Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities, conducts and supports public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. These programs strengthen Texas communities and ultimately help sustain representative democracy by cultivating informed, educated citizens. www.humanitiestexas.org

The Amon Carter Museum delivers enlightening experiences, focused on its collection and exhibitions of outstanding American art, that offer visitors fresh insights into this country’s fascinating social and cultural identity. www.cartermuseum.org

Texas Christian University delivers a world-class, value-centered university experience. A TCU education is more than the sum of semester hours. It is a complete experience that grows from the university’s mission statement: “to educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.” www.tcu.edu

Committed to teaching and the advancement of knowledge, Texas Tech University, a comprehensive public research university, provides the highest standards of excellence in higher education, fosters intellectual and personal development, and stimulates meaningful research and service to humanity. www.ttu.edu

Institutes for Texas Teachers

Past Humanities Texas teacher institutes

- Institute on Congress and American History
- Gateway on the Gulf: Galveston and American Immigration 1845 – 1915
- Southwest Vistas: The Border in American History

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Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Spurred by Humanities Texas
Texas Christian University
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A We the People initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities

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THE WEST and the SHAPING of AMERICA
FORT WORTH — JUNE 3–6, 2007
LUBBOCK — JUNE 10–13, 2007
INSTITUTES FOR TEXAS TEACHERS
FINAL REPORT

SPONSORED BY HUMANITIES TEXAS
TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
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THE AMON CARTER MUSEUM

We the People initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities
In June 2007, Humanities Texas partnered with Texas Christian University, Texas Tech University, and the Amon Carter Museum to hold “The West and the Shaping of America,” a pair of residential teacher institutes in Fort Worth and Lubbock exploring the history and culture of the American West, as well as the region’s impact on the nation’s emergence.

BACKGROUND

Since 2004, Humanities Texas has held residential summer institutes for Texas teachers with the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities We the People initiative. The 2004 “Institute on Congress and American History,” organized in partnership with the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, the National Archives and Records Administration, and The University of Texas at Austin’s College of Liberal Arts and Center for American History, explored Congress’s role in the pivotal events of U.S. history. The following year, Humanities Texas collaborated with the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum to hold “Gateway on the Gulf: Galveston and American Immigration, 1845–1914,” which examined the history of nineteenth-century U.S. immigration from the perspective of Galveston, the “Ellis Island of the West.”

In 2006, Humanities Texas partnered with the University of Houston and the University of Texas at El Paso to hold “Southwest Vistas: The Border in American History.” An exploration of the history and culture of the U.S.-Mexico border, “Southwest Vistas” represented a significant expansion of Humanities Texas’s educational programs, as it included two teacher institutes—one in Houston, the other in El Paso, both sharing the same curricular goals.

Photographs by
Julie Aguilar, Michael C. Gillette,

Stacy Hricko (Pottsboro), Amy Thurman (Fort Worth), and Judith Trevino (Edinburg) (l to r) participate in a primary source workshop in Fort Worth.

Lubbock institute participants gather at Lubbock Lake Landmark, an archaeological site with evidence of nearly 12,000 years of human habitation on the Southern High Plains.

The four institutional partners worked together throughout the spring of 2007 to develop the themes and topics to be explored in “The West and the Shaping of America.”

Through these institutes, Humanities Texas has established a reputation among the state’s classroom teachers for holding intellectually stimulating summer programs. Participants work closely with leading scholars, as well as colleagues from around Texas, exploring topics central to the state’s humanities curricula. Evaluations have been superlative, with many teachers reporting that they returned home inspired to share what they learned with students and colleagues.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Initial planning for “The West and the Shaping of America” began in 2005, after Humanities Texas invited universities around the state to propose ideas for collaborative institutes exploring significant topics in U.S. history. Dean Gary Bell and his colleagues at Texas Tech University (TTU) proposed a program exploring the history of the Trans-Mississippi West, drawing upon the university’s rich intellectual resources in this area of study. Members of the TTU faculty have made significant contributions to the study of Western history, and the university is home to the Lubbock Lake Landmark, the Museum of Texas Tech University, the National Ranching Heritage Center, and the Southwest Collection—all nationally recognized institutions that promote the study of the West across multiple disciplines.

With TTU’s proposal in hand, Humanities Texas approached Texas Christian University (TCU) and the Amon Carter Museum, proposing a four-way partnership that would support a pair of institutes in Fort Worth and Lubbock exploring Western history. TCU and the Carter museum were natural choices for such an initiative. TCU’s faculty includes a number of scholars with expertise in the history and culture of the West. The university is home to the Center for Texas Studies and has exclusive use of the Texas Legation Papers, a rare collection of materials from the republic’s 1836–1845 diplomatic mission to Washington, D.C. The Carter museum holds one of the world’s finest collections of Western art and administers an impressive array of educational programs.

The four institutional partners worked together throughout the spring of 2007 to develop the themes and topics to be explored in “The West and the Shaping of America.”

“This was an experience I will never forget. Very educational, entertaining, well organized, and exhausting—but that’s a good thing!!”

LUBBOCK INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT

Stacy Hricko (Pottsboro), Amy Thurman (Fort Worth), and Judith Trevino (Edinburg) (l to r) participate in a primary source workshop in Fort Worth.
I was delighted to get new, interesting, and relevant material. It made me excited to think about getting back to the classroom and passing on what I learned. It made me want to teach it.

CURIculum

“The West and the Shaping of America” curriculum explored Western history and culture over the past several centuries, thereby broadening participants’ understanding of the role that the regions west of the Mississippi River have played in shaping the American experience. Faculty aligned their presentations with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Social Studies. Topics included the history of indigenous populations, the frontier and Manifest Destiny, western exploration, the Civil War and the West, the emergence of railroads and national transportation networks, and the West’s role in shaping twentieth- and twenty-first-century American politics. Presentations also addressed the influence of the West upon American artistic traditions, drawing specific connections to the region’s and nation’s history.

Several scholars participated in both Fort Worth and Lubbock. Elliott West launched each institute with a public lecture examining the myths central both to popular conceptions of the West and to the study of its history. Ron Tyler considered the influence of the West upon American artistic traditions, drawing specific connections to the region’s and nation’s history. Stacy Fuller introduced the resources that the Amon Carter Museum makes available upon American artistic traditions, drawing specific connections to the region’s and nation’s history. Hampton Sides discussed his recent book on Kit Carson, the Navajo nation, and the settlement of the American Southwest.

The West and the Shaping of America lecture at the Fort Worth Central Library by Hampton Sides, author of Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West (2006). (Unfortunately, the Amon Carter Museum was closed to the public for repairs throughout the summer of 2007.) The Lubbock opening program included tours of the National Ranching Heritage Center and a performance by Texas musical historian Andy Wilkinson. Over the course of the institute, participants also visited the Lubbock Lake Landmark, the Museum of Texas Tech University, the American Wind Power Center and Museum, and the Buddy Holly Center.

Faculty

Faculty members were selected on the basis of their intellectual and professional expertise and their presentation skills. Faculty included professors from not only TCU, TTU, and the Amon Carter Museum, but also a wide range of colleges and universities in Texas and beyond, including Clemson University, Comanche Nation College, Hastings College, Lamar University, McMurry University, Southern Methodist University, Stephen F. Austin State University, Sul Ross State University, Texas A&M University, the University of Arkansas, the University of Iowa, the University of Nebraska, the University of New Mexico, the University of North Texas, the University of Oklahoma, The University of Texas at Arlington, The University of Texas at Dallas, the University of Utah, and the University of Washington.

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Thomas Lindsey, director of We the People, represented the National Endowment for the Humanities in Fort Worth, introducing participants to the program’s mission and goals.

Quintard Taylor explored the history of African Americans in the West and led a workshop on his recently launched online encyclopedia of African American history. Hampton Sides discussed his recent book on Kit Carson, the Navajo nation, and the settlement of the American Southwest.

In Lubbock, Juanita Pablos spoke to We the People participants about Kit Carson and the history of the American Southwest.

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Among the participants—those who teach more than 5,000 Texas students each year—were history, social studies, government, and civics teachers. Their classroom experience ranged from one year to thirty-eight. Some came from urban areas, while others teach in suburban and rural communities. Nearly all had distinguished themselves as leaders in their schools and communities, serving as department chairs, curriculum writers, and school board members.

In order to assess the quality of the institute experience, program directors conducted daily evaluations, asking participants to rate the program and its relevance to their work in the classroom. At the end of the institute, participants completed a summative evaluation in which they considered the program’s quality and made specific suggestions for future institutes.

Evaluations demonstrated that teachers found both institutes to be meaningful and enriching. "This is one of the best programs that I have ever attended," noted one Lubbock participant. "I left the institute excited and motivated by what I had been exposed to. Also, I met some great people, and I plan on staying in touch with them as well." A Fort Worth participant was impressed with the quality of the faculty.

"The lectures and presentations . . . were interesting, informative, even entertaining. The depth of inquiry into original sources was fabulous. Every bit could be used in the classroom."

FORT WORTH INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT

Ron Tyler lectured on the history of Western art at both the Fort Worth and Lubbock institutes.

Robert Goldberg explored the significance of the West in shaping twentieth-century national politics, and Albert S. Broussard surveyed African American history in the West since 1900.

Teachers at both institutes praised the faculty. One Lubbock participant wrote in her final evaluation, "I must say that the caliber of speakers is what sets this event apart from any other I have attended in my teaching career. Thank you for seeking out the best, just for us!"

Program directors collaborated with administrators at the Texas Education Association (TEA), the state’s regional Educational Service Centers, and the teacher networks maintained by Humanities Texas, TCU, TTU, and the Amon Carter Museum to solicit institute applications from social studies teachers across the state. Program directors also invited each member of Texas’s Congressional delegation to nominate exemplary Texas and U.S. history teachers in his or her district.

More than 140 teachers applied to attend the institute. Selection decisions were based on applicants’ experience in leadership, curriculum design, and peer professional development, as well as their years of experience, the number of students they teach, and whether their teaching environment includes underserved regions or populations. Program directors ultimately selected forty teachers to attend each institute, taking care to ensure a diverse mix of participants from all regions of the state.

Teachers received housing, a full travel reimbursement, most meals, and a $300 stipend. They represented twenty-five of Texas’s thirty-two Congressional districts, with eleven nominated by their Congressional representatives.
similarly enthusiastic: “The West and the Shaping of America’ greatly exceeded any other professional development programs that I have attended. Truly, I am afraid it has spoiled me for anything less professional and top-notch.”

Participants praised the institute’s intellectual rigor and the variety of their programs. Teachers were especially enthusiastic about the afternoon workshops, in which they worked in small groups with institute faculty examining and interpreting primary documents related to topics from the morning lectures. Indeed, nearly every evaluation commended these workshops. One participant noted that they provided the opportunity for “up-close, one-on-one discussion with the professors and the sharing of different points of view from the participants.” Another participant added that the workshops allowed faculty “to model good questions and show classroom applications.”

The evaluations did suggest several areas for improvement. Participants in both Fort Worth and Lubbock noted that the institute days were extremely full; they occasionally felt rushed and sub

Overall, however, the evaluations were overwhelmingly positive, and participants emphasized the many ways in which the institute will immediately enhance their teaching. One evaluation from Fort Worth indicates that the institute provided many teachers with an entirely fresh perspective on U.S. history. The teacher wrote, “Throughout the institute I was struck by the great emphasis (traditionally) placed on the East and on the colonial periods in particular in teaching about the creation of our nation. Clearly the West was important in so many ways in determining who we are as a nation, and I look forward to continuing my study in this area to better provide my students with a more complete and interesting education.”
SCHEDULE—FORT WORTH

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Unless otherwise specified, events took place on the Texas Christian University (TCU) campus.

