

ACCESS

Advancing Community College
Education for Student Success

A New Year's Favor

During the first week of the New Year, **Robert L. Jamail**, Trustee and **Don Stevens**, Executive Director of the **Jamail Galveston Foundation** presented Galveston College Foundation with a check for \$25,000 for Universal Access (UA). The Jamail Galveston Foundation Trustees noted that the grant was awarded due to UA's significant inducement over the last decade for Galveston high school students to graduate from Galveston College and pursue meaningful, stable, and relevant employment opportunities. Since the beginning of the Universal Access program, The Jamail Galveston Foundation has given \$80,000 and encourages individuals, area businesses, and corporate employers to recognize the value of the vital workforce development and academic programs at Galveston College which benefit not only Galveston but Texas at large. Higher education has always been among its principal reasons for giving. Once more, Galveston College Foundation is grateful to the family of **Lee Hage** and **Joseph D. Jamail** for their constancy and generosity in support of students and their families on the Island.



Universal Access Scholars
Bertha Dubon and Fabiola Carlos

"The extraordinary gift from the Moody Foundation to Galveston College Foundation's Universal Access Endowment allows us to use these funds so that all eligible Galveston high school graduates who attend Galveston College have their tuition covered. We are still the nation's only private endowment that supports the college aspirations of students regardless of income. We are deeply grateful that the Moody Foundation, renowned for its farsighted commitments throughout the state of Texas, chose us for this powerful impact in higher education and career investment right here at Galveston College." ---Jan R. Coggeshall, Chair Galveston College Foundation.

Momentum

In December 2014, The Trustees of the **Moody Foundation** awarded Galveston College Foundation (GCF) \$3,000,000 to assist in raising the education level of Galveston's workforce and reduce generational poverty through the community endowment program known as 'Universal Access'. Universal Access is the country's only private educational endowment established and sustained by the local community at large. The Moody Foundation's grant for Universal Access is to ensure a fully supported tuition opportunity for every eligible high school graduate (public, private, GED or homeschooled) who resides in the Galveston College taxing district to attend Galveston College in pursuit of an associate degree, a certificate in an applied technology field, or receive transferable college credit. Since 2001, Galveston College has educated slightly more than 1500 students on Universal Access funds managed and invested by the Galveston College Foundation, an independent 501 (c) 3 non-profit created to support the College. From 2011-2014, an average of 457 students received Universal Access awards totaling more than \$600,000. At least 500 more students took

college courses through this progressive private sector program; and, as a result, obtained a higher standard of living and confidence in the future.

Allan Matthews, Director of Grants for The Moody Foundation said that the Trustees were pleased to award the Galveston College Foundation the means "to increase the community endowment of Universal Access." He commended Galveston College



Janice R. Coggeshall, Chair, Galveston College Foundation with Perla Arauza, 2014—2015 Universal Access scholarship recipient at the President's Reception Recognizing Donors and Scholars

Foundation and the College's Board of Regents "for making college a realistic option for all high school graduates in Galveston." In addition, he said that the Trustees believe that **Jan Coggeshall**, Chair of the Galveston College Foundation, and **Dr. Myles Shelton**, President of Galveston College, are committed to the stewardship of this exceedingly generous grant to address what they believe will respond to the needs of students in the present and for generations of Galvestonians to come.

The Universal Access program is well aligned with the stated purpose of The Moody Foundation's 1942 charter by **William Lewis Moody, Jr.** and his wife, **Libbie Shearn Rice Moody** "to benefit, in perpetuity, present and future generations of Texans."

G.C. Hosts Inaugural President's Reception Recognizing Donors and Scholarship Recipients

Dr. Myles Shelton (pictured on the right) hosted the inaugural President's Reception Recognizing Donors and Scholarship Recipients held on Thursday, January 29, 2015 in the Abe and Annie Seibel Foundation Wing. The event was attended by more than 90 guests which included representatives from regional foundations, area businesses, bank trustees for family foundations, named scholarship winners, third-party scholarship winners, and 2014-15 Universal Access Scholars. Also in attendance were families of scholarship winners, GC Regents, GC Foundation Directors, and GC Administration and Program Directors. Executive Chef Ross Warhol of Gaido's Pelican Club catered the affair.



Foundation, Corporate & Organization Donors 2014-2015

- Dr. Leon Bromberg Charitable Trust
- Coca-Cola Bottling Company
- Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word
- Del Papa Distributing Company
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- Rotary Club of Galveston Island
- Rotary Club of Galveston Foundation, Inc.
- Abe and Annie Seibel Foundation Trust
- J.F. Seinsheimer, Jr. Charitable Foundation
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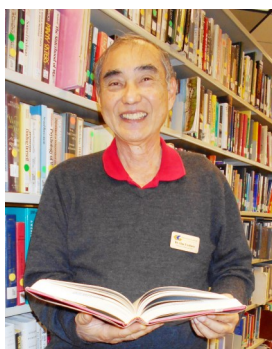


Top Left—**Armin Cantini**, Chair of GC Board of Regents; **Sr. Rachel O'Keeffe, C.C.V.I.** Administrator of Villa de Matel Center, Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word Houston; **Katrina Montealegre** Sister Agnesita Memorial Scholarship winner and **Sr. Mary Patricia Driscoll, C.C.V.I.**, General Councilor Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word; Houston. Top Right—**Janice R. Coggeshall**, Chair, Galveston College Foundation with Universal Access Scholar **Mia-Monica Laluan** and **Mrs. Laluan**. Center Right—Coca-Cola scholarship recipient **Wanda Kelly** with Houston Coca-Cola Bottling Company Representative, **S. Roy Owolabi**. Center Left—Left—ExxonMobil scholarship recipient **Darin Braniger** with Exxon Mobil Public and Government Affairs Manager **Deedra Moe**, Baytown. Bottom Row: Left—GC Regents **Fred Raschke**, **Karen Flowers**, **Carroll Sunseri**, **Carl Kelly**, with **Sutapa Banerji**, Administrator Carl S. Kelly Scholarship Houston; fellow Regents **George Black** and **Tino Gonzalez**. Center—Scholars **Alina Benavidez** (Rotary Club of Galveston Foundation Scholarship), **Mark Magno** (Easter-Wilson Scholarship), **Mia Monica Laluan** (Universal Access Scholarship), **Mrs. Laluan**, **Lyda Plummer** (Windle Vocal Fund Scholarship), and **Vaughan Stockton** (Michael Hodge Memorial Scholarship). Right—Scholars **Melnikia Smith** (Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Murillo Scholarship), **Amanda Prince** (Galveston College Scholars Award), **Victor Gonzales** (Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Murillo Scholarship), and **Robin Nelson** (Lambdin Scholarship).

