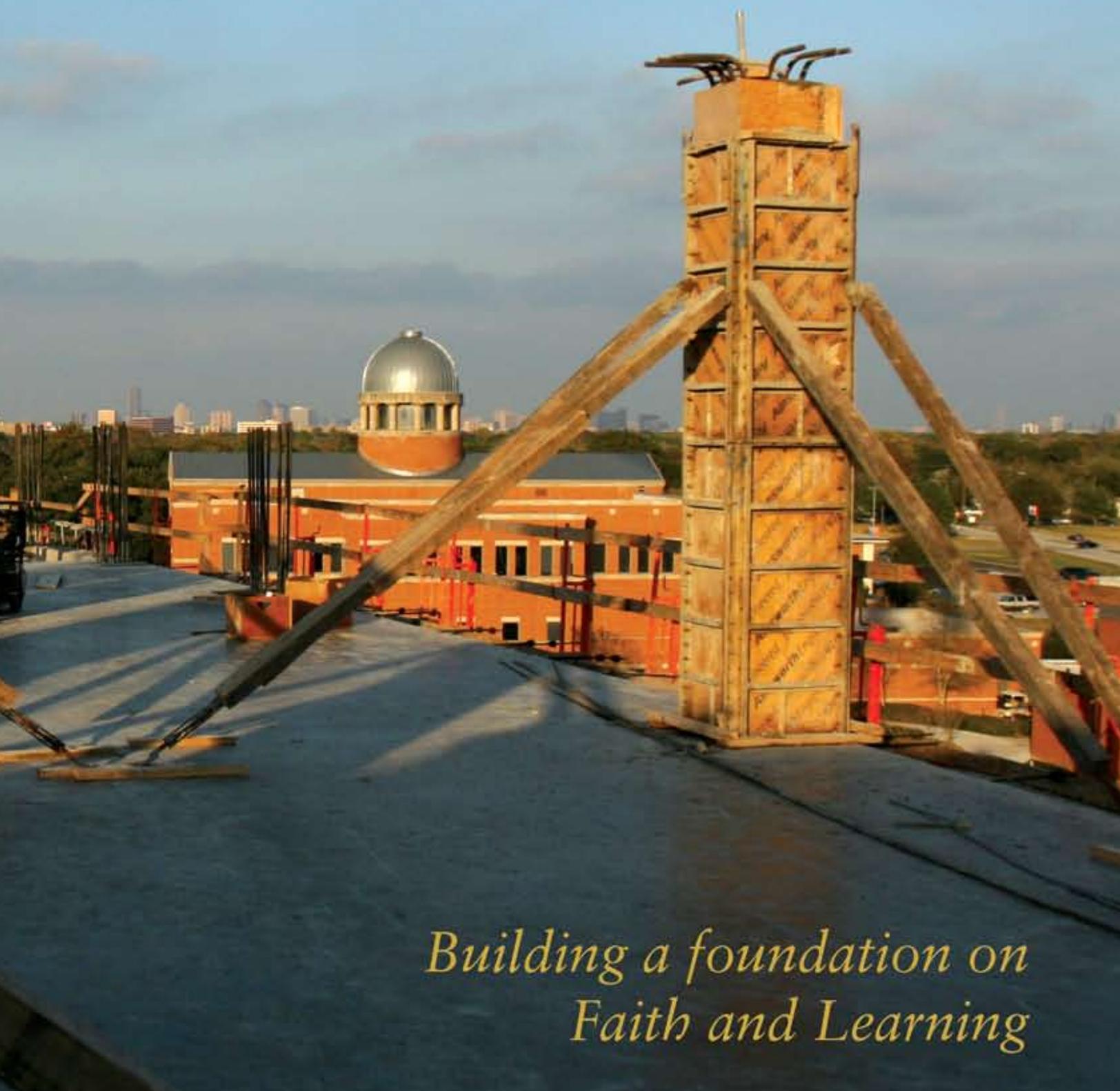


# HBUNNEWS

Winter 2008



*Building a foundation on  
Faith and Learning*

## Message from the President

There was a time in America when conventional wisdom held that faith was private and shouldn't be discussed outside the four walls of a church or perhaps in Bible studies held in a friend's home. During that same period, much scholarly opinion proclaimed the privatization of the faith was a prelude to its complete disappearance in a modern, scientific age. I can recall one sociologist telling the *New York Times* that the 21st century would find only small groups of religious believers huddled against the onrushing future.

Now that we are actually living in a religiously vibrant 21st century, those ideas of privatization and decline seem quaint. The opposite has happened. Religious persons of all types are bringing their faith into the public square. Christians are visible in public affairs and in Hollywood. Instead of quietly cloistering ourselves in holy huddles, we are working out what it means to be salt and light in our culture.

This issue of the *HBU News* deals with the topic of the integration of faith and learning, but it could just as well be about the integration of faith and life. What we believe should have an impact not only on how we worship and study the Bible but also on how we live and what we think. So, if one takes the path of integration rather than privatization, the Christian life involves engagement.

Take your faith with you to the classroom, whether you are a professor or a student. Consider how your beliefs and the Scriptures interact with the academic discipline at hand. This *HBU News* includes a definitive essay by Dr.

Hunter Baker on the integration of faith and learning which addresses the perennial question "What does Athens have to do with Jerusalem?" as well as a feature on the work of Dr. Alice J. Rowlands, professor of mass communication and adviser to *The Collegian*.

Use your faith to help you evaluate the claims and promises of politicians. Dr. Chris Hammons, associate professor of political science, contributes his thoughts to help us understand that politics is really about deciding "what type of people we want to be and what types of lives we want to live."

Allow your faith to help you develop your sense of wonder at God's creation. Dr. Brenda Whaley and Dr. Bobby Towery from our College of Science and Mathematics share their joy of discovery in plumbing the depths of the Lord's masterwork.

Engage in good-natured discussion with people of other faiths. When we believe different things, we should feel free to talk about what we believe rather than shutting the most important parts of our lives off into a drawer marked "private." Read how a philosophy of openness and engagement characterizes the work of Dr. David Capes, interim dean of the Honors College, who broadcasts discussions with Jewish and Catholic counterparts on a weekly radio show.

By the time you receive this magazine, we will have received feedback from faculty, staff, trustees, alumni, and students with regard to our proposed vision for the University.



I'd like to use this space to thank those of you who took the time to read, consider, and respond to the vision document. Just as the participants in the original envisioning sessions provided extraordinary ideas for use in setting out a vision for the University, we have also been blessed with productive feedback.

As we continue to make progress on our campus with new facilities, a growing student body, membership in Division I of the NCAA, the Honors College, and a variety of new initiatives, I look forward to seeing the HBU family come out in support of these efforts. Your participation in attending events, praying for us, recruiting students, and giving to the University is all part of what will take us strongly into the next half-century. With your help, we will continue in our efforts to shine.

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert B. Sloan Jr." in a cursive script.

Robert B. Sloan Jr.

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## On the Cover:

In Matthew 5: 14-16, Jesus says, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden ... Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your father in heaven." (NIV) In 1630, John Winthrop, speaking to those who would settle the Massachusetts Bay Colony, echoed the words of Jesus, proclaiming, "We shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us." This is the vision of HBU: to be that guiding light, that "city upon a hill," a place where faith and learning are intertwined as steel is intertwined with concrete to build a solid foundation for the future.

- 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.

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# *Serving the Lord* and others through education

Rick Bailey '69, a former teacher and coach, is a true servant of the Lord. He continues to minister to and serve others through his leadership in the community and as chairman of the Board of Trustees at Houston Baptist University.

Bailey attributes his interest in education to his mother, who was a counselor at Eisenhower High School, and his aunt and uncle, Ruth and Bennett Colson, who were early supporters of the University.

After attending HBU, where he was a letterman in basketball, Bailey went on to teach and coach for a number of years before entering a career in sales. When he was approached about serving on the Spring ISD Board, he was initially unsure about the opportunity, but in that role, he found his true ministry. "After being on the board for a short period of time, I knew that it was a ministry area, that the Lord was using me. In fact, the closest I have ever felt to the Lord was on the school board because we saw the Lord work in miraculous ways through prayer." Bailey served on the board for 15 years; in 2003, Rick C. Bailey Middle School was dedicated in honor of his service.

Bailey was invited to join the University's board in 1993. "Serving on the board at HBU has been a blessing," he said. "I have seen a lot of things happen at Houston Baptist University:

the commitment of trustees, the commitment of staff and faculty; the tireless efforts of those in the leadership just trying to do the right thing for the students."

The Bailey family has many connections to HBU. Bailey met his wife Avie '68 at the University. Although his daughter Spring chose to attend another Baptist school, she is a member of the Guild and is very involved in the University. Bailey's sons, Ty '92 and Ryan '98, followed in their father's footsteps, attending and playing basketball at HBU. Ryan's wife Bethany '99 is also a graduate of HBU.

Bailey believes that his many years of association with HBU, both as an alumnus and an alumni parent, enrich his service on the Board of Trustees. "I believe what I bring to the table as a trustee is a real heart for the University that has been in existence

for a long time," Bailey said. "I had a great experience while I was a student playing basketball. I am just glad I was here and that I had teachers who took the time with me. I made friends and am still friends with those people today."

When asked to articulate his vision of the University's future, Bailey replied, "I would like other people to look at Houston Baptist and say, 'that's the best Christian university in the world.' I think, with the Lord leading us, that's exactly what we can do. Luke 1:37 says, 'nothing will be impossible with God.' (NASB) I believe that. We have a lot of opportunities here to really help students, and I think we are the best equipped because of the foundation of the University."

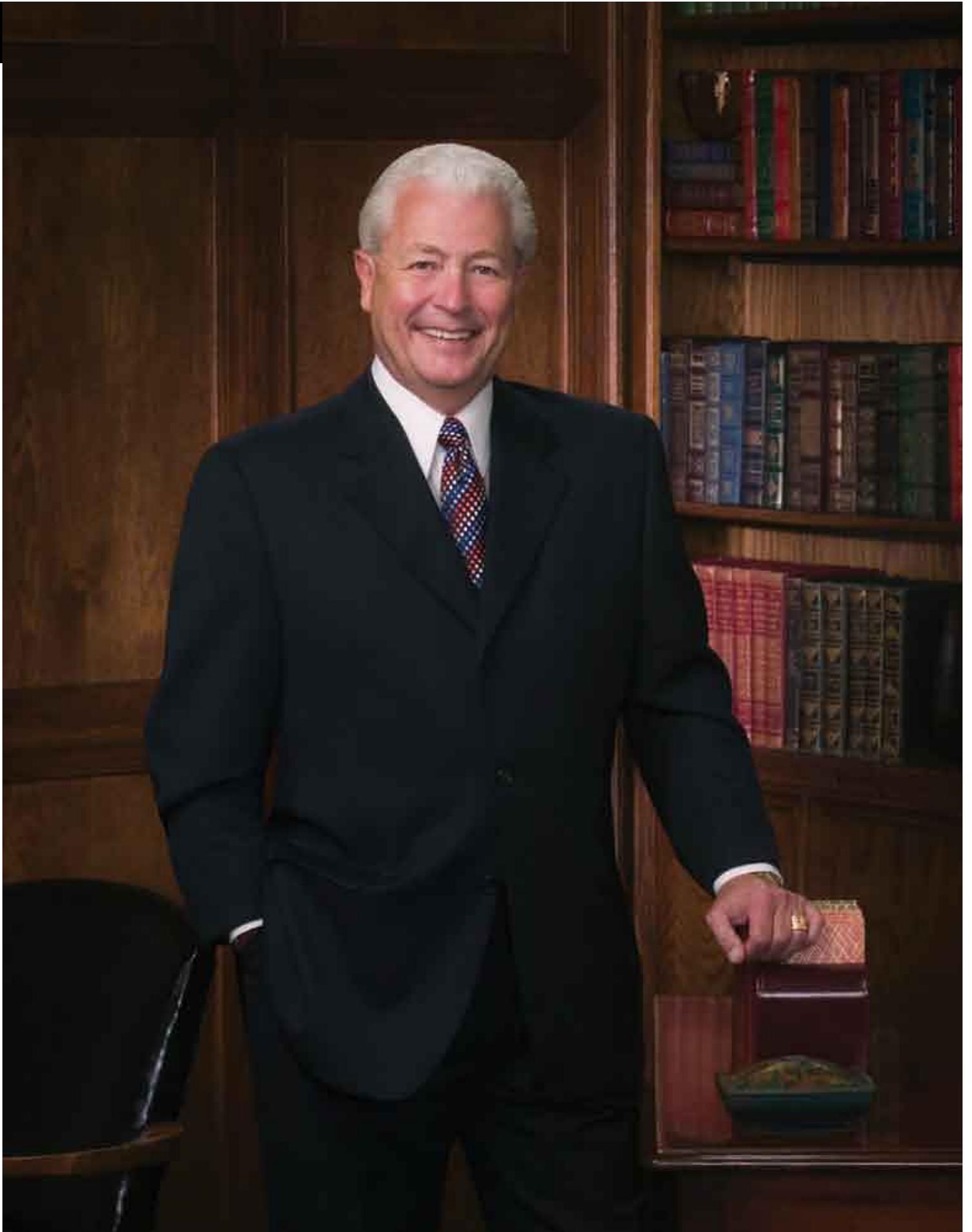
-LKA

*I am an intelligent and assertive student.  
My destiny is in my hands.  
I will overcome all obstacles which stand in my way.  
The decisions I make today will affect the rest of my life.*

*I will have respect for myself and others.  
I will also set a good example for my peers.  
Education is my ticket to success.  
If I say it can be done, I will achieve my goals.*

*I AM a Bailey Middle School student!*

*- Bailey Middle School Creed*



HBU 5 NEWS

# Meritorious Service Award

## Partners in business & in stewardship



Carol Lavender MBA '92 and Dee Pete MBA '92

Dee Pete MBA '92 and Carol Lavender MBA '92 first met while students at Lamar University, but it was their experience as EMBA students at HBU that truly cemented their friendship and led to their current business partnership, Insight Advantage LLP, which they established in 1997. Both were attracted to HBU's intimate culture. "Being in a big school is like being in a big airport," Lavender said. "I could tell from the interview process that the professors and administrators at HBU really cared about the students. When I was a student, I noticed that all the professors and many of the administrators knew students by name."

