



June 2010



Interim Dean of Libraries Dr. Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres, center, congratulates Head of Electronic Resources Jennifer Gordon and Digital Librarian Abdullah Daud for being selected winners of the 2010 Ethel Ward-McLemore Awards for Library Excellence at Canyon Creek Country Club in Richardson, Texas on May 17.

McDermott Library staff members **Jennifer Gordon** and **Abdullah Daud** were presented the 2010 Ethel Ward-McLemore Awards for Library Excellence during a library banquet on May 17 at Canyon Creek Country Club in Richardson TX near the UT Dallas campus.

They accepted their awards - a gold pin, certificate, and cash prize - from **Sheila Amin Gutiérrez de Piñeres**, Interim Dean of Libraries. The staff was also praised for its overall work by UT Dallas Executive Vice President and Provost **Hobson Wildenthal**.

Gordon is head of the Electronic Resources team in the

Technical Services department and a Senior Librarian. A committee of her peers praised her for ability to deal with issues and for creating custom electronic models that have been effective beyond her home department. She oversees 45,000 e-journals and more than 200 databases with professional dedication.

Daud is the digital librarian in the Operating Systems department. Known as the "Patient Magician," his work is considered to be superior of that of many of the industry's

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2010
*Ethel Ward-
McLemore
Awards
for
Library
Excellence*

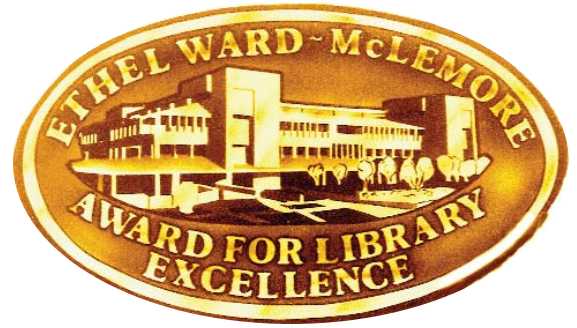
**Award for
genealogy work**
... Page 5

**Proud of our
graduates**
... Page 6

**HAC landscape
tour**
... Pages 7-8



Dr. Sheila Piñeres announces the 2010 winners



McLemore Awards

Jennifer Gordon receives her gold pin from committee member Susie Kutchi



technical models. The committee recognized that his results have produced outstanding benefits and improvements for all library departments.

The 2010 McLemore Awards committee consisted of **Jach Ross, Carol Oshel, Tom Koch, Susie Kutchi** and **Mark Middaugh**.

The late **Ethel Ward-McLemore** worked in geophysics and conducted research in the Geological Information Library from an office in McDermott Library. Impressed by the professionalism, knowledge and concern of the library staff, she created an endowment in 1989 for the awards presented in her name.



Abdullah Daud accepts his certificate from committee member Jach Ross

McLEMORE AWARDS HONOR ROLL

- 1989 – Peggy Olsson, Pat Rudkin
- 1990 – Henry Reed, Peg Fawns
- 1991 – Linda Snow, Sheila Blankenship
- 1992 – Rick Biddenstadt, Vickie Bullock
- 1993 – Jean Vik, Jane Heslep
- 1994 – Toni Huckaby, Lila Babcock
- 1995 – Joan Aquatero, Nancy Whitt
- 1996 – Allen Clayton, Darlene Ricketts
- 1997 – Nancy Steele, Ellen Safley
- 1998 – Patsy Aguilera, Lynn Butler
- 1999 – Denyse Henery, Gaby Perkowski
- 2000 – Jane Darling, Mary Caspari
- 2001 – Debbie Montgomery, Shawn Proctor
- 2002 – Ruth Oldham, Sharon Deal
- 2003 – Fatiah Lambert, Debbie Gilbert
- 2004 – Merry Trujillo, Loreen Phillips
- 2005 – Tahmoures Elyasi, Mircea Grancea
- 2006 – Mary Ann Harrison, Serenity King
- 2007 – Sue McInis, Carol McGee
- 2008 – Carol Oshel, Tom Koch
- 2009 – Susan Kutchi, Jach Ross
- 2010 - Jennifer Gordon, Abdullah Daud

