

Hogg Foundation Awards \$150,000 to Support Mental Health Research

Ten tenure-track assistant professors conducting mental health research projects in Texas have received nearly \$150,000 in grants from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

The one-year grants are capped at \$15,000 each. Junior faculty at 16 colleges and universities in Texas submitted 35 proposals to the foundation.

"Finding funds for academic research can be a challenge. These grants will enable the recipients to build their expertise and credentials," said Dr. Gregory J. Vincent, vice president for diversity and community engagement at The University of Texas at Austin.

The projects cover a variety of topics, such as mental health care preferences of Iraqi war veterans, the economic crisis' impact on depression among elderly Korean immigrants, and potential links between childhood obesity and mental health.

"These grants have a two-fold purpose: to further the recipients' academic careers and to encourage research of important mental health issues in Texas, including those that affect underserved groups and consumers of mental health services and their families," said Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., executive director of the foundation.

(See recipients and their projects on page 4)

Two Students Receive \$20,000 Each for Hurricane Trauma Studies

The Hogg Foundation for Mental Health has awarded two \$20,000 fellowships to doctoral students at The University of Texas at Austin who are studying the traumatic experiences of people who fled their homes and communities during hurricanes Ike and Katrina.

Jerry Lord, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology, is studying the im-

pact of Hurricane Ike on Galveston residents. Megan Reid, a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology, is researching federal disaster relief policies and the hardships those policies have created for hurricane evacuees, especially poor minority families.

"This type of research is invaluable due to the large number of Texans impacted by natural disasters. The effects on families who live in poverty are especially disastrous because they often do not have the resilience or resources to recover easily," said Dr. Gregory J. Vincent, vice president for diversity and community engagement at the university.

The fellowship was established in 1995 in memory of Dr. Harry Moore, a professor and sociologist who specialized in disaster studies, especially the aftermath of Texas tornadoes and hurricanes. The Moore fellowships are awarded annually to doctoral students completing dissertations on the human experience in crises caused by natural or other major disasters or, more broadly, stress and adversity.

"A natural disaster can devastate a community and cause long-lasting, severe chaos,

(See Moore on page 2)

Scholarships Awarded to Bilingual Students

Angelica Carrillo of Waco and Lois Stevens of Greenville have received bilingual scholarships from the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

Both are graduate students of social work at Texas A&M University - Commerce.



Angelica Carrillo

The foundation has committed up to \$1 million for the three-year scholarship program and awarded 29 full-tuition scholarships during the 2008-2009 academic year.

"This program was enthusiastically embraced by participating schools and attracted talented, highly qualified students who will increase cultural and linguistic diversity in their higher education programs," said Dr. Gregory J. Vincent, vice

president for diversity and community engagement at The University of Texas at Austin.

The scholarships, which cover tuition and fees, are offered at 11 accredited Texas graduate schools



Lois Stevens

of social work. Recipients must be fluent in Spanish and English and must agree to work in Texas after graduation providing mental health services for a period equal to the timeframe of the scholarship.

"It is imperative to create programs to address the severe shortage of culturally and linguistically diverse mental health professionals in Texas," said Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., executive director of the foundation. "The foundation's scholarships serve to meet that challenge

(See Scholarships on page 6)

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Moore Fellowship Recipients Study Hurricane Trauma

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stress and trauma among those who experience it. The work of these fellows will help



Jerry Lord

identify critical and immediate needs of residents and communities during times of crises," said Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., executive director of the foundation.

In June 2008, Lord began researching the potential economic and social devastation that a major hurricane could wreak along the upper Texas coast between Galveston and Port Arthur. Lord moved to Galveston to continue his research but was forced to evacuate just three months later when Ike pounded the island.

After his experience, Lord's focus shifted from the potential to the actual destruction caused by a hurricane. At the university's Dolph Briscoe Center for American History, he began poring through archives of Moore's studies of Hurricane Carla, which devastated Galveston 37 years earlier. Now, with the help

of a fellowship named for an earlier scholar who shared his interest, he plans to complete his dissertation in 2010.

