Faculty News

Mickey Abel, Assistant Professor of Art History, delivered papers this spring at the annual conference of The Illinois Medieval Association, February 2006, titled “The Monogram of Peace: Water, Politics, and Procession in the Monastic Domain;” and at The International Congress on Medieval Studies, May 2006, titled “The Dispute Capital in the Louvre Exhibition: The Benefits of a Contextual Reading.” Following on the success of last fall’s North Texas Medieval Graduate Student Symposium, she is organizing the 2nd annual Texas Medieval Graduate Student Symposium to be held November 9th and 10th in the School of Visual Arts. Dr. Joan Holladay, a medieval specialist from the University of Texas at Austin has agreed to deliver this year’s keynote address, titled “The Uses of Saints in the Middle Ages.” Like last year, the symposium will feature the work of eight graduate medievalists from UNT and sister universities in the Metroplex. Dr. Abel won a Research Initiative Grant from UNT for her summer 2006 field research on the Abbey of Maillezais in Western France. Graduate student George Neal went along with her to France as her research assistant.

Christina Bain, Assistant Professor of Art Education, has completed four presentations at international and national conferences during Spring 2006. In January, she presented a paper titled “Pre-Service Students’ Perspectives Regarding How Field Observations Impacted Their Learning About Teaching Art” at the International Conference on Education. At the International Conference for Arts and Humanities, she presented the results of a research study titled “Utilization of the Teaching Portfolio in Gaining Employment.” During the National Art Education Association conference in March, she presented “E-Portfolios and Reflective Learning” and “Collaborative Learning with Multimedia.” Dr. Bain’s article titled “Student Teacher Survival Guide: The Interview” appeared in the May/June 2006 issue of School Arts magazine. She was invited by the Belton ISD School District to conduct a day long in-service program in June called “The Importance of Art Education: A Brief Overview of the Importance of Art Education for the Development of All Students.”
Denise Baxter, Assistant Professor of Art History, had her essay, “Two Brutuses: Violence, Virtue, and Politics in the Visual Culture of the French Revolution” accepted by the interdisciplinary journal *Studies in Eighteenth-Century Life*. It is forthcoming 2006. Dr. Baxter’s “Parvenu or Honnête homme: Power and Representation in the Collecting Practices of Germain-Louis de Chauvelin” is currently under review. In March, with Meredith Martin of Harvard University, she co-chaired a double session titled “Constructing Space and Identity in the Eighteenth-Century Interior” for the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Annual Conference, which took place in Montréal, and the two are in the process of putting together papers from that conference as an edited book proposal. Dr. Baxter presented her paper “Fashion and the Roots of Modernism in Jean-François de Troy’s tableaux de mode” at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference in Lexington this past April 2006. Along with Dr. Donahue-Wallace, Dr. Baxter is currently working on the grant-funded redesign of Art History Survey II, which is a part of UNT’s Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to improve student learning outcomes in large lecture classes.

Robert Bradley, Visiting Assistant Professor of Art History, presented his paper “Kuelap: Beyond the Fortress” at the 34th Midwest Conference on Andean Archaeology at Vanderbilt University in Nashville in February. He is spending his summer in Peru conducting research and will return to UNT in the fall for another academic year to continue teaching courses in pre-Columbian art history and art appreciation.

Jacqueline Chanda, Professor and Chair of the Division of Art Education and Art History, presented two papers and had two articles published. During the month of March, she presented “Learning from Images: A Source of Interdisciplinary Knowledge” at the International International Society for Education through Art Congress in Viseu, Portugal and “Partnering with Art Collectors,” a presentation with Dr. Jack Davis, Sarita Talusani, and Lisa Galaviz at the National Art Education Association Conference in Chicago. Her book chapter “Teoria Crítica em História da Arte: Novas Opções para a Prática de Arte-Educação” (“Critical Theory in Art History: New Options for the Practice of Art Education”) was published in *Arte/Educação Contemporânea: Consonâncias Internacionais* (*Contemporary Art Education: International Perspectives*), edited by A. Barbosa and published by SESC of San Paulo, Brazil. In February, she attended the K-16 Art Education Summit at the University of Texas at Austin and, in May, she attended the annual meeting of the Center for the Advancement of Early Texas Art (CASETA). She was also nominated to the National Council of Arts Administrators (NCAA) board and elected to the Council for Policy Studies in Art Education. While Dr. Chanda has enjoyed her time as Chair of the Division of Art Education and Art History, she will be leaving UNT this summer to take on an exciting new position as Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs in the College of Fine Arts at University of Arizona.

