IN AUGUST, THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE LAUNCHED TWO PROGRAMS that place the University of Texas at Austin at the head of a national trend to make civic engagement central to the mission of public universities. In partnership with the Graduate School’s Professional Development and Community Engagement Program (PDCEP), we have initiated Community Sabbatical grants and citizen Research Associateships to recognize and facilitate the knowledge that is produced by citizen-scholars working outside of the University’s immediate sphere.

Both the Community Sabbatical and the Research Associate programs arose out of an Institute-sponsored April 2004 colloquium, “Scholarship at Work: UT Scholars, Artists, and Partnerships in the Public Sphere.” Community participants in that event posed two provocative questions: If Texas citizens, like university students and faculty, think, write, and undertake research projects, why shouldn't they have full access to their public university’s libraries and databases? And if academics...
Ralph Waldo Emerson taught me that there’s more vitality in going somewhere than in arriving. For that reason alone, my dreams and expectations for the Humanities Institute are likely always to outstrip its achievements. So I wouldn’t say that, in its fourth year of existence, the Humanities Institute “arrived.” But I think it is fair to say that, though we are among the youngest and smallest centers for the humanities at major American universities, we have emerged in the last year as one of the most dynamic and innovative.

The recent and current programs featured in this newsletter—Writing Austin’s Lives; the deliberative public symposium on Religion, Politics, and Values; the Community Sabbatical and Research Associate initiatives—have placed the Institute in the vanguard of a national trend to bring civic and intellectual engagement with local communities from the margins to the center of the university’s mission. The word “intellectual” in the preceding sentence is key: this is not simply a call for the academy to do more community service but for it to recognize, support, collaborate with, and learn from the citizens and organizations that are producing knowledge every day beyond its walls. On the UT campus, and among its peers nationally, the Humanities Institute has begun to provide leadership in this expansion and reorientation of what universities do and what the humanities are.

Our new Vision Statement, with its emphasis on the everyday experience of the humanities and the reciprocal intellectual production and empowerment of scholars and citizens, suggests the nature of such expansion and reorientation: The Humanities Institute understands “the humanities” to encompass all the forms of artistic expression, intellectual inquiry, and everyday experience through which people explore the meanings and challenges of human life. The Institute envisions Central Texas as a place where university scholars of every discipline and community members of every background engage, enrich, and empower one another through shared humanities exploration.

We are encouraged by how powerfully this vision has resonated, and by the recognition that the programs developed to enact it have drawn. Two National Public Radio programs, “Smart City” and “Marketplace,” produced segments on our initiatives in 2004-5; two local television stations, News 8 and KLRU, have aired shows or series inspired by our work; and our book was selected by the Austin Chronicle for a “Best of Austin” award and by Mayor Wynn for this year’s “Mayor’s Book Club” campaign. Our emerging vision and our programs have also been supported in various ways by individuals too numerous to thank here. But I want to mention several crucial contributors.

UT Provost Sheldon Ekland-Olson and College of Liberal Arts Dean Richard Lariviere have provided the Institute with the bulk of its funding and with the trust and creative latitude it has needed to develop new programs, forge new partnerships, and experiment with new ideas. Over the past two years, HI Community Programs Coordinator Sylvia Gale—who has stepped down to return to the classroom, and focus on completing her doctorate—was the driving creative force behind several of our most successful programs, as well as their principal administrative face. And it was personally inspiring to me, when Carolyn and Dr. Paxton Howard—citizen-scholars who often drive down from their home in Salado to attend Humanities Institute events—read about our Texas Teachers as Scholars program, decided that this was an opportunity that Central Texas teachers should have whether their districts could support it or not, and sent us a gift earmarked for teacher scholarships.

Assisted by these supporters, and by the hundreds of members of both the University and the Austin community who contribute time, thought, and energy to our programs, the Humanities Institute continues to grow in scope and impact. Several exciting new initiatives are in the works and will be unveiled in our next newsletter. The current newsletter, with its new look and logo, reflects our year-long internal effort to clarify and upgrade our verbal and visual “identity materials”—an effort that includes our new vision and mission statements and that will culminate in the redesigned website that we expect to launch this fall. “Thinking in community” sounds simple but is, in fact, a challenging mission that we hope you’ll continue to help us accomplish.