"The fellowship affords me undivided time and focus to complete my fieldwork, further research the social dimensions of natural disasters and their aftermaths, and meet my goal of graduating in May 2010," Lord said. "Otherwise this timeline would not be realistic, without sacrificing analytical rigor."

Much of Reid's work is based on two years of interviews with Hurricane Katrina survivors who evacuated to Austin in 2005. She hopes her dissertation will lead to better understanding of how state and social policies can both resist and reinforce inequalities, and

also lay the groundwork for more effective social policies to help disadvantaged groups during natural disasters and in everyday life.

"The Moore fellowship gives me the freedom to focus solely on my dissertation and related work this summer," Reid said. "This ability to concentrate just on this project will allow me to more fully understand the complex housing and replacement issues Katrina survivors have and continue to face."



Megan Reid

March Forum Focuses on Mental Health Needs of Military Children and Families

Children whose parents are deployed in overseas combat are more likely to have high levels of stress and traumatic situations at home. Yet studies show a dearth of resources for families coping with the psychological challenges of a parent at war or returning from the battlefield.

In March the Texas Children's Mental Health Forum discussed the needs of military families and children, at a time when the nation's active-duty military includes the highest percentage ever of parents serving overseas. Nearly half of military and National Reserve personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan have children.

"The military is taking steps to respond to the mental health needs of service men and women, but deployments also cause extraordinary stress on children and families," said Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., executive director of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

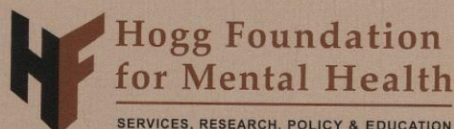
State Senator Eliot Shapleigh of El Paso opened the meeting by speaking about the issues and bills he is sponsoring to address them. Other speakers included national, state and local mental health and education experts as well as military family members.

"We know that children experience strain when they are separated from someone as important in their life as a parent. The return of a parent can be difficult, too, particularly as the returning parent deals with his or her own recovery from injury or emotional trauma," said Eileen Garcia-Matthews, executive director of Texans Care For Children, a nonpartisan nonprofit child advocacy organization.

The Hogg Foundation and Texans Care For Children host the monthly forum. Scott and White Healthcare provided funding for the March meeting. For more information about the forum, visit www.hogg.utexas.edu.



(From left) Hogg Foundation Executive Director Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., talks with military spouses Tracy Kehrer and Aimee Ybarra, and Texans Care For Children Executive Director Eileen Garcia-Matthews. (Photo courtesy of Texans Care For Children.)



Hogg Foundation News is a free quarterly newsletter published by the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health to inform the public of the foundation's programs, services and activities.

The foundation was founded in 1940 to promote mental health in Texas and provides grants and operates programs to support mental health services, research, policy analysis and public education.

The foundation is part of the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at The University of Texas at Austin. For more information, visit www.hogg.utexas.edu.

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A Portrait of Integrated Health Care in El Paso

By Elisabeth Kristof

El Paso resident Ester Ramirez came to Project Vida Community Health Clinic for a simple medical check-up and gained a new life in the process.

At the time of her first visit, Ramirez was uninsured, undereducated, afraid and without hope. She also suffered severe, debilitating, undiagnosed depression that was detected with a routine mental health screening as part of a new integrated health care program funded by the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

The integrated health care program at her neighborhood clinic enabled her to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Today she is able to work, participate in her church, care for her family, speak her mind, and, in general, enjoy life. "The clinic opened my eyes to life and helped me become who I am today," said Ramirez.

Project Vida is nestled in a low-income, eastside "barrio," just a stone's throw from the Texas-Mexico border. The modest clinic serves underinsured, uninsured and indigent residents. Yet within its quaint walls are innovative programs that clearly demonstrate the physical and mental health benefits of culturally competent, integrated care.

The clinic added mental health services to its physical care programs after receiving the foundation's three-year grant in 2006. The integration of care at the clinic mirrored the region's blending of nations and cultures, and is reflected in services ranging from childcare and financial planning to medical exams, nutrition, exercise programs and transitional housing.