D. Jack Davis, Professor of Art Education and Director of the North Texas Institute for Educators on the Visual Arts (NTIEVA), made three presentations at the National Art Education Association Conference in Chicago in May. One was titled “Grant Programs of the National Art Education Foundation.” The second was a Distinguished Fellows Forum with Jerome Hausman, Laura Chapman, and Stanley S. Madeja titled “The Aesthetic Education Program Revisited.” The third presentation, “Partnering with Collectors,” was made with Dr. Jacqueline Chanda and UNT doctoral students Lisa Galaviz, & Sarita Talusani. Prior to the NAEA conference, he attended and participated in the Council for Policy Studies in Art Education meeting and also a meeting of the National Art Education Foundation Board which he currently chairs. At that meeting, he was elected to another term as Trustee and was re-elected Chair of the group. In addition to the NAEA conference, in February, Dr. Davis attended the K-16 Art Education Summit, hosted by the University of Texas at Austin, the Orientation Meeting of the new Digital Education Project for Texas Art Museums, which has been initiated by the Edward and Betty Marcus Foundation, and the annual Center for the
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Advancement of Early Texas Art (CASETA) Symposium in Houston in May, at which he was elected secretary of the CASETA Board. As a member of the Board of Trustees of the African American Museum in Dallas, he has assumed the chairmanship of the Board’s accreditation committee. Davis wrote the preface for the book A Bibliographical History of the Study and Use of Color From Aristotle to Kandinsky by Kenneth E. Burchett, which was released in the late fall of 2005. In February, the Greater Denton Arts Council honored Dr. Davis with its Community Arts Recognition Award (CARA) for Education. Furthermore, Dr. Davis continues to be involved with the administration of the Priddy Fellowships in Arts Leadership.

Kelly Donahue-Wallace, Assistant Professor of Art History, has published her essay, “Hide Paintings, Print Sources, and the Early Expression of a New Mexican Colonial Identity,” in Transforming Images: Locating New Mexican Santos in-between Worlds (College Park: Pennsylvania State University Press, 2006). Edited by Claire Farago and Donna Pierce, the interdisciplinary anthology considers the hybridity of New Mexican colonial art. Dr. Donahue-Wallace also completed an article, “Picturing Prints in Early Modern New Spain,” which is currently under review for publication. In March, she delivered a paper at the Renaissance Society of America’s annual meeting in San Francisco. The paper, “Saintly Beauty and the Printed Image,” addressed the representation of deceased nuns and monks in Mexican eighteenth-century prints. She is currently researching the market of imported and local art described in a late eighteenth-century Mexican newspaper La Gaceta de México. She will deliver a paper on this topic in Spain in July. Dr. Donahue-Wallace, in her capacity as president of the Art Historians Interested in Pedagogy and Technology, chaired a session at the College Art Association Annual Meeting titled “Teaching Art History Online,” the proceedings of which she is currently preparing for publication. This CAA session received a write-up in the Chronicle of Higher Education. With Dr. Baxter, Dr. Donahue-Wallace is engaged in a grant-funded redesign of Art History Survey II. The blended course, combining lecture, small group discussion, and outside activities, will be featured in UNT’s upcoming Quality Enhancement Plan as part of the school’s bid for re-accreditation. During the spring semester, Dr. Donahue-Wallace finished writing the grant-funded Art History Survey I online course that will be pilot tested in the fall 2006 semester. In February 2006, Dr. Donahue-Wallace ascended from newsletter editor to the presidency of the international professional organization American Society for Hispanic Art Historical Studies.

