As the millennium approaches, organizations throughout the world will examine their traditions and missions. Baylor is no exception, and one of the most important issues the University must face is how to achieve prominence in the world of higher education while remaining true to its Baptist heritage. It is a question that sparks disagreement from external constituents and within Baylor itself (see this month’s “Academic Agenda,” page 5).

A survey of Baylor faculty conducted in 1995 by Dr. Larry Lyon, dean of the graduate school and professor of sociology, and Dr. Michael Beaty, director of the Institute for Faith and Learning and associate professor of philosophy, highlighted the fact that even among Baylor faculty, the intersection between faith and learning is unclear. Dr. Lyon and Dr. Beaty found that while 92 percent of those surveyed believe “it is possible for Baylor to achieve academic excellence and maintain a Christian identity,” they are less sure of how faith-related concerns fit in with the academic agenda. In fact, of the 51 percent of those surveyed who believed that Baylor needed to integrate faith and learning, only 39 percent felt they could “create a syllabus for a course that includes a clear, academically legitimate Christian perspective on the subject.”

In September 1997, Baylor’s Regents decided the University needed a center dedicated to examining how academics and Christian thought could be reconnected, and thus the Institute for Faith and Learning was born. For Dr. Beaty, the formal establishment of the Institute was the culmination of years of research. “A good bit of my interest was no doubt inspired by my own story,” Dr. Beaty said. “I started my undergraduate career at West Point and transferred to Ouachita Baptist University...”
President’s Perspective

Alliance between Baylor, public television benefits all

In February of this year the Board of Directors of Branson Valley Public Broadcasting Foundation, which operates Waco PBS affiliate KCTF, approached Baylor about expanding the University’s involvement with the public television station. For the past five years Baylor has provided in-kind support for KCTF in the form of office and studio space, accounting services and other infrastructure assistance. The directors of Branson Valley and KCTF’s management recognized, however, that the station’s long-term viability and success depended on finding a partner that could help the station grow. After merger discussions with KERA-TV in Dallas and KEU-TV in Austin failed to yield a partnership, KCTF turned to Baylor.

Studying the options

Dr. Charles S. Madden, vice president for University relations, and Larry Brumley, associate vice president for communications, spent six months studying the options that Baylor had relative to its future relationship with KCTF. They held numerous conversations with KCTF’s General Manager Kiff Kuekel, Telecommunication Division Director Michael Kemp, PBS and Corporation for Public Broadcasting representatives and officials from other university-affiliated public television stations, examined records of development and conducted site visits to two church-related institutions that operate PBS stations. Through this investigation, they determined that it made sense for Baylor to accept an offer from Branson Valley to transfer KCTFs license to the University. Baylor will not be compensating Branson Valley in any way for this license. The foundation is giving the station to the University.

We believe that increased funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, coupled with additional operating efficiencies (such as merging the Public Relations Office’s video communications operation with the television station) enhanced fund-raising support, growth in revenue from outside production work, and other benefits of University affiliation, will allow the station to be self-sustaining.

There are a number of reasons why we believe this is a positive move for Baylor. First and foremost, this arrangement secures a laboratory environment for students in the University’s telecommunication program. Since KCTF moved into our facilities in 1991, our students have been given opportunities to apply what they learn in the classroom to a real, live television station without having to leave the campus. I believe this kind of learning environment contributes to the outstanding reputation our telecommunication graduates enjoy in the broadcast industry. If KCTF had gone off the air it would have merged with an out-of-town station, we would have lost that valuable learning tool for our students.

Serving community needs

Another reason for continuing KCTFs license is that the station serves a community need. While PBS programming also is available on cable from KERA, the Dallas station does not produce local programs that focus on Waco issues and concerns. Within the past few months, KCTF has conducted a number of community outreach initiatives such as a winter drive, town hall meetings and teleconferences, and has produced programs for organizations such as the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Junior League, Career Academy and the Community Youth Summit. I also believe there is public relations value in our association with a respected organization like PBS, which sums more recognition than any other television service for its high-quality children’s, cultural, documentary and public-affair programs. PBS non-commercial, public-service mission guarantees that substance and value, not commercial interests, drive programming decisions. It is a logical fit with Baylor’s educational mission. There also is reason to believe that as a PBS affiliate, the University will have the opportunity to produce programming using Baylor talent and resources that can be distributed to other stations throughout the country, thereby generating additional visibility for the institution.

