Outstanding Faculty Activities and Accomplishments

College of Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Kimberly Childs, Dean

Dr. Michele Harris (Professor, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry) is