowed Scholarship program at HBU is one of the most honored and celebrated. That was certainly the case when graduating scholarship students and friends of the University gathered for the annual Endowed Scholarship Banquet to honor and celebrate these students' accomplishments during their tenure at HBU and to recognize and thank the donors who make this program possible. Two new Endowed Scholarships were announced at the event:

Robert B. Sloan Jr. Endowed Scholarship *Given by The Guild of HBU*



President and Sue Sloan, Guild President Ginny Nelson, Vice President of Marketing Sharon Saunders, and Vice President of Development Brian Hurd

Elsa Jean and Don Looser Endowed Scholarship *Given by Houston Baptist University*



Elsa Jean and Dr. Don Looser



Dawn Nelson BA '90, current scholarship donor, shared her commitment to excellence in Christian higher education.

Weber named Employee of the Quarter



Mary Weber, administrative assistant to the vice president for development, enjoys meeting new people and hearing their stories. She says it is her favorite part of the day at HBU. Weber has worked at the University for almost 14 years. She started in financial services, then moved to the College of Business and Economics. She currently works in development. In her free time she enjoys a good book — new authors especially intrigue her — and says life doesn't get much sweeter than when she and her husband are able to spend time with their children and six grandchildren. What does Weber value so much about HBU? "It's simple. At the end of a busy day we are all working towards the same goal — a quality education for our students in a healthy, godly environment," she said.

A dream realized

HBU announced the naming of the Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center and Belin Chapel in a celebration held to honor the donors on April 24, 2007. The event paid tribute to Joella and Stewart Morris, whose significant financial contributions helped realize the University's dream of a campus arts center, and to Mary Ann and Dr. J. Bruce Belin, for whom the Chapel is named.

Dr. H. Edwin Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church and family pastor to the honorees, provided special remarks in a prayer of gratitude and blessings.

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

JOELLA AND STEWART MORRIS CULTURAL ARTS CENTER

DEDICATED 2007

Project Management

Stanley J. Williams J. Bruce Belin
Don Looser

Chairs of the Board of Trustees

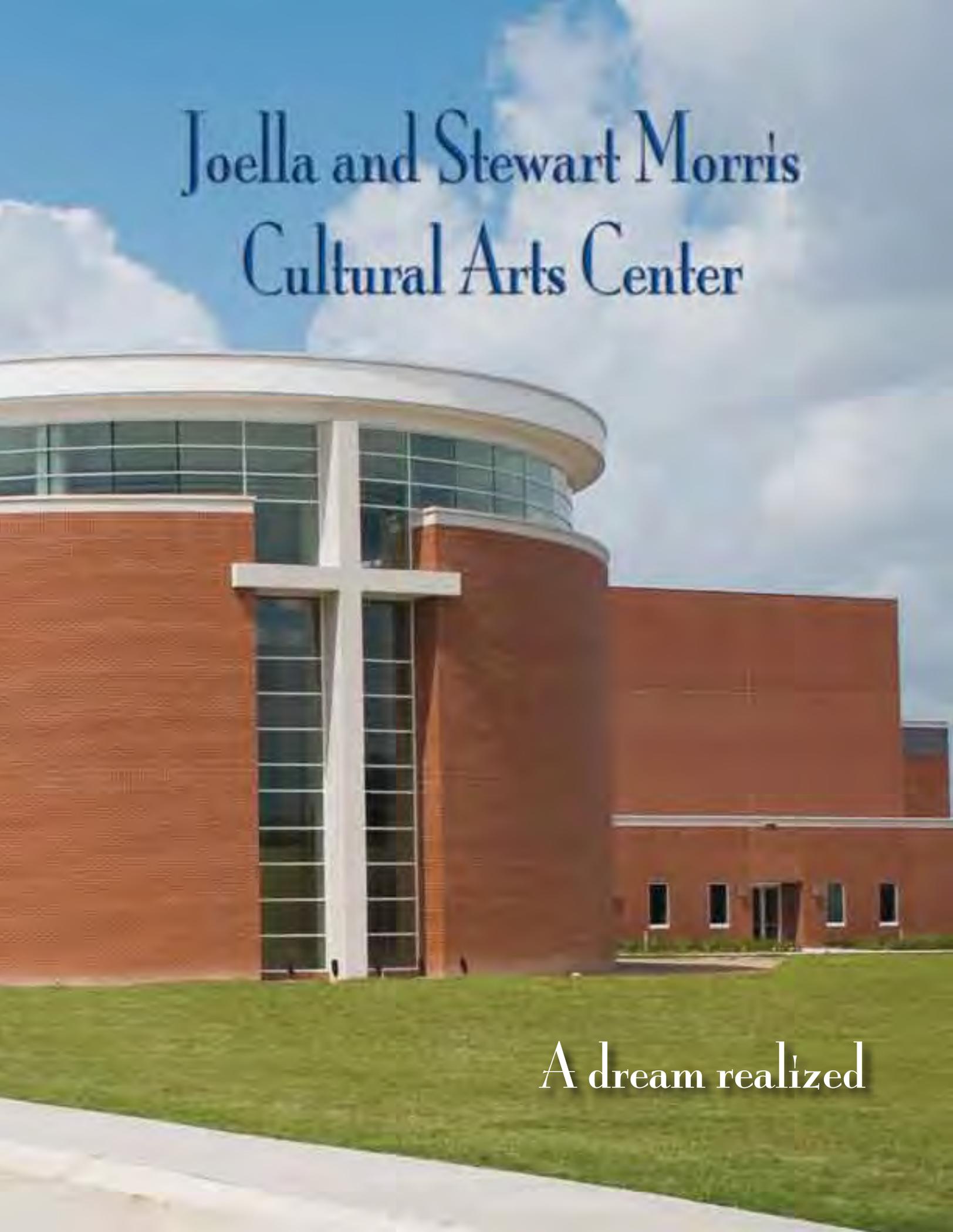
Diane Williams 2004-2005
Ray L. Cox, Jr. 2005-2006
Jack D. Carlson 2006-2007

University Presidents

Dr. E. D. Hodo 1987-2006
Dr. Robert B. Sloan, Jr. 2006-

"We're all extremely blessed and thank the Lord for the blessings that permit us to make the funds available to help supply the brick and mortar."

— Dr. Stewart Morris

A photograph of a modern, circular brick building with a large white cross-shaped architectural element. The building is set on a green lawn under a blue sky with scattered clouds. The text "Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center" is overlaid in a blue serif font at the top. At the bottom right, the text "A dream realized" is overlaid in a white serif font.

Joella and Stewart Morris
Cultural Arts Center

A dream realized

Joella and Dr. Stewart Morris

Dr. Stewart Morris and his wife Joella were instrumental in the establishment of the University, which opened its doors in 1963. Morris' good credit, and that of the other Founding Fathers, enabled HBU to secure loans needed to purchase the land upon which the first campus buildings were built. Through a relationship that spans 48 years, Morris remains a valuable contributor to and champion of the University. A member and former chairman of the Board of Trustees of HBU, he is actively involved in the President's Development Council.

Morris has devoted his career to the management, growth, and expansion of Stewart Information Services Corporation (SISCO) and its subsidiary companies, known as Stewart Title. Morris succeeded his father, William Carlross Morris, when he died in 1950. At the time, Stewart Title was comprised of eight offices and a handful of Texas-based agents. Morris, with older brother Carlross, has expanded the company to 50 states and 13 foreign countries; it has offices and agents in more than 9,000 locations.