UT Dallas Provost Dr. Hobson Wildenthal greets the library staff at this year's banquet





Well-wishers congratulate the winners



Hillary Campbell, Linda Snow and recently retired UT Dallas Dean of Libraries Larry Sall



Brenda Mahar and Nahid Karimi visit with the recently retired Joanie Aquatero



Linda DePhillips receives a door prize from Jach Ross



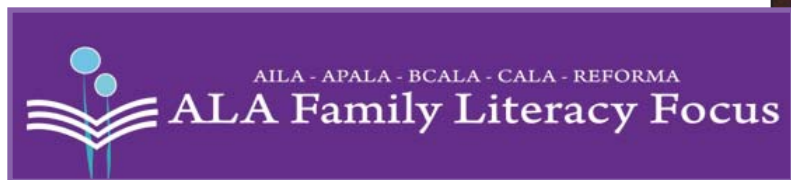
Abdullah Daud celebrates his award with colleague Faizur Rahman



Jennifer Gordon with colleagues Merry Trujillo, Brooke Johnson and Mary Jo Venetis, Associate Director for Technical Services



The Ice Cream Bar proved its popularity for the second consecutive year at the McLemore Awards.



In the July 2010 *American Libraries* magazine of the American Library Association, **Camila Alire** had the following to say about **Mary Jo Venetis** in her President's Message titled "Sustaining Advocacy."

"Thanks to Mary Jo Venetis for shepherding this effort with representatives from ALA's five ethnic affiliates. The affiliates' Family Literacy Focus working groups have awarded grants to various libraries across the country to develop projects that can be replicated by public libraries all over the country." Way to go, Mary Jo!

The ethnic affiliates are American Indian Library Assn., Asian/Pacific American Librarians Assn., Black Caucus of ALA, Chinese American Librarians Assn., and REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking.



Happy Faces - Denice McGregor, Joan Aquatero, Linda DePhillips, Mary Trujillo, Tom Koch and Evelyn Guerin at the McLemore Awards.



Mary Jo Venetis with translator Layla D'Entremont at the Frontiers of Flight Gala in May at Love Field. Special Collections annually sponsors at table at the fundraising event.



The McDermott Library Special Collections crew of Patrizia Nava, Paul Oelkrug and Thomas Allen set up a marketing table at the recent Cowtown Warbirds Roundup in Fort Worth. They distributed *Air-Logs*, brochures and information about the History of Aviation Collection to air show guests.

NEWS FROM THE FLOORS

National Genealogical Society Award Shared by Library's Mary Ann Thompson

The *Collin County Genealogical Society Newsletter (CCGS)*, edited by **Mary Ann Thompson** and **Fran Faitt**, won first place for a local genealogical society newsletter in the annual competition held by the National Genealogical Society. The award was presented during the opening session of the NGS annual conference at Salt Lake City Utah on April 28, 2010.

Mary Ann works as a copy cataloger in the Cataloging Department under **Debbie Montgomery** on the 3rd floor.

Her grandmother got her interested in genealogy. "Once I started I was hooked," she said. "In studying your family you must become a historian, a cartographer, a scribe and a detective. You must refuse to be discouraged when you can't find the information you're looking for and you must persevere. Eventually there will be a clue."

She is a veteran at genealogy writing that has covered the Atchley, Thompson and Wade trees of her family.

"My first effort at publishing was the 2nd edition of an Atchley book in the mid-1960s," she said. "All I had to do was update it and fortunately there was an Atchley around who had money and was willing to pay to have it published. Family history books for the most part are considered "vanity books" and the author has to pay for publication. I published a Thompson book in 1993 and am getting a Wade book ready to publish later this year."

The national award is a major accomplishment. "Fran and I were thrilled when we learned that our *CCGS Newsletter* was the first place winner for a local genealogical society newsletter," Mary Ann said. "The NGS is nonprofit and the premier national society for everyone, from the beginner to the most advanced family historian, seeking excellence in publications, education, research guidance, and opportunities to interact with other genealogists."

The CCGS was formed in 1970. She joined the group in 1987. "Even though I didn't have any Collin County ancestors the society offered friendship and informative programs at its monthly meetings, she said.

She became co-editor of the newsletter in 2007 and sees producing it as an enjoyable task.

