David E. Daniel, Ph.D., Hutgessell professor of civil engineering and dean, College of Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, was named president of the University of Texas at Dallas on Thursday (Feb. 10) by the UT System Board of Regents. Daniel will succeed President Franklyn Jenifer who will retire this year.

"The Board of Regents is delighted that Dr. Daniel has agreed to serve in this very important and demanding role. Daniel brings to the presidency of UT Dallas a well-established record of achievement as a scientist, researcher and administrator, and he has a deep understanding and appreciation of the complex role that universities play in society, as centers of education and research, and as partners in economic development," said James R. Huffines, chairman of the Board of Regents.

Daniel earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in civil engineering from The University of Texas at Austin. He served on the engineering faculty of UT Austin with increasing responsibilities from 1980 until 1996 when he moved to the University of Illinois. He was named engineering dean at Illinois in 2001.

Daniel's research expertise has focused on engineered containment systems for waste disposal and cleanup of contaminated waste disposal sites. He has won the American Society of Civil Engineers highest award for papers published in its journals and in 2000 was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

"Dr. Daniel possesses a unique combination of talents to provide dynamic guidance for UT Dallas," said Chancellor Mark G. Yudof. "A distinguished scientist, teacher, administrator and fundraiser at one of the nation's leading engineering programs, he has the breadth of experience, the knowledge, and the wisdom necessary for meeting the range of challenges facing today's universities. He is a superb choice and will be an excellent president."

UT Dallas President Franklyn Jenifer praised the selection of Daniel as the university's next leader. "I think Dr. Daniel is an excellent choice to be the next president of UTD. His academic credentials are impeccable, and, perhaps even more important, he has the maturity, sophistication and vision needed to lead the university forward in the challenging years ahead," Jenifer said. "Dr. Daniel has excelled at his own academic discipline — engineering — and that is an area that obviously is very important to UTD. But his interests and understanding also extend to an appreciation of much broader and deeper intellectual, humanistic and philosophical issues. That is what will make him an exceptional leader and a great university president."

UT System News Release, February 10, 2005
Message from the Dean

On June 1, Dr. David Daniel assumed the Presidency of the University of Texas at Dallas. He comes from the University of Illinois where he was Dean of the College of Engineering.

There has been a great deal of excitement regarding this transition. The University has undergone a remarkable period of growth and accomplishment under President Jenifer, and anticipation is high for the next interval. As part of Dr. Daniel's planning for the University he asked that each School present a plan outlining where it would like to be in ten years. While always difficult to extrapolate that far in the future, this charge nevertheless gave the School faculty an opportunity to think about where their respective fields were developing and whether there were new programs that we should be creating to prepare the next generation of students. We thought about what facilities that we would need and where there were opportunities to collaborate with University and community partners.

We envision exciting new collaborations with the Schools of Engineering and Computer Science, Natural Science and Mathematics at UTD as well as UT Southwestern Medical School and partners around the country and indeed, the world. As these plans emerge we will be informing you of the continued evolution of the School and University. Dr. Daniel brings a real sense of excitement and possibility, and we look forward to working with him to insure the University's success.

Dr. Ross J. Roeser Receives Mauldin Award for Excellence in Education

Dr. Ross J. Roeser, executive director of the highly acclaimed Callier Center for Communication Disorders at The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), has won the 2005 Larry Mauldin Award for Excellence in Education. Roeser was presented the award over the weekend at the 17th annual convention of the American Academy of Audiology in Washington, D.C. The award, which has been given since 1999 and honors the accomplishments of the late Larry Mauldin and his commitment to the field of audiology, is given to a hearing industry professional who is nominated and selected by his or her peers. The award is sponsored by Beltone Electronics Corporation of Chicago. Mauldin, who died in 1998, was an employee of Beltone and served as the company's lead trainer for audiology.

"Ross Roeser has been one of the national leaders in audiology education, and this award is fitting acknowledgement of his many contributions," said Dr. Bert Moore, dean of UTD's School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. "It can truly be said that he has been one of a very few who have shaped the modern field of training and research in audiology."

The audiology program at UTD, which is part of the Callier Center and the university's School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, is ranked among the top five in the United States.

