TCU RETIREES’ OCTOBER LUNCHEON

Dr. Heath Einstein, Dean of Admission

The October TCURA luncheon will be held Tuesday, October 15, at 11:30 a.m. in the Cox Ballroom of the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center on campus. Lunch lines open at 11:30 and the program begins at noon.

This month we are pleased to feature Dean of Admission Heath Einstein speaking on the state of admission at TCU as well as the Class of 2023 Mindset. In his eighth year at TCU, Heath has close to two decades of admission and college counseling experience. He is in his fourth year as dean after serving as associate dean and director of freshman admission.

A native of California, Heath’s experience includes having served as associate director of college counseling at The Hockaday School in Dallas. He spent two weeks in Beijing, China, consulting administrators in the creation of a college counseling center at the Beijing National Day School. He also was the first director of college counseling at Solomon Schechter School of Westchester in suburban New York City and served his alma mater, George Washington University, in Washington, D.C. in the undergraduate admission office.

Active in the admission industry, Heath served the Texas Association for College Admission Counseling as a voting delegate to the National Association for College Admission Counseling’s Assembly, a governing body that creates national standards for admission practices. Heath served as co-chair of Texas ACAC’s Government Relations Committee and completed a three-year term on the national Government Relations Committee. He was the founding chair of the Texas ACAC Advancement Committee and completed a term as the organization’s treasurer. Heath recently was awarded the association’s Founders’ Award for service to the profession.

In addition to a bachelor’s degree from George Washington, Heath holds a master’s degree in public policy from Georgetown University. He lives in Dallas with his wife, Diana, their three children and cat.

PLEASE NOTE: Reservations for the October meeting are due Monday, October 7, so please RSVP as soon as possible online at tcura.tcu.edu or by contacting Joan Yates at j.yates@tcu.edu or 817-292-7087.

LUNCHEON DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER 15</th>
<th>JANUARY 21</th>
<th>APRIL 21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 19</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 18</td>
<td>MAY 19</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER 10</td>
<td>MARCH 17</td>
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As we enter into this new year I’m reminded of the feelings of each new school year and the expectations that came with them. Always there were opportunities to move forward toward some goal or another. In retirement, it is not always as easy to find those goals. While there are many things I’d like to see move forward, like the weather in Texas toward some sense of fall, my granddaughter’s new eye rolling behavior (cute but annoying), and our football team all the way to the playoffs, I realize that finding new opportunities or appreciating the day-to-day experiences is the most important thing. At our September luncheon, Dr. Stuart Flynn’s speech about the new medical school and preparing empathic scholars reminds me that there is always hope for the future and that our students are moving health care forward. What a blessing to hear how they can make a difference. At the medical school, moving forward can mean understanding new things like technology, new ways of approaching problems, and new skills that can heal but also bring hope and ease.

For all of us it is recognizing that things can change (including ourselves). At Grandparents’ Day and the Book Fair last week, my granddaughter wanted a nonfiction book about a game. Get fiction, I urged, but she demurred. She got her book when I remembered the issue was reading, not what I wanted her to read. So maybe that’s one step forward. I like to think so. Things change all the time: my granddaughter will learn responses other than eye-rolling; you really can skip things you don’t want to do; if the Frogs lose your life doesn’t end; and you don’t have to feel guilty about not doing something productive every day. In October we welcome Dean of Admission Heath Einstein as our speaker. He will help us understand today’s TCU student and the processes to bring them here as they move forward in their lives. TCURA provides us with opportunities to move to another level in our relationships, our involvement, and our interests. Please join us at our luncheons, the Special Interest Groups, our pre-luncheon workshops, or other activities. And please suggest ideas for speakers or activities to help us all move forward. See you in October.
Member Spotlight: Kristi and Dick Hoban

With a combined total of 77 years working at TCU, Kristi and Dick Hoban can honestly say they have witnessed and experienced just about everything in TCU’s recent history. They met on the first floor of Sadler Hall when Kristi was in the admission office and Dick in the Controller’s office and have now been married 30 years.