Rina Kundu, Lecturer of Art Education, presented with Dr. Melinda Mayer at the National Art Education Association annual conference in March. The talk, “The Museum Educator as Provocateur,” described how teaching strategies within museum environments operate as social practices within power-knowledge structures. She also presented with colleague A.J. Olson, Assistant Professor of Art Education at Buffalo State College. Their talk, “Visuality Inside and Out,” described ways in which to create visual culture curricula that emphasizes social practices, not the study of things in themselves.

Melinda M. Mayer, Assistant Professor of Art Education, was appointed as the Instructional Resources Coordinator for Art Education, one of the two journals of the National Art Education Association (NAEA). In every issue of Art Education, a center pullout section called “Instructional Resources” appears featuring curriculum focused on objects from one of the nation’s art museums. Her responsibilities will entail soliciting, editing, and coordinating the publication of this section of the journal for a two-year term. For the Winter issue of Studies in Art Education, the other NAEA journal, she reviewed the books But Is It Art? by Cynthia Freeland and A Critical Introduction to the New Art Histories by Neil Harris. Dr. Mayer also served as the summative grant evaluator for Albany Arts, a comprehensive program developed collaboratively by the Old Jail Art Center and the Albany Independent School District in Albany, Texas. The Marcus Foundation and the Institute for Museum and Library Services supported the project. In March, she and Rina Kundu presented a research paper titled “The
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Museum Educator as Provocateur” at the annual conference of the National Art Education Association. Dr. Mayer left UNT at the end of the spring semester to join the art education faculty of the University of Texas in Austin where she will teach art museum education.

Nada Shabout, Assistant Professor of Art History, has had an incredibly productive semester. In spring, Dr. Shabout was the invited speaker at 3 colleges and presented papers at 4 conferences, one of which was the Seventh Mediterranean Social and Political Research Meeting in Florence, Italy, in March, in which she presented her paper “Globalization or Isolation; the Effects of Sanctions on Contemporary Iraqi Art” and co-directed with Dr. Silvia Naef of the University of Geneva a workshop consisting of 16 presenters called “From Local to Global; Visual Arts in the Eastern Mediterranean between International Markets and Local Expectations.” Furthermore, over the summer she presented “Visualizing the Word” at Word in Art: Artists of the Modern Middle East exhibition and symposium at the British Museum in London and participate in the Second World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies in Amman, Jordan, for which she organized a roundtable discussion called “Reconstruction and Reconfiguration of Baghdad’s Public Space: Perspectives, Promises and Dangers” and a panel, “Gendered Creativity, Gendered Representations: Middle Eastern Women in the Visual Art.” Recently, she served as a referee for the International journal of the Humanities and was nominated by the Middle East Studies Association's Board of Directors for election to the 2006 Nominating Committee. Dr. Shabout’s professional work has been highlighted in the news article “UNT Educator Works to Find Lost Iraqi Art,” by Terry Lee Goodrich on the front page of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram (11/17/05) and in a CBS-Channel 11 interview which aired March 7th and 8th, 2006. She has three publications forthcoming in 2006 - “Preservation of Iraqi Modern Heritage in the Aftermath of the US Invasion of 2003” in An anthology on Ethics in the Art World (Allworth Press); “Negotiations of Iraqi Identities: Iconography and Perception of Self in Visual Representations” in A Nation’s Identity in Progress (Palgrave Press); and “Sur Pillage du Musée d’Art Moderne en Irak” in Créations Artistiques Contemporaines en Pays d’Islam: des Arts en Tension (Editions Kimé). In addition to these, Dr. Shabout has three additional articles accepted for publication in scholarly journals – “The Iraqi Museum of Modern Art: Ethical Implications” in the May 2006 edition of Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals from the Practical to the Philosophical (AltaMira Press); “The ‘Free’ Art of Occupation: Images for a ‘New’ Iraq” in the summer 2006 edition of Arab Studies Quarterly; and “Exhibition Review: The Politics of Presentation. Palace and Mosque: Islamic Art from the Victoria and Albert Museum Exhibition, The Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas, April 3 - September 4,” co-authored with graduate art history student Linda-Rose Hembreiker, in Arab Studies Journal. Dr. Shabout received a $10,000.00 Fellowship award from The American Academic Research Institute in Iraq (TAARII) for her project called “Recovering Iraq’s Modern Heritage: Constructing and Digitally Documenting the Collection of the former Saddam Center for the Arts,” in addition to a Junior Faculty Summer Research Fellowship through UNT.

