



# WINDOWS

Vol. XXI, No. 2 March 2009

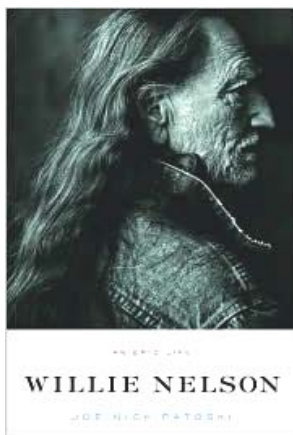
## Patoski 2009 Texas Book Award Winner



Joe Nick Patoski receiving the 2009 TCU Texas Book Award from Cynthia Reaves, Friends of the TCU Library President

Texas author Joe Nick Patoski of Wimberley, TX received the 2009 TCU Texas Book award for his biography, *Willie Nelson: An Epic Life*. The award is sponsored by the Friends of the TCU Library and the TCU Press and is presented biannually to the author of

the best book about Texas. Books published in 2007 and 2008 were eligible for this year's competition. The presentation was made at a dinner at the Kelly Center on the TCU Campus on March 19 at 6:30 p.m.



Joe Nick Patoski is the author and co-author of biographies of Stevie Ray Vaughan and Selena and several coffee table books—*Texas Mountains*, *Texas Coast*, and *Big Bend National Parks*. For 18 years he was a staff writer for *Texas Monthly*, and he has contributed to many other magazines, in Texas and nationally. He is a radio personality and known for his interest in and management of music professionals. Mr. Patoski was present to receive his award and made brief remarks about his book.

(Continued on page 3)

## Architect Firm Chosen for TCU Library

TCU Library is pleased to announce that **CANNON DESIGN** has been chosen to assist in developing a library building plan and associated cost estimates. Meetings are scheduled this spring with

undergraduates, graduates, faculty, and other campus partners to determine what can be incorporated into the library design. Mary Coutts Burnett Library is the academic campus hub and

continues to see 86% of the students, faculty, and staff each semester. Patrons visited the library 277,433 times during the 2008 fall semester.

While visits are reaching all

(Continued on page 4)

### Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Dean's Message	2
Strategic Planning	3
Patoski Continued	3
Architect Cont.	4
Renshaw Award	5
Friend of the Year	5
Staff News	6
Faculty Speak	7
Faris Oak	7

## President's Message



Cynthia Reaves,  
Friends of the TCU Library President

As many years as I've been a member of the Friends of the TCU Library I never fail to be impressed by the large numbers of students or the intense level of activity at the TCU Library. If you can find a parking space in the lots adjacent to the library, I challenge anyone to go and visit the TCU Library.

On your visit, it is immediately apparent that the 62 tables with computers are filled to capacity as early in the day as 10:00 a.m.

Outside of the large computer commons is the Bistro Burnett Café. Here also is a vibrant social and academic exchange over

coffee or a sandwich. The excitement that this generates is all very positive and directed.

I ask the library staff if they could quantify my observations with some figures. They, of course, have such information based on two things: the number of turnstile visits and the number of TCU ID cards given to everyone. They said the number of turnstile visits for a year are approximately 537,506.

All this information has led me to one special conclusion. Because of the TCU Library's central campus location, its numerous services, and

particularly the major role as the technology and information provider, the facility has become the heart of campus life for most students.

I truly feel that the role of the library today has vastly expanded from the library of the past, particularly at the university level where access to knowledge has exploded with new global technology. Now more than ever we have need of better and bigger libraries with greater capacities toward the vast expanse of modern learning.

Cynthia Reaves  
TCU Friends of the Library  
President

## Dean's Message



Dr. June Koelker,  
Dean of the Mary Coats Burnett Library

The 2009 Texas Book Award winner, Joe Nick Patoski joined us for the Friends of the TCU Library annual banquet March 19th at the TCU Kelly Center. His award-winning book, *Willie Nelsen: An Epic Life*, was published by Little, Brown and Company in 2008.

