

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Transitions

Texas has always artfully reinvented itself when confronted with new exigencies or opportunities, but never compromised its core values and traditions. Our beloved state transformed itself from a Spanish and then Mexican colony into a free-standing republic and, later, into a state. It seceded during the Civil War, but reintegrated itself successfully in the aftermath. Texas began as a ranching and agriculture state, but, while maintaining and valuing those economic enterprises, emerged as a leader in energy, space and technology. Through each transformation, though, Texas retained the values of self-sufficiency, honor, duty, tradition and entrepreneurship.

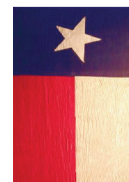
A Likewise, the Center for Texas Studies at TCU managed, though still a relatively new institution, to undergo its own transformation without altering its basic character. The most recent significant change for the Center was the acquisition of a physical presence on the TCU campus. After completion of renovations to the century-old Reed Hall in the heart of the campus, the Center for Texas Studies moved into a suite of offices on the first floor, Reed 130. For the first time since its inception, the Center now has a place to display artwork and artifacts donated to it, to receive visitors and to plan for the future. The physical location also lends a sense of permanence, one bolstered by a small but growing endowment.

The Center remains committed to its mission of celebrating all that makes Texas distinc-



tive. Our public programming for K-12 teachers, for the public in Saturday morning workshops, in book publications, in public exhibitions and in collaborative ventures with other organizations all continue, though we are exploring a number of new ventures as well. This year will, for example, see the publication of *Power and Personality: Texas Congressional Leaders* by Tony Champagne and Jim Riddlesperger, a coffee table book filled with photographs, political cartoons and other fanciful representations that chronicles how Texans dominated national political life during the twentieth century. *A Century of Partnership: Fort Worth and TCU* will also reach print. Also a coffee table book, *A Century of Partnership* pictorially portrays the mutually beneficial relationship between town and gown that has been nurtured since the 1910-1911 move of TCU to Fort Worth. The Texas Biography Series, edited by Dr. Gregg Cantrell, also presented installments in 2011.

In 2011 the Texas legislature faces the daunting task of balancing a budget with a roughly \$28 billion shortfall. Similarly, the Center confronts how to move forward without the funds to support a full-time administrative assistant to enable us to use the new physical space effectively on a daily basis. Funding for our teacher education programming ends at the conclusion of 2011.



Mounting new programs and funding them likewise present a challenge. The Center anticipates that, with the same spirit that animates the state whose heritage we celebrate, ingenuity and determination allow it to expand and grow with new ventures. Many individuals and organizations have generously supported the Center since its inception in 2002, and we continue to count on the support--intellectually, financially and creatively--of those people and groups, as we also reach out to new constituencies and seek new partnerships.

Completion of transcription of the Texas Legation Papers is nearing an end, and those papers, together with a website including all of them, will become available in the coming months. The Jane and John Justin Foundation enabled the Center to bring that project to completion. Additional volumes in the Texas Biography Series are underway, and Gene and I are exploring a new traveling exhibition that can carry aspects of Texas heritage to venues around the state. Thus, the Center continues to move forward and eagerly embrace potential new projects and programs. Only our creativity and financial resources limit the means by which we can move forward with public education to allow a greater celebration of all that makes Texas distinctive.

Mary Volcansek, Ph.D.  
Executive Director



FROM THE DIRECTOR

## Home again!

During the past two years the TCU campus has changed dramatically. The university demolished the old Brown Lupton Student Center along with the 1910-11 rear portion of Reed Hall. New dorms and a new student center now occupy the former parking lots in the center of campus. Scharbauer Hall has replaced Reed Hall as the home for the AddRan College of Liberal Arts. Reed Hall, one of the two remaining 1911 original buildings on campus, underwent an extensive renovation and now houses the departments of History and English, the Adams Writing Center, the Center for International Studies, and the Center for Texas Studies at TCU.