"We have something very different from any other clinic. We are a team – the medical staff, the community health workers, myself – and any of us are willing to go the extra mile for any patient," said Rachel Quintanilla, care manager at Project Vida. "It's not just about having good programs and a nice building. It requires the right people and dedication."

Different is an understatement. Unlike the sterile, cold images conjured by the word clinic, the rooms of Project Vida overflow with life and laughter. Murals of children's art cover the walls. Women in traditional Mexican dresses who dance to Latino music for exercise share the community room with women and children who knit and paint as part of the arts and crafts therapy.

Doctors glide in and out of medical exam rooms, in between visits by "promotoras," community health workers who also phone clients to ask how they're doing or why they missed



Project Vida's community room serves as a space for arts and crafts and exercise. Above women wear traditional Mexican dresses and dance to Latino music as a form of exercise. (Photo courtesy of L.A. Reno.)

their weekly nutrition class. First names are used. Family members are inquired about. The meaning of "cultural competency" becomes apparent here, where staff and medical professionals blend and become one with the largely Mexican-American population they serve.

Like many border clinics, cases of type 2 diabetes have skyrocketed at Project Vida. El Paso alone has more than 85,000 residents diagnosed with diabetes and an estimated 25,000 more who are undiagnosed, adding up to 15 percent of the population. As research continues to find strong links between diabetes and depression, the need to treat both physical and behavioral health together becomes increasingly clear.

Recent studies in medical journals such as Diabetes Care show that the combination of depression and diabetes leads to a downward spiral in physical and mental health that makes it harder for clients to care for themselves and follow their doctor's recommendations. The results can be disastrous when amputation, blindness or kidney failure occurs from what should be a manageable physical disease.

At Project Vida, diabetic patients who exhibit signs of depression are enrolled in a mental health program. Clients with depression who exhibit diabetes symptoms are tested and, if needed, brought into the diabetes education and management program. This coordination in one place among doctors, counselors, psychiatrists and promotoras is vital, clients say, because they would not have the time or money to address both physical and behavioral issues otherwise.

For Ester Ramirez, integrated health care

made the difference between life and death. When Ramirez first came to the clinic, she was paralyzed with fear that tragedy would befall her or her husband – an anxiety that controlled her life. She could not read or write and didn't know how to catch a bus or call 911. She didn't go anywhere without her husband.

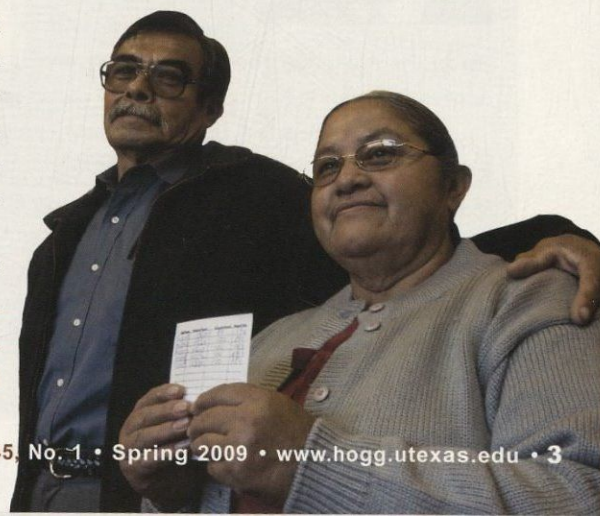
"If she even heard of an illness, any illness, she would start crying," said Quintanilla. "Even if it was not diagnosed in her husband, the thought of anything that could possibly affect him would upset her. She felt helpless."

Quintanilla and Ramirez connected through the clinic's mental health screening that took place during Ramirez's first visit. They met that very day and together began the long, slow process of recovery and self-empowerment.

Beyond traditional mental health counseling, Quintanilla taught Ramirez how to read and write, use the phone, count money and catch the bus. "It's all part of integrated health, in a way. It's all connected," said Quintanilla. "How could I work with her psychologically, to empower her, if she can't write and read?"