Digital technology

Finally, a future benefit to the University is represented in the advent of digital television. Current FCC regulations mandate that all non-commercial television stations in the country begin broadcasting a digital signal by the year 2003. This new technology means that KCTF will have the capability of broadcasting not only television programming, but data as well, over as many as four channels. While the space allotted here doesn’t allow for a thorough explanation of the technical details, suffice it to say that the digital technology has tremendous implications for educational institutions such as Baylor.

You will be hearing more about the KCTF transition in the coming weeks, but I wanted to provide you with an advance look at what we believe is a most exciting opportunity for Baylor University. (See related story on page 4.)
Institute Offers Symposia, Seminars to Engage Faculty in Discussions

Continued from page 1

December 1998

Dr. Michael Beaty and Tom McCasland in front of Carroll Library.

OBJECTIVES DEFINED

Dr. Beaty and Dr. Scott Moos, assistant professor of philosophy, developed a proposal that outlined these objectives: to promote research and investigation on the integration of faith and learning to encourage interested faculty members to develop ways to reconnect religious faith to contemporary academic research; to foster a community of scholars dedicated to further such research; to help Baylor become a university of the first rank without sacrificing its Baptist identity; and to inspire students to see the importance of Christian higher education.

“With the Regents’ formal approval and new offices in the Carroll Library building, Dr. Beaty and I设想 to begin implementing the Institute’s objectives, starting with faculty involvement.”

Merging intellect and faith

As a philosopher, Dr. Beaty is interested in the ways Christian faith forms the lives of those who want an intellectually engaging life and in ways the intellectual formation of those who are believers. In 1989, he pursued that interest by becoming involved in a Lilly Endowment-funded research initiative on religion and higher education for individuals to study the relationship between faith and learning as an intellectual, philosophical, sociological and theological problem. His research caught the attention of Provost Donald Schmeltekopf, who is an enthusiastic proponent of integrating faith and learning.

“At one point Dr. Schmeltekopf said to me, ‘All right, Beaty, you have done a lot of thinking about this. What are some things that Baylor can do that would help us to retain our religious identity and to develop it in a healthy way?’” said Dr. Beaty, who noted that Noble Davis has many such institutes. Baylor, on the other hand, has the J. M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies.

“I said we needed some centers or institutes whose mission is deliberately and specifically to sustain and deepen faith commitments in academically responsible ways. Dr. Schmeltekopf encouraged me to develop a proposal for such a center,” Dr. Beaty said.

Faculty reading groups

To get the conversational ball rolling, Dr. Beaty planned several activities. He led a faculty reading group last spring with 12 or so faculty members involved, to discuss George Morden’s The Ostriches Idea of Christian Scholarship, and in August, the Institute co-sponsor a seminar for new tenure or tenure-track faculty. “Scholars and the Christian University” was a weeklong seminar that covered a wide range of topics relevant to Baylor’s mission, from “How to Think About Christian Scholarship” to “Use and Abuse of the Bible.”

“The seminar was a pleasant surprise for me,” said Dr. John Martin, the Carr P. Collins Professor of Finance, who participated in the seminar. “In the business school, we tend to think about issues from an economic standpoint, and I found it stimulating to be among a group of people from other disciplines who think differently than I do and to experience the dialogue.”

As a follow-up to the seminar, Dr. Moore is leading another faculty reading group to discuss Morden’s book, co-sponsored by the Institute for Faith and Learning, Dana Vizena, vice provost for academic affairs, and the Lilly Endowment Inc.

Student interaction

In addition to the dialogue with faculty, the Institute, through its William Carey Ozone Program under the direction of Dr. Moore, helps undergraduate students sort out the relationship between faith and learning through group discussions and other activities. Dr. Beaty also conducted a reading group last spring for graduate students on Martha Nussbaum’s book, Cultivating Humanity. A Classical Defense of Reform in Liberal Education.