Sara Wilson McKay, Assistant Professor of Art Education, attended the Society for Information Technology in Teacher Education International Conference in Orlando, Florida in March and presented a paper called “Multimedia in Arts Leadership.” Immediately following that, she attended the National Art Education Association annual conference in Chicago during which she held positions as the Membership Coordinator and Treasurer for the Caucus on Social Theory in Art Education Author’s Round Table. Furthermore, she continues her duties as Chair of the Higher Education Division for the Texas Art Education Association, a position that requires regular travel to Austin. Dr. Wilson McKay was selected as a recipient of the UNT Junior Faculty Summer Research Fellowship to develop an innovative technology-infused research project in arts learning.
**FOCUS ON RESEARCH - CONNIE NEWTON**

Connie Newton, Associate Professor of Art Education, received a research grant to continue a micro-ethnographic study, “A Comparison of the Conceptual Understanding of Art Objects with Three Tribes in Tanzania.” This research is a continuation of the sabbatical work done last year. After a decade of cross-cultural research in the development of aesthetic response, she is using the insights gained to answer some fundamental questions about the everyday meaning of art objects for the Hadza, Datoga, and Maasai tribes in eastern Africa. During the first initial visit, using a participant observer role, it became apparent that all the objects they owned were made by them with great care and attention and were involved in their ceremonies, beliefs, body adornment and function. These peoples, who live in the hills of Tanzania between Arusha and the Serengeti, are probably descendents of the earliest human populations.

One tribe, the Hadza or Hadzabe, is a small tribe with an estimated population of about 3,000 people. The Hadza were chosen because of their self-imposed isolation. The tribe avoids anyone not Hadza, and upon spotting a stranger, this nomadic tribe would leave an area and hide in caves and deep valleys. Thus, little was known about this clan until the mid-1930s when a Norwegian couple managed to befriend the Siguazi family. At this point the Hadza exposed their hidden world. The Hadza are hunters and gatherers only staying in a particular location for short periods of time. The types of objects made and their adornment reflect the Hadza spiritual beliefs and the story of how the Hadza began. The following is an excerpt from the translated interviews:

“The Hadza god is called Ishoka. He created and had power over all the animals and plants. One day, he sent a group of baboons to a water hole to fetch water for him. As they walked to the water hole they played games and forgot what god Ishoka sent them to do. After waiting for a long time, Ishoka got angry and impatient. He decided to follow the baboons to find out what had taken them so long. He found the baboons playing and they stopped as soon as they saw him. Ishoka was not pleased. ‘Will all of you come here as I am going to divide you up,’ Ishoka shouted. Ishoka divided the baboons into two groups. He said one group will be the Hadzabe (people), the other group would remain as baboons. He then told each group what they should eat. The Hadza were told that they will eat all the animals, apart from snakes and hyenas, boabab tree fruits, tubers and roots. Ishoka taught the Hadza how to make bows and arrows, and he later showed them how to extract poison from a cactus plant for their arrow heads. The Hadza believe most of their skills were taught to them by Ishoka and passed down by the elders through the generations. Ishoka showed them how to make fire, how to sit down, their tribal song (Ipembe) and how to play their musical instrument, Zeze. He told the men that when they kill an animal they should always share, no man shall eat by himself. Ishoka lives everywhere, on high hills and deep caves and he is still watching on us to make sure that we have mastered all what he taught our forefathers. Ishoka owns everything including all the animals, fruits and roots.”

Matriachal head of the clan, with her grandchildren. Hadza basketry, in process.
STUDENT NEWS

Natalie Alford, master’s student in art education, was awarded the 2006 Texas Art Education Association Memorial Scholarship.

Amanda Blake, master’s student in art history, was awarded a McDermott Graduate Teaching Programs Internship at the Dallas Museum of Art for 2006-2007. This past spring semester, she was working at the Nasher Sculpture Center as the Art Activity Supervisor for a program called Sculpture Sundays where she managed children’s activities during the events. She also worked as a Tour Guide for the Making a Connection through Art program at the Dallas Museum of Art in February; for which she led middle school aged children on an interactive tour using works of art from the collection.