Starting a consulting business is tough, but starting one in a large city like Houston is even more difficult. In the early years, Pete and Lavender traveled much of the time, but their commitment to contribute to the community and to HBU was strong.

Their first step was sponsorship of the Husky Hustle, which they first helped underwrite in 2002. Last year, both were asked to serve on the HBU Alumni Board. When asked what she has found to be most rewarding about her role on the Board, Pete replied, "I appreciate the ability to touch other alumni, the networking and fellowship of working as a group, and being involved with the school in activities."

In the fall, Pete and Lavender served on the Steering Committee for the MBA's 30th Reunion. Ritamarie Tauer MS '85, executive director of continuing studies development and former associate dean of graduate programs in the College of Business and Economics, worked closely with them throughout the planning process. "These two very gifted ladies are a glowing example of the student HBU proudly produces," she said. "Knowing that both were partners in their own firm, I fully expected that they would take turns attending the meetings and

'minding the shop.' I quickly learned that this is not the way these two do business! They both attended the meetings of the steering committee and contributed significantly. Their firm, Insight Advantage, was a platinum sponsor of the 30th reunion."

Pete and Lavender's stewardship grows from their commitment to helping others to achieve their dreams. Both feel strongly that both undergraduate and graduate students benefit from having mentors.

"We need to make sure to tap into alumni experience and help alumni reach back to the school, to see HBU as a safe haven," Lavender said.

Pete agreed. "My passion," Pete said, "is child advocacy from the student perspective. So many students coming out of high school today are at a disadvantage. They need to know how to access information. They need practical advice about the opportunities that are available to them."

-LKA

# Distinguished Alumnus Award

## Living the dream

Carlton Thompson '92, said when he learned he would be awarded the 2007 Distinguished Alumnus Award, the first call he made was to his parents.

"I think they bought the right to get the scoop on this one. My parents were very instrumental in helping me choose a college, and after our first visit to HBU, we just knew it was the place for me," Thompson said.

Thompson, who majored in mass media and speech communication, said he has won other awards and honors, but none have the significance of the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

"I'm so deeply honored, and to be honest, a little shocked. When I think about some of the amazing people who have graced our campus in the past, I cannot help but think, 'Why am I being recognized?' To know what the University stands for – our values, our beliefs. I could not be more honored."

Director of Alumni Relations Vivian Camacho '91, said Thompson was chosen because the Board of Trustees clearly saw a direct link between his professional success and his education.

"The committee thought that Carlton set a good example of what an HBU education can do for a student or graduate," Camacho said.

Thompson, 37, who was hired by the *Houston Chronicle* in 1995, was recently named sports editor. Thompson's journalism career began in 1991 as the sports editor for *The Collegian*. He credits Dr. Alice Rowlands, professor of mass communication and *Collegian* adviser, as his greatest influence.

"She taught me so much - not just about writing and journalism, but about people and about myself. She made me realize my ceiling was so



Carlton Thompson '92

much higher than I ever imagined, and I'll always be grateful for how much she believed in me. I've been able to experience a lot of wonderful things in my career – from covering Super Bowls, World Series, and NBA Finals, to being one of only seven black sports editors in the country. As far as I'm concerned a piece of each of those accomplishments belongs to Alice Rowlands," he said.

Rowlands, whose tenure at the University began in 1990, said Thompson helped launch the newspaper from its new home in the Department of Communications.

"I recognized Carlton's talent in class, but at first he was shy and reticent to come on board *The Collegian*. I kept encouraging him and once he finally came on board he taught the staff and me more than we ever taught him about sports reporting. He left a legacy. Since he has graduated I have asked Carlton many times to help current students find their way in the profession of journalism. He always goes out of his way to reach

back. No one deserves this award more than he does. His professional performance is a testament to his character and generous spirit."

Rowlands said Thompson secured an internship at the now defunct *Houston Post* after an interview he conducted for Rowlands' advanced news writing course.

The internship eventually led to a full-time position. Thompson remained at the *Post* until 1995 when he was hired by the *Houston Chronicle*.

Thompson was honored during the Alumni Awards Dinner, and the Walk of Honor Induction, where a brick paver inscribed with his Distinguished Alumnus award was unveiled.

"HBU is home," Thompson said. "When the people at home think you didn't turn out too badly and feel like you've represented them well - nothing compares to that."

by Geoffrey Lawrence, freshman  
This article was previously published  
in *The Collegian*.

# Hallmark Award honors Sue Sloan

The HBU Hallmark Award has traditionally been presented to members of the HBU faculty or staff who have shown significant support of the Alumni Association. This support may be shown in a number of ways—attending alumni events, maintaining communication with alumni, and showing an interest in and being an advocate for alumni in countless ways.

The person selected is made an honorary alumnus of Houston Baptist University. A brick with his or her name is placed in the Holcombe Mall Heritage Walkway, and the Hallmark Award recipient also receives the traditional walnut clock associated with the award.

This year, the Alumni Board decided to do something unique, presenting First Lady Sue Sloan with the award. Mrs. Sloan often attends campus and alumni events, and she and President Sloan have welcomed current students and alumni into their home on numerous occasions since they moved to campus.



“Sue Sloan is creating a culture for students which makes them feel HBU is a part of their lives,” Vivian Camacho ’91, director of alumni relations, said. “Our

alumni are not cultivated after they graduated. They are made when they are students, or alumni-in-residence.”

—LKA

## CAMPUS REPORTS

### Board of Trustees welcomes new members

Houston Baptist University has named five new members to its Board of Trustees.

They include Dr. John Bisagno, A. Norris Crownover, William Flores MBA ’85, Pat Goettsche, and Dr. Diane Williams ’93.

The University would also like to thank the trustees who completed their service in 2007. They include Rev. James Clark, Rev. Jeff Harris, Rev. Khanh Huynh, Denny McGuire, Lisa Ann Penafiel ’87, and Hank Roper.

Board officers include Rick Bailey ’69, chair; Bob Powell ’76, chair elect; and Dr. Ed Seay ’73, secretary.

### HBU names Who’s Who Among Students

Houston Baptist University announced its list of 2007-08 *Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges* at the school’s annual Founders’ Day Convocation on Thursday, November 29.

Juniors and seniors with an average GPA of 2.5 or better are eligible for nomination. Faculty nominate students on the basis of five criteria: scholarship, character, leadership, campus and community activities, and service in student organizations.

#### Who’s Who Students:

- Aanchal Chandra
- Adam B. Richardson
- Alison Truong La
- Andrea R. Waughtel
- Cheri Kristine Wood
- Daisy Melissa Perez
- Erin Jade Rodgers
- Holly M. Nichols
- Ideen Zeinali
- Jamie M. Sebesta
- Jonathan R. Powell
- Kaylee Denise McArthur
- Kimberly Michelle Melton
- Krista Lynn Kaufman
- Leah R. Rigsby
- Maria Graciela Zelaya
- Milica Vasiljevic
- Natasha M. Desa
- Padmini Meda
- Quoc Jonathan Phan Tran
- Rachel Lillian O’ Shields
- Rishi Kumar
- Shannon Sinclair
- Sheline Travis Lampart
- Theresa Vy Uyen Le

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Cordially invites you to the

## Dedication of the University Museums

Featuring the collections of

Dunham Bible Museum  
Museum of American Architecture  
and Decorative Arts  
Museum of Southern History

**Tuesday, March 25, 2008**

Joella and Stewart Morris  
Cultural Arts Center  
McNair Hall

3:00 p.m. Ribbon Cutting

Reception to follow  
Museum tours through 7:00 p.m.

RSVP: 281-649-3004  
rsvp@hbu.edu

## HBU launches feasibility study to determine interest in new College of Continuing Studies

A feasibility study is underway to investigate the creation of a College of Continuing Studies (CCS). The proposed college would provide opportunities for personal and professional growth by offering academic, personal enrichment, and professional programs in a Christian environment. Once approved, the college could begin offering classes as early as fall 2008.

“HBU has the distinct pleasure of currently offering degree programs based on Christian values and ideals and the thought of expanding the Christian perspective to continuing education is a very exciting venture,” said Rita Tauer MS ’85, executive director of continuing studies development. “We hope to work with individuals and organizations within all industries in the Houston market. The plans include customized management and training programs; continuing education offerings; leisure classes; as well as programs for talented high school students, active retirees, high school teachers, and members of the HBU family.”

Tauer and her feasibility team developed the survey to determine the areas of greatest interest and need. You can take the survey at [hbu.edu/learnforlife](http://hbu.edu/learnforlife) in less than 15 minutes.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this new venture, please contact Rita Tauer at [rtauer@hbu.edu](mailto:rtauer@hbu.edu) or 281-649-3406.

## *ODK taps new scholars*

The HBU Circle of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society, recently inducted new members. (back row) Dr. Jacqueline Horn, Mary Ellen Hall ’88, Dr. Rhonda Furr, Dr. Ann Gebuhr, Dr. James Ulmer, Dr. Alice Rowlands, Dr. Don Looser (front) Rishi Kumar, Laura McNeil, Meredith Spencer, Regina Arendt, and Jessica Barrera (not pictured Andrea Legare and Jessica Watson)



*Building a  
Foundation on ...*

*Faith and  
Learning*

*All Scripture is God-breathed  
and is useful for teaching, for  
rebuking, correcting, and training  
in righteousness, so that the man of  
God may be thoroughly equipped for  
every good work. (NIV)*

*- 2 Timothy 16-17*

*St. James*

# Integrating Faith & Learning:

## bringing Athens and Jerusalem together

The ancient Christian Tertullian once asked, “What does Athens have to do with Jerusalem?” The question has long been taken to suggest that the learning and wisdom of the Greeks have little to do with the God of the Bible.

Augustine, on the other hand, had a different view. He wrote, “Let every good and true Christian understand that wherever truth may be found, it belongs to his Master.” The weight of his work suggests both that Christians should respect truth even when it comes from a pagan like Plato and that Christians should apply their understanding of God’s word to worldly activities like politics, law, and philosophy. In other words, Athens and Jerusalem intersect with great regularity.

During the last century, the camp for keeping Athens and Jerusalem separate was dominant. Pietistic Christians felt their faith was better confined to private meditation and sharing in the church and at Bible studies. Secularists scorned the idea of any intellectual relevance of Christianity except as a phenomenon to be studied. A number of books celebrated the privatization of Christianity and the dawn of a world without religion.

However, the other camp, the one focused intently on the intersection points of Athens and Jerusalem, persisted. Members of that group have long claimed that a scriptural faith is relevant to much of the scholarship of the world, particularly in the disciplines that have to do with human beings and their thoughts and activities.

The pendulum has now swung away from secularization and privatization. In the past quarter century or so, religion has become more public in almost every way. Whether the topic is international affairs, domestic politics, art, music, the environment, bioethics, or literature, religion is increasingly recognized as

important and influential. Concurrent with this resurgence of religion in culture, many academics who favor keeping Athens and Jerusalem in conversation have begun to speak of Christian scholarship and integrating faith and learning.

But what does it mean to integrate faith and learning? Does it mean we demand, as one person once asked me, “a Methodist math or a Baptist biology?” The answer is no. Augustine endorsed the study of the natural world and the cosmos on their own terms. On the other hand, if the question is whether the Christian faith might be relevant to politics, economics, history, literature, law, art, music, and other disciplines, then the answer is yes. Further, if we take in the impact of a doctrine of creation on our philosophies, we touch upon every field of inquiry. George Marsden has rightly noted that, “A picture of reality in which there is a being great enough to produce and to oversee the universe is, after all, quite different from one in which things operate sheerly through impersonal forces.”

