Hello all! I hope this latest edition of our newsletter finds you well and also finds you actively producing or at least appreciating art, in all its wondrous forms. We have been industrious again this year and actively producing. As you read, you will discover that we have faculty who preside over national boards and societies, serve on others, participate in panels and symposiums, give lectures and workshops and as you might expect, show their works in national and international venues across the continents. We are proud to say we both make art and influence the making of art, through our own efforts, and through the accomplishments of our outstanding students and alums.

We are pleased to announce the addition of four new faculty to the Studio Art Department this year. Jenny Vogel and Shane Mecklenburger join us to lead our New Media Art program; James Thurman comes to us in Core Design I and Metals & Jewelry; and painter Laura Beard joins us as coordinator of Core Design II. Learn more about them in the new faculty section.

As always, we appreciate your support and invite you to consider making another contribution this year. There are student scholarship opportunities, visiting artists, workshops, symposiums, art exhibitions, travel for professional development and other opportunities that need your help. Thanks so much for your interest, your enthusiasm and your continuing support of our endeavors.

Jerry Austin
The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts in Spring, TX, featured twenty-seven watercolors by the late Regents Professor Rob Erdle. The exhibition ran from April 27-August 2. Millie Giles, lecturer in Watercolor, conducted two workshops and gave a lecture in June in conjunction with the exhibition.

Nine watercolor students, along with Lecturer, Millie Giles, were invited to take part in the 2009 Niigata International Watercolor Exhibition in Niigata, Japan. Those who sent paintings to Japan included: Megan Barnes (BFA), Justin Betancourt (BFA), Tiffany Ferguson (BFA), Michael Bales (BFA), Lucas Martell (BFA), Anne Couteau (BFA), Hiromi Inoue (BFA), In Sun Mitchell (BFA), and Beth Gouldin (MFA). The exhibition also traveled to Sado Island, Japan, during July, 2009.

Beth Gouldin (MFA candidate), graduate watercolor student and teaching fellow, received the Rob Erdle Graduate Watercolor Scholarship Award. In addition, she was awarded travel money to conduct research in Japan during summer 2009 for her MFA Creative Project course.

Kate Colin (BFA 2008), the first undergraduate student accepted into the new watercolor concentration, received a full scholarship for graduate study at the University of Dallas in Irving, TX, for the Fall of 2009. Mary Simon was awarded the June Impson Scholarship from the Denton Visual Arts Society. Michael Bales, undergraduate watercolor major, was awarded a one-person exhibition of his watercolors at the Lewisville Art Center during May, 2009.

Four watercolor graduate students, Beth Gouldin, Nathan Popp, Ingrid Scobie and Jonathan Quinn, had work installed in the Gough Gallery Aug 2 - Sep 4, 2009 in an exhibition entitled Symbiotic Structure at the Denton Art Center. Senior watercolor student, Effie Onisiphorou, took part in the Greek-American Artists’ Exhibition in Houston TX, June, 2009. It was sponsored by the Hellenic Cultural Organization of the Southwest. Rachel Myre, senior watercolor major, completed her requirement for graduation by installing a one-person exhibition in the Goodrich Gallery of the First United Methodist Church, Dallas, during May, 2009. The exhibition included 22 paintings, 11 of which were 3-D watercolors.

Johanna Perkins, watercolor major, designed the T-shirt for International Week for 2009.
New Faculty in

Laura Beard—Drawing & Painting, Core Design

Laura Beard joined us as coordinator of Core Design I. She received her MFA in Painting from the University of Washington in Seattle and her BFA in painting and printmaking from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Laura has been teaching at Washington University since 2004 and Webster University since 1998. She was also the Director of Portfolio Plus and Summer School at Washington University. Beard is President of the Santo Foundation, a not-for-profit organization established to assist artists with individual grants, travel stipends and subsidized studio space. She is currently in the exhibition “New American Talent” at the Arthouse Contemporary Museum in Austin, TX. curated by Hamza Walker. Her recent solo exhibitions were at The Bruno David Gallery, St. Louis and Perimeter Gallery, Chicago in 2008 and Sherry Leedy Contemporary Art, Kansas City in 2007.

Rachel Black & Lesli Robertson—New Lecturers

Congratulations to Lesli Robertson on her appointment as continuing lecturer in Weaving. Lesli (MFA, Fibers, has been a valuable adjunct instructor for us in Fibers and we look forward to her renewed efforts on our behalf. Congratulations also to Rachel Black, who was selected as a one year lecturer in Core Drawing, replacing Lari Gibbons who is on leave for the year. Rachel has been a long-time adjunct for us in drawing since getting her MFA in Drawing & Painting in 2003.

