



Manjarrez Shares Global Experiences

International studies major Patricia Manjarrez has been named a Global Ambassador by the World Affairs Council of Houston. The Global Ambassador initiative was launched to bring some of the most outstanding college students to sixth through 12th grade classrooms to speak about their experiences abroad.

Manjarrez, who is president of UST's International Studies Society, has traveled to many countries, including Argentina, Canada, Spain, the Czech Republic, Austria, Hungary, Slovakia and Taiwan. Having been exposed to two cultures growing up – she lived in Mexico for eight years before returning to the U.S. at age 11 – Manjarrez believes in the importance of

understanding other cultures. One of her main goals as Global Ambassador, she says, is to encourage students to be open to learning about other countries and intercultural issues.

“I think you learn so much by traveling abroad – about yourself, your own culture and about the world in general and how it functions,” Manjarrez said. “It’s really pertinent for any career to understand different cultures so you learn how to treat others who may be of a different ethnicity than you with respect.”

Manjarrez will travel to China in the summer of 2008. For Manjarrez’s story go to www.stthom.edu and click on Success Stories.

President’s Lecture Series Features Renowned Peruvian Economist

As part of the President’s Lecture Series, Peruvian economist Hernando de Soto will speak at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 1 in Jones Hall. He will discuss “Why and How to Globalize: The Role of Law.” A globally acclaimed and recognized economist, de Soto has argued that the lack of an integrated formal property system is the main source of poverty, as such a system does not allow the poor to convert their informal ownerships into capital. Currently, de Soto, together with his colleagues at the Institute for Liberty and Democracy, is focused on designing and implementing capital formation programs to empower the poor in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and former Soviet Nations. He has been invited by more than 30 heads-of-state to implement such

programs in their countries. He also co-chairs the Commission on Legal Empowerment for the Poor with former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. In 2004, Time Magazine named de Soto one of the 100 most influential people in the world. In its 85th anniversary edition, Forbes Magazine listed him as one of the 15 innovators “who will reinvent your future.” He is the author of two international bestselling books, “The Other Path” and “The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else.”



Men's and Women's Retreat to Camp Cullen

Campus Ministry is offering men and women of the UST community the opportunity to grow in Christ during separate 2-day retreats, April 4-6 at the YMCA's Camp Cullen in Trinity, Texas. During the Women's Retreat, Friday to Saturday, April 4-5, women will have the opportunity to contemplate current societal standards for females and how such standards do not reach the fullness of God's intentions.



The group will leave for the retreat Friday afternoon and join participants of the Men's Retreat for Mass and dinner Saturday evening before returning home. The men will remain at Camp Cullen and return the following day.

The Men's Retreat will provide men of the UST community the opportunity to spend time in prayer and reflection while participating in outdoor activities, listening to talks on faith and life and ultimately strengthening their relationships with God. Those interested can pick up an application at the Campus Ministry office on the second floor of Crooker Center. Deadline for applications is March 28. For more information on the retreats, women can contact Rebecca Heffern at 713-446-0743 or hefferr@stthom.edu, and men can contact Justin Aquila at 713-525-3589 or aquilaj@stthom.edu.

Fairy Godmother Donation Drive

Donate your formal wear and support a good cause with the University of St. Thomas Cheerleading Club, who are accepting donations for the Fairy Godmother Project of Houston's annual "shopping day" on March 30. This event provides prom attire to young women and men who might not otherwise have appropriate clothing for their prom. From March 10-28 people have the opportunity to make a difference in the life of a high school student by sharing new and like-new clothing through the



Project. Donate formal gowns, cocktail dresses, tuxedos suits, dressy shoes and accessories, including jewelry, to the Project. Donations can be dropped off between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday in the Office of Volunteer Opportunities in Crooker Center. Special arrangements can be made by calling 713-525-3801. For more information on the drive, contact Megan Garcia at megarcia@stthom.edu.

SAVE THE DATE

Cultural Diversity



André Ladousse, director general of the International Organization of Francophonie, to discuss "Cultural Diversity: Ideas from the French Speaking World" at 5 p.m. Wed, March 26 in Ahern Room, Crooker Center.

Celebration of World, Music



A Celebration of World Dance and Music will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, March 28 in Cullen Hall, hosted by the Fulbright Association. The audience will learn dances from Russia and Malawi.

Don't Walk on the Seal!

The Student Government Association is working to create a new tradition of walking around the UST crest, located between the Moran Center and the Campus Life Mall. SGA members believe the crest should be respected and are asking members of the UST community to avoid walking on it or driving over it with a cart. During spring break, members of SGA scraped gum off the seal and cleaned the surrounding bricks. To deter unsuspecting individuals from walking over the seal, they roped off the crest the week following break and handed out flyers explaining their attempts to instill a new tradition. They ask that members of the UST community respect such attempts and join others in walking around the seal.



