Election 2004

Election fever is strong at SMU this fall. The University is hosting a unique exhibit that provides an in-depth look at political memorabilia as well as lectures and debates by current and former candidates. Students are examining the political process in the classroom and as campaign volunteers.

George to George

A torch used in a parade rallying support for Abraham Lincoln and Ross Perot's infamous national deficit charts are among 200 items of political memorabilia that are part of the exhibit "From George to George: Presidential Elections in the United States from 1789 to the Present," September 10 through January 20 at Bridwell Library.

One of the most comprehensive political exhibits this election year, “George to George” is the brainchild of Hal Williams, professor of history and acting dean of research and graduate studies. As curator, Williams has spent two years planning the exhibit that traces the course of America’s democracy. On display are portraits, buttons, flags, cartoons, posters, tickets, and hats from the Smithsonian Institution, the Museum of American Political Life at the University of Hartford, and local private collections.

“These mementos stir with life,” Williams says. “Living hands once touched them, living minds once identified intensely with them, living hearts once hoped they would bring victory to their cause.”

School of presidents

A number of students beseeched Political Science Professor Harold Stanley this fall to let just one more person into the class he teaches only every four years. With regret, Stanley held firm. He teaches “Presidential Elections” when he can use the American electoral process as a laboratory, and he restricts the size because discussion is integral to the course.

Last spring the presidential primaries provided advertisements, news coverage, and a wide range of opinions for the spring section of the class. The fall section focuses on election rhetoric, polls, and strategy.

The Geurin-Pettus Distinguished Chair in American Politics and Political Economy, Stanley is an expert on presidential nominations, voting rights, and partisan change. He is the author of Vital Statistics on...
Been there, done that


Déjà vu, which means “already seen” in French, has been discussed in psychological research for more than 150 years, Brown says. The sensation has been associated with belief in past lives, ESP, and telepathy.

Brown, who discusses the many interpretations of déjà vu in his book, concludes that déjà vu experiences can be explained by recent brain research in four areas:

- **Neurological** A seizure or disruption in normal neuronal transmission can elicit familiarity.
- **Memory** The memory of an early childhood experience, a passage in a book, or a scene from a movie elicits similar feelings.
- **Dual processing** Memory formation overlaps with perception, as when a person talking on a cell phone is not consciously aware of her changing environment, but after finishing the call notices the setting looks familiar.
- **Double perception** An ongoing perceptual experience is split into two parts by a distraction – when the second part arrives moments after the first, the brain misreads it as an old experience, thus triggering a false feeling of familiarity.

To Brown, déjà vu research presents a unique challenge. “There is a thrill of exploring something on the fringes of normal cognitive experience, then pulling it into the scientific realm,” he says.

**Philosophy and journalism major Michael Snyder quickly saw** the difference between the Democratic convention glamour designed for television audiences and the behind the scenes role of working journalists. “A few senior reporters get a seat in the hall and a coveted red pass. But most are covering events in Boston, interviewing people off the floor and making phone calls,” he wrote. “We heard John Edwards’ speech from the hallway.”

Katy Blakey was among the journalists covering protesters in the “free speech zone.” The senior political science and journalism major was encouraged by seeing many college-age students among the protesters. “I’ll tote home a suitcase of souvenirs from this convention, but more importantly, I’ll be bringing a new sense of hope for my generation. . . . Maybe this wave of youth participation will swamp Dallas – and the nation – by November.”
If it’s jelly it must be Hong Kong

Before Starbucks customers in Japan sip their java, they wave their hands over an electronic hand sanitizer. In Singapore, Starbucks customers snack on shepherd’s pie, while in Hong Kong they add jelly to their Frappuccinos.

Junior Stephanie Gschwendtnner sampled coffee in six countries to analyze Starbucks’ international marketing techniques while studying on a Richter International Fellowship.

Undergraduates in SMU’s Honors Program can apply for the fellowships, which provide financial support for international research projects.

“All over the world there are McDonald’s, 7-Elevens, and American products like Levi’s,” says the marketing major and European studies minor. “But coffee, obviously, is not something Americans invented. I became interested in how an American entity like Starbucks sells an international product.”

Gschwendtnner, who received nearly $8,500 for her seven-week study in five European and Asian cities, was among 16 Richter fellows who conducted research abroad during summer 2004.

Richter International Fellowships

PURPOSE Provides honor students the opportunity to develop and complete independent research projects abroad

BENEFITS Complete travel and research expenses for six to eight weeks

SELECTION A faculty committee reviews students’ research proposals and selects recipients

BACKGROUND Richter Fellowships are offered at SMU and 12 other universities, funded by the Paul K. Richter Memorial Fund and the Evalyn E. Cook Richter Memorial Fund

FROM REFUGEE TO SCHOLAR

Fourteen years ago Pedro Rodriguez started a new life in the United States as a 19-year-old illiterate refugee. Today, with the help of SMU’s Community College Scholarship, he is a banker active in local politics.