James Thurman—Metals & Jewelry, Core Design

James Thurman is our new coordinator of Core Design II and comes to us from Penn State University where he was assistant professor of Metals and assistant director of the School of Visual Arts. Fascinated with how the method of presentation and display affects the perception of the object, James Thurman's recent work uses the format of a natural history museum as a cultural critique. In his Ancient Artifacts of the 21st Century installation, he uses objects of his own creation as the subject for a fictitious future's misinterpretation. Through this humorous misinterpretation, issues of material culture hierarchies, consumerism, and environmentalism are explored in a playful and accessible manner. Currently, images of the maquette of the exhibition are online at:

www.flickr.com/photos/jamesthurman
Studio Art

Shane Mecklenburger—New Media

Shane Mecklenburger has lived and worked as an interdisciplinary artist in Los Angeles and Chicago over the last decade. His conceptual projects examine post-industrial culture and how we construct and conflate entertainment, art, war, masculinity, childhood and the marketplace. His hybrid practice often emerges from modeling, gaming and information technologies, their common uses and origins. Recent projects include Friendly Fire, a shooter game stripped of all its elements except for the guns; ___ As Money in which he sold “The Future,” “Love,” “Wealth,” “Culture,” and “Education” on eBay; Decision Maker, a computer program that makes decisions for you; and Bisecting Bruce Banner’s Brain, a performance in which a seventy pound ball of acrylic paint is cut in half with a Japanese sword. His practice raises questions of agency, drawing attention to how our games tend to play the player.

From 1996 to 1998, Mecklenburger served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Republic of Bolivia. In 2001 he received an MS in Learning & Instruction from the University of Southern California and in 2009 he received his MFA from the Department of Film, Video, & New Media at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.


Jenny Vogel—New Media

Jenny Vogel (pronounced YEH-nee) works in video, photography and computer arts. Vogel’s work explores the world as viewed through new media technology using web-cameras, blogs and Google searches as source material. By reconfiguring various media and historical sources into newly created fictions she is pointing to the subjectivity and interchangeability of reality and facts in a society over-inundated with images.


Jenny taught at Hunter College before her arrival at UNT.
Faculty News

Drawing & Painting professor Robert Jessup participated in a group show at the Bath House Cultural Center in Dallas titled Magic Mirrors and Alter Égos, Sep 5-Oct 10, 2009, which featured thirty-three visual artists from the Dallas-Ft Worth area. From the website of the Office of Cultural Affairs for the City of Dallas:

In this revealing exhibition of self-portraiture, a group of artists delve into the fundamental nature of their inner second selves (true, assigned, or invented) to bring to light a part of their personalities (comedic, serious, or plain strange) that cannot be kept secret any more. Unexpected hidden sides of the artists' personalities are sure to be exposed. This revealing exhibition includes artwork in an assortment of media, including paintings, photographs, sculpture, and mixed media art.

Also at the Bath House Cultural Center, the work of photography adjunct Kathy Lovas was celebrated in the solo exhibition Jot That Down!, which included sculptural work in a variety of mixed media. Lovas also participated in a three-person exhibition No Parking At Any Time at the Mokah Gallery in Dallas, TX, September 5 – October 10, 2009.

Drawing & Painting adjunct Ed Blackburn was honored with a solo exhibition at Horton & Liu, New York, entitled Glimpse: 1973 to the Present, in May 2009. This was Blackburn’s second solo exhibition at Horton & Liu and was a short survey of Blackburn’s attraction to popular culture.

In fall 2008, the photography faculty, Dornith Doherty, Paho Mann, and Brent Phelps, were awarded a $25,000 Research Infrastructure Grant, which they used summer 2009 to build a Digital Imaging and Output Studio for the photography program, helping further their efforts to add digital photography to the curriculum.

Don Schol and Pam Burnley-Schol have a duet exhibition at Stephen F. Austin, at the Reavley Gallery in the Cole Art Center, October 9-December 4, 2009. They also both participated in the Greater Denton Arts Council group show titled Couples Who Create.

Don Schol’s Vietnam-inspired show at Photographs Do Not Bend Gallery in Dallas ran through August 2009 and was featured on the front page of the Dallas Morning News this summer. One print from the suite Either-Or was used as the cover image for a book published by Cornell University Press titled War and Shadows: The Haunting of Vietnam.

With the support of a $4,600 Small Grant (PI, 2008), professor Lari Gibbons travelled to the Cape Horn Biosphere Reserve of Chile with the UNT-Chile SubAntarctic Biocultural Conservation Program from December 2008 – January 2009. Upon her return, Gibbons installed The Miniature Forests of Cape Horn in conjunction with the international UNT-Chile Program Conference April 13–17 in the Environmental Sciences, Education and Technology Building. Support for this was provided by a $25,000 Hispanic and Global Studies Initiatives Fund Grant (2009, Co-PI). In conjunction with the grant, Gibbons mentored Emerald Eagle Scholar Cherie McMillan, who helped prepare exhibition materials.

In April 2009, Gibbons co-chaired a panel entitled Approaches to Intra- and Cross-Disciplinary Learning and Teaching at Confluence: 12th Biennial National Conference in Portland, Oregon. The session described how to revitalize foundation level methodologies and curricula by creating projects and sustaining collaborations across multiple disciplines in the arts, humanities and sciences.
Gibbons received a "Special Recognition" from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in Ithaca, New York in May 2009. With the support of a $4245 Faculty Research Grant, she first studied the collection of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology in August 2008 and plans to return during the coming year. Gibbons is on Faculty Development leave for 2009–2010 in order to produce a body of creative work interpreting the impact of land development on native wildlife and its habitat. Her research will be supported by a $9,780 UNT Research and Creativity Enhancement Award (2009, PI).