Another goal of the Institute is to sponsor events that link scholarship and the Christian faith. “We want to support and sponsor colloquia, as well as symposia and regional and national conferences. In every case our aims will be the same: to promote discussion of contemporary issues from Christian angles of vision, though not exclusively so, to encourage specifically Christian scholarship or to address issues in Christian higher education,” Dr. Beaty said. “That’s why, in October, the Institute co-sponsored the 1998 Pruit Memorial Symposium, “The Christ-Haunted South,” and a mini-conference with Notre Dame on Baptism and Catholic higher education.”

“The conference at Notre Dame was well attended. Anumber of Baylor people came to it,” Dr. Beaty said. “We are planning another similar mini-conference in the spring (at Baylor) to discuss the popes recent Encyclical on Faith and Reason. We hope that the topic will be interesting to Baylor faculty, staff and students as well as the wider community, especially the Catholic community. Baylor could exemplify Christian hospitality by sponsoring conferences that are attractive to Catholic and other Christian communities.”

OPENNESS TO OTHER FAITHS

Indeed, hospitality and openness are characteristics that Dr. Beaty and McCasland stress as important qualities of the Institute. This Institute will not be narrowly Baptist, although we shouldn’t let our Baptist heritage be a barrier,” Dr. Beaty said. “First, most universities that have moved away from their denomination affiliations have lost their religious identity entirely. Second, it is important for Baptists that there is a Baptist university just like it important for Catholics that there is a Notre Dame. But we should be hospitable to all traditions. Intellectually, we ought to take seriously both our common commitments and our differences. It would be wonderful to have Jewish scholars and Muslim scholars here to further the conversation in respect to what Baylor is about,” he said.

There are other conferences in the works, some of which need external funding, and work on proposals to submit to foundations that would support such events is in progress. “We hope we can institute an annual conference with the theme ‘Religious Faith and the Literary Arts.’ Such a conference not only would identify practical ways in which the arts embody faith, but it also would satisfy the academic task to analyze, interpret and argue about the issues at stake in such an enterprise,” Dr. Beaty said.

Dr. Beaty and other faculty also are planning the 1999 Pruit Symposium, “Cultivating Citizens: A Conference on Sciolism and Citizenship in Contemporary America.” As a lead in to the conference, Dr. Dwight Allinan, assistant professor of political science, and Dr. Moos will convene a five-week Summer Scholar’s Institute, “Cultivating Citizens: Civic Life and Contemporary Liberal Democracy.”

Institutes other goals

Other Institute goals include establishing a residential program for religiously informed scholarship, publishing a journal that deals with faith and learning and organizing outreach activities on religion and history for high school teachers. “Baylor needs to institutionalize its commitments to faith and learning in ways that affect curriculum, scholarship and its intellectual responsibility to its various constituencies. Excellence in both programs and scholarship is essential so that the project of faith and learning can’t be made the object of ridicule,” Dr. Beaty said.

“Many say we’re religion committed and higher education an strange bedfellow,” he added. “However, Baylor’s unique mission is to have faith informed by the best of learning and to have learning informed by the best of faith.”
December is the time to deck the halls, enjoy holiday music, give to others and gather with friends and family to share in the spirit of the season — all activities that are on the calendar for the Baylor family this month.

First on the schedule, President Robert B. Sloan Jr. will host his President’s Community Reception at 7 p.m. Dec. 1 in the Ferrell Drawing Room of the Ferrell Center. Local business leaders, school superintendents and members of the Waco Chamber of Commerce are invited to enjoy this informal buffet reception.

“It is a social time for those invited to visit with Dr. and Mrs. Sloan,” said Judy Muggard, who is coordinating this special event for the Sloans.

The Waco Christmas Tree Lighting, this year with a 25-foot-tall tree, will begin at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at Fountain Mall. Mike Singletary, pro football Hall of Famer and Baylor alumnus, will deliver a spiritual message, and Nashville musician Chris Rice will perform.

“Hopefully, there will be several thousand people attending,” said David Williams, chairman of the Christmas Tree Lighting committee, and a former Waco City Council member. “It’s a charity function for Toys for Tots. Those attending are asked to bring a new toy to donate.

Santa’s Workshop Dec. 3

To continue that spirit of giving, Santa’s Workshop, a Baylor tradition that benefits economically disadvantaged children, will be held from 10 a.m. to noon on Dec. 3.