After about a year, Quintanilla noticed signs of diabetes in Ramirez, who was then checked and diagnosed with prediabetes – her worst fear, a chronic illness that jeopardized her and her family's well-being. Fortunately, by this point her depression had lifted significantly and she had developed supports at the clinic and trusted the staff to help her learn to manage her disease.

Through the clinic's diabetes program Ramirez has stabilized her blood sugar, reducing the risk of complications such as blindness or amputation that afflict so many in the region, especially those with depression. "If we had not taken care of the depression, the diabetes would have been too much for her to manage, just another impossible obstacle to deal with," said Quintanilla.



El Paso resident Ester Ramirez with her husband, Antonio. (Photo courtesy of L.A. Reno.)

Higher Education Research Grants: Assistant Professors

Dr. Jamilla Blake
Texas A&M University



Dr. Blake, assistant professor in the Department of Educational Psychology, specializes in the social development of ethnic minority children and violence intervention and prevention. She will study parental socialization practices that may contribute to ethnic differences in youth aggression.

Nearly 30 percent of youth in U.S. schools engage in aggression and experience victimization, and African American and Latino youth are at greater risk of both, Blake said in her proposal. A possible link may be messages communicated by parents of color to their children about the acceptability of aggression.

"I will examine processes that contribute to ethnic differences in youth aggression and identify familial factors that may discourage youth from engaging in aggression," Blake said. "I hope my research influences development of future aggression interventions and encourages existing intervention and prevention programs to be more culturally responsive."

Dr. Shayla Holub
University of Texas at Dallas



Dr. Holub, assistant professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, is a childhood development expert at the Center for Children and Families. She will examine the relationship between weight and psychological health in young children.

Nearly a third of American children may be overweight, which is linked to depression, behavior problems, poor body image and low self-esteem, Holub said in her proposal. However, few studies have examined the link between psychological health and obesity in early childhood, when attitudes about weight

and body size begin to develop. Holub will study 150 children ages four to six.

"I will look at whether young children who experience teasing because of their weight are more at risk for behavior problems, negative self-perceptions, and problematic peer relationships," Holub said. "This is important because early intervention might buffer these children from even more problems during middle childhood and adolescence."



Dr. Laurel Copeland
*University of Texas at San Antonio
Health and Science Center*

Dr. Copeland, an assistant professor of psychiatry and research health scientist in the South Texas Veterans Health Care System, studies the use of health services by people with serious mental illness. She will examine mental health care preferences of 3,200 South Texas veterans who recently returned from Iraq or Afghanistan.

Copeland noted many have experienced combat and violent, lengthy and repeated tours of duty and need counseling for anxiety, depression or post-traumatic stress disorder. Mental health services in South Texas are scarce, so providing care efficiently and effectively is critical.

"Local Veterans Affairs providers want to know what kinds of care new veterans prefer, and whether their preferences vary by factors such as ethnicity and gender," Copeland said. "This study will determine what characteristics of mental health care are associated with the best outcomes for our newest veterans."

Dr. Suk-Young Kang
University of Texas at Arlington



Dr. Kang, assistant professor in the School of Social Work, specializes in mental and physical health of Asian immigrants in the U.S. He will study the economic downturn's effect on depression among Korean immigrant elders in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Financial stress is a risk factor for depression, which in turn is linked to elder suicide, Kang said in his proposal. Korean immigrants aged 65 and older in the U.S. have a poverty rate of 19 percent and are more likely to be affected by financial crisis. However, limited resources and cultural stigma may prevent them from seeking treatment.

"The lack of reliable data creates a policy and programming vacuum regarding mental health issues faced by Korean immigrant elders," Kang said. "I believe this study's findings will begin to fill that void and will serve as the basis for a future study on the effectiveness of stress management in reducing depression."

Dr. Michele Rountree
The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Rountree, an assistant professor in the School of Social Work, is an expert in health promotion, disease prevention and disparities in health services for marginalized populations. She will research obstacles and supports for people with HIV/AIDS in accessing mental health and substance use services in Texas.