OPENING PROGRAM

Dan and Sally Dance and Visters Center

5:00–5:45 p.m.  Welcome and introductions (Russell Donocky, Mary L. Volcansek, Michael L. Gillette)

6:00–6:10 p.m.  “The National Endowment for the Humanities: Up the People Initiative” (Thomas Lindberg)

6:10–7:00 p.m.  “Myths and Memory in Western History” (Elliot West)

7:00–8:00 p.m.  Dinner

MONDAY, JUNE 4

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

7:00–8:00 a.m.  Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM

Dan Rogers Hall, Room 234

8:00–9:30 a.m.  “American Indians and the West” (F. Todd Smith)

9:00–10:00 a.m.  “Western Landscapes” (Richard Francaviglia)

10:15–10:45 a.m.  “Jefferson’s Empire of Liberty” (Laura S. Cook)

10:45–11:15 a.m.  “Law Enforcement in the West” (Andrew Graybill)

11:30–12:00 a.m.  “The Frontier and Headed Destiny” (Gregg Cantrell)

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

12:15–1:15 p.m.  Lunch

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

Dan Rogers Hall, Room 234

1:30–2:00 p.m.  “National Archives and Records Administration Resources on the West” (Meg Hacker)

2:00–3:00 p.m.  “Amon Carter Museum Resources on the West” (Gary Miller)

Tucker Technology Center, Room 139

3:45–4:15 p.m.  Primary source workshops

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

7:00–8:00 a.m.  Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM

Dan Rogers Hall, Room 234

8:00–9:00 a.m.  “Frederick Jackson Turner, the Frontier Thesis, and New Western History” (Todd M. Kerstetter)

9:00–9:15 a.m.  “The Civil War and the West” (Donald S. Frazier)

9:45–10:15 a.m.  “Religion and the West” (Todd M. Kerstetter)

10:15–11:00 a.m.  “Railroads and Transportation in the West” (H. Roger Grant)

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.  Lunch

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame

1:00–1:30 p.m.  “The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame” (Patricia W. Riley)

1:30–1:45 p.m.  “Women and the West” (Karen M. Langendo)

2:00–3:00 p.m.  Tour of the museum

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

3:30–4:00 p.m.  Primary source workshops

CLOSING PROGRAM

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

6:30–8:00 p.m.  Closing dinner

“Afternoon Program”

Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Headquarters

1:00–2:00 p.m.  Town of BNSF Headquarters (Sally King, Ted Roland)

2:30–3:15 p.m.  “The Artists’ West” (Ron Tyler)

Tucker Technology Center, Room 139

6:00–6:30 p.m.  Primary source workshops

EVENING PROGRAM

Fort Worth Central Library

6:00–6:30 p.m.  Reception and book signing

6:30–7:00 p.m.  “Blood and Thunder: Kit Carson, the Navajos, and the Conquest of the American West” (Hampton Sides)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

7:00–8:00 a.m.  Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM

Dan Rogers Hall, Room 234

8:00–9:00 a.m.  “The West and Political Change after 1900” (Michelle Nickerson)

9:00–10:00 a.m.  “Twentieth-Century Borderlands” (Benjamin Heber Johnson)

10:15–10:45 a.m.  “The Federal West” (Mark Daniel Barringer)

10:45–11:15 a.m.  “The West in Literature” (Charlotte Hogg)

Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  Lunch

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Dave Reed Hall, Faculty Center

3:30–4:00 p.m.  Primary source workshops

“I was impressed by the caliber of speakers, the staff, and those in attendance. It provides me with great hope for the future of our schools and students to see such gifted and talented individuals participating in a learning experience of this type.”

FORT WORTH INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT

Left: F. Todd Smith leads a workshop in Fort Worth on Native American history.

Right: Rachel Johnson (l), former chair of the Humanities Texas board of directors, and Yvonne González at the Fort Worth Central Library.

Mary L. Volcansek welcomes participants to the Fort Worth Institute.

Fort Worth participants: Elizabeth Tagger (Round Rock), Judith Devine (Eldorado), and Kelli Siemon (San Antonio) at the Fort Worth Public Library.
SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Unless otherwise specified, events took place on the Texas Tech University (TTU) campus.

OPENING PROGRAM
National Ranching Heritage Center
5:00-6:00 p.m. Welcome and introductions (William M. Mency, James Eastgate Brink, Michael L. Gillette)
6:00-6:45 p.m. "Myths and Memory in Western History" (Elliott West)
7:00-8:00 p.m. Dinner
"The National Ranching Heritage Center" (Jim Pfieger)
Self-guided tour of NRHC
8:00-9:15 p.m. Performance by Andy Wilkinson

MONDAY, JUNE 11

Gordon Hall
7:15-8:00 a.m. Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM
Lubbock Lake Landmark
8:30-9:00 a.m. “Native Americans in the West: Prehistoric Period” (Eileen Johnson)
9:00-9:30 a.m. “Native Americans in the West: Early Historic Period and the Environment” (Glen Hall)
9:45-10:45 a.m. "Exploration and the West” (Monte L. Monroe)
11:00-11:45 a.m. “Settlement and Pioneer Life in the West” (David J. Marshall)

AFTERNOON PROGRAM
Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Foremby Room
12:15-1:00 p.m. Lunch
"Collecting Western Artifacts" (Red McCombs)
"Geography, Mapping, and Technology for Social Studies Teachers” (Kevin Mulligan)
"The Southwest Collection” (William E. Tydeman, Monte L. Monroe)
2:45-3:00 p.m. Primary source workshop

EVENING PROGRAM
Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Foremby Room
6:30-8:00 p.m. Dinner
"Comanche Perspectives on Art and Western Landscapes” (Jansita Pahdopony)

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Gordon Hall
7:00-8:30 a.m. Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM
Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Foremby Room
8:45-9:45 a.m. “Telling Western Stories: From Triumph to Conflict to Complexity” (Richard W. Etulain)
10:00-10:30 a.m. “African Americans in the Nineteenth-Century West” (Bruce A. Glasrud)
10:45-11:00 a.m. "Sectional Conflict and the Civil War” (Alwyn Barr)
11:15-11:45 a.m. “Hispanics in the West” (Ange Sie)
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. “Amon Carter Museum Resources on the West” (Stacy Fuller)

AFTERNOON PROGRAM
Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library, Foremby Room
12:30-1:30 p.m. Lunch
"Castle, Countwives, and Railroads” (R. Byson Price)
Museum of Texas Tech University
2:00-2:45 p.m. “The Artists’ West” (Ron Tyler)
2:45-3:30 p.m. “Photography and Western History” (Wyman Meinzer)
3:30-4:15 p.m. “The Museum of Texas Tech University” (Gary Edson)
4:15-5:00 p.m. Primary source workshop

EVENING PROGRAM
Museum of Texas Tech University
5:30-7:00 p.m. Dinner
"The West as a Political Force in the Twentieth Century” (Robert Goldberg)
Buddy Holly Center
7:30-8:30 p.m. Tours of Buddy Holly Center
8:30-10:00 p.m. Free time in the Depot District

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Gordon Hall
7:00-8:00 a.m. Breakfast

MORNING PROGRAM
American Wind Power Center and Museum
9:00-9:15 a.m. “The American Wind Power Center and Museum” (Coy F. Harris)
9:15-10:00 a.m. “African Americans in the Twentieth-Century American West” (Albert S. Broussard)
10:15-11:00 a.m. "Gold, Minerals, and the Extractive West” (Jo Ann Stiles)
11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m. "New West Fiction” (Gary L. Sparwasser)
12:15-1:15 p.m. “Use of Primary Sources in Teaching Western History” (Elise Fillpot)

CLOSING PROGRAM
1:15-3:00 p.m. Closing luncheon
“Americans have looked westward and selected certain elements in Western history and made them mythic. That’s why we have the clichés that the West is the most American part of America, and that the West is where Americans look when we want to say who we are and explain what America is. . . . Recognizing the importance of the Western myth frees us to step back from it and recognize that America as a nation, and certainly the West as a region, are full of other stories . . . stories told by other people expressing different identities—by Native Americans, by people who see the West as ‘El Norte,’ by people from across the Pacific who see the West as the East. . . . When we do that, then American history, and Western history in particular, become much more interesting and rewarding both for us and for our students.”

ELLIOTT WEST, “MYTH AND MEMORY IN WESTERN HISTORY”
PAUL H. CARLSON

Paul H. Carlson, professor of history at Texas Tech University and director of the Texas Tech Center for the Southwest, has published some 160 articles, essays, and book reviews and eleven books, one of which, Empire Builder in the Texas Panhandle: William Henry Bush, received multiple awards, and another of which, The Plains Indians, was a History Book Club selection and named by Westerner’s International as one of the 100 best nonfiction books on the American West published in the twentieth century. It was published in France as Les Indiens des Plaines. The Buffalo Soldier Tragedy of 1877 received the Rupert N. Richardson Prize for the best nonfiction book on West Texas. In 1993, he received the President’s Excellence in Teaching Award at Texas Tech, and in 2000, he received the College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Distinguished Research Award. Twice history students have named him the department’s outstanding faculty member, and students in Tech’s Residence Life program presented him with the Professing Excellence Award for outstanding teaching. He serves on the Handbook of Texas advisory committee and is a life director of the West Texas Historical Association and a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas.

HEATHER CROUCH

Heather Crouch is originally from Pennsylvania and moved to Texas upon exiting the United States Army. She has been employed with Texas Tech University since 2001. She is currently working towards an M.A. in public administration.

BROOK DAVIS

Brook Davis holds a B.A. in history and political science from Texas State University—San Marcos. She joined Humanities Texas in September 2002 as an intern and in January 2003 was hired as a full-time administrative assistant. In January 2004 she was promoted to grants program officer and now supports the administration of Humanities Texas’s grants program. She maintains the grants database system, tracks grant-funded programs, compiles program-related statistics, and assists Texas-based nonprofit organizations in developing effective grant proposals.

NOWELL DONOVAN

Nowell Donovan, the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at Texas Christian University, graduated from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, England, in 1972. Before coming to TCU he taught at Oklahoma State University. In 1986 he accepted TCU’s Charles B. Nowell Donovan, the provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. Among his many awards and honors are being named Most Outstanding Professor at TCU in 1996 and 1997 by the Panhellenic Council and TCU Outstanding Professor of the Year in 2000 by the Student House of Representatives. He holds memberships in the Society of Economic Paleontologists and Mineralogists, the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, Sigma Xi, the Geological Society of America, the Geological Society of London, and Sigma Gamma Epsilon. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Botanical Research Institute of Texas.

GARY EDSON

Gary Edson is executive director of the Museum of Texas Tech University and director of the Center for Advanced Study of Museum Science and Heritage Management. He is also a professor of museum science and has served as director of the Museum of Texas Tech, acting curator of art, chair of the Department of Art, and professor of art. Prior to coming to Texas Tech, he held professorships at West Virginia University, Indiana University, and Northwestern Louisiana State University. He was also a Peace Corps volunteer in Ecuador. He received a B.F.A. in sculpture from the Kansas City Art Institute and an M.F.A. in ceramics from Tulane University New Orleans. He is a 1986 alumnus of the Wimberley Museum Seminar. His publications include Mexican Market Pottery (1979) and the International Directory of Museum Training (1995) and several other publications on which he was a coauthor or contributor. He has also edited many publications, including Museum Ethics (1997). Presently, he serves on the Executive Council of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and the Editorial Advisory Board of Collector: A Journal for Museum and Archive Professionals. He has served on the boards of the Association of College and University Museums and Galleries and the American Association of Museums and on the executive committee of the U.S. National Committee of ICOM. He served as chair of the U.S. Committee on Museology (US/ICOM), was secretary of ICOM’s Committee on Training of Museum Personnel (ICTOP), and served on the ICOM Ethics Committee.

RICHARD W. ETULAIN

Richard W. Etulain is a nationally recognized specialist in the history and literature of the American West and the author or editor of more than forty books. He is professor emeritus of history and former director of the Center for the American West at the University of New Mexico. His best-known books are Stegner: Conversations on History and Literature (1983, 1996), Re-imagining the Modern American West: A Century of Fiction, History, and Art (1996), and Telling Western Stories: From Buffalo Bill to Larry McMurtry (1999). His general narrative history of the American West from prehistory to the present, Beyond the Missouri: The Story of the American West, appeared in 2006. He is currently at work on a book dealing with Abraham Lincoln and the American West.

“The critics of liberal consensus who emerged in the 1950s were from the West—in particular, Barry Goldwater, the Senator from Arizona, and a fellow by the name of Ronald Reagan of California. They became the standard bearers of the challenge to the New Deal. Not only did they make their base in the West, but they framed their challenge in the images and symbols of the West. The rise of the conservatives in the fifties and sixties cannot be understood outside of the Western context, geographically and symbolically.”

ROBERT GOLDBERG, “THE WEST AS A POLITICAL FORCE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY”
ELISE FILLPOT
Elise Fillpot is the author and director of three U.S. Department of Education “Teaching American History” grants for which she has received $2.5 million. The elementary curriculum she designed and piloted in Iowa from 2004 to 2007, “Bringing History Home,” is now the K-5 social studies curriculum in six Iowa school districts. Additional districts in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, North Dakota, and Missouri are currently adopting components of the program. Her most recent professional development program, the Grant Wood History Institute, serves sixty middle and high school teachers from more than thirty eastern Iowa school districts. Within the University of Iowa Department of History, she works with pre-service teachers in a course titled Teaching History: Approaches in Lesson Design. Her workshop center on straightforward strategies busy teachers can use to enhance their students’ learning with a variety of history sources.

RICHARD FRANCAVIGLIA
Richard Francaviglia is a historical geographer who studies how the American landscape has evolved through time and how this change is depicted in maps, art, literature, and popular culture. He received his B.A. in geography from the University of California at Riverside and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in geography and art/architectural history from the University of Oregon. He has authored eight books, including The Mormon Landscape: Existence, Creation, and Perception of a Unique Image in the American West (1978); Hard Places: Reading the Landscape of America’s Historic Mining Districts (1991); The Shape of Texas: Maps as Metaphors (1995); The Cactus Iron Forest: A Natural and Cultural History of the North American Cactus Timbers (2000); Believing in Place: A Spiritual Geography of the Great Basin (2003); and Mapping and Imagination in the Great Basin: A Cartographic History (2005). Currently, he is professor of history and geography at the University of Texas at Arlington, where he directs the Center for Greater Southwest Studies and the History of Cartography.

