Interdisciplinary Learning & Teaching

Degrees in ILT
- BA in IDS
- BAAS
- MAED
- MA in ALT
- PhD in ILT

BA in IDS (10 Concentrations)
- IDS majors only
- 4-8 LA/SS certification
- EC-6 generalist
- 4-8 science/math
- ESL EC-6
- BBL EC-6
- SPE EC-12
- ESL 4-8
- 8-12 Life Science
- 8-12 Physical Science

MAED: 5 Concentrations:
- C&I, Lit., SPE, ECE, IST

MAED with Teacher Certification Areas
- 4-8 science, 4-8 math, 8-12 math, 8-12 science, 8-12 chemistry, EC-6

PhD Cognate Areas
- C&I, IST, ALT, SPE, Reading, ECE

Other ILT Programs
- Post Bac certification, Secondary certification (8-12) in English, Foreign Language, Science, Math, Social Studies

ILT Community in 2010-2011
- Tenure/Tenure Track: 33
- Faculty: ......................... 33
- Senior Lecturers .............. 5
- Adjunct Instructors .......... 84

Total course sections offered: .................. 556
Student enrollment for all ILT courses combined .... 11,856

Total Undergraduate Courses .................. 404
Total Undergraduate enrolled .................. 10,140

Total Graduate Courses...152
Total Graduate Enrolled ....................... 1,716

Chair’s Corner: Dr. Chris Moseley

A good friend of mine has written a guided journal for teachers, students, and individuals who wish to develop a personal “sense of place”, a new understanding and love for the place in which they live. In her introduction she explains:

I think of sense of place as…an awareness that includes images, thoughts, knowledge and feelings about a certain place, its natural and human histories and components. When you have it, you begin to care about what is happening around you…Sense of place has many components, and it takes time and effort to develop. These components include…remembered memories of the way home smells, feels, looks and sounds.” (Mary Coley, Regaining Sense of Place: A “discovery” journal)

Humans have an innate need to connect to someone or something, a need to bond with others and establish some sense of community. Searching for individual “sense of place” with our environment is one example of fulfilling this social need. Establishing strong family and community ties are also examples. What about establishing strong ties and alliances to institutions? Does this also help fulfill this innate need? I believe that it can. My life has been forever changed because of my relationship to UTSA. I am bonded to it forever, “for better or worse.” And with that bond, comes some responsibility. “Sense of place” doesn’t just happen; we must continuously work for it. We must first establish a relationship and then support and protect our “place.” We must open up our hearts and minds and let our “place” – in this case, UTSA- become another member of our family. I encourage each of you to embark on a personal journey of finding your own “sense of place.”

What makes a place special is the way it buries itself inside the heart, not whether it’s flat or rugged, rich or austere, wet or arid, gentle or harsh, warm or cold, wild or tame. Every place, like every person, is elevated by the love and respect shown toward it, and by the way in which its bounty is received.” (Richard Nelson, The Island Within)
Local Impact Feature

The 2nd Annual ILT Colloquium was held on March 21 and 22 at UTSA and featured two keynotes, a film, student roundtables, charla and a plática, lunch for students, and the Martinello Awards ceremony. Chet Bowers, (Emeritus, Portland State University), eco-justice scholar, spoke in the plática and gave the keynote, on March 21. Just prior to his keynote, Educational Reforms that Address the Cultural Roots of the Ecological Crisis, the film, Thirst, was accompanied by discussion. His keynote challenged us to understand traditions and change, metaphor and the need to cultivate the cultural commons through educational reform. On Wednesday, March 22, John Santos (Distinguished Professor, UTSA), Mestizo Studies Scholar joined Chet Bowers for a “Charla” on status of education. After lunch Santos delivered his talk entitled, Autobiographies & Ecologies of Identity. Storytelling to Learn about Ourselves and Others in which he described his interdisciplinary and autobiographical work in Mestizo cultural studies. Enthusiasm and attendance exceeded expectations with more than 60 students attending each 30 minute session of roundtables, 150 attendees for the evening keynote and 200 attendees for the afternoon keynote. In all, approximately 500 students and faculty attended one or more events in the year’s colloquium. The committee (Audrey Dentith, Miriam Martinez, Janis Harmon, Robin Redmon Wright, Shane Crosby, Belinda Flores, Debra Root, Tracey Kumar, and Jamie McKenzie Davis) want to thank all faculty who served as discussants and facilitators and all who encouraged students to attend or who attended themselves.

