A Message From Our Chair

Dear Fellow Longhorns,

Happy beautiful spring, everyone! Writing this, I'm grateful just thinking about our Texas hill country roads sprinkled with Mother Nature's gift to us: bluebonnets in Austin, Texas. I'm also grateful to be serving your Hispanic Alumni Network as Chair, and my continued commitment to you is to exemplify value, respect, and excellence in our actions and best practices in the years to come. As mentioned in our last e-newsletter, we added two new Committees: 1) Service Projects; and 2) Fundraiser. Both committees have been established to address your passions: serving the community and raising funds for student's education. A key strategy to strengthen our organization is to establish partnerships and alliances that will ensure our continued success. With these objectives in mind, here are a few updates:

- Edna Butts has accepted the position of Chair of the Service Projects Committee. Edna has decades of experience in the educational arena, and will be building an Outreach Service Projects Strategy to engage our
alumni. For our Fundraiser Committee Chair, we're continuing to look at various candidates. If you are interested in this very important role, or know someone who can fulfill this duty, please contact me directly at Casi@utexas.edu.

- We've begun discussion with several key partners in the areas of education that will enable us to build on a mentoring and tutoring program with our alums.
- The Texas Exes organization has re-designed their main website; as a result, our HAN website has a different 'look and feel' as well. Please send me or our Alumni Outreach Committee Chair your inputs or ideas you have for our website, and we'll be happy to review them. Your ideas are welcome!
- Our Membership Committee has welcomed new members, bringing fresh perspectives. A warm welcome to Hilberto Maldonado, Judge Bob Perkins, and Malena Castillo.
- Our Fiesta Committee has already begun meeting for our upcoming Fall Fundraiser.
- Our Facebook page is: Texas Exes Hispanic Alumni Network. Check us out and like us!

Here's hoping that our paths may cross at a UT event, a game, or just walking the Forty Acres. If you're in the Austin area, come by campus and take a leisurely walk. You'll be surprised at how much has changed, and yet, how many other things feel so familiar. If you're far from Austin, next time you're visiting our great city, make a point to stop by campus. I'll bet you STILL love the feelings of pride and nostalgia when walking our beautiful grounds. Best case scenario, come visit Austin in the early spring and surround yourself with our glorious Texas bluebonnets.

Hook 'em, Horns!!

Proud to Serve,
Alumni Profile: Amanda Jane Arizola, BA '03, MBA '10

I remember the first time I stepped on the UT campus; it was about 8am when we arrived in front of Jester after having been on the road since 4:30am from Fort Worth on a high school college campus day trip. This was the first time that I had gone on a trip without a relative and with a great group of friends and teachers. I remember feeling a bit overwhelmed and out of shape as we took the tour of the 40 Acres, but also knowing instantly that this was the campus that would offer the most opportunities for me and am I glad to have followed that instinct. The time that I spent on campus was the best growing and learning experience of my life.

UT was where I...
...was allowed to stretch my learning potential under amazing professors/mentors that are still teaching me to this day.
...created friendships that go beyond sisterhood into whole family life by rushing Kappa Delta Chi Sorority Incorporated a Latina Community Service Sorority as a freshmen and having the opportunity of having a wide range of friends that went beyond sorority life.
...was nurtured by the power of community and activism from strong organizations such as National Hispanic Institute, Hispanic Women's Network of Texas and Las Comadres Para Las Americas.
...am part of an alumni network that is so strong that I can be on the other side of the world and still meet either a Texas EX or someone connected to the University of Texas at Austin.