The Friends of the TCU Library and The TCU Press award the Texas Book Award every other year to honor the author for the best book written about Texas. Mr. Bob Newkirk, past President

of the Friends of the TCU Library, is the generous contributor who funds these awards. We appreciate his support of the Texas Book Award, which brings favorable recognition to TCU.

You may remember that the last time I wrote to you in this column, I announced that the Library was initiating 24 hours service, five days a week. Early in September, we changed Library's hours such that we opened mid-day Sundays and stayed open continuously until Friday

nights. We then opened all day on Saturdays and closed Saturday nights. We open again mid-day Sunday and another week begins! We have kept to this schedule (and added even a few more hours during exam weeks) for fall semester and this semester. For someone whose bedtime is long before midnight, I was pleased but actually surprised that the usage statistics are so high. Around 1 a.m., we average about

(Continued on page 4)

## Strategic Planning

The Library is in the middle of a year-long project to develop its next Strategic Plan. There are significant changes ongoing within the world of libraries. Many new opportunities are available to us: some opportunities are provided by technology, some by changing TCU curriculum, and some are occurring within the field of librarianship itself.

How do we best determine our future? What are the short term needs of our faculty, graduate students, and undergraduate students? We have had a series of focus groups and interviews with campus partners, administrators, MCB library staff, along with TCU faculty and students, both graduate and undergraduate.

To help develop the new Library Strategic Plan, we are using the services of a Library Consultant, Dr. Florence Mason of F. Mason & Associates.

Library staff prepared a series of environmental scans to identify major issues that will be part of our world in the next few years. Preliminary strategies that will evolve into the new Strategic Plan are:

- Provide a transparent library where resources and services are readily known and easily accessed.
- Collaborate with the TCU community in adopting innovative academic trends.
- Cultivate an environment where the TCU community has the

necessary skills to access library resources from anywhere and anytime.

- Design the best physical and virtual academic learning environment.
- Encourage continuous conversation with the TCU community to refine and assess the community's needs.

We took about 30 of the library staff over to the new Brown Lupton University Union and intensively explored these issues for a day-long retreat a few weeks ago. We are nearing completion of the project and will be sharing information about the new Library Strategic Plan later this year.



Mary Coats Burnett Library  
1925—1958



Mary Coats Burnett Library  
1959—1982



Mary Coats Burnett Library  
1983—Present

## Patoski 2009 Texas Book Award Winner (Continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

Previous winners of the TCU Texas Book Award are Stephen Harrigan for *Gates of the Alamo*; Scott Zesch, for *The Captured*; Jeff Guinn for *Our Land Before We Die*; and Timothy Egan, for *The Worst Hard Time*.

Books are judged by a panel of three independent scholars and authors chosen by TCU Press. *Willie Nelson: An Epic Life* was a unanimous choice of all the judges.

*About the TCU Press: Texas Christian University Press focuses on the history and literature of Texas and the*

*American West and shares the overall mission of all university presses, as expressed by the Association of American University Presses: to contribute to the existing body of scholarly knowledge and to bring academic prestige to its parent university.*



Joe Nick Patoski  
<http://www.joenickp.com/bio.html>  
Photo by Wyatt McSpadden

## Architect Firm Chosen (Continued)



TCU Library 1920's palladium window.

time highs the library recognizes that improvements can be made and a richer learning experience provided. To achieve these goals the library will

- need to expand the Archives and Special Collections facilities to better accommodate the gifts that are received and the researchers who come to use them
- provide additional graduate student research areas
- double the seating capacity to accommodate 20% of the TCU student body
- expand printed book

storage capacity to accommodate future growth and to bring back materials housed offsite

- redesign the front entrance and create a more welcoming facility through universal design that will make the library more accessible to those with mobility restrictions

**CANNON**DESIGN with local firm partner, Hahnfeld Hoffer Stanford, brings rich TCU experience to the library's project. The combined team has worked on campus projects such as Brown Lupton University Union, Friedman Varsity Tennis Center, Frog Fountain, Justin Athletic Center, Reed Hall Renovation, Rickel

Recreational Center, Scharbauer Hall, Smith Entrepreneurs Hall, and the Tucker Technology Building.