"Writing articles for the *CCGS Newsletter* has always been a pleasure and a challenge. Sometimes you think everything has already been written on the subject and then someone mentions a topic and immediately you're interested in turning it into an informative article. With all the genealogy resources on the Internet now, the possibilities are endless."

Plus, there are surprises along the way.

"I've been working on various family names for many



Fran Faitt and McDermott Library's Mary Ann Thompson with a national award for *The Collin County Genealogical Society Newsletter*.

years and in the process I've corresponded and e-mailed and even met the most interesting people. Just last week I e-mailed a query to Ancestry.com to a researcher who couldn't help me but who gave me the email of one who could. She and I have been in contact over the week and I learned that she was a retired teacher living in South Carolina. She had lived in Richardson at one time and loved the area. She even has a former student who will be teaching at UTD in the fall! She said: 'It sure is a small world to be so big!'"

Tom Koch Wins Philatelic Writing Award

Tom Koch received the Forcheimer Philatelic Literature Award from the Texas Philatelic Association during the recent Texas Philatelic Exhibition (TEXPEX) at Dallas.

Tom's story titled "**James Michener** and the Nimitz Stamp" based on a personal interview with the late author was chosen as the best article in the TPA's publication *The Texas Philatelist* during the previous year. The award consisted of a certificate and \$50 check.

The interview was conducted in 1983 when Michener moved to Austin to write the novel *Texas*. At the time he was serving on the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee that recommends subjects for new stamps directly to the Postmaster General. He helped in the selection of Fleet Admiral **Chester W. Nimitz** of Texas who appeared on a 50-cent U.S. stamp in 1985. The award is named for **Leon Forcheimer** who wrote the stamp column for *The Houston Post* from 1964-1972.

Tom, program director and public relations coordinator, works in the Administration offices on the 4th floor.



Kendra Boyd and Mark Middaugh plate up for WaffleFest.



Debbie Gilbert-Stadigh fired up her griddle again to serve hot waffles.



Tiah Lambert and Susan Fisher with their servings in the Staff Lounge.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE GRADUATES



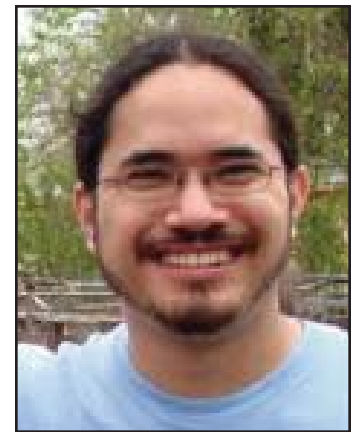
Tahmoures Elyasi
Graduated in December from UT Dallas with a BS degree in Computer Science. He is McDermott Library's Software Systems Specialist working under Jean Vik. He received the 2005 McLemore Award.



Olivia Jordan Ross
Daughter of **Jach Ross**
Graduated from Denton High School, receiving a senior Laureate Award in English. She will study radiology at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville.



Leah K. Phillips
Daughter of **Loreen Phillips**
Graduated from Plano East Senior High in the top 25 percent of her class. She will study fashion merchandising and business at Texas State University in San Marcos.



Aaron Lambert
Son of **Tiah Lambert**
Graduated from Richland College, Associated in Applied Science, Engineering Tech. Emphasis Degree in Computer Aided Design/Mfg. He is an engineering firm draftsman.



Christopher W. Neal
Son of **Jadee Neal**
Graduated from Anna High School. Currently apprenticing at Shaw Machine in Ada, Oklahoma. Plans to enlist in the United States Marine Corps in the fall of 2010.



Haley Wallace
Daughter of **Agnes Wallace**
Graduated from Plano Senior High with honors. She will attend the University of Arkansas, this fall and major in architecture with a minor in interior design.

Special Collections awarded \$2,500 grant by Communities Foundation

The Communities Foundation of Texas has awarded McDermott Library's History of Aviation Collection a grant for \$2,500. The funds will be used to implement an archival management system that will streamline collections management from the point a collection arrives to its completion including the production of a finding aid, says Paul Oelkrug, head of Special Collections.