Drawing and painting faculty Vincent Falsetta recently participated in an international six-person exhibition Slow Magic at the Bluecoat in Liverpool, England. Fifteen small paintings were exhibited along with two installations of his color studies and index card drawings. Poet-in-residence at the Bluecoat, Nathan Jones created a poem based on this exhibition. Also in the past year, Falsetta participated in a solo exhibition at the REM Gallery in San Antonio, a two-person show with Ron Watson at the Fort Worth Central Library and group exhibitions at the Conduit Gallery, Dallas; CADD Artlab, Dallas and the Longview Museum, Longview Texas.

The Philadelphia Museum of Art recently acquired two of Vincent Falsetta’s silkscreen prints produced when he was an artist-in-residence at Brandywine Workshop, Philadelphia. In addition his paintings were selected for New American Painting issue #78 by Andrea Karnes, curator, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth.

In 2008 - 2009 drawing & painting faculty Annette Lawrence had solo exhibitions of her new body of work titled Free Paper at Dunn and Brown Contemporary in Dallas and Flatbed Press in Austin. Her work was also included in group exhibitions at The Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco, the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston, and the University of North Texas Gallery. Lawrence was promoted to Full Professor in spring of 2009. Professor Lawrence received the Dallas Museum of Art Dozier Award for travel to Australia where she will be an artist in residence at Monash University in fall 2009. Lawrence recently completed a commissioned large-scale permanent installation at the new Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

In fall 2008, visiting assistant professor of sculpture Ryan Mandell was awarded a $23,000 Research Infrastructure Grant, which, with the assistance of shop foreman Jeff McClung (MFA 2002), he used to install a CNC (computer numerical control) router in the sculpture shop, providing a fantastic new tool for our sculpture students.

Ceramics Lab Technician Brenda Lichman (MFA 2002) was featured in the May 2009 issue of Ceramics Monthly as an “Emerging Artist to Watch.”
Fibers

Area coordinator **Amie Adelman** had a solo exhibition at Brookhaven College August 16–September 25, 2009. Adelman also had a solo exhibition at Studios 2315 in Houston and participated in numerous group exhibitions including: *International Watercolor 09*, Niigata, Japan; *Perceptible Systems*, NYCAMS, New York, NY; *Human Nature Planted*, Nature Discovery Center, Russ Pitman Park, Houston, TX. Adelman also received a faculty grant from UNT to conduct research on medieval tapestries in England in 2009.

Lecturer **Lesli Robertson** had exhibitions in Texas, Tennessee, and Kansas, and a solo exhibition at the Art Institute of Dallas. She received a new professional scholarship from the Textile Society of America (TSA) and presented her research on Ugandan bark cloth as a panelist at the Textile Society of America Symposium in Honolulu, Hawaii. She recently published two articles in the summer 2009 issue of *Fiberarts Magazine*.

Robertson curated a project entitled *Renewing Material and the Handmade: the story of Ugandan Bark Cloth* with the UNT Art Gallery; brought in Ugandan artists and scholars, Fred Mutebi and Dr. Venny Nakazibwe to present their work at UNT and surrounding communities; organized workshop where Fred Mutebi worked with selected students from fibers and printmaking to produce limited edition prints on paper and bark cloth; collaborated with student chapter of NAEA to hold art workshops with Fred Mutebi to create a *Talking Mural* with local schools; mural exchange took place between these schools and primary students in Masaka, Uganda. In June 2009, Robertson was the visiting artist at the Dallas Museum of Art’s Center for Creative Connections where she worked on a Community Partner Response Project to be installed at the museum in January of 2010.

**Hilari Oller** (MFA 2010) was included in the exhibition *New Texas Talent* at the Craighead-Green Gallery, Dallas, Texas; *Green 4 Green*, *Earth Day* graduate student show, Cora Stafford Gallery; Voertman’s Annual Juried Student Competition; NAEA Student Juried Student Exhibition, Cora Stafford Gallery; Student Union Juried Exhibition Competition; and the CVAD Dean’s Office Student Work Rotating Exhibit.

**Megan Adams** (MFA candidate) had artwork reviewed in *FD Luxe* July 2009 issue, “Interior Motives” by Brittany Edwards; *The 33 News*, June 15, 2009, “UNT Student Starts Own Unique Art Business” by Roni Porter; *Daily Candy*, June 5, 2009, “A Total Turn On” by Brittany Edwards; *DecorDallas.com*, March 12, 2009, “HP Girl Megan Adams Turns Rooms into Art” by Rebecca Sherman; and *Daily Candy*, February 18, 2009, Dallas, “Can You Hang? Megan Adams Interior Etchings” by Brittany Edwards. Megan also showed work at 1900 Elm Building on Main Street, Dallas, Texas. She also received the Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts Workshop Scholarship and the Robert D. Toulouse School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant.

**Megan Adams**, Karen Arzamendi, Elizabeth Estes, Michelle Madrano, Laura Neaderhouser, and **Hilari Oller**, each received a $530 scholarship from the Barbara Kuhlman Foundation Inc.
Rebecca Howdeshell (MFA 2008) was awarded a Personal Development Grant. The grant will be used to develop a series of artworks of thread drawings of the human spine coupled with metaphorically based stitched imagery that reflects her Southern upbringing. The artwork will be stitched on industrial felt and hung in a grouping that suggests a crowd. The intent of the series is to contrast the strength of the "crowd" and the human spine with a softer ground and perceived delicate Southern imagery.

