

**MINUTES  
OF  
THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
OF  
THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

**Quarterly Board Meeting**

**May 15-16, 2008**

# **SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **FACULTY PERSONNEL CHANGES**

### **DEVELOPMENTAL LEAVES**

1. M. Kate Borcharding, MFA, Professor of Art, requests leave for the purpose of conducting research. This leave will allow her to study and compare the fine art prints of Max Beckman (1884-1950) and Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858). She will study for six weeks at Rifkind Center and then six weeks at the Van Vleck Collection. At the end of her leave, she will compare and analyze the two artists' prints and complete eight original prints from this research. Ms. Borcharding will be on leave full-time fall semester 2008.
2. Linda B. Cook, PHD, Associate Professor of English, requests leave for the purpose of conducting research and completing results of completed research for publication. This leave will allow her to complete research and write a book on the work of American author, Lee Smith. She will be reviewing the last two books written by Lee Smith, drafting the final two chapters of her study, traveling to North Carolina to conduct a formal interview with Smith, reviewing and integrating all ten chapters into a manuscript, and making the work publication ready. Dr. Cook will be on leave full-time fall semester 2008.
3. Mark W. Frank, PHD, Associate Professor of Economics, requests leave for the purpose of conducting research and preparing the results of completed research for publication. This leave will allow him to expand a new state-level income inequality panel, which currently covers 48 states over a period of 60 years. This data set will be expanded to include 28 more years. It will also allow him to prepare the results from the completed data set on liquor advertising practices for publication. Dr. Frank will be on leave full-time fall semester 2008.
4. Helena Halmari, PHD, Professor of English, requests leave for the purpose of conducting research and preparing the results of completed research for publication. This leave will allow her to complete a book-length study on English-Finnish bilingualism. The book is called Achieving Additive Bilingualism. It will also allow her to begin a new study on how Finnish toddlers living in the United States acquire the Finnish language as compared to a similar group that live in Finland. Dr. Halmari will be on leave full-time fall semester 2008.
5. Monte L. Thies, PHD, Professor of Biology, requests leave for the purpose of conducting research. This leave will allow him to collect rainy season data at field sites in Botswana. It will also allow him to make extended visits to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. and the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. This leave will also allow him to complete revisions to the 4th edition of Glass and Thies "A key to the skulls of North American mammals". Dr. Thies will be on leave full-time spring semester 2009.
6. Justin Williams, PHD, Professor of Biology, requests leave for the purpose of improving academic effectiveness, conducting research, preparing results of completed research for publication, and curriculum development. This leave will allow him to collect and study plant specimens in an unexplored area of Oaxaca, Mexico. This leave will also allow him to research endangered species and vegetation ecology. Then he will prepare and identify those specimens at the Plant Resources Center in Austin, Texas. Publication is expected to follow. Dr. Williams will be on leave full-time fall semester 2008.