By Audrey Dentith

Local Impact Feature

The ECE faculty hosted UTSA’s first annual Early Childhood Institute at the Downtown Campus on April 2nd. The institute was sponsored by the Academy for Teaching Excellence and the Department of Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching. Nearly 100 community-based early childhood educators participated in workshops conducted by the ILT early childhood faculty related to a wide variety of topics relevant to the field of early childhood education. Attendees were able to earn Continuing Education Credits for their participation. The overwhelmingly positive response by the attendees indicates a need for future Institutes such as this, and the faculty hope to make this an annual event.

By Jenifer Thornton
National Impact Feature “Partners as Parents in Education”

Congratulations to Dr. Mari Riojas-Cortez on her upcoming co-authored book "Parents as Partners in Education" (with Eugenia Hepworth Bergner) published by Pearson. She was selected to extensively revise this classic best-selling textbook because of her innovative research with Mexican American and Mexican immigrant families and children.

For more information:

http://vig-fp.prenhall.com/bigcovers/0137072074.jpg

Local Impact Feature

The UTSA Plaza de Lectura (Reading Place) honored its participants during a Reading Celebration on April 18-21. The Reading Place is a tutoring program on the downtown campus for San Antonio area students who want additional support in reading. This spring, the Plaza served more than 50 students who attended weekly tutoring sessions. Undergraduate and graduate students in ILT planned dynamic, student-centered lessons for their tutees based on assessment data they collected at the beginning of the semester.

The program is currently accepting applications for interested students in grades 1 – 6 for the fall sessions.

By Dennis Davis

More information can be found at HTTP://EDUCATION.UTSA.EDU/INTERDISCIPLINARY_LEARNING_AND_TEACHING/THE_READING_PLACE/
Global Impact Feature

Agreement of Cooperation Signed between UTSA and Malawi

In April, UTSA President Ricardo Romo and the Malawian Ambassador to the United States, Steve Matenje, signed an agreement of cooperation that expands the work of Dr. Misty Sailors and her team. This agreement sustains educational programs for Malawian grade-school teachers, prints children’s books and educational materials, and supports other collaborative projects to support Malawian small businesses, ecotourism, and possibly computer science, medicine, and engineering.

This year, the project has printed its first 970,000 books. Teacher training on how to use the books began in October. Pilot data for understanding the impact of the literacy project are currently being collected.

By Joellen Coryell

Dr. Misty Sailors is the Principal Investigator for “Malawi Reads,” a $13 Million three year project to provide five million books written by local Malawian teachers for 1000 elementary schools in Malawi. This project was funded by USAID.

Fulbright-Hays Recipient: Dr. Kimberley Cuero

Congratulations to Dr. Kimberley Cuero and Dr. Peter Sayer on their recently awarded Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad Program, "Educational, linguistic, and cultural engagements: Puebla, Mexico 2011." The awarded amount is $80,430.