**“Whether the topic is international affairs, domestic politics, art, music, the environment, bioethics, or literature, religion is increasingly recognized as important and influential.”**

The integration of faith and learning can be illustrated through an example. Consider the law. Oliver Wendell Holmes saw the law as something like a science of the state’s use of force. What measure is needed to produce the socially desirable result? Holmes’ approach is worth thinking about. Need it stand alone or might it be in productive conversation with what the Bible, or Augustine, or Luther, or Aquinas might have to say about justice and the nature of law? At a secular institution, one is likely to hear Holmes scornfully proclaiming “the law is not some brooding omnipresence

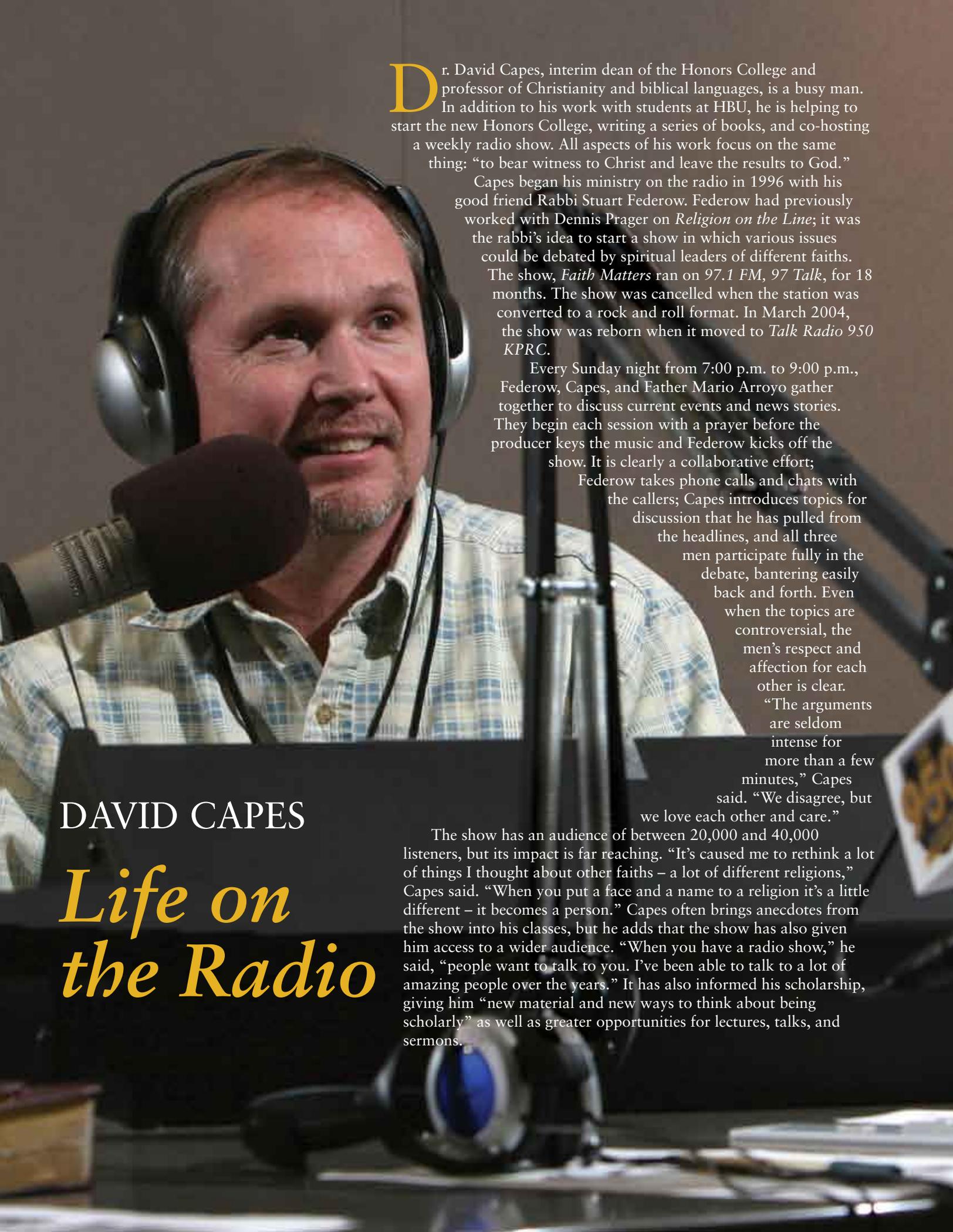
in the sky” and then move on to a discussion of “legal realism.” At a Christian institution that integrates faith and learning, one should have the opportunity to reflect on those other voices that, when all is said and done, may count for far more than that of the venerable Supreme Court justice.

When we talk about the integration of faith and learning we express our rejection of the idea that there is something called “the real world” to which Christianity relates as nothing more than an additive or an amusing side issue. What we are saying is that things like the amazing persistence of the Jewish people and the crucifixion of Christ are real world happenings with real consequences and real information about who we are, what we should do, and how we should think. The resurrection of Christ, if accepted as a reality, places tremendous importance on the things he did and said. Those words and deeds are worth thinking about and relating to the way we view the world.

At the root, the integration of faith and learning means that we cultivate certain habits of the mind. Integration means developing a real interest and a curiosity about theological reflection and how it relates to the academic disciplines. A vision of the Christian university that fails to make room for Christian thinking outside convocation and the Bible survey courses is an unnecessarily poor one.



*Hunter Baker J.D., Ph.D., is special assistant to the president and director of strategic planning.*



**D**r. David Capes, interim dean of the Honors College and professor of Christianity and biblical languages, is a busy man. In addition to his work with students at HBU, he is helping to start the new Honors College, writing a series of books, and co-hosting a weekly radio show. All aspects of his work focus on the same thing: “to bear witness to Christ and leave the results to God.”

Capes began his ministry on the radio in 1996 with his good friend Rabbi Stuart Federow. Federow had previously worked with Dennis Prager on *Religion on the Line*; it was the rabbi’s idea to start a show in which various issues could be debated by spiritual leaders of different faiths. The show, *Faith Matters* ran on 97.1 FM, 97 Talk, for 18 months. The show was cancelled when the station was converted to a rock and roll format. In March 2004, the show was reborn when it moved to *Talk Radio 950 KPRC*.

Every Sunday night from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Federow, Capes, and Father Mario Arroyo gather together to discuss current events and news stories. They begin each session with a prayer before the producer keys the music and Federow kicks off the show. It is clearly a collaborative effort;

Federow takes phone calls and chats with the callers; Capes introduces topics for discussion that he has pulled from the headlines, and all three men participate fully in the debate, bantering easily back and forth. Even when the topics are controversial, the men’s respect and affection for each other is clear.

“The arguments are seldom intense for more than a few minutes,” Capes said. “We disagree, but we love each other and care.”

The show has an audience of between 20,000 and 40,000 listeners, but its impact is far reaching. “It’s caused me to rethink a lot of things I thought about other faiths – a lot of different religions,” Capes said. “When you put a face and a name to a religion it’s a little different – it becomes a person.” Capes often brings anecdotes from the show into his classes, but he adds that the show has also given him access to a wider audience. “When you have a radio show,” he said, “people want to talk to you. I’ve been able to talk to a lot of amazing people over the years.” It has also informed his scholarship, giving him “new material and new ways to think about being scholarly” as well as greater opportunities for lectures, talks, and sermons.

DAVID CAPES

## *Life on the Radio*

What Capes values the most, however, is the conversation. “I love people,” Capes said. “I love the opportunity. The rabbi is my best friend. I love the engagement, the ideas, the good-natured ribbing.”

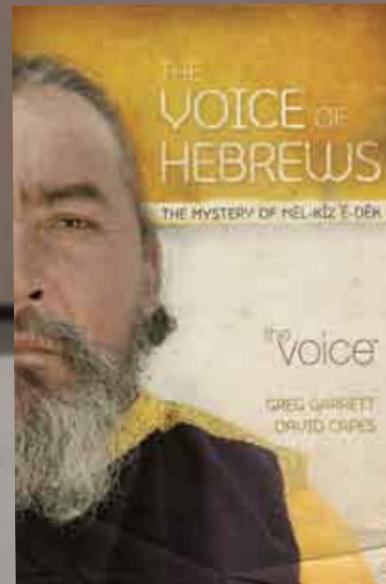
Capes has published two books in the past two months: *Rediscovering Paul*, published by Athens Press, and *Israel’s God and Rebecca’s Children*, published by Baylor University Press. In addition, he is at work on a long term collaborative project with Thomas Nelson. Capes serves as the senior theological review director for The Voice, a unique project which pairs writers, scholars, and songwriters together to “retell the stories of the Bible in a way that is artistic and beautiful.” *The Voice of Melchizedek: the Mystery of Melchizadek*, which Capes co-authored with Greg Garrett, was released in February. “We’re in a new day,” Capes said. “Biblical illiteracy is rampant in spite of the fact that there are more Bibles in circulation than at any other point in history. We’re trying to get Bibles into people’s hearts and minds.”

The Voice book projects began with *The Last Eyewitness* – a retelling of the last week in the life of Jesus Christ; *The Dust Off Their Feet: Lessons from the First Church* – a retelling of Acts; and *The Voice of Matthew* – a retelling of the book of Matthew; and *The Voice of Luke: Not Even Sandals* by Brian McLaren – a retelling of the Gospel of Luke from a modern, medical and biblical perspective. The most recent releases include *The Voice from on High* – a retelling of the story of the Messiah that juxtaposes the Old Testament with stories from the Gospels, and *The Voice Revealed* – a retelling of John ideal for use as an evangelism tool.

Upcoming titles in the series include *The Voice of Hebrews* – a retelling of the Book of Hebrews designed to help post modern readers understand how Jesus completes the law and prophets, and *The Voice of Mark* – this account of the Gospel of Mark includes running commentary to apply the truth of the Gospel along with the uniqueness of the translation technique to today’s Church. *The Voice™ New Testament*, which will be released in October 2008, will be the first-ever complete New Testament in The Voice™ translation. Writers working with the scholar team on this Bible include David Capes, Chris Seay, Lauren Winner, Brian McLaren, and Greg Garrett, among others.

To learn more about the series, visit [hearthevoice.com](http://hearthevoice.com).

—LKA



# Political science: an ongoing conversation

Students considering political science as a major often view it mistakenly as the study of current events and politics. While that is a part of it, political science is really the ongoing conversation about how we should live our lives. As such, one of the hallmarks of the political science program at HBU is the wonderful discussions that take place in the classroom. From these discussions students learn many important lessons, but three permeate the entire political science curriculum.

One of the first things that students learn is that politics is really a tension between freedom and order. Governments pass laws to create order. The loss of freedom should always be for the greater good. The problem is that one man's freedom is another man's chaos, and one man's order is another man's oppression. Determining the right balance between these two competing goals – freedom and order – is the role of our elected government.

A second important lesson that students learn is that because government policy determines how we can live our lives, all political decisions are essentially value judgments. Decisions to allow certain acts, prohibit others, and redistribute wealth through taxation are moral judgments as to what is fair and just.

The struggle for many students is that they have been taught that politics and morality are separate enterprises, when in truth they are one and the same. Since politics is the debate about what type of people we want to be and what types of lives we want to live, it is inherently a value-laden discussion. Unlike secular universities that too often divorce morality and politics, HBU offers students a unique opportunity to discuss world events and public policy from a perspective that incorporates morality and faith.

**"Since politics is the debate about what type of people we want to be and what types of lives we want to live, it is inherently a value-laden discussion."**

What this means is that students at HBU actually have a greater degree of intellectual freedom than might be possible in state-sponsored universities. Students are free to make the claim that our rights come from God rather than mere social convention, that there exists a higher law that precedes the written words of our founding documents, and that public policy can be evaluated from a moral standard rather than just on

the basis of economic benefits and costs. Our political science students still learn the procedural, institutional, historical, and empirical approaches to politics that are taught elsewhere. But at HBU students have the additional benefit of a faith-based perspective on politics that would be discouraged in many academic settings.

A final lesson that our political science students are taught is that politics is a noble endeavor and a chance to make a better world. Too often universities teach students to be cynical, angry, and distrustful. To the contrary, politics can be a form of mission work, outreach, and ministry. At HBU, we encourage our students to use what they have learned, to engage in the marketplace of ideas, to be part of the solution rather than part of the problem, and to tackle the world rather than withdraw from it.



*Chris Hammons, Ph.D., is director of the Master of Liberal Arts program and associate professor of political science. He is also a senior research fellow for the Texas Public Policy Foundation.*

# Hammons brings Constitution to life for Mayflower descendants

Dr. Christopher Hammons, associate professor of political science and director of the Master of Liberal Arts program, spoke at the November meeting of the Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants. His talk, which tied the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown Colony to the Plymouth Colony, received rave reviews from those in attendance, including Colony Governor and State Treasurer Charles R. Prince '71. Dr. Hammons “brought the beginnings of our Constitution to life,” Prince said. “Everyone in attendance was spellbound by his passion for our American heritage.”

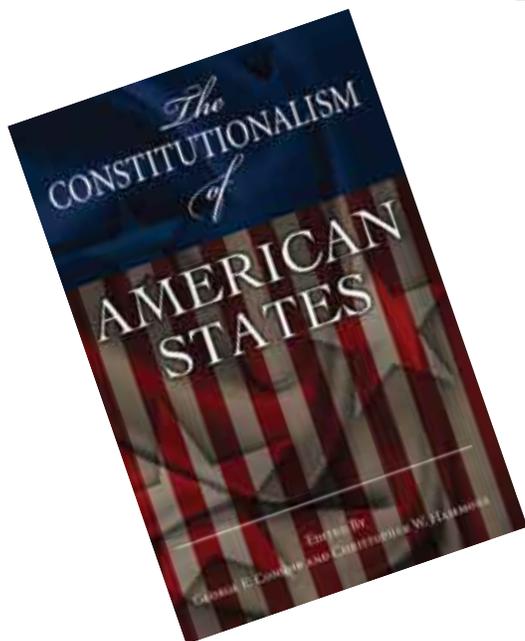
The November meeting, known as the Compact Luncheon, is the major meeting for the Society and is held each November to commemorate the signing of the Mayflower Compact in 1620.