PERSPECTIVE

The Heart of It All

As a child of immigrant parents with limited knowledge of English, I was dependent on my older siblings to help me through the educational process. One day my sister said that she wanted to take me with her to the public library, so we rode the bus downtown. When we entered the library I was astonished by the vast number of books there. I was mesmerized and excited that there were many books I could not only read, but I could borrow to take home.



In every aspect of my schooling, I was fortunate to have a library available to help me through my studies. After the completion of my first Master's degree, I was offered a position as a Librarian contingent of my completing another Master's degree in Library Science. That decision changed my life. I went to work at the Brigham Young University-Hawaii library while attending the University of Hawaii in the evenings. It took me two years to complete a Masters of Library Science degree.

As I progressed in my post graduate studies, the university, public, municipal, and special libraries were essential to my research and eventual completion of my doctoral degree. A highlight of my studies at the University of London was the opportunity to hold and peruse historic primary library materials as part of my dissertation research.

My experience and training in library science has been useful in every job I have had since that time and has helped me focus on the essential needs of my profession. Similarly we have the opportunity here at Galveston College to train students to become familiar with the library and see it as a resource that will serve them all through their lives.

The David Glenn Hunt Memorial Library at Galveston College is part of a network of libraries-- public, universities, colleges, and community colleges. Our philosophies are different, yet focus on similar missions and goals. The mission of the David Glenn Hunt Memorial Library is "to provide a broad range of resources and services to the college community; to support the educational programs and curriculum of the college; to promote scholarship and basic research necessary to the academic and vocational programs; and to assist all library users in the development of lifelong learning and information literacy."

The library and its resources are the heart of our campus. Philosophically, they are the core of each subject taught. More than any other facility or program in the college, the library functions as a place to extend student education beyond the required curriculum. The library is the connection of student learning and research, and faculty scholarship and teaching.

The fundamental focus of all libraries is information literacy. Librarians help educate patrons to comprehend all aspects of learning and to increase their confidence in locating information. As a result, libraries have a comprehensive purpose to teach patrons how to access and use information. The needs of patrons far eclipses systems or management, although the latter are important functions to assist them. Therefore libraries should be welcoming, flexible, and accommodating. When it comes to patrons, their needs are the most essential of all.

In this rapidly changing technological world it is imperative that libraries are sustained through updated technology and resources. A challenge to our library is staying abreast of latest advances in library science and incorporating these so our students have the most up to date information and research tools available to them. At David

Glenn Hunt Memorial Library we are committed to change and improvement as these new technologies are available to us. As a librarian, I am fully committed to provide students the same opportunities I had as I pursued my degrees. Resources in current formats must be available to enhance student learning and our responsibility is to make sure students are confident in using these resources in their lives. In the future libraries will not vanish or disappear but will continue to help all patrons young and old. We must ensure that the library continues to be a valuable part of all people's lifelong learning.

Alan Uyehara, Ph.D.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Alvarez- A Couple of Success Stories



Opposites attract, they say..... **Perla Oseguera** was always college bound and **Victor Alvarez** could not see himself going to college. Yet, with the two most important women in his life encouraging his talents, Victor was soon to be convinced. After graduating from **Ball High** in 2011, Victor, a valued member of the wait staff at **Moody Gardens Hotel, Spa and Conference Center**, wanted to ask his

high school sweetheart to marry but he knew that her ambitions involved a serious path in higher education with her sights set on becoming an RN (registered nurse) from Galveston College (GC) and eventually, receive at minimum a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the **University of Texas Medical Branch**. Victor's older sister persuaded him that he had the "right stuff" and should join her in being the first in their family to graduate with college degrees. Reluctant at first, Victor became more interested when Perla graduated from Ball in 2013.

In summer of the same year, they married. Perla was working for a local chiropractor and discovered that nursing was in fact the career for her. Her success at Galveston College came rapidly. She was eligible for **Universal Access** through the Galveston College Foundation and received two scholarships, the **Marionette Beyah Memorial Fund** and the **Nielson Music Scholarship**.

Victor chose the HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning) Certificate program with an Associate Degree. He was awarded a Pell Grant toward completion of his studies. Victor credits **Mr. Rodrigo Santoyo**, Instructor of Developmental Math at the College, for getting him through his math courses and **Mr. Ronald Foster**, Program Director for HVAC, for his success with the advanced certificate program. His supervisors at Moody Gardens promoted him five months ago and he is now working as a technician in the Air Conditioning Department.

(continued on page 11)



Sabina Rocha (G.C. '87)— A Hands On Approach

When big yellow school busses rolled and rocked onto the busy parking lot at 7:15 a.m. on a wintry morning in early January young voices were heard to call out “ Good morning Miz Rocha!..Buenas Dias, Senora...or a simple “Hi, Miss Sabina!” as they scrambled off bus steps into the warmth of the main hall at La Marque Elementary School. **Sabina Rocha**, Assistant Principal, greeted the children, some of whom insisted on stopping for a longer chat with her before the day began. Even though she is a senior administrator at a public school on the Mainland, Sabina is a Galveston Island native, more commonly known as a B.O.I. ‘*Born on the Island*’. The Rocha family is a tightly knit clan and when she graduated from Ball in 1983, she knew that she wanted to attend Galveston College (GC).

