



Ted Cruz to Speak at Graduation

The state's chief appellate lawyer will speak about following personal dreams to make a difference in today's society at UST's commencement ceremony, which will highlight the achievements of 354 undergraduates and 382 graduates, beginning at 10 a.m. at Reliant Arena.

Texas

Vincent J. Guinan Distinguished Alumni Award. This year's ceremony also highlights the hard work of many faculty members, administrators and staff.

"In the end, we all merge into one university community, inextricably linked by the desire to learn, teach and serve," said UST President Robert Ivany.

Moran is president of Moran Resources Company, LLC, Texas Gas Company and affiliates engaged in oil and gas exploration and production in Texas, Louisiana and Canada. Moran is also president of Prvny Pluk, LLC, and PlukAir Europe, which leases aircraft for air safety training in the United States and Europe. Moran holds a doctorate of jurisprudence from Georgetown University Law Center in Washington D.C.

Payne earned a B.A. in theology with a minor in sociology. He also pursued graduate studies in theology at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill.

Solicitor Gen. Ted Cruz, who has authored more than 30 U.S. Supreme Court briefs and presented 18 oral arguments – including three in the U.S. Supreme Court, will deliver the address, "Passion and Idealism: Finding Your Dream and Making a Difference" at UST's 57th commencement ceremony.



Past chair of UST's board of directors and longtime friend and benefactor of the University, **Patrick Moran**, will receive an honorary degree.

Laurence J. Payne, the president and CEO of SEARCH Inc., who graduated from UST in 1972, will receive the

2007 Graduation Events

Baccalaureate Mass

7 p.m.

Friday, May 18, 2007

Homilist: Most Rev. Daniel DiNardo, Archbishop of Galveston/Houston
UST Academic Mall

Reception following Mass

8:15 p.m.

Friday, May 18, 2007
UST Campus Life Mall

Commencement Ceremony

10 a.m.

Saturday, May 19, 2007

Speaker: Ted Cruz, Texas
Solicitor General
Student Speaker: Sarah Clarke
Location: Reliant Arena
One Reliant Park

Policy Decisions Process and National Security

The Center for International Studies presents Col. Alan G. Stolberg, director of the National Security Policy Program at the U.S. Army War College, who will discuss policy decisions and national security at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 26, in the Basilian Room, Welder Hall. The lecture is free and open to the public.



This presentation is designed to help engage the audience to understand how the United States makes decisions on foreign and national security policies. It will address the question of why this kind of decision making is so difficult. Stolberg is also a professor of National Security Studies at the U.S. Army War College.

Trying Galileo

Was Galileo's fate largely his own fault? Hear History Professor, Augustana College, Thomas F. Mayer's thoughts on the subject at 4 p.m., Monday, April 23 in Ahern Room, Crooker Center.



In Memory of Tom Overton

Our wonderful friend and colleague Tom Overton passed away Thursday, April 19 after a long and brave struggle with cancer. Tom served as UST's director of Public Affairs for more than six years. "He inspired me and all who came into contact with him especially his fellow staff members in the Department of Institutional Advancement who supported him and his dear wife Judy during his illness," said President Robert Ivany. "We will inform the community of the dates of services for Tom as soon as they are available. Until then, please join me in praying for Tom, Judy and their sons Matt and Nathan."



HBSA Stages Corporate Night

Join the Hispanic Business Student Association for corporate Night from 6-8 p.m., Wednesday, April 25, for an opportunity to network with a variety of company representatives and to learn more about different industries and organizations. The event, open to all students, will be held in the Ahern Room, Crooker Center.

Leave your resumes at home because the HBSA will provide a

disk with student resumes to the companies in attendance. If you would like your resume to be included, upload it, along with your RSVP to the UST connect systems at <http://www.stthom.edu/studentaffairs/career/>.

Professional attire is suggested but not required, however jeans and T-shirts will not be allowed.

This event is supported by the UST Career Service Center.

SOL Garage Sale

Join UST's Student Organization of Latinos for a spring-cleaning garage sale from 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Saturday, April 28, in the Jeraback Gymnasium. This event is open to anyone from the university or community who wishes to sell or purchase their



cast-offs and second-hand treasures.

The organization will charge a small fee for space to display sale items, but any proceeds go to the individual vendors. For more information, contact Jennifer Monroy at sol@stthom.edu.

Mandarin Students Win Top Awards

UST's Mandarin Chinese students received well-deserved recognition at the Third Annual Greater Houston Area



Chinese Language Speech Contest, where they took top awards in competition against schools such as Rice University and University of Houston. The results of the competition are as follows: First-Year Speech Category: second place, Michael Deeb, third place, Khoa Nguyen; First-Year Songs and Poems Category: first place, Dave Do; First-Year Speech Special Category: first place, Yan Yang.



Women of the World

Come hear well-traveled historian **Ursula Muenzel** speak on German-Jewish emigration to America in the 19th century at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, in Malloy Hall, MILAB. The talk is one presentation in the Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Women of the World Series. It is free and open to the public.