Since moving to Atlanta, Georgia, after her graduation from UNT, Leisa Rich (MFA 2007) has been busy. Rich presently runs the GASP art program at The Galloway School, and has taught at the High Museum, the Chastain Arts Center, and the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. She is the state representative of the Georgia chapter of the Surface Design Association; this past May, Rich coordinated the state-wide SDA members exhibition Extreme Threads: New Works in Fiber, Stitch and Surface. Additionally, Rich was in Mining the Surface, an exhibition curated by Junco Sato Pollack and Marianne Lambert. Rich's solo exhibition Beauty From the Beast was held June 5-August 28, 2009 at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Gallery in Atlanta. Rich has been featured in two books, The Best of America Sculpture Artists and Artisans (Kennedy Publishing) and Quilt National 2009 (Lark Books), as well as in numerous articles in newspapers, magazines, and on-line. Rich is on the Board of Directors and planning committee for the Southeast Fiber Arts Alliance, Atlanta's first-ever arts center to be solely dedicated to the fiber arts and slated to open sometime in 2010 or 2011. Rich also launched an Etsy shop at www.richmade.etsy.com where you can buy her unique designs for body and home, and her art work can be seen on www.monaleisa.com. Rich is married and has two daughters ages 22 and 13.

Vanessa Tomczak (BFA 2009) received the Clare Hart DeGloyer Memorial Fund offered through the Dallas Museum of Art to conduct research in Germany. Vanessa also received a work-study scholarship at Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

Casey Galloway (BFA, 2008) is teaching weaving courses at the Southwest School of Arts and Crafts in San Antonio, Texas.

Scott Collins (BFA 2006) is designing and weaving fabric for John Patrick Organic in New York City.

Laura Neaderhouser (MFA candidate) won Best of Show at the CAA Conference student show, participated in the student show at the GDAC titled The Visual Language of North Texas and exhibited artwork in the student show at the Surface Design Association conference in Kansas City, Missouri.


Regents Professor Harlan W. Butt assumed the position of President of the Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) in May 2009. SNAG was founded in 1969 and is an international nonprofit organization that serves as the primary organization of jewelers and metal artists in North America. Members include independent studio artists, teachers, students, gallerists, collectors, curators, and writers. SNAG is responsible for several major projects which contribute to the field: the publication of Metalsmith magazine, an annual conference (2010 will be hosted in Houston, Texas), a newsletter (SNAGnews), a listserve (SNAGnet), and a website.

Professor Butt attended the Yuma Symposium in Arizona in February, the SNAG conference in Philadelphia, PA in May, the Colorado Metallurgists Association conference in Salida in July and the Enamelist Society conference in San Francisco in August, all in 2009. Butt was interviewed for the Archives of American Art in July 2009. The taped two-day interview will be available in cassette and manuscript at the Archives in 2010. Butt’s work was included in 500 Enameled Objects published by Lark Books and in an exhibition of work from the book at Velvet Da Vinci Gallery in San Francisco, California.

Professor Ana Lopez completed her book Metalworking through History: An Encyclopedia, which was published in April 2009 by the Greenwood Publishing Group.

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This year’s annual conference of the Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) is in Houston in March 2010. UNT is intimately involved in this as Harlan Butt is the current president, James Thurman, from our Core Design program, serves on the board, and one of our graduate students is organizing the portfolio review. Furthermore, Ana Lopez was invited to chair the largest segment of the conference program, the Education Dialogue. Lopez is focusing on the incorporation of genre-specific and general craft history in metalsmithing curricula as the theme for the three hour event. The program that she will provide is an excellent opportunity to highlight some of the unique aspects of our metalsmithing program and craft history class.

Shalene Henley (MFA candidate) was represented in the 43rd Annual National Drawing & Small Sculpture Show at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas.


Kelly Stiles (BFA candidate) had work in a show at the Delaware Center for Contemporary Art.

Anne Braumbaugh (BFA 2008) was accepted with a full scholarship to the graduate Metals program at Montana State University and was awarded a Graduate Teaching Assistantship.

Loring Taoka (MFA candidate) was awarded a work/study position at Penland School of Crafts for the summer of 2009. His work will be included in an upcoming exhibition The Art
of Craft at the Lux Center in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Loring Taoka and Deanna Ooley were included in the Digital Show at the 2009 SNAG conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Parker Brown (MFA candidate) won an honorable mention for his piece Duality Cup at the NAEA Spring Exhibition and he was awarded the John D. Murchision, Sr. Scholarship. Brown also had work in the 500X Gallery's Annual Community Art Exhibition in May 2009 and in the Renaissance Martial Arts International Exhibition in Humble, Texas, in July 2009.

Deanna Ooley (MFA candidate) taught a Faux Married Metal workshop at the Arlington Gem and Mineral Club in February 2009 and exhibited her work in What To Do With Money, an exhibition at Shaw Contemporary Jewelry in Northeast Harbor, Maine, August 20-September 9, 2009.

Alumna Kristin Freeman (BFA 2005) had a pair of earrings she made featured in ‘VenusZine’ magazine, which focuses on women in music, art, film, and fashion, for their September 2009 issue.

Pilar Zornosa (MFA candidate) was featured in the recent publication 500 Enameled Objects: A Celebration of Color on Metal, New York: Lark Books, 2009. A Division of Sterling Publishing Co., Inc. New York/London. Zornosa was also invited to participate in Artistically Speaking: Leaving a Legacy, at the Women’s Center & Multicultural Center at the University of North Texas. She also participated in the International Student Art Exhibit sponsored by the International Studies Programs at UNT.