Being a Texas Ex has led to wonderful career opportunities such as working as a Legislative Aide for Senator Rodney Ellis as a Gregory Luna Legislative
Scholar; working for amazing attorneys at Long Burner Parks & DeLargy and Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld; Program Coordinator for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program with Foundation Communities Dallas; State Director for the historic CHIMES Consortium which helped implement the Affordable Care Act in 220 counties in Texas at the United Way of Tarrant County; and most recently finding fulfilling work as the Program Manager of Financial Stability at Catholic Charities Fort Worth where our team of bundled services is working to eradicate poverty with intensive case management, specialized services and financial coaching. On my desk stands a Longhorn piggy bank that a great friend and fellow Texas EX gave to me that serves as a reminder of the amazing opportunities that the faculty, staff, peers, mentors and community so willingly gave to a young Latina. I hope to continue this legacy of mentorship and giving through the young women that come across my path.

*Hook 'Em Horns!*

_Amanda Jane Arizola_

_UT Class of 2003 - BA in Government and Mexican American Studies_.

_Texas Woman's University 2010 - MBA, MHSM (Master of Health Systems Management)_

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**STUDENT PROFILE**

**Student Profile: Monica Lozano**

Monica Lozano is in her last semester as a dual degree candidate for a Master's of Art in Women's and Gender Studies and a Master's of Science in
Information Studies. She will also be receiving a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American and Latina/o Studies. Monica has worked in multiple settings with Spanish speaking and Latino communities both here in Austin and her hometown of San José, California. Prior to graduate school, Monica worked in the Bay Area for five years with multiple nonprofits serving children with special needs and families in crisis. She predominantly worked with Spanish speaking families. This work in social services is what brought her back to school and the field of librarianship.

She is currently applying an interdisciplinary approach to her master's thesis on cultural communities and storytelling through oral histories centered on the creation of the Biblioteca Latinoamericana, a branch of the San José Public Library located in San José, California. Her research looks at how a community group who wanted their language and culture to be represented in a local library founded the Biblioteca Latinoamericana. The space became not only the location to acquire and disperse knowledge but also a place to create community and culture. All the oral histories and information gathered throughout her research process will be given back to the Biblioteca Latinoamericana. After graduating, Monica hopes to work in an academic library specializing in Latin American Studies or in a public library servicing Latinos and Spanish speaking youth. Monica is also a certified yoga instructor and hopes to bring yoga to library settings.

Monica describes her experience at the University of Texas at Austin as life changing. When she first entered graduate school she had no idea how many opportunities would open up for her. Monica has been fortunate enough to take classes outside her department. Specifically, she recalls taking Digital Storytelling and Theatre in the Museum through the Theatre and Dance Department. In Theatre in the Museum, she had the opportunity to co-write a script with other students and even perform as 'Alicia- the Spanish Alice' from Peru at the Harry Ransom Center.

Monica recalls her first semester of graduate school. She had been out of
school for five years prior to entering her graduate program and was very nervous. In one of her first classes she took the class, Sociology of Sexual Violence with Professor Gloria González-López. She remembers the structure of the classroom, and feeling safe as Professor González-López set up the classroom for all the students to check in with the groups and ask how they were feeling coming into the class. Monica has had the opportunity to continue to work with Professor González, as she is also her second reader on her master's thesis. Monica is grateful for all the opportunities she has be given while at UT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Who Is the Hispanic Alumni Network?

There are a total of 43,739 University of Texas Alumni that identify themselves as Hispanic, and 8,649 are members of Texas Exes!

Alumni Volunteers Needed for Subiendo Academy

Do you have interest in sharing tips you learned on being an effective leader in the workplace or community, or how to make the most of your college experience? Subiendo: The Academy for Rising Leaders is looking to connect the next class of high school seniors with alumni volunteers who believe in encouraging more students to go onto college and become tomorrow's leaders.
This intensive summer leadership program hosted by UT’s McCombs School of Business, June 12-16, was created to prepare the next generation of leaders for the state, while giving participants the opportunity to problem solve real world issues with today’s top business and political leaders.

Help make a difference with these prospective students and explore the different volunteer opportunities available during and after the academy.

