

University of Texas at Tyler

Scholar Works at UT Tyler

Intercom

Marketing & Communications Records

10-1999

Intercom 1999 October

University of Texas at Tyler

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uttyler.edu/intercom>

Recommended Citation

University of Texas at Tyler, "Intercom 1999 October" (1999). *Intercom*. Paper 5.
<http://hdl.handle.net/10950/3625>

This PDF is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing & Communications Records at Scholar Works at UT Tyler. It has been accepted for inclusion in Intercom by an authorized administrator of Scholar Works at UT Tyler. For more information, please contact tgullings@uttyler.edu.

Former astronaut to speak

The 18th annual Distinguished Lecture Series, presented by UT Tyler and the UT Health Center at Tyler, will present former astronaut and space pioneer Buzz Aldrin on Oct. 26.

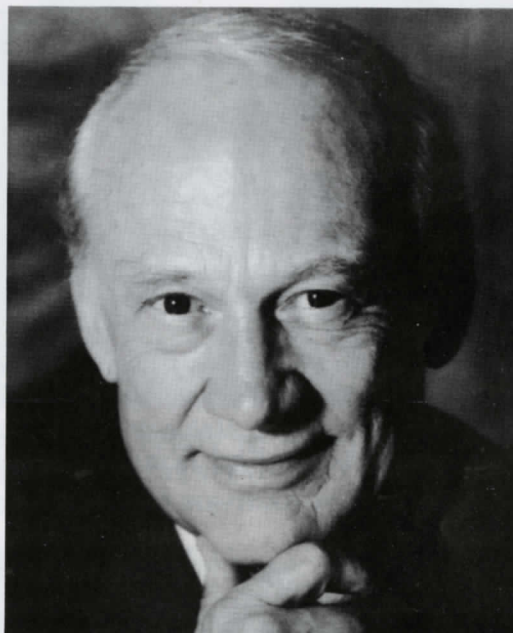
The lecture will begin at 8 p.m. in UT Tyler's Cowan Center. Admission is available through general admission tickets, \$10 each, or through the patron ticket program. Patron tickets include reserved seating, a special pre-lecture reception with the guest speakers and reserved parking. For additional information about patron tickets call the UT Tyler Office of Development at (903) 566-7110.

Aldrin made history on July 20, 1969, when he and fellow astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first two humans to walk on the moon. The event marked not only the fulfillment of President Kennedy's mission to land a man on the moon before the end of the 1960s, but also began a new era of space exploration.

Aldrin has remained on the cutting edge of efforts to continue America's leading role in manned space exploration. Currently he is setting his sights on the imminent reality of "space tourism." Also, he has created a plan for sustained exploration of space using his concept of "The Cycler," a spacecraft that makes perpetual orbits between Earth and Mars, and in 1993 he received a patent for his design of a permanent space station.

He is the author of two non-fiction books, *Men from Earth* and *Return to Earth*, and the co-author of the science fiction novel *Encounter with Tiber*.

The 1999-2000 lecture series will conclude Feb. 3 with Greg Gumbel, Olympic sports broadcaster.



Buzz Aldrin

Tuesday

October 26

8 p.m.

Cowan Center

In the spotlight

Dr. **Robert Greendyke**, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, co-authored a paper titled "Dynamic Simulation of a Wave-Rotor-Topped Turboshift Engine" which was accepted for publication in the AIM's *Journal of Propulsion and Power*. Co-authors are D. Paxson and M. Schobeiri.

Dr. **Ron Livingston**, associate professor of psychology, had a research article titled "Internal Consistency of Three Tests From The Halstead-Reitan Neuropsychology Battery for Older Children" published in the journal *Assessment*.

Dr. **Paula Lundberg-Love**, presented an in-service titled "Identification of and Behavioral Intervention With Children Who Have Fetal Alcohol Syndrome or Fetal Drug Exposure" for Region VII foster parents on Aug. 28 in Sulphur Springs.

Dr. Lundberg-Love also conducted a training workshop titled "The Identification and Treatment of Victims of Ritualistic Maltreatment" for the professional staff of the East Texas Crisis Center Oct. 7.

