

# Discover HT

## Dr. Alaine Hutson



History Professor

Doctorate from

Indiana University

I joined Huston-Tillotson University in fall of 2008 as an associate professor of history. I came to HT after teaching in Missouri for nine years where I also served as an assistant dean in the College of Humanities and Public Affairs. I specialize in African and Middle East history with an emphasis on slavery and gender in Islamic societies, and I also enjoy teaching students about the history of this country starting at Reconstruction in 1865. I have several academic publications; the most recent is “African Sufi Women and Ritual Change” in the Journal of Ritual Studies in 2004, and I am working on an article entitled “‘Common Failings of Our Common Humanity’: A Preliminary Exploration of Issues Common to Slavery in the Middle East and the Atlantic World.”

I have settled down here in Austin, Texas, but love to travel for work and play. **I have lived and done research in Nigeria and the United Kingdom.** I attended seminars and studied in Egypt, France, Morocco, and the Sudan. As a child of an Air Force family, I lived in Germany and as a grown-up historian have visited colleagues and given lectures there. Along the way, I have visited Ghana, Italy, Niger, Saudi Arabia, and Tunisia.

My education is my most valuable asset, and it all started at the University of Pennsylvania in the city of my birth, Philadelphia. My undergraduate experience really shaped how I think, who I am, and what I do for a living. My education introduced me to the world of intellectuals and academics and helped me determine my career path. I began studying Africa and the Islamic World and wandering the globe. I fell in love with African and Islamic history while studying in Nigeria at the University of Ibadan. There I crafted my own individualized major in African Studies with a heavy emphasis on history and Arabic training and much study with visiting international scholars. Along the way I became a student-athlete, learning to row on the Schuylkill River and being part of a strong crew tradition at the school. The opportunities I took advantage of as an undergraduate really helped me stand out from the crowd of applicants for graduate school; I won a full CIC fellowship to Indiana University where I earned my M.A and Ph.D. Along the way, I was able to study with a few famous African historians at Oxford University and learn an African language, Hausa, at SOAS.

My undergraduate experience still sets the tone for my life today and enables me to take advantage of new opportunities. I am still a student-athlete in life. I continue to learn new things and teach in all aspects of my life. I row here on Town Lake, play tennis, learned to be a professional tennis official, and teach others to become certified tennis officials. I have traveled all over the country and been on court as an official with the best women and men tennis players in the world. I have recently learned more about the Middle East and changed my focus from sub-Saharan Africa to the Arab world. I still love to travel and learn about new cultures.

# Discover HT

## Dr. Gloria Quinlan

Music Professor

Doctorate in Music

University of Texas at Austin



Gloria Harrison Quinlan, a native of Houston, Texas, received the Bachelor of Music Education degree from Texas Southern University, the Master of Music in Voice from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, and the Doctor of Musical Art degree in Voice from The University of Texas at Austin. She has significant experience in teaching voice, conducting choirs, and was head of the music department on the college and university levels. After a position as Assistant Professor of Music at Knoxville College in Knoxville, Tennessee, she was Associate Professor of Music and Director of choirs at the University of the Virgin Islands. She later became Chairperson of the Music Department at the University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Presently, Dr. Quinlan is Professor of Music and Chair of the Humanities and Fine Arts Department at Huston-Tillotson University, Austin, Texas.

Dr. Quinlan has enjoyed success as a performer, in opera, as a soloist with ensembles, and, as a recitalist, throughout the United States and the Caribbean. Significant performances include: soprano soloist in a performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Caribbean Chorale and Puerto Rico Symphony; soprano soloist with the Austin Civic Chorus and Austin Singers Chorus in performances of the Brahms Requiem. Her Opera Roles include: "Santuzza" in Cavalleria Rusticana by Mascagni, the "Countess" in Mozart's LeNozze di Figaro, "Donna Elvira" in Don Giovanni, and "Baby Doe" in The Ballad of Baby Doe by Moore/LaTouche as well as the Musical role of "Maria" in Leonard Bernstein's West Side Story.

She is also conductor for Huston-Tillotson University's Concert Choir that performs locally and throughout the country. The choir has sung for Presidents Jummie Carter and George W. Bush. Dr. Quinlan was afforded the honor of organizing and conducting the choir that sang for the "Lady Bird Johnson" funeral service. Recently, the HT Concert choir traveled to the Caribbean for a performance tour in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

She has studied voice with Ruth Stewart, Martha Deatherage, and Larry Day and has coached with Gerard Souzay of Paris, the late Darryl Hobson-Byrd and the late David Garvey.