Pull up a chair.

Email: humecart@humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu
THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE FELLOWS Seminar and Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Series take up a new topic in 2005-6, following last year’s lively comparative inquiry into the social, political, spiritual, psychological, and aesthetic “work of religion.” Twenty-two UT faculty members, whose home disciplines span seventeen departments and five colleges or schools (Liberal Arts, Fine Arts, Communication, Architecture, and Law) have been selected to participate in this year’s Fellows Seminar, which will meet weekly in the Harry Ransom Center on the theme: Remembering and Forgetting, Collecting and Discarding.

Designed to promote intellectual collaboration and collegiality across disciplinary lines, the Fellows Seminar takes its particular shape each year from the interests and research projects that participating faculty bring to it—faculty whose far-flung locations in the University might otherwise prevent them from ever making one another’s acquaintance. The seminar also offers a unique intellectual and professional opportunity for advanced graduate students, who may apply to take it for graduate course credit. In 2005-6, the broad goal of the Fellows Seminar is to explore the varied ways in which communities and individuals process—preserve, organize, memorialize, refashion, jettison—the past.

The Fellows will be bringing a range of intriguing interests and projects to the seminar, which are summarized in their individual bio paragraphs on the Humanities Institute website (www.humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu). Some of these include: the “systematic,” “fetish,” and “souvenir” collecting of cinema star materials by movie fans; visual, written, and oral depictions of the bombing of German cities during World War Two; built-in obsolescence and product recycling in urban and domestic design; Native American self-representation in the new National Museum of the American Indian; the role of musical theater in American memory formation of the Cold War era; conflicts between historical preservation and development in the historic Korean city of Kyŏngju, the site of the first millennium kingdom of Silla; and the sound bite as a vehicle of selective remembering and forgetting in contemporary mass media.

Four distinguished visiting scholars will also guest-lead sessions of the seminar and deliver free public lectures in the Institute’s Distinguished Visiting Lecturers Series.

In November, Dr. David Blight, a leading historian of the American Civil War and director of Yale University’s Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, will lecture on “The Historical Memory Boom: Why? And Why Now?” He will be followed in February by Dr. James Young, a consultant on Germany’s national Holocaust memorial museum and a member of the jury for the World Trade Center Site Memorial competition, who will speak on “Memory and the Monument Before and After 9/11.” In March, Dr. James Clifford, a professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and one of the world’s leading anthropologists, will present “Remembering Indigenous Futures.” And in April, Dr. Marita Sturken of New York University, a specialist in visual culture, art and technology, and feminist theory, will speak on “Tourists of History: Memory, Architecture, and Kitsch.” Please mark your calendars for what should be a stimulating and timely series of talks and discussions.

For a list of the 2005-6 Faculty Fellows, please see page 6.
“Writing Austin’s Lives,” inaugurated by the Humanities Institute as a citywide life-writing contest and community-discovery project in April 2003, continues to assume new and varied lives more than two years later. The 2004 book Writing Austin’s Lives: a community portrait was chosen earlier this year as the 2005 Mayor’s Book Club selection, and became the subject of a series of public readings and open book club discussions led by Austin celebrities. The book has also drawn a great deal of media coverage, spawned copycat projects in other cities, and inspired a film contest called “Filming Austin’s Lives” (www.filmingaustinslives.org), sponsored by KLRU and News 8 Austin.

From its inception, the reaction to the Writing Austin’s Lives project has been groundbreaking. In response to a call for short family histories, personal experiences, and visions of life in and around Austin, nearly 800 residents of greater Austin submitted one- to three-page stories, in English and in Spanish, during a four-month entry period. The stories came from nearly every zip code in metro Austin, and were written by people of diverse ages, backgrounds, and life circumstances, including many new and inexperienced writers.