Dr. **W. Allen Martin**, professor of sociology, presented a paper on spatial analysis in sociology at the American Sociological Association annual meeting in Chicago on August 7.

Dr. Martin also presented a three-day workshop on intellectual property issues in distance education at the MUP Summer Institute in Marquette, Michigan, July 30 - August 1.

Dr. **Greg Orvis**, associate professor of criminal justice, has been awarded the Bart Brooks Endowed Professorship in Ethics and Leadership. Orvis is the second recipient of the two-year endowment.

Dr. **Victor I. Scherb**, associate professor of English, presented a paper titled "Assimilating Giants: Gog and Magog in Medieval Literature and Pageantry" at the International Medieval Congress July 14 in Leeds, England.

New employees join UT Tyler

Alyssa Amaral, *Support Services Analyst*
Educator Preparation Program/CPDT Grant
UC 216, Ext. 5514
Effective 10-01-99

Rosemary Cooper, *Senior Secretary*
Financial Aid
ADM 215, Ext. 7180
Effective 10-04-99

Mike Goucher, *Maintenance Worker I*
Physical Plant
PHY 105, Ext. 7291
Effective 10-01-99

Shane Mitchell, *Maintenance Worker II*
Physical Plant
PHY 105, Ext. 7291
Effective 10-06-99

Kay Parrish, *Secretary*
Office of Graduate Studies
ADM 202, Ext. 5642
Effective 09-27-99

Bob Patterson, *Technical Services Manager*
Fine 8 Performing Arts Center
FAC 1147, Ext. 7269, Cellular phone 350-3950
Effective 09-02-99

Joven Tabema, *Senior Electrician*
Physical Plant
PHY 105, Ext. 7291
Effective 09-27-99

Debbie Waldrop, *Research Coordinator*
College of Nursing
SCI 236, Ext. 5616
Effective 09-01-99

Azerbaijan

UT Tyler professor teaches overseas

Editor's note: Dr. Lisa Starnes, assistant professor of education, spent the 1998-1999 academic year teaching in Baku, Azerbaijan. In the following story, she recounts her experience.



When Dr. Mil Clark, dean of the College of Education and Psychology, brought me an e-mail in May, 1998, and asked if I knew any early childhood educators who might like to teach in Azerbaijan, I think I surprised him when I said I was interested – despite the fact that I didn't even know where Azerbaijan was!

For many years it has been a professional goal of mine to do teacher training and research in another country. I thought maybe ten or fifteen years from now I could perhaps spend a few months teaching a course or seminar. Travel also was a family goal for my husband, John, and our children, Kathryn and Scott. We had managed to take the children to 15 or so states, and Mexico, but more distant travel had been beyond our budget.

A completely new, private educational system based on American theory and tradition is under development in Baku, Azerbaijan. At the time of the trip, the university was in its third year of operation. The high school was started during the 1998-99 academic year and is housed in the university. A pre-school program, the Early Learning Center, was beginning its second full academic year.

The program was designed to provide English language instruction for local children. The goal was an equal ratio of native English speaking children to non-English speaking children. There was a search for a faculty member who could go to Azerbaijan and train the teachers working in the early childhood program. It was a

—more—



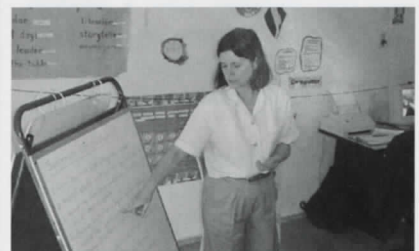
Students are ready to learn in a Baku, Azerbaijan classroom. The school exhibits much American influence.

"The year gave me a chance to try techniques and methods that I had only read about in journals."

Dr. Lisa Starnes



Dr. Lisa Starnes, assistant professor of education, works with students.



Starnes holds a training session for teachers in Baku.

loan program in which I would retain my position and rank when I returned to UT Tyler the following year.

The position offered another unique opportunity for me. It would allow me to go back into the classroom and teach children while still doing the work I love with educator preparation.

In addition, I could experiment with some of my ideas about teacher training in a school setting. At the end of the school year, I found it difficult to determine who had learned more – the teachers, the administrators, the children, or me.