Morris is past president and past co-chief executive officer of SISCO, chairman of the executive committee of Stewart Title Company, and chairman emeritus of Stewart Information International. In 1995, he was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame.

Morris received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas at Austin in 1943 and was granted an honorary doctorate from HBU in 1975. A graduate of Midshipman's School at Columbia University, he served in the Navy as a Lieutenant JG on LST 38 in the South Pacific during World War II. Morris and his wife Joella received honorary doctorates from Washington & Lee University in 2006.

In 2004 he received the prestigious Paul Carrington Chapter No. 5, Sons of the American Revolution George Washington Service Award, given to a person who manifests the highest quality of public and private life as exemplified by the Father of the Country.

Morris has served as trustee and secretary of the Oldham Little Church Foundation. He serves as a deacon at Second Baptist Church of Houston and is past senior chairman of the board of Southern National Bank.

Morris is a past advisory trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, former director of the Harris County Heritage Society and Galveston Historical Foundation.

A graduate of Lamar High School in Houston and Southern Methodist University, Joella Mitchell Morris was inspired to study the history of the South by her parents, as well as Texas philanthropist Ima Hogg and her protégé, Faith Bybee.

Morris was instrumental in establishing the Museum of Southern History, which opened its doors in Sugar Land, Texas in 1998. The museum is moving to the Joella and Stewart Morris Cultural Arts Center this fall. It will join the University's two existing museums - the Dunham Bible in America Museum and the Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts, of which Morris is a charter member.

"It's wonderful to be able to bring history to young people. I think we can learn a lot from history and we hope that we'll be able to get the students involved," Joella Morris said.

"I've worked with the Museum of Southern History for years, and we're so thrilled to have it here because we know it will go on long after we're gone."

She is a member of numerous historic and patriotic organizations, such as Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the American Colonist and Daughters of the Confederacy. She served as the honorary president of the Colonial Dames of America, Chapter VIII.

Morris is the special events chairman for Stewart Title and plans functions in landmark buildings across the country.

Morris and his wife Joella have dedicated their lives to community service, in particular to restoring and honoring history. They received the Gordon Gray Award in 1979 from the National Trust for Historic Preservation for their far-ranging commitment to preservation. Together, Stewart and Joella led the 1981 restoration of the Stewart Title home office in Galveston, the first major restorative project in the Strand area. They salvaged the original granite columns from the Galveston County Court House, moving 10 to the HBU campus to symbolize the Ten Commandments. The couple has published a book on the history of Houston, *Native Houstonian: a Collective Portrait*, by Ann Wilson. In 2001 the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance awarded Joella and Stewart with its President's Award for outstanding leadership in historic preservation.

The couple has three children: Stewart Morris Jr., Carlotta Barker Mullen BA '68, and Lisa Simon BA '76. Joella and Stewart have five granddaughters and one grandson. Granddaughter Joellen Barker Mullen received her BSN from the University in 2000.



University Museums

Important University collections will be displayed in more than 14,000 square feet of exhibit space.

With a collection that exceeds 500 volumes, including rare Bibles and related books, **The Dunham Bible in America Museum** has one of the largest such collections on public display in the United States. A guide and curriculum offer visitors insight into the Bible's role in American culture and history.

The period room settings of the **Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts** depict everyday life in early Texas. The museum provides a warm, intimate, and friendly setting for the household furnishings and decorative arts to help visitors appreciate the changes that occurred as Houston grew from a frontier settlement to a town.

The newest addition to the campus, the **Museum of Southern History** will be home to collections of Southern history as well as a substantial collection of Texas works of great value to researchers.

The museum features mid-19th century artifacts, clothing, and quilts, along with Civil War uniforms and weapons.