“We invite children in the community to get a meal and a gift. It is sponsored by Staff Council, Student Activities and AR/AV/WR Food service,” said Murray McKinney, Staff Council chair. Student council will also provide music and Santa and Mrs. Claus will make an appearance. A representative from Scholastic Books will also be present to read The Night Before Christmas.

“It gives underprivileged kids a chance to get Christmas gifts,” said Melanie Ford, community service coordinator in Student Activities.

Choral Christmas concerts

K Dee, beautiful music fills the air on campus during the holidays. On Dec. 4, 5 and 6 in Jones Concert Hall, the Baylor University Choral Christmas Concert will feature the A Capella Choir, Concert Choir and the Baylor Symphony Orchestra.

“Our Choral Christmas Concerts traditionally bring capacity audiences to Jones Concert Hall,” said Dr. Mike Beck, concert and promotion manager for the music school, “and certainly this year — with the full orchestra joining the choirs — will be no exception.”

Tickets for the concerts are $5 and can be purchased in Room 200 of Bayne Grove Hall or by mail. Please make checks payable to Baylor University and mail to Christmas tickets, Baylor University, School of Music, P.O. Box 79400, Waco, Texas 76798-7940.

The Waco Symphony Orchestra and Ballet Austin will present the beloved Christmas classic, Tchaikovsky’s “The Nutcracker” on Dec. 4, 6 and 7 in Waco Hall. Tickets are $15 to $25.

“Tis the Season for Campus Holiday Festivities, Events

Full month of Christmas activities includes tree lighting, concerts, receptions, Santa’s Workshop, gift giving, and much more.

KCTF Baylor OK New Pact, Await FCC Approval

New board members selected from University, community to oversee station

The boards of Baylor University and Brazos Valley Public Broadcasting Foundation, which operates Waco public television station KCTF Channel 34, have approved an agreement to transfer control of the foundation to the University, pending approval from the Federal Communications Commission.

KCTF had in recent months been seeking a partner to strengthen station operations. The station is housed on the Baylor campus and receives a number of in-kind services from the University, including office and studio space, accounting services and other infrastructure support.

Important community resource

“KCTF is an important resource to the community and to the University,” said Baylor President Robert B. Sloan Jr. “Its educational, cultural and public service programming adds to the quality of life in Waco, and the station provides valuable hands-on learning experiences for students in the University’s telecommunication division. We did not want to see the community lose control of its public television station.”

Brazos Valley Public Broadcasting Foundation was established by a community group in 1953 to assume ownership of KCTF from Central Texas College in Killeen, which had held the station’s license since it went on the air in 1989.

The KCTF license transferred to Brazos Valley on Feb. 1, 1994. Central Texas College continues to operate public television station KNOT, which serves Bell and Coryell counties.

“This new relationship with Baylor gives KCTF the ability to magnify the growth that the station has been experiencing and allow Baylor to broaden and deepen its relationship with all of us who live in Waco and Milam County,” said Randy Ranney, current chairman of the board of Brazos Valley Gulfstar Communications, owner of six Waco radio stations, has offered KCTF free use of its 1,000-foot broadcast tower, a savings that will amount to $1 million over the 25-year lease, Dr. Sloan said.

New board selected

Brazos Valley will be governed by a 12-member board made up of University and community representatives. They are Dr. Corey Armstrong, associate vice president of Baylor’s Institute for Technology Management and professor of computer science, Jim Fulkok, president of Nearest Bank, Waco, and Nell Hawkins, longtime Waco community leader, active in numerous organizations including the American Heart Association, the Cameron Park Zoo and Baylor.

Also, Shaw Henderson, branch manager, Bank of America, Waco; Martha Lucy Howe, longtime Waco community leader and graduate of Baylor’s Hankamer School of Business, active in numerous organizations including Junior League of Waco, Waco Family Y, Helen Marie Taylor Museum of Waco History, Hippodrome Theatre and Waco Urban Palace; George Johnson, director of Economic Development for the City of Waco and pastor of St. Paul AME Church in Waco; Dr. Michael Krenziger, professor of political science and director of Baylor’s Telecommunication Division.