In May 2004, 127 of these original visions and personal experiences were released in an anthology published in partnership with the Austin History Center Association’s Waterloo Press—Writing Austin’s Lives: a community portrait. This 412-page grassroots portrait of the Texas capital as seen through the eyes of a cross-section of its residents, illustrated with historical and contemporary images of Austin from the Austin History Center’s collection, was awarded the Austin Chronicle’s “Best of Austin” Critics’ Award for “Best Local Authors.” It was featured at the 2004 Texas Book Festival, and has been declared a best-seller at local bookstores. Secondary and college-level teachers use it in literature and composition classes and local and national media organizations track its evolution with interest, including features in The Austin American-Statesman, The Austin Chronicle, NPR’s “Smart City,” and News 8 Austin.

The book’s most recent and most significant incarnation was as the 2005 Mayor’s Book Club selection, chosen by Mayor Will Wynn in April as an essential book for all Austinites to read and talk about. Inaugurated for National Library Week in the spring of 2002 by the Mayor’s Office in partnership with the Austin Public Library and the Humanities Institute, the Mayor’s Book Club/Keep Austin Reading program is launched each spring to cultivate a culture of reading and discussion in Austin by bringing our diverse city together around one great book.
Because the authors of this year’s selection are Austin residents themselves, the
Mayor’s Book Club committee planned several special events, in addition to the usual
fall roster of discussion groups. Kicking off a summer of public readings on May 19,
“South Austin Stories” featured five authors from the book who live in South Austin
—Deb Kelt, A.J. Montrose, Robert Quiroga, Kevin Little, and Christine Gilbert—sharing
their narratives with a small crowd at Borders Books on South Lamar. This first
geographically based event inspired two others—“East Austin Stories” on June 30 at
the Carver Museum and Cultural Center and “North Austin Stories” on July 12 at the
Yarborough Branch of the Austin Public Library.

“East Austin Stories” was hosted by News 8 Austin anchor and East Austin native,
Erica Riggins, and featured stories by Jessyl Bradford, Celeste Gonzales, Judith Jenkins,
and John Salazar on subjects as varied as their authors. Professor Andy Garrison, of
the Radio, Television, and Film Department at UT, supplemented the readings with
short student films that came out of “East Austin Stories,” a documentary film project
capturing intimate narratives of lives lived east of I-35. At the “North Austin Stories”
event, the boundaries and character of the neighbor-
hood proved harder to define. During the lively
post-reading discussion, audience members and
authors offered varying opinions on what makes
up North Austin, but what was agreed upon was
the pleasure of hearing stories written by Aletha
Irby, James Scott Bankston, Beulah Taylor Cooper,
Forrest Preece, Sr. (our oldest contributor at 94),
and Joey Segura.

Not wanting to simply parcel the city along geo-
graphic lines, we concluded the summer public
reading series in August with “Austin Flashbacks,” a
look at Austin through the decades as seen through
the eyes of its storytellers. Reading about their family’s and their own memories of
a growing city, Alicia Ranzau, Quincy Burks, Ginny Agnew, Danny Camacho, Laura
Figueroa, and Rob Hill comprised our largest gathering of authors on the Kleberg
Stage of the Zach Scott Theater.

The last month of the 2005 Mayor’s Book Club saw 7 discussion groups in branch
libraries around the city. Austin celebrities such as former governor Ann Richards,
former Lady Bird Johnson Press Secretary Liz Carpenter, and Grammy award-winning
musician Ray Benson hosted the discussions. From sharing their own stories, to
sparking conversation, to leading the group in short writing exercises, these hosts
filled the library conference rooms with imagination and camaraderie. Governor
Richards regaled a crowd of over fifty at the Austin History Center with tales from
her first day in Austin to Governor’s mansion dinners. Inspired by the Governor’s
storytelling and her reading of Maria Limon’s “Some Rides to Give,” a woman rose
and read a piece she had just written that evening about her love of the hot tub at
the Town Lake YMCA.