Muenzel was born in Germany and has a Ph.D. in history, specializing in German-Jewish history of the 19th century, which, along with German diplomatic relations, has been the subject of her articles and books.

Married to a diplomat, she taught European history at the University of Nairobi and has worked as a historian for the German Foreign Office in Bonn and Berlin and for the Leo Baeck Institute in New York City.

Dr. Debra D. Andrist is the Cullen Professor of Spanish and chair of the Modern & Classical Languages. She initiated the Bill L. and Gerre D. Andrist Women of the World series to highlight the accomplishments of women and to honor her parents.

For more information, contact Dr. Andrist at 713-525-3122 or andrist@stthom.edu.



The Irish Language

The Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum presents **Joe Mac Donnacha** on “The Irish Language: The Successes and Challenges of Language Planning in Ireland and the Future of Irish in a Globalized World” at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 26, in Cullen Hall.

The Irish Government is investing in Irish language programs around the world, such as UST’s program, in an effort to preserve the mother tongue. The lecture will cover viewpoints for and against preserving Irish as the official language of Ireland.

Mac Donnacha will identify successes and failures of programs to prop up the language and the challenges that it faces if it is to remain a spoken language in the “globalized world” of Ireland today.

Mac Donnacha is the academic coordinator with Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge at the National University of Ireland in Galway. Sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum, The Irish Society and the Irish American Cultural Institute, the event is open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis.

For information, contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592.



Return to Flight-STS 114

U.S. Air Force Col. Eileen Collins will talk about her experiences as an astronaut and the STS-114 Discovery flight, the first to return to space after the February 2003 loss of the Columbia, at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29 in Cullen Hall.

The STS-114 Discovery mission lasted from July 26 to Aug. 9, 2005. The retired colonel will narrate an 18-minute video and present several still photographs of the earth from space along with her talk.

Collins is the first woman selected to be a space shuttle pilot and the first woman to command a space shuttle (STS-93 Columbia July 23-27, 1999). Under her command of STS-114 Discovery, the shuttle docked with the International Space Station, and the crew tested and evaluated new procedures for flight safety as well as shuttle inspection and repair techniques.

Collins’ family emigrated from the Drimoleague-Drinagh area of West Cork, Ireland, to Pennsylvania in the 1840s. The event is sponsored by the Center for Irish Studies Cultural Outreach Forum.

For more information, contact Lori Gallagher at 713-525-3592.

Clarke Raises Hope before Heading Off to Harvard



The story has been passed down in the family since sometime in the 1820s. UST senior **Sarah Clarke**'s great-great-grandmother was a young slave in Jamaica who bore the son of her slave master.

The baby's skin was white, and the slave master took him from his mother and raised him in luxury, leaving his mother to grieve. She spent almost the rest of her life looking for him and finally showed up on his doorstep when he was in his 30s, introducing herself as his mother. He sent her away, Clarke says, and it was the last anyone ever heard of her.

Clarke carries this sad story in her heart, along with the suffering and sacrifices that other family members have experienced over the decades in both Jamaica and her native United States. But she uses them as a jumping-off point for the joy and hope that bubble over when she talks about her family, her education at UST and her ambitious plans for the future. "It's a tremendous honor and

responsibility – I've had opportunities they could never dream of," said the 23-year-old Houston native, who will be the student commencement speaker and will head to Harvard Law School this fall. "It's just amazing coming from this kind of background that I can get where I am today."

Clarke, a joint major in communications and international studies, will use the event to discuss hope, because hope is what brought her family here, hope helped her father pursue a successful career in software and hope is what she found at UST. "Faith and charity you hear a lot about, but not so much hope. Here at St. Thomas, it's the subtext of every lesson."

Clarke, who wants to be a lawyer helping indigent people, credits her parents for their firm guidance to get an education. Her father, Mark Clarke, and mother, Suzanne Broderick, moved to Houston from Jamaica in the early 80s. Her father worked construction while attending the University of Houston and lived with his wife in a one-bedroom apartment with no air conditioning. Then came Sarah, followed by five younger children. Her mother home-schooled all of them, making education into an exploration project, Clarke said.

Coming to UST, she had

wanted to be a journalist, but courses in international studies – particularly a course in international political economy – "made me really start to look at the systems in the world and how they influenced the poor."

That led to her participation in the Innocence Project, where she researched the background of witnesses in the first trial of convicted murderer Anthony Graves, and helped secure a new trial for him.

She recently returned from a brief trip to Harvard, where she sat in on criminal law class. "I knew they wouldn't call on me, but I felt like I could answer if they did," she said. "The intellectual quality here, and the mental exercises you need to prepare for Harvard you get at UST.

"And that is something I'm going to be thankful for the rest of my life."

'Here...[hope] is the subtext of every lesson.'

Star View is published by the Office of Public Affairs as a means of informing the UST community about campus news.

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