Roeser serves as a professor of communication sciences as well as executive director of the Callier Center, which is renowned for its clinical, educational and research programs in communication disorders. His research interests include the application of hearing-instrument technology to improving communications skills. He has helped develop and evaluate tactile aids, cochlear implants and hearing aids, and has worked to define and expand the role of audiologists in the United States. Roeser also serves as editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Audiology, a leading professional publication in the science of hearing and hearing defects and their treatment that boasts a worldwide circulation. He holds a Ph.D. degree in audiology and hearing science from Florida State University.

"Ross Roeser has been one of the national leaders in audiology education, and this award is fitting acknowledgement of his many contributions," said Dr. Bert Moore, dean of UTD's School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. "It can truly be said that he has been one of a very few who have shaped the modern field of training and research in audiology."
Dr. Anne van Kleeck Joins BBS

Dr. Anne van Kleeck can't remember a time when she wasn't fascinated with language. “I've always had a particular interest in languages in general,” she explains. “I loved language and loved studying it.”

In July 2004, van Kleeck joined the Program in Communication Disorders at UTD’s Callier Center as a professor and research scholar in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. Van Kleeck brings years of experience in the field of communication disorders. As an undergraduate student, van Kleeck double majored in French and speech communication at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and she spent a semester studying in France. She went on to earn her master's degree in speech pathology at Teachers College at Columbia University and a Ph.D. in speech and hearing science at the University of Washington. After nineteen years in the Department of Speech Communication at The University of Texas at Austin, she moved to the University of Georgia, where she headed the Department of Communication Sciences for seven years.

Van Kleeck's tasks as a professor at UTD have included setting up a lab and teaching a doctoral seminar in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences that focuses on literate discourse, a subject she has been researching for some time. Literate discourse refers to a culturally shaped orientation toward oral and written text that involves going beyond literal meaning to think critically about information. It is of utmost importance to children's success in school. Her most recent research examined how preschool children are exposed to and learn to engage in literate discourse.

Dr. van Kleeck's articles have appeared in more than fifteen books, she has co-edited two books, and she is a sought-after public speaker who has presented her work at numerous conferences and seminars. Her work also has been widely published in journals.

School of BBS Grant Highlight: Dr. William Katz

Dr. William F. Katz, an associate professor of communication disorders in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences at The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD), has won a grant from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to study apraxia of speech (AOS), a neurological disorder characterized by an inability to correctly produce speech, despite having the desire and physical ability to do so. Katz's research will focus on brain damage resulting from a stroke, which causes difficulty coordinating speech movements.

Katz and the other researchers will work with a group of 20 adult apraxic/aphasic sufferers who will undergo baseline and kinematic training sessions lasting approximately eight to 17 weeks. Specifically, the researchers will evaluate the efficacy of a new technology called Electromagnetic Articulography, or EMA, in the remediation of AOS. EMA involves placing sensors in the patient's mouth in order to track tongue movement during speech. EMA feedback allows apraxic/aphasic subjects an opportunity to observe their own tongue movements during speech, which appears to improve their speaking ability.
The last decade has seen the rapid growth of technologies that enable investigators to "map" the areas of the brain involved in various complex behaviors. School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences (BBS) faculty have been engaged for many years in assessing the physiology of the brain as individuals engage in behavior. One technique they use is the EEG (electroencephalogram), in which electrodes are applied to the scalp and measure electrical activity in the brain. Over the last five years, there has been an increasing interest among the School of BBS faculty to use another brain imaging tool, FMRI (Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging) to investigate cognitive, social, and perceptual processes. The School of BBS faculty has been working collaboratively with faculty members at UT Southwestern (UTSW), where FMRI actually takes place.

"The emerging technologies of SPECT (Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography) and FMRI have been exciting new tools for looking at brain behavior," according to Bert Moore, Dean of the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences. An effort is currently being made to obtain federal support for a joint neuro-imaging center between UTD, UTSW, and UT Arlington. During the past year, UTSW received money to support a new imaging building where there will be dedicated space for collaborative research efforts. "I think there is finally a real opportunity for School of BBS investigators to work collaboratively with the UTSW faculty for looking at a variety of questions regarding brain activity for a number of normal and clinical phenomena and we will be hiring faculty who have specific expertise in imaging because it is such a fast growing field," says Moore.