Also, Dr. Charles S. Malen, Baylor vice president for University relations and chairman of the board of directors for the American Marketing Association; Randy Ranney, current board chair of Brazos Valley Public Broadcasting Foundation and vice president with Merrill Lynch’s Waco office; Sen. David M. Shelby, Baylor regent and state senator; Bob Senior, executive director, Baylor Waco Foundation; and a member of the Baylor Development staff; and Dr. Sloan.

FCC approval is expected by late January.
rather than particular theological was to serve common national ideals Christian college or university — in specific religious purpose. To be a generic and moralizing language for Christian schools began to substitute academic convictions. Both their religious character and their denominational identity. Indeed, churches, they remained unashamed of Christian doctrine concerning such scriptures, and the truthfulness of alien marketplace deities. Yet these funding organizations have set up secular accrediting agencies and autonomous academic disciplines, have the advantages of class and power that happens chiefly at schools catering to the strangely warmed heart and the that the two great Evangelical gifts — they may thrive for a while. He argues that the two great Evangelical gifts — the strangely warmed heart and the efficiently structured language for Christian education itself. The demands of career oriented education have made specialized faculties divided into autonomous academic disciplines, have virtually stultified the Christian light. Such Christian academics and funding organizations have set up standards of excellence that not only encourage but often require religious blandness and anonymity.

Hard to resist pressures Burtchaell concludes that it is exceedingly hard to resist these homogenizing pressures that cause Christian schools to lose their marketable marketplace defenses. Yet these same schools have become increasingly enamored about the confessed foundations of their own enterprise. Not wanting to give offense to the pluralist establishment, they have trimmed and softened their witness so that giving Christian education an unique purchase on the truth. Burtchaell flags the 1960s as the time that marked the real failure of Christian schools, and stresses the need to bring Christian schools worthily to enhance their academic life, denominational colleges were deflected leftward, Burtchaell shows that a right-wing secularization can also occur. It happens chiefly at schools catering to the advantages of class and power that accrue to a prosperous clientele. Conservative Christian colleges may still speak the language of Zion, but the values of Wall Street and Hollywood are usually their actual staff. It is true that many schools, authoritarian administrators promote top-down reforms in the name of a Christian orthodoxy that is often but a screen for personal power and scholarly mediocrity.

A call for rebirth James Burtchaell’s dour diagnosis of Christian higher education constitutes a call, I believe, for rebirth. Scholarship whose outlook is informed by the divine self-disclosure in the Jews and Jesus Christ finds its academic life in the intellectual low of God. Christian faith, Burtchaell traces the all-too-predictable pattern whereby colleges and universities have now sold their rich Christian heritage, the mind with the claims of the Gospel, Having once sought to engage the life of embracing the life of the mind, Christian scholars have become alienated from their supporting churches, and have became alienated from their supporting churches. They began as cohesive academic communities of confessing Christians gathered for worship and study. The personal piety and the organizational loyalty of both its faculties and its students sustained them. They grounded their enterprise in common worship, the relatability of the Christian scriptures, and the truthfulness of Christian doctrine concerning such fundamental matters as human sinfulness and divine redemption. With such close ties to their sponsoring churches, they remained unashamed of their denominational identity. Indeed, it gave them their vigor and distinctive ness as the single most important value of Wall Street and Hollywood are usually their actual staff. It is true that many schools, authoritarian administrators promote top-down reforms in the name of a Christian orthodoxy that is often but a screen for personal power and scholarly mediocrity.

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Dr. Wendy E. Sera, assistant professor of biology, chaired a paper session at the annual meeting of the Texas Society of Mammalogists in Junction Feb. 20-22. She also completed a short course on Blackland GRASS GIS-offered by Baylor University’s Center for Applied Geographic and Environmental Systems at the SEPM Research Conference “Fluid Models of Shallow Non-karsted Carbonate Flow Geology, presented a poster titled “Conceptual Models of Shallow Non-karsted Carbonate Flow Systems” at the SEPM Research Conference “Thrust Flow in Carbonates: Interdisciplinary Approaches” held Sept. 20-25 in Door County, Wis.

Dr. Eric C. Lai, assistant professor of music theory, presented a paper titled “Taming the Lute: A Study of the English Lute’s Right Hand Technique” at the annual meeting of the American Society for Music Education held June 26-7 July 1 in Seattle, Wash.