Printmaking

In the fall semester of 2008, Printmaking and Core Drawing I co-hosted Visiting Artist Phyllis McGibbon who is a nationally-acclaimed artist and a professor of studio art at Wellesley College in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Professor McGibbon delivered several lectures, led a discussion with undergraduate printmaking majors, and critiqued graduate student work.

Drive-By-Press visited the College of Visual Arts and Design in February 2009. Drive-By-Press is a completely mobile printmaking studio built to promote the growth and democratization of art through printmaking. Joseph Velasquez, co-founder of Drive-By Press, presented a lecture to the printmaking students on the history of the organization and showed prints collected in the organization’s travels around the US.

After the lecture, Joseph demonstrated woodcut printmaking in front of the University Union. The tradition of woodcut printing was transformed by printing onto t-shirts with a press rolled out from the back of the Drive-By-Press truck. After the demonstrations, Joseph Velasquez juried work for the Print Association of North Texas Students’ Open Media Exhibition.
Photography

**Dornith Doherty** was recently nominated for the 2009 Santa Fe Prize in Photography for her Archiving Eden project, and her work was featured in solo exhibitions at the McMurtrey Gallery in Houston (2009), the Holly Johnson Gallery in Dallas (2009), and at the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation in Fort Collins, Colorado (2008). Curated group exhibitions for 2009 are *Arbor* at Michael Mazzeo Gallery in New York City, *Flash* at the CADD Art Lab in Dallas, Texas, *(Un)Natural Worlds* at the Rockport Center for the Arts in Rockport, Texas, and *Nature Perceived* at the Williams Tower Gallery in Houston. Her work was also shown at the Visual Arts Center in Portsmouth, Virginia and at *Fathom: Exploring the Depths of Water as Concept, Content, and Context* at Texas State University-San Marcos in 2008.

Also of note was the eight-foot photographic print commissioned by the Federal Reserve Bank of Houston. Her scholarly activities also included election to a four-year term on the National Board of Directors of the Society for Photographic Education and presenting a lecture on the role of digital technologies in imaging climate change at Cambridge University in England. Doherty received a Provost’s award for extraordinary professional service last spring. Upcoming activities include a solo exhibition featured in the 2010 *Encuentros Abiertos Photography Biennial* in Buenos Aires, Argentina in August of 2010 and a major solo exhibition at the Galveston Arts Center in February of 2010.

In *Archiving Eden*, Dornith Doherty explores the role of seed banks and their preservation efforts in the face of climate change, the extinction of natural species and decreased agricultural diversity. Doherty used on-site x-ray equipment at two of the largest international ex situ seed banks in the world; the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation in Fort Collins, Colorado, and at the Millennium Seed Bank, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Wakehurst Place in Sussex, England, to photograph seeds and cloned plants from the facilities’ extensive storage vaults. The newly formed Institute for the Advancements of the Arts at UNT awarded Dornith a research fellowship to complete work on the project. She will receive a #10,000 stipend and leave for the spring 2010 semester to facilitate her research.

Professor **Brent Phelps** is currently participating in the exhibition *Ten Year Celebration: Solo Exhibition Artists Retrospective* at the Visual Arts Center of the Washington Pavilion, Sioux Falls, SD. The exhibition runs through December 6, 2009. Brent is continuing to work on his Trails projects. This past summer, he photographed along the National Historic Trails in Nebraska and Wyoming. The photograph below of Independence Rock, Wyoming, is part of that series.

Professor **Paho Mann** had sixteen works in the traveling museum exhibition *Worlds Away: New Suburban Landscapes*. The exhibition demonstrates how the American suburb has played a catalytic role in the creation of new art. The show traveled from the Walker Art Center to the Carnegie Museum of Art and the Yale School of Architecture. Mann has also had two-person shows at the 1078 Gallery, Chico, California, and the UTSA Satellite Space, San Antonio, Texas, and will have a solo show at the Collins Art Gallery, Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 2009. The exhibition *Stuff* includes projects by assistant professor Paho Mann spanning the past ten years (1999-2009). These various bodies of work represent his ongoing investigation of consumer culture through the stuff we own and consume. Central to Mann’s understanding of these works is that looking at...
what we own and consume reveals something about our identity and culture, and that this examination underlines the importance of making thoughtful choices in what we do with these objects. Work in the exhibition ranges from a photographic typology of Junk Drawers, the ubiquitous kitchen catch-all drawer, to a recently completed Public Art piece for the City of Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture's Public Art Program. In this project Mann photographed nearly 6000 recyclables in a recycling transfer station to create composite images where the objects have been sorted by material, color, and use.

Tom Leininger (MFA 2009) participated in a panel discussion at CADD in Dallas in September 2009. Contemporary Art Dealers of Dallas (CADD) is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization of galleries formed in 2006 for the purpose of promoting the advancement of contemporary art on all levels in Dallas.

The photography program had three graduate students and one alumna representing UNT in the Rising Eyes of Texas show at the Rockport Center for the Arts in March 2009: Jung Lee, Betsy Williamson, Angela Patterson, and Iris Bechtol (BFA 1996). Jung Lee brought home one of two Honorable Mention awards.