Located on the east side of the first floor (former basement level) of Reed Hall, the Center now occupies three offices, two storage rooms, and foyer. We received the space during the late summer and are still learning how to work in it. As of yet we have done little to decorate the space and we still need a full-time administrative assistant to keep us moving forward. But having dedicated space represents a new occurrence for the Center. Since 2002, the Center had been a corner of my history department office. In fact, when moving out of the building during the fall of 2009, I stumbled across files for projects long past but that never came to fruition. Part of the reason for these many unfulfilled projects was the lack of space and the lack of office support. Now we have solved the space issue, the Center needs to secure help in implementing a greater range of programming.

As you may know the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History reopened

in November 2009, after an \$85 million renovation. The rebuilt space featured as its first Fort Worth history exhibit the story of street cars from the 1870s until the



1930s with a component that highlighted TCU during the 1920s. In May 2010, Dr. Light Cummins, the state historians of Texas, offered the first history lecture for adults at the Museum and the Center sponsored this lecture. In November 2010, the Center will also sponsor its first Teacher Education Workshop at the Museum; these will be free of charge to teachers. In addition, the TCU History Department and the Center also teamed with the FWISD and recently won funding for a Department of Education Teaching American History grant. Given the small size of our operation, the Center has been very productive in its mission of celebrating all that makes Texas distinctive.

On March 23, 2010, we quietly celebrated another milestone in TCU's development. One hundred years earlier, the Administrative Building on TCU's Waco campus burned. This conflagration prompted TCU trustees to vote in May 1910 to return to Fort Worth. By September, classes resumed in a series of two-story buildings downtown on the corner of Commerce and Weatherford Streets. During the 1910-11 academic year construction began on three buildings on the site of the current TCU campus, and classes began in September 1911. During the spring of 2010, the Center and university began a two-year celebration of "A Century of Partnership" highlighting the special relationship between TCU and the city of Fort Worth. The Center has undertaken two projects that will contribute to the university celebration: the Center will publish a TCU pic-

torial history with brief interpretive essays schedule to appear during the spring 2011; the Center also applied to the Texas Historical Commission to secure four markers for buildings of the historic core of campus.

Thanks to the generous support from many individuals as well as the Amon G. Carter, Summerfield G. Roberts, and Summerlee Foundation, the Center continues to offer teacher-education and community history workshops. During April 2010 the Center hosted the North Texas regional competition for the Texas State Historical Association's Texas History Quiz Bowl, with high school student from across the area descending on the TCU campus. Thanks to the Justin Foundation, the Center is also working on a multi-dimensional publication project involving the Texas Legation Papers in which the manuscripts will be made available to the public in a published format as well as a website. The Texas Biography Series, edited by Erma and Ralph Lowe Chair in Texas History Dr. Gregg Cantrell, saw publication of its second and third volumes; the Center's first book, Light Townsend Cummins' *Emily Austin of Texas, 1795-1851*, won the Texas State Historical Association's Liz Carpenter Award. And while the CTS-sponsored exhibition "Going to Texas: Five Hundred Years of Texas Maps" finished its tour in early 2010, the Center is working on another exhibit to take across Texas. Lastly, don't forget to check out the Extended Education Learner's Guide for a series of Center-sponsored self-fulfillment courses. And of course, thanks so much for your continued support and encouragement.

*Gene Allen Smith, Ph.D.*

## Texas Biography Series

We're pleased to report that one of the Center's most ambitious projects, the Texas Biography Series, is now in full stride. The series was the brainchild of Dr. Gregg Cantrell of the TCU History Department, who holds the Erma and Ralph Lowe Chair in Texas History and serves as the series editor. The series grew out of the realization that there are many important figures in Texas history who deserve a first-rate scholarly biography but whose biographies, in the current difficult environment of academic publishing, might not find a home at a large national press. Working with TCU's development office, Center staff prepared a successful proposal several years ago that secured a generous grant from the Houston Endowment to underwrite the first several volumes in the series.