The Texas Society of Mayflower Descendants has just under 1,000 members. The Society is dedicated to preserving the heritage descendants share due to the struggles and sacrifices of the Pilgrims of Plymouth.

Prince, who majored in history at HBU, only discovered his Mayflower connections five years ago. He has since met several other descendants, and they have joined in an effort to preserve the Prince family history.



Charles R. Prince '71, Dr. Chris and Daniela Hammons



Hammons is co-editor of a new book released in January which presents the constitutional histories of each state in the Union. It should be of great use to constitutional scholars.

# “Paper Angels” learn the ropes under careful

Dr. Alice J. Rowlands is proud of her “paper angels,” as she calls them, and well she should be. Under her leadership and through her tireless efforts, *The Collegian* has grown from a sleepy student publication into a dynamo of journalism excellence.

Rowlands joined the University in 1990 as an assistant professor of mass communications and adviser to *The Collegian*. At the time, the student newspaper had no dedicated space. The students had no computers, no darkroom, and no telephone—not much of a newsroom by anyone’s standards. “I prayed all the way to school in the morning and all the way home at night for a miracle,” Rowlands said. “I got three: Mary Hewitt ’91, Doug Parker ’92, and Vivian Camacho ’91. Mary is a physician, Doug is director of operations for Origin Design, and Vivian is now director of alumni relations at HBU. Together, working into the wee hours of the morning several nights a week, we produced 14 issues. Answered prayers. There is simply no other explanation for our success.”

That was 18 years ago. Today, the paper has a room of its own, a bustling space with the hardware and software of a modern newsroom. The walls are lined with rows of awards and a huge banner which celebrates the paper’s seventh All American rating. The paper recently launched its website: [hbu.collegian.com](http://hbu.collegian.com). The goal, Rowlands said, is to “make the website into a multimedia portal that will offer up-

to-date and informative news for its readership.”

The paper is much more than its newsroom, however. Its heart is its students. “I expect a lot from *The Collegian* staff,” Rowlands said. “I have always been blessed with editors

I work hard with them. I try to model the behavior I expect from them. I remind them of the scripture from Luke 12:48: *From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. (NIV).*”

Rowlands rejoices in her students’ successes. “I love to see the students succeed,” she said. “Many come into *The Collegian* newsroom with marginal writing and design skills. I love to watch the metamorphosis from insecure freshman to confident student journalist ready to embrace challenges with their new-found courage and polished skills. In turn, they become the best teachers and mentors of the new paper angels who venture into the newsroom. I love to watch that process. They forge lifelong friendships and reach



Dr. Alice J. Rowlands and Lindsay Brehm, advertising manager, review copy.

who have high standards and an incredible work ethic. On Thursdays when the newspaper is delivered, the editors start critiquing it immediately. The conversation always turns to ‘how can we do this better next time?’ I rarely see them fawning over their newly published work. That’s why they have been blessed with success. They care about their product and their readership.”

Rowlands’ Christian leadership provides her students with a model they can learn from and apply in their future careers in the media. “I tell them that they must use their gifts because their talents are special gifts from God.

back to help one another.”

These friendships were in evidence at Homecoming, when former *Collegian* staffers came from all over the country to celebrate the newspaper’s success, the successes its former students have enjoyed, and the future home of the paper in the University’s Academic Center.

Rowlands reminds her students that they play a vital role as Christian journalists, and she encourages them to “use [their] Christian values to meet the challenges and demands of the 21st century newsroom. This message was reinforced for her students at the 2006 Baptist Press Journalism Conference,

# *watch of Dr. Alice J. Rowlands*

where the featured speaker, Dr. Michael A. Longinow, chair of the Department of Journalism at Biola University, told the students, “Christians who pursue the hard but satisfying work of living Christ’s love and passion for the truth in secular newsrooms ... should open the scriptures to see what God says about truth, confrontation of evil, giving voice to the alien and the helpless.”

The long term impact *Collegian* staffers and editors will have as leaders in their fields is inestimable; many are already making a difference in important roles across the country. Former *Collegian* editors include Carlton Thompson '92, sports editor of the *Houston Chronicle* and HBU's Distinguished Alumnus for 2007 (see related story on page 7); Stephanie De Los Santos '96, MA '98, director for communications for Cypress-Fairbanks School District; Leslie Tripp '96, communications director for the Alzheimer's Association in Atlanta; Melodie Francis '98 former editor in chief, now the director of public relations at the Museum of National Science; Amy Davis '02, senior strategist research analyst at the Corporate Executive Council for the Corporate Executive Board in Washington, D.C., and Jayna Desai '04, an editor at the *Associated Press* in New York City. -LKA

*hbu.collegian.com*

## **Students learn from local journalists and attorneys at Law and Media Seminar**

Four *Collegian* editors accompanied by their advisor, Dr. Alice Rowlands, walked past citizens picketing Johnny Sutton, United States Attorney for the Western District of Texas, to enter the South Texas College of Law where they attended the annual Law and the Media seminar, sponsored by The Houston Bar Association, The Society of Professional Journalists and the Press Club of Houston. The theme of this year's seminar, “Boundaries, Borders and Lessons Learned: Managing Evolving Cultural Complexities and Legal Issues at the Courthouse and in the Newsroom,” featured Sutton as the keynote speaker. Sutton made international headlines for his 2006 prosecution of two border patrol agents.



Photo courtesy of Houston Bar Association

The first panel, “Communicating Across Cultural Lines,” featured attorney Nazak Azimpoor, who is fluent in Farsi and is knowledgeable on trade, commerce, legal, and media issues in the United States and the Middle East; the *Houston Chronicle*'s Federal Court reporter, Cindy George, and Aurora Losada, assistant managing editor/Spanish language publications; Rey Chavez, news director for KXLN-Univision 45; and attorney Lan Nguyen, who practices law with her husband and hosts a monthly radio show, *Voice of Vietnam*.

The second panel, “The Immigration Debate: Conflict and Clarity,” featured Sutton; Art Rascon, Emmy award-winning KTRK-TV Channel 13 reporter; Susan Carroll, *Houston Chronicle* immigration reporter; and Gordan Quan, a partner in the law firm of Quan, Burdett & Perez, P. C. Quan's practice is devoted to immigration and nationality law. He has provided testimony and advice on immigration legislation to Congress and the White House.

During panel discussions and following the program, students were able to ask advice and make important contacts with panel members. Several of the speakers agreed to be guest speakers for Rowlands' Public Affairs Reporting, a course which will be offered during fall semester. They also offered to assist students with internship opportunities.

-AJR

# *Inspiring students to pursue lives of scientific study and research*

**W**e currently live in an exciting time to study science. Advances in technology have illuminated details of the structure of matter down to the subatomic level. Biochemists can fully understand biological and chemical processes that were a mystery to previous generations.

At HBU, faculty believe that studying the physical nature of our world allows us a view into the “invisible qualities” of the Creator. We can see elegance and beauty in the smallest details of creation. We are allowed to peer a little more deeply into the “divine nature” than those who have gone before. Our goal is to excite our students with our appreciation for “what has been made” and inspire them to pursue lives of scientific study and research.

In the last century there has been much debate concerning the mechanism of creation, and students come to HBU with a broad spectrum of beliefs on this subject. At times the physical observations made by scientists and the proposed hypotheses seem to generate more questions than answers. However, there are beliefs about creation that all people of faith can share.

At HBU, faculty believe there is a preeminent and benevolent Creator who created humans in His image and gave us the dominion we have on Earth. Because of this conviction, we can discuss with our students our God-given responsibility to practice good stewardship of our planet and its resources. We can instill in our pre-healthcare students the need to love and respect all people, treating others with the dignity, kindness, and compassion they deserve.

In the study of science, hypotheses are perpetually tested and may be modified on the basis of new observations. Scientists welcome this as a healthy and productive practice of our craft and rarely accept a theory or model as perfect. In contrast, as people of faith we believe that the character of God has “been clearly seen” and is loving and unchanging. We, of all people, “are without excuse.” Our

**“Our hope is that our students will be able to achieve lives that balance their application of the scientific method with a clear understanding of the person that God would have them to be.”**

hope is that our students will be able to achieve lives that balance their application of the scientific method with a clear understanding of the person that God would have them to be.

Our prayer is that they can live their lives so as to be reflective and reasoning men and women who have *no need of excuses!*



*Dr. Brenda Whaley '79, associate professor in biology*



*Dr. Robert Towery, assistant professor in chemistry*

Artwork by Sheila Swift Hurst '04

A painting of a tropical beach scene. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, reflecting the light. In the foreground, there are several palm trees with large, green fronds. The sky is dark, and a bright white moon is visible in the center. The overall style is impressionistic and colorful.

*“For since the creation  
of the world God’s  
invisible qualities  
– his eternal power and  
divine nature – have  
been clearly seen, being  
understood from what  
has been made, so  
that men are without  
excuse.”*

*— Romans 1:20*

# Holocaust

## Survivor shares story

Walter Kase, 78, is one of the few remaining survivors of the Holocaust.

Dr. Constantina Michalos, professor of English, offers a course on Holocaust literature and invited Kase to share his story. He admonished the young people in the audience: **“It is your job to see that terrible things like the Holocaust never happen again.”**

Kase and his family lived in Lodz, Poland in September 1939 when the Germans invaded. Within days, the Jews in the city were forced into ghettos, where they lived in crowded, inhuman conditions before being shipped in cattle cars to Auschwitz. It was at this time that Kase lost his younger sister. He and his parents were forced to watch as his younger sister, other children, and the elderly were machine gunned to death. Soon after, the survivors were shipped via cattle cars, packed in “like sardines,” to Auschwitz. In tears, Kase asked the audience to imagine the hellish ride: “every single person just lost someone they loved,” he said. “We traveled like this for four days and four nights – nothing to eat or drink – the train never stopped.”

At Auschwitz, German guards with whips and dogs waited to sort the human cargo. His father asked a man dressed in a striped uniform, “What is this Auschwitz?” The man replied, “Auschwitz is a factory for the annihilation of men, women, and children.” Soon after, Kase’s mother was separated from him and his father. Anguished, he asked himself, “Did I say I love you?” and realized he had “truly not taken the time to express my love to my parents like I should have.” He admonished those in the audience to “Call your mom, call your dad, tell them that you love them and that you appreciate them and all you have.”

Kase detailed the horrors he endured and witnessed at two other camps where he was moved before the war ended. By the time the American liberators reached the area in which he and his father were imprisoned, they were human skeletons. At the time of his rescue, Kase weighed only 65 pounds and suffered from a variety of illnesses, including malnutrition. His father, 6’ 1”, weighed only 78 pounds. The first American GI to see Kase cried out, “Oh my god! How can human beings do this to other human beings?” before giving Kase a Hershey’s chocolate bar.



The Americans took Kase and his father by military ambulance to Wells, Austria, where they were fed, bathed, and cared for by Catholic nuns and American military doctors. Sadly, within 30 days of the rescue, Kase’s father died.

Kase was 15 years old. He “had no education, no family, no friends, and no one to give [him] advice.” He did, however, know one thing: he wanted to leave Europe. Kase was able to come to the United States through a program sponsored by the United States Children’s Committee. The group brought 400 children to America to give them a new life. “The U.S. is the most wonderful country in the world,” said Kase. “This is heaven – we need to appreciate it and cherish it.”

A member of the audience asked Kase to describe his relationship with God. “Today, I love God,” he said. “I was raised in a family that loved God. I thought God was going to protect me.” His experiences at the hands of the Nazis nearly destroyed his faith. “From 1943 to 1950, I had no relationship with God. ... It took me a little time to grow up and realize that God was not responsible for what happened to me. Bad people did this to me.”

“As victims, they experienced inconceivable horrors; as witnesses, they have undertaken to share their experiences with the world in order to teach us that humanity can descend to depths of degradation, but it can also soar to heights of courage and hope. And each time Holocaust survivors undertake to tell their stories, they memorialize the countless, anonymous victims and immortalize their awful circumstances so that we will never forget,” Michalos said.

–LKA

Senior Ruben Alcala watches Dr. James Jordan conduct.



## School of Music hosts famous conductor James Jordan and award-winning composer Dan Forrest

Houston Baptist University's School of Music hosted Dr. James Jordan, professor of music at Westminster Choral College of Rider University, in January and hosted Dr. Dan Forrest, award-winning composer, in February.

Dr. John Yarrington, director of HBU's School of Music, worked with Jordan two years ago when Jordan served as an artist in residence at the University. "Jordan's work with choirs and conductors embodies the highest standards of musical excellence," Yarrington said.

During his January visit, Jordan worked with HBU's choral and conducting students and delivered a lecture in which he shared insights on teaching and creating music. Jordan reminded students of the importance of personal affirmation, saying, "I hope you chose music not to make a living but to make a life."



Forrest, who is a member of the music faculty at Bob Jones University, spent the first week of February working with HBU's music students; his visit culminated in the HBU Winter Choral Concert, held Feb. 8. The concert, which showcased Forrest's sacred music, featured the University Singers,

Camerata, Schola Cantorum, and the Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church.

Forrest's visit was over two years in the making. Forrest first met Dr. John Yarrington, director of HBU's School of Music, and his students at a convention in St. Louis in March 2006 when they were chosen to perform Forrest's "Selah," the winner of the 2005 ACDA Raymond Brock Composition Competition. "John and his students did a fabulous job," Forrest said.