Sabina obtained **Abe and Annie Seibel Foundation** funds to pursue her dream to

become a marine biologist and took required subjects which, naturally, demanded advanced math and science courses. Halfway through her program, she switched her degree plan to elementary education. It was **Dr. Syed Moiz** at GC who helped her realize success. She remembers “that the math courses were over my head and he encouraged me to sit in the front row!” In 1987, Sabina felt much more confident in her mastery of the necessary math courses and completed the requisite science courses to transfer to University of Houston Clear-Lake to finish her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. Sabina’s tenacious pursuit of higher education demanded that she work and be a full-time student at GC and UH-Clear Lake. In the space of a few short years, Sabina graduated with a Master’s Degree in Elementary Education in 1993. She reflected on the excellent programming at Galveston College and shared that “for a semester or two” GC attracted several UH-Clear Lake professors to teach graduate education courses on the College campus. Sabina became a recognized team leader by Region IV and was asked repeatedly to pursue a principal’s certification. She obtained her certification and launched the next stage of her career in 2011. In 2013, Sabina received the **District Professional of the Year Award**.

Sabina credits Galveston College with her success because the instructors sufficiently prepared her for the increasing levels of difficulty as she transitioned from undergraduate to graduate school. Sabina stated that, “GC’s courses in Sociology and Psychology were key in helping me understand people and how they think. As I progressed in my education, I became aware of the importance of my academic preparation at GC and how good it really was...Also traveling up and down the Causeway and Bay Area Blvd. always demanded punctuality for work and classes—not showing up was not an option.”

Another interesting fact...For twenty years, Sabina has been a Master Nail technician at **Lulu’s Salon and Day Spa**. When she first started teaching, she was a client at **Lulu Benavidez’s** high end salon and wanted to learn nail techniques. Teaching during the day and taking classes at night resulted in a second career. Sabina keeps a “creative hand in” each weekend at Lulu’s. The proud former GC student exemplifies the best that life can offer—family, career, and community!



Meghann Nash (G.C. '04)— First Class

A pretty dark-haired woman with an easy laugh and forthright manner, **Meghann Nash** GC '04, Galveston College Financial Aid Coordinator, is usually found in deep conversation with incoming students, current students, parents, and colleagues about public and private sector funds available to pay for higher education,

and of course, the **Universal Access (UA)** program. While still in middle school in the mid-1990’s, Galveston College Foundation directors visited her school and Meghann became familiar with the promise of a tuition paid higher education program at Galveston College (GC) through the Foundation’s community endowment. When she graduated from high school, she was not eligible for Pell funding but Universal Access would be available to her. Meghann was in the first class to receive UA in 2001. Tuition and fees were awarded to local high school graduates not eligible for Pell.

Initially, her dream was to become a veterinarian. But it was her success with accounting courses, especially with **Professor Don Davison**, that prompted her to consider a career in Business. Meghann discovered that UA permitted her to take more courses than she would have been able to afford upon changing her major. Dual credit courses and the UA tuition paid program facilitated a faster graduation date.

Galveston College Foundation administers in excess of 44 named and endowed scholarships. Several of which helped her (**Coca-Cola Bottling, University Federal Credit Union, etc.**) obtain an Associate’s Degree in General Studies. During her GC work-study program, Meghann decided that she would like to be employed full-time. Next steps were to pursue a Bachelor of Maritime Administration with a minor in Economics and a Master’s in Maritime Logistics Administration from Texas A & M Galveston. A single parent of two, Meghann understands well the importance of a community college education as a stepping stone.

As the Financial Aid Coordinator for Galveston College. She is a highly regarded professional who is astute and resourceful about the areas of public and private funds—especially “her UA baby”. She tracks and helps manage Universal Access awards through the Office of Student Services and Financial Aid in collaboration with Galveston College Foundation. Ms. Nash has a particular devotion to Galveston, Galveston College, and the students who live and work on the Island.

She stated that, “***I say, apply for everything you can! Eight out of ten times, when students complete the right information, they are eligible.....or when they receive the right information, they find that they are in fact, eligible.***”

Meghann is a strong advocate that students be aware “that although there is more funding, the criteria is stricter to get it.” If they are willing to earn it and be partners in their own education, we will turn over every shell on the beach to get it for them.”



“...Traveling up and down the Causeway and the Bay Area highways always demanded punctuality for work and classes—not showing up was not an option.”

—Sabina Rocha

“The major reason I chose Galveston College was Universal Access”

—Meghann Nash



Dr. Brannan Calls the Shots!

In January 2015, **Sandy Brannan, Ph.D. RN** came aboard as Galveston College's new Director of Nursing. This blue-eyed, auburn haired native of Shamrock, Texas (home of the Fighting Irish), shared a little of her professional and personal background for ACCESS. Dr. Brannan graduated from Northwest Texas Hospital School of Nursing (NWTN) in Amarillo, Texas. Shortly thereafter, she began her

clinical nursing career in NWTN's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and Emergency Department until she transferred to UTMB Galveston. She worked here as a surgical nurse in the General Intensive Care Unit until becoming the Surgical Services Nursing Supervisor. Within a few years, she was promoted as director for all UTMB Intensive Care Unit Services. Her professionalism and excellent interpersonal skills preceded her and she was asked to join Hermann Hospital in Houston as Head Nurse in the Trauma ICU, working with internationally renowned trauma surgeon **Dr. James (Red) Duke**.