Recently, student Tanner Ellison’s work has moved toward the absence of human interaction in certain spaces at night. She is interested in these places because of the way that humans flock to them during the day, but stray away from them at night. The emptiness these space evoke draws Ellison in and creates a feeling of uncertainty. Her work featuring abandoned objects was awarded First Place in the first ever SPD student photography competition, which was held in 2009. The Society of Publication Designers is a national organization dedicated to promoting and encouraging excellence in editorial design. Read more about it at the SPD website: 

www.spd.org

Ellison won first place in the SPD Land/Air/Sea National Student Photo Competition and first prize included: the Adobe Creative Suite, a logo for the artist’s letterhead designed by SpotCo (spotnyc.com), one-year link to the artist’s portfolio on www.photoserve.com, one-year subscription to Photo District News, one-year subscription to Communication Arts magazine, five autographed photo books by notables in the photography community, and the American Photography annual.

Student Cara Michelle Smith is taking creative and organizational strides beyond the academic requirements to complete her BFA. Summer 2009 Smith honed her skills off-campus as she was selected to work and learn alongside other artists in a ten day workshop in Oaxaca, Mexico. Receiving instruction and guidance from world famous photographer, Mary Ellen Mark, she gained priceless insight into the depths of her craft. The prolific professional challenged Smith to focus on portraiture during the workshop and ultimately encouraged her to explore an admittedly lightly treaded artistic arena.

As for her organizational efforts, Smith and her partner Andrew Tolentino co-manage an art collective called The Kunstallationists. Together, they curate unique art shows with interactive elements and themes beyond the world of white walls, wine and cheese. Reaching out to and working with the vast array of talented artists working in the DFW metroplex, Smith and Tolentino aspire to turn everyday places like coffee shops, bars and restaurants into viable venues for head-turning art. Their current "Kunstallation" is on display at Dunn Bros. Coffee Shop in Addison.

Making an impact on the local arts scene as an organizer, Smith has also shown her work...
in various exhibitions and at events such as SEED, a fundraiser where she was chosen to create a lantern from a recycled coffee can. Each artist’s work in this show was auctioned off to raise “seed money” for Art Conspiracy, a large-scale charity event that occurs winter 2009. Still striving to reach new heights in her artistic endeavors and professional aspirations, the North Texas photography major has made a splash in the media as well. Just before SEED, she was interviewed by and made an appearance on KERA’s “Art and Seek” website. She also received local press for her journey to Oaxaca and most recently appeared in Quick magazine in a feature story about the Kunstallationists.

CROSSING is a juried art event for up-and-coming artists from across the Southwest hosted by The Harwood, a not-for-profit community center in Albuquerque, NM, which features a show of graduate student work from all the MFA programs in the Southwest. Photography graduate student Jung Lee was one of the 19 students selected from 95 applicants for the show CROSSING 2009. She submitted a photographic story entitled 200,000 Women, depicting the story of Korean women kidnapped by the Japanese government during World War II and forced to become sex slaves or “comfort women.”

Photography student Brian “Wes” Baugh has garnered international attention with his recent project Police Mugshots, in which he spotlights privacy issues. You can follow his progress on Twitter and see more about the project at:

brianbaugh.com/fine-art/mugshots/

Photography graduate student Julie Barnofski, has been involved in several shows. In spring 2008 she exhibited work in the Voertman’s Annual Art Exhibit at UNT. In 2009, her exhibition opportunities included the Joyce Elaine Grant Exhibition at Texas Woman’s University in which she was awarded the Coupralux Award. She also displayed work in a juried show called Seen/Unseen at the 14th Street Gallery in Plano, TX, and participated in a group show called Green4Green in the Cora Stafford Gallery at UNT. Examples of Barnofski’s work were published in the 2009 Graduate Survey Book (due out in mid-May 2010) created by the Oculus Photographic Arts Group at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA, and she participated in two summer shows including BED at Umbrella Arts in New York City, NY, and Recovery and Reinvention at the UNT Art Gallery. The BED show was juried by Harvey Stein, a photographer and teacher at the International Center of Photography in NYC, and it took place at Umbrella Arts Gallery, located at 317 E. 9th St. in New York City. The show was from June 11 to July 18, 2009. The show received publicity including an article in the New York Times. The gallery initially reviewed 987 photographs by 230 artists and only chose 45 photographs by 39 artists to exhibit. Barnofski was honored to get one
image in the show. The photograph is a diptych called *Disconnected Conversation*.

**Bradly Brown** (BFA 2002) asks, “Remember those things called magazines? Those stapled pieces of paper that came out every so-often to give us the news and entertainment? Well, they may be disappearing but they are also reinventing. And this month, one of those new breeds released their sophomore issue.”