This gifted musician has won four major awards in the last two years, and he credits all of his success to God. "The Lord has done great things," Forrest said. "It's not my doing. I still don't know exactly what the Lord is up to, but I'm trying to be a good steward of the talent."

### HBU partners with Houston Chamber Music Society for two new projects, Soulscapes and World Passport

Houston Baptist University's Dr. Ann Gebuhr and Dr. Melissa Marse have been named artistic directors for the Houston Chamber Music Society. Gebuhr, professor of music, is director of Soulscapes, a new concert series which provides the public an opportunity to hear and experience music written in the past 30 years in a new way. Marse, assistant professor of music, is artistic director of the World Passport series, which features music from past eras as well as more current selections.

Soulscapes uses a variety of media, particularly art and poetry, to engage the audience. "The concept grew from the synthesis conference Michael Collins and I initiated in 2001," Gebuhr said. "That conference and the ones that followed were sponsored by the HBU Christianity and the Arts committee, which included faculty from across the disciplines."

The first Soulscapes event, a multimedia concert, was held in Belin Chapel on February 19. It featured music written in the last 30 years by composers currently at HBU; the music was performed by members of the HBU School of Music faculty. The next Soulscapes, scheduled for May 6, will offer piano trios by Mark O'Connor and Alfonso Montecino performed by Tre Voci.

The World Passport series will feature music from past eras as well as recent music. The first concert is scheduled for April 1 in the University Theater. It will feature Mark O'Connor and Friends.

# HBU celebrates Groundbreaking for new UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC CENTER



The University broke ground for its new University Academic Center on November 29. Trustees, alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends of the University gathered to celebrate the event.

“It is such a joy to see a facility like this come to pass for faculty, artists, and Christians who serve because of their sense of calling and the joy that they have in doing so,” said President Sloan.



Dr. Brian Runnels '81

Dr. Brian Runnels '81, dean of the College of Humanities, served as master of ceremonies for the event. Dr. David Capes, interim dean of the Honors College and professor of Christianity and Biblical languages, provided the invocation.

Dr. Runnels provided the audience with a brief history of the University's genesis. “When my family and I moved to Houston in 1970, the Southwest Freeway had six lanes and Houston Baptist University had six buildings,” he recalled. “Since then, the University has added several buildings, ... most recently the Morris Cultural Arts Center. A new six story residence college is rising in the center of campus and, along with the University

Academic Center, will be ready in August to greet the largest freshman class in the school's history.”

The University Academic Center will house the Department of Art, the Department of Communications, and the Honors College. *The Collegian*, the school's award-winning student newspaper, and the Mock Trial Team will be assigned office and production space in the new building. The skills and knowledge that the students in these fields gain help them to attain internships with the best media organizations in the country. Mass communications majors and *Collegian* writers have gone on to internships and jobs with the Associated Press, the Houston bureau of the *New York Times*, Good Morning America, CBSnews.com in New York City, CNN in Atlanta, as well as ABC, CBS, and NBC affiliates in Houston. Recently, mass communication alumnus Carlton Thompson '92 was named sports editor of the *Houston Chronicle*; mass communications alumna Jayna Desai '04 was named an editor with the Campaigns and Elections team of the Associated Press.

It is also an exciting time for those studying art. This summer, HBU senior Lauren McClusky was awarded a prestigious Project Row House Residency. Alumni Yousef Balat '99 traveled to Lima, Peru this summer with Artist in Residence Michael Collins and Adjunct Professor Marie Weichman to participate in Amistad, an internationally curated exhibition of the best in Texas contemporary art.

President Sloan spoke of the amazing passion and faith of the art faculty, “who have a passion to integrate the Christian faith and art in ways that really inspire, provoke, and encourage all of us here at the University.” Michael Collins, Jim Busby, Virgil Grotfeldt, and Melanie Leslie each painted a special commemorative shovel for the event. These works of art will be on display in the completed building, housed in its beautiful, soaring gallery space.

—LKA

Key groups were asked to participate in a ceremonial groundbreaking and to place their handprints into a specially prepared slab of wet cement. The slab will be painted and later included in the building's final structure.

(l) Art Department members: Michael Collins, Melanie Leslie, Virgil Grotfeldt, and James Busby display the one-of-a-kind shovels they created especially for the groundbreaking ceremony.

(r) Don Woo, Jack Carlson, Dr. Don Looser, President Sloan, John Rhebergen, Brad Durkin, Rick Bailey '69, David Stutts '82

(c) Clay Porter, Isaac Simpson, Dr. Chris Salinas, Dr. Laura Ashley, Dr. Marie Mater, Dr. Alice Rowlands, Dr. Phyllis Thompson, Dr. Steve Snyder



(r) Members of the Mock Trial team: Laurianne Balkum; Dillon Smith; Samantha Williams; Regina Wells; Dr. Chris Salinas, Myra Shaikh; Ashley Hankins; Jonathan Rodgers; Jane Anoulam; Debbie Whiteside; Isida Tushe; Ryan Cranston; David Toney.

(l) Collegian staff members: Jeanique Lacour, Larry Mayberry, Floretia vanEwijk, Ashley Marchand, Dr. Alice Rowlands, Audrey La, Nathan Cadis, Mauricio Guerrero, Mitchell Shaw, Dana Garrison, Lindsay Brehm, Anna Rehmatulla, Geoffrey Lawrence.

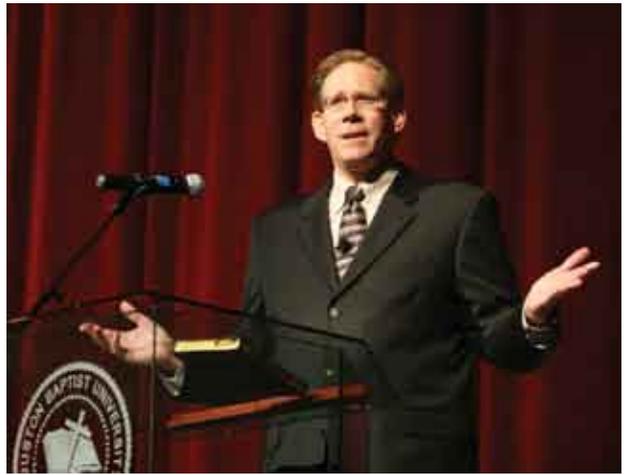
(c) Honors College Committee: Dr. Randy Wilson, Dr. Jacqueline Horn, Dr. Constantina Michalos, Dr. David Capes, Dr. Alice Ledford, Dr. Darlene Serrato, Dr. Brian Runnels '81



# Celebrating our beginning ...

HBU celebrated Founders' Day on November 29th. James Clark HBU trustee and pastor of Park Place Baptist Church, was the featured speaker. His talk focused on the importance of retaining one's identity, one's true character, in times of change.

*"If we stay true to the very foundations that are not actually made of rebar and concrete but are made of heart and soul then the popularity of Houston Baptist University will not only grow and escalate but will grow and escalate in a world that desperately needs deep, thoughtful influence."*



James Clark, former HBU trustee and pastor, Park Place Baptist Church



Trustees Bob Powell '76, Dr. John Bisagno, Jack Carlson, President Sloan

## *Founders' Day*

### Rogers, Warren honored for 40 years of service

Faculty and staff were recognized at Convocation for their service to the University. Two members of the HBU family, Dr. Doris Warren, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics, and Ken Rogers, director of scholarships, were recognized for 40 years of service at HBU. Sarah Bible, director of recruitment spoke highly of Rogers' dedication to students. "Ken thrives on helping students achieve their dreams through scholarships and looks for every opportunity available to each student he encounters," Bible said. "He has a knack for helping students and parents understand the affordability of HBU when they visit our campus and at programs at various local high schools. Not only does he help students, but his sense of humor helps the rest of us who work with him, too!" Doris Warren's colleagues also admire her devotion to students and HBU. Dr. Treacy Woods, professor of Chemistry, considers Warren "an inspiration as a professional role model of a chemist for me and many, many students." Warren is a "dedicated, tireless, passionate servant of higher education," Woods said, adding, "my own association of almost 25 years with Dr. Warren has been one of my most treasured and enduring blessings in my professional life."



Dr. Doris Warren, dean of the College of Science and Mathematics; and Ken Rogers, director of scholarships; President Sloan

# ... and our *future*



## *5 years*

John Camarillo, Police; Charles Ragain, Police; Melody McCurdy, CON; Kelly Crosby McGill '00, COAH; Dr. Phaedon Papadopoulos, COBE; Sarah Bible, Enrollment Management; Dr. Ron Rexilius, COAH; Dr. Yuri Yatsenko, COBE; Dr. Joseph D. Brown, COEBS; Bonita Crider, Library; Dr. Jamie Johns, COAH; Veronica Cantu, Advancement



## *10 years*

Dr. Mohan Kuruvilla, COBE; Kellye Brooks, COBE; Pat Young, Enrollment Management; Elaine Higginbotham, Honors College; Gardo Blado, COSM; Jared Moon MEd '01, Athletics; Karen Hanschke, ITS



## *15 years*

Pam Morris, Bookstore; Dr. Michael Bourke, COBE; Dr. Susan Cook, COSM



## *20 years*

Dr. Darlene Serrato, COBE; Dr. Rusty Brooks, COBE; Ritamarie Tauer MS '85, CCS; Dr. Jacqueline Horn, COSM



## *25 years*

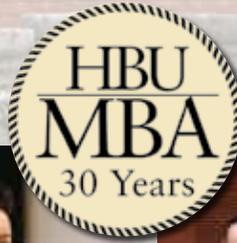
## *30 years*

Ann Noble, Library; Dr. Sally Phillips, COAH

The MBA celebrated its 30th anniversary in November with a reunion party in the Morris Cultural Arts Center.

Over 50 alumni and their guests joined current and former MBA professors for the program, which included opening remarks by The Honorable Bill White, mayor, City of Houston; a networking reception; a speech by President Sloan; dinner; and an additional guest speaker, Jan Hargrave, who held everyone's attention with her talk on nonverbal communication.

Three members of the original class of 1979 attended. Fred Jackson MBA '79 flew in from California and attended the reunion with his father, whom he credits for sparking his interest in the MBA at Houston Baptist. Mai Thi MBA '79 and Vu Le MBA '79, who met while earning their degrees at HBU and later married, were also at the event.



Jan Hargrave



Vu Le MBA '79, Mai Thi MBA '79, and Fred Jackson MBA '79



Reunion steering committee members: Coby Crawford MBA '02, Shervin Kalinia MBA '99, Russell Bentley MBA '97, Ritamarie Tauer MS '85, Dee Pete MBA '92, Chuck Buzby MBA '87, Pam Moore MBA '81, Carol Lavender MBA '92, Larry Korkmas MBA '93, Fawaz Hashmi MBA '98, President Sloan, Jan Hargrave, Mayor Bill White

## College of Business hosts first annual *Rex Baker Lecture*

Houston Baptist University's College of Business and Economics hosted the first annual Rex G. Baker Distinguished Lecture on January 7. Daniel J. Sullenbarger, vice president of corporate responsibility for Marathon Oil, spoke on the importance of corporate social responsibility in the global business environment.

The Rex G. Baker Endowed Professorship Trust was established in 1977 by John Baugh, former HBU trustee and founder of Sysco Foods, to honor Rex Baker, one of HBU's Founding Fathers. Rex Baker, who served as general counsel for Humble Oil, "was a devout Christian layman and a gentleman of the finest order," Dr. Don Looser, vice president emeritus, said.

Professor Phaedon Papadopoulos holds the Rex G. Baker Endowed Professorship. Papadopoulos teaches and researches in the areas of strategy, re-engineering, and systems thinking.



Dr. Phaedon Papadopoulos, Daniel J. Sullenbarger, Gregg Stapleton MBA '06, and Dr. Anne S. Davis, interim dean of the College of Business and Economics

# The Guild Christmas Luncheon

## The Greatest Gift

The Guild held its annual Christmas luncheon with Judy Graham, president of Celebration Ministries, a woman-to-woman ministry, as the featured speaker.

Shirley Asel, Guild President introduced this year's Guild scholarship recipient, Priscilla Petersheim-Bagley '04, who thanked the group for its generosity. Petersheim-Bagley, the daughter of missionaries, attended grade school and high school in Guatemala. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees from HBU and now teaches kindergarten in Fort Bend ISD. President Sloan spoke about the amazing growth of the University and the importance of the school's mission – "to provide a cutting-edge education in a Christian environment."

Graham shared her personal witness with the audience and reminded everyone that Christ's forgiveness of our sins is his greatest gift. She recalled a painful time in her life and explained how she was able to overcome her sorrow by literally burying her concern in a beautiful potted plant. Whenever thoughts of that time returned, Graham reminded herself that she had buried that concern and given it to God. After sharing her story, Graham asked each person in attendance to write down one thing that he or she wanted to give up to Jesus. Then she collected the pieces of paper in a clay flower pot and promised to pray over the collection before burying it.

HBU Opera Theater Director Lynda McKnight and Melissa Givens, assistant professor of music, sang Christmas carols and combined their voices in a duet.