Kristi grew up in Crowell, Texas, and earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in speech pathology at TCU. She worked as a speech pathologist for four years, then came to work at TCU in 1980, first as an admission counselor, then later in advancement. She was an annual fund/major gifts fundraiser, started the Donor Relations office, then served 22 years in the Alumni Relations office, most recently as Associate Vice Chancellor. She finished her career spearheading the Kelly Center renovation/construction project as well as other responsibilities, including overseeing TCU’s alumni travel program. She retired May 31, 2019.

Dick was born in Indianapolis, then moved to Fort Worth at age 5. He attended the University of Texas and Tarrant County College before graduating from the University of North Texas in 1979 with a degree in accounting. He completed the CPA after joining TCU in 1981 as the data control manager in the Controller’s office. He advanced to Assistant Controller, then Director of Financial Services before finishing his last 18 years at TCU as Assistant Treasurer. He retired December 31, 2018.

Kristi said the most rewarding part of her career at TCU was being a part of the TCU family, both on and off campus; interacting and partnering with faculty, staff and administrators as well as with alumni, parents and community volunteers. Prior to retirement, she was interacting with the 4th generation of some of TCU’s Horned Frog families.

Dick said he enjoyed working with TCU faculty and staff to develop and improve the usefulness of financial reporting, making it more effective in supporting their goals and mission. He particularly enjoyed leading a team to customize and install the financials portion of the PeopleSoft system, the financial system still being used at the University today.

As much as they enjoyed their time at TCU, both Kristi and Dick say they can’t think of much they don’t like about retirement! Kristi enjoys not being on a schedule and having the freedom to wake up and decide each day what will be on the agenda. She does, however, miss the day-to-day interaction with TCU colleagues.

Dick loves the freedom to look after their grandchildren whenever needed and the extra time for gardening. Over the last several years, he developed a specific interest in collecting and propagating cactus and succulents, building a backyard greenhouse in 2014 for that purpose. He currently serves as treasurer of the Fort Worth Cactus and Succulent Society. He also has had a lifelong interest in the Renaissance lute and its music, and retirement has given him more time to pursue those interests.

Kristi has stayed busy in retirement by joining TCU’s Silver Frogs. She and Dick are members of TCU Theater’s First Nighters group as well as the Kimbell, Modern and Amon Carter museums. She said she is spending more time with her 93-year-old mother and their grandchildren: Lana, 5, Owen, 8 months, with another grandson due at the end of October.

TCU is definitely a family affair for the Hobans. Their son, Jeff, and daughter, Sarah, are both TCU alumni, along with Jeff’s wife, Kate. Sarah’s husband, Sid, who grew up in California, is now a loyal Horned Frog fan, as Kristi says – “like he had a choice!” They all love tailgating together before home football games.

Welcome to our new members who attended the September luncheon
Shelley Cochran, Richard Enos, Richard Estes, Susan Layne, Deana Ray and Kay Sanders
TCU again recognized with the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award

As Texas Christian University continues to focus on strengthening the TCU experience and campus culture, the university was recognized again with the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity Award. It’s the second consecutive year TCU has earned this designation from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, which highlights our ongoing commitment to move TCU forward in the realm of diversity, equity and inclusion.

“This award recognizes TCU’s efforts to further enhance our connection culture,” said Chancellor Victor J. Boschini, Jr. “We have made significant strides in recent years to build a comprehensive DEI strategy that aligns with our core values to create a campus culture where everyone is respected and an environment where everyone feels connected.”

This award is a measure of an institution’s commitment and achievement related to broadening campus diversity and inclusion; student recruitment, retention and completion; and hiring practices for faculty and staff.

Among TCU’s actions this year was approving a resolution to adopt DEI into its core curriculum. While the core curriculum already introduced geographical and ideological aspects of distinct cultures, the new addition goes further to include diversity within the university, community or chosen discipline to build competencies as a current student and future worker.

“Navigating the complexities of our differences is not always an easy task, but TCU is committed to fostering a campus culture that fully supports cultural exchange and diversity,” Boschini said. “The adoption of DEI into the core curriculum reinforces the TCU mission: to educate individuals to think and act as ethical leaders and responsible citizens in the global community.”

The adoption of that curriculum was only part of the task undertaken by Dr. Claire Sanders, TCU’s first Academic Affairs DEI Advocate, appointed last summer to serve a year leading strategy with Academic Affairs. Sanders also is working to prioritize, implement and monitor DEI initiatives and outcomes in alignment with the strategic plan, Vision in Action: Lead On.