NETWORKING OVER NACHOS

Happy Hour at Vivo

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
@ VIVO MODERN TEX MEX | 6406 N IH-35, #2343, Austin, TX 78703

Join us at HAN's Networking Event, Happy Hour at Vivo!

Visit their site at vivoaustin.com for menu and more info.

UPCOMING EVENT

Love Matthew McConaughey?
Then you'll LOVE the new casting call for a fun new game show by a Texas Ex!

From Executive Producer Jimmy Kimmel comes ABC's new game show: **Big Fan!** Each episode will feature a celebrity and three of their biggest super fans. We are currently looking for Matthew McConaughey's biggest fans to prove they know more about him than anyone else, including Matthew himself! And who knows their McConaughey trivia better than Longhorns??

To apply, visit [bigfan.castingcrane.com](http://bigfan.castingcrane.com).
Did You Know?

This article is part of the LDC Communications Campaign started 3 months ago to create awareness of the importance of Latinos to power American economy. We wanted to be sure you saw this important op-ed in the Wall Street Journal from LDC's Sol Trujillo and Henry Cisneros: How Latinos Power the American Economy-WSJ.

Sol and Henry write: "Voters are making choices about the nation's future without knowing the real story about Latinos in America, and those decisions will have consequences for the country's future. The national conversation needs to be informed by the facts."

• How Latinos Power American Economy - PDF

GET INVOLVED

Volunteer Call-Out

See the list below of Committees and their respective Chairs. If you're interested in volunteering, contact the Chair directly. We're always looking for new, innovative ideas and welcome your time and commitment. We hope you do get involved!

• Student Outreach - Leticia Acosta (leticia.acosta@mccombs.utexas.edu)
• Service Project Outreach - Edna Butts (ednabutts@gmail.com)
• Membership - Amalia Rodriguez-Mendoza (siemreamalia@gmail.com)
• Alumni Outreach - Cynthia Ramos (TexasExes_HAN@yahoo.com)
• Fiesta Committee - Erica Saenz (ericasaenz@austin.utexas.edu)
• Scholarships - Mark Trevino (mtrevino57@yahoo.com)

STAY IN TOUCH

Follow Us

If you wish to get involved with the network, know an amazing Hispanic
alumnus we should feature or have an article to contribute to a future newsletter please contact Cynthia Ramos, Alumni Outreach Chair at TexasExes_HAN@yahoo.com.

Follow Us Online!
- Facebook
- LinkedIn
- Twitter

ASSOCIATION CONTENT

Customized License Plates
Stand out in traffic while showing your pride with a Texas Exes license plate! A portion of the proceeds benefits Texas Exes programs. Order yours today!

FLYING LONGHORNS

Village Life in Dordogne
Experience the provincial character of Dordogne in Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of the most beautiful and well-preserved medieval villages in France. Immerse yourself in the rich local culture and explore the history of early humans who painted their stories on its cave walls, the largest concentration of prehistoric art in the world. View trip.

Association Content

Switch and you could save up to $519.*

GET A QUOTE

Liberty Mutual
INSURANCE

Customized License Plates
Stand out in traffic while showing your pride with a Texas Exes license plate! A portion of the proceeds benefits Texas Exes programs. Order yours today!

FLYING LONGHORNS

Village Life in Dordogne
Experience the provincial character of Dordogne in Sarlat-la-Canéda, one of the most beautiful and well-preserved medieval villages in France. Immerse yourself in the rich local culture and explore the history of early humans who painted their stories on its cave walls, the largest concentration of prehistoric art in the world. View trip.
THE HOOK

Band on the Run
The Hook is on location to discuss a very big relocation for the Longhorn Band. Watch it here!

FAN MAIL

Seoul of Texas
Richard Pennington, BA ’76, wears his burnt orange in Seoul, Korea, with Bong-Young Yoo, a current UT student. See more Longhorn Fan Mail here!

Email your fan photos to us at alumninotes@texasexes.org, and check out Fan Photo Fridays on our Facebook page.