Azerbaijan is a small country on the Caspian Sea, located east of Turkey and north of Iran.

The country proclaimed its independence in 1918 only to find itself occupied in 1922 with the formation of the Soviet Union. The country established itself as an independent republic again in 1991 and the people of Azerbaijan turned their attention to the issues of renovating their buildings and utilities, revising the economic and educational systems, and using the vast oil resources.

The Early Learning Center had recently moved to a newly renovated location when I arrived. The classrooms were bright, spacious, but poorly arranged and not utilized efficiently. Most of the equipment and supplies had been shipped from America, so entering the classroom was like stepping into a modern kindergarten or preschool classroom. It was comforting to see familiar books and other teaching items.

The teachers were eager to meet me but also were concerned about what their new American "supervisor" would be like. They had a variety of backgrounds and training. There was a geologist, a champi-



Starnes discusses reading with students in the Early Childhood School in Baku, Azerbaijan.

onship basketball coach, an attorney, and an interpreter. Another was waiting to do her internship as a doctor. Later in the year, two more teaching staff joined the group. One of these ladies was the only one who had any previous classroom experience.

Training sessions were structured to fulfill several immediate needs and accomplish three basic goals.

The first goal was to address

"I have many artifacts, photos, and memories to share with the UT Tyler community."

Dr. Lisa Starnes

immediate concerns of health, safety, and other issues relating to the quality of care for the children.

The second goal was to provide a basic foundation in child development, educational theory, and developmentally appropriate practice. The third goal was to teach the staff how to use the basic lesson cycle and how to accomplish each of the components of assessment, planning, and teaching.

Results were almost immediate as the teachers began to implement new ideas right away. I taught a group of children so that I could model the teaching techniques I was presenting in the workshops. The teachers rotated as my assistant so they could see lessons with small groups and individuals.

One of the primary benefits of this experience for me was the close contact with children and parents. This contact brought me back to the realities of teaching. Working eight- and nine-hour days with children and teachers constantly around me reminded me that teaching is hard, never-ending work. Lack of time for planning and training, little time for teachers to work together, scarce resources, and no breaks are real problems that schools must solve.

Comforting a child, teaching children how to handle conflict, expressing delight in their accomplishments, seeing them progress in their goals, implementing ideas, and creating new materials are among the multiple tasks required of teachers each day, and they are also the rewards of teaching for me. It was a very enjoyable experience.

I believe the experience will bring a renewed credibility to my classes. The year also gave me a chance to try very recent techniques and methods that I had only read about in journals.

Between classes I have unpacked my books, toys, and puppets and have taken my place again at department meetings. I have many artifacts, photos, and memories to share with the UT Tyler community, and I am eager to tell people about my many adventures.

Presidential, Alumni scholarships announced

UT Tyler will begin awarding Presidential and Alumni Scholarships to outstanding community/junior college transfer students starting in the fall 2000 semester, President Rodney H. Mabry has announced.

The announcement of this new scholarship program was made to more than 250 junior college students at the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional Leadership Conference which was held on the UT Tyler campus Sept. 30. PTK is the international honor society for junior and community college students.

"We value our relationships with junior and community colleges and we enthusiastically welcome their outstanding students who wish to continue their education at a university. It is our intent that these scholarships will recognize academic achievement and will enhance the affordability and accessibility of a university education," Mabry said.

The scholarships require full-time enrollment at UT Tyler for each semester and are offered in the fall and spring semesters only.

To be eligible for the UT Tyler Presidential Scholarship, an incoming transfer student must have completed four regular semesters as a full-

time student or at least 59 semester credit hours at a community/junior college with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Recipients will be awarded \$1,000 each semester and may apply for a renewal by maintaining a 3.0 GPA on course work completed at UT Tyler.

To be eligible for the UT Tyler Alumni Scholarships, an incoming transfer student must have completed four regular semesters as a full-time student or at least 59 semester credit hours at a community/junior college with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 to 3.49.

Recipients will be awarded \$500 each semester and may apply for a renewal by maintaining a 2.75 GPA on course work completed at UT Tyler.

Both the Presidential and the Alumni Scholarships are renewable annually for qualified students through a bachelor's and a master's degree program.