The rich discussions, the repeated question, “Are you planning another book?”, and
the surprising and continuing ability of “Writing Austin’s Lives” to take new forms,
has made it clear Austin is a city of stories with many more to tell.
HI Announces 2005-6 HI Faculty Fellows

FALL FELLOWS
Marc Bizer, French & Italian
Kate Catterall, Art and Art History
David Crew, History
Diane Davis, Rhetoric and Composition
Louise Harpman, Architecture
Jeffrey Meikle, American Studies
Janet Staiger, Radio-Television-Film
Pauline Strong, Anthropology
Helena Woodard, English

SPRING FELLOWS
Ellen Cunningham-Kruppa, Information
Laura Furman, English
Laurie Green, History
Geraldine Henderson, Advertising
Sanford Levinson, Law
Nhi Lieu, American Studies
Matthew McGlone, Communication Studies
Robert Oppenheim, Asian Studies
Ann Reynolds, Art and Art History
James Sidbury, History
Michael Winship, English
Stacy Wolf, Theatre and Dance

The Humanities Institute in the News

• National Public Radio, “Smart City,” Radio Broadcast, feature on Writing Austin’s Lives, April 10, 2004
• The Alcade, “Austin, meet Austin,” July/August, 2004, 50-58
• Austin Chronicle, Best of Austin Awards, “Best Local Authors” for Writing Austin’s Lives, Oct. 1, 2004, 92
• News 8, TV Broadcast, “Writing Austin’s Lives,” a series of five interview broadcasts, Nov. 15-19, 2004
• News 8, TV Broadcast, “Austin Youth,” five interview broadcasts, Feb. 28-Mar. 4, 2005
• News 8, TV Broadcast, “Austin Lifestyles,” five interview broadcasts
• KLRU, “Austin Now” broadcast, “Writing Austin’s Lives,” February 11, 2005
• UT Website, Spotlights & Events, “Symposium explores values, religion, politics,” April 9-13, 2005
• Austin American-Statesman, Sylvia Gale, op-ed on new sabbatical programs, “New ways the community can access UT’s resources,” April 12, 2005

New Web Address
Our new web and email addresses are now in operation:
http://www.humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu (web)
information@humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu (email)

Please watch for the formal launch this fall of a new web design and expanded content and features on our site. We invite your comments.
We commend and thank the Central Texas schools and districts that partner with the Humanities Institute to make our “Texas Teachers as Scholars” program available to their teachers. At a time when limited educational budgets and vision too often lead to the reduction of genuine intellectual opportunities and support for teachers, and even to their de-professionalization as drillmasters and test monitors, these partners have affirmed that teachers should be respected, recognized, and renewed as scholars.

In 2005-6, “Texas Teachers as Scholars” will offer two new seminars that directly engage crucial issues in K-12 education. Professor Joan Mullin’s “Creating a Culture of Writing Across the Curriculum” and Professor Michael Starbird’s “Abandoning Dead Ends: Presenting the Heart of Mathematics to All Students” will afford teachers the opportunity to enhance their conceptual and practical approaches to writing and math by studying with two of the country’s most dynamic reformers of these foundational academic fields. The other four seminars are back by popular demand.

Addressing challenges posed by the increasing diversity of contemporary learning communities, Professor Denise Spellberg’s “Violence and Tolerance among Christians, Muslims, and Jews: The Case of Spain” invites teachers to explore issues of religious and cultural pluralism in the context of world history. Professor Elizabeth Crist, a musicologist, and Professor Shelley Payne, a biologist, bring their primary disciplinary expertise into intriguing historical and sociological frames in their respective seminars, “Hearing History: American Music of the Revolution, Civil War, Civil Rights Movement, and Vietnam War,” and “Plagues: Past, Present, and Future.” Finally, Professor Alan Friedman once again provides area teachers the invaluable opportunity to study “Shakespeare in Performance” in conjunction with the campus visit and performance of Actors from the London Stage.

We commend and thank the Central Texas schools and districts that partner with the Humanities Institute to make our “Texas Teachers as Scholars” program available to their teachers. At a time when limited educational budgets and vision too often lead to the reduction of genuine intellectual opportunities and support for teachers, and even to their de-professionalization as drillmasters and test monitors, these partners have affirmed that teachers should be respected, recognized, and renewed as scholars.