Shirley Asel, Priscilla Petersheim-Bagley '04, and Ginny Nelson



Jeannette Clift George, director of the A.D. Players and Debra Perich '99



Allene Lucas and Pat Goettsche



President and Mrs. Sloan with Judy Graham



Standing (l-r) Cathy Busa, Beth Domingue, Linda Johnson, Judy Graham, Julie Puckett, June Becker

Sitting (l-r) Jennifer Yates, Jan Wilson, Karen Bidingger, Pamela Scheyer

Please mark your calendar for the

*Silver Tea*  
to be held in the home of

**The Honorable and Mrs. Bob Lanier**

April 10, 2008  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*www.hbu.edu/Guild*  
281-649-3407

# Sloans host Christmas Open House

President and Mrs. Sloan opened their home in December for their annual event anticipated by many who love Houston Baptist University, Christmas Open House. Surrounded by halls beautifully decked by members of The Guild, HBU alumni and friends came to celebrate the season and an exciting year at HBU.

Throughout the evening, visitors were met with the Sloans' hospitality and warmth. Greeted at the door by the Sloans and members of The Guild, guests were ushered in for an evening full of festivity and friendship. Talented HBU students Justin Bradford, MacAdams Irubor, Janina Franklin, and Benjamin Sieben provided music for the event.



Charles DeLancey, President Sloan, Mary Poythress



Alexis Simon, Pily Simon, Jose Simon



Marjorie Harden and Lee Heinen Seidel



Peggy Powell, Jody Weaver, Annyee Duffin



Mrs. Sloan visits with Joanie Haley



Bob '76 and Linda '77 Powell



Margaret and Jim Hutton



Dr. Hunter Baker and Paul Pressler III



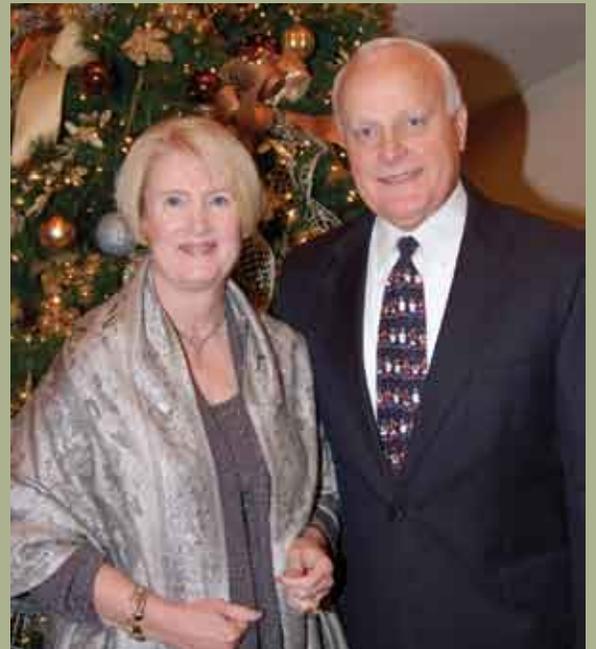
Michael Collins, Bob Dillon, Tricia Pogue, and Christy Dillon



Rick '69 and Avie '69 Bailey



Kim and Betty Gee, President Sloan



Karen and Jack Carlson

# New buildings taking shape



(l-r) Contractors have begun raising the steel supports of the University Academic Center (UAC); construction is progressing quickly on the New Residence College (NRC).



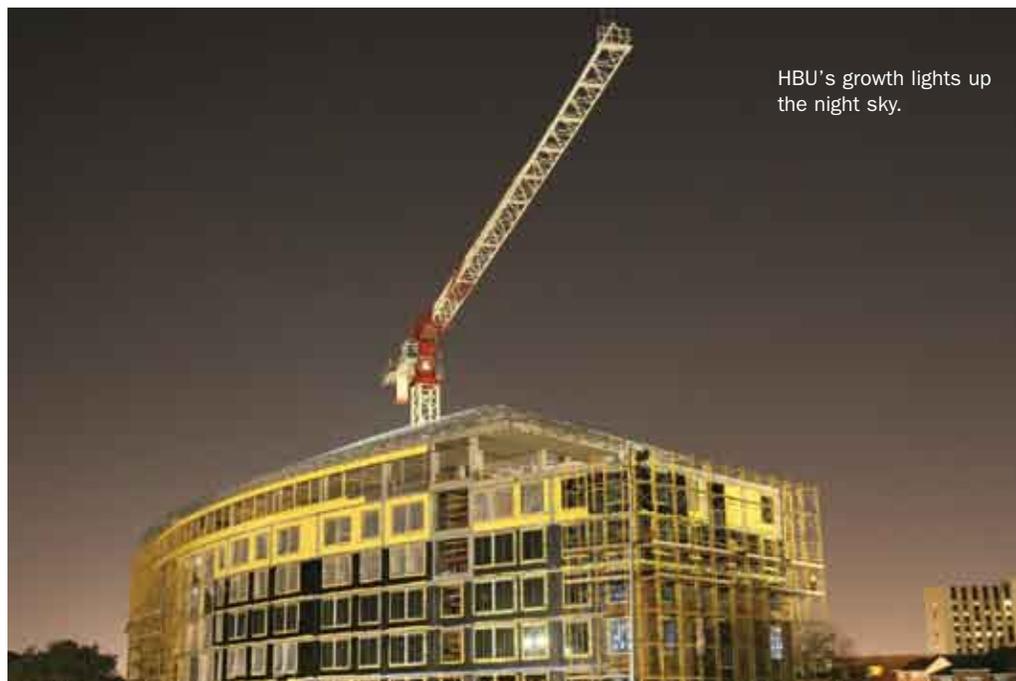
## *Topping Off celebration*



Work stopped for a briefly on December 14th so the HBU family could join members of the construction crew and project management team to celebrate the topping off of the New Residence College (NRC).

“You are part of something that, for us as a university, is at the heart of our mission,” Dr. Sloan said. “In the next 5, 10, 15 years the University will take on a new character, a new culture. We hope one day to have 70% of our students living on campus.”

Tadd Tellepsen MBA '99, president, Tellepsen Builders; President Sloan; David Hatton, president, Churchworx; David Calkins, managing director, Gensler Architects; Rick Bailey '69, chairman, HBU board of trustees



## HBU celebrates campus diversity

Houston Baptist University's ACTS Office (Assisting Communities Through Students) invited students and faculty to celebrate the diversity of the campus at a special dinner in January. Attendees dined on foods from a variety of cultures. The evening included performances by the Black Student Fellowship of Gospel Singers; Dr. Lawrence Clark, associate professor of writing, his wife Kristen; and members of the Rex Fleming Readers. Attendees watched a short documentary on reconciliation produced by students Caleb Beames and Taryn Nash, and Dr. Jamie Johns presented a lecture titled "Reconciliation: Metaphor, Mandate, and Meaning." At the end of the evening, students were invited to form small groups and continue the discussion.

Jason Shaffer, coordinator of community service and missions, said the idea for the event first emerged during a meeting of the Service Leadership Council, whose members are reading *More Than Equals*. The group reads two to three books a year; most recently they read *Jesus and the Disinherited* and *Rich Christians in an Age of Hunger*.

"At the core of HBU's mission and purpose should be and is a heart for racial reconciliation," Shaffer said. "People of Christian faith recognize that racial reconciliation isn't just a neat idea – it's a mandate in scripture."

## Students share cheer at *Candy Cane Ball*

Members of Alpha Phi Omega and Alpha Epsilon Delta took time out before the Christmas break to celebrate the holidays at The Arc of Greater Houston's annual Candy Cane Ball, held December 7 at the Edwin Hornberger Conference Center. Twenty HBU students volunteered to help set-up, serve dinner, and clean-up afterward.

ARC is a non-profit organization for the inclusion of people with mental and other developmental disabilities. The Candy Cane Ball was first held in 1995 in an effort to help individuals with mental disabilities celebrate the holidays with their peers. "Many of these people are alone at the holidays due to aged or deceased parents or other family members," Bethanne Rollins Arafat, director of programs at The Arc of Greater Houston, said. "Guests for the event come from as far as College Station and Bryan."

The volunteers included both undergraduate and graduate students. HBU senior Rishi Kumar, president of Alpha Epsilon Delta, volunteered this year for the first time. "The thing I love about Candy Cane Ball is that I am able to dedicate time with friends for a noble cause," he said. Marian Perera, a graduate student in clinical psychology, has volunteered at the ball several times. "My favorite thing about the ball is greeting the attendants as they come in," she said.

– Rizwana Ashraf,  
staff writer, *Ornogah*

## HBU receives national recognition for community service programs

The Corporation for National and Community Service has named Houston Baptist University to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to disadvantaged youth.

Launched in 2006, the Community Service Honor Roll is the highest federal recognition a school can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees for the award were chosen based on a series of selection factors including scope and innovativeness of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

"The Christian life is fundamentally rooted in service and humility simply because Christ came to serve. As a Christian institution of higher education, HBU seeks a strong commitment to serving the poor and to being a good neighbor not only for the reason that it is a good business practice, but because it is at the core of our mission. We do our part in raising up the community around us because

that is the nature of our institution and the type of example we hope to lead for our students. In the midst of the battle to connect faith and learning we seek to foster service that will enhance our students' ability to 'act justly, move mercy, and walk humbly with their God' (Micah 6:8)," said Jason Shaffer, coordinator of community service and missions.

Among the programs that HBU was recognized for are its service learning internships, the community service components of both Welcome Days for new students and the Freshman Year Experience, and the community service work-study program which places students at social service agencies throughout the greater Houston community.

The Honor Roll is jointly sponsored by the Corporation, through its Learn and Serve America program, and the Department of Education, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, USA Freedom Corps, and the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. The Community Service Honor Roll recognized 528 schools. A full list is available at [www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll](http://www.nationalservice.gov/honorroll).

# Admissions team *celebrates milestone*

James Steen, vice president of enrollment management, is proud of his team, as well he should be. On January 30, the number of applications for fall 2008 hit 5,000. This represents phenomenal growth. Applications topped out at 5,167 for 2007-2008. HBU admitted 2,174w students. As of press time, the admissions team had 5,166 applications, and 2,166 students had been admitted.

All the growth is exciting, but the admissions team still remains focused on the individual student. “We are focusing entirely on the individual student, helping each one to determine if HBU is the right fit,” Sarah Bible, director of recruitment, said.



## HBU implements new system to improve emergency communication and response



Houston Baptist University has deployed a new emergency communication and response service. The system provides HBU leaders with the ability to reach students, faculty, staff, and parents with time-sensitive information within minutes. In an emergency situation, students and their families can also access detailed information at the University’s new web page, [www.hbu.edu/alert](http://www.hbu.edu/alert).

“We recognize the important role that immediate communication plays in safety and have implemented this system to keep students and staff informed whether they are at home, in their dorms, in a lab or classroom, or in transit,” Martha Morrow, assistant vice president of university communications, said.

The new service enables campus leaders to schedule, send, and track personalized voice messages to several phone numbers and to each individual’s HBU e-mail address. The system can be used to notify the entire campus family of school closures and contingency plans due to inclement weather, shelter in place, or other late-breaking developments.



HBU held its 2007-2008 homecoming celebration this year on February 8-9. Many HBU alumni, children, and friends turned out for the two day celebration. Friday's events included a marketing association luncheon, campus tours, a chili cook off, the golf cart parade, the Spirit of HBU Awards Dinner, and the Winter Choral Concert. Saturday's weather provided the perfect backdrop for the Huskies' baseball game which preceded an alumni meeting in Belin Chapel, reunions in McNair Hall, a barbeque dinner in Glasscock, and womens' and mens' basketball games in Sharp Gym. Halftime included naming of the Homecoming Court and entertainment provided by the HBU Dance Team and cheerleading squad.



Jacqueline Horn '06, Dr. Jacqueline Peltier Horn, Gary Horn, and Gary Horn Jr. '06



Alumni Board President Lynn Kiesewetter '81 presents First Lady Sue Sloan with the Hallmark Award.



Ron Cottrell, Carlton Thompson '92, and Jacque Cottrell



The HBU Choral Union and the First Presbyterian Choir sing under the direction of Dr. John Yarrington at Friday's Winter Choral Concert.



Senior Ruben Alcala and his brother Christopher. Alcala was a student conductor at the concert.



Joe Knight '74, Cary Carroll '93, and Melanie Carroll '82



Cheyenne Jacobson, Angela Jacobson '88, Eric Jacobson '88, Tom Fanning '85, and Rhonda Fanning visit before heading into Glasscock for the barbeque.



Homcoming Chair Doug Parker '92 and Brena Baumann-Gonzalez '87



Alpha Chi Omega was one of several student organizations which competed in the chili cook-off.



Nancy Henderson, Steve Farrell '99, Ava Elizabeth Farrell, and Fadia Farrell



President Sloan addresses alumni at the annual meeting on Saturday.



Stephanie Mitchell '02 and Carla Stutts '01



Members of Sigma Phi Lambda held their 20th reunion on Saturday.



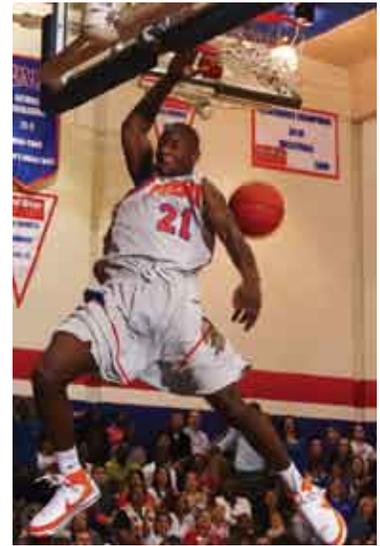
Phi Mu members reunited on Saturday; the sorority celebrates its 30th anniversary this fall.