Rountree said people with HIV/AIDS are

nearly twice as likely to have major depression, which can lead to faster progression of the disease and higher mortality rates. However, in

2007 more than \$185 million in funding for mental health and substance use services was not fully spent for the estimated 61,000 people in Texas who have HIV/AIDS.

"I am working to gain insight into the facilitators and barriers in assessing and linking HIV-infected clients to mental health and substance abuse services in Texas," Rountree said. "Understanding these factors is critical to meeting the mental health and substance abuse needs of this underserved population."



at Texas Universities Receive Nearly \$150,000 (Continued from page 1)



Dr. Hongjoo Lee
The University of Texas at Austin

Dr. Lee, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology, studies the nervous system's link to learning, memory and other psycho-

logical processes and the influences of gender, trauma and mental disorders. She will study the effects of menopause and hormone replacement therapy on attention and memory, using an animal model mimicking abnormal neural activities seen in many mental disorders.

Little is known about the effects of hormonal changes and hormone replacement therapy on women with mental illness, Lee said. Researching neurological links between menopause and mental and attentional disorders may improve diagnosis and treatment.

"My goal is to give much-needed answers to questions about women and mental health during menopause," Lee said. "It is the first step in helping health providers address hormonal issues, personalize treatment, and inform patients and their families of changes that may occur due to hormonal influences."

Dr. Gabriel Acevedo
University of Texas at San Antonio

Dr. Acevedo, assistant professor of sociology, is an expert on the sociology of religion, social theory and social psychology. He will examine the influences of religious involvement and civic participation on mental health in low-income communities.

Religious involvement long has been linked to positive mental health, lower rates of depression, and better coping skills during times of stress and anxiety, Acevedo stated in his proposal. What isn't known is whether these mental health benefits are due to religious factors alone, or to the broader social interaction and support that occurs in both religious and secular groups.

"If civic participation is as beneficial to mental health as religious involvement, then future research should pay greater attention to the positive gains from participating in local PTAs, community volunteer groups, associations and other civic groups," Acevedo said. "This study may influence mental health treatments and services that practitioners recommend to consumers."



Dr. David Eagleman
Baylor College of Medicine

Dr. Eagleman, an assistant professor of neuroscience and psychiatry, founded and directs the college's Initiative on Neuroscience



and Law. He also is a faculty affiliate in the Criminal Justice Institute at the University of Houston Law Center. He plans to study the psychological, behavioral and neurological traits of people convicted of sex crimes.

Criminally sexual behavior is a major mental health issue, Eagleman stated in his proposal. Identifying similarities in aggression, sexual deviancy, impulse control, brain patterns and other characteristics shared by people who commit sex crimes could lead to more effective treatment, sentencing and rehabilitation.

"There is a surprisingly large chasm between our legal system and our modern knowledge about the brain and behavior. This project will provide scientists and lawmakers with important insights into the underlying mental health of sexually criminal behavior," Eagleman said.



Dr. Mary Newsome
Baylor College of Medicine

Dr. Newsome, assistant professor and researcher in the Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory, will study why some at-risk youth who grow up in stressful conditions such as violence, poverty and abuse have greater resiliency than others in the same environment.

Children who experience significant adversity and hardships are at greater risk of dropping out of school, using drugs and having post-traumatic stress disorder, attention problems and depression. Yet some adapt and become productive, competent adults, Newsome said. She hopes to identify key psychological and cognitive factors that make the difference.

"This topic has important implications for adolescents at risk of mental health disorders and poor outcomes in educational achievement and social integration," Newsome said. "Greater understanding of characteristics associated with resilience in at-risk youth could lead to more effective services and ultimately, more successful outcomes for these youth."

The study will be done in partnership with the Dallas Independent School District.

Students in these programs tend to be at risk of failing and include dropouts, students with disabilities or high-risk behaviors, and a disproportionate number of children of color. Greater focus on high-stakes testing has resulted in less screening, awareness and treatment of these students' behavioral issues and mental health needs.

"We hope to shed light on behavioral and mental health barriers to adolescents being successful in school," Booker said. "Our focus on the vulnerable alternative education population has particular importance, considering these students' increased potential for academic failure and dropping out."