Dallas-based Communities Foundation of Texas is one of the largest of its kind in the nation. Founded in 1953, it has awarded more than \$1 billion in grants.

Special Collections chose Archivists Toolkit for its new management system. Once implemented Archivists Toolkit will allow staff to enter information about collections, donors, and more while eliminating several steps present in the department's current process.

HISTORY OF AVIATION BOARD TOUR



Above and below - The emerging image of Eugene McDermott Library from the McDermott Plaza Fountain.

On May 6 the History of Aviation Advisory Council members toured the UT Dallas Landscape Enhancement project along with Richard M. Dempsey of UTD Facilities Management, Interim Dean of Libraries Sheila Piñeres and the Special Collections Staff



At right - One of the water features with low bubbles.



HISTORY OF AVIATION BOARD TOUR



- 1. The riding tour began in front of the library with Dwight Clasby of the Development Office driving.
- 2. Magnolias line the western side of the library.
- 3. The soon-to-be low flowing fountain at McDermott Plaza.
- 4. Rick Dempsey (in orange) provides details of the project to the walking tour group.



Q&A WITH LYNN SPENCER

Three-Year Research Shows Extensive Chaos During 9/11

To airline pilot Lynn Spencer the tragedy of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States was “gut-wrenching and personal.” The shallowness of the 9/11 Commission Report that followed bothered her to such an extent she set forth to interview key people and produce a more definitive report from an insider’s point of view. The result was *Touching History: The Untold Story of the Drama that Unfolded in the Skies over America on 9/11* released in 2008.

Spencer recently responded to questions dealing with topics she will cover in detail during a UT Dallas visit on June 19 for the Jalonick Memorial Lecture presented by Special Collections, 4-5 p.m. in McDermott Library Auditorium. She is a Senior Aviation Safety Analyst for the Federal Aviation Administration and commentator for CNN and CBS.

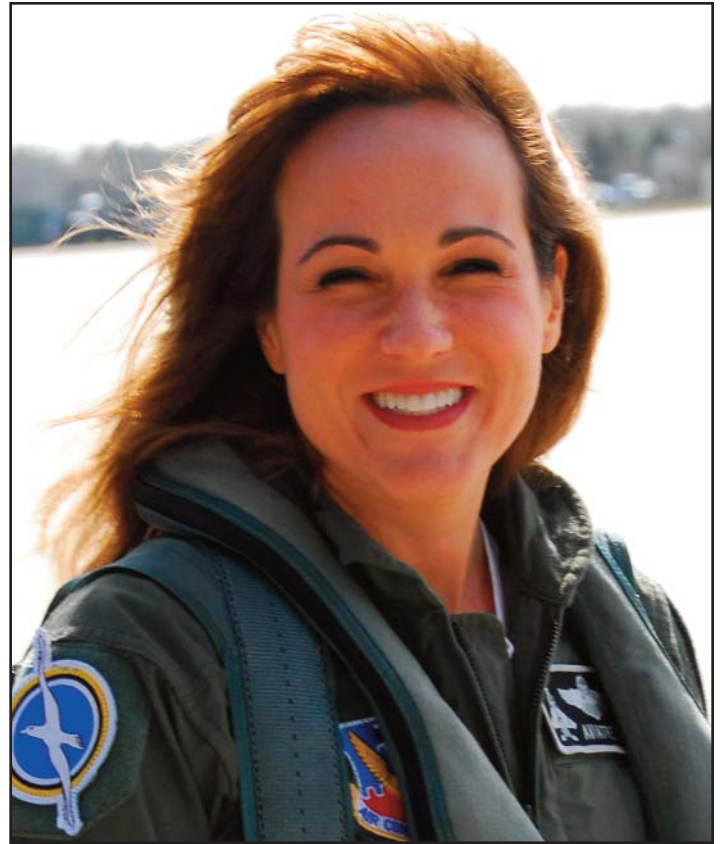
She graduated from Duke University and holds a Commercial Pilot and Certified Flight Instructor Certificate with Instrument and Multi-Engine Ratings. She completed her high altitude training at the Johnson Space Center and served as both a pilot and instructor at Continental Express Airlines.

When did you get the first indication that several aspects of the 9/11 Commission Report were incorrect or lacking?