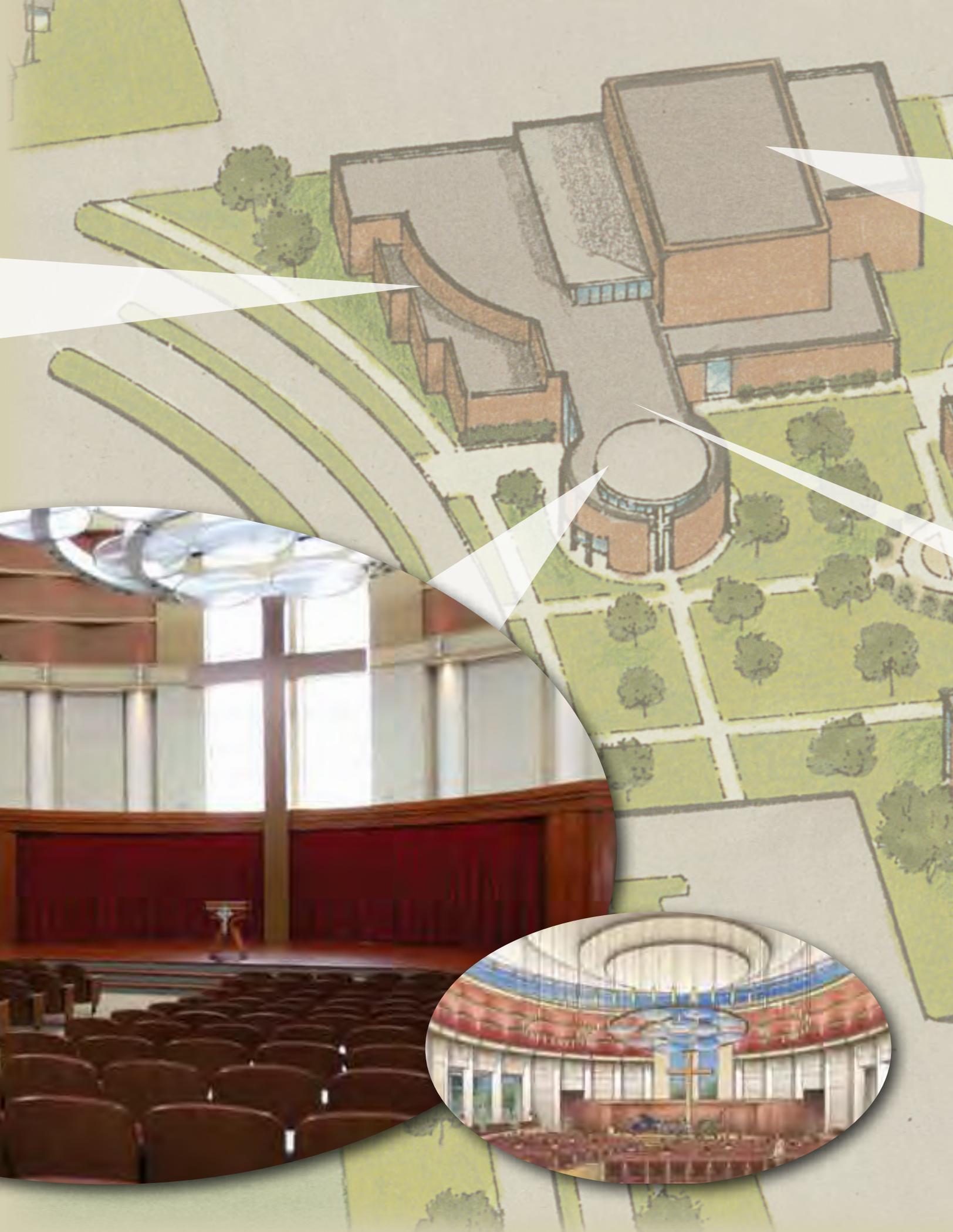
Belin Chapel and Recital Hall

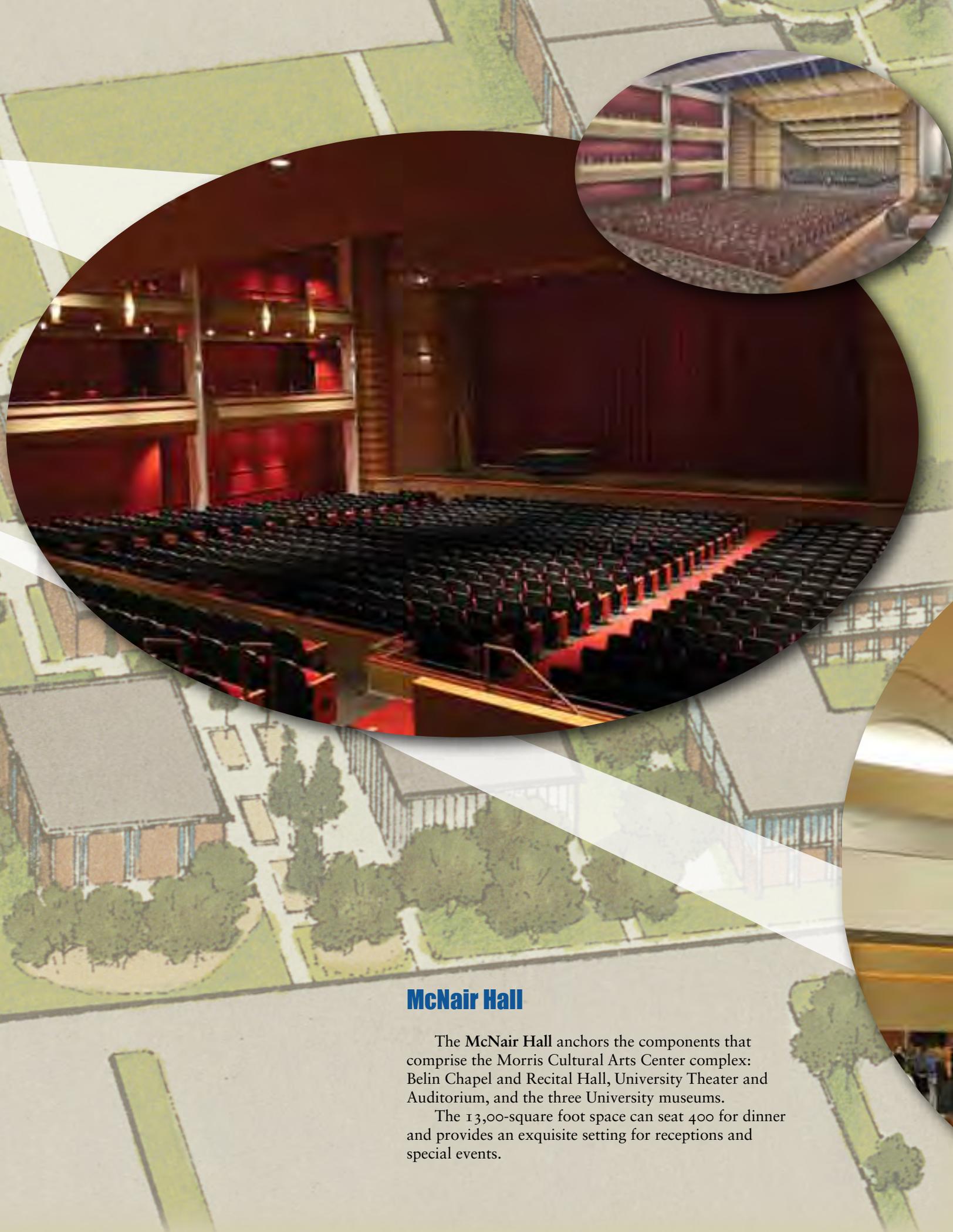
Education at HBU nurtures the whole person - mind, body, and soul - and **Belin Chapel**, the University's first chapel, will be an integral part of students' HBU experience.

The **Belin Chapel** will play host to select University gatherings and worship services, musical performances, weddings, and other celebrations of Christian life. Its round form mirrors the design of the HBU seal, which is set within a circle, continuous and unbroken, symbolizing eternity. The Chapel's two distinctive crosses, one outside and one inside, serve as compelling symbols of HBU's commitment to the integration of faith and learning. The Chapel is truly the spiritual heart of the campus.

Music students and audiences will love the professional-quality acoustics that will enable the Chapel to double as a recital hall. Programs in the Chapel will supplement coursework as School of Music students prepare for careers in education, music ministry, and performance.







McNair Hall

The McNair Hall anchors the components that comprise the Morris Cultural Arts Center complex: Belin Chapel and Recital Hall, University Theater and Auditorium, and the three University museums.

The 13,00-square foot space can seat 400 for dinner and provides an exquisite setting for receptions and special events.

University Theater and Auditorium

The 1,200-seat **University Theater and Auditorium** provides a dramatic setting for college-wide programming and community-sponsored special events, including graduation ceremonies, weekly convocations, and lectures by prominent scholars and business leaders. Morris Cultural Arts Center programming will offer new opportunities for students to make connections with members of the community who share their professional interests.

Large productions - including choral performances, opera productions, and concert bands will enhance students' college experience and draw members of the community to the HBU campus.

Features:

- 1,200 seats, with orchestra, parterre, mezzanine boxes, balcony, and balcony box area seating
- A total of 46,000-square feet with 8,000-square feet of acoustic drapery capable of adjusting the acoustical response time in the theater from 1.4 to 2.2 seconds, depending of type of on-stage performance
- Orchestra shell capable of adjusting in size and shape to fit music groups on stage
- Orchestra pit for 25-30 musicians
- Proscenium stage with full rigging, follow spot booth, and control rooms for sound and lighting
- Two 16-person dressing rooms and three private principal dressing rooms
- Loading dock and adjacent swing space with direct access to stage through 12'x15' sound-rated doors
- Space designed for university programming, lecture series with appeal beyond the campus community, and large-scale productions to include choral performances, operas, and concert bands



Mary Ann and Dr. J. Bruce Belin

The Belin Chapel and Recital Hall, named in honor of Mary Ann and Dr. J. Bruce Belin, offers the first on-campus space dedicated to worship and helps commemorate more than 40 years of faithful service and leadership at the University.

Dr. Belin is an HBU trustee and former chair who has played a vital role in the growth and vision of HBU.

He currently serves on the board of the Cullen Trust for Higher Education and was chair of the Cultural Arts Center Building Committee.

Belin first became involved with HBU at the request of his good friend Stewart Morris. He was appointed to the University's Board of Trustees in 1967 and was one of the original members of the President's Development Council. President of Belin and Associates, he has developed some of the most high profile master-planned communities in the Houston area, including Bentwater on Lake Conroe, April Sound, and Pecan Grove Plantation.

Belin grew up near Independence, Texas. He earned his degree from Texas A&M University in 1948 and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II before beginning his professional career some 50 years ago. He loves horses and spends most of his free time at his ranch near Boerne, Texas.

Belin's personal and professional lives go hand-in-hand. "Mary Ann and I have always been very involved in starting churches and this new Chapel is going to be very special," Belin said.

Belin's Christian faith plays an important role in his life. In fact, it touches every community he's ever developed. Some 20 years ago, Belin and his wife started the Belin Foundation, which is dedicated to helping start new churches. The foundation has created a Baptist church within each one of Belin and Associates' master-planned communities.