Josh Gautreau



CSB Alumni Week

In recent years, there has been increasing recognition of a link between accountability and good governance within a country and the economic performance of that country. Included among governance issues are the rule of law; stable and predictable regulatory regimes; the free flow of goods, services and investments; socioeconomic and environmental protection programs; and respect for human rights. Companies in the petroleum industry often operate in countries where these issues present major challenges. Because international oil companies have a perspective to share on these issues, the Cameron School of Business will host a lecture by Dr. John R. Kelly, public policy issues coordinator for ExxonMobil, at noon, Wednesday, March 26 titled, "An International Oil Company's Perspective on Corporate Citizenship and Government Accountability." The event is part of the Cameron School of Business' Alumni Week, from March 24 to 29, during which 55 CSB alumni will visit classes to share their knowledge and experience. For more information go to stthom.edu/cameronalumniwk.



Ethics and Dissent

It was with a heavy heart in March 2003, while serving as Deputy Chief of the U.S. Mission in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, that Col. Ann Wright reached the conviction that she could not "defend or implement" the actions and policy upon which the United States was about to embark. Honor, duty to Constitutional principles, moral obligation and professional ethics compelled her to resign from the U.S. Foreign Service. Over the last five years, Wright has become a leading voice of U.S. government officials and military personnel at many levels who share her convictions. Wright has told their stories and hers in numerous public forums across America, in Congressional hearings, in lectures and in her book, "Dissent: voices of Conscience," co-authored with Susan Dixon. She will visit UST to discuss "Ethics and Dissent in Public Service: Case Studies from Iraq and Afghanistan" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 25, in Anderson Hall. Sponsored by the Center for International Studies, the event is free and open to the public. Her book will also be available for sale, courtesy of Brazos Bookstore. For more information, contact Diana Garcia at 713-525-3530.



Rabbi Discusses Heschel

Philosopher and scholar Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's life exemplified his belief that the relationship between God and humanity was at the heart of moral living. His life, along with his depth of learning, remarkable insight, graceful style of writing and universal message, makes him one of the most widely read 20th century philosophers. For UST's Inaugural Herzstein Lecture in Judaism, Rabbi Roy A. Walter will explore why his message continues to live into the 21st century and remains worthy of study in a lecture titled "Abraham Joshua Heschel: A Philosopher for All Faiths," at 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 28 in Cullen Hall. Rabbi Walter has served as the Senior Rabbi at Congregation Emanu El in Houston since 1978. He is an adjunct faculty member at UST, where he holds the position of Herzstein lecturer. The lecture series is funded through the generosity of the Herzstein Foundation, which continues the philanthropic work of Albert and Ethel Herzstein. A reception in Doherty library will follow the lecture, courtesy of the Friends of the Library. For more information, contact Thien Le at 713-525-3582.

Francophiles Look Forward to French Excursion

UST students Oscar Roa and Julie Lang will travel to France this summer as the recipients of scholarships awarded by the Alliance Française de Houston. The organization usually awards scholarships to one student from each of the five major universities in Houston, but according to Dr. Rolande Leguillon, UST professor and chair of the French program, judges were so impressed by Roa and Lang that they decided to award UST two scholarships.

Roa, a sophomore French major with a double minor in Spanish and international studies, will leave for France in June to study at the University of Caen in Lower Normandy. Encouraged by an early French teacher, he has been studying the language since his freshman year at Lamar High

School. The courses he will take abroad, he said, are geared toward enriching students' knowledge of the French language and giving insight on the region's culture.

"This is an amazing opportunity for me, as I will finally be able to experience the French culture in a more intimate level,"



Oscar Roa



Julie Lang

Roa said. "I think it is crucial to visit the land of a language you feel so passionate about, and having this opportunity will grant me a new perspective of this culture of which I feel so ardent. Conversing with locals, eating the

traditional foods and seeing historical sites in France is knowledge that I can't wait to acquire."

Lang, who will graduate in May 2009 with a degree in French and minors in international studies and psychology, plans to take courses in international studies as well as French language courses at the University of Strasbourg.

"I don't think I would have achieved this level in French without the help of Dr. Leguillon, who has been my professor for every French class I have taken at St. Thomas," Lang said. "She deserves a lot of credit for her students' success."

The Alliance Française de Houston started the scholarship program more than 50 years ago. Since then, the organization has sent approximately 50 UST students to study in France.

Art and the Alternative Spring Break Experience

Eleven UST students participated in the 2008 Campus Ministry Alternative Spring Break Experience last week in Portland, Oregon, focusing on a collaborative art project with 28 students at Jackson Middle School as well as students at the University of Portland. Inspired by artist Adam Kuby's theme of acupuncture and the interdependence of organs within the human body, the students designed and created a 4-foot-by-16-foot mixed media mural reflecting the relationships of Jackson Middle School using the analogy of acupuncture energy meridians. The weeklong project included opportunities to visit the Oregon coast, the

Chinese and Japanese gardens, the Columbia Gorge and Mount Hood.

UST participant Mario Navarro realized that people have various aspects that allow them to visualize

and see the world in different views. "This beauty that I saw through the organic nature of art helped me better understand how art flows creatively," he said.



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