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“UT’s new Community Sabbatical Program is a great opportunity for nonprofit professionals to take time to reflect and return to their organizations with new insight into the programs they develop and manage.”

—Deborah Edward, executive director, Greenlights for Nonprofit Success

**Community of Scholars • continued from page 1**

are eligible for paid sabbaticals to explore new ideas and plan new projects, why shouldn’t staff members of nonprofit community organizations have the same opportunity? In response, with the support of Provost Sheldon Ekland-Olson and the guidance of a distinguished community advisory council, the Institute worked with the PDCEP to develop two of the most groundbreaking and innovative public programs in academia today.

The **Community Sabbatical Program** supports research projects specifically designed by staff members of local nonprofit organizations to develop new knowledge or plan new project initiatives that enhance their service to their constituencies. Five thousand dollar grants to successful sabbatical applicants afford the region’s nonprofit workforce flexible leave time from daily administrative duties to pursue the sort of exploratory questions and project ideas that demand intensive research time and resources. Community Sabbatical grantees receive full access to the University’s information resources and services and are matched with appropriate faculty consultants who advise and collaborate on their projects. Thus, the Community Sabbatical Program both makes UT’s human and educational resources more accessible to local community organizations and opens up new ways for faculty to put their skills and knowledge to use on behalf of Central Texas communities.

The **Research Associate Program** offers year-long appointments as associates of the Humanities Institute to citizens who are pursuing independent research projects. Associates receive a UT EID for access to library materials and databases and join a community of scholars—including both Community Sabbatical grantees and UT faculty—who are invited to share their intellectual interests and projects at monthly lunch seminars hosted by the Humanities Institute.

Six Community Sabbatical grantees (out of nearly thirty applicants) and eight Research Associates have been selected for 2005-6. On the facing page, we feature two members of this dynamic new intellectual community. A complete list of Community Sabbatical grantees appears below. Photos, bios, and project descriptions for sabbatical grantees and current Research Associates, and application instructions for both programs, are available on the Humanities Institute website.

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**Community Sabbatical Grantees 2005-6**

- **Steven Bartels**, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid
- **Victoria Camp**, Texas Association Against Sexual Assault
- **Anna Land**, Heart House
- **Rachel McIneruff**, Armstrong Community Music School
- **Harold McMillan**, DiverseArts
- **Karen Paup**, Texas Low Income Housing Information Service

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Full project descriptions for all Community Sabbatical grantees are available at [www.humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu](http://www.humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu).
**Preserving the Legacy of African-American Music in Austin**

Austin has long been known as the “live music capital of the world,” but even those living here do not know the whole story about the history of Black musicians in Austin. Long overshadowed in the local and national imagination by more mainstream musical successes, the work of Austin’s African-American blues, jazz, and gospel pioneers is finally being collected and preserved through the Austin Blues Family Tree Project (ABFTP).

Launched by Harold McMillan, who holds an M.A. in American Civilization and is the founder of DiverseArts, a multidisciplinary nonprofit arts and cultural organization, the ABFTP works to identify, collect, and create documentary images and recordings of some of Austin’s most prolific and innovative African-American musicians—pioneers who both blazed the trail on which many contemporary artists continue to travel and grounded the city’s musical heritage in the distinct cultural community of pre-integration East Austin.

Collected materials in the ABFTP archive consist of extensive oral history interviews, photographs, and musical recordings. Not only do these materials need to be catalogued, copied, and preserved, but they also now require recovery and restoration due to a fire in the DiverseArts office. All of the analog recordings also require conversion to digital format for easier and more reliable preservation and dissemination.

As one of the Humanities Institute’s six CS grantees, Mr. McMillan was awarded funding for a 160-hour sabbatical, enabling him to delegate his nonprofit managerial responsibilities while he concentrates on archiving these irreplaceable materials and preparing them for various research purposes and forms of public presentation. Mr. McMillan’s faculty consultant is Dr. Kevin Mooney of the UT Center for American Music and the Texas Music Oral History Project.