Stephanie Busbea, doctoral student in art education, was the keynote speaker for the Mississippi Art Education Association Spring Conference held April 1st at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson. Her presentation introduced the exhibition “Georgia O’Keeffe: Color and Conservation” on display at the museum.

Karen Colbert, undergraduate student in visual arts studies, is the 2006-2007 recipient of the Peggy and Pat Howell Scholarship for Student Teachers.

Margo DeHoyos, master’s student in art education, is interning at the Nasher Sculpture Center this summer, where she is writing interdisciplinary curriculum for K-12 teachers to use in the classroom based on the permanent collection.

Valerie Eggemeyer, doctoral student in art education, gave three presentations this spring. The first, “Sage and Sagebrush: Teaching in Wyoming,” was presented at the College Art Association annual conference in Boston, in February. This presentation concerned the teaching of art in rural areas and what teachers do to expose students to the larger world of art. She also presented “Ancient Roman Domestic Art and Architecture” at the Casper College Humanities Festival in February and “Whimsy and Wonder in Art Throughout the Ages” in March at the Nicolaysen Art Museum and Discovery Center in Casper, Wyoming. She plans to take students to Greece this summer for an art history tour of “Classical Greece.”

Lisa Galaviz, doctoral student in art education, co-presented “Partnering with Collectors” at the National Art Education Association annual conference with Drs. Chanda and Davis and fellow doctoral student Sarita Talusani. Lisa is interning at the Dallas Museum of Art this summer as part of her Marcus Fellowship.

Rachael Garnett, master’s student in art education, secured an internship at the Amon Carter Museum for the summer to fulfill requirements for her Marcus Fellowship.

Heather Grance, master’s student in art history, was awarded a paid internship as the Educational Coordinator for summer camps at the Dallas Heritage Village. Previously, she worked as the Collections Management Intern at The Crow Collection of Asian Art.

Katrina Grandinetti, undergraduate student in visual arts studies, was awarded the Mack Mathes Scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Mariam Helmy, master’s student in art history, was awarded the 2006-2007 Judith D. and Thomas A. Donahue Graduate Scholarship in Art History. Mariam also presented her paper, “Myth and Reality: Representations of Women in the Middle East in 19th century Painting and Contemporary Western Media” at the Second World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies in Amman, Jordan in June.

Kristina Hilliard, master’s student in art history, was awarded a summer internship with the Kimbell Art Museum in their education department. She is helping to create educational programming for visitors of all ages and conduct programming and teaching materials focusing on the Kimbell’s permanent collection. Additionally, she is helping to prepare educational programming and projects for the new exhibition, Hatshepsut: From Queen to Pharaoh, which will open in August.

Kristin Ireland, master’s student in art education, is completing a summer-long internship at the Dallas Museum of Art as part of her Marcus Fellowship.

Patty Kim, undergraduate student in art history, was recently awarded the 2006-2007 Judith D. and Thomas A. Donahue Undergraduate Scholarship in Art History.
STUDENT NEWS, cont.

Autumn Lopez, master's student in art history, as part of her Priddy Fellowship is interning at the Crow Collection of Asian Art this summer.

Pedrameh Manoochehri, master’s student in art education, was recently awarded the D. Jack and Gail Davis Scholarship in Art Education for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Chad Morris, undergraduate student in art history, has been accepted to the Master’s degree program in art history at the University of Birmingham in England; he will begin the program in the fall. During his graduate studies, Chad plans to pursue his interest in comic book art and its construction of ideal masculinity. Chad is currently working on a research project comparing Superman to Jesus Christ, noting similarities in actions and iconography as well as exploring the Jewish identity of Superman’s creators.

Erin Murphy, master’s student in art history, accepted the position of registrar at Valley House Gallery and Sculpture Garden, Dallas, which exhibits contemporary regional talent alongside internationally recognized artists.