She has received numerous awards and was recently named the 2011 co-conductor of the 105 Voices of History Historically Black Colleges and Universities Concert Choir for their performance at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C.

She is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS), Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA), American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), and Music Educators National Conference (MENC).

# Discover HT

## Dr. Anne Cirella-Urrutia



French Instructor  
Doctorate in  
Comparative Literature  
University of Texas at Austin

Anne Cirella-Urrutia comes to Huston-Tillotson University all the way from the South of France with several stops in between, of course. She started her journey to America and education in the French town of Alès where she was born to Italian parents who migrated there 50 years ago.

“I attended high school in the city of Béziers where I graduated in 1983 with a baccalauréat in foreign languages (English, German and Italian),” said Cirella-Urrutia. “In 1983, I attended University Paul Valéry in Montpellier, France, where I graduated with a Diplôme d'Etudes Approfondies (DEA degree) in 1990. I taught French in Scotland from 1985 through 1986 - my first experience abroad in French!”

After moving to the United States and becoming a United States citizen in 1998, Cirella-Urrutia taught French at the University of Texas at Austin for two years and later joined the Comparative Literature Program there in 1992. She earned a doctorate in comparative literature at UT in 1998 and wrote a dissertation that shows the extension of the ‘French Theatre of the Absurd’ in relation to American children's plays.

“I started to teach French at HT in spring 2000 where I initiated my teaching career with a course in world literature,” Cirella-Urrutia said. “Shortly after, I began teaching French.” Since then, she has been HT’s adjunct French professor. **“I am very enthusiastic about teaching my language and the diversity of the French-speaking world.”**

Cirella-Urrutia’s passion for teaching her native language doesn’t stop inside the classroom. She takes her love of learning and exploring to the community. “Every year, I have organized cultural events and invited guest speakers [to] the official ‘March 20th Journée Internationale de la Francophonie’,” she said. “I have also been able to welcome French singer Marc Vincent, present a musical from Austin Community College (ACC), and welcome children's illustrator and writer, Dominique Mwankumi from the Democratic Republic of Congo in 2004 [to Austin].”

More than 40 countries observe the ‘Journée Internationale de la Francophonie’. Cirella-Urrutia has invited nearby universities to the event including UT, Texas State University at San Marcos, Southwestern University, and ACC. She’s also extended an invitation to area associations like Alliance Française of Austin ([www.afaustin.org](http://www.afaustin.org)) and Austin Accueil ([www.austinaccueil.org](http://www.austinaccueil.org)) to visit HT and meet with faculty and students.

With a country dedicating entire neighborhoods and communities to Hispanic and Asian cultures, Cirella-Urrutia said she is very enthused to know that French is the second official language used during such international events like the Olympics. “I have had the chance to talk French on campus to many students from the Caribbean and Africa,” said Cirella-Urrutia. “I have been also very pleased to have students majoring in music and help some of them perfect their diction while rehearsing. It is a pleasure for me to know that I am part of this huge family that is HT and that French, like Spanish and Chinese, has its unique place.”



# Discover HT

## Dr. Janice Sumler-Edmond



History Professor

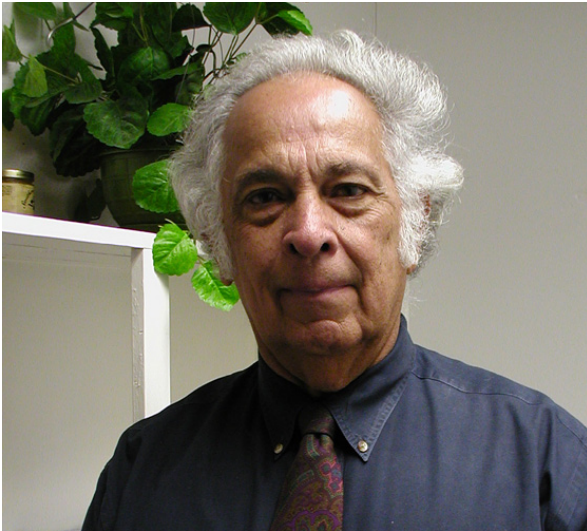
Doctorate in American History  
from Georgetown University  
and a Jurisprudence Degree from  
the UCLA School of Law

Janice Sumler-Edmond has served as a professor of United States History, African American History, and Constitutional History and Law since her appointment to the Huston-Tillotson University faculty in 2002. She is also the director of the W. E. B. DuBois Honors Program. Previously, she taught history at Clark Atlanta University and served as the chair of the History Department and as an Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences. Professor Sumler-Edmond earned the Ph.D. degree in American History from Georgetown University and the J.D. degree from the UCLA School of Law. As a practicing attorney, Professor Sumler-Edmond spent a year as a Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, DC. She also worked as an associate with the Atlanta law firm of Mack and McLean in the areas of labor, employment, and school law.