During this time, she pursued a Master's in Emergency Care and Administration at UT Health Science Center. It wasn't long before Dr. Brannan was promoted to various Chief Nursing Officer positions in Corpus Christi, Beaumont, and Jackson, Mississippi. UTMB asked her to return as director of the entire surgical division. Her career continued after marrying **Raymond Brannan** in Beaumont where Dr. Brannan began work at Lamar State College-Port Arthur in the Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) to Registered Nursing (RN) program. After two years she transitioned into a Chief Nursing Officer position. In the late nineties and early 2000's, Dr. Brannan became a full-time instructor at Lamar University and lead coordinator for LVN to RN and RN to Bachelor of Science in Nursing Tracks. While at Lamar University, she completed work for a PhD in Nursing. In 2009, she returned to UTMB-CMC as the Nurse Manager at the Federal Correctional Facility (6,000 inmates) and remained there until retirement in 2011.

Dr. Brannan is devoted to every community where she and her family has lived. She actively participated as a Faith Community Nurse in the Golden Triangle (Nederland, Port Neches, Beaumont Area). And she taught classes on Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence in the annual Faith Community Nursing Program at Baptist Hospital of Southeast Texas in Beaumont, Texas. Moreover, Dr. Brannan found the time to start a Women's Shelter in Elgin, Texas.

Among some of her recent honors are: The National Association of Bariatric Nursing's Annual Research Award (2008); current President of Texas Health Ministries Network; and Recognition by the Southern Baptist General Convention of Texas for work in Faith Community Nursing. Although Dr. Brannan (and family!) still has Beaumont ties, she welcomes this opportunity to return to the Island and continue to do the work she loves.



DEVELOPMENT

I.S.L.A.N.D.

Innovative Simulation Lab for the Associate in Nursing Degree \$129,820 for Galveston College Nursing Program

Galveston College is excited to announce that the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) has awarded \$129,820 to establish a High-Fidelity Simulation Lab for the Galveston College Nursing Program (GCNP). The grant will help provide high-fidelity manikins which can emulate human behavior and it will provide students an authentic environment in which to learn how to deliver safe and effective care to patients in a variety of healthcare settings.

Dr. Sandy Brannan, Director of the GC Nursing Program, will serve as project director and **Dr. Larry Root, Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research**, will serve as co-director and project evaluator. The primary objective of the project is to shift up to 50 percent of program clinical hours to high-fidelity simulation hours. Effectiveness of the program will be evaluated by comparing student performance in clinical versus simulation using the Ceighton Competency Evaluation Instrument and by comparing nurse certification exam pass rates before and after the incorporation of simulation hours.

Dr. Brannan, states "This is an exciting time to be a nurse. Galveston College has a rich heritage of providing Texas with hundreds of well-qualified nurses. This grant will augment that already outstanding nursing program."

Galveston College Community Chorale 2014 Awarded Live Music Grant



Moody Methodist Church—Courtesy of txschilbirtheducation.com

The Texas Music Office (TMO) of the Office of the Governor awarded Galveston College Community Chorale \$700.00 as part of their Live Music Grant Program. The objective of the Live Music Grant Program is to provide free music by Texas music acts to the general public.

Galveston College Community Chorale hosted professional harpist **Dr. Joanna Elliott Whitsett** for their Christmas concert "A

Ceremony of Carols" on December 14, 2014 at Moody Methodist Church, Galveston.

The concert was well attended by an audience of all ages. The harp music accompanying the Chorale was a beautiful and extraordinary addition to the event.

The Galveston College Community Chorale is thankful to the TMO and to Island Music Center, the co-sponsor for the live musical act, for their support. The Chorale also acknowledges the support provided by the Galveston College Foundation through development and completion of the application requirements for this funding opportunity. Michael Gilbert, Director of the Galveston College Community Chorale states, "It is rare when a community chorus has the opportunity to perform music as the composer intended, especially when it calls for specific instrumentation for the musical work, in this case the harp. We are very grateful to the Texas Music Office for awarding this grant to Galveston College so we could perform this wonderful work as it was intended by British composer, Benjamin Britten."



Dr. Joanna Whitsett

PERSPECTIVE

A Once and Future Community College

Prior to moving to Galveston, I had not worked in a community college. I was, however, very aware of the access, affordability, and opportunity provided by community colleges. My daughter completed her associate degree at the local community college in the same semester she graduated from high school. The college credits she received were rigorous, taught by highly qualified faculty, and transferred – as a block of core curriculum courses – to a four-year institution. In essence, she received from community college an excellent education, a recognized degree, and over \$20,000 in tuition/fee savings. Even though her collegiate high school classmates also attended the community college too many of them did not succeed in completing college credits, did not earn a degree or certificate, and did not transfer to a four-year institution. They did not see *value* in their community college education. The reasons for this are complex but is highly associated with perpetuated misconceptions about community college.

At one time only individuals that had no plans of attending a four year institution went to community college. Now, many of our students aspire to complete a bachelor's degree. Some are concurrently enrolled at GC and at a university, and/or complete courses at GC during the summer session. Likewise, at one time courses completed at a community college often would not transfer to a four-year institution rendering those courses as a waste of time for students pursuing a bachelor's degree. Now, all academic degrees in Texas require a General Education Core Curriculum that will transfer between and among Texas institutions of higher education. Community college provides students with solid academics and recognized transferable credentials.

At one time individuals could work part-time and afford to pay, in full and without incurring debt, tuition and fees at public four-year universities. Now, with an average cost of \$5,000 per semester, few if any could afford to pay as they go at a state university. In comparison, community college is very affordable.

At one time almost anyone could gain acceptance to community college regardless of high school class ranking or low college placement tests scores. Thankfully, this is still true. Practically everyone can gain acceptance to Galveston College. We are proud that we practice an open enrollment policy and prioritize *access* to higher education. Community college is accessible.