Dr. Jim Parison, professor and chair of engineering, and Dr. Stephen M. Williams, assistant professor of engineering, presented an Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) conference paper “The Foundations of Religious Human Rights, sponsored by the Ministry of Justice, held June 16-20 in Lima, Peru. On a trip to Bulgaria this past summer, Dr. Wood participated in a conference on “Proposed Draft of a New Law on ReligiousLiberty,” served as a panel member on “Religion and the State” for a Romanian radio broadcast, presented a lecture titled “The Nexus of Religious Human Rights and the Democratic State” at the Peruvian Conference on Religious Human Rights, sponsored by the Ministry of Justice, and delivered a keynote address titled “On Revolutionary Theology” at the international computer music conference in Ann Arbor, Mich., and a violin master class and a violin recital at Depauw University Oct. 23-24.

Dr. James E. Wood Jr., the Simon and Ethel Bunn Distinguished Professor of Church-State Studies, participated in and presided at a board of directors meeting of the international American Academy of Religion and Belief held in January in Washington, D.C., participated in a meeting of the advisory committee on Religious Freedom Abroad for the U.S. State Department Jan. 23 in D.C., and delivered the keynote address titled “The Nexus of Religious Human Rights and the Democratic State” at the National Prayer Breakfast held Feb. 28 in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Bruce Berg, assistant professor of music, taught violin classes and music performance and was a featured performer at the Millington Music Festival held July 1-Aug. 8. He also served as a summer music master class instructor at the University of Chapel Hill, N.C., and the University of Michigan, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, a solo violin recital and a lecture titled “Problems in Contemporary Violin Performance” at North Carolina State University, a performance of “Xuan Men, Mysterium Gate” at the international computer music conference in London, and a violin master class and a violin recital at Depauw University Oct. 23-24.

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May 2001, will double the size of the Law
Center, which is scheduled for completion in
his wife, Sheridan.
Williams was accompanied at the conference by
Umphrey's wife, Sheila, was unable to attend
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and their spouses are going to make a difference
philanthropy and their stunning generosity, they
have been wonderful.”
Baylor students have volunteered to staff the exhibit on
weekdays from noon until 5 p.m. and on most weekends;
however, Baylor Community Service Coordinator Melissa
Pithols said that faculty and staff also are encouraged to
help. “This is a two-month project, so it is really huge and
will take a large number of volunteers,” she said.
Admission to Backyard Monsters is $4 per person with
current enrollment is close to 250. Current enrollment is
done by KCF/SHG of Washington, D.C., which
offices, and common areas.
meeting rooms, faculty and administrative
facilities will include classrooms, practice
rooms, and law library, seminar and meeting rooms, faculty and administrative
offices, and common areas.
Architectural work for the project has been
done by KCF/SHG of Washington, D.C., which
has designed law school facilities for Catholic
Law School

Located adjacent to Fort Fisher, the new
facility will include classrooms, practice
courtsrooms, the law library, seminar and meeting rooms, faculty and administrative
offices, and common areas.