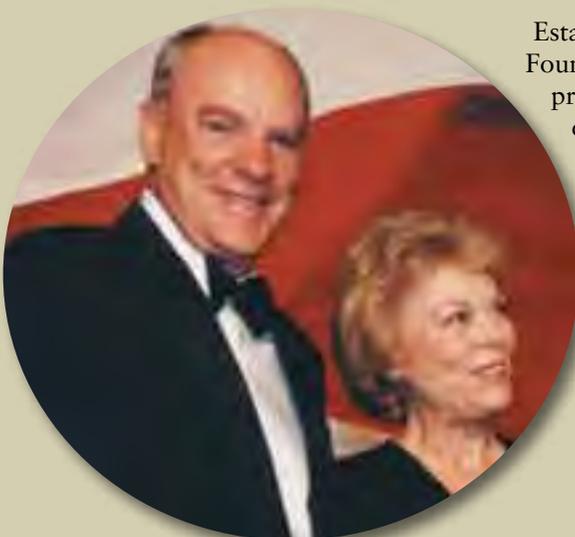
Mary Ann Belin has also played an active role in the life of the University. She is a member of the HBU Guild and served as its president in 1990.

"HBU is close to our hearts because of its Christian-based education. I think in today's world we need our values held, we need to be conservative, and we need to educate our children to respect authority and their families. This university does that," Mary Ann Belin said.

The couple have two children, Laurie Mahlmann and Greg Belin, both of whom attended HBU, and six grandchildren.



The McNair Foundation



Established in 1988, the mission of The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation is to assist in preparing the youth of our city, state, and nation for productive and enriched lives with respect to work, family, and service to others. The McNair Foundation was one of the early supporters in the campaign to build the Cultural Arts Center on the HBU campus. The McNair Foundation's significant financial commitment helped launch this project. McNair Hall provides a grand entrance to the Center and is a wonderful setting for art exhibits and receptions.

"The foundation commends HBU for its ongoing commitment to reach beyond the borders of its campus to respond to the education and cultural needs of the community. The Cultural Arts Center will strengthen our community by providing education, entertainment, and cultural enrichment," Robert McNair said.

Expanding the mind.
Exploring the arts.
Nourishing the soul.



Desrosiers takes on new challenge



Candace Adams Desrosiers BA '94 has rejoined the HBU staff. "As Director of University Events and Conferences, I once again will be developing a new position on campus. In this position I will coordinate logistics for calendaring and manage internal and external events. I'm really excited about being here," Desrosiers said.

From 1999 to 2003, Desrosiers served first as public relations specialist and then as assistant director of marketing and communications, a position she helped to create and shape. Both the *HBU News* and the *Ornogah* received numerous honors under Desrosiers' leadership.

Desrosiers remained connected by serving on the University's alumni board of directors from 2001 to 2004, and as the chair of the alumni scholarship committee from 2003 - 2007. During her time on the board, she co-chaired Homecoming. She co-chaired the Husky Hustle in its inaugural year, going on to chair the post-race party the following year. In 2003, Desrosiers was awarded the Meritorious Service Alumnus Award.

In 2003, Desrosiers returned to the classroom in Alief ISD, where she taught middle school language arts and served as department chair. An active member in the Junior League of Houston since 2001, Desrosiers currently serves as the The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center volunteer placement chairperson.



PRESIDENT'S
DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL

Houston Baptist University

The President's Development Council (PDC) consists of a select group of business and community leaders of many faiths and backgrounds who support the University.

At the Spring Dinner, President Sloan acknowledged the contributions of David Stutts BBA '82 and Tadd Tellepsen MBA '99, thanked Don Woo for his service, and shared the latest news about HBU's building campaign and application to rejoin the NCAA.

Raspino speaks at luncheon

Louis Raspino, chief executive officer and president of Pride International, Inc., spoke on ethics in business at the PDC's April luncheon. He was introduced by Greg Looser, general counsel at Pride International. Headquartered in Houston, Raspino's company is one of the world's largest drilling contractors. Providing onshore and offshore drilling and related services in more than 30 countries, Pride International operates a diverse fleet of 323 rigs, including two ultra-deepwater drillships.



Keith Jacobson and Trustee Karl Kennard



Ross Anderson with PDC Chair and Trustee, Don Woo.



Bill Flores MBA '85 and Louis Raspino

NATO awards grant to HBU's Yatsenko

Dr. Yuri Yatsenko, professor in computer information systems, is the coordinator and principal investigator (PI)



for an international collaborative grant, "Optimal Replacement of Information Technologies and Sustainable Development in Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and USA."

The goal of the project is to analyze the impact of information technologies on the sustainable economic development and environmental quality in the three countries.

Impressed by the progress Yatsenko and his colleagues made in their first year of research, the director of NATO's Environment Security Program extended the project's funding to 2007-2008.

The idea for this collaborative project was born when Yatsenko visited Kazakhstan at the invitation of the Eurasian National University in June 2005 (see *HBU News*, Summer 2005).

In 2006, Yatsenko travelled to the Ukraine to conduct research. When he returned, he hosted Dr. Seilkhan Boranbayev, the chair of the information systems department of Eurasian National University in Astana, Kazakhstan.

In 2007, Yatsenko hosted Dr. Sergey Lyashko, chair of

the computational mathematics department of Kiev State University in Kiev, Ukraine. During these visits, the scholars discussed the data they had collected and the challenges they faced.

The NATO grant will allow Yatsenko to visit the Ukraine and Kazakhstan in 2007 and 2008 to continue the team's work. He and his peers will focus on computer simulation, discussion and interpretation of the obtained results, preparing practical recommendations, disseminating the project results, and identifying topics for future collaboration.

The group has published nine scientific papers, including two special issues of the *International Journal of Ecology and Development*.

Brown Lecture

The College of Business and Economics welcomed Joel Staff, chairman of Reliant Energy, as the Brown Lecture's featured speaker in April.

In 1972, the Brown Foundation Inc. established the Herman Brown Endowed Chair of Business and Economics at HBU to honor the memory of one of Houston's great pioneers. With his brother, George R. Brown, Herman Brown created Brown & Root, which evolved into one of the largest engineering and construction firms in the world. Generous philanthropists, the brothers together founded the Brown Foundation, which has awarded more than \$800 million in grants since its inception. The Herman Brown Endowed Chair and the activities associated with it have enriched the academic life of the University and the resources of the Houston business community for more than 20 years.



Joe Sleeth, trustee; Dr. Mohan Kuruvilla, associate professor of accounting; and Joel Staff

Adams returns to HBU as director of marketing



Dr. Leslie Kennedy Adams BA '86, MLA '87 has returned to HBU as director of marketing and communications. In her new role, Adams will serve as the editor of the *HBU News* and work closely with the staff of the *Ornogah*. She will also oversee the University's media relations and creative services areas.

"This is an exciting time for the University, and I am looking forward to working with the marketing team to spread the word about HBU's talented faculty, outstanding programs, and gifted students," Adams said.

Adams holds a doctorate in English from Texas A&M University and completed post doctoral work at the

University of Montana's Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center. She is currently pursuing an MBA from Keller Graduate School of Management.

Adams taught in the Department of Languages from 1990-2003. During that time, she developed more than a dozen new professional writing and literature courses and oversaw the English internship. She also brought prestigious authors Tim O'Brien and W.D. Ehrhart to campus to meet her students, talk about their work, and sign books. These events brought visitors to campus from all over the Houston area.