The first book in the series was published in March 2009. It is *Emily Austin of Texas, 1795-1851*, by Professor Light Townsend Cummins of Austin College. Emily Austin was the sister of Stephen F. Austin and mother to a large family that went on to lead prominent careers in nineteenth-century Texas. But she was an important and fascinating woman in her own right, taking an active part in the management of her large estate and in the affairs of the Republic, and later the state, of Texas. Her story also has much to teach us about the lives of women in the antebellum South and

Texas. The book has played to rave reviews, and Professor Cummins, who also is serving as Texas State Historian, was the recipient of the Liz Carpenter Award for the year's best book on Texas women's history at last year's annual meeting of the

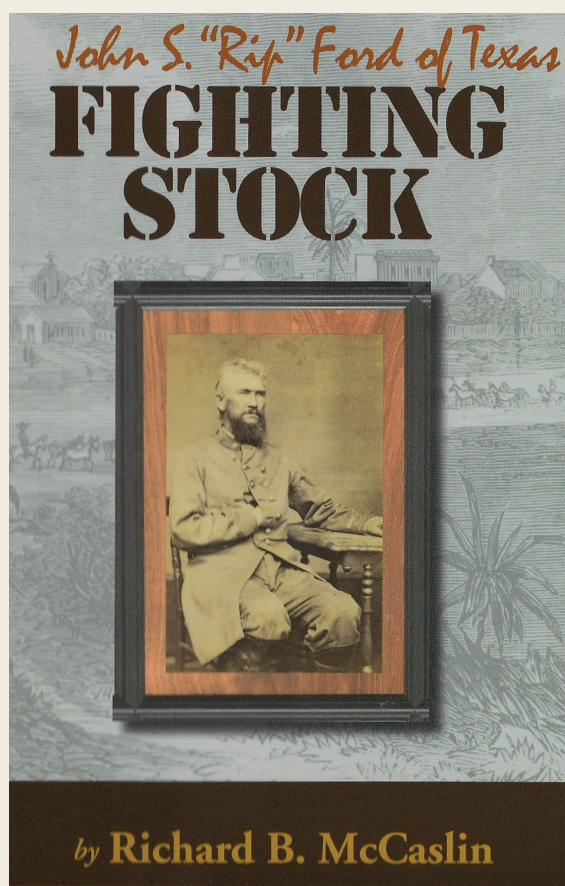
book, like Cummins', is the first published biography of its subject.

The third title in the series, *Fighting Stock: John S. "Rip" Ford of Texas*, by Professor Richard B. McCaslin of the University of North Texas, had also been published. McCaslin's

biography of the famed Texas Ranger and Confederate general offers fascinating insights in to the man and his times.

Two other books are under contract and in the pipeline to be published. Laura Mc-Lemore of LSU – Shreveport is well into the writing of her biography of the prominent Houston women's leader Adele Briscoe Looscan, and James S. Olson of Sam Houston State University is at work on his biography of R. Lee Clark. In addition to being the father of modern oncology and the first full-time director and surgeon-in-chief of M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston, Lee Clark was a grandson of Randolph Clark, one of the founders of TCU.

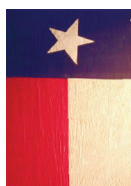
The Center believes that the Texas Biography Series is now well on its way to achieving a reputation as the preeminent publisher of Texas biographies. In bringing to the public these lives of important Texans, the Center for Texas Studies continues to fulfill its mission of "celebrating all that makes Texas distinctive."



Texas State Historical Association.

The second book in the series was published in March of this year. It is *Edmund J. Davis of Texas: Civil War General, Republican Leader, Reconstruction Governor* by Professor Carl H. Moneyhon of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Davis was one of the most controversial figures in Texas history, and Moneyhon's





# Program News

## Extended Education

Working with TCU's Extended Education program, the Center continues to offer the community high quality courses that educate and enlighten the public. During the spring of 2010, the Center offered "Fighting Texans" at the Warren G. Alberts Military History Museum, and Quentin McGown's bus tour and course on the history of Lake Worth. During the fall of 2010, Scott Barker offered an exciting course on Texas art and Quentin again offered his ever-popular course on the history of Fort Worth to 1890.