During March the project will begin collecting data on current conditions at the Library. This will include a forensics team that will gather information about the library stacks, taking measurements, and understanding the infrastructure elements such as mechanical (air conditioning and heating), electrical, and plumbing. Additionally, library staff will meet with the **CANNON**DESIGN team to provide input into the new directions the library will take.



TCU Library 1980's addition faceted bay windows.

## Dean's Message (Continued)

*(Continued from page 2)*

100 people in the building; by 5 a.m. we are down to about 25 or so and then the numbers begin to climb again as the early risers come to the Library. The building is being used throughout the night. Our plans are to continue these hours for both of the long semesters each academic year.

The most exciting news about the Library this spring

is the kick-off planning being done with Cannon Design, the architectural firm selected by TCU to provide a cost estimate for a library addition/ renovation. This estimate will give us a realistic understanding of the costs involved to update this library for the next 20 years. If the next 20 years see the same amount of change that we've seen in the last 20 years, we are in for an interesting time! An incredible statistic about

building usage, is that we continue to see more than 85% of the entire student body in the Library at least once each semester. We will plan for a significantly increased seating capacity in the new Library.

We welcome visitors! Please come by the Library and let us know you are here.

Sincerely,  
Dr. June Koelker  
Dean of the Mary Coutts  
Burnett Library

## Carol Jim Renshaw Award

The Carol Jim Renshaw Award, named after the first President of the Friends of the TCU Library, recognizes distinguished service to the Friends of the TCU Library. This year the Friends are honoring a very special person whose contributions have spanned many years. The Carol Jim

Renshaw Award recipient this year is Dr. Judy Alter. As the Director of the TCU Press, she oversees our Texas Book Award selection. The annual Christmas-time Author Extravaganza, cosponsored by the Friends and the TCU Press at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens, is also in Judy's capable hands.

She has recommended speakers for many literary evenings sponsored by the Friends. Dr. Alter is an award-winning author herself, receiving the prestigious Owen Wister Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Western Writers of America.



Dr. Judy Alter receiving the Carol Jim Renshaw Award from Cynthia Reaves Friends of the TCU Library

## Friend of the Year Award

The Friend of the Year Award provides an appropriate avenue for the Friends organization to express appreciation and gratitude for contributions made to the Friends. This year the Friends are honoring Ben and Johnnie Gunn for their many contributions to our organization.

Ben is the fourth President of the Friends of the TCU Library. Ben and Johnnie have been most generous to