Her work has been published in the *Houston Chronicle* as well as in two books: *America's Wars in Asia: A Cultural Approach to History and Memory*, published by M.E. Sharpe, and *War and American Popular Culture*, published by Greenwood Press.

Innovative new course receives rave reviews

This winter the MBA program piloted an exciting new course for MBA students, Active Project Learning Experience (APLE).

The six credit-hour course spans two terms. The brainchild of Dr. Phaedon Papadopoulos, it has received rave reviews from both the students and their corporate clients.

APLE provides an opportunity for second year MBA students to integrate and apply core academic principles to the often unstructured problems companies are experiencing in real time.

This year's pilot program included assignments at Doctors Hospital and Marathon Oil Company. After being introduced to the client and the project, students were asked to articulate the client's critical business issue, analyze the situation, and provide a solution that met the client's expectations.

The program is a win/win for the organization, HBU, and the students. According to Gregg Stapleton, Manager for Strategy & Planning at Marathon Oil, APLE provides "unparalleled opportunities for the participants." He added, the program is "an inspiration for many of our people that are considering pursuing graduate degrees at



Dr. Ernest Liang, associate professor of finance; George Scott, MBA student; Dr. Phaedon Papadopoulos, professor of management; Valerie Hench, MBA student; Joti Chhotu, MBA student; Beverly Ashmore, quality manager, Doctors Hospital; Melanie Robinson, MBA student; Jude Vuong, MBA student; Elaine Renola, interim CEO/COO, Doctors Hospital; Natalie Munoz, director of nurses, Doctors Hospital; Katy Hudson, director of quality management, Doctors Hospital; and Jan Haines, risk manager, Doctors Hospital.

night, especially seeing the opportunity for personal and professional growth through interaction with quality HBU students."

Melanie Robinson, a logistics adviser at ExxonMobile Corporation, agreed: "The APLE class was a great opportunity to work jointly with a team of HBU students and a team from Doctors Hospital to produce results. It was a wonderful experience that allowed me to learn about a different industry, to understand the business issues faced in healthcare, and work with a cross-functional team. It was a lot of hard work, but I would definitely choose to do a project like this again given the chance."

The Guild Silver Tea



HBU Trustee Ned and Kay Holmes, First Lady Sue Sloan and President Sloan

The Guild held its 15th Annual Silver Tea at the home of Ned and Kay Holmes. Silver Tea co-chairs Peg Harman and Debra Perich BA '99, along with a team of dedicated women, hosted the event for more than 150 members and guests. Proceeds from the Silver Tea fund scholarships for career classroom teachers furthering their education by earning their master of education degree at HBU. The scholarship committee, chaired by Pat Lassonde, awarded seven annual scholarships and one endowed scholarship to career classroom teachers this spring. The organization has provided a total of 120 annual and 14 endowed scholarships to career classroom teachers.

The Guild has raised more than one million dollars for graduate education scholarships.



Dot Gaze, Pat Powers, and Karen Carlson



Beverly Boykin and Marsha Eckermann BA '68



Laverne Acord, Shirley Asel, and Pat Goettsche



Peg Harman, Ginny Nelson, and Debra Perich BA '99



HBU Trustee Rev. Ray Still, Sandra Still, Wendy Chavanne, and Trustee Claire Turner

Installation Coffee

The Guild's Installation Coffee was held recently at the President's home. Dr. Diane Martin, chair of the department of history and political science, conducted the installation ceremony, sharing stories of famous women in the Bible as she announced each officer.

The 2007-08 officers for the coming year include: President, Shirley Asel; Vice President, Gina Saour; Secretary, Mary K. Ford; Treasurer, Jane Ann Bickham; Historian, Sue Gilbreath; Chaplain, Debra Perich; Parliamentarian, Kandy Brittain.

The Coffee was chaired by Jane Marmion BA '68, Spring Payne, and Jodi Vogan.



Gina Saour, Shirley Asel, and Ginny Nelson



Spring Payne, Jane Marmion BA '68, Dr. Diane Martin, and Jodi Vogan

Welcoming HBU's *First Lady Sue Sloan*

Friends, flowers, and fun



In April, the ladies of HBU formally welcomed First Lady Sue Sloan to the family by throwing a garden party in her honor. Dillon II was transformed into an oasis with beautiful floral arrangements and a banquet of culinary delights. The event was hosted by the ladies of HBU with at least 20 years of service, and it offered a great opportunity for the women on campus to take time away from their classrooms and offices to visit with one another and to get to know Sue Sloan.



Sharon Saunders, vice president of marketing; Sue Sloan; and Ritamarie Tauer MS '85, interim dean, COBE

Baseball competes in first-ever World Series



Huskies celebrate region championship

The HBU baseball team ended the 2007 campaign with a trip to its first-ever NAIA World Series and came away with a third place finish. The Huskies, who won the NAIA Region VI Tournament for the first time in school history, entered the Series seeded ninth after receiving the final at-large berth to the 10-team field. At the World Series, the team lost its opening game but rallied to race through the losers' bracket. The team defeated the tournament's top seed, Azusa Pacific (5-1) and came one game short of playing for the national title. HBU's season ended with a one-run loss (8-7) to host Lewis-Clark, the nation's

top-ranked team, which went on to win its 15th national title with a 9-2 victory over Spring Arbor University. The Huskies' third place finish is the farthest any team from the Red River has gotten in postseason and keeps alive a string of seven straight years that Region VI has finished at least third in the Series.

HBU players won many postseason awards after their spectacular season. Greg Gossett was named to the NAIA All-America team, while Kory Johns earned Academic All-America honors for the second straight season.

2006 All-America Michael Crabtree was named as the first baseman on the NAIA-Rawlings All-Gold Glove team and was the Champions of Character Award winner.

By virtue of their outstanding tournament play at the World Series, Crabtree, Gossett and Ryan Majewski were named to the Avista NAIA World Series All-Tournament team.

Houston Baptist finishes its final season of NAIA competition at 43-21. This year's squad loses six seniors: Michael Crabtree, Kory Johns, Diego Castillo, Matt Weible, Eli Elicerio, and Clay Collier.

Basketball players receive national honors

Five HBU basketball players received postseason national honors after successful seasons for both the men and women.

After posting a 22-7 record and winning its ninth straight conference championship, the Husky basketball team competed in its tenth consecutive NAIA National Tournament. Leading the way for the Huskies was Dwight Jones II, who was named Red River Athletic Conference Player of the Year for the second year in a row. Jones went on to receive NAIA First Team All-America honors, his second All-America award in as many years in an HBU uniform.

Joining Jones on the All-America team was newcomer Todd Henry, who received Honorable Mention accolades. Bryn Caulkins was named to the Academic All-America team, and Matt Autenrieth received the Champions of Character Award.

On the women's side, the Huskies placed three on the All-America team after leading HBU to a 27-7 record and a RRAC Tournament Championship. Dominique Thomas received her third consecutive All-America honor, while Velencia Kuykendall picked up her second straight. Each was named Honorable Mention; Ashley Davis received NAIA Academic All-America honors. The women's team competed in its ninth NAIA National Tournament.



Jones



Henry



Caulkins



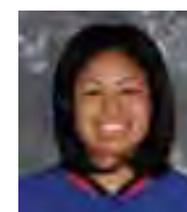
Autenrieth



Thomas



Kuykendall



Davis

Softball enjoys another championship season

The HBU softball team won its ninth straight Red River Athletic Conference Championship and finished the season with a 48-13 record. The Huskies, who finished No. 6 in the final NAIA Top 25 poll, finished as region runner-up and drew an at-large bid to compete in the team's ninth NAIA National Tournament.