To apply, students must submit a UT Tyler University Scholarship Application. The deadline for the fall 2000 semester is April 1, 2000.

For more information or to request an application, contact the Office of Admissions at (903) 566-7202 or 1-800-UT TYLER.

Publications available online through news database

The UT Tyler News and Information Office has developed an online database to access many of its services, including newsletters, information submissions, and requests for advertising. A campus calendar is posted also.

The database is available to users of Lotus Notes and through the Internet. Information submission and requests for advertising are available only through Notes on campus.

In addition, the database can be used to retrieve

past editions of the *IntercomOnline*, a weekly online employee newsletter, and *UT Tyler News*, a monthly newsletter highlighting press coverage of the university in area media.

Any employee or retiree who is not using the UT Tyler e-mail system and would like to access these publications should contact Kyle Dalpe in the News and Information Office at (903) 566 7063 or kdalpe@mail.uttyl.edu.

Employee service recognition

Celebrating 15 years of continuous service at the university on September 4 is **Sandra Pridgen**, administrative assistant, Library Services. Recognized for 5 years of continuous service are **Debbie Cox**, accountant, Office of Financial Services on September 8, and **Patty Ryan**, admissions counselor, Office of Enrollment Management on September 22. Congratulations!

Information concerning Proposition 17

Proposition 17, on the Nov. 2, 1999, constitutional election ballot, directly affects UT Tyler and other designated public universities. If the proposed constitutional amendment concerning the Permanent University Fund (PUF) passes, UT Tyler, which shares in the PUF, could receive a major increase in funding from the PUF.

Proposition 17, if adopted, would allow the Fund's investment managers to take advantage of broader investment strategies and to increase the proceeds available for programs and facilities at PUF institutions, within both The Texas A&M University System and The University of Texas System. The proposition does not change the institutions participating in the PUF. Most importantly, the proposition, if adopted, would not increase taxes.

The funding made possible by the proposed changes would be used to finance much needed capital improvements or to acquire capital equipment and library books or materials. Improved facilities, equipment and library materials from this source will reduce the potential financial burden on students who might otherwise have to pay for these items.

The need for legislation that led to placement of Proposition 17 on the November ballot was also supported by a report from the Office of the State Auditor, which suggested the proposed changes would allow better financial returns for the PUF. The proposal was passed unanimously by the Legislature.

Teacher preparation program receives accreditation

The UT Tyler teacher preparation program has received the "Accredited" rating from the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) in its second-ever ratings of universities, education service centers, and school districts, President Rodney H. Mabry has announced.

"The College of Education and Psychology at UT Tyler is pleased to be accredited for the second consecutive year under the Accountability System for Educator Preparation," Dr. Mil Clark, dean of the College of Education and Psychology, said.

"The State Board for Educator Certification has established rigorous standards for the accreditation of programs that prepare future teachers. Those standards require that a high percentage of students at a university pass the Examinations for the Certification of Educators in Texas (ExCET). At UT Tyler, our students and faculty have worked diligently to insure that we meet those standards," Clark said.

With an overall pass rate of 90.44 percent for 1998-1999 and an overall cumulative pass rate of 93.3 percent for 1997-1998, we feel good about what we have accomplished," Clark said.

The Accountability System for Educator Preparation (ASEP) ratings are based on the number of prospective educators that pass certification exams. For an educator preparation program to receive an "Accredited" rating, it must meet the passing standards established by the SBEC in each demographic group (total, male, female, African American, Hispanic, White, other).

Of the 87 programs approved by SBEC to prepare educators, 76 met the SBEC standards and were rated "Accredited." Ten programs were rated "Accredited—Under Review" and one program was not rated because it has not enrolled students in its program for the past two years.

The ASEP system was authorized in 1995 with the passage of Senate Bill 1, the rewrite of the Texas Education Code authored by Senator Bill Ratliff (R-Mt. Pleasant) and Representative Paul Sadler (D-Henderson). ASEP affects the 70 universities, 13 education service centers, and 4 school districts that are approved by SBEC to prepare educators.

A complete listing of the ASEP ratings is available at www.sbec.state.tx.us.