More courses will be offered during 2011. Please check them out on the Extended Education website <http://www.lifelong.tcu.edu/default.asp> and join us for an exciting adventure.



Texans distinctive. Funded by the Summer-lee Foundation of Dallas, these sessions are generally scheduled from 10:30-12:00 on the first Saturday of each month (January-May and September-December) and are held in the Tandy Lecture Hall at the downtown Fort Worth Public Library.

Every person is a historian. These sessions are designed to make the public aware of the often overlooked historical resources around them and how each person can help preserve these items for posterity. For a complete schedule of coming events, please visit our website at: <http://www.texasstudies.com/PublicHistory.htm>

state and local governments, and especially public school funding, we hope to be able to offer workshops to an increasing number of districts and regions. During the period spring 2009- present, the Center presented five programs consisting of three to five thematic workshops incorporating both content and pedagogy. The Center also partnered with Humanities Texas for a weeklong workshop on the TCU campus for teachers from across the state. Ultimately, teachers return to their classrooms with a broader understanding of United States and Texas history and geography, and with materials to use in their classrooms. Additionally, members of the TCU history department, working on behalf of the Center, have given presentations to the AP Institute, hosted on the TCU campus and have partnered with the Fort Worth ISD on "Project Insight" and "Project Hope" both funded by the U.S. Department of Education for the 2010-2011 academic years.



## Community History Workshops

The Center for Texas Studies continues its cooperative community history programming with the Fort Worth Public Library and the "Preserving Our Past" series. These public programs are designed to increase the public's understanding of how the past has helped create a sense of what truly makes Texas and

## Teacher Education

Thanks to a generous grant from the Amon G. Carter Foundation, the Center for Texas Studies continues its commitment to support public, private, and home-school teachers by providing professional development opportunities. Given the current uncertainties facing

# “Every person is a historian.”

## Summer Institute Benefits Texas Social Studies Teachers

The Center for Texas Studies joined Humanities Texas and TCU to sponsor “Shaping the American Republic to 1877,” an institute that brought 45 Texas social studies teachers to campus June 13-17, 2010, for instructional development.

The institute brought together teachers from across Texas to participate in lectures and workshops exploring topics in U.S. history and culture from the colonial era through Reconstruction that are central to the eighth grade social studies curriculum.

The Fort Worth institute faculty included Dr. Alan Taylor of the University of California, Davis, who received the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for History and Dr. Jesús Francisco de la Teja, former State Historian of Texas. TCU historians Gregg Cantrell, Todd Kerstetter, Rebecca Sharpless, Ken Stevens, and Gene Smith also participated.

Educational specialists from the National Archives and the Amon Carter Museum provided teachers with facsimiles of historic documents and works of art that support the teaching of U.S. history and government and offered tips for their classroom use.

“Shaping the American Republic to 1877” was made possible with support from the State of Texas, as well as from the National Endowment for the Humanities We the People initiative. Additional funding was provided by The Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation and the Philip R. Jonsson Foundation

The TCU institute was one in a series of six summer institutes that took place throughout June at major Texas universities. Other participating universities include Texas A&M International University, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Texas at San Antonio, the University of Houston and the University of Texas at El Paso.



## Texas History Quiz Bowl

On Saturday, April 18, 2010, more than 100 middle school students descended on the TCU campus to participate in the Texas Quiz Show. Hosted by the Texas State Historical Association and held in conjunction with Texas History Day, TCU served as the Dallas-Fort Worth regional host for this TV-style quiz that show pits middle school students against one another answering questions about all things Texas. Each spring teams of three students representing their respective schools battle it out to determine which teams will advance to the semi-finals and finals, held at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and rebroadcast on community television stations. The state champions win trophies and other prizes and the honor of being the best and brightest in the great state of Texas. For more information see: <http://www.tshaonline.org/supsites/quizshow/index.html>







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