*Starved Magazine*  
[www.starvedmagazine.com](http://www.starvedmagazine.com)

is doing their part to keep the printed word alive. As well as a holistic view of all things creative, the latest issue features some recent works of mine, along with some photos by Amanda Bruns. Their website also has the magazine content online, but try and get your hands on a hard copy if you can. Also, while you are browsing those web pages check out Brown’s new employer, The Happy Corp:  
[thehappycorp.com/words](http://thehappycorp.com/words)

Photography/art history student **Liss LaFleur** studied with award-winning photographer Mary Ellen Mark during a 10-day workshop for twelve photographers summer 2009 in Oaxaca, Mexico. LaFleur was the youngest of the group and concentrated on documentary portraiture, as well as developing the stories of the individuals she photographed. LaFleur is planning to continue her work with Mary Ellen in hopes of becoming an even better documentary photographer, and will have her three best images from summer 2009 showcased in the Oaxaca exhibition. She returned to Texas as the newest intern for

Photographs Do Not Bend in Dallas, TX, and is planning on graduating fall of 2010 with honors. You can see more of her work at:  
[lisslafleur.com](http://lisslafleur.com)

Photography junior **Zeena Khalaf** spent two months of summer 2009 photographing in Damascus, Syria and parts of Lebanon. She focused her time on exploring the streets and photographing the culture of her fellow Syrians and their everyday lives, including the many social issues apparent there today. Zeena also had the opportunity to meet internationally published photographer, John Wreford, who has been living in Damascus, Syria for the past six years.

**Sierra DaSilva** (BFA 2007) spent three months volunteering abroad through the WWOOF (Willing Workers on Organic Farms) program. She worked at various smallholdings in rural Portugal, collaborating on planting and building projects with other volunteers from around the globe.

**Angela Patterson** is in her final year as a graduate student here at UNT. Her photographic work was featured as a solo show at THE ROC Gallery in Pensacola, Florida this past summer. The city of Pensacola has a series of events every year in honor of the Blue Angels, this year including a downtown gallery night. Her *Searching for the Homestead* series investigates the nostalgia of identity within the domestic space.

On a typical summer night in Syria, one will almost always find people gathered around corner stands enjoying the undeniably cheap and delicious late night snack of corn on the cob.  
*Photo by Zeena Khalaf*

*Transformation #4*  
Cecila Ann Shikle  
May 2009

*Texas Home*  
Angela Patterson  
C-print, 10”x10”
Student and Alumni News

Core Drawing, Fibers and Metals & Jewelry students participated in eARTh day: a celebration of environmental music, writing, art and film event in the Environmental Sciences, Education and Technology (EESAT) Building in April 2009. The event featured performances, displays and exhibitions of students’ interpretations of the natural world, including visual art, film, creative writing and music. The event was co-sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Music and the College of Visual Arts and Design.

Participants from Core Drawing I include Nathan Aldredge, Amy Blackburn, Brooke Chaney, Kasumi Chow, Dominique Collier, Alyssa Davis, Stephanie Eckert, Charles Hampton, Jordan Jenkins, Allison Kidd, Katrina Lee, Caroline Mire, Antonio Mondragon-Becker, Crista Pomales, Nicholas Slay, Ryan Smith, Travis Sykes, David Turner and Ryan St. Wrba. Works by Sarah Williams (MFA, Drawing & Painting, 2009) were also featured.

Fibers participants include students of adjunct professor Lesli Robertson: Brittany Case (BFA 2008), Denise Chacon, Elizabeth Estes, Emily Horne, Michelle Medrano and Vanessa Tomczak.

A collaborative project between Lesli Robertson, Fred Mutebi, the UNT Art Gallery, and the student chapter of the National Art Education Association was also included. Metalsmithing & Jewelry participants include students of assistant professor Ana Lopez: Shay Douglass, Thomas Dye, Robin Gordon, Ashley Hurst, Kyung Huh, Amy Jewell, Avery Miller, Jarrad Powell, Greta Perea, Kelly Stiles and Jenn Winston.

Congratulations to Adrian Aguirre (MFA 2009), Angel Cabrales (MFA 2009), Julie Barnofski (MFA candidate), Jung Eun Lee (MFA candidate), Sarah Williams (MFA 2009), Todd Camplin (MFA candidate), and Tom Leininger (MFA 2009) on having their work selected for the 2009 Graduate Student Exhibition at Art Lab presented by the Contemporary Art Dealers of Dallas.

Congratulations to alum and Advisory Board member Jesus Moroles, who received the National Medal of Arts from President George W. Bush in a ceremony at the White House in December 2008. Jesus is one of the few visual artists to receive this highest national award in the arts. He serves on the Board of the Smithsonian Institute and operates an internationally known studio in Rockport, Texas.

Joanna Powell (BFA Ceramics 2008) was featured in the May 2009 issue of Ceramics Monthly as an “Emerging Artist.”

John Oliver Lewis (MFA Ceramics 2005) is currently an Assistant Professor of Art at Southwestern College in Chula Vista California. In the fall of 2008, he exhibited his new works in a solo show titled Candy Circus at IGLOO Gallery in Portland, Oregon. This year, his work was featured in a two-person show titled Go West at CR Gallery in Eureka, California, and most recently has contributed work to two international traveling exhibitions: Trade Show which will be traveling in Turkey as a parallel exhibit...
exhibition to the Istanbul Biennial and Sound Migrations in Belgrade. Additionally, Lewis’ work was chosen to be featured in the publication 500 Ceramic Sculptures (Lark Books).

Jessica McCambly (MFA Drawing & Painting 2007) is currently an Assistant Professor of Art at Crafton Hills College in Yucaipa, California. In fall 2008, she exhibited her new works in a solo show titled Leave a Tender Moment Alone at IGLOO Gallery in Portland, Oregon. She was also invited to exhibit works in March 2009 in the exhibition titled Shades- Drawing the Space at the O’Kane Gallery at the University of Houston. In summer 2009, McCambly was invited to create two site-specific installations for exhibit at the Fuller Museum in Brockton, MA, and will be showing new works this fall in her debut exhibition in Los Angeles at JK Gallery in Culver City, California.