For more information about the Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad (GPA) program, please visit: http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsgpa/index.html.
Dr. Misty Sailors - USAID, "Malawi Reads," $13,000,000
Dr. Maria Arreguín-Anderson - COEHD Academy for Teacher Excellence Award. “Exploring cell phone technologies as tools for scientific inquiry and linguistic/cognitive engagement with bilingual prospective teachers” $5,000.
Dr. Matthew Berland - National Science Foundation (NSF), "Collaborative Project: Programming Standing Up", $282,733
Dr. Kim Bilica - CCRI, "College Career Readiness Initiatives," $10,000
Dr. Kim Bilica - TRC, "Mid Career Recruitment for Math and Science," $200,000
Dr. Audrey Dentith - THECB CCRI, "UTSA Interdisciplinary Studies in Teacher Education Curriculum Revision," $10,000
Dr. Carmen Fies - Brackenridge Foundation, "UTSA/Basic Schools Network EC-5 STEM Initiative" amendment -$15,750
Dr. Carmen Fies - SALS!, "SPARKT," $49,922
Dr. Belinda Flores - DOE, "CCRAA, Support for STEM Teachers," $2,615,000; DOE, "Middle Level ATEP," $1,914,130; DOE, "Special Education ATEP," $2,014,253; Greater TX Fnd., "Teacher Academy Induction Learning Community," $506,499; GTF, "TAILC Continuation," $150,000; THECB, "Academy for Culturally Efficacious Math and Science Teachers," $700,000; UTCCERP, "Char. of Effective Math and Science T of ELLS," $116,700
Drs. Belinda Flores and Betty Travis - TRC, "Regional Math Collaborative," $85,000
Dr. Belinda Flores (ATE) and Rachel Ruiz (P-20)- DOE 2010 Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)Comprehensive Program, "Innovative Communities of Learning Advancing Student Success (iCLASS): An Early College Approach for Increasing Latino Participation in Mathematics and Science", $749,972
Dr. Roxanne Henkin - National Writing Project, "San Antonio Writing Project 2010-11 Continuance". $46,000
Dr. Maria Kaylor - NSF, "Universal Design and Technology for Students with Disabilities in STEM Fields," $200,000
Dr. Audrey Mohan - Fulbright-Hayes, "Sustainable Ecosystems, Enduring Cultures in Ecuador," $84,268
Dr. Christine Moseley - TRC, "Mid Career Recruitment for Math and Science," $200,000; UT Texas Regional Collaborations, "Texas Learning Academy Induction Learning Community for Math and Sciences" (TAILC-MS) amendment, $15,216; Regional Science Collaborative - Texas Regional Collaboratives for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching, $85,000; Beginning Teacher Induction and Mentoring (BTIM) - Texas Regional Collaboratives for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Teaching. 119,662; Regional Environmental Education Workshops - Texas Association for Environmental Education, $1000.

College and Career Readiness Initiative (CCRI) - Social Studies Faculty Collaborative Grant.
Dr. Dennis Davis -Developing Instrumentation to Characterize Reading Comprehension Instruction in US Schools, UTSA College of Education and Human Development Faculty Research Award, $4,423


Research Highlights: Recent ILT Publications


Grant Feature

Funding Agency: National Science Foundation.
$282,734 (UTSA, Matthew Berland, PI)
$191,188 (UT Austin, Taylor Martin, PI)
Dates: 09/01/10-08/31/13

The importance of engaging and effective programming instruction cannot be understated: programming is a core thinking skill and a core job skill. However, while instruction in many disciplines has been made more active, more mobile, and more collaborative, programming instruction has resisted those advances. The goal of this project is to introduce mobility and social interaction into programming instruction and encourage students to collaborate as they move and congregate. As such, Berland and Martin are developing mobile, collaborative robotics programming games (for the iPod/ iPhone). These programs are currently being deployed in high schools across Texas. Through this work, they hope to develop more robust understandings of both how and why novices learn to program.

Programming Standing Up
NSF: Innovations in Engineering Education Program

Storytelling Festival!

ILT hosted its 7th Annual Storytelling Festival in March. The festival featured a keynote presentation by Mary Grace Ketner, President of the Tejas Storytelling Association. The 175 participants in attendance enjoyed breakout sessions on how to tell stories and how to use storytelling techniques in the classroom. There was also a special presentation by children from a storytelling club run by librarian Sue Kuentz from the Northeast Independent School District.

By Dennis Davis
Publication Highlight with ILT Doctoral Students

Rosalind Horowitz, Professor, ILT, and doctoral students in the PhD in ILT—Cohort I, Shannon Blady, Angeli Willson, Tracey Kumar, George Jackson, Lori Prior, Lucretia Fraga, Leo Witnebel, Kalparra Mukunda Iyengar, Ralph Gdovin, Debra Root, Andrew Schuetze and Shelbee Nguyen, produced a discussion of Tuft University’s MaryAnne Wolfe’s *Proust and the Squid: The story and science of the reading brain* which was published in the *Education Review*. Horowitz was a Hall of Fame nominee of the International Reading Association.