At one time applied technical schools were separate and distinct from community colleges, were typically for-profit schools, and they focused only on building vocational skills. Now, the applied technical programs are an integral component of the community college and students are encouraged to complete an academic core in addition to applied technical skills. By completing an academic core they earn an associate of applied science degree and gain competency in 21st Century work skills such as critical thinking, written communication, and teamwork. Community college trains skilled workers who can also think critically, solve problems creatively, innovate, collaborate, and communicate.

In fall of 2013, I learned that my family would be moving to Galveston. I wanted to come and work for Galveston College. I was aware of the pivotal and expanding role the community college performs (and could perform) for a community. I knew the philosophy and mission of a community college would match my own in regards to access, affordability, real-world relevance, quality, opportunity, and broader impacts to Galveston. I observed the authentic investment of the Galveston community, specifically through the Galveston College Foundation and the Universal Access



program, in the success of Galveston College and its students. Galveston College is an essential part of the Galveston community and the Galveston community is an essential part of the College.

As the role of community colleges in the United States continues to advance and as misconceptions of community college are corrected, Galveston College is ready—with solid academics, transferable credits, access, affordability, 21st Century work skills, and strong relationships with the community—for the spotlight. So the next time someone shares with you a desire to go to Galveston College, encourage them. There are so many good reasons to start their higher education journey at community college. Share with them the *value* of community college and don't perpetuate misconceptions that may unintentionally devalue it thus dissuading students from taking full advantage of the opportunity community college provides. Galveston College could change their lives.

Dr. Sandra Metoyer

Galveston College Faculty Join NSF-Sponsored ATE Mentor-Connect Project

Congratulations to **Robert Shields**, Director of GC's Electrical and Electronics program, and **Laimutis Bytautas, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, who were selected through a national competitive process to participate in the third cohort of the ATE Mentor-Connect Project. The Mentor-Connect project is funded by the National Science Foundation's **Advanced Technological Education (ATE)** program. Its purpose is to provide comprehensive and interactive support for leadership development and knowledge transfer by developing and supporting potential, current and former grantees. The ATE program is an NSF program dedicated to expanding excellence in technician education and increasing the quantity, quality, and diversity of technician graduates to support business and industry and to encourage economic development.

Through a process guided by Mentor-Connect and facilitated by **Dr. Sandra Metoyer**, Grant Writer in the Office of Development, Mr. Shields and Dr. Bytautas are developing a new ATE project proposal that will be submitted to NSF in October, 2015. We are excited about using this opportunity to build strong partnerships with regional business and industry in order to increase the quantity, quality, and employability of GC students completing the Electrical and Electronics program. "I am thrilled to be a part of this project dedicated to helping our students in technical fields to secure high-quality jobs and improving lives in the local community" says Dr. Bytautas.

In addition, participation in the Mentor-Connect project increases the team's knowledge about NSF projects and proposal development, skills in leadership, and association among other applied technical programs in the state. Ultimately, success in being



awarded an NSF ATE project will increase GC students' educational, employment, and economic opportunities.

Robert Shields (center) and Electronics Class

2014 – 2015 Universal Access Scholars



Changes in Universal Access Guidelines Beginning Fall 2015

In 2001, the Galveston College Foundation devised a revolutionary way for all Galveston residents who graduate from area high schools or their equivalent to attain higher education and career training at the College regardless of income. The Board of Directors engaged Galveston's community to support the academic and workforce development goals of the College through an unprecedented program entitled "Universal Access" (UA) which has been recognized by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board for its inspirational use of private sector funds to secure access to college for citizens of Galveston.

Beginning in the fall of 2015, the Galveston College Foundation Universal Access (UA) award has a new lifetime limit of \$2,800.00 for full-time students, which covers all tuition for a 60 hour associate degree. Up to \$1,400 may be awarded per year to full-time students for the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Upon enrollment for the UA award, a student's allocation must be used within a five year period. A one-time \$200.00 book-only voucher will be given to each eligible student. If the \$200 book voucher is not used in full in the first semester that it is accessed, the balance will not be forwarded to future semesters. Detailed information available on the Galveston College website under Development / Foundation:

Fall 2015 Universal Access Program Recipients:

1. Must be a resident of the Galveston College (G.C.) taxing district for a minimum of 12 months prior to graduation from accredited high schools or successful completion of GED or home schooling, and prior to enrollment into G.C. or are otherwise qualified for an in-district waiver under state law. Student must continue to be a resident of the G.C. taxing district while receiving UA funds.
2. Student must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a UA application, and an admissions application.
3. **In Fall 2015**, UA will pay for 100% of an eligible student's tuition. **(By definition excludes all fees.)**
4. **In Fall 2015**, UA recipients must be enrolled as full-time students. (enrolled in 12 or more semester credit hours for each long Fall or Spring semesters. UA will pay for no fewer than six and no more than 14 credit hours in an approved degree, certificate, or workforce development Program during the entire summer session.)
5. **In Fall 2015**, the applicant must be enrolled and initiate the Universal Access Scholarship, Pell Grant, or any other assistance within 16 months of graduation from high school, receipt of a GED certificate, or completion of home schooling. If a program does not begin at the beginning of the fall or spring semester, enrolled students will be eligible for support provided they fulfill the requirements.
6. **In Fall 2015**, Universal Access Scholarship recipients may enroll in an academic or technical credit program as identified in the Galveston College Catalog or an approved contact hour program of at least 360 hours.
7. **In Fall 2015**, UA will pay up to a total of 18 semester hours of developmental coursework.

