

# Arts & Sciences

Advising and Recruiting • Edited By Alexis Brooks

## THE BAAS, A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

We receive many questions about our Bachelor of Applied Science (BAAS) degree, such as what exactly is the BAAS and how can this degree help me in my career? The BAAS degree provides a way to apply your vocational or technical courses to a bachelor's degree. In the Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences degree, you select a concentration in which to specialize. Usually students choose the concentration that would be most beneficial to their future careers.

But instead of just hearing from us, here are some personal perspectives from current students in our program, discussing why they chose the BAAS and how they foresee it helping them in their careers.

*When I decided to return to college to complete my Bachelor's degree, I spoke to the counselor at Wharton County Junior College and was told about the BAAS degree that was offered at University of Houston-Victoria. I graduated with an Associates of Applied Science degree from Wharton County Junior College in 1980 and was concerned with how many of my classes would transfer. I contacted Tamara Lair (at UHV) and was thrilled to discover that UHV had a program that would accept most of my hours.*

*Since I work full time and am a single mother, I needed a program that would allow me the flexibility to take most of my classes online. I will be able to finish my B.A.A.S. in Leadership and Enterprise Studies in 29 months, with only having to take two classes in person. It has been a tremendous help for me and my daughters, that I have the ability to continue my education while in the comforts of my own home.*

*Having worked for CenterPoint Energy for 22 years, I realized that in order to advance my career I would need to complete my degree. After graduating in May 2010, I hope to obtain a management position within CenterPoint Energy.*

*The BAAS program at UHV offers several different concentrations that are offered through classroom instructions, as well as through online classes. This makes it easily available for first time students and returning students, who also work full time, to complete their education. I would not have had the opportunity to complete my degree if it had not been for the BAAS program at UHV.*

**- Jackie Douglas**

*I choose the BAAS program at UHV because it allowed me to transfer my 2 year AAS degree and use those credits toward a 4 year degree. Also, the program was available online so I was able to continue my education while maintaining my full-time job. The BAAS program has enhanced my communication skills and I'm hoping to be able to take a Communications/Graphics job soon.*

**- Heather Matt**

*I choose BAAS program as I am in a very diverse position where psychology and business criteria is utilized therefore when offered the degree plan of BAAS with majoring in psychology, I felt that I will be able to build skills that I will be able to utilize in my business environment. My career goal is to complete the Bachelors program to utilize it in my management position. The completion of the degree will also facilitate me to moving into a higher position within my department. I believe that the BAAS degree program would be of value to anyone interested in business environment.*

**- Mira Shah**

*I chose the BAAS with a concentration in Legal Administration because I already had a AAS in Legal Assistant and it was a program that would take the most of my college hours and put it toward the BAAS allowing me to complete it faster. I am completing my BAAS so that I can attend law school and become an attorney. I hope to be able to achieve that within the next 5 years, and thanks to the BAAS program it is shorter than the time frame by about 2 years had I gone to another school.*

**- Lisa Blanchard**

*Psychology has always interested me. When I found the BAAS program completely online with UHV and with the concentration in Psychology, I knew this program was for me. Because I live a good distance from any accredited university, it was very difficult for me to find a program that could be done completely online without sacrificing high academic standards. With UHV's BAAS program I have found what interests me without sacrificing a good education.*

*I also chose this program because it accommodated most all my previous credits from local community colleges. Over the past ten years I have tried various fields of study at the local technical school, but found technical classes weren't for me. Regardless, I found my efforts were not wasted in my goals for a four-year degree because UHV's BAAS program accepted these credits. Transferring was simple, and it will help me complete my education sooner.*

*My overall objective is to become a Special Education teacher; but again, due to my regional location, as well as working full-time, I am unable to attend a regular classroom setting. With the BAAS program I will get my bachelor's degree in less time and fulfill the requirement for a local alternative teaching program, plus have groundwork in psychology for later endeavors.*

*For anyone looking for a program that emphasizes high academic standards within online courses, and a place that will accept previous course work once thought to be useless toward a degree, UHV's BAAS program is definitely worth serious consideration.*

**- Kristina Gaspar**

\*\*\*SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THIS ARTICLE.

## Calendar of Events

- Nov. 2:** Spring 2010  
Schedule Available
- Nov. 10:** Campus Visit-  
HCC Katy
- Nov. 11:** Campus Visit-  
HCC Stafford
- Nov. 12:** Campus Visit-  
HCC Missouri City
- Nov. 12:** UHS- Sugar Land  
Open House
- Nov. 17:** Campus Visit-  
Lone Star- Cy Fair
- Nov. 18:** Campus Visit-  
WCJC- Sugar Land
- Nov. 19:** Campus Visit-  
WCJC- Richmond
- Nov. 19:** Campus Visit-  
Del Mar College
- Nov. 19:** ABR Speaker  
Series- Criss Garza
- Nov. 23:** Spring 2010  
Registration Opens
- Nov. 26-28:** Thanksgiving
- Dec. 1:** Campus Visit-  
Alvin Com. College
- Dec. 2:** Campus Visit-  
WCJC- Wharton
- Dec. 24-Jan.1:** Winter Holiday