DONALD S. FRAZIER
A native of Big Spring, Donald S. Frazier grew up in Arlington, Texas, graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1986. He earned a Ph.D. in history at Texas Christian University in 1992. After spending a year at that institution as a visiting assistant professor, he moved on to McMurry University in Abilene, where he currently is professor of history. He has authored several books, including the award-winning Blood and Treasure: Confederate Empire in the Southwest, a coauthor of Frontier Texas: History of a Borderland to 1880, and editor of The United States and Mexico at War: Nineteenth-Century Expansionism and Conflict. He is a specialist in blacks in the American West, and among his publications are African Americans in the West: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources (LBJ School of Public Affairs, 1986). He is professor emeritus of history at California State University, East Bay, and retired dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at San Jose State University. He is a specialist in blacks in the American West, and among his publications are African Americans in the West: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources (Center for Big Bend Studies, 1998) and, with Laurie Champion, The African American West: A Century of Short Stories (Colorado, 2000). He currently resides in Seguin, Texas.

STACY FULLER
Stacy Fuller received her M.A. in art history from Texas Christian University and her B.A. in museum management from Centenary College of Louisiana. As instructional services manager at the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth, Texas, she manages educator and accessible programs.

MICHAEL L. GILLETTE
Michael L. Gillette is executive director of Humanities Texas. Prior to his appointment in 2003, he held the position of director of the Center for Legislative Archives at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. He received a B.A. in government and a Ph.D. in history from The University of Texas at Austin. After joining the staff of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum in 1972, he directed the library’s oral history program from 1976 to 1991. He has served on the advisory board of the Law Library of Congress’s National Digital Library Program and currently serves on the board of directors of the John Glenn Institute for Public Service and Public Policy at The Ohio State University.

YVONNE GONZÁLEZ
Yvonne González joined Humanities Texas as fiscal officer in May 1988. She served as director of finance from 1995 until October 1999, at which time she was promoted to the position of associate director and chief financial officer. She served as interim executive director for Humanities Texas from April through July 2002. A Texas native from Brownsville, she worked previously as a fiscal officer and consultant for nonprofit organizations funded in part by city, state, and federal grants. From 1980 to 1985, she served as fiscal agent for two City of Austin social services and housing grant award recipients. She holds a B.L.S. degree in accounting from St. Edward’s University in Austin. As deputy director of Humanities Texas, she is responsible for the organization’s finances, auditing, human resources administration, grant reporting, and compliance.

BRUCE A. GLASRUD
Born and raised in Minnesota, Bruce A. Glasrud received his Ph.D. in history from Texas Tech University—one of the early products of the “Texas Tech School of Black History.” He is professor emeritus of history at California State University, East Bay, and retired dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at San Jose State University. He is a specialist in blacks in the American West, and among his publications are African Americans in the West: A Bibliography of Secondary Sources (Center for Big Bend Studies, 1998) and, with Laurie Champion, The African American West: A Century of Short Stories (Colorado, 2000). He currently resides in Seguin, Texas.

“...is what we call a ‘persistent place.’ A persistent place is where resources intersect in the landscape. People, when they find these places, come back to them repeatedly, generation after generation after generation. And what also happens in some persistent places is that when new people come into the region, they learn about where the intersecting resources are, and they go there as well. For as long as people have been in the New World, they have been on the Llano Estacado.”

EILEEN JOHNSON, “NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE WEST: PREHISTORIC PERIOD”
Robert Goldberg is professor of U.S. history at the University of Utah. He researches and teaches the twentieth century with a focus on the American West, political history, and popular culture. He is the author of six books. His most recent are *Barry Goldwater and Enemies Within: The Culture of Conspiracy in Modern America*, published in 1995 and 2001 respectively by Yale University Press. He has also won six teaching awards.

H. Roger Grant

The Kathryn and Calhoun Lemon Professor of History at Clemson University, H. Roger Grant is a specialist in U.S. history, and especially the Populist-Progressive era. He is recognized as one of the world’s leading authorities on transportation history and American railroads. He has written or edited twenty-four books; his most recent are *The Railroad: The Life Story of a Technology* (2005) and *Rails Through the Wringers: A History of the Georgia and Florida Railroad* (2006). Twice recognized by Clemson with awards for excellence in research, and recently as the university’s Centennial Professor, he was awarded the Doctor of Humane Letters by his undergraduate alma mater, Simpson College, in 2003. During the spring semester 2005, he served as the Maxwell C. Weiner Distinguished Professor of Humanities at the University of Missouri-Rolla. His next book, *Visionary Railroader: Jervis Langdon Jr. and the Transportation Revolution*, will be published by Indiana University Press.

Andrew Graybill received his Ph.D. in American history from Princeton University in 2003 and began working at the University of Nebraska that fall, where he teaches classes on Canada, the United States, the environment, and especially the North American West. His longstanding interest in the Great Plains is reflected in his first book, a comparative history of a family of mixed ancestry in late nineteenth-century Montana.

David Grebel

For the past ten years, David Grebel has served as the director of Extended Education at Texas Christian University. As director his responsibilities include support for outreach and engagement opportunities for the university. Grebel is a member of two community boards in Fort Worth as well as the university’s representative to the Association for Continuing Higher Education. His undergraduate degree is in history with graduate degrees in education and theology.

Meg Hacker

Born in Florida and raised in West Texas, Meg Hacker has been with the National Archives and Records Administration Southwest Region since 1987. She received her B.A. in American history from Austin College and her M.A. in American history from Texas Christian University. Texas Western Press published her thesis, *Cynthia Ann Parker: The Life and the Legend*. She has presented to numerous historical and genealogical societies, archives and library associations, teacher in-services, and classrooms on a wide assortment of topics including Chinese exclusion, repatriation oaths, genealogy, immigration records, Native American records, nineteenth-century Fort Smith criminal cases, maritime records, and basic strategies for researching at the National Archives.

Grant Hall

Grant Hall is originally from Edinburg, Texas. He received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University in 1989 following undergraduate study at The University of Texas at Austin. From 1990 to 2004, he taught archaeology at Texas Tech University, where he was an associate professor. He is now director of Texas Tech’s Center at Junction. He worked in Texas contract archaeology from 1973 to 1983. While with the Texas Archaeological Survey at UT Austin in 1974, he directed excavations at the Ernest Wette Site along the Brazos River in Austin County. From 1983 to 1985, he worked at the ancient Mayan site of Rio Azul in Guatemala. He was also a member of the team that discovered and excavated Mission Santa Cruz de San Saba, a Spanish colonial site near Menard, Texas, between 1993 and 1997.

Coy F. Harris

Coy F. Harris is executive director of the American Wind Power Center and Museum in Lubbock. He is a 1989 graduate of Texas Tech University and has lived in Lubbock all his life. He was the president of two engineering firms in the 1970s and 1980s and in 1993 helped Billie Wolfe establish a windmill museum. He designed and supervised the development of the American Wind Power Center’s buildings, grounds, exhibits, and collections.

Charlotte Hogg

Charlotte Hogg is associate professor at Texas Christian University, where she teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in writing and rhetoric and has research interests in women’s writing in the Great Plains and the West. She just published *From the Garden Club: Rural Women Writing Community, rural women in western Nebraska* and their writing lives (University of Nebraska Press), and has another book forthcoming in June: *Rural Literature*, coauthored with Kim Dinehower and Eileen Schill. Her scholarly and creative work has also appeared in a number of journals and anthologies.
Sarah Hymes recently received an M.A. in art history from Texas Christian University. Prior to moving to Fort Worth, she graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a degree in art history and psychology. During her time in Austin, she assisted Humanities Texas as an interim program specialist.

Jorge Iber

Jorge Iber, born in Cuba and raised in Miami, is a graduate of the University of Utah and currently serves as chair of the Department of History at Texas Tech University. He is the author of numerous scholarly articles on Hispanics in the West, with particular emphasis on the impact of high school football on the lives of Mexican Americans in southern Texas. He is the author, coauthor, and editor of three books: Hispanic in the Mormon West, 1933–1939; Hispanic in the American West (coauthored with Arnoldo De Leon); and Mexican Americans and Sport: A Reader on Athletics and Barrio Life (credited with Samuel O. Regalada).

Benjamin Heber Johnson

Benjamin Heber Johnson is an assistant professor of history at Southern Methodist University. A native of Houston, he holds a Ph.D. from Yale University. His research and teaching focus on the U.S.-Mexico borderlands and the American encounter with the natural world. In 2003 he published Revolution in Texas: How a Forgotten Rebellion and Its Bloody Suppression Turned Mexicans into Americans (Yale University Press), a study of racial violence and Mexican-American civil rights politics that has received national media attention. With photographer Jeffrey Gusky, he is completing a work entitled An American Place: The Odyssey of a Border Town, which uses one town to tell the larger history of the role of the border in American life. He is also under contract with Yale University Press for “Escaping the Dark, Gray City”: How Conservation Re-Made City, Suburb, and Countryside in the Progressive Era. He has received awards and fellowships from the Forest History Society, the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Huntington Library, and the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture.

Eileen Johnson

I am curator of anthropology, Horn Professor of Museum Science, and director of the Lubbock Lake Landmark at the Museum of Texas Tech University. As a Quaternary research scientist, my research interests and experiences are in Quaternary paleoecology, taphonomy, paleoclimatology, and cultural systems. As a museum professional, my interests and experience are in curation, conservation (particularly bone stabilization), preventive conservation, collections management, and accreditation systems. I have thirty-seven years of experience with the cultural and natural history record of the Great Plains, thirty-five years of which have been spent researching that record on the Southern Plains. Although I have conducted surveys and excavations of sites and localities associated with playas lakes as well as the draw systems on the Southern High Plains, my field and research experiences include work throughout the western U.S., Mexico, South America, and China. I have collaborated in or directed a number of interdisciplinary research programs. My Ph.D. is in biological sciences with a minor in museum science. I have been awarded more than 100 grants and have 128 peer-reviewed publications. I served as a commissioner on the Texas Historical Commission and as chair of the Antiquities Advisory Board for the State of Texas.

Todd M. Kerstetter

Todd M. Kerstetter, associate professor of history at Texas Christian University, specializes in the American West, environmental history, and American Indian history. His book, God’s Country: Uncle Sam’s Land, Faith, and Conflict in the American West, examines the roles played by religion in conflicts between the United States and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Lakota Ghost Dancers, and the Branch Davidians. His work has appeared in Western Historical Quarterly, American Journalism, Great Plains Quarterly, Nebraska History, and Duke Magazine. His current research includes work on the West’s influence on rock music from 1980 to 2005 and a textbook surveying religion in the West.

Sally King

Sally King has been curator of art and photo archives at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway for almost three years. The history of corporate art collections is the research topic for her M.A. in art history from The University of Texas at Dallas. There she studied with Dr. Ted Pillsbury and Dr. Rick Bestall, formerly of the Kimbell Art Museum and the Dallas Museum of Art respectively. Sally King received her B.A. in history and Spanish from the University of Texas at Dallas. She is now completing a work entitled “Escaping the Dark, Gray City”: How Conservation Re-Made City, Suburb, and Countryside in the Progressive Era. She has received awards and fellowships from the Forest History Society, the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Huntington Library, and the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture.

Joseph R. Krier

Joseph R. Krier, president and CEO of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, has advanced the humanitieis through many civic and educational activities. As founding president of the Foundation for the National Archives, he played a critical role in shaping that agency’s identity as a leading cultural institution. As a member of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from 1994 to 1999, he formulated strategies for the expansion of the state’s colleges and universities. He currently serves as chair of the Humanities Texas Board of Directors. He has chaired the Arts Council of San Antonio, served on the San Antonio Fiesta Board of Directors, and participated in the Library and Literacy Campaign. He has been a member of the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center’s Board of Visitors. A graduate of The University of Texas at Austin and the UT School of Law, he has served the university in numerous capacities, including the recent Commission of 125. He is married to former state Senator Cyndi Taylor Krier.

“Jefferson unquestionably is the architect of Westward expansion. He wrote throughout his career about expansion, about the West.... In an 1801 letter to James Madison, he wrote, ‘It is impossible not to look forward to distant times, when our rapid multiplication will expand itself beyond those limits and cover the whole northern, if not the southern, continent.’ Here, he envisions an empire that stretches from Hudson Bay in the north to Tierra del Fuego in the south.... Jefferson felt assured that land was necessary for his empire of liberty to survive; it would preserve his young republic’s cherished principles from destruction. It would ensure the security of his nation. It would ensure that the American dream would survive.”

Gene A. Smith, “Jefferson’s Empire of Liberty”
RENÉE M. LAEGREID

Renee M. Laegreid holds a Ph.D from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and currently teaches at Hastings College in Hastings, Nebraska. She specializes in American Western and cultural history, with research interests in women’s history, Native American history, and immigration history. She is the author of Riding Pretty: Redes Royalty in the American West and coeditor of the forthcoming book Women’s Experiences on the North American Plains.