For more information contact:
Galveston College Foundation (409) 944-1303 or
mtripovi@gc.edu

Mitchell Elliott	Fabiola Carlos
Richard Garza	David Cerdas
Daniel Garcia	Reagen Davis
Christopher Tavares	Zachary Dean
Bobby Flanagan	Bertha Dubon
Melissa Rodrigues	Melissa Escobar
David Macias	Caroline Ferguson
Katherine Wright-Broughton	Taylor Garza
Luis Hernandez	Joshua Gomez
Ashley Martinez	Ricardo Gomez
Juan Turrubiarres	Samuel Gutierrez
Jourdan Fentanes	Blanca Hernandez
Eric Scales	David Hernandez
Rocio Martinez	Saul Jaramillo
Shelby Rodwell	Annie Kenney
Erick Lopez	Mia-Monica Lalan
Samantha Weber	Elsa Leiva
Rodrigo Rodriguez	Karina Lopez
Christian Bray	Brandon Lozano
Joergen Sjostrom	Corey Mallia
Raul Jaramillo	Robyn Malmstrom
Sidana Benitez	Gabrielle Nallie
Lucero Lopez	German Orellana
Ruben Torres	Juan Perez
Adam Polanco	Rodolfo Perez
Orlando Torres	Enrique Puentes
Selene Hernandez	Kevin Radicioni
Karinthya Romero	Jaslin Ramos
Aldo Flores	Andrew Reyna
Rachel Mathers	Jesus Rojas
Jhon Maldonado	Krista Ruiz
Katherine Galan	William Scott
Alexi Alfaro	Christian Soni
Perla Arauza	Martha Soto
Spencer Bell	Richard Squiers
Chandler Bentinck	Mikayla Watson
Kyle Borque	James Wheeler
Jacob Brown	Ryan Zuniga
Hayden Buchanan	

Yaga's Halloween Bash Yields \$\$ for Welding Equipment

Yaga's Café
2314 Strand
77550

Dear Mr. Dean:

The Yaga's Café Halloween Bash raised \$2,270 on October 23, 2014 for the GC Welding Program at the Applied Technology Center on Broadway. By closing your restaurant for the evening, and underwriting all the food and drink, we raised more than enough to buy two important pieces of equipment. Both Scorpion® EZ-Cut by Flame Tech® tools are manual instruments to cut steel in precise locations at very specific angles to allow the students to work with materials that are cut to the same specifications used in the welding industry.

Prior to having this equipment, the Welding Program had only one option for cutting angles into steel. This single machine, although useful, demanded much patience. An entire class of welding students had to wait in line to use it. There was a definite bottle neck effect. Wasting class time and student initiative was problematic.

Now, thanks to your generosity as the major sponsor for the Yaga's Café Creepy and Clever Halloween Bash, the students have much shorter wait times to use metal cutting machinery and get much more done in one class than they ever have before! And we have about \$700.00 left to spend. We use these new tools everyday, so again, thank you, Mr. Dean, for supporting the GC Welding Program and its students.

In the spirit of Yaga's!

Love, Peace, Soul, and Rock 'n Roll!

Evan McClimans

Welding Program Director
Galveston College



Yaga's Café Creepy & Clever Halloween Bash Thursday, October 23, 2014

Ron Crumedy, Acting VP for Student Services and Director of Financial Aid, came early and stayed late as Chief Executive (in suit and tie!). He promptly judged the Halloween Bash contest! He was "fair and balanced" in his creative, creepy, and clever Executive Orders. Winners were:



Elmo & Taylor Aiken

First Prize—"The Sanderson Sisters" from the movie "Hocus Pocus": **Ashley Martinez, Deanna Doroteo, and Brittany Slanina**, ADN Students



Pete Perry & Dr. Gaynelle Hayes

Second Prize—Cruella de Ville from "101 Dalmatians"- **Shirley Lockett** Admissions

Third Prize—A heavily mustachioed and goateed GC College baseball player!—**Dr. Kim Ellis** She is the Coordinator of Student Activities.

Honorable Mention:

Evan McClimans, Welding Director, was a wild and crazy 70's dude with questionable taste in a lime green polyester suit and Fu-Manchu mustache! Where are the Fashion Police when we need them?



Laury Beth Huff & Gloria Milton

Polly Martin, Admissions, came as a genuine Peace-Love-Soul 60's "hippie" down to her John Lennon eyeglasses and Janis Joplin fringe leather bag! Righteous sister.

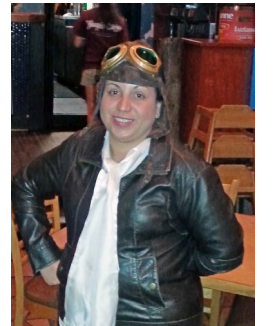
Joe and Laury Beth Huff thrilled everyone with their ghastly vampire costumes as Master and Mistress of the Dark. Joe is Public Affairs Director.



Ron Crumedy & Beth Johnson

Dr. Sandra Metoyer, Development and GC Foundation along with family member, **Nanette Metoyer** joined **Susan Lawson**, friend of the College, as bonny but cut throat pirate wenches!

The host of the evening was **Mike Dean**. He gave us the exclusive use of Yaga's Café with food and drink for the evening, and his outstanding staff. We are also grateful to the very generous raffle donors and to our anonymous costume contest sponsor.



Daphne Floran

Raffle Winners:

Courtyard Marriott Weekend Overnight with Spa specialties-Nannette Metoyer, Friend to the College
Farley Girls & Riondo's Gift Certificates—Rebecca Roark, Admissions

Galveston College Culinary Arts-Chef Mendoza's Certificate & Tom's Thumb Nursery—Michelle Medina, Administration
La King's Confectionery—Vera Lewis Jasper, GC Applied Technology Programs Dean
Lulu's Salon and Day Spa—Rebecca Roark, Admissions



From left to right: Costume Contest Winners: Deanna Doroteo, Ashley Martinez and Brittany Slanina, Dr. Kim Ellis and Shirley Lockett



Pictured above—Joe & Laury Beth Huff; Right—Front Row: GC Foundation Member Freda Davis & Geneva Spiller; Back Row: Bill Vaughan, Connie Thomas, Susan Lawson