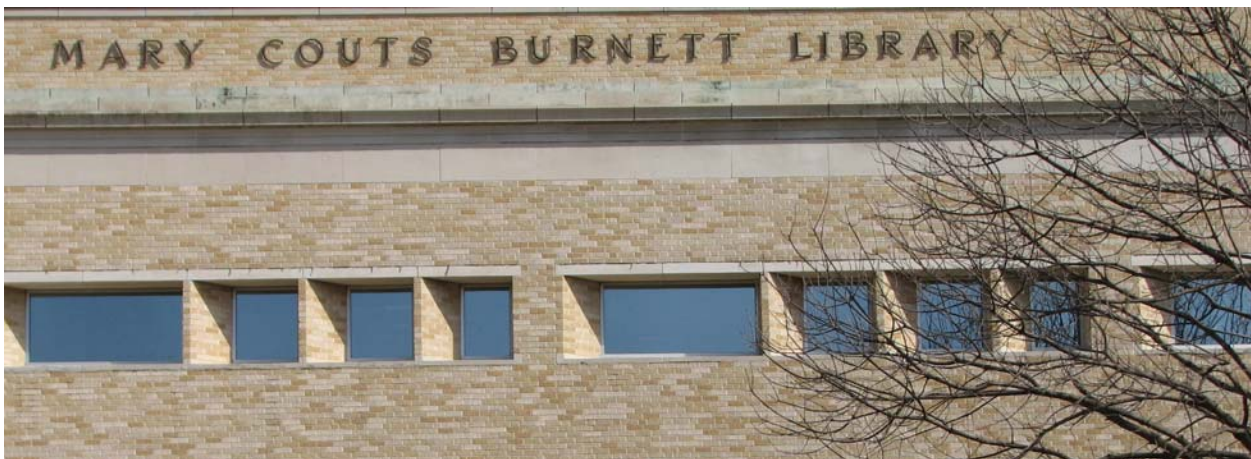
the Friends, both with financial gifts and with gifts of rare editions, now housed in the Library's Special Collections Department. The Library is the recipient of a copy of Geoffrey Chaucer's *Monk's Prologue and Tale*, and Chaucer's *The Nun's Priest's Prologue and Tale*. These two rare editions comprise folios 83 to 91 from Thynne's third edition of the Works of Geoffrey Chaucer printed in London about

1545. Through the years, Ben and Johnnie's gifts also include a copy of Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard* illustrated by Edward Raven published around 1836, and a manuscript copy of sections of Horace Walpole's *Anecdotes of Painting* published around 1776.

All of these rare editions were gifts given to the Library by the Gunns.



Ben and Johnnie Gunn receiving the Friends of the TCU Library 2009 Friend of the Year Award



TCU Library 1950's addition front to University Ave..

## Library Employees



Alysha Sapp Nursing & Health Sciences Reference Librarian

### New

**Alysha Sapp** has joined us as Librarian I – Nursing & Health Sciences Librarian. Alysha's library experience includes working as a Librarian at Children's Medical Center of Dallas and as a Library Associate at Baylor Health Sciences Library. Alysha has her MLS from UNT and a BA in Literary Studies from UT-Dallas.

### Retirement

Mary Howell retired on February 6th. She is a TCU alum who came to work in the Library after over a decade as a public school teacher. During nearly 30 years here, Mary single-handedly put labels and property stamps on around a half-million books and survived our transitions to DRA and ALEPH. She braved

rain, sleet and snow while walking several blocks from home to the library each work day. Mary said the highlights of her job were "the books and the people." We can expect to see her often as she is an avid user of our collection, especially the Popular Reading Section. We'll truly miss Mary's humor and friendliness, and we wish her all the best.

## John Araujo Receives Library Staff Award



June Koelker, Dean of the Library, presents John Araujo with the 2009 Mary Couets Burnett Library Staff Award

The Dean presented John Araujo the 2009 Mary Couets Burnett Library Staff Award from the Friends of the TCU Library at the annual Library In-Service luncheon on

January 6. Both library staff and others from the TCU community submitted nominations for the Staff Award. The Dean read some of the recommendations

submitted about John Araujo to the group. One person wrote "Just about every department in the library has called on him for assistance and he has always been there to help. He is ready with a hammer, a wrench, or a screwdriver whenever and wherever he is needed." Another person wrote, "All of his varied duties are carried out by John with good humor. He even serves

the library as the area restaurant trailblazer and critic, emailing his reviews for staff." One nominee suggested that "Naming John this year's recipient of the Library Staff Recognition Award would be appropriate means of expressing our appreciation for his dedication to the many jobs he tackles and tames".