THOMAS LINDSAY

Thomas Lindsay joined the staff of the National Endowment for the Humanities in February 2006 as director of the agency’s special initiative, We the People. In the preceding year, he had served on the National Council for the Humanities, a presidentially appointed board that oversees the work of the NEH. He has worked in higher education for more than twenty-three years as both a professor and an administrator. Most recently, he was executive vice president and provost of Seton Hall University. Prior to that, he served as provost and vice president of academic affairs at the University of Dallas, where he also acted as dean of the graduate school and director of the Institute for Philosophical Studies. His Ph.D. in political science is from the University of Chicago, and his research has focused largely on the relationship between democracy and education. He has published articles in the leading journals of his field, including the American Political Science Review, The Journal of Politics, and the American Journal of Political Science. As director of We the People, he is charged with providing national leadership and support for the program’s ongoing efforts to increase Americans’ understanding of the nation’s history, culture, ideals, and principles.

ERIC LUPFER

Director of grants and education at Humanities Texas, Eric Lupfer received a Ph.D in English (2003) and an M.S. in information studies (2004) from The University of Texas at Austin. He worked at UT’s Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center from 2002 to 2004, where he coedited the center’s summer teacher institute. He has taught courses in literature and composition at both the high school and college levels. In the past several years he has published articles and book reviews on U.S. literature and publishing history, including an essay in the five-volume, collaborative scholarly work, A History of the Book in America.

WILLIAM M. MARCY

William M. Marcy was appointed vice president and provost of Texas Tech University in July 2002 and senior vice president and provost in 2004. Previously he was dean of the College of Engineering at Tech, starting in 1998. He served as senior associate dean of engineering from 1995 to 1998 and chair of the Department of Computer Science from 1987 to 1995. He earned his B.S. and M.S. in electrical engineering from Tech in 1964 and 1966 respectively, and his Ph.D. from Tech was the first interdisciplinary engineering degree offered in 1972. He has substantial industrial and business experience, serving as chief operating officer of Information Planning Corporation in Dallas, as manager of business planning and development for the National Supply Company in Houston, and for thirteen years as an outside director of PSI International in Chaska, Minnesota. His experience with the U.S. government includes employment with the Central Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C., from 1965 to 1974, eventually becoming chief of the Engineering and Planning Branch, Office of Security, Directorate for Administration. While a CIA employee, he also served as deputy director of the Interagency Training Center, which provided technical security training for all U.S. government agencies with security responsibilities for U.S. government facilities outside the United States.

RED MCCOMBS

Red McCombs, born in Spur, Texas, attended Southwestern University and The University of Texas at Austin School of Business and School of Law. He left law school in his second year and began his career as a salesman in the automobile business in Corpus Christi in 1950. In 1958 he relocated to San Antonio where he became a partner, then sole owner, of Red McCombs Automotive. He is co-founder of Clear Channel Communications and of McCombs Energy in Houston and is active in a variety of other businesses and community service organizations. His leadership roles in national, state, and local organizations have included serving as chairman of the Board of Trustees of Southwestern University and past chairman of the Board of Visitors of Houston’s M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. He has been honored as Distinguished Alumnus of The University of Texas at Austin and Southwestern University, and he has received numerous local, state, and national recognitions including the San Antonio Business Hall of Fame, the National Automobile Dealers Hall of Fame, the Texas Business Hall of Fame, and the National Football Foundation/College Hall of Fame. In the past he has owned the San Antonio Spurs, a National Basketball Association (NBA) team that he secured for San Antonio in 1972, and the NBA Denver Nuggets. At age twenty-five, he purchased his first professional sports team, the Corpus Christi Texas Clippers in the Big State Baseball League. His most recent sports endeavor included the ownership of the Minnesota Vikings National Football League team from 1998 until their sale in 2005. He married the former Charline Hamblin in Corpus Christi in 1950; their three daughters and eight grandchildren all reside in San Antonio. A noted collector, McCombs owns one of the nation’s largest private holdings of historical Americana.
Wyman Meiner earned a bachelor of science degree in wildlife management from Texas Tech University in 1974. His interest in photography and photojournalism developed and expanded while he was involved in research at Texas Tech. His editorial endeavors were first published in 1979, with photos appearing in National Wildlife and Texas Parks and Wildlife magazine. His work has since appeared on more than 250 magazine covers, including more than fifty national and international covers.

Monte L. Monroe

Monte L. Monroe, Ph.D., is Southwest Collection archivist for the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library at Texas Tech University and is adjunct professor of history. He has a contract with Texas A&M University Press to publish American Environmentalist: Ralph Steenbrough of Texas. He is editor of the West Texas Historical Association Year Book and serves on the board of that organization. He is also a board member of the Texas Map Society and a member of the Lubbock Centennial Committee. He specializes in nineteenth-century U.S., American Western, U.S. environmental, and colonial Latin American history.

Kevin Mulligan

Dr. Kevin Mulligan is associate professor of geography and director of the Center for Geospatial Technology at Texas Tech University. He received his B.A. and M.A. in geography from the University of California, Los Angeles, and his Ph.D. in geography from Texas A&M University. He joined the Texas Tech faculty in 1998 and has taught courses in physical geography, geographic information systems (GIS), and remote sensing. His research is largely focused on the Southern High Plains of West Texas and eastern New Mexico. As director of the Center for Geospatial Technology, he leads a multidisciplinary research team with expertise in GIS, satellite remote sensing, the Global Positioning System (GPS), geospatial informatics, Internet mapping, and digital cartography. Over the past several years, his research projects have involved changing demographics of the region, economic development, rural health care, land use change, transportation, water resources, agricultural systems, and land management.

David J. Murrah

Dr. David J. Murrah is vice president and senior historian with Southwest Museum Services in Houston. Prior to his semi-retirement in 2002, he served the company as its historian and later as general project manager. As a historian, he has written or edited six books related to Texas history and more than forty other publications. His most noted works are C. C. Slaughter: Rancher, Banker, Baptist (1981) and Oil, Texas, and Catt. A History of the DeVitt Family and the Mallet Ranch (1994). He is currently writing a centennial history for the Northwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. He retired in 1996 from Texas Tech University after a twenty-five-year career as archivist and director of the Southwest Collection. A native of Greer, Texas, he holds a B.A. degree from Hardin-Simmons University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from Texas Tech. Prior to his association with the Southwest Collection, he taught in Texas public schools (Springtown and Morton) for five years.

Michelle Nickerson is assistant professor of history at The University of Texas at Dallas, where she teaches U.S. women’s and gender history. She received her Ph.D. in American studies from Yale University in 2003 and recently completed a year-long fellowship at the Huntington Library. Her research focuses on the formation of conservative female political consciousness in the mid-twentieth century. She studies the gender ideology of the American right and examines women’s participation in the post-World War II anti-communist movement. Nickerson’s forthcoming book, Mothers of Conservatism: Women and the Postwar Right, will be published by Princeton University Press in 2008.

Juanita Pahdopony is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. She earned an A.A. degree in general education at Cameron University, a B.A. in art from Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and an M.F.A. from Oklahoma City University. She has also completed some doctoral-level work at the University of Oklahoma. Since the fall of 2002, she has taught at Comanche Nation College (CNC). She was awarded the college’s 2006 Teaching Excellence Award and serves as interim dean of academic instruction. She has taught at Cameron University, the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma, and Oklahoma City University; is a cofounder of the annual CNC Film Festival and the CNC Theatre Troupe; and has designed syllabi for the courses Indigenous Arts and The American Indian Documentary. Her community activities include membership in the Comanche National Museum, the Oklahoma Historical Society, the Southern Plains Indian Museum, and the Museum of the Great Plains Trust Authority. She was selected as a Tribal College Fellow in the Management Development Program at the Harvard University Graduate School of Education. She has written numerous grants for Comanche Nation College and her art was recently displayed in the exhibit “Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation” at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York.

“In the early 1800s, America had a divided mind as far as geographic expansion went. . . . One the one hand, Americans were very proud of their country’s success, their republican form of government, and the individual freedoms that many Americans, but certainly not all, enjoyed. . . . On the other hand, Americans were also profoundly concerned. Their history lessons taught them that republics were very fragile things. Americans were very concerned that too much materialism, too much greed, too much prosperity might be the undoing of them. . . . So what Americans needed, if they were going to enjoy the fruits of national geographic expansion, was a way to sustain their optimism, to ease these fears, and convince themselves that they wouldn’t collapse like ancient Rome. And the principal way they found to ease these fears was the ideology that would later be known as Manifest Destiny.”

Gregg Cantrell, “The Frontier and Manifest Destiny”
Jim Pfluger is executive director of the National Ranching Heritage Center at Texas Tech University and the Ranching Heritage Association. He supervises the operation of the thirty-acre historical park and museum consisting of forty-five historic ranch structures. He graduated from Texas Tech in 1970 with a major in history and has a master’s degree in history and business administration. He is a member of the board of the Endowment Fund for the Preservation of the Ranching Heritage of America and recently completed a three-year term as chair of the Working Ranch Cowboys Foundation. He is the author of the book Pfluger Country: The Photography of Bob Moorhouse and contributed the history of Texas ranch horses to David R. Stocklein’s book The Texas Cowboys. A seventh-generation Texan, his ancestors settled in the Lone Star State more than 150 years ago near Pflugerville, the Central Texas town that carries his family’s name. Many of his relatives still are ranchers today.

B. Byron Price

B. Byron Price holds the Charles Marion Russell Memorial Chair and is director of the Charles M. Russell Center for the Study of Art of the American West at the University of Oklahoma. He is a 1970 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and earned an M.A. in museum science at Texas Tech University in 1977. He served as executive director of the Panhandle Plains Historical Museum in Canyon, Texas (1982–86); the National Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City (1987–96); and the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming (1996–2001). He is the author of more than three dozen journal articles on western American history and art and has written several books including Free Art of the West (2004); The Chuck Wagon Cookbook: Recipes from the Ranch and Range for Today’s Kitchen (2004); Cowboys of the American West (1996); and Imagining the Open Range: Erwin E. Smith, Cowboy Photographer (1998). He is currently editing the Charles M. Russell catalog raisonné. In addition to his published works, he has served as a consultant for several television series on the History and Discovery Channels, most recently “Unsolved History: The Gunfight at the OK Corral” and “Cowboy Tech.”

Patricia W. Riley

Patricia W. Riley is executive director of the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame in Fort Worth’s Cultural District, a position she has served in since 1996. During her tenure, she led the museum through a capital campaign and opened its current facility in June 2002. Prior to joining the museum, she was a documentary filmmaker based in New York City. She spent most of her time traveling between projects across the globe. She holds a bachelor of arts in journalism and lives in Fort Worth with her husband Kelly and her two dogs.

Ted Rowland

Ted Rowland is manager of business development in the agricultural commodities department with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. Raised in Montana, he joined the railroad in 1981 at St. Paul, Minnesota, and moved to Fort Worth in 1984 when the marketing department relocated. During his career with the railroad, he has held positions in marketing, property management, strategic planning, finance, and the Burlington Northern Foundation. He is a longtime art tour director at BNSF and a well-informed art aficionado.

Katie Rush received a B.A. in Plan II Honors and English from The University of Texas at Austin in 2004. Following graduation, she worked at Humanities Texas for two years, assisting with summer teacher institutes and other council initiatives. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in rhetorical studies at the University of Georgia.

Susan Shore is an interpretive specialist focusing on program planning and development that encourages connections between people and the places in which they live and work, and the role of community in national and world events. She currently is manager of education programs for Lubbock Lake Landmark, an archaeology and natural history preserve, and is vice-president of the Texas Environmental Education Partnership. She is a regular contributor to The Social Studies Teacher, the journal of the Texas Council for Social Studies, and is a national guidelines trainer for the North American Association for Environmental Education. Susan holds an M.A. in museum studies from the University of Nebraska and a B.A. in theatre education from the University of Wisconsin.

Hampton Sides

A native of Memphis, Hampton Sides is author of the national bestseller Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West (Doubleday, 2006), about the life and times of the controversial frontier figure Kit Carson. Blood and Thunder has recently been optioned by Dreamworks and is the subject of a forthcoming documentary film on the PBS program The American Experience. Blood and Thunder was named one of the ten best books of 2006 by Time, book of the year by the History Book Club; and the best Western historical nonfiction book of the year by the Western Writers of America. An editor at large for Outside magazine, he is also the author of the bestseller Ghost Soldiers: The Forgotten Epic Story of World War II’s Most Dramatic Mission (Doubleday, 2001), which now has more than one million copies in print and has been published in nine foreign languages. A graduate of Yale University with a B.A. in history, he lives in New Mexico with his wife, Anne, and their three sons.

“I’m so excited about everything I learned, everything I did, I won’t be able to contain my enthusiasm when I get back to class!”

Fort Worth Institute Participant
F. Todd Smith received his Ph.D. in United States history from Tulane University in 1989. Before arriving at the University of North Texas in 1997, he taught at Xavier University of Louisiana and at the University of West Florida. He is the author of several books on Texas Indians, including The Caddo Indians: Tribes at the Convergence of Empires, 1542–1854 (1995); The Cadets, the Wichitas, and the United States, 1846–1901 (1996); The Wichita Indians: Traders of Texas and the Southern Plains, 1540–1845 (2000); and From Dominance to Disappearance: The Indians of Texas and the Near Southwest, 1786–1859 (2005).