In the field of history, Professor Sumler-Edmond's most recent book is **The Secret Trust of Aspasia Cruvellier Mirault: the Life and Trials of a Free Woman of Color in Antebellum Georgia** (University of Arkansas Press, 2008). She is also the co-editor of two books: *Black Women's History at the Intersection of Knowledge and Power* (Tapestry Press, 2000) with Rosalyn Terborg-Penn and *Freedom's Odyssey, African American History Essays from Phylon*, (Clark Atlanta University Press, 1999) with Alexa Benson Henderson. She is a member of the following professional organizations: the Organization of American Historians, the Southern Historical Association, and the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. Professor Sumler-Edmond is a life member and former national director of the Association of Black Women Historians.

# Discover HT

## Dr. Horacio F. Peña



Spanish Instructor  
Doctorate from both  
the University of Managua  
and the  
University of Texas at Austin

Born in Managua, Nicaragua, Horacio Peña has traveled and lived in Spain, France, and Italy. He holds doctorates from both the University of Managua and the University of Texas at Austin. Austin has been his home for more than a quarter century now. He has attained membership in the Nicaraguan Language Academy and published in various formats including essays, theater, short stories, and poetry.

From 1964 to 1966, while in Madrid and Paris, he wrote *Ars Moriendi y Otros Poemas*, which was published when he was a Professor of History and Culture in the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua. For *Ars Moriendi* he received the prestigious Premio Poesía Internacional del Centenario Ruben Darío. He has presented poetry tours at invitations from the governments of the United States, France and Germany.

His books include:

- **Antología del inmigrante** (San Jose, Costa Rica: Libro Libre, 1988);
- **El Enemigo de los Poetas y Otros Cuentos** (San Jose, Costa Rica: Editorial Texto, 1976);
- **Las memorias de Beowulf** (1978);
- **Poema a un hombre llamado Roberto Clemente** (1973); and
- **La Soledad y El Desierto** (1961 and 1965).

Professor Peña's poems appear in many publications including translations into various languages. **He is also widely published and honored as an author of prose and a translator from Italian, French and English.** Last year, four translated poems appeared in **Beacons**, a literary publication of the American Translators Association. His "The Immigrant/El inmigrante" appeared in **The Essence of Knowledge**, and "El Jubilado" was in **Imponiendo Presencias**.

In 1999, the **Journal of Hispanic/Latino Theology** published his monumental essay, "The Thousand Faces of God in Central American Poetry," which had previously been published twice in Spanish.

# Discover HT

Dr. D. Rozena McCabe



Chair, Department of Kinesiology

Kinesiology Professor

Doctorate from

Texas Woman's University

## **Teaching and Research Interests and Areas of Specialization**

Teaching Philosophy: My teaching methods are based on the assumption that the student should receive the knowledge through several sensory modalities and that learning is more permanent when students “do” as well as “listen.” **Therefore, I am an advocate for Active Learning Strategies.**

## **Additional Interests**

Girls and Women in Sport, Motor Skill Acquisition, Outdoor Education, Childhood Obesity, Adult Fitness, Digital Photography, Electronic Portfolios, Geocaching, Employee Wellness.

## **Activities and Achievements**

Philosophy of Professional Development: I am committed to life-long learning. Staying current with new knowledge is essential for any teacher. However, a prerequisite to teaching at a small college is the ability and willingness to teach a variety of courses. An effective professor must develop not only a depth of knowledge but also a breadth of knowledge. As a result, I often challenge myself to learn new skills in an effort to improve my versatility as a teacher.

**Certifications:** Texas Lifetime Teaching Certificate in Physical Education and Biology, Certified Texas Parks and Wildlife Angler Instructor, Certified Texas Bicycle Coalition SuperCollege Bicycle Safety Instructor. Community and Professional Service.

## **Service Philosophy**

Along with the privilege to receive advanced educational degrees comes the responsibility to contribute back to society. One of the most important ways I have contributed back to society is by making Huston-Tillotson University a stronger institution for higher learning.

## **Selected Examples of Committee Service**

SACS Leadership Committee, Tenure and Promotion Committee, Assessment and Evaluation Committee, Environmental Health and Safety Committee, Teacher Education Committee, Faculty Athletic Committee, Faculty Evaluation Committee.