Senior All-American Cheri Wood, who posted a 27-7 pitching record for the season on her way to her second All-America honors, led the Huskies. Wood also excelled in the classroom, earning her second NAIA Academic All-America award. Joining Wood on the Academic team was Krissie Conner, also in her final season wearing the orange and blue. Along with Wood and Conner, the team loses four other seniors: Hannah Garza, Kim Cook, Sarah Wilson and Torie Perry.



Cheri Wood



Krissie Conner

Fuqua hired to lead track program

Theresa Fuqua has been hired to lead the NCAA Division I track program. The announcement was made by President Sloan and Director of Athletics Ron Cottrell. Fuqua comes to HBU after 12 years as head cross country and assistant track and field coach at the University of Houston. HBU will begin competing in track and field and cross country for men and women this fall.



"We are very excited to have Theresa join our staff," Cottrell said. "She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of the Houston area which will help her greatly as she recruits entire teams to restart the track program at HBU."

Fuqua was named Conference USA Coach of the Year in 2004 after leading the Cougars to U of H's first conference championship since 1960. Prior to joining the Cougars' staff, Fuqua was head cross country and assistant track and field coach at Houston's Episcopal High School.

A record-setting track athlete herself, Fuqua was a four-time All-America and a two-time track and field MVP for the Cougars. She holds the current U of H records in the indoor mile and the outdoor 800 and 1,500 meters. Fuqua also qualified for the Olympic Trials in the 800 and 1,500 meter events.

"Not only is it exciting to be the head coach for men's and women's track, but to start a program from its inception and watch it grow is an incredible opportunity," Fuqua said. "To be coaching at a Christian-based institution is great. There are so many possibilities."

Fuqua's husband Jerry was a track athlete at Rice University. The couple has a nine-year-old son, Miles.

Steve Moniaci joins HBU Athletics

HBU Director of Athletics Ron Cottrell is pleased to announce the hiring of Steve Moniaci as associate director of athletics. Moniaci will assist Cottrell in the transition from the NAIA to NCAA Division I and will help oversee the day-to-day operations of the athletic department.



"We're excited about having Steve as part of our athletic department," Cottrell said. "I've known Steve for many years, and he will be a real asset as we work together to build on our winning tradition of HBU athletics."

Moniaci comes to HBU after 26 years with the Rice University athletic department. He began his association with the Owls as the executive director for the Owl Club and director of athletic promotions. He was elevated to assistant athletic director in charge of operations in 1985, named associate athletic director in 1997, and rose to the position of senior associate athletic director in 2001 - a position he held until 2006.

"I am happy to join the athletics staff at HBU," Moniaci said. "Houston Baptist has enjoyed an outstanding tradition in intercollegiate athletics, and I am more than excited to be a part of it."

Moniaci and his wife Cathy have two daughters, Alyssa and Andrea.

Autenrieth receives Champions of Character Award Scholarship

Fourth consecutive national honor for HBU

Matt Autenrieth was awarded a \$2,000 scholarship at the 2007 NAIA National Basketball Tournament as part of the NAIA's Champions of Character initiative. The honor was the fourth straight for an HBU basketball player.

Autenrieth, a senior from West Columbia, was awarded the scholarship by the Phil and Mary Pattison Family Foundation. He was one of five basketball players across the nation to receive the honor and was recognized at a ceremony in Kansas City, Mo.

Dr. and Mrs. Pattison, who have been involved with the NAIA for many years, chose to honor deserving student-athletes with the scholarships in conjunction with the Champions of Character program. Champions of Character embodies five core values—respect, integrity, responsibility, sportsmanship, and servant leadership.

Autenrieth, an Eagle Scout, has been very involved in the community and in mission work abroad. He serves as an assistant scout master for Boy Scouts and has been involved in mentoring young children since his high school days. Autenrieth has led his team in conducting youth basketball clinics and ministering at University Place retirement community. He has made several trips to Honduras to assist Living Water International in building schools, teaching Bible school, building water wells, and assisting a medical mission team.

"We are very proud of Matt and his contributions to HBU and also to the community," head coach and Director of Athletics Ron Cottrell said. "Matt represents the kind of student-athlete we strive for at HBU. He is a special young man, and we are grateful that he and his family have been such a wonderful part of our program. We are also grateful to the Pattisons for their recognition of and generosity to our young men through the years. The Pattisons represent the best part of what the NAIA is about, and we will miss our association with them as we move to the NCAA."

In addition to his community service, Autenrieth also was a leader on the basketball court and in the classroom. He completed a degree in finance in February of his junior season and is currently working on his master's of business



Coach Ron Cottrell, Mary Pattison, Matt Autenrieth and Dr. Phil Pattison at the 2007 NAIA National Basketball Championship.

administration at HBU. He is a Dean's List student and a four-time recipient of conference academic honors.

Autenrieth served his team as a captain this past season and was honored with All-Red River Athletic Conference accolades at the end of the Huskies' ninth and final RRAC Championship. He ranked fourth in the nation, averaging 9.8 points, 6.8 rebounds, and 2.2 blocked shots per game. Autenrieth finished his four-year HBU career ranking second all-time in blocks with 178 and holds the single-game record with nine. He capped off his successful career as the recipient of the 2006-07 Robbie Robertson Athlete of the Year. This award recognizes the HBU male athlete who best exhibits leadership, sportsmanship, scholarship, and university and community service in addition to athletic performance.

Michael Holmquist was the first HBU basketball player to receive the Pattison Scholarship in 2004. Bryn Caulkins won it in 2005, and Pablo Avila was honored last year.

Share your news — updates on marriages, births, jobs, honors, retirements, moves, and more. Photos are also welcome — print on glossy paper or e-mail a jpeg file of 300 dpi or higher. Please identify everyone in the photo.

Send your news and photos to alumagram@hbu.edu or mail them to **HBU News, 7502 Fondren, Houston, TX 77074-3298.**



(Note: Class year denotes last year of attendance or year of graduation)

1960s

Marvin L. Jones BA '67 was recently appointed as a commissioner of the Winters Housing Authority in Winters. He is a founding director of the Winters Area Foundation and an advisory director of the Z1 Hale Museum. He retired from the Dallas County Criminal District Attorney's Office as financial administrator.

1970s

Ben Pickles BA '70 is a test operator for Meyer Sound Laboratories, Inc. He and wife Juanita reside in Vallejo, Calif.

Dr. Thomas M. Wheeler BS '75 was named chair of the department of pathology at Baylor College of Medicine by the college's board of trustees. He has served as interim chair of the department since 2004. He has held many leadership positions in national organizations and has published more than 250 research papers.

Cynthia Brannon MBA '79 is employed at Intechra, LLC in Carrollton. She, husband Michael, and son Blake reside in Brenham.

1980s

Wendell Mansel BS '80 is director of facilities engineering for the U.S. Department of Energy. He and wife Karen reside in Annapolis, Md. Their son Ethan is enrolled in the U.S. Naval Academy.

Molly Paulsen Fields-McBirney BA '81 is a realtor for Heritage Texas Properties in Houston. She and husband Sam have three children, Corey, Carter, and Courtney.

Michael Keith Draves BA '84 is an Oracle and AS/400 database administrator for Montgomery County Auditor in Dayton, Ohio. He and wife Nancy have a son, Cristiano, and daughter-in-law, Alison. They are proud of their granddaughters, Shalah and Leah.