Gene A. Smith is professor of early American history and director of the Center for Texas Studies at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. He received his Ph.D. from Auburn University (1991) and is author or editor of a number of books, including A British Eyewitness at the Battle of New Orleans: The Memoir of Royal Navy Admiral Robert Anson, 1804–1807 (2004); Thomas ap Catesby Jones: Commodore of Manifest Destiny (2000); Arsène Lacarrière Latour’s Historical Memoir of the War in West Florida and Louisiana in 1814–15: With an Atlas (1999); and Filibusters and Expansionists: Jeffersonian Manifest Destiny, 1800–1823 (1997). Her research focuses on politics, frontier expansion, and naval and maritime history during the revolutionary era and early republic.

Sara L. Spurgeon (Ph.D., University of Arizona, 2000) is an assistant professor at Texas Tech University. She researches and writes on the literatures of the American West, nature/environmental writing, gender studies, and postcolonial theory. Her most recent book is Exploding the Western: Myths of Empire on the Postmodern Frontier (Texas A&M University Press, 2005). She has published essays on Cormac McCarthy, Ana Castillo, the film Brokeback Mountain, and on the relationship of literature, water, and public discourse in the arid West. She serves on the executive council of the Western Literature Association, the advisory board of Boise State University’s Western Writers Series, and the editorial board of the journal Western American Literature.

F. Todd Smith

Gene A. Smith

Sara L. Spurgeon

THE WEST AND THE SHAPING OF AMERICA

The Lubbock opening program was held at TTU’s National Ranching Heritage Center, which features forty-five authentic, furnished ranch buildings and structures.

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Jo Ann Stiles earned her undergraduate and master’s degrees in history from The University of Texas at Austin. She began teaching history at Lamar University in 1966 and retired as an associate professor in 2002. She has received numerous teaching awards and grants. Among her honors are a Ford Foundation internship with the Texas Legislature and Texas Committee for the Humanities (now Humanities Texas) grants in 1984, 1988, and 1989. In 1992, she was the eighth Lamar University faculty member to be selected as a Piper Professor. The author of several publications in scholarly journals, she is much sought after as a speaker and organizer of historical recognition events. She was the faculty sponsor of the Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society at Lamar. She served as academic director of the Spindletop-Gladys City Boomtown Museum for twelve years developing workshops for teachers. She also chaired the University Lecture Series and the Cultural Awareness Series, which brought eight speakers to the university each year. She coauthored Guest Under the Flag: A History of the Spindletop Oil Discovery at Beaumont, Texas, in 2001. She is currently working with the H. J. and Nelda C. Stark Foundation of Orange, Texas, researching the Stark family.

Quintard Taylor is the Scott and Dorothy Bullitt Professor of American History at the University of Washington in Seattle. He is the author of numerous books and essays, including In Search of the Racial Frontier: African Americans in the American West, 1528–1990, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in history; African American Women Confront the Modern World: A Reader in 20th Century Global History.

William E. Tydeman

William E. Tydeman is codirector of the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library at Texas Tech University, where he has worked since 1997. He holds a Ph.D. in American studies from the University of New Mexico. His research interests and publications are in the field of U.S. Western literature and art history. He is currently working with singer/songwriter Andy Wilkinson on a new history of Lubbock.

“ar the opportuni ies afforded to us during the institute will without doubt enrich my teaching and enable me to involve my students in more hands-on activities due to the exceptional primary resources that I came home with.”

FORT WORTH INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT

In Search of the Racial Frontier: African Americans in the American West, 1528–1990

Filibusters and Expansionists: Jeffersonian Manifest Destiny, 1800–1823

The Caddo Indians: Tribes at the Convergence of Empires, 1542–1854

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RON TYLER

Ron Tyler, director of the Amon Carter Museum, received his Ph.D. from Texas Christian University. He was director of the Texas State Historical Association from 1986 to 2005 and is editor and author of more than two dozen books, including Alfred Jacob Miller: Artist as Explorer; Nature’s Classics: John James Audubon’s Birds and Animals; Visions of America: Pioneer Artists in a New Land; Posada’s Mexico; and The Image of America in Caricature and Cartoon. He is the recipient of numerous grants; has delivered many articles for publication in scholarly journals across the country; organized a number of major exhibits; and lectured widely on exploration art, American and Western art and history, and John James Audubon in the United States as well as Mexico, Poland, Romania, and Australia.

MARY L. VOLCANSEK

Formerly the dean of Texas Christian University’s AddRan College, Mary L. Volcansek is a professor of political science who came from Florida International University in Miami in 2000. While at Florida International University, she served as department chair, associate dean of arts and sciences, and acting assistant vice president for academic affairs, and she worked on study abroad programs in the U.K. and in Italy. She has written, edited, or coauthored nine books on aspects of law, courts, and politics in the U.S. and in Europe, including Constitutional Politics in Italy: The Constitutional Court (Macmillan Press, 2000). Her most recent article appeared in the European Journal of Political Science in June 2001. With John F. Stack Jr., she coedited Courts Crossing Borders: Blurring the Lines of Sovereignty (Cambridge University Press, 2005). She is currently working on the role of judiciaries in the consolidation of democracy.

ELLIOTT WEST

Elliott West, distinguished professor of history at the University of Arkansas, received his B.A. from The University of Texas (1967) and his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado (1971). He joined the University of Arkansas faculty in 1979. Two of his books, Growing Up with the Country: Childhood on the Far Western Frontier (1989) and The Way to the West: Escape on the Central Plains (1995), received Western Heritage Awards. The Central Plains: Indians, Goldseekers, and the Rush to Colorado (1998) received five awards, including the Francis Parkman Prize and the 1999 PEN USA Award for research nonfiction. In 1995 he was named the University of Arkansas Teacher of the Year and the Carnegie Foundation’s Arkansas Professor of the Year. In 2001 he received the Baum Faculty Teaching Award.

ANDY WILKINSON

A poet, songwriter, singer, and playwright whose particular interest is the history and peoples of the Great Plains, Andy Wilkinson has recorded six albums of original music and has written five plays. His work has received several awards, including the Texas Historical Foundation’s John Ben Shepperd Jr. Award for craftsmanship in historic preservation and three Western Heritage “Wrangler” Awards, two for original music and one for poetry. He is presently artist-in-residence at the Southwest Collection, Texas Tech University, and visiting assistant professor in the School of Music. In addition to his writing and teaching, he tours extensively in a variety of venues in the United States and abroad.

DEE WOOD-LANE

A native of Lubbock, Dee Wood-Lane attended Texas Tech as an undergraduate and worked both at the Texas Tech Health Sciences Center and at Texas Tech’s main campus for more than twenty years. Until the summer of 2007, she served as assistant to the President Emeritus, Donald R. Haragan, and also assisted with numerous projects at the TTU Honors College. In her spare time she is an avid reader and writer, loves to travel, and can often be found at coffee shops, bookstores, or being dragged on walks by her four-legged friend, Buddy.

ERIN WYATT

Erin Wyatt received a B.A. in communication studies from Texas Tech University in May of 2007. Since graduation, she has worked for the Institutional Advancement Program as well as the Honors College at Texas Tech helping to raise funds for scholarships. Erin is also responsible for working with ConocoPhillips on their Spirit Scholar program. Beginning in the spring of 2008, Erin will be pursuing her M.A. in public administration from Texas Tech.

SHARON KAY YEATES

Born in Austin, Sharon Kay Yeates chose Texas Tech University for her undergraduate work. She has worked for Tech for over 18 years, currently serving as assistant to the associate dean of the Honors College and as events coordinator. She also serves as the secretary to the TTU Staff Senate. A former reporter who still loves writing, her work has appeared in newspapers, poetry collections, and magazines. Her reporting credits include one-on-one interviews with then-Congressman J. J. Pickle and 1978 congressional candidate George W. Bush. She has two children, Kathleen and Thomas.

“I appreciated the one-on-one time to ask questions in the primary sources break-out sessions. . . . It was helpful to have faculty model good questions and show classroom applications.”

FORT WORTH INSTITUTE PARTICIPANT
JOHN AREVALO

For the last thirty-four years, I have taught almost the complete spectrum of social studies at Haslet High School in San Antonio and have been an adjunct history instructor at Palo Alto College for the last seventeen years. My current teaching assignment includes two sections of History 1301 and 1302, one section of advanced placement U.S. history, and three classes of U.S. history. I have served on the Bradley Commission on History in Schools, the Summerlee Commission on Texas History, and the National History Standards project at the University of California, Los Angeles. As a founding member of the National Council for History Education, I have represented the United States and the National History Standards Project at an international conference, “Enseñanza de la Historia: Reunión de Expertos,” sponsored by the Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos of the Spanish ministry of education at Cáceres, Spain, in March 1995. During my teaching career, I have served as consultant for various publishing companies.

KATY BENNETT

Katy Bennett is a native Texan. She teaches U.S. history and advanced placement U.S. history and coaches academic decathlon at West Mesquite High School, a public school in a suburb of Dallas. In 2005, she was inducted into the Mesquite Independent School District Apple Corps, which honors the district’s outstanding teachers. She is completing an M.A. in history at The University of Texas at Arlington. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling and horseback riding.

PAUL F. BLUME JR.

Paul Blume Jr. is a native of Boston, Massachusetts, but has lived in Houston for the last twenty-nine years. He has taught history for twenty years and currently teaches at the Alternative Learning Center in the Cypress-Fairbanks Independent School District, where his subjects are world cultures, Texas history, and U.S. history. He also fills in for the high school history teachers when needed. In 1990 he was recognized by Terrell Middle School as Teacher of the Year, and in 2000 he was named the ALC’s Spotlight Teacher of the Year. When not in school, he enjoys spending time with his wife, two children, two pugs, and motorcycle.

JAMIE BROWN

Jamie Brown was born in rural East Texas in 1973 and has spent the majority of his life within the state. An honors graduate of Paris High School in Paris, Texas, he went on to receive an associate of arts degree from Paris Junior College in 1996, a bachelor of science in history (with a minor in political science) from Texas A&M University-Commerce in 1998, and a master of arts in European history from Texas A&M University-Commerce in 2000. Having worked his way through college as a junior assistant manager at a restaurant, he went on to work as a graduate assistant in 1999 and was hired as an adjunct professor of history in 2000—a job he held until transferring to the Yvonne E. Ewell Townview University Academic Center within the Dallas Independent School District. He has taught university freshman survey courses in U.S. history, preparatory courses for the TExES/ExCET certification examinations in social studies, advanced placement U.S. and world history, pre-AP world history, and sociology. He is a member of several honor fraternities, including Phi Theta Kappa, Alpha Chi, and Phi Alpha Theta.

MELODY BUSTILLOS

Melody Bustillos is originally from Coral Gables, Florida, but has lived in Texas since 1982. She received her B.A. in elementary education from the University of Florida in 1977, but business opportunities kept her out of the classroom for the next two to three decades. It wasn’t until she married and became a “stay-at-home” mom that she began volunteering in her children’s school and remembered why she loved teaching so much. She received her certification from the Education Career Alternatives Program and has been teaching fourth grade at the Academy at C. F. Thomas Elementary in North Richland Hills for the past three years. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her husband Guy, sons Alex and Jacob, and their pets.

CAROL CARUSO

Carrie Caruso has lived in Katy for the last ten years. She teaches world history and economics at Cypress Falls High School, a public school in Houston. In addition to her social studies responsibilities, she is a team leader for the special education department, which is comprised of fifty colleagues. She is the mother of two sons, ages six and three. When not at work, she enjoys spending time with her sons and husband, going to the movies, reading, and cooking.

“My favorite part of the year is when I can take the students on a field trip. I’ve taken them to the LBJ Library, the Bob Bullock Museum in Austin, and to the Houston Museum of Natural Science.”

RON TYLER, “THE ARTIST’S WEST”
LARISA CASTRO

Larissa Castro is originally from Los Angeles, but has lived in San Antonio since 2005. She is in her second year teaching sixth through eighth grade social studies at Northside Alternative Middle School-North. This urban school is ethnically and economically diverse. On campus she is involved in tutoring, the career fair, and Pillars of Character Fair, including her class-sponsored food drive. She serves as the department coordinator of social studies for her campus as well. This year she was named First-Year Teacher of the Year for her campus. When she is not at school, she enjoys hiking, traveling, reading, and hanging out with her husband Ron.

JAY CLACK

Jay Clack is a sixth-generation Texan. His mother’s ranch has been in continuous operation by her family since 1890. He received his M.Ed. from the University of Arkansas in 1994. He has been teaching in Texas since 1985 and has taught English at Breckenridge High School for twenty-one years. He also teaches at the Cisco Junior College campus of the Abilene Education Center. He lives in Albany with his wife, Barbra, a teacher, illustrator, and children’s book author. He is an active trustee of the Old Jail Art Center in Albany, chairing both the exhibitions committee and the standards and acquisitions committee. Over the last decade, he and Barbra have taken ninety-five high school students on tours of Europe. One of his greatest pleasures is seeing so many of his former star students entering the teaching profession.