## For More Info Contact:

**Tracey Fox**  
Recruitment  
Location: Victoria  
[foxt@uhv.edu](mailto:foxt@uhv.edu)

**Magen Besancon**  
Recruitment  
Location: Victoria  
[besanconm@uhv.edu](mailto:besanconm@uhv.edu)

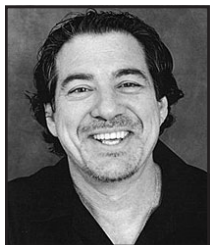
**Alexis Brooks**  
Recruitment  
Location: Sugar Land/  
Cinco Ranch  
[brooksa@uhv.edu](mailto:brooksa@uhv.edu)

**Alma Alvarado**  
Advising  
Location: Victoria  
[alvaradoa@uhv.edu](mailto:alvaradoa@uhv.edu)

**Tamara Lair**  
Advising  
Location: Sugar Land  
[lairt@uhv.edu](mailto:lairt@uhv.edu)

**Anette Phillips**  
Advising  
Location: Cinco Ranch  
[phillipsa@uhv.edu](mailto:phillipsa@uhv.edu)

# NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



**Dagoberto Gilb** is the Writer in Residence and Professor of Latino Studies. His first publication was a small press chapbook out of El Paso, *Winners on the Pass Line* (1985), which came after he won his first literary prize, the James D. Phelan Award from the San Francisco Foundation.

His work has been translated into French, Italian, Japanese, German, Spanish, and Dutch. Anthologized in many literary and college composition textbooks, his fiction and nonfiction is taught in Chicano, Latino, American, and Western literature courses. His work has been honored by national prizes, such as the Whiting Writers' Award and the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, and recognized through the El Paso Writer's Hall of Fame, the Library of Congress Archive of Hispanic Literature on Tape, and the Texas Book Festival's Bookend Award for Ongoing Literary Achievement.

His creative writings include: *Winners on the Pass Line* (1985), *The Magic of Blood* (1993), *The Last Known Residence of Mickey Acuña* (1994), *Woodcuts of Women* (2001), and *With Gritos* (2003).



**Macarena Hernandez** is the Victoria Advocate Endowed Professor in Humanities. Before joining the faculty at the University of Houston-Victoria, Hernandez was a full-time journalist writing about Latino issues, such as immigration and education.

Last fall, she completed an International Reporting Project/Frontline World Fellowship where she traveled and reported along the Mexico-Guatemala border. Before then, Hernandez was a staff writer/columnist for *The Dallas Morning News*. In June, she completed a year-long reporting project for *The Dallas Morning News* documenting the educational experiences of teen Latino immigrants at one of the oldest high schools in Dallas.

Before joining the staff of *The News* in 2005, she covered South Texas and Northern Mexico for the *San Antonio Express-News* where she ran the Rio Grande Valley Bureau. While at the *Express-*

*News* she wrote "One-Family, Two Homelands," a personal five-part series exploring Mexican migration through her family's story.

A veteran speaker, Hernandez is a regular at national journalism and education conferences and a frequent guest at high schools and college campuses. She is also a member of Macondo, a writers' collective founded by author Sandra Cisneros.



**Kyle Schlesinger** is an Assistant Professor of Communication Design and English.

He is editor and publisher of the Cuneiform Press, co-founder of the journals *Mimeo Mimeo* and *On*, and co-curator of the Threads Lecture Series. In 2008, he gave the keynote at the Research Group for Artists Publications in London.

Professor Schlesinger has a Ph.D. in English from the University at Buffalo. His teaching and research interests include poetics, typography, artists' books, history of visual information design, media studies, and literary and cultural theory.



**Alireza Tavakkoli** is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science in the School of Arts and Sciences. He has a Ph.D. (2009) and a M.Sc. (2006) in Computer Science from the University of Nevada, Reno. He also received

a M.Sc. and a B.Sc. in Electronics from the Department of Electrical Engineering at Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran in 2004 and 2001, respectively.

Dr. Tavakkoli's primary research interest is in Artificial Intelligence with an emphasis on Computer and Robotic Vision as well as AI for Computer Gaming. He has worked on object detection and tracking for video surveillance applications and action/intention recognition. In general He is interested in investigating the applications of basic imagery in conjunction with artificial intelligence tools to implement efficient communication frameworks for human-computer interaction for gaming purposes.

**UHV School of  
Arts & Sciences**

Cinco Ranch • Sugar Land • Victoria

E-mail: [ArtsSciences@uhv.edu](mailto:ArtsSciences@uhv.edu)

Toll Free: (877) 970-4848

[www.uhv.edu/asa](http://www.uhv.edu/asa)