Robert A. "Bob" Olsen Jr.  
1924 - 2009

## Robert A. "Bob" Olsen Jr. 1924 - 2009

Robert "Bob" A. Olsen Jr., 84, died Sunday, March 1, 2009. Memorials: In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Brite Divinity School, TCU or a charity of choice. Bob was born April 16, 1924, in Detroit Mich. He was a retired TCU faculty librarian

for Brite Divinity School from 1965 to 1998. Survivors: Wife of 36 years, Anne Dixon Olsen; daughters, Beth Hickman and husband, Mickey, of Bentonville, Arkansas, and Catherine Elkins and husband, Steve, of Fort

Worth; sons, Paul Olsen and wife, Teresa, of Grandview, Missouri., and Jonathan Olsen and wife, Molly, of Racine, Wisconsin.; seven grandchildren; and niece, Judy O'Donnell and husband, Pat, of Detroit, Michigan.

## Spring 2009: *A Terrible Beauty?*

### *Women, Media, and the Irish Struggle for Independence*



Dr. Karen Steele, Associate  
Professor and Director of  
Women's Studies TCU

April 17, 2009  
7 p.m.

Library Conference Room

"Women, Press, and Politics"  
explores the literary and  
historical significance of

women's writing for the most influential body of nationalist journalism during the Irish Revival, the advanced nationalist press. This work studies women's writings in the Irish nationalist tradition, focusing in particular on leading female voices in the cultural and political movements that helped launch the Easter Rising of 1916: Augusta Gregory, Alice Milligan, Maud Gonne, Constance Markievicz, Delia Larkin, Hanna Sheehy Skeffington,

and Louise Bennett. Karen Steele argues that by examining the innovative work of these writers from the perspective of women's artistry and women's political investments, we can best appreciate the expansive range of their cultural productions and the influence these had on other nationalists, who went on to shape Irish politics and culture in the decades to come.

- *from Amazon.com*



Dr. Karen Steele,  
Associate Professor and  
Director of Women's  
Studies TCU

## The Faris Oak

Many of you reading this issue of Windows will remember Mary Charlotte Faris, long-time reference librarian and the library's first Government Documents Librarian. She was also an alumna of TCU, class of '43 (the same as Chancellor James Moudy).

Mary Charlotte retired in 1986 after thirty-six years. To many, she had come to symbolize the library and its fine tradition of service to the TCU community. At the time of her retirement, it was suggested that to honor Mary Charlotte a tree be planted on campus near the

library and contributions were sought from colleagues and friends toward its purchase. Many of you donated money to this cause. Due largely to the efforts of Nancy Bruce, then a senior library assistant in Special Collections, this plan was carried out and a tree duly planted.

Nancy hoped at the time to have a plaque or marker placed near the tree explaining that it was a tribute to Mary Charlotte. Sadly it has taken twenty-two years to accomplish this task. A handsome plaque has now been placed by the tree.

A very brief ceremony is planned for **18 April** to "unveil" the plaque and to honor Mary Charlotte's memory. Please join us. **Call 817.257.7106 for details.**



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Officers

Cynthia Reaves	<b>President</b>
Susan Smith	<b>Vice President</b>
Dr. Mary Schunder	<b>Secretary</b>
Edward Fritz	<b>Treasurer</b>

### Board Members

Alexander Cothran

Patricia Durham

Marvin Gearhart

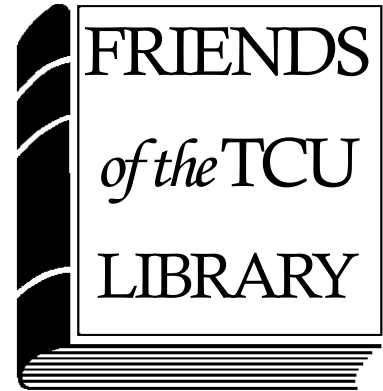
Kevin Kuenzli (Past President)

Dr. June Koelker (TCU Library)

Dr. Judy Alter (TCU Press)

Nadia Lahutsky (TCU Faculty)

### Staff Support



Friends of the TCU Library  
Mary Coats Burnett Library  
Texas Christian University  
Box 298400  
Fort Worth, TX 76129