Dr. Kimberly Booker
Texas Woman's University

Dr. Booker, assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and Philosophy, will join colleague Dr. Angela Mitchell to assess psychological needs and



behavioral difficulties of adolescents in disciplinary alternative education programs.

HF Staff in the News

Frost Co-authors Article in The Foundation Review

Associate Director Dr. Lynda Frost co-authored a case study of the Austin Mayor's Mental Health Task Force Project for the inaugural issue of The Foundation Review. "Community-Based Collaboration: A Philanthropic Model for Positive Social Change" describes the outcomes of a community-based project initiated by the foundation to address gaps in the local behavioral health system. The article is available online at www.foundationreview.org.

Ybarra Discusses Cultural Competence in Provider Contracts

Program Officer Rick Ybarra was a featured speaker during a national teleconference on Feb. 18 hosted by the Cultural and Linguistic Competence Coordinators' Network for State, Territorial and Tribal Mental Health Systems. He discussed inclusion of cultural and linguistic competence in provider contracts.

Martinez Presents at Physician and Graduate Student Seminar

Executive Director Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr. was a guest lecturer at the spring 2009 seminar series "Issues in Minority Health Policy" on March 4. The series was hosted by the Commonwealth Fund/Harvard University Fellowship Program in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School. Martinez discussed mental health issues in minority health.

Frost and Dickson Present at Psychology-Law Society Meeting

Associate Director Lynda Frost and Mental Health Policy and Law Clerk Jamie Dickson presented at the American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting in San Antonio on March 6-7. They were joined by David Hughes, vice president of the Human Research Services Institute, in a presentation on "Quantifying the Cost Savings of Jail Diversion: Results from a Cost Simulation Study." They also collaborated with Jeanette Kinard, chief public defender at the Travis County Mental Health Public Defender's Office, to present "An Analysis of Tensions Between Rights-Based and Therapeutic Approaches in Mental Health Courts."

Heinz Attends SAMHSA Meeting

Program Officer Tammy Heinz participated in a meeting hosted by the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration in Rockville, Md., in March. The group discussed developing a plan for advancing the model of social inclusion in the United States.

Long-time Foundation Employee Promoted

In February Maria Bumpass was promoted as executive assistant to the foundation's executive director, Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr. Since joining the foundation in 1991, she has held several key administrative positions, including providing support to the associate director, fiscal officer, program officers and office manager.

Foundation Staff Participate in the 2009 Central Texas African American Family Support Conference

Several Hogg Foundation staff members participated in the ninth annual Central Texas African American Family Support Conference on Feb. 12-13. More than 550 conference attendees, volunteers, workshop presenters and keynote speakers from across the nation attended the event. The conference included workshops and presentations on mental health and mental retardation, chemical dependence, co-occurring disorders, and physical health issues.



(From left) Program Officers Vicky Coffee-Fletcher and Stephany Bryan and Associate Director Dr. Lynda Frost spoke during the 2009 Central Texas African American Family Support Conference. Program Officer Tammy Heinz, not shown, also presented at the event. (Photos courtesy of Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center.)

Scholarships to Bilingual Students

(Continued from page 1)

by attracting students who are committed to working in a mental health career and expanding access to Spanish language mental health services in Texas."

Carrillo plans to become a caseworker and most recently worked as a youth counselor at the Methodist Children's Home in Waco. She also interned at a hospital while earning her bachelor's degree in social work from the University of Texas at Arlington. She has volunteered for community organizations that serve children, adults and families.

"My goal is to work with Hispanic youth and families," Carrillo said. "With the master's degree, I can use my bilingual skills to provide mental health services to

clients with language barriers."

Stevens wants to provide family and marriage counseling and eventually teach at a college. She is an area team manager with Communities in Schools Dallas Region, working with middle school students

at risk of dropping out. She also interned in a hospital emergency room while earning a bachelor's degree in social work from Texas A&M University - Commerce.