1992 Rodriguez clings to a wooden raft as he flees Cuba. He drifts for eight days, is rescued by U.S. boaters and brought to Key West, Florida where he applies for refugee status.

1992 Joins the Job Corps in San Marcos, Texas, takes ESL classes, earns his GED, and trains to become a mechanic.

1992 Mentors Maria and Jose Hernandez provide room in their Dallas home for Rodriguez and insist that he continue his education.

1995 Enrolls in Tarrant County Community College.

1997 Receives SMU Community College Scholarship, pursues a political science degree while working 30 hours a week as a Wal-Mart mechanic.


2004 Works as a commercial lending officer at Legacy Bank, lives in suburban Dallas with his wife, Elizabeth, and two preschoolers.

“The United States offers any person the chance to accomplish what they want.”

Pedro Rodriguez

Scholarships: Facts and Figures

• SMU awarded students $35.7 million in scholarships and grants in academic year 2003-2004.

• Universitywide, SMU offers undergraduate students more than 200 endowed scholarships.

• Of the 5,814 full-time undergraduates enrolled at SMU in 2003-2004, nearly 70 percent received need-based and/or merit-based financial aid, well above the national average. According to the College Board, an average of 60 percent of students at four-year private universities receive institutional aid.

• Forty-six percent of students with majors in Dedman College receive merit scholarships.

• 60 percent of undergraduate students in the United States currently enrolled in college receive some sort of financial aid, which totaled more than $105 billion in 2002-2003.

• The U.S. government provided more than $70 billion in student aid in 2002-2003, an increase of 11 percent from 2001-2002. Loans constitute nearly 70 percent of federal aid.

• For more information about Dedman College scholarships contact Jeanene Renfro, 214-768-2103, jeanene@smu.edu.

Sources: College Board, SMU Institutional Research, SMU Office of Financial Aid

Dallas-Area Community College Scholarship

PURPOSE Ten scholarships for students transferring from Dallas, Tarrant, or Collin County Community College

BENEFITS Full-tuition scholarships for up to five terms

SELECTION Complete at least 50 transferable hours with a minimum 3.7 GPA; interview
Silver duct tape holds the window shades in place in the portable classroom building at North Dallas High School. Classroom technology is conspicuously absent. But the walls are covered with bright hand-lettered signs of encouragement and the confidence of the young teacher is catching. Seven years ago teacher Jaime Hurtado (’04, mathematics major) was a student in the same school. Today he shares his love of mathematical challenges with his students and helps them find resources to attend college.

Hurtado attended SMU on the North Dallas High School scholarship established by the late philanthropist Robert Dedman (’53). Each year four seniors from the high school located near downtown Dallas receive full scholarships to SMU.

North Dallas High School was built in 1921 at what was then the northern edge of the prosperous city – now a low-income area surrounds it. Nearly 80 percent of the students at North Dallas are Hispanic in an urban school district that has a dropout rate for Hispanic students of 67 percent.

As a high school student Hurtado was determined to beat the odds – he is equally committed to helping his students. “I want to challenge, encourage, and motivate them,” he says.

He was 12 when his father died, leaving a pregnant wife and two younger daughters. The family moved from Mexico to Dallas to be near relatives. When Hurtado started seventh grade at T. J. Rusk Middle School, he spoke only Spanish and found it difficult to maintain the academic success he had achieved in Mexico. His classmates rejected him. But Hurtado was determined to continue his education.

“In Mexico my family was always struggling,” he says. “My father had to work three different jobs to support our family.”

By the time he entered ninth grade at North Dallas, Hurtado was enrolled in advanced placement classes and was a member of the swim team, ROTC, National Honor Society, and Future Teachers of America. He planned to join the U.S. Marines then continue his education.

Instead he learned about the North Dallas High School scholarship, completed an interview process with the Dedman family, and was selected as a recipient. “That was the happiest day of my life,” he says.

Hurtado quickly embraced college life – he represented his floor on the Hall Council, became a facilitator for the diversity education program, and coordinated the College Hispanic Students’ annual Latino Rhythm performance.

Fernando Salazar, Hispanic student adviser, watched Hurtado grow from a timid first-year student to campus leader. “He saw his goal, that’s what put him above the rest,” Salazar says. “In Spanish we would say, ‘He has ganas,’ which means the willpower to move to the next step.”