Far Left—Donna Swartz, Laury Beth Huff, Evan McClimans, Ronald Foster, and Belinda Bankhead; Left—Pirate wenches Nanette Metoyer, Susan Lawson, and Sandra Metoyer

Back2Backbay Blast! Saturday, November 15, 2014

Mother Nature gave us a balmy, beautiful 2013 for the first Backbay Emporium GC Foundation Universal Access (UA) event. But in 2014, she showed us what she could really do with wind and rain on a very cold, very wet November night. GC would not be turned away. We sold 88 tickets and forty-two friends braved the elements! Once again we raised more than \$3,000 for UA. Everyone enjoyed the fantastic shopping opportunities at the Backbay Emporium (15% for UA), with great food prepared and served by G.C. Culinary Arts under the direction of **Chefs Edie Rodriguez & Paul Mendoza**, and wonderful music from **Mark Lee and Friends!** Major sponsors **Jim Manen and Mike Harwell**, owners of **Backbay Emporium**, turned their courtyard into a beautiful venue for UA fundraising and hired GC Culinary. Everyone appreciated the tall, obelisk portable patio heaters, and many warmed up with “Manen Margaritas.” Mark Lee and Friends rocked out and entertained everybody with their great sounds (two members of the band are former GC students!). Many thanks to **Sandra and Nannette Metoyer** for working the Raffle and Poker Run. Kudos to **Joe Huff and Gloria Milton** for taking pictures!

Raffle Donors absolutely made Back2Backbay spectacular! Raffle winners:

- Galveston Gallery Gift Basket**—Nannette Metoyer
- Galveston Wreath & Flower Company Gift Certificate**—Cordetta Knatt
- Haak Winery and Vineyards Certificate**—Nannette Metoyer



Left—Mike Manen, Armin Cantini, Gail Ayers, Mark Harwell; Right—Kevin Riley and Donna Leasure



Left—Gail and Myles Shelton; Right—Laury Beth Huff



- Lulu’s Salon and Day Spa**—Chef Edie Rodriguez
- Seaside Chic Gift Basket**—Gail Shelton



From left to right—Chef Paul Mendoza and Culinary Arts students; Dr. Gaynelle Hayes; Cornell & Jane Walker; Theron and Jeri Waddell; Belinda Bankhead and Gracie Otin.



From left to right—Eugene & Cordetta Knatt; Patricia and Rusty Legg; Bill Vaughan & John Rimar; Nannette Metoyer, Susan Lawson, and Dr. Laimutis Bytautas.



From left to right—Sandra Metoyer & Ron Crumedy, Mark Lee (center) & Friends Band, Chef Edie Rodrigues, Shopper at Backbay Emporium.

Five Fabulous Chefs Encore! Le Beau Printemps 2015



Last year, Gaido's engaged a new Executive Chef for the Pelican Club, **Ross Warhol**, who is well known for his mastery of Progressive American cooking. For the inaugural event in 2014, he introduced both molecular gastronomy and Progressive American with a buttermilk-olive oil ice-cream with white chocolate, spring peas, almond, strawberries and menthol. Fresh and fantastic! This year, he will prepare the first, not the last course!

Among the Five Fabulous Chefs for 2015, is the talented Executive Chef **Robbin Murphy** of Moody Gardens' Shearn's Restaurant, an El Paso native. Among his accomplishments include his tenure with the Polo Club of Boca Raton, Florida. He, too, is a master of Progressive American and believes in local suppliers for the freshest possible product. He asked to provide the pastry dessert for 2015 which promises to be without peer.



Executive Chef **Felipe Gonzalez** of San Luis' The Steakhouse Restaurant is known for his cutting edge artistry coupled with the integrity required of prime beef cuisine. His talent and leadership explains his considerable success both here and in California. Once more, The San Luis will provide the beautiful meat entrée for the evening.

Executive Chef **Elizabeth Peraza**, veteran executive chef with Olympia, Inc. oversees the kitchen at Olympia Grill at Pier 21. Originally from El Salvador, Chef **Peraza** has demonstrated her ability to work in classic and modern cuisine techniques for more than ten years with a diverse and talented Family of Olympia restaurants. Due, in large part, to her team-development skills, Galveston.com (2014) and Trip Advisor (2013) named Olympia the Grill at Pier 21, the Best Restaurant on the Island. Chef **Peraza's** "fresh perfect food" philosophy guarantees a wonderful seafood entrée for Encore 2015!

Top Row: (Left to Right) Chef Ross Warhol of The Pelican Club and Chef Casey Gaido of Gaido's Restaurant.; Chefs Paco and Denise Vargas of Rudy & Paco's Restaurant & Bar

Bottom Row: (Left to Right) Chef Felipe Gonzalez of "The Steakhouse" at The San Luis Resort, Spa and Conference Center; Chef Robbin Murphy of Moody Gardens Hotel-Spa and Convention Center; and, Chef Elizabeth Peraza of Olympia The Grill at Pier 21.

Galveston College Foundation is delighted to announce **Encore! Five Fabulous Chefs Le Beau Printemps 2015.**

Proceeds from two evenings of culinary delight, Wednesday, April 8 and Thursday, April 9 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., continue to help endow the acclaimed Universal Access Program Endowment which ensures that all local eligible Galveston high school graduates will receive tuition for a 60 hour associate degree at Galveston College.

For a second year, the restaurateurs are the major underwriters for two beautiful springtime epicurean evenings. The reception will be held in the College's David Glenn Hunt Memorial Library in Regents' Hall and the splendid five-course dinner in the Atrium located in the Mary Moody Northen Building.

The magnanimous Five Fabulous Chefs are **Gaido's; Moody Gardens Hotel, Spa, and Conference Center; Olympia The Grill at Pier 21; The San Luis Resort Spa and Conference Center; and Rudy and Paco's Restaurant & Bar.** Each restaurateur is part of an elegant spring meal featuring hors d'oeuvres from each of their superb kitchens plus a five-course dinner of soup, salad, two entrees seafood and beef, and a "piece de resistance" pastry dessert!