Michael Reinfeldt MBA '84 has been hired by the Tennessee Titans as the team's new general manager. He joins the Titans after spending seven seasons with the Seattle Seahawks. He and wife Susan have two children, Jared and Elise.

Deidra Young Brown BM '86 recently moved to Colbert, Wash., with husband Lynn and daughter Caitlin.

Kelly Herring BA '86 is a district director of stores for Eddie Bauer in Dallas. She, husband Dave, and children Collin and Paige reside in Keller.



Alice Cheng Lee BS '87 recently joined Asia Society Texas Center's Asia House Project as its new community development liaison. She and husband Mark reside in Houston with their children, Eric and Katherine.

Ruben Oscar Gonzalez BS '88 is co-starring in the motivational movie *Pass It On*, which debuted at the Sundance Film Festival, and he just returned from a speaking tour in Asia. Ruben's articles have been regularly featured in *Success Magazine*. Ruben, wife Cheryl, and children Gabriela and Gracen live in Katy.

George Wang BS '88 is a managing director for 8D Travel Co. Ltd. He, wife Cheng Man, and son Vince reside in Hong Kong.

1990s



Welcome Husky Pups



Anthony Pope BS '92 MEd '96 is the new executive director of curriculum and instruction for Fort Bend ISD. Dr. Pope comes to FBISD from Stamford, Conn., where he was assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction. He also previously served as the executive director for high schools in the Providence R.I. school system and as a senior program coordinator for high school reform in the Boston public schools. Early in his career he served as a teacher and assistant principal in Alief ISD.

Sean Sims BS '92 is a teacher and boys' gymnastics coach for L.D. Bell High School in Hurst. His boys' gymnastics team just won the Texas High School State Championships for the first time in 14 years. Sean, wife Cheryl, and children Abigail and Noah reside in Saginaw.

Todd Andrew Harris BA '93 is a police officer for the Houston Police Department.

James Kingsmill BA '94, MEd '02 and **Deborah Thompson Kingsmill** BS '92, MEd '03 will be joining the faculty of the new Ross Sterling Middle School in Humble ISD this fall. James will be teaching speech and journalism and serving as the speech coach and yearbook/newspaper advisor. Deborah will be working as a campus instructional specialist for science. They have one son, Jacob.

Alisa Justice-Van-Dyck '94 is a loss mitigation specialist for JPMorgan Chase. She, husband Charles, and sons Trayveon and Ryan reside in Garland.

Stacie Keiffer BA '95 and husband **Gregg** BBA '96, MBA '97 are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Claire Lynlee, born on February 21. She was welcomed home by big brother Grant.



Keiffer

Jennifer Sunker BSN '98 and husband **Robert** BS '99 are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Eleanora Lynn, born May 2. She was welcomed home by big brother Nathan.



Sunker

Michelle Anderson Scheiffele BA '99 and husband David are proud to announce the birth of their son, Ethan Ray, born February 6. Proud grandfather is **Michael Ray Anderson** BA '67, and proud uncle is **Marcus Ray Anderson** BS '03.



Scheiffele

Lydia Beard Tate BM '02 and husband **David** BA '01 are proud to announce the birth of son William Aiden, born on September 1, 2006. He was welcomed home by older brother Joshua.

Scottie Fresch BS '03 and husband **David** BA '03 are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Eleanor Summer, who was born on April 17.

Nicholas Jones BA '03 and wife Amanda are proud to announce the birth of daughter Susannah Nicole, who was born on October 28, 2006.



Tate

Linda Joyce Renz BA '03 is proud to announce the birth of grandson Cole Wambach Renz, born May 13. Proud parents are Chris and Michelle Renz.



Renz



Jones



Fresch

Amy K. Moore BBA '94, MS '96 has accepted a two-year assignment with Baker Hughes as a human resource management systems specialist. She will be based in Aberdeen, Scotland, and will deliver HR systems training throughout the Baker Hughes EARC region (Europe, Africa, Russia and the Caspian area).

William Joseph Murrell BA '94 has retired from the Houston Fire Department after 27 years. He is now devoting his time to home-schooling his daughter and managing his CPR/First Aid training business, Life Management Services. He and wife Diane have three children, Phillip, Peter, and Oksana.

Russell Woods BM '94 is band director for Gallup-McKinley County Schools. He, wife Teresa, and children Rose and Austin reside in Gallup, N.M.

Suzanne Gerczak Weatherly BA '95 and Mark Weatherly were married in Houston on March 10. Suzanne is co-principal at Lyon Elementary in Magnolia ISD; Mark is the principal at Magnolia Junior High. Suzanne and Mark reside in Montgomery.

Marian Hearne Hilpert BA '96 is vice president of Air Texas Mechanical Inc. She, husband Tim, and son Luke reside in Houston.

Lt. Jeff Cochran '97 is serving at Travis AFB in California. Jeff pilots a KC-10 Extender aircraft.



Harry Brown BS '97 is a long-term care insurance advisor for Martin-Brown & Associates in Houston.

Jonathan Wiles BA '98 and **Maridyth Marion** BA '00 were married on November 24, 2006, in Mittersill, Austria. Jonathan is currently pursuing graduate studies at the Schloss Mittersill Study Centre.

Cherie Lynn Chaney MBA '99 is president of Renaissance Business Services in Houston. She, husband David, and daughter Michelle reside in Houston.

Jennifer Covington Maddox ADN '99 is a lung transplant coordinator for Texas Children's Hospital. Her husband **Damon Maddox** BA '00 is an operations manager for McGriff, Seibels & Williams of Texas Inc. Jennifer, Damon, and daughter Kaylynn reside in Houston.

2000

Angela Theresa Mathews BBA '01 is a transition specialist for Houston Can Academy. She recently received her MBA from the University of St. Thomas.

Heidi Weimer BS '01 recently released her fifth children's book. She resides with her husband Kirk and their children, Brandon, Isabella, and Justice, in Nashville, Tenn. Her first few books quickly became best sellers and can be found on Amazon.com and at all major book retailers.

Calliope Laddas MBA '02 is an accountant for Paul Brooks & Co. in Egham, Surrey, UK.

David Fresch BA '03 is currently serving as associate pastor of North Sea Baptist Church in Stavanger, Norway.

Nicholas Jones BA '03 and wife Amanda just moved to the Boston area. Nicholas is working as assistant pastor of student ministries at First Baptist Church of Weymouth.

Wayne Bannon Maydwell BM '03 is a litigation paralegal for Wong, Cabello, Lutsch, Rutherford & Brucculeri L.L.P in Houston. He is finishing his master's degree in music at the University of Houston. He and wife Kim have four children: Ashley, Chad, Tori, and Luke.

Dorothy DeLong Streger BS '03 is worship arts minister for Kaleo Church. She, husband Bill, and daughter Mirabelle reside in Bellaire.

David Brehm BBA '04 is in sales for MasterWorks International Inc. in Houston.

Thomas Lynn Bridgmon BM '04 is band director for Rotan ISD. He, wife Rebekah, and children Jeremiah and Kristian reside in Rotan.

Casiano O. Chi MSN '04 is an advanced nurse practitioner for cardiothoracic surgery at Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center. He, wife Renie, and children Joshua, Jaydon, and Jedrek live in Houston.

Lawren Gerdes Eckhardt BBA '04 is a marketing coordinator for PreCash Inc. in Houston.