LETICIA DAVILA

Leticia Davila was born and raised in Brownsville, Texas. She teaches Texas history and is the department chair for social sciences at Saint Joseph Academy, a private Catholic school in Brownsville, and coaches the school’s champion academic mastersminded team. In 2005, Brownsville’s Rotary Club recognized her as Outstanding Teacher of the Year. When she isn’t at school, she enjoys traveling, reading, watching the news, and blogging on “Hot Soup,” a political forum for news junkies.

CAROLYN M. DAVIS

Carolyn M. Davis received her bachelor of science degree from The University of Texas at Tyler, and she earned her master of arts in interdisciplinary studies and her principalship certification from The University of Texas at Arlington. She taught for sixteen years in various school districts in Texas, including the Chapel Hill, Tyler, and Dallas school districts. She also taught at the special school district in Clanton, Missouri. Currently, she teaches pre-AP world history classes at the Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Center in Dallas. Prior to teaching, she was employed in the private sector for twelve years by various companies in East Texas world history classes at the Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Center in Dallas. Prior to teaching, she was employed in the private sector for twelve years by various companies in East Texas. She also taught at the special school district in Clanton, Missouri. Currently, she teaches pre-AP, at the Callisburg Secondary School in rural Cooke County. He started and sponsors the Callisburg History Club. He has opened the door for his students to the world outside Callisburg by his participation in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund. For the last two years he has traveled and worked with Japanese teachers and students on environmental projects. His Callisburg students also work on these projects and share their information with their Japanese counterparts via live internet video conferencing software. He was recognized in Austin during this session of the Texas legislature for his work on this project.

TOM DEMETRION

Tom Demetrion has a master’s degree in American studies from the University of Dallas. He has lived and worked in several states and countries around the world. He began to teach as a second career in 2001 after his two years with the International Police Task Force during the United Nations Mission in Kosovo. He was nominated by Region XI Education Service Center as Intern Teacher of the Year in 2002. He has been a resident of Woodbine for the last eighteen years and currently teaches social studies, Texas history, and U.S. history, both regular and pre-AP, at the Callisburg Secondary School in rural Cooke County. He started and sponsors the Callisburg History Club. He has opened the door for his students to the world outside Callisburg by his participation in the Japan Fulbright Memorial Fund. For the last two years he has traveled and worked with Japanese teachers and students on environmental projects. His Callisburg students also work on these projects and share their information with their Japanese counterparts via live internet video conferencing software. He was recognized in Austin during this session of the Texas legislature for his work on this project.

AMY EASLEY

Amy Easley is a native of Georgia but has lived in Waco for the past nineteen years. She earned her M.A. in history from Baylor University and teaches Texas and U.S. history at Connally Junior High School, a public school outside of Waco. In 2006, she was awarded a fellowship to the Baylor Teaching American History Institute. She enjoys reading, spending time with her husband Richard, and attending athletic and music events for her two teenagers, Lisy and Alex.

MICHAEL EDGHIll

Michael Edghill is a first-generation American who was born and raised in Texas. While growing up outside of Houston, he developed a deep interest in the history of Texas. He attended the University of North Texas and had the opportunity to take classes with each Texas historians as Randolph Campbell and Ty Cashion. He also participated in semester-long private study courses on Mexican politics from independence through the rise of Santa Anna and the history of nineteenth-century German immigration to northwestern Harris County. He teaches American history and the history of the American West at Nolan Catholic High School in Fort Worth. When not working, he enjoys time with his wife and two boys as well as fishing, hiking, and just being outdoors.

“Comanche art and western landscape are intimately connected. This relationship can be found in oral tradition, visual art, military strategy, and by observing the people today in public celebrations of power... The Comanche have what Keith H. Basso describes as a ‘reciprocal relationship’ with the land, a ‘relationship in which individuals invest themselves in the landscape while incorporating its meaning into their own fundamental experience.’”

JUANITA PANDOPONY, “COMANCHE PERSPECTIVES ON ART AND WESTERN LANDSCAPES”
DEMEDIA EDWARDS

Demedia Edwards is a native Arkansan now residing in Spring. She is the first grade team leader at Orange Grove Elementary School, a public school in the Aldine Independent School District north of Houston. She serves on the school’s leadership team and district grant writing committee. She is also a new homeowner and enjoys traveling and wine tasting with her husband. She is passionate about books and is an avid reader. She plans to start a book club in the near future.

BARRY FINKEL

I was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. I lived two years when I was young in Townsville, Queensland, Australia. I graduated from William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri, with a B.A. in 1975. I majored in political science, business administration, and economics. I taught economics, business law, and speech at Bauer College in Miami in 1977 and 1978. I left teaching to practice law and graduated from the University of Miami School of Law in 1978 with a juris doctor degree. I practiced law for twenty-seven years in Missouri and Dallas, specializing in federal practice, but retired from my law practice and returned to teaching in 2005. I really enjoyed teaching and wanted to get back to educating young people. I teach world history and advanced placement world history at Lake Dallas High School in Corinth. My wife D’Wanna is a lifelong educator. She has been a teacher, principal, and administrator and recently became the director of alternative education programs in the Longview Independent School District. I have two sons; Nick is twenty-four and a pilot with Continental Connection, and Deniz is ten. He was born in Lugansk, Ukraine, and became a member of our family in 2003. I am teaching in the Longview area this year.

JIM FURGESON

Jim Furgeson is a native of Lubbock but has lived in Austin for the past thirty years. He teaches advanced placement U.S. history, practical law, constitutional law, and an honors senior projects class at McCallum High School in Austin. He is also the sponsor of the McCallum National Honor Society. In 2004, he won the state-wide Excellence in Education Award from H-E-B. His wife, Barbara, teaches at the School of Social Work at The University of Texas at Austin. He enjoys spending time with his three sons, Will, Andy, and James.

CHARLIE GRIFFIN

Charlie Griffin is a proud native Texan and has lived in Andrews for the past twenty-seven years. She teaches Texas history at Andrews Middle School, a public school in a rural West Texas community. She is active in both the Association of Texas Professional Educators and Delta Kappa Gamma; participated in the Sam Houston Teacher’s Academy, where she helped write an instructional resource guide for Texas history; and chaired a grant-reading committee for the Department of Education’s ‘Teaching American History’ grant program. She is an avid reader and enjoys traveling throughout the United States.

SHERRY GROSENBack

Sherry Grosenbach was born and raised in Texas. She currently teaches integrated reading and social studies to fifth graders at the Academy at C. F. Thomas Elementary in North Richland Hills. She was nominated as teacher of the year in 2006–07 and serves on the site-based decision-making team and as team leader for the fifth grade. When not at school, Sherry serves alongside her husband of twenty-one years at the church he pastors in Haltom City. The rest of her hours are allocated to the academic and social careers of her awesome daughters, Savannah and Makalah. The best way to spend time in her opinion is visiting historical sights and museums with a fantastic waterfall or two thrown in along the way.

LESLEI HART

Leslie Hart is a native of Houston. She teaches U.S. history since 1877 at Spring Woods High School, a public school in suburban Houston. She is currently department chairperson. When not teaching, she enjoys quilting, working auto races, and traveling around the U.S. hoping to get to as many historic places and national parks as possible.

“The story of Kit Carson is not a Western but what I call a pre-Western. It’s a story about a time before all of the clichés that we’ve come to think of as ‘Western’ fell into place or solidified. There are no Stetson hats, there’s no stagecoach, no transcontinental railway, no barbed wire, no cattle drive . . . Most of the white guys are speaking French or Spanish, not English. They’re wearing army blues; they’re wearing buckskins. It’s a very different West and I think a more interesting West. . . . And we see these characters like Kit Carson who are in this fundamentally new world, trying to make sense of it, and leaving the very first imprint of American culture on this vast terrain.”

**Charles A. Heiser**

Charles A. (Chuck) Heiser is a retired Air Force colonel who spent twenty-seven years as a B-52 and B-1-B crew member, academic instructor, flight instructor, flight evaluator, curriculum writer, university professor, and commander. After retiring, he spent five years building homes and financial planning before deciding to teach social studies at the Hurst Eules Bedford Independent School District’s Alternate Education Program. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and riding his motorcycle.

**Keri Heskett**

Keri Heskett is a lifelong Texan, born in the cattle town of Fort Worth, raised in nearby Jacksboro, and now in her fourth year of teaching in Henrietta, a suburb of Wichita Falls. She teaches eighth-grade U.S. history and coaches girls’ athletics at Henrietta Junior High School. She was named by Humanities Texas as a 2005–06 Commended Teacher of the Humanities. When she is not at school, she enjoys jogging, traveling, and spending time with her daughters Madison and Peyton and husband Chris.

**Stacy Hricko**

Stacy Hricko is a Texas native who attended Texas public schools and universities. She is employed by the Melissa Independent School District, where she has taught junior high and high school U.S. history and English courses, as well as coaching varsity cheerleading and acting as the current student council advisor. When she is not involved in school-related activities, she enjoys spending time with her husband, grown children, and dogs.

**Pier Larsen**

Pier Larsen was born in Utah but quickly made her way to Texas via Iowa and has lived in Dallas for the past twenty-seven years. She teaches advanced placement U.S. history and pre-AP world history at Creekview High School, a public school in Carrollton just north of Dallas. She is the social studies department chair, coaches the University Interscholastic League social studies team, and spends part of her summer writing curriculum for the district. In her spare time, she enjoys running, reading a good book, baking, and quilting. But her favorite summer activity is taking road trips with any or all of her family (one husband, four children—two with spouses—and one darling grandbaby, Magnus) to explore the natural wonders and rediscover the history and folk arts of America.

**Jeff Lavender**

Jeff Lavender is originally from Kingsport, Tennessee, and now lives in Red Oak, Texas. He has taught in both private and public schools. He teaches social studies at A+ Academy in Dallas, a charter school. He also coaches the school’s track team. He enjoys reading, church activities, and playing with his one-year-old son Keith. He would like to go back and work on a Ph.D. when the circumstances are right.

**Victor Lemley**

Victor Lemley is a native Texan who has taught in private and public school settings. He enjoyed a TAKS passing rate above ninety-seven percent each year as a history teacher in public education. He is currently the history department chair at Coram Deo Academy, a private liberal arts school in Flower Mound. When he is not teaching, he enjoys spending time with his wife and two children, playing the guitar, and reading.

**Susan Lucenay**

Susan Lucenay is a native Texan and has lived in Waco for the past forty years. She has taught in the Midway Independent School District schools for twenty-five years in second, third, fourth, and fifth grades. She teaches fifth grade social studies and reading and is the fifth grade gifted and talented facilitator. She has a master’s degree in curriculum and instruction and is certified in gifted education. She has presented sessions in New York as well as at various seminars in Texas, published articles in journals, and developed curriculum. She and her husband Tom share a love of travel, spending weekends in Galveston and visiting their daughters and grandchildren. Her passions include snorkeling, dancing, and reading historical fiction.

**“At the center of the ‘frontier thesis,’ which [Frederick Jackson] Turner announced in 1893, was that people were moving into the West, were confronting new lands and new peoples, and from these experiences came the frontier, which he claimed to be the most important ingredient in American history. . . . I would suggest that we have begun to develop in just the past ten years a ‘new complex Western history,’ or Western history as a kind of conversation. . . . Instead of using value-laden words, we use words such as borders, boundaries, crossroads, and we can even redefine frontiers and say they’re meeting places not between savagery and civilization as Turner said, but the meeting places between cultures.’”**

—Richard W. Etulain, "Telling Western Stories: From Triumph to Conflict to Complexity"
Diane Steinert McCusker was raised in Fort Worth. Shortly after graduating from Southwestern University in Georgetown, she moved to New Orleans to pursue a master’s degree. Thirty-two years later, with a second master’s degree and retirement from Louisiana schools, she returned to Fort Worth to be near family. Her last ten years in New Orleans were spent at Ben Franklin High School, a public Orleans Parish school for the gifted, teaching advanced placement and honors U.S. history. She is presently the lead special education teacher at Western Hills High School and a member of the Fort Worth Independent School District curriculum differentiation team for the Vision 2010 strategic plan. When not at work, she enjoys reading, spending time with friends at the Woman’s Club, and working on her home in the historic district of Ryan Place.

Danna Orabo was born and raised in Beaumont and graduated from the University of Houston. She has lived in the Fort Worth area for the past twenty-one years. She teaches U.S. history and coaches the ninth grade girls basketball and track teams at Central Junior High School, a public school in the center of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. In her time off, she stays involved in her community as a volunteer. She stays fit by working out and officiating at basketball games. She has two children: Shaunice, eighteen, and Demarques, fourteen. She enjoys cooking, reading, watching sports, and spending time with family and friends.

Vicki Carter Patterson is a transplant to Texas. Originally from Shreveport, Louisiana, she has lived in the Dallas area for over twenty years. Although she previously worked in public schools and at Southern Methodist University (SMU), Vicki currently teaches U.S. history to ninth graders at The Episcopal School of Dallas (ESD). At ESD, she also coordinates the annual weeklong sixth-grade trip to Washington, D.C. When not involved at school, Vicki enjoys gardening, reading, and traveling. She is the proud mother of two children. Her daughter Katie is a 2007 graduate of Texas A&M University. A graduate of SMU, her son Patrick was married this summer.