Continued from page 2

“Those gentleman have made a difference
to the people of Texas. And now through their
philanthropy and their stunning generosity, they
and their spouses are going to make a difference
for generations of Baylor lawyers to come,”
Toben said. “They now stand among the most
generous philanthropists in the history of higher
education in America.”
Umphrey and Williams both spoke with
pride at the news conference about the impact
Baylor had made on their lives.
“When you tell people you’re a Baylor
lawyer, it makes a difference. They know that
you received a solid education,” Umphrey said.
Umphrey’s wife, Sheila, was unable to attend
because of a prior family engagement.
Williams, the son of a homesteader, also
attributed his success to the Baylor education he
received. He said how “shrewd” it was for him
to be able to give something back to Baylor. Williams
was accompanied at the conference by
his wife, Sherriann.
Harold Nix and his wife, Carol Ann, also
were unable to attend the program.
The 121,000-square-foot Umphrey Law
Center, which is scheduled for completion in
May 2003, will double the size of the Law
School’s Morrison Constitution Hall, which was
completed in September 1955. Enrollment then
was about 250. Current enrollment is close to 400,
and this figure will be maintained,
preserving the Law School’s reputation for the
personal attention its students receive.
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Dr. Jeffrey J. Mitchell, mathematics, $66,400; Hertz-Kamil Analysis of Lie Groups, National
Science Foundation
Dr. Mark R. Sepanski, mathematics, $99,900; Exploring Realizations for Certain Singular
Unitary Representations, National Science Foundation, National Security Agency
Dr. Mark R. Sepanski, mathematics, $25,927; Hertz-Kamil Analysis of Lie Groups, National
Security Agency
Dr. David Arndt and Dr. Manfred Dugas, mathematics, $33,965; Categories of Butler
Groups and Representations, National Security Agency
Dr. Bruce Byars and Steve Clamon, Jr., Center for Applied Geoflarial Research, $8,000; Bosque
River Watershed Environmental Baseline Assessment; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Dr. Carey R. Caro-a-near, Institute for Technology Innovation Management, $2,500;
Executive Education Program; R.J. Dreyer Broadcasting Corp
Dr. Robert P. Adams, Plant Biotechnology Center, $15,000; Conservation of Diversity of
Vetiver Germplasm by the Use of DNA Fingerprinting and Subsequent Germplasm Collections;
Walters Genetic Foundation
Dr. David Hollingsworth, accounting and business law, $1,000; Accounting Scholarship
Email & News
Dr. Michael Beatty, Institute for Faith and Learning, $46,832; Citizenship in America, The
Brenden and Adele Rapoport Foundation

Letters of Inquiry (October)
Dr. Sara Alexander, environmental studies, Erotique Education to Make a World of
Difference: The Frost Foundation, Ltd.
Dr. Sara Alexander, environmental studies, Erotique Education to Make a World of
Difference: The Roy A. Hunt Foundation

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Giant insects, some more than 10 feet tall, will
invade Waco in early January. No, this isn’t some
straight-out of a horror movie, but rather an
exhibit that promises to fascinate children and adults alike.
The Junior League of Waco and Baylor are sponsoring
“Backyard Monsters,” a traveling exhibit that introduces
children to the world of bugs. The exhibit will run Jan. 9
through March 6 at the General Exhibits Building at the Heart of
Texas Fairgrounds on Bosque Boulevard. The Junior League
will donate all proceeds from the event to fund the “People of
the World” room in the future children’s museum in the
proposed Discovery Center museum complex.
“The Junior League is committed to helping children,
and we have a long history of helping the Ollie Mae Moen
Discovery Center, both financially and through volunteer
placement,” said Cathy Pflotz, president of the Junior League of
Waco. “Sponsoring Backyard Monsters provides us the
perfect opportunity to help the center enhance the services that it
provides to children.”
“Backyard Monsters” is similar to the immensely
popular “Disneymation” exhibit that toured the country
several years ago, which the Junior League also brought to Waco. That
exhibit featured enormous robotic dinosaurs, and this newest
exhibit features six enormous robotic bugs—a tarantula, unicorn beetle, emperor scorpion, praying mantis, carpenter
ant and dragon fly— all anatomically correct. Additionally,
visitors can participate in 10 hands-on exhibits such as “It’s A
Flea’s Life,” which explores the world of a flea, “Buy a Eye
View,” which allows participants to step into an insect head to
look through its multilensed eyes, and “The Better To Eat You
With,” which demonstrates how insects eat. “Backyard
Monsters” also will feature insect specimen collections, a gift
shop and a party room.
“We want this to be an educational experience for
Central Texas children as well as a great fund-raiser for the
children’s museum,” said Suzi Pagel, co-chair of the
Backyard Monsters exhibit.
“This will be an absolutely fantastic exhibit,” said Jill
Barrow, director of the Ollie Mae Moen Discovery Center.
The cooperation between the Junior League and Baylor has
been wonderful.”
Baylor students have volunteered to staff the exhibit on
weekdays from noon until 5 p.m. and on most weekends;
however, Baylor Community Service Coordinator Melissa
Pithols said that faculty and staff also are encouraged to
help. “This is a two-month project, so it is really huge and
will take a large number of volunteers,” she said.
Admission to Backyard Monsters is $4 per person with
children under age 2 admitted free. The exhibit will be open
9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m.
on Sundays. To volunteer, contact Pithols at ext. 6938. — Julie
Carlton