"A master's degree will give

me the knowledge and skills to better understand the role of mental health in a student's ability to be successful in school, and also assist me in understanding how mental health issues affect the entire family," Stevens said.

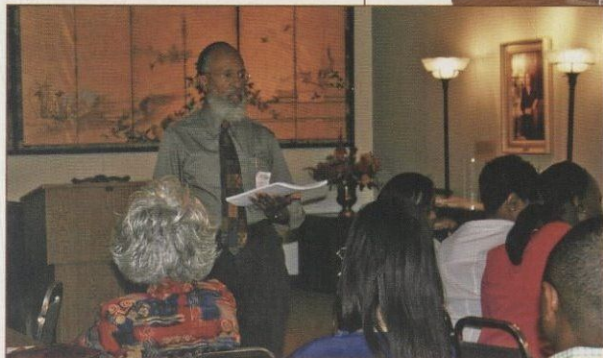
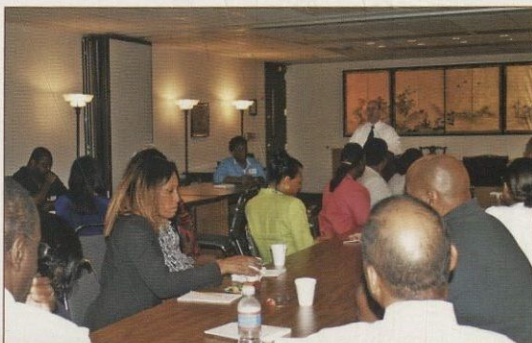
"It is imperative to create programs to address the severe shortage of culturally and linguistically diverse mental health professionals in Texas."

**- Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr.,
Executive Director**

Foundation Hosts Meeting for African American Behavioral Health Professionals

The Hogg Foundation supports professional development, diversity and growth of the behavioral health workforce in Texas.

To further these goals, the foundation hosted a networking event in April for African American mental health profes-



sionals in the Austin area. About 30 people attended and the foundation plans to host similar events in the future. For more information contact Program Officer Vicky Coffee-Fletcher at (512) 475-7057 or vicky.coffee-fletcher@austin.utexas.edu.

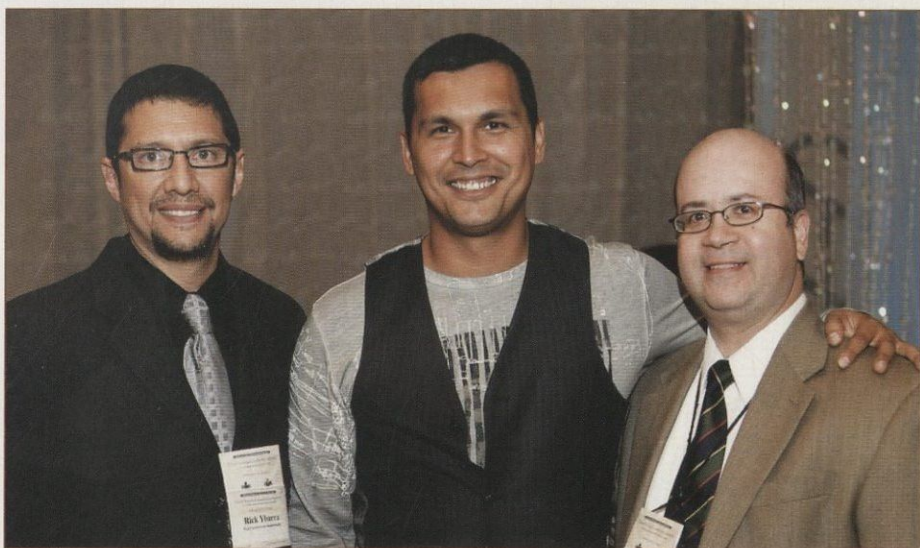
(Above right) Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr., Hogg Foundation executive director, welcomes attendees to the meeting. (Above left) Dr. King Davis, former executive director of the foundation and a professor at The University of Texas at Austin's School of Social Work, facilitated a discussion about goals and next steps for the group.