Kimberly Pope is a native of Wichita Falls but resides in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. She teaches world cultures and pre-AP Texas history at Coppell Middle School West, a public school in Coppell, Texas, where she also coaches volleyball and basketball and is head coach of the track program. In late 2006, she was one of only two teachers in the district who were elected to be a part of the Region 10 Teacher Scholar Program. She was also awarded the “Gem” Award by her principal, Vern Edin, for her outstanding leadership and dedication to the track and field program. When she is not at school, she enjoys reading, running, and playing sports with her son Kaleb and fiancé Tony. She is expecting her second son in early May.

Rebecca Reynolds teaches seventh grade Texas history at Liberty Hill Middle School in Killeen. The Killeen Independent School District is the primary school district serving children of soldiers stationed at Fort Hood. She is the sponsor of her campus history club. She is a native Texan and grew up in San Angelo. Being married to a soldier herself, she has lived in many places all over the world. All this movement has fostered her love of travel. She traveled to Mexico last summer for four weeks after receiving a Fulbright-Hays award.

Illene Richter has been involved in education for the past thirty years. A native of Corpus Christi, she has taught many grades in schools across Texas. She teaches pre-AP geography and advanced placement U.S. history in Carthage. She sponsors the Model United Nations and helps with the academic University Interscholastic League social studies team. Her educational career has taken her to Kuwait, where she taught for a year. She has also served ten years as a school administrator. She enjoys reading, spending time with family, and traveling.

Maria McCoy was raised in New Orleans but has lived in Dallas for the last fourteen years. She teaches Texas history at Renner Middle School in Plano, a suburb of Dallas. She serves as history department chair and is a curriculum writer and staff development presenter for the district’s secondary social studies curriculum. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, traveling, and gardening.

“Women have long been active in politics. Most have engaged with political parties and political offices, but only in very limited numbers. This is changing in the 21st century, as is the role of women in public discourse. Women are running for office in increasing numbers and taking on a greater variety of roles in politics. They are also shaping the public discourse on politics in ways that are increasing the diversity of political ideas and opinions. Women are contributing to the development of new political movements and political parties. Women are also leading the way in political advocacy and political action. Women are becoming more active in the political process and are making a greater impact on political outcomes.”

Reneé H. Lagred, “Women in the West”
RUTH NAVJAR ROUSE

Ruth Navjar Rouse was born and raised in Fort Worth. The third oldest of eight children, she played “school” with her younger siblings and had always dreamed of becoming a teacher. After rearing her own two children and arriving at the delicate age of forty-three, Ruth attended the University of Houston-Victoria and obtained her teaching certificate. In 2004, she was named the Texas Association of Gifted and Talented Rising Star Teacher of the Year (Region III Education Service Center) and was also the 2006 recipient of the Soil Conservation Teacher of the Year award for Colorado County. Besides teaching, reading, cooking, and traveling with her husband of twenty-seven years are her passions.

JAYNE SERNA

Jayne Serna is a U.S. history and advanced placement U.S. history teacher at Cedar Park High School. She has taught in the Leander Independent School District for fourteen years and in Texas for the past seventy. A graduate of Angelo State University (B.A.) and Texas State University (M.A.), she also is an adjunct associate professor of history at Austin Community College. She is the secretary of the Leander Parks and Recreation Board and co-founder of Leander Youth Soccer, a recreational soccer league that provides low-cost activities for local youth. She was named 2006 Secondary Teacher of the Year by the Association of Texas Professional Educators. She and her husband Gabriel will celebrate their twentieth wedding anniversary this summer.

KELLI SIMON

Kelli Simon is a native Texan and has lived in San Antonio for the past four years. She teaches Texas history at Rawlinson Middle School in the Northside Independent School District. She is also a graduate student in public history at Texas State University. In her spare time, you can find her with her blue heeler Lucy, chasing the Frisbee and enjoying the “Great Outdoors.” She also loves to travel, read, hunt, and spend time with family and friends. An obsession is constantly “digging for the truth” behind the myths about important events, people, and places.

ELIZABETH TAGGE

Elizabeth Tagge is a native of Kansas who attended Trinity University in San Antonio, where her unbelieveable experiences planted the seeds of an eventual return to Texas. She taught in Oklahoma City at a college preparatory school for six years before making her way back down I-35. Currently she teaches eighth grade U.S. history in Round Rock, where she is the department chair, sponsor of the National Junior Honor Society, a collaborative and mentor teacher, and a member of the leadership team. Although this allows for little free time during the week, she enjoys reading, taking trips with her children, rollerblading, kayaking, hiking, and playing in the yard with her fiancé. She and her children spend a month every summer in northern Michigan, a true paradise. She has a home by the bay at the tip of a peninsula. That is where she recaptures her passion and restores her spirit.

AMY THURMAN

Amy Thurman is a native of Fort Worth, but has taught in the Paradise Independent School District for fourteen years. She teaches pre-AP U.S. history, eighth grade U.S. history, and Texas history at Paradise Junior High School, a public school in rural Wise County. She was recently honored as a recipient of the 2007 Oklahoma City National Memorial Teacher Fellowship. She also volunteers one week each summer at Camp CommUNITY, a residential camp sponsored by the Multicultural Alliance. This camp is for Tarrant County juniors and seniors to learn the elements of responsible leadership and become social change advocates. When she isn’t at work, she enjoys traveling with her family, watching her son and nephews play sports, and reading.

JUDITH TREVINO

Judith Trevino has lived in the Rio Grande Valley all of her life. She teaches at Edinburg North High School, a public school in Edinburg. She loves teaching U.S. history and being able to make a difference in her students’ lives. When she isn’t inspiring young minds at school, she enjoys going for long walks at the park with her dog, traveling, and spending time with family and friends.

JENNIFER YATES

Jennifer Yates is excited about teaching Texas history and incorporating Southwestern history into the instruction of that subject. She travels extensively in the Southwest, where the Navajo Nation is her favorite place to visit. She teaches at Madison Middle School in Abilene, which participates in a service project that supplies food to the Navajo in Chihuahua. She also collects Navajo rugs.

“...“The railroads can seem the most overlooked, unromantic thing that’s in the West, and yet they profoundly shaped what we are, who we are, and how we get there...” Even to this day, many years later, we follow trails that the railroad laid out... Lubbock is the primary city of the south plains; Amarillo is the primary city of the Panhandle. Both of them are that due to the railroads... Dallas, the major city of north Texas, was made so by the railroads. The railroads had just come to Dallas when the panic of 1873 set in... Had it not been for that economic depression, Fort Worth might have become the major city of that area, or perhaps some point farther west. But for a brief period of time, Dallas was the terminus of two or three railroads and that gave it a head start over everyone else.”

David J. Murray, “Settlement and Pioneer Life in the West.”

THE WEST AND THE SHAPING OF AMERICA

INSTITUTES FOR TEXAS TEACHERS
ISIDRO AGUIRRE

A twenty-six-year teaching veteran, Isidro Aguirre is currently the social studies department head at L. G. Pinkston High School in Dallas. He teaches advanced placement U.S. history and pre-AP world history as well as pre-AP world geography. He is currently putting together the school’s first swim team. Aguirre is also a national and state advanced placement consultant for the College Board.

LYNNAE BLIESE

Lynnae Bliese grew up in Ethiopia and came to Lubbock in 1991. She received a degree in geography from Texas Tech University. She has taught social studies at Estacado High School for five years. Along with other teachers and personnel at the district office, she has written a social studies curriculum that has been distributed throughout the district. She is currently writing curriculum on the history of Lubbock for the city’s centennial. When she is not teaching, she enjoys spending time with her two active daughters.

DEBBIE BREITHAUPT

Debbie Breithaupt is a native Texan and mighty proud of it! She has lived in Georgetown for the past fifteen years with her husband Charles and daughter Deah. She is originally from Sour Lake in southeast Texas. She teaches Texas history at Tippit Middle School in Georgetown. In 1995, the Georgetown Independent School District recognized her as Elementary Teacher of the Year. Her hobbies include reading, spending-time with her family, and telling her students awesome stories about intriguing Texans and their history. She and her family enjoy taking “historical road trips” and snapping photographs to bring history alive in her classroom.

TOMMY BURKHEAD

Tommy Burkhead is a native Texan who has lived in a variety of places and yet always makes it back to Texas. He resides in Lubbock, where he teaches fifth and seventh grade social studies at New Deal Middle School. His students participate in the annual essay contest of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. He enjoys all extracurricular activities within his school and stays busy with his own children’s routine and activities. He has three children: Trevor, fifteen; Shelby, three; and Rebecca, one. He especially likes to travel with his wife Janet.

LENORA BURKHOLDER

Lenora Burkholder is a native of San Antonio. She has moved away and lived other places but has always returned to San Antonio. She currently teaches world geography to ninth through twelfth grade students at John Paul Stevens High School in the Northside Independent School District. When she isn’t working at school with her students, she enjoys singing, photography and scrapbooking, gardening, volleyball, and traveling with her husband Justin and their three dogs.

PATRICIA BURTON

Patricia “Patti” Burton is a second-year seventh grade Texas history teacher at Eastwood Middle School in El Paso. Although she has taught for two years, she has worked in a school environment for more than fourteen years. Born in California, she came to El Paso when she was five and considers herself a native El Pasoan. Her three daughters have all graduated from college, and she became a teacher when her children left home because she “missed the kids” so much. “I love having them for the day and then it’s nice to send them home. With teaching, I get the fun part of the kids.”

MEREDITH CAFFEY

Meredith Caffey graduated from Sul Ross State University in Alpine, where she enjoyed being part of the Lobo track team. For the last two years she has lived in Morton, Texas, where she teaches history and physical education at Morton High School and serves as cheerleading sponsor and coach of the women’s basketball and track teams. When not in school activities, she enjoys walking with her dog, Joy; hanging out with friends; and working out; and she plans to visit every state in this great country.

PATTI CHILES

Patti Chiles is a fourth-generation Texan who has lived in three of the four natural regions of Texas. She currently lives in Irving and teaches seventh grade Texas history at Lamar Middle School, a public school in Irving, where she is also the student council advisor. The Lamar Student Council recently received the Irving Celebrates Excellence award for community service. Her favorite vacations every year are exploring Texas’s natural regions with her husband and two daughters and videoing these places for her classes. She also enjoys swimming, aikido, and camping with her family.

“The twentieth century, the West did, in the opinion of most black migrants, provide a better life for themselves and for their families—better schools, a more open society, less racial violence, less fear, greater opportunity for white collar and professional jobs than they could have had, and certainly did have, in the Southern states. Blacks could vote freely. Their vote was courted. And blacks were also willing to work hard.”

ALBERT B. BROUSSARD, “AFRICAN AMERICANS IN THE TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICAN WEST”
ROBERT CORNER

Robert Corner is a native Texan who has been teaching for ten years. He currently teaches Texas history at Highland Middle School in Fort Worth. His interests include jogging, biking, and travel throughout Texas.

MELISSA CRIM

Melissa Crim is a fifth grade social studies and English teacher at Ann Whitney Elementary School in Hamilton, Texas. She has completed her thirteenth year of teaching. She has been happily married to Ricky for twenty-four years. He is a coach at Hamilton. She has two sons: Rody, who is attending Texas Tech University, and Ragan, who graduated from Hamilton High School and will be attending Texas Tech. In her spare time, Melissa enjoys walking, shopping, and working in her yard.

CAROLYN DARDEN

Carolyn Darden was born and raised in Hereford, Texas. After graduating from Texas Tech University in 1977 with a bachelor’s degree in broadfield social sciences, she began teaching at Evans Junior High School in Lubbock, moving to Shallowater after four years. Although she has taught every social studies course offered at Shallowater High School, her first love is U.S. history. Teaching in a small school district has allowed her the privilege of knowing her students and their families into the third generation. Her husband Chuck has also made a lifelong career of educating young people. They have three children, one of whom is now a history teacher in Post, Texas. She enjoys reading, traveling, and spending time with her family, which now includes a grandson.

MELANIE DECKER

Melanie Decker grew up in Nebraska and graduated from the university there. After traveling throughout the United States with her military husband, she finally settled in Waco. She has taught in the Texas public school system for ten years. Currently she teaches American history and freshman English at Mart High School in Mart, Texas. She drives a school bus and also sponsors the Mart student council and several University Interscholastic League events. She enjoys gardening, reading, and traveling.

MARIE NEUMAN GOTTFRIED

Marie Neuman Gottfried, a fifth-generation Texan, lives on her family ranch near Pattison in southern Waller County with her three children. A graduate of Texas A&M University, she teaches seventh grade social studies at Royal Middle School in Pattison. She has held various offices in state organizations such as the Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Texas German Society, and Polish Genealogical Society of Texas, and she has memberships in other cultural and historical organizations. She has self-published five local history books about Czech and German immigrants in Harris and Waller counties and was able to visit some of her ancestral villages in the Czech Republic. Her community projects include the Royal athletic booster club and Future Farmers of America. She also helps her children raise pigs and page.