As an airline pilot, I began to hear talk in “the ranks” that the Report did not seem to address: terrorist practice runs that had occurred on many of these routes, other suspect aircraft that morning, shoot-down orders and more. When I started to really dig into the data and talk to the key players from that day, I realized that the Report did not even begin to capture all that happened. It seemed to me that if the Commission staff could not solve a mystery, they chose to ignore it. I think their failure to report and address some of this other information led to the rise in so many conspiracy theories, and also gave the American people an incomplete understanding of the incredible aspects of the air response.

Were there other incriminating reports of possible terrorist takeovers of planes from New York airports other than United Airlines Flight 23 that was at Kennedy airport on 9/11?

Yes. Officials at the highest levels of the FAA and military indicated to me that they believe that anywhere from 10-15 other flights may have been targeted, and the quick think-



ing of the airlines and the FAA’s National Operations Manager - who was on his first day on the job when he made the call to shut down the airspace - went far in saving many lives. That United Airlines Flight 23 was an interesting example that made it into the news, although not completely accurately, and then disappeared from public sight. Talking to that crew and hearing about their extensive dealings with the FBI was fascinating. That flight was at the runway waiting to take off when the “no take-off” order arrived in the cockpit.

Were you impressed by the quick and direct decisions made by American Airlines CEO Don Carty from Fort Worth to land all of the company’s airborne flights and cancel all flights?

Absolutely. American Airlines was extremely pro-active in dealing with the mounting crisis. At first, American believed that both crashes into the World Trade Center were their aircraft. They knew that American 11 - the first flight to crash - was theirs, and at first thought that the second strike, which was actually United 175, was also theirs, because at that time they had lost all contact with American 77, which eventually hit the Pentagon. A full 15 minutes before the Federal Aviation Administration took action, and only 12 minutes after the second crash, Don Carty made the call to stop all take-offs of American Airlines flights at 9:15 am.

Q&A WITH LYNN SPENCER

Was there somewhat of a cavalier approach in the military response or was that more a lack of resources and out-dated equipment?

To be quite frank, funding for American air defense had become a favorite Congressional budget cut for the entire decade preceding 9/11, and the military had been fighting hard against the continued cuts. Their computer systems and radars were grossly out-dated and the number of air defense alert sites - where fighters sit on alert 24/7 ready to launch on 5 minutes notice - were being continually shrunk. In the weeks before 9/11, it was announced that our air defense alert sites would be further shrunk to four alert sites for the entire United States, down from 10, and military leaders were fuming. Gen. Larry Arnold, who was commander of 1st Air Force - the air defense unit responsible for protecting the United States mainland, fumed, "A four-corner defense might work in basketball, but it will not work in air defense!" I found the military response to be anything but cavalier. In fact, I was awed and humbled by the number of military leaders who, in the face of a crisis for which the government and military were ill-prepared for, were willing to put their careers on the line that day to make decisions to save American lives.

In your view what are a few of the most important revelations we learned about air control from Sept. 11, 2001?

I think we learned that it is not enough to be prepared to fight the last war; that we must be diligent in anticipating and preparing for future threats. We are better prepared for 9/11 now, but are we prepared for the next attack? I think we also realized the critical requirement for seamless and timely communication and situational awareness between the military and the air traffic control system. We'd like to think that we've fixed a lot of those problems, but recent air events, such as the Northwest flight that was non-communicative for more than an hour and overshot its Minneapolis destination by more than 100 miles, revealed that there are still significant shortcomings in that link that must be addressed rather than brushed under the carpet.

Was this the toughest day in history for air traffic controllers?

I think that, without a doubt, it was. For many controllers as well as pilots, it was also their last day. They were not able to return to their seats after the trauma of that day. They were caught on the front lines of an air attack for which they had not expected and for which they had not prepared. Their professionalism saved many lives, but the memories have stayed close to the hearts and minds of pilots and controllers alike.



A new library exhibit on the second level by Nahid Karmi and Shanelle Frye of the Cataloging Dept.



*Uncle Sam
is Counting
on You*



A new library exhibit about the U.S. Census by Brenda Mahar of the Cataloging Dept. is located in the cases on the fourth level.