**Joyce and Saul Hertz Scholarship**

**PURPOSE** Provides tuition support for arts and language students

**BENEFITS** Provides partial tuition

**SELECTION** Student selection is based on merit and need

**BACKGROUND** Marvin (’61) and Carol (’61) Brown are executors of the Hertz scholarship. Although not SMU alumni, the late Joyce and Saul Hertz enjoyed taking SMU evening classes.

**Welcome back Hurtado**

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Brown,

I would like to convey my appreciation for the Joyce and Saul Hertz Scholarship. I am a junior in Dedman College with a 3.446 GPA. This scholarship will allow me to continue pursuing my international studies major along with my Asian studies and Japanese minors.

I have taken advantage of numerous opportunities at SMU to help determine my future plans. I have been an active member of the East Asian Student Association, serving as secretary last year, and am helping the newly chartered Japan Club understand the rules and regulations of student organizations on campus.

In September, I will be leaving Dallas for a year to participate in the SMU-in-Japan study abroad program. It has been my dream to live and study in Japan, and SMU’s exceptional exchange program with Kwansei-Gakuin University gives me the opportunity to learn firsthand about the Japanese culture and improve my Japanese.

After I graduate, I plan to teach English in Japan, then serve in the Peace Corps. My education at SMU has helped guide me in this direction.

Again, I thank you for your generous scholarship.

Sincerely,

Nicole Mason

Joyce and Saul Hertz Scholarship

**PURPOSE** Provides tuition support for arts and language students

**BENEFITS** Provides partial tuition

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“**In Spanish we would say, ‘He has ganas,’ which means the willpower to move to the next step.”**
To ensure their passion for their disciplines lives on, several Dedman College faculty members have chosen to honor current and future students by establishing scholarships.

**To Be or Not to Be**

A Dedman College professor who prefers to remain anonymous established a cash award to be given to the most accomplished student in the English Department's introductory Shakespeare class. The award encourages students to do well in the rigorous class that requires students to read and interpret eight of Shakespeare's plays.

**Math Tutorial**

Mathematics professor Robert Strow taught calculus at SMU for 48 years and tutored high school and college students until his death at age 86 in January 2004. When Strow retired from full-time teaching in 1980, he remained active as a part-time instructor and tutor. He used his tutoring receipts to establish a scholarship for promising math majors.

**French Fund**

French professor Jay Kerbow was a scholarship recipient when he was an undergraduate at SMU in the mid-1940s. In 2002 Kerbow and his wife, Dottie, established the Kerbow-Suter Endowed Scholarship Fund for French students in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. The fund honors family friend Leila Suter, whose estate contributed to the endowment.

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**BRITE Scholarships**

**Biomedical Researchers In Training Experience**

**PURPOSE** Exposes high-quality students to biomedical research

**BENEFITS** Paid summer research internships, lecture series, and meetings with graduate faculty and students

**SELECTION** Entering or first-year chemistry or biological sciences majors with research interests and strong science background, application, recommendations

**BACKGROUND** Established in 2000 to help meet the growing need for biomedical researchers. Partially supported by Rockwell Fund, Inc.

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**LEADERS OF VOLUNTEERS**

President’s Scholars and Dedman College majors Anna Miller and Cason Pierce chaired SMU’s alternative spring break program and organized community service trips for students. Students built trails, worked with immigrants and refugees, and served the homeless in soup kitchens. Miller is a biological sciences major with minors in political science and chemistry. Pierce is an economics and mathematical sciences major. President’s Scholars often take leadership roles on campus serving as Student Senate and Program Council officers.

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**President's Scholars**

**PURPOSE** Highest academic merit scholarship at SMU offered to up to 24 entering first-year students

**BENEFITS** Full tuition, study abroad, opportunity to meet distinguished visitors to campus, matched with campus and community mentors

**SELECTION** SAT of 1350, top 10 percent of graduating class, demonstrated involvement and leadership, interview required
A passage to India

As a U.S. State Department intern in Mumbai, India, SMU junior Rachel Ball rode elephants, traveled to the “pink city” of Jaipur and met college students from around the world. She also served as acting regional security officer for the U.S. Consulate in the cosmopolitan city formerly known as Bombay, where 15 million Indians live and work.

“Summer is the time of year when consulate workers are on home leave or are changing posts,” says the Indian studies and history major. “Because of a shortage of workers I was able to do things that I wouldn’t otherwise have been able to do.”

Ball hosted federal air marshals in Mumbai and discussed security issues with hotel managers. She also met with Indian and Pakistani students involved with Seeds for Peace, an organization that unites teen-agers from regions of conflict to encourage peaceful co-existence.

Most importantly, Ball confirmed her passion for the people and culture of India.