Each highly regarded restaurant is renowned for their markedly different cuisines which have consistently won awards throughout the industry for "dernier cri" or the latest innovation. In 2014, these fine dining restaurants stepped up Galveston's game by presenting the Progressive American farm to table movement. Progressive American focuses on locally sourced ingredients from small farms within a region or area.

Executive Chefs **Denise and Paco Vargas** of Rudy and Paco's Restaurant and Bar round out the final of the five restaurants for Le Beau Printemps. Recently, Open Table named Rudy and Paco's Restaurant and Bar among the Top 100 Restaurants in the United States. Executive Chef **Denise Vargas** graduated from Galveston College on Universal Access and obtained her Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the University of Houston. Father and daughter exemplify the heart and soul necessary to provide excellence each day without compromise. The Vargas family advocated on behalf of the College's Culinary Arts program for a large gift from the Galveston Restaurant Group in 2014 for the College. An announcement will be made at this year's Le Beau Printemps.

The Five Fabulous Chefs Encore 2015 will serve 15 tables, 92 guests each evening on April 8 and 9. In addition to support for the Foundation, the event highlights the education and skill necessary to become a professional in a contemporary culinary setting.

The executive chefs have generously offered to supply staff to help train **Galveston College Culinary Arts Program** students selected by **Chef Paul Mendoza, Director.** The students, under direction of the executive chefs, will also serve both evenings from the G.C. laboratory kitchen in the Mary Moody Northen Atrium area.

For more information, please call Maria Tripovich, Director Development and the Galveston College Foundation at (409) 944-1303.

Contact: Maria Tripovich 409-944-1303 Gloria Milton (409) 944-1306

From the Desk of...Gaynelle Hayes, Ed.D Vice President for Administration and Community Engagement

An Island Treasure

Galveston College will soon be celebrating its 50th Anniversary of service to Galveston and its surrounding communities. The celebration will officially begin January 2016 and continue through Spring 2017. As Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Celebration Taskforce, I have the honor of leading our committee in planning and implementing special events, alumni gatherings, employee celebrations and student happenings.

Since beginning my career at Galveston College in 1968, I have witnessed firsthand the devotion of faculty and staff to our students. It is that devotion, and commitment to education, that makes Galveston College a treasure for the residents of our beloved island.

Just as my career has evolved and changed over the years, so has the College. It is rewarding to see these advances impact the lives of such a vast array of people. To a local high school graduate, we may represent the first two years of academic courses and the Universal Access program that assists with tuition costs. To an out of work person, or to a veteran, the College can provide workforce programs in Healthcare, Welding, Culinary Arts or Electronics. To retirees or professionals, we can represent a wealth of continuing education programs for leisure learning or job development. These diverse programs are indeed a treasure, offering an opportunity to those who wish to improve and enhance their lives.

From the beginning of my career at Galveston College as a counselor, to now serving as Vice-President for Administration and Community Engagement, I have had the pleasure of working with both students, staff, and our community. Our partnerships with local businesses, the Galveston Regional Chamber, GISD, UTMB, and Texas A&M Galveston, have truly strengthened our commitment to cultivating the personal and professional growth of those in Galveston.

If you are an alumnus of Galveston College, or past or potential donor, please contact Maria Tripovich at 409-944-1303 and join our Alumni Association or contribute to the Galveston College Foundation. If you are a Galvestonian and have not been on campus recently, stop by and visit Moody Hall at our main campus or visit the Charlie Thomas Family Applied Technology Center on Broadway. You are invited to call Joe Huff at 409-944-1302 for a tour.

I encourage you to reconnect with Galveston College and celebrate 50 years of service to our community. In doing so, you will discover the treasure that is Galveston College.



Gaynelle Hayes

Victor & Perla Alvarez (continued from Page 3)

Perla continues to work while pursuing two Associate's Degrees at GC, her first in General Science and a second in Nursing. Both she and her young husband reflected on the significance of the College library for study.

Due to full-time work commitments, Victor and Perla need the library environment to concentrate and work without interruption. Also both of them meet friends in the Library and enjoy their time together. Perla acknowledges that thus far her favorite courses were taught by **Dr. Ana Sanchez**, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Program Coordinator and **Elizabeth Tapp**, Instructor of Psychology and Sociology and Program Coordinator.

For this young married couple, Perla and Victor, the future is bright. Victor will graduate in May 2015 and Perla in Fall 2017.



READY FOR A REAL PARTY?!

On Saturday, October 10, 2015, the Fiftieth Anniversary Host Committee is throwing a real honest-to-gosh Party for the College in the Seibel Foundation Wing.

It promises to be the Party of the Year with more surprises and fun than Galveston has seen since Mardi Gras 2015! There will be limited availability (about 200) and tickets will be a C note (that's \$100 for those of you born after 19☺☺).

Be ready to be amazed, titillated and charmed by what your five senses experience at "The Party"!



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www.gc.edu/gc/Donate_Now.asp

Every G.C. Gift Counts!

For almost fifty years, GC has provided quality higher education at a reasonable cost, served as an economic stimulus to Galveston County, and created pathways to better lives for thousands of students. Join us by attending an event, becoming an alumni committee member, or making a small gift in memory of someone who inspired you.

Thank you.

*—W. Myles Shelton,
President of Galveston College*



Victor Gonzales, recipient of the Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Munillo Scholarship, with Tino Gonzalez, Galveston College Regent at the President's Reception Recognizing Donors and Scholarship Recipients, January 29, 2015.

Photographs in this publication provided courtesy of the Offices of Public Affairs and Development & G.C. Foundation except where noted. It is the policy of Galveston College to provide equal opportunities without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability, genetic information or veteran status.