Spring 2011 ILT Conference Presentations

- 2011 UTSA Interdisciplinary Learning and Teaching Colloquium
- Adult Education Research Association/National Conference of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education/Association Canadienne pour l'Étude de l'Éducation des Adultes
- American Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies
- American Educational Research Association
- Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI)
- Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators
- Literacy Research Association
- National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE)
- Southwest Educational Research Association
- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- The Association of Public and Land-Grant University’s Commission on International Programs Summer Meeting

ILT and P-20 Initiatives

Dr. Carmen Fies is currently supporting UTSA’s P-20 Initiatives as a visiting scholar. Her work includes the coordination and professional development of assessment for the programs and employees, the coordination of a memorandum of agreement regarding engineering programs with the San Antonio Colleges, and fostering collaborative efforts between the COEHD and P-20 Initiatives.
Ilia Colemere, Adjunct faculty in ILT was selected to participate in a grant funded project from Educause to help create a new site for teacher educators. She is also engaged in sim-School, a game-like simulation that develops teaching skills, which will be disseminated via an international network of colleges of education and be scaled to reach all future teachers in the U.S. The application dynamically simulates classroom learner behaviors, emulates teaching and learning activities, and has been shown to generate relevant benefits concerning mastery of deeper learning outcomes such as self-efficacy, critical thinking, complex problem solving, & collaboration.

ILT Faculty Are Recognized for Years of Service to the University of Texas System

- **20 Years of Service**
  - Suzanne Kimball

- **15 years of Service**
  - Janis Harmon

- **10 years of Service**
  - Carmen Fies
  - Alycia Mauer

- **5 years of Service**
  - Maria Arreguin-Anderson
  - Ilia Colemere
  - Joellen Coryell
  - Nicole Ramirez
  - Tim Yuen

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. Jenifer Thornton was awarded the San Antonio Association for the Education of Young Children (SAAEYC) Award.
CONGRATULATIONS!
THREE ILT Faculty Received 2011 University of Texas at San Antonio Presidential Awards!
President’s Distinguished Teaching Award:
Dr. Jenifer Thornton
President’s Distinguished Award for Advancing Globalization:
Dr. Misty Sailors
President’s Distinguished Award for Community Service:
Dr. Christine Moseley

Service Highlights

- **Roxanne Henkin**: San Antonio Writing Project - 170 UTSA students, and San Antonio teachers and the community at large; San Antonio Writing Project Annual Conference - San Antonio area teachers and community members and UTSA students; San Antonio Writing Project Bridge to College Workshop; San Antonio Writing Project Super Saturday Workshop Kahani Project - Family members of the Indian-American Community, San Antonio area teachers and community members and UTSA students
- **Belinda Flores**: AERA, Division K, Section 5 Lives of Teachers Program Chair; AERA Hispanic Research SIG Past Chair; Early Childhood Institute
- **Elizabeth Pate**: Presented parent Information about Young Adolescents, to be presented to parents of young adolescents
- **Karla Broadus**: Tumaini Project - tutoring of children and families
- **Robin Redmon Wright**: ALT Internships - ALT students participate in semester long internships and community service with community agencies
- **Christine Moseley**: Community EE Service Projects - students in IDS 3003 complete environmental education related service learning projects as small groups
- **Jennifer Thornton**: Early Childhood Institute
- **Rosalind Horowitz**: Writing and Art Therapy - work with outpatient war veterans; Horowitz served as External Reviewer of a doctoral dissertation at the University of Toronto, Department of Applied Psychology and Human Development on children’s uses of and beliefs about heritage languages-- Chinese, Mandarin, and Spanish.
- **Iliana Alanis & Mari Cortez**: Early Childhood Service Learning Projects - students in the Early Childhood Block (Block A) engage in service learning activities for 10 hours throughout the semester. The focus is working with young children and their families to learn about their development
- **Tim Yuen**: Gear 2011 Robotics Competition
- **Kim Cuero**: Presenter to faculty & staff: The Complexities of Bilingualism: Fostering a Positive View. San Antonio Youth; Trainer/Facilitator. Project WILD through Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Poetry Alive!
Poetry Alive! - approximately 150 UTSA students and individuals from the community participated in the event.

Service Learning in IDS Courses
Students complete 20 hours of service-learning with community agencies as part of the course requirements for IDS 3013. Students connect their field service-learning experiences with the course content issues of diversity and social justice.
Department of Interdisciplinary Learning & Teaching
One UTSA Circle
Main Building 2.212
San Antonio, TX 78249
Phone: 210-458-5969
Fax: 210-458-7281

Travels with Rowdy!
Rowdy traveled to Washington D.C. (photo on left) and to the CREATE Conference in Houston with Dr. Belinda Flores!