Ceramics

Regents professor Elmer Taylor was invited to give a workshop and lecture at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka, California, September 2009. The workshop titled Signature Moves focus on lids, handles, feet and rims.

From the article in the Times-Standard (www.times-standard.com):

“I appreciate the growing interest in handmade pottery in today's world,” said Taylor. “I feel that in this age of high technology people need a human touch. In using pots made by hand, there is a connection with the maker and with a tradition that goes back to a time when handmade objects were the norm. My pots are a reflection of who I am.”

Professor Jerry Austin, ceramics lab technician Brenda Lichman (MFA 2002), professor Elmer Taylor and the current graduate students in ceramics will be showing at the Tim Salen Gallery, located at St. Petersburg Clay Company in St Petersburg, Florida. The opening coincides with professor Taylor’s workshop and opens October 17, 2009.

The UNT Clay Guild and the College of Visual Arts and Design hosted Austin ceramic artist Claudia Reese for a two-day workshop. September 17-18, 2009, Reese demonstrated her processes and showed slides. She focused on her personal work and the ceramics business she has run for over 20 years. Additionally, Reese showed images of the rammed earth brick home she continues to build, a lifelong project just outside Austin, Texas.

We sadly announce the passing of former graduate student Nicholas Rostagno (MFA 2004). Nic passed way on Sept.9, 2009.
This summer UNT won two free scholarships to next summer's workshops for having the most people representing one school.

UNT at Frogman’s Printmaking Workshop

The Frogman’s Printmaking Workshops are the most concentrated quality printmaking workshops in the nation. Each week seven world-class Artists teach a course in their respective specialty to a small class of dedicated workshop students including professional artists, college professors, college undergraduates and graduate students from across the US. This 28th year of the Frogman’s workshops was no exception to the consistent quality of faculty, students, exhibitions, and other professional and networking opportunities. This year, printmaking faculty Andrew DeCaen was asked to be an Artist-In Residence for the first week. More than 75 participants attended the workshops this summer.

Eight CVAD students participated in the workshops this year. They experienced a small Midwest town taken-over by printmaking activities. In addition to the classes that run from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and open studios until midnight, there are two artists lectures by faculty each day, eight exhibitions of contemporary prints from nationally recognized artists, a studio tour of Frogman’s Press in Beresford, and an open portfolio session with faculty and students. Over the course of the week Andrew DeCaen introduced our students to faculty who teach in graduate programs and other professional contacts. Professor DeCaen also met several students from other BFA programs and introduced them to our MFA program. Professor Lari Gibbons also participated in the workshops this summer doing research on low-toxicity etching. This summer UNT won two free scholarships to next summer’s workshops for having the most people representing one school.

DeCaen’s residency at the workshops involved creating several large-scale ink and graphite drawings for his Premature Guessing series. DeCaen completed five of these and began working up compositions and ideas for future works. As part of his external research DeCaen studied the collection of 13,500 rare musical instruments at the National Music Museum on the campus of the University of South Dakota in preparation for new drawings involving these objects.

DeCaen also began a collaborative series of prints with an artist named John Timothy Pizzuto, Associate Professor at the University of South Dakota. They drew and printed three colors from a lithograph stone. The collaboration will continue by developing the work independently and trading it through the mail periodically until it is finished. As part of DeCaen’s residency he had an open studio and gave an artist’s lecture.

Letter from the Editor—Angela Vanecek

Good news (yay me!):

The Fall 2008 Studio Art Newsletter won the Gold Award in the newsletter category of the annual IPMA (In-plant Print & Mail Association) contest. The IPMA consist of approximately 22,000 corporate, municipalities, financial institutions, state and federal government, education—K to 12, and higher education in-plant print operations from across the US. Thank you for your contributions to this and every newsletter. Your participation is so important and appreciated. If you would like to be in future newsletters simply email your images and updates with the subject line “Newsletter Information” to studio@unt.edu Images must be a minimum of 300dpi resolution and have information for the caption, e.g. work titles, sizes, media or names of people pictured.

Have a successful and productive year!
Gifts to the College of Visual Arts and Design at UNT allow the College to pursue excellence. These gifts ensure that CVAD can attract top graduate and undergraduate students through Scholarships. These gifts also make possible CVAD’s Visiting Artists/Scholar programs, Faculty Enrichment Opportunities, and support to each of the hallmark Institutes housed within the College of Visual Arts and Design.

If you think your gifts aren’t important, think again. Supporting CVAD through the Annual Fund helps secure the arts for future generations. We would like to invite you to join Avant-Garde. Please take a moment and join us in pursuing excellence. We value your gifts as they are an endorsement of the University of North Texas, College of Visual Arts and Design. If you have any questions, or you would like more information on how you can be a partner, please contact the Director of Development for the College of Visual Arts and Design at 940-565-4026.

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- COVAD Excellence Fund

A variety of Endowed Scholarships and programs (call Eva Toya at 940-369-7474 for more info)

Mail to: CVAD Annual Appeal, 1155 Union Cir 305100, Denton TX 76203
From top to bottom and left to right, art by Sarah Williams (4), Rachel Black (3), Jenny Jones (4), and Mariko Frost (4).