Ybarra Recognized by National Alliance on Mental Illness

The National Alliance on Mental Illness recognized Program Officer Rick Ybarra for sharing his expertise, insights, opinions and cautions in the report, *Grading the States 2009: A Report on America's Health Care System for Adults with Serious Mental Illness*. The report is found online at www.nami.org/grades09.

Martinez and Ybarra Attend National Leadership Summit

Executive Director Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr. and Program Officer Rick Ybarra attended the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health's Third National Leadership Summit on Eliminating Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health on Feb. 25-27 in National Harbor, Md. The goal of the summit was to strengthen collaborations in implementing national strategies to address health disparities.



(From left) Program Officer Rick Ybarra, actor Adam Beach and Executive Director Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr. attended the 2009 awards ceremony at the Third National Leadership Summit on Feb. 26. Beach was master of ceremonies at the event and a plenary panelist during the summit. (Photo courtesy of Office of Minority Health.)

HF Staff in the News

Martinez Presents at UT's School of Social Work

Executive Director Dr. Octavio N. Martinez, Jr. discussed executive control functioning in individuals aged 65 and older in a presentation to faculty and graduate students at The University of Texas at Austin's School of Social Work on March 11.

Alexander Testifies at Texas Legislative Committee Hearings

Program Officer Laurie Alexander was invited to testify as a resource witness before House and Senate committees during the 81st session of the Texas Legislature. The Legislature passed House Bill 2196 to create the first statewide work group on integrated health care in Texas.

Ybarra Discusses Mental Health with College Students

Program Officer Rick Ybarra facilitated a discussion with students taking a course called Global Health, Local Health in The University of Texas at Austin's Department of Geography and the Environment. His discussion on March 31 centered on improving mental health for diverse communities in Texas.

Frost Facilitates Discussion on Peer Specialist Certification

On April 18, Dr. Lynda Frost led a discussion on how to build a coordinated, robust mental health peer specialist certification process in Texas. Consumers, family members, peer specialists and other stakeholders in mental health participated in the dialogue.

Frost and Ybarra Lead Session on Finance at National Conference

Associate Director Lynda Frost and Program Officer Rick Ybarra led a session on financial resources development at the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare's annual conference in San Antonio on April 7. During the idea swap session, participants learned about new funding sources, grant application processes and potential partnerships with philanthropic organizations.

Ybarra, Guzmán Present at Seminar

Program Officer Rick Ybarra and Research Fellow Dr. Michele Guzmán presented at the 2009 Regional Health Hispanic Seminar Series "Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Hispanics" on April 3 in El Paso.

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DIVISION OF *Diversity and Community Engagement*

Hogg Foundation Vision

We envision a Texas that leads the nation in promoting mental health and recovery from mental illness, supporting all Texans in achieving their potential.

Book Review

The Hogg Family and Houston Philanthropy and the Civic Ideal

Based on extensive archival sources, *The Hogg Family and Houston* explains the impact of the Hogg family's philanthropy for the first time.

Progressive former governor James Stephen Hogg moved his business headquarters to Houston in 1905. For seven decades, his children Will, Ima and Mike Hogg used their political ties, social position and family fortune to improve the lives of fellow Houstonians.

As civic activists, they promoted contested causes like city planning and mental health care.

As volunteers, they inspired others to support social service, educational and cultural programs.

As philanthropic entrepreneurs, they built institutions that have long outlived them: the Houston Symphony, the Museum of Fine Arts, Memorial Park and the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health.

The Hoggs had a vision of Houston as a great city—a place that supports access to parklands, music, and art; nurtures knowledge of the “American heritage which unites us;” and provides social service and mental health care assistance. This vision links the family to generations of American idealists who advanced a moral response to change.

About the author: Kate Sayen Kirkland holds a Ph.D. in History from Rice University, where her dissertation on the Hogg family was awarded the Longcope Prize in 2004. She has been an active participant in Houston's non-profit sector for 30 years.

Published by The University of Texas Press in January 2009, the 401-page hardcover book is listed at \$65 and can be ordered online at a discount at www.utexas.edu/utpress/books/kirhog.html.