Lydia Regalado, master’s student in art education, has been selected for the Latino Museum Studies Program organized by the Smithsonian Latino Center. The free program, which includes travel to and from Washington, D.C. and accommodations, consists of a four-week seminar designed to provide participants with the tools to enhance their leadership, research and creative skills through a series of lectures, workshops and practical experiences at the Smithsonian Institution and other research facilities within the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

James Roe, master’s student in art education, is spending his summer in an internship with Beverly Fletcher, Arts Supervisor for Fort Worth ISD. This internship will focus on writing curriculum and refreshing and developing the FWISD elementary art program.

James Rosin, undergraduate student in visual arts studies, was recently awarded the John D. Murchison, Sr. Art Scholarship for the 2006-2007 academic year.

Lori Santos, doctoral student in art education, received a fellowship award at the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian this summer, the New York City branch - Gustave Heye Center. She is working in the education department developing teaching materials to be used in the museum and back in the classroom for follow up.

Melynda Seaton, master’s student in art history, was awarded funds from UNT’s B. Craig Raupe Memorial Scholarship and from the Division of Art Ed/Art History to travel to the national conference of the Popular Culture Association, in Atlanta, where she presented “Texas Cowboy as Myth.” Melynda was just hired as the registrar for the Gerald Peters Gallery, Dallas, where she will also assist with sales. The gallery is known for its representation of leading contemporary artists with both regional and national acclaim.

Joe Silva, master’s student in art education, is interning with Beverly Fletcher at the Fort Worth ISD as part of his requirements for the Marcus Fellowship, working to write curriculum and revamp the elementary art program.

Neil Sreenan, master’s student in art education, was awarded the Nancy Berry Scholarship in Art Education for the 2006-2007 academic year. Neil is spending his summer completing an internship at the Crow Collection of Asian Art.

Shannon Sweny, master’s student in art education, is the 2006-2007 recipient of the Sandra Dungan Scholarship for Student Teachers.

Sarita Talusani, doctoral student in art education, co-presented “Partnering with Collectors” at the National Art Education Association annual conference in Chicago with Drs. Chanda and Davis and fellow doctoral student Lisa Galaviz.

Janet Tyson, master’s student in art history, was named Outstanding Art History Graduate Student at UNT’s Honors Day ceremonies. For the UNT Art Gallery, she curated the exhibition Furniture as Metaphor: Contemporary Sculpture and the Poetics of Domesticity. Her paper, “Material Objects as Social Mediators: the Everyday Function of Gauguin’s Oeuvre,” was accepted for presentation in a session called “Everyday stuff: Narrating the Social Lives of Material Objects” at the annual meeting of the Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association in Toronto.
ALUMNI NEWS

Alicia Cornwell (BA, Art History, 2004), now enrolled in the MA Art History/Museum Studies Program at Tufts University, Boston, was asked to head her university gallery's gallery guide program but instead, elected to work at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where she was invited to be one of only three graduate student gallery guides. She will receive a stipend and deliver two talks a month from October to May, developed in response to the collections and traveling exhibitions. During her interview, she was told that the breadth of the classes she took as an art history undergraduate was impressive.

Victoria Estrada-Berg (MA, Art History, 2005) recently accepted the full-time position of Curatorial Administrative Assistant at the Dallas Museum of Art, where a few years earlier she had been awarded a McDermott Internship.

Brianna McMullen (MA, Art Education, 2005) was awarded a summer internship position at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

Christine Miller (BFA, Visual Arts Studies, 2005) has had an amazing first year of teaching at the Talented and Gifted High School (TAG) in the Dallas ISD. TAG is listed as the Top High School in the United States according to a ranking done by Jay Matthews of Newsweek magazine. Matthews' report was the cover story of the May 8th, 2006 edition of Newsweek and featured one of Christine's art students on the cover.

Lisa Nersesova (BFA, Art History, 2005) was one of three artists to receive a grant from the Arch and Anne Giles Kimbrough Fund for 2006. The fund was created for the purpose of recognizing exceptional talent and potential in young visual artists. Award recipients are selected by a special committee composed of Dallas Museum of Art staff and art professionals.

Sandy (Schorr) Newton (Marcus Fellow, 2000-2001) was awarded Teacher of the Year at Atascocita Middle School in Humble ISD this year and is a finalist for the teacher of the year for the district.