Terronica Hawkins Wilson MS '04 is a supervisor in the diagnostic imaging operations department of The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center. She and husband Cedric reside in Missouri City.

Carey Kesner BBA '05 is a financial advisor for Stavis Margolis Advisory Services Inc. in Houston. Carey passed the CFP (Certified Financial Planner) exam in July 2006 and was promoted from financial planner to advisor in Feb. 2007. He and wife Ashley reside in Humble.

Jose Manuel Velarde MBA '05 is a strategic sourcing advisor for CEMEXO in Houston. He is responsible for spending and forecasting analysis of the company's strategic global accounts. He and wife Guadalupe reside in Houston.

Joseph Ramirez BA '06 is an outside parts consultant for Helfman Ford in Stafford.

In Memoriam

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

— Hebrews 11:1

FORMER STUDENTS

Ginger Ann Hathaway BA '68 passed away April 5. She taught for 30 years in the Houston Independent School District, where she specialized in special education.

UNIVERSITY FRIENDS

W.B. "Bill" Everett Jr. passed away October 25, 2006. He established the Willard and Carla Everett Scholarship. He is survived by Carla Allbritton Everett, his wife of 57 years.

Neva Watkins West passed away on March 25. HBU's Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts houses a bronze sculpture she donated to the University.

Pamela Jorgensen Brown passed away April 26. She is survived by her husband Tom Brown, a board member of the Hamill Foundation, and their daughter, **Amy Brown** BSN '96.

Guy Dunning Graves passed away May 6. He was on the board of trustees of the Good Samaritan Foundation. He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Alta Mae Thornal Graves.

Margie Fay Rogers Douglas passed away May 23. Her daughter, **Debra Perich** BA '99, is a member and officer of The Guild.

John P. McGovern MD, passed away May 31. He established the John P. McGovern Foundation and served as president and chairman. He is survived by his wife Kathrine.

Alumna elected to office

Susan Saurage-Altenloh BBA '99, president of Saurage Research Inc., has been elected to serve as governor of the Tenth District of the American Advertising Federation.

Saurage-Altenloh is former president of the Houston Advertising Federation (2002-2003) and served on the HAF board for four years. She is also past president of the American Marketing Association, Houston (1999-2000), and is an adjunct faculty member at Houston Baptist University. At the national level, she is an active member of the Marketing Research Association and the Qualitative Research Consultants Association. Her professional awards include the Silver Medal Award in the American Advertising Federation and the Jaycees' Outstanding Young Woman of the Year Award.



Adams named FBISD's Secondary Teacher of the Year

Beth Adams BM '81, was named 2006-07 Secondary Teacher of the Year by the Fort Bend Independent School District. Adams has served as band director at First Colony Middle School for the past 23 years.

"She taught both my son and daughter in middle school and gave them a love and knowledge of music that will be with them forever. Her dedication to music education in Fort Bend led to many accolades for her students both in middle school and as they continued their music education," Dr. Jaqueline Horn, professor of biology, said.

Graduation cookout welcomes new alumni

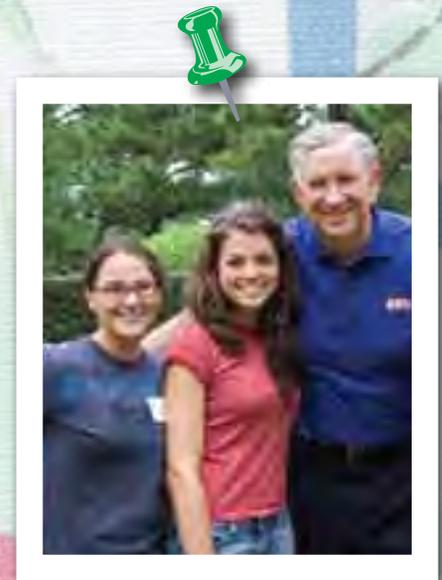
Graduates from the 2006-2007 school year were fêted at the 9th Annual Graduation Cookout hosted by the HBU Alumni Association. Graduates, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends all joined together for congratulations, celebration, and a warm welcome into the Alumni Association. The event was co-sponsored in part by Liberty Mutual which, along with members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, provided door prizes to the graduates.



Andy Cherry BA '80, Chris Gary BA '85, Sue Sloan, and Ryan Yarrington BBA '05



BeBe Velez '94, Angela Stewart BA '97, Judi Pyburn BBA '94, and Vivian Camacho BA '91



Tracey Upton BA '07, Rachel Mixon BM '07, President Sloan



Distinguished Alumnus and Meritorious Service Alumnus Awards Nominations

- **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS:** The award is presented to alumni who have made distinctive contributions in their fields. They must have consistently exemplified the standards on which the University is founded.
- **MERITORIOUS SERVICE ALUMNUS:** The award is presented to alumni who have made significant, sustained contributions of energy, time, and creativity toward the advancement of the University and exemplify the standards upon which the University is founded.

Deadline to submit nominees and supporting documentation is November 30, 2007. Call the Alumni Association at 281-649-3413 for an application or submit your nominations on-line at hbu.edu/alumniawards. Forms may also be mailed to:

Houston Baptist University, Alumni Association Awards Committee
7502 Fondren Road • Houston, TX 77074-3298

hbu.edu/alumniawards

Camacho named director of alumni relations



Vivian Camacho BA '91 has rejoined HBU as director of alumni relations.

“As the director of alumni relations, I will develop and implement alumni programming, activities, and communications and will serve as the liaison between the University and the Alumni Board of Directors,” Camacho said. “I am honored to have the opportunity to serve my alma mater and my fellow

alumni in this role.”

Camacho served on the Alumni Association Board of Directors from February 2000 to April 2007. Elected chairman in 2003-2004, she initiated the Annual HBU Husky Hustle 5K Fun Run and co-chaired the race for two consecutive years. She also co-chaired Homecoming.

In 2002 Camacho was awarded the Meritorious Service Alumnus Award.

She previously served on the University staff from 1994-2003, first as public relations specialist in the Office of Public Relations and most recently as director of marketing and communications. During her years serving as the assistant editor and later editor of the *HBU News*, the publication garnered several prestigious communications awards including, among others, two Excalibur Awards from the Public Relations Society of America, two The Communicator Awards, and a Texas Public Relations Association Best of Texas Award.

Camacho holds a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the University of Houston Law Center and most recently served as an associate trial attorney for an insurance defense and business litigation law firm in Sugar Land. She is a member of the Fort Bend Bar Association and served on the association’s education committee in 2006-2007.

Moving? ... Let us know where!

Visit us online at: www.hbu.edu/Pages/alumni/login.html

If you’ve moved or plan to change your address, please send us your the mailing label along with the completed form below. If you’re moving up the career ladder or have some other news to share, simply fill out the bottom section of this form and mail it to us:

HBU News, 7502 Fondren Road, Houston, TX 77074-3298 (Fax 281-649-3474)

NEW ADDRESS:

Name _____
FIRST MAIDEN LAST

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Business _____ Title _____

Address _____
STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Graduation: Degree _____ Year _____ Majors _____

FORMER STUDENT: Year(s) (dates) _____ Majors _____

News: _____



HBU and President Sloan salute ...

Dr. J. Bruce Belin, *former chair of the Board of Trustees*
Mary Ann Belin, *former president of The Guild*
Joella Morris, *founder of the Museum of Southern History*
Dr. Stewart Morris, *Founding Father and former chair of the Board of Trustees*

Your lifelong dedication to HBU is unsurpassed.
Thank you on behalf of the students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

HBU
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