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**The Cost of Sexual Assault**

Victoria Camp, Director of Operations for Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA), believes that she could powerfully affect public policy if she were able to show Texas legislators and business leaders the exact dollar cost to taxpayers and productivity loss to businesses of each instance of sexual assault committed in the state. In partnership with two faculty consultants, she will use her Community Sabbatical grant to gather the relevant data and derive the appropriate formula to effectively quantify the shared social and financial cost of sexual assault.

TAASA, comprised of a statewide network of over eighty crisis centers serving rural and urban areas, trains and educates rape crisis personnel, law enforcement personnel, community groups, schools, and other service agencies on issues related to sexual assault. Funding sources and staff time are typically and understandably devoted to immediate victim services, rather than to the sort of research project that Ms. Camp proposes, and that she believes may be of tremendous long-term value to her organization and to Texans at risk of sexual assault.

During her community sabbatical, Ms. Camp will work with Dr. Noël Busch of the School of Social Work and Dr. Bruce Kellison of the Bureau of Business Research to organize data, develop a cost analysis, and determine how best her results may be used to advocate for stronger prevention strategies.
Studies Program, the LBJ Presidential Library and Museum, and the Religion and Labor Network of Austin, in addition to AAIM and the HI, had come together to organize what became a three-day deliberative public symposium: “Whose Faith? Which Morals? Religion, Politics, and Values.”

Five hundred people came to the LBJ Presidential Library Auditorium on Wednesday evening, April 13, to attend the symposium’s first session, “Religion, Politics, and Moral Values: Framing the Issues.” This informal panel discussion and audience Q & A, expertly moderated by LBJ Presidential Library Director Dr. Betty Sue Flowers, featured three of the country’s most distinguished thinkers about religion: Rev. James Forbes, Senior Minister of New York’s Riverside Church, one of the country’s largest interracial, interdenom-inal congregations, and “one of the twelve most effective preachers in the English-speaking world,” according to Newsweek magazine; Rabbi David Saperstein, founding chairman of the U. S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, in Washington, DC; and Professor Mark Silk, Director of the Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life, Trinity College, CT, and the author of Unsecular Media: Making News of Religion in America.

After a dazzling conversation among the out-of-town dignitaries on Wednesday evening, Dr. Forbes led off Thursday’s day-long session, entitled “Personal Values, Social Justice, and Public Policy,” before a packed house of 200 at the Thompson Conference Center. His speech, “Healing the Spirit of America,” lived up to Newsweek’s ranking of his oratorical powers. For most of the rest of the day, local religious, academic, and community leaders and audience members took over, in a series of roundtable discussions and open conversations organized around two questions: “What are the religious or secular bases of our moral commitments?” and “How can we enact moral commitments in the public sphere while moving beyond polarization?” Featured Austin-area participants in these discussions included Rev. Frank Garrett, host of KAZI’s “Wake-Up Call,” Imam Safdar Razi of the Al-Mahdi Center, Professor Rod Hart, Director of the Annette Strauss Center for Civic Participation and Dean of UT’s College of Communication, Rev. Emilee Whitehurst, Director of Austin Area Interreligious Ministries, Josefina Castillo of the American Friends Services Committee, and Professor Richard Markovits of the UT School of Law.

Finally, after many of those who attended the symposium carried its insights into religious services or educational programs over the weekend, the Religion and Labor Network sponsored the symposium’s final event on Sunday afternoon at the AFL-CIO Hall. There, a moving program focused on bringing spiritual and moral values to bear on issues laborers face in the workplace and featured speakers from the Austin Central Labor Council, Teamsters Union Local 657, the Central Texas Immigrant Workers’ Rights Center, and the Nueva Vida Women’s Sewing Cooperative of Nicaragua.

The symposium was the kind of timely, provocative, and broadly participatory public humanities initiative that the Humanities Institute is privileged to be able to help make happen. We look forward to more such partnership projects in the future—and, if you missed this one and regret it, we filmed the Wednesday and Thursday sessions and will be happy to sell you videocassettes or DVDs of the program at cost.