Eddie Brown '72 (c), HBU's all-time leading scorer (1,939 points, 1968-72), and family with Ron Cottrell



Keith Riley, Jonathan Brink, Leah Rigby



Gordon Watt makes the shot.



Homecoming Queen Val Jones and King Jonathan Brink



HBU cheerleading squad perform during time-out.



Elaine Adams shows her "Dawgs up!" with the Husky Mascot.



Students enjoyed Husky ice cream bars at the post-game celebration sponsored by Aramark and Blue Bell.



Milton and Frances Powell, parents of HBU Trustee Bob Powell '76.

## HBU Baseball makes first foray into Division I

The HBU baseball team kicked off its 2008 campaign in early February and ventured into the NCAA Division I ranks for the first time. The Huskies played NCAA Division II baseball from 1964 until the program was discontinued in 1970. HBU baseball returned to the diamond in 1990 as an NAIA member, a relationship which culminated with an appearance at the 2007 NAIA College World Series in HBU's final NAIA season.

The Huskies return 14 lettermen from last year's World Series team, including six starters and five pitchers. HBU posted a 44-20 record last season and captured its first NAIA Region title en route to the World Series where the Huskies finished third.



Ten seniors lead the HBU baseball team as it ventures into NCAA Division I.

HBU, under third-year head coach Jared Moon, has 11 newcomers on the roster, and there are four players who will be making their return to action after redshirting last year.

The Huskies return the entire outfield from last season – 2007 All-America selection Greg Gossett and all-conference performers Ryan Majewski and Andrew Taccolini. Gossett hit .405 last season and set a new HBU record with 98 hits. Majewski hit .357 last season on 85 hits and a team best and single-season record 10 triples and also earned All-Tournament honors at the World Series. Taccolini earned his second all-conference honor while batting .322 on the season.

The three other returning starters play the infield – Chad Hebert (.321, RRAC selection), Brian Franze (.306, RRAC selection) and Eric Schiro (.292). Other returnees include Nick Homan, J.W. Beauchamp and Logan Wyeth,

while Josh Jackson also returns behind the plate after batting .337 in 2006 but sitting out last season due to injury.

The Huskies return only five pitchers, led by lefthander Matthew Headley (a 2007 All-RRAC selection after posting a 12-4 record with a 4.15 ERA) and lefty relief pitcher Keith Brunson (4-4 record with a 2.51 ERA, All-RRAC). Other returning hurlers are Jordan Hook, Christian Loeffler and Ryan Bargas, while Zac Schiefen returns after injury kept him out last season. He posted a 7-3 record as a sophomore in 2006.

There are 20 home games on the 52-game schedule which includes 24 Division I games.



### Baseball Schedule

Mar 1	McNeese State University	3:00 p.m.
Mar 2	McNeese State University	1:00 p.m.
<b>Mar 7</b>	<b>Northwood University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Mar 11	University of Texas-Arlington	6:30 p.m.
Mar 14	Prairie View A&M University	5:30 p.m.
<b>Mar 15</b>	<b>Prairie View A&amp;M University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Mar 18	Texas A&M University-Kingsville	5:00 p.m.
Mar 20	University of Texas-Pan American	6:00 p.m.
Mar 21	University of Texas-Pan American	6:00 p.m.
Mar 22	University of Texas-Pan American	3:00 p.m.
Mar 25	Baylor University	6:00 p.m.
Mar 27	Dallas Baptist University	6:30 p.m.
Mar 28	Dallas Baptist University	6:30 p.m.
Mar 29	Dallas Baptist University	1:00 p.m.
<b>Apr 4</b>	<b>Huston-Tillotson University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 5</b>	<b>Huston-Tillotson University</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 8</b>	<b>Prairie View A&amp;M University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Apr 9	Sam Houston State University	6:30 p.m.
Apr 16	Prairie View A&M University	6:00 p.m.
<b>Apr 19</b>	<b>University of Texas-Brownsville</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 20</b>	<b>University of Texas-Brownsville</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 23</b>	<b>Texas Southern University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Apr 25	University of Arkansas-Little Rock	6:00 p.m.
Apr 26	University of Arkansas-Little Rock	2:00 p.m.
Apr 27	University of Arkansas-Little Rock	1:00 p.m.
Apr 29	Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi	2:00 p.m.
Apr 30	Texas Southern University	3:00 p.m.
<b>May 2</b>	<b>University of Houston-Victoria</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>May 3</b>	<b>University of Houston-Victoria</b>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b>
May 6	McNeese State University	6:30 p.m.
May 20-24	NCAA Division I Independent Tournament	TBA

HOME GAMES IN BOLD

# Softball returns to Division I

The HBU softball team returns to NCAA Division I competition this season and will do it with seven freshmen. The Huskies competed as a Division I member in their first season of softball in 1989 before joining the NAIA in 1990 and becoming a perennial national power.

Coach Mary-Ellen Hall, in her 17th season at the helm, led her team to nine NAIA National Tournaments. Now she will lead the Huskies into the Division I ranks with only six returning players from last season's team that finished 44-13 and won HBU's ninth consecutive Red River Athletic Conference championship.

Headlining the returning Huskies are seniors Angelica DeVries and Christina LeCompte. DeVries competed in her first full season on the diamond last year after playing women's basketball for two years and joining the softball Huskies well into their season as a freshman and sophomore. Last season, she hit .354 and led the team with 62 hits and 16 sacrifice hits. DeVries posted six home runs and 29 RBI and also posted a 1-0 record as a pitcher with a 2.71 ERA.

LeCompte battled injuries most of last season as the utility player hit .286 in 12 games. She looks to stay healthy this season as the Huskies will count on her for her versatile play and leadership.

Three juniors return – Melissa Wright, Lorin Leatherwood and Laura Mata. Wright batted .291 with four homers and 30 RBI last year and will return at first base

where she posted a phenomenal .997 fielding percentage (one error in 360 chances) last season. Leatherwood returns as a utility player after hitting .231 last year while Mata returns in the outfield for her second season.

Sophomores Kristi Malpass and Laine Skelton round out the Huskies' returnees. Malpass pitched to a 16-5 record in her first HBU season, making 23 starts with 17 complete games and six shutouts. She held opponents to a .192 batting average with 134 strikeouts in 155.2 innings pitched. Skelton returns in the outfield after playing 24 games last season and batting .286.



HBU softball returns to NCAA Division I action in 2008.

In addition to the seven freshmen, there is one junior newcomer on the Huskies' roster. Megan Klmitchek is a familiar name to HBU fans as she led the volleyball team in kills and kills per game last season. She hopes to continue her success as an outfielder for the diamond Huskies before returning to the volleyball court in the fall.

The seven freshmen will be counted on to make an immediate impact-- Jammie Weidert, Kaitlin Southerland, Sara Corcoran, Kali Johnson, Casie Campanello, Jaymie Heibel and Anna Barren bring spectacular prep credentials to the Huskies and will be put to the test early as HBU opens its season on the road at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi in the first of a 42-game schedule.

The Huskies road contests will be broadcast this season on Texas Sports Radio Network which can be reached through [www.hbuhuskies.com](http://www.hbuhuskies.com)



## Softball Schedule

Feb 27-		
Mar 1	Tuscon Invitational	TBA
<b>Mar 5</b>	<b>Texas Southern University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Mar 8	University of Houston-Victoria	1:00 p.m.
Mar 15	Nicholls State University	1:00 p.m.
Mar 20	Northwood University	TBA
Mar 21	Texas Wesleyan University	1:00 p.m.
<b>Mar 26</b>	<b>Prairie View A&amp;M University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Mar 28</b>	<b>University of Houston-Victoria</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 2</b>	<b>Sam Houston State University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
Apr 9	Sam Houston State University	4:00 p.m.
<b>Apr 11</b>	<b>Louisiana State University-Alexandria</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 12</b>	<b>Texas Wesleyan University</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 15</b>	<b>Texas Southern University</b>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Apr 19</b>	<b>Northwood University</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>
Apr 23	Stephen F. Austin State University	1:00 p.m.

HOME GAMES IN **BOLD**

## Aiming for Gold in 2008

### HBU assistant track coach is training for Beijing Games

Ryan Harlan is an assistant coach for HBU's newly reinstated track and field program ...

Ryan Harlan is the huddle leader of HBU's Fellowship of Christian Athletes ...

Ryan Harlan is an artist ... and

Ryan Harlan is a world-class decathlete training for the 2008 Olympics.

Will the real Ryan Harlan please stand up?



Well, "To Tell the Truth," Ryan Harlan is all of these.

Harlan is in his first year as an HBU assistant coach after serving as a volunteer coach for the Rice University men's track and field program. He graduated from Rice with a bachelor's degree in art and was a highly decorated athlete for the Owls.

"I have loved the atmosphere at HBU," said Harlan. "It really is a great place to invest in the lives of others – the people here are good natured,

level headed and are really concerned with the good of the students. There is a great vision for the future, and I am honored to be a small part of this University."

Head track and field coach Theresa Fuqua has glowing praise for her assistant coach. "We are so fortunate to have Ryan in our program, not only because he is a world-class athlete, but also because he is a world-class individual whose spiritual strength creates a rare combination in collegiate coaching," said Fuqua. "In Ryan we have an excellent teacher who not only speaks his faith but walks his faith. The fact that Ryan is an active athlete gives him instant credibility with our athletes and inspires us all to work hard."

In 2004, Harlan won the NCAA decathlon and garnered many Western Athletic Conference championships (WAC) as a collegiate athlete. He won the decathlon 110-meter hurdles at the 2004 NCAA meet and set a U.S. collegiate decathlon record for the event with a time of 13.85.

Since leaving the collegiate ranks, he was ranked No. 10 in the world in 2006, was the runner-up at the USA Championships and finished fifth at the 2007 Pan American Games in Brazil. Also in 2007, Harlan won the North America, Central America and Caribbean Athletic Association (NACAC) Championship. He also has had success indoors and is a two-time USA champion ('05, '06)



in the indoor heptathlon. Harlan is presently training for the 2008 Olympic Trials, hoping to earn a spot to represent the USA in the Beijing Games.

"The training season has been going great so far," Harlan states. "It is a very exciting time to be training for the Trials in Oregon and Beijing soon after."

As a young child, Harlan overcame some physical obstacles and set out on his path to athletic greatness. He was bowlegged and pigeon-toed and remembers wearing corrective shoes to church and a bar between his legs while he slept. He credits his mother with helping him with exercises that made his legs stronger and knows that God had a plan in his life.

That plan included combining his athletic talents with his ministry. Harlan traveled to the Czech Republic last summer with Athletes in Action, sharing his testimony with many around the world. Director of Athletics Ron Cottrell asked Harlan to head up HBU's chapter of Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the huddle is thriving under his leadership. "I am very excited to see what God has in store for FCA here at HBU," said Harlan. "The Bible study huddle meetings have been going great so far. It's exciting to involve as many students, and not only athletes, as possible in the FCA experience."

According to Cottrell, "Ryan is doing a great job with our students as the sponsor of our FCA. To have someone of Ryan's caliber, not only as a world-class athlete, but also as a coach and a Christian role model, is an extraordinary blessing for our university. Ryan touches the lives of everyone he comes in contact with and truly is an asset to our HBU family."

And if all these talents weren't enough, Harlan also is a sculptor. "Art is a release," said Harlan. "I enjoy creating something in addition to counting it as a learning experience."

So how does one person incorporate so many talents into one life? "As a decathlete, you have to be good at everything," said Harlan. "I tried to become a well-rounded person."

The real Ryan Harlan – world-class athlete, coach, sculptor, minister *AND* an HBU Husky ... going for the Gold.

## 1960s

**Dan Bates '67**, a member of the first graduating class at HBC, is retired and living in College Station. He is active in productions of musicals presented by the theater company of Bryan-College Station. He has been married to wife Linda for 43 years. They are proud to announce that they have 19 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren.

**Vernon Lewis '69** retired December 2006 from Aldine ISD after 38 years of service. He resides in Chester.

## 1970s

**Delwin Richey '75** has recently become the associate dean for Central Texas College's Continental Campus in Killeen.

**Blessed Finley Webb '76** is a commercial lending assistant for Texas Bank & Trust. She and husband Rick reside in Longview.

## 1980s

**Pamela S. Steverson '80** is a psychotherapist for UBH in Missouri City.

**William Sukaly MBA '81** resides in Williamsville, N.Y. with wife Maria and children Alla and Katya.

**Rebecca J. Helmreich '82** and **Dr. Vanora Hundley**, former faculty members, recently published a paper, "Research in Pregnant Women: the Challenges of Informed Consent," in the December 2007 issue of *Nursing for Women's Health*. They co-authored the paper with Alison Norman Joyce and Ighedosa Erica Chow. Helmreich and Hundley included three HBU nursing students in their research.

**Phil Hassell '83** was promoted to police captain for Rice University. He and wife Leslie have two children, Paul and Jamie.

**David J. Huegel '85** is associate minister for New Life Baptist Church. He and wife Cecilia live in Richmond with their children Jonathan, Evan, Isaac, and Aaron.