A native of Fort Worth and a fourth-generation Texan, Ball developed an interest in Hinduism while working on an eighth-grade world religions project. Her interest evolved into a fascination with India. Ball, a Hunt Scholar, chose to attend SMU for its emphasis on global education and because it offered courses in Hindi.

“My first year at SMU I was pleased with many of the courses, but I couldn’t pinpoint a major that would fulfill all the interests I wanted to pursue,” Ball says.

With the help of her adviser and a faculty committee she created her own major—individualized study in the liberal arts with a specialization in Indian studies.

She has spent summers in Johannesburg, South Africa, working with AIDS victims and in Calcutta, India, teaching English. But last fall Ball’s dream of returning to India for a summer government internship was tempered with reality.

An announcement in a political science class about the Vaughn Foreign Service and International Affairs internship reversed Ball’s fortune.

The Jack C. and Annette K. Vaughn internship enables students to gain firsthand knowledge of American foreign affairs and provides a stipend. Ball applied for the internship and learned in January 2004 that she would be returning to India as a State Department intern.

“This internship has opened my eyes to the different ways I can fulfill my passion for India. More than anything it has helped me see many options, particularly within the government,” Ball says. “There is absolutely no way I could have done this without the help of Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn. I am forever grateful to them for allowing me the opportunity to participate in such a life-changing experience.”
nobel Prize-winning physicist and SMU alumnus James Cronin (’51) entral students, faculty, and staff last spring who gathered for an informal question and answer session with the renowned scientist. Cronin was on campus in May to accept the first Dedman College Distinguished Graduate Award. “Science is a series of mistakes,” he said. “It requires enormous creativity.” When one student asked Cronin to name his favorite books, he named a book he read in high school, George Gamow’s One, Two, Three… Infinity: Facts and Speculations of Science. The 1947 book helped to inspire his scientific career, Cronin said. The book continues to inspire SMU physics graduates, says Fred Olness, professor and chair of physics. Traditionally at Commencement each physics graduate receives a diploma and a copy of One, Two, Three … Infinity.

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE AWARD

he Dedman College Executive Board and Faculty Council invite nominations for the 2005 Dedman College Distinguished Graduate Award.

The winner of the award must be a graduate of Dedman College who is not currently employed by SMU. For alumni who graduated prior to 1980, graduates of any of the departments or disciplines included in Dedman College are acceptable. The awardee should be a person of exemplary character whose life demonstrates integrity and outstanding accomplishment.

Nominations must be received no later than October 25, 2004.

Nominee ________________________________________________

Major ____________________________________________ Graduation year ________________

Your name ____________________________________________

Return this form or your letter to:

Southern Methodist University
Dedman College Distinguished Graduate Award
PO Box 750235
Dallas TX 75275-0235
fax 214-768-4129

For more information contact Lenda Callaway, 214-768-3212, lcallawa@smu.edu

Note: The Tate Lecture featuring Ken Burns has been rescheduled from February 22, 2005 to March 8, 2005.

Dine at Maggiannos with Mark Roglan, senior curator of Meadows Museum for a three-part Godbey Lecture Series, “Treasures from the Prado Museum: Five Centuries of European Paintings.”

The dangers and rewards that archaeologist David Freidel faces when excavating Maya ruins in Guatemala will be the subject of his Godbey lectures, “Crossroads of Conquerors: The Ancient Maya City of Waka.” Call 214-768-2532 or visit
In the News

Dedman College professors recently have appeared as experts in publications including The New York Times, The Los Angeles Times, USA Today, and Chronicle of Higher Education. In addition, professors have appeared on CNN-TY, ABC News, Discovery Channel, and National Public Radio.

The New York Times, May 7, 2004
For archaeologists, the digging this season has been especially good at remote Maya ruins in the jungles of Guatemala.

Beneath a royal palace in the ancient city of Waka, they made a rare discovery: the tomb of a Maya queen who reigned more than 1,200 years ago.

“This tomb will help us understand how women shared power with men in ruling their kingdoms,” said David Freidel, co-director of the project.

—David Freidel, distinguished professor of anthropology

The Washington Times, May 7, 2004
Cal Jillson, professor of political science at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and an observer of third parties, said they are organized “around what they think is a critical issue.”

“The significance of third parties is that they frequently raise issues that the two major parties are afraid of or nervous about,” Mr. Jillson says. “When that issue begins to catch on, one . . . of the major parties will adopt it.”

—Cal Jillson, professor of political science

Newsday, August 4, 2004
“When our political races are about economic issues, Democrats can do pretty well among Catholics. But when the focus shifts to cultural issues, that’s when Republicans can make headway,” Wilson said.

—Matthew Wilson, assistant professor of political science