“When the spirit is not healthy, the powers of self-deception tend to be strong. Injustice and oppression flourish in an atmosphere of untruth. Jesus said, “You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.” Either willful ignorance or carefully constructed misinformation will imperil the strength of the nation. The denial of truth can be the sentence of death if one persists in covering up symptoms of disease. We who would minister to the health of our nation must find a way to encourage norms of truth-telling.”

—Rev. Dr. James Forbes, from “Healing the Spirit of America”
Gratitude for our Partners
The Humanities Institute would like to thank the following community and media organizations and university affiliates for their support and collaboration during 2004-5:

- Austin Area Interreligious Ministries
- Austin Public Library
- College of Communication
- College of Fine Arts
- College of Liberal Arts
- Greenlights for NonProfit Success
- Jewish Studies Program
- KLRU
- LBJ Presidential Library and Museum
- News 8
- Office of the Mayor
- Professional Development and Community Engagement Program
- Religion and Labor Network of Austin
- Religious Studies Program
- School of Law
- School of Architecture

Institute Welcomes New Staff

HENRY MILLS, Director of Programs and Operations, joined the Institute in September 2004 as its first full-time staff member. He comes to the Institute after four years as exhibits coordinator at Humanities Texas, where, among other projects, he helped create Conversations with Texas Writers, an anthology of interviews with fifty Texas authors. His prior experience includes serving as community education coordinator for El Buen Samaritano Center, as project manager for the EnterTech Project technology-training program, and as founding director of the Walker Percy Educational Project, Inc., an online literary project. At the Institute, he is currently working to upgrade internal operations and increase organizational visibility, in addition to contributing to strategic planning and development. He holds an M.A. in American Literature from Louisiana State University.

JILL ANDERSON joins the Institute staff as a program coordinator to work with Teachers As Scholars, among other Institute initiatives. She previously worked with the Institute on Writing Austin’s Lives in the summer of 2004. A fourth year doctoral student in the Department of English, Jill is currently developing her dissertation project in which she plans to examine the diverse literary and social trends of 19th century U.S. and Mexican literatures. Also a fourth year Austin resident, she is thrilled about the opportunity to work within the greater Austin community.

KATY YOUNG is a new program coordinator and will be working on the Institute’s Community Sabbatical Program, the Mayor’s Book Club, and the Institute’s newsletter. A third year Ph.D. student in English, Katy recently completed her Master’s report on twentieth-century Native American women’s performance and will continue to explore the continental and transatlantic Native theater scene in her studies. She looks forward to putting theory into practice in bridging academia and the community through her work with the Institute.

HI Publications Available For Purchase

- **Writing Austin’s Lives**
  Award-winning anthology of stories written by the people of Austin, published by the Humanities Institute and the Austin History Center.
  Available in softcover ($17.95) and hardcover ($26.95).

- **Religion, Politics, and Values Symposium**
  April 13-14, 2005
  DVD or Videocassette presentation of panel discussions and lectures at this deliberative public symposium. Visiting panelists included Rev. James Forbes, Rabbi David Saperstein, and Dr. Mark Silk.
  - Wed., April 13, Visiting Panelists’ Conversation (LBJ Auditorium)
  - Thurs., April 14, Morning lecture and local panel (Thompson Center)
  - Thurs., April 14, Afternoon lecture and local panel (Thompson Center)
  $25/set or $12/individual

- **Introducing the UT Humanities Institute**
  DVD overview of the Institute’s programs, 15” TRT ($7.00)

To order, send email to:
information@humanitiesinstitute.utexas.edu, including your name, shipping address, item, and quantity. Sales tax and shipping costs apply.
OUR MISSION

THE MISSION OF THE HUMANITIES INSTITUTE at The University of Texas at Austin is to build civic and intellectual community—within, across, and beyond the University’s walls—by bringing people together to explore issues and ideas that matter. Our educational programs, cultural events, and public forums provide participants with stimulating occasions for discovery, dialog, and transformation. A gateway to the varied resources of the University, the Humanities Institute pursues creative partnerships with other institutions and constituencies throughout Central Texas to help citizens and scholars jointly produce better understandings of themselves, others, and the world.