**Robert Eugene Rogers '85** recently married Shelley Lee King in a ceremony in Dade City, Fla. He is currently employed as a senior pilot for Wilkes & McHugh, attorneys in Tampa; he flies the company's Beechjet and King Air.

**Lourie Itliong Moore '87** returned from Osan AB, South Korea and is now assigned to the 51st Medical Group as the chief nurse, chief of education and training, as well as medical operations squadron deputy commander. She obtained her ANCC certification in advanced nursing administration. She, husband Richard, and children Marissa and Scott reside in Great Falls, Mont.

**Bridget Cassandra Gatewood '88** is an RN CM, Triage for Compassionate Care Hospice in Houston. She has three children, Richard, Sable, and Danielle.

**Frank Careccia MBA '88** was named vice president of engineering for Cellfire, a nationwide mobile coupon and discount offer service. With his 25 years of experience, Frank will oversee Cellfire's global engineering team, managing all of the company's software applications, mobile services and technology infrastructure.

**Mehrnaz Rashidi Arnall '89** is a psychological examiner for Gain, Inc. in Little Rock, Ark. He and wife Kim have two children, Dylan and Justin.

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](mailto:alumagram@hbu.edu) or mail them to  
**HBU News, 7502 Fondren,  
Houston, TX 77074-3298.**

**Richard Clinkscales '89** is a metals department manager for Test America Laboratories. He resides in Denver, Colo.

**John Womack '89** is a partner at Deloitte & Touche in Detroit, Mich. He and wife Jade have two children, Brittany and Brent.

## 1990s

**Tami Wangerin Hammack '90** resides in W. Lafayette, Ind. with husband Marcus and children Colby and Gillian.

**John Harris '90** is president of Karsh/Hagan Advertising. He resides in Denver, Colo., with wife Betsy and sons Fischer and Cope.

**Irma Nurre MEd '91** has been named principal for Henry Wetheimer Middle School, a sixth-grade-only campus, in Lamar Consolidated ISD. The school will open in fall 2008. She is currently principal of Huggins Elementary School and was a Texas National Distinguished Principal nominee.

**Kevin M. O'Brien '91** is manager — network operations for ExxonMobil Global Services Co. in Houston. He and wife Jane have two children, Michael and Diane.

**Chris Pitts '91** is operations manager for Sam's Club in New Port Richey, Fla. He and wife Sheila have two children, Matthew and Megan.

**Steven Wales '91** and his wife **Wendy Stadlander Wales '92** live in Katy with their children, future Huskies Twila and Marshall. Steven, a former English teacher, now works as an attorney for Buckley, White, Castaneda & Howell, L.L.P. Wendy recently took a position teaching fifth grade Bible at Second Baptist School.

**Miriam E. Garcia '92** is a Title I/ Bridge reading specialist at Boone Elementary for Alief ISD. Her daughter **Candace** is a 2001 graduate.

**Luisa Pizana Hernandez '93** is TC1 certified by Child Evangelism Fellowship. Her husband John works for GE Oil & Gas. Luisa homeschools their two daughters, Sonia and Sara.

**Pamela Joyce Hicks '88, '94** is a certified nurse-midwife for Women's Center of Baytown. She has two sons, Kristopher and Shane.

**Abigail Nossa '94** is a second grade bilingual teacher for Fort Bend ISD. She and husband Guillermo have two children, Katriana and Stasja.

**Felicia Zakaria MS '95** is a manager, HR transformation for Deloitte Consulting in Houston.

**Craig Anthony Cleveland '96** is a varsity boys' basketball head coach for Cypress Christian School. He, wife Racquel, and children Tarik, Britney, and DeFranklin reside in Missouri City.

**Leslie Eileen Tripp '96** is a communications director for the Alzheimer's Association, Georgia Chapter, in Atlanta, Ga.



## Welcome Husky Pups



**Rae Leatherwood '92**, MEd '02 and husband Mark are proud to announce the birth of daughter Sarah Elizabeth on September 11. Sarah is welcomed by big brother Jacob.



Leatherwood

**Tammy Hammack Johnson '93** and husband Scott are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Brady Charles, on November 15, 2006. He was welcomed home by big brother Brent Michael. They reside in Hartford, Calif. Proud grandmother is Linda Hammack, University Communications.



Johnson

**Wendi Walker-Schmidt '96** and husband Mark are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Mason Walker, on December 1.



Walker-Schmidt

**Bobby '01** and **Jen '00 Delgado** are proud to announce the birth of daughter Kinsey Danielle on August 30. She was welcomed home by her big sisters, Sydney and Riley.

**Heidi Dietrich-Escobar '00** and husband Eduardo are proud to announce the birth of daughter Katerina Louise on July 14.



Delgado

**Alicia Whitehead White '00** and husband Richard are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Katie Elizabeth on October 14.

**Brandy Brooks Powers '01** and husband Bill '01 are proud to announce the birth of daughter Leila Elise on April 26.



Powers



White



Dietrich-Escobar

## MLA alumni, professors share love of books



Jennie Hedger MLA '99; Dr. Jon Suter, adjunct professor; Jackie Curtiss MLA '91; Dianne Meyer MLA '91; and Dr. Robert Bradley (seated) in the Bradley Room

The Master of Liberal Arts program at HBU offers adults the opportunity to “continue intellectual enrichment in a stimulating academic environment.” Many of the program’s graduates have chosen to continue to learn and grow through the MLA Book Club. The meetings offer “delightful discussions from different points of view, much like MLA seminar classes,” Diane Meyer MLA '91 said.

The book club was started in 1999 by Susie Bogan MLA '99. The first meeting was held at the home of Nelda Pena MLA '99; the group chose Tim O'Brien's *In the Lake of the Woods*. Since that time, the book club has met every other month. Most meetings are held at members' homes; every September, the group meets in the Bradley Room of the HBU Library and reads a book from the Victorian period. Every July, the members gather at the St. Regis for high tea.

In January, the group took its first road trip and met at the historic Bastrop home of Dr. Pat Orr, a specialist in medieval history who teaches in the MLA program. Her home, which was built in the 1800s, was used for the filming of Julia Roberts' upcoming film, *Fireflies in the Garden*.

The group reads a variety of periods, styles, and authors. Both fiction and non-fiction books are included. While book selection is a collaborative process, “Dr. Suter has proven the most persuasive in determining book selection,” Jennie Hedger MLA '99 said. “He usually brings two bags of books to our meetings, but other people bring books too and we pass them around. Sometimes a member brings a book review for the group to consider.”

The club is currently reading Harold Schechter's *The Devil's Gentleman: Privilege, Poison, and the Trial That Ushered in the Twentieth Century*. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 8.

For more information, please contact Jennie Hedger, program coordinator, at [jhedger@hbu.edu](mailto:jhedger@hbu.edu) or 281-649-3269.

**Jeff Page '97** is manager of gas plant accounting for Southern Union Gas Services in Fort Worth. He and wife Rebekah have one daughter, Zoe.

**Sundrell Johnson Tabron '97** has been promoted from staff RN in the emergency center to assistant nurse manager at Ben Taub Hospital. She recently married Paul Tabron; they reside in Missouri City.

**Stephen Western MBA '97** is senior vice president, exploration for Meridian Resource Corporation. Prior to joining Meridian, Steve was the exploration manager for the Northern Gulf of Mexico for ConocoPhillips Corporation.

**Stephen Farrell '99**, wife Fadia, and daughter Ava have relocated from Charlotte, N.C. Stephen spent the last seven years working in the investment banking industry before returning to Houston to work with KBR in project management.

**Debra Grace LeBouf '99** is a chemistry teacher in Brazos ISD. She resides in East Bernard.

**Mary Reese Richie MLA '99** is a clinical research nurse for M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She, husband Arnold, and daughter Rebecca reside in Houston.

## 2000s

**Elizabeth Kinyanjui '00** is a product specialist for Property Info. Corp., a Stewart company in Houston.

**Ross Shelton '00** and his wife, Lauren Thompson Shelton '01, have moved to Woodville. Ross is the new senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Woodville and also began a three year term on the Coordinating Council of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Texas. Lauren is a full-time mom to their daughter, Audrey.

**Lisa Campbell Shell '00** is a teacher at Warner Elementary in Cy-Fair ISD. She, husband Jack, and children Reagan and Justin reside in Cypress.

**Shelley Crenshaw Esparza '01** is a teacher in Humble ISD. She, husband Darren, and children Andy, Audrey, Savannah, and Maggie reside in Porter.

**Brandy Brooks Powers '01** teaches sixth grade at Providence Classical School in Spring. Her husband Bill '01 is an attorney/legal editor with Jones McClure Publishing in Houston. They are proud of their new daughter, Leila Elise, born last year.

**Lisa Benavides Gomez '02** is a systems administrator for Linc Facility Services. She and husband Christopher reside in Houston.

**Kristen Marie Hailey '02** is director of Youth Ministries for First United Methodist Church in Missouri City. She and husband Stephen live in Pasadena.

**Amanda Cole Castro '03** is a teacher in Crosby ISD. She and husband Eric reside in Crosby.

**Eileen S. Crowell MS '03** is director of human resources at Houston Baptist University.

**Phi Doan MBA '03** is an HR supervisor for Baker Hughes ProductionQuest in Houston.

**Bethany La Belle '03** is a paralegal for Dean & Ongert, P.C. in Houston.

**Candace Bush '04** is teaching communication applications at Worthing High School in HISD.

**Alcestis Elaine Chancoco '04** is a human resource department supervisor for Babies R Us in Sugar Land.

**Griffin Ann Colvert '04** is director of business development for Nashville Superspeedway in Lebanon, Tenn. She is planning her wedding to Waldo Gonzalez on April 26.

**Randi Vaughn Furman '04** is a third grade teacher in Victoria ISD. She and husband Austin just bought their first home in Victoria.

**Stacie Passler '04** will graduate in May of this year from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Counseling. She and husband Mitchell reside in Santo.

**Bich Truong '04** is a technical writer and training coordinator for Petrofac Training in Houston.

**Terronica Hawkins Wilson MSHA '04** is an operations manager at UT M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. She and husband Cedric reside in Missouri City.

## Alumni celebrate Christmas with The Guild



Joining The Guild to celebrate the Christmas season were Joanne Huffman '92; Angela Stewart '97; Carol Lavender MBA '92; Debbie Luhnau '89; Meredith Hurd; Vivian Camacho '91; Audra Jesudason '05; Dr. Leslie Kennedy Adams '86, MLA '87; and Page Butera '05.

**Kevin Neimeyer '05** is an accounting assistant for Texas Children's Hospital. He and wife Misty reside in Pearland.

**Charles Osei-Duro** MSHA '05 is a practice manager for Alfa Medical Clinic, PA in Charlotte, NC.

**Crystal Shai Streety '05** is an accounting associate for the City of Houston.

**Rebal Canaris** MBA '06 is a communications analyst for Fidelity in Marlborough, Mass.

**Jaclyn Marie Cano '06** is a special education teacher in Fort Bend ISD. She and husband Juan reside in Houston.

**Celina Garcia '06** is a network administrator for Reliant Park.

**LaBrenna S. Rogers '06** is an educator in Fort Bend ISD. She is currently working on her MED in Career Counseling.

**Janette Lopus '07** is an RN for UAB Hospital. She and husband Robert reside in Birmingham, Ala.

## 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

**Beverly Evans '79** passed away on Nov. 15.

**Cynthia Aguilar Rivera '03** passed away in January.

### UNIVERSITY FRIENDS

**Mickey R. Arnold**, age 86, passed away Jan. 26. She was a member of the President's Development Council and a faithful supporter of HBU for many years.

**Mary Lois Casey Lee**, a friend and supporter of the University, passed away Oct. 23. Her son, **Stephen A. Lee** is an HBU alumnus, class of '74.

**William Franklin Whitfield** passed away Jan. 21. He is survived by his wife, Sue Trammell Whitfield, a member of the board of The Fondren Foundation, supporters of the University.

## Looser seeks materials, memories for project, a history of HBU

Dr. Don Looser, vice president emeritus, has begun research for a new project, a history of Houston Baptist University, 1960-2010. Looser heads the project to produce the book and is working to establish an on-campus archive for the collection and care of historical memorabilia. "We suspect that many families of former trustees, donors, faculty, staff, and students have valuable memorabilia which could contribute to the research project," Looser said. "We are seeking such things as files of correspondence, documents, printed materials of all kinds, photos, and programs." Any materials offered could become a part of the University archive or be returned, according to the donors' wishes.

Looser is also seeking previous history projects including student reports. Such projects might document HBU organizations, activities, personnel, or chapters of the history itself. A student's Senior Seminar project which documented the University's early years as well as a history of the University's nursing program have recently come to light. The sooner these materials can be assimilated, the sooner they can contribute to this enormous project.

HBU friends having such material are asked to contact Dr. Don Looser at 281-649-3344 or [dlooser@hbu.edu](mailto:dlooser@hbu.edu).

**7TH ANNUAL**

**HUSKY HUSTLE 5K RUN/WALK**

*Saturday, March 29*

*Presented by the HBU Alumni Association and Alpha Pi Kappa Fraternity. For more information and to register, visit*

*[www.hbu.edu/huskyhustle](http://www.hbu.edu/huskyhustle)*

*“We shall be as a city upon a hill.  
The eyes of all people are upon us.”*

*– John Winthrop*

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