BBS Welcomes Marco Atzori, Ph.D.

Dr. Marco Atzori recently moved to Dallas from the Blanchette Rockefeller Neuroscience Institute in Maryland to join the Neuroscience group at the School for Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

Dr. Atzori completed his undergraduate studies in physics in Trieste, Italy, where he also obtained his masters and doctorate in electrophysiology at the International School for Advanced Studies (ISAS). After finishing his doctoral dissertation on the physiology of the GABAergic system in the hippocampus, Dr. Atzori came to the United States in 1996 as a post-doctoral fellow. He has continued to study the hippocampus, the part of the brain related to memory and learning, and extended his interest to study the sensory neocortex. His post-doctoral work was done over a period of 4 years in Memphis, Tennessee, and in Washington, D.C., where he worked as Fogarty Fellow first at the NIDCD (Nat'l Inst. of Deafness and Communication Disorders) and then at the NICHD (Nat'l Inst. of Children and Human Development). During his time there, he studied the intrinsic synaptic circuitry of the auditory cortex. His work in Washington D.C. brought him in contact with Dr. Michael Kilgard, an associate professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences.

The collaboration with Dr. Kilgard and Dr. Atzori’s interest in the auditory system brought him to UTD where, with a grant from the NIH, he is now doing research in a neurophysiology and neuroanatomy laboratory (Laboratory of Cell and Synaptic Physiology). His research seeks to identify the shape and functional properties of the neurons in the auditory cortex, their basic local connectivity, and the manner in which neuromodulators affect their short- and long-term functional plasticity. Marco’s laboratory makes extensive use of rodents’ brain slices that are particularly suitable for the study of local circuits and their pharmacological properties. His current projects focus on the role of acetylcholine in the modulation of neurotransmitter release and long-term depression. Since he started with the School of BBS in September, 2004, Dr. Atzori says he is very happy to be here. "The colleagues are terrific, the personnel are great, and I am very grateful to all the students who are working hard in the lab," says Marco, "which should really pay off for them in the present and in the future."
Faculty Profile: Dr. Jim Bartlett

Dr. Jim Bartlett has been a professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences since 1975. Dr. Bartlett became fascinated with the human mind at a very early age and was a very introspective child. He wondered things like why somebody's favorite color was blue whereas somebody else's was yellow and why some people can remember things better than others. But it wasn't until his sophomore year in college at The University of Texas at Austin that Dr. Bartlett took several psychology courses and decided to make a career out of exploring the mind. He changed his major to psychology and conducted a number of independent study projects with various professors on topics ranging from memory for dreams to the behavioral genetics of aggression in mice.

Jim saw a new book entitled *Cognitive Psychology* by Ulric Neisser in his senior year. It resonated very strongly with him and he decided to apply to graduate programs in cognitive psychology. Dr. Bartlett did his doctoral work at Yale, supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation. During his graduate school years, he became fascinated with research in two basic areas: brain and language and human memory. In his later years in graduate school and on into his years as an academic, Dr. Bartlett began to focus on non-verbal memory because most of the work on memory in those days was done with verbal materials that he believed led to biases favoring certain types research questions and theoretical ideas. He also believed that the lack of attention given to nonverbal memory had kept certain basic phenomena from being observed.

"To this day I think one of the real draws for me in the scientific enterprise is the aspect of discovery," says Jim, and the draw has really governed his behavior ever since. During the last 15 years, Jim has focused most of his research efforts on face memory which he says has been very gratifying. He also has interests in cognitive aging, and more particularly memory aging, or what happens to the basic memory mechanisms as we grow older. He is also comparing young adults and older adults in the real-world task of eye-witness identification where it seems older adults are sometimes more prone to false-identification errors than are young adults.

Jim Bartlett recently began teaching the perception, learning, and cognitive aspects of Introductory Psychology, which he greatly enjoys, and for many years has taught an undergraduate course in Cognitive Psychology. He also teaches graduate level courses on human memory.
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THIS EDITION’S “SCRAMBLER”

Unscramble each group of letters and write the words on the dashes. Then transfer each letter on a numbered dash to its correspondingly numbered dash at the bottom and you’ll complete the sentence.

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