PAUL TAYLOR GRAY

Paul Taylor Gray, a direct descendant of early North American colonists maternally and a Revolutionary War hero paternally, lives on a small ranch in Austin County, Texas, and teaches eighth grade social studies in the Brookshire/Pattison area for the Royal Independent School District. His experiences in Texas and New Mexico as a cowboy and ranch foreman have given him a tremendous appreciation and respect for the beauty of our great country and the significance of agriculture. His experiences as a classroom educator since 1992 have facilitated learning the history of the United States, including the facts, myths, misconceptions, viewpoints, and propaganda that contribute to our history. He views the history of our country as that of his family.

NORMA GREEN

Norma Green is a native of San Angelo, Texas. She is currently employed by the Education Services Center, Region XV. She has taught Texas history and eighth and eleventh grade U.S. history courses in San Angelo. For the past seven years she has worked at the Education Service Center. Social studies and beginning teachers have been the main priorities at the service center. ESC XV serves forty-three school districts in eighteen counties stretching from Del Rio to May. When not at work she enjoys being at the ranch and traveling throughout the West and Southwest with her husband Jerald.

TAG GREEN

Tag Green hails from Plano, where he teaches both American and British literature at Prestonwood Christian Academy. This will be his sixth year teaching and his third at Prestonwood, a school that focuses on developing strong Christian leaders and thinkers who can effectively engage their culture. He has also served as a student government sponsor and as the Ready Writing coach. Outside of school, he teaches Sunday school at First Baptist Church of Dallas, spends time with friends, and travels whenever he can. He has a particular love for New York City, where he spent a year as a missionary.
Tra Hall is a sixth-generation Texan and a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. One of his ancestors was the treasurer of Jamestown Colony. He currently teaches social studies at Flour Bluff Junior High, a public school in the Texas Panhandle. He also coaches debate. His teams have consistently placed at the University Interscholastic League state debate tournament. His senior team won the gold and silver gavels at the state tournament, denoting them as the top two speakers in Texas. In his life outside of education he is a devout Catholic, a student of theology, and the director of aquatics at the local country club. He enjoys swimming, reading, and getting together with friends for “Celtic Frenzies,” which includes a roaring fire, a glass of brandy, a good cigar, and lots of theological discussion. He and Angela, his wife of fifteen years, have three children: Brooke, fourteen, Hunter, ten, and River, six.

Karen Howden

I am a native of Corpus Christi, Texas, and have lived here for fifty-one years. I am currently teaching eighth grade American history at Flour Bluff Junior High, a public school which overlooks the Laguna Madre. I’ve been involved in school organizations such as the University Interscholastic League and student council. I am also involved in outdoor education and the Nueces County Historical Commission. When I’m not teaching school, I enjoy camping, hiking, swimming, and demonstrating cooking with a Dutch oven to anyone willing to learn.

Allison James

Allison James was born and raised in Carlsbad, New Mexico, but moved to Lubbock to attend Lubbock Christian University and has lived in Texas for the past fifteen years. She currently teaches fifth grade language arts and social studies at Memorial Intermediate School in New Braunfels. She has been a sponsor of the school’s student council for the past six years. When she is not at school, she enjoys attending local festivals with her three young daughters and her husband, scrapbooking her family memories, and outdoor activities.

Meredith Johnson

Meredith Johnson is a native of Houston. She has been an educator for thirteen years. She is a graduate of the University of Houston-Clear Lake and is certified in five areas: social studies composite (grades 8–12), secondary history (grades 6–12), secondary geography (grades 6–12), secondary English (grades 6–12), and secondary English language arts (grades 6–12). She has spent the majority of her career teaching social studies in the Friendswood and La Porte independent school districts. While in Friendswood ISD, she taught exit-level U.S. history, in which her students exhibited a 100 percent pass rate for each year the test has been administered. Currently, she is a seventh grade pre-AP and regular Texas history teacher. When she isn’t at school, she enjoys spending time with her husband and three children. She also enjoys serving on volunteer community committees and traveling the state of Texas.

Pam Kennedy

Pam Kennedy, a native of Littlefield, grew up on the South Plains of Texas. She has lived in Anton and now resides in Lubbock. She has taught at Anton Elementary, a small, rural school outside of lubbock, for twenty-one years. She is in charge of her campus’s gifted and talented program. She and her husband Bruce have four children and two grandchildren. She enjoys cooking, gardening, traveling to the mountains, and playing the piano and organ.

Danial Lassiter

Danial Lassiter is a native of Cleburne, Texas, and a graduate of Baylor University. He, his wife Jennifer, and their six children reside in Lubbock. Danial has taught in the public schools for twenty-five years. He is currently teaching Texas history and coaching tennis for Levelland Independent School District.

Mike Louis

Mike Louis is a native of Texas and was raised in several different cities in the Panhandle and West Texas. He currently teaches U.S. and world history at Denver City High School, which was recently recognized as a Texas Blue Ribbon School. The DCHS faculty is very proud of this achievement. He is a varsity football coach and enjoys a wide variety of outdoor activities. His wife Mary is a high school chemistry teacher. They have a ten-year-old son, Garrett.

Brandon Martin

Brandon Martin is a native of Tennessee but has lived in Texas for twenty-nine years. He teaches basic social studies at Lake Dallas High School, just south of Denton. He is the head coach of the boy’s soccer team and also coaches the cross-country team. He volunteers for the Special Olympics and is actively involved in other community projects. When he isn’t at school, he enjoys camping, mountain biking, snowboarding, soccer, and traveling abroad.

David McKee

David McKee is a Texas native who, after brief stays out of country and out of state, returned to Texas to begin his teaching career. He teaches fifth and sixth grade social studies and fifth grade science at Phoenix Charter School in Greenville. He has a B.A. in history and sociology from Austin College and an M.A. in social science from the University of California, Irvine.
CATHRINE MCMANAHAN
Catherine McMahan was born and raised in the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. Upon graduating from Texas Tech University, she settled in Seminole. She has taught fourth and fifth grade social studies at Seagraves Elementary School for three years. She coaches University Interscholastic League events each year. When not in the classroom, she looks forward to hobbies such as scrapbooking, reading, cooking, and spending time with her husband Justin and sons Anson and Byeton.

AMIRET CHERRY

ANNETTE MURPHY
Annette Murphy was born and raised in the state of Texas—Lubbock, to be precise. She has lived in Portland for the past twenty-eight years and has employed as a teacher of history and Spanish by the Gregory-Portland Independent School District at the junior high and high school during that time. She currently teaches Spanish at the high school, a public school located in Portland. In 2006, she was nominated for the Excellence in Education award sponsored by the H-E-B food store chain. When not in school, she enjoys music, dance, and travel.

AMBER NOLAND
Amber Noland is a native of West Texas. She has lived here since birth with only a brief six-month hiatus to Southeast Texas. She currently teaches sixth grade social studies and eighth grade U.S. history at New Deal Middle School, a public rural school in New Deal, Texas, where she is the history department chair. She is also the student council sponsor, and this year her student council kids raised over $1,150 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. When she is not at school, she enjoys spending time with her husband Aaron and their two-year-old MacKenna.

BRUCE KIRK PATTERSON
Bruce Kirk Patterson is a native of Friosa, Texas, and has lived in Lubbock, Canyon, Crosbyton, Houston, Austin, and, for the past eight years, Denver City. He currently teaches government and economics at Denver City High School, a public school in rural Denver City, and coaches the football, basketball, and track teams. In 2002, AFLAC recognized him as a national assistant coach of the year. When he isn’t at school, he enjoys spending time with his wife and kids.

JAIME RAMOS
The story of Jaime Ramos is typical of any educator raised on the ideals and work ethics of an older generation. He was born and raised in the Rio Grande Valley, a member of a migrant family. He currently resides in Temple and teaches at Travis Middle School. His military and teaching experience has broadened his views of education and the world in general, which he is passing on to his students. He has been blessed with a great wife and four children. He enjoys reading military history books (of course) and building military models as a form of relaxation.

DIANE REITMYER
Diane Retmyer grew up a short bus ride from New York City. This city girl then attended college deep in the heartland of America, at Truman University in northern Missouri. Surviving this culture shock, she then moved to Michigan where she remained for thirty years and raised two wonderful daughters. Following in her youngest daughter’s footsteps, she decided to leave a secure job in the medical profession to pursue her passion for teaching. She obtained her master’s degree in children’s literature while in Michigan but hopes to obtain her Ph.D. in Texas. Her daughter Jessica teaches at a performing arts middle school in the Bronx, New York. Her oldest daughter Jennifer has a bachelor of science in nursing and works at NorthEast Medical Center in Houston. Retmyer teaches high school social studies and U.S. history at Ropes Independent School District. Along with teaching, she serves as the assistant band director, University Interscholastic League calculator coach, and a volunteer boys’ basketball coach. When she is not teaching, she enjoys skiing, traveling, and Texas Tech Lady Raider basketball.

MICKIE SIEK
Mickie Siek is a military brat but has lived in the Fort Worth area for the past twelve years. She currently teaches American history at North Richland Middle School, a public school in suburban Fort Worth. In 2004, North Richland Middle School recognized her as its Outstanding Teacher of the Year. When she isn’t at school, she enjoys working out, reading, and traveling.

MARILEE STOCKTON
I am a native of Omaha, Nebraska, but I have lived in McAllen, Texas, since the eighth grade. I have taught eighth grade U.S. history since 1990. I am the history department chair at Cathey Middle School, as well as leader of one of the eighth grade teams. I also sponsor a student history club as part of an afterschool enrichment program on our campus. I have two grown children and enjoy reading, walking my dog, yoga, and salsa classes.
MEGHAN TULLY

Meghan Tully, a California native, recently relocated to Central Texas. She is an eleventh grade U.S. history teacher at Killeen High School in Killeen, Texas. In addition to her teaching, she sponsors the outdoor recreation club and the Class of 2009. An avid adventurer, risk taker, and world traveler, she enjoys scuba diving, camping, and skydiving.

TEDRA ULMER

After a seventeen-year career as a community educator with the Texas Extension Service, Tedra Ulmer knew it was time to do what she truly loved: teach history. She returned to Sam Houston State University to obtain her certification, then found a position at a tiny West Texas school with a student body of approximately 100. At Lohn Independent School District, she teaches U.S. history and high school English. She also sponsors the Lohn Eagle yearbook, the senior class, and the National Honor Society while coaching University Interscholastic League events, including Ready Writing, current events, social studies, and journalism. She has also taught government and economics and coached junior high girls sports. She and her husband Neal enjoy watching their granddaughter play soccer and traveling to historical locations for weekend getaways to research genealogy. They both enjoy photography as well as being “parents” to four dogs and a spoiled cat.

DARREN WHALEN

Darren Whalen was born and raised in Lubbock and is a graduate of Texas Tech University. He moved to Plainview in 1995 and began his career as a social studies teacher at Lockney Junior High School, a rural public school, one year later. He is also the University Interscholastic League maps, charts, and graphs coach and has served as the student council sponsor and on many district committees. When he isn’t teaching he enjoys skiing, racquetball, reading “alternative history,” and spending time with his wife Shayla and their two daughters McKinley and Marley.

JUDY WILLINGHAM

Judy Willingham has lived most of her life in Texas. After graduating from Texas Tech University, she began her teaching career in San Angelo, Texas. Positions in Katy and Granbury came later, along with her husband and two daughters. Now she teaches fourth grade in Granbury and enjoys reading, working in the garden, and spending time with her family.

CAROLYN WISEMAN

Carolyn Wiseman is from the small town of Friona, Texas. Her husband has been a coach and principal at several schools around the state for thirty years. They returned to their hometown fifteen years ago. She has taught first grade, fourth grade Texas history, and fifth grade U.S. history, her current position. She has been a facilitator for the Intel Teach program and has written fourth grade Texas history curriculum for the Texas Tech Independent School District. She enjoys playing the piano, singing, traveling, and digital photography.

PROGRAM EVALUATIONS—FORT WORTH

In order to assess the quality of the institute experience, program directors conducted daily evaluations, asking participants to rate each day’s program and its relevance to their work in the classroom.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

I found the day’s activities relevant and professionally useful.

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My experience today compares favorably with other professional development programs I have attended.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 5

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My experience today compares favorably with other professional development programs I have attended.

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

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PROGRAM EVALUATIONS—LUBBOCK

In order to assess the quality of the institute experience, program directors conducted daily evaluations, asking participants to rate each day’s program and its relevance to their work in the classroom.

**MONDAY, JUNE 11**

I found the day’s activities relevant and professionally useful.  

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I found the day’s activities intellectually stimulating.

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**TUESDAY, JUNE 12**

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My experience today compares favorably with other professional development programs I have attended.

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**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13**

I found the day’s activities relevant and professionally useful.

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I found the day’s activities intellectually stimulating.

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**THE WEST and the SHAPING of AMERICA**

FORT WORTH — JUNE 3–6, 2007  
LUBBOCK — JUNE 10–13, 2007

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PARTICIPATING TEACHERS