In addition, TCU has continued practices that earned it the HEED award in 2018 and is actively working to expand those efforts. These endeavors include the following:

Hosted the Check Your Blind Spots mobile tour. The experience included 267 faculty, staff and students participating in this national effort to curb unconscious bias. Virtual reality and gaming activities worked to point out participants’ “blind spots,” or unconscious biases, in order to bring them front-of-mind.

Read more at thisweek.tcu.edu

Special Interest Group Announcements

Coffee, Books & Conversation met September 11 for the first meeting of the school year rather than on September 18. The group plans to meet again on Wednesday, October 9, at 10 a.m. in Room 202 at University Christian Church to discuss the book, “Educated,” by Tara Westover. It has been at the top of the New York Times best sellers list for several weeks. Also, the book, “The Zookeeper’s Wife,” by Diane Ackerman was chosen for our November 13 meeting. We welcome new members! The group plans to meet most months on second Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in Room 202 at UCC. For additional information, please contact Judy Smith at 917-9021-4798.

Bridge will meet Friday, October 11, at 1 p.m. at the home of Julie Baker, 6324 Arrowhead Road, Fort Worth 76132. WE NEED NEW MEMBERS! We are very laid back, not intense players, and we love to teach new people how to play bridge. So join us!
A TCU TREASURE Awardee

Emmet G. Smith

Note: Emmet Smith and Manny Reinecke were the first TCU retirees to be awarded the TCU Treasure Award in 2018. Manny will submit a column for the November issue.

In 1949, many music journals announced the completion of TCU’s Ed Landreth Auditorium and its magnificent pipe organ. Being a nearby native Kansan I decided to drive my 1937 Dodge coupe to see this marvel. A group of students clustered around the four keyboard console of the organ invited me to play, so I did. Dean T. Smith McCorkle had entered silently while I played some Bach, and the result was my teaching career at TCU from January 1, 1951, until January 1, 1996. Excellent students made my work a dream come true. From about 1960 to 1980 my organ students numbered 26 to 33 each semester, requiring an average of 30 hours per week, teaching them one by one. The number of organ students dropped to 20 to 25 my last 15 years as churches began to adopt music related to styles of popular entertainment and organists faced a fading future.

Upon retirement the loss of contact with eager students was a shock to me, although I am happy to say that dozens have kept in touch, and 40 of them attended my 90th birthday party. Old organists just fade and play, but I have subbed at a church this summer and enjoyed doing it. Twice I taught a class in the Silver Frogs Program and it was a treat for me.

My family and friends urge me to write telling true stories of happenings during the 2,600 weddings in Robert Carr Chapel for which I played during the 55 years I was there, but I have not had the courage to begin. In my woodworking shop I have had time to design and make furniture, including a pipe organ which took me seven summers to build in our “Big Room,” where its 1000 pipes keep me happy as I practice and give free lessons to a few diligent students. I like to mess around in the kitchen, especially baking things, but only as a freshman compared to my lovely wife, Judy, who is a superb chef who keeps us healthy. I now have time to read many books.

My 45 years of teaching at TCU and 55 years of playing at Carr Chapel were a gift I would not trade for any other career. Being chosen by my loyal colleagues as a TCU Treasure is the frosting on the cake. I thank my fellow retirees. We have Horned Frogs playing pipe organs all over the U.S. and even in Europe. GO FROGS!

MISSION STATEMENT

The Texas Christian University Retirees’ Association exists to provide opportunities for fellowship, to promote lifelong learning, to advocate for fair benefits, to recognize the accomplishments of its members, and to strengthen the relationship between the retirees and the University.

IN MEMORIAM

Alan Crume, Information Technology

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN STARTING A SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP, CONTACT CHUCK LAMB AT C.LAMB@TCU.EDU.
Photos from the September TCURA coffee (from top left): 1) Dr. Stuart Flynn visits with retirees at the September luncheon 2) Wendy Crowley and Richard Sybesma check in guests at the September luncheon 3) Deana Ray and Susan Oakley 4) Joyce Raessler and Leslie Flores 5) Ken Stevens, Arturo Flores and other retirees go through the line at the September luncheon 6) Andy Fort and Linda Moore with Dr. Flynn 7) Bob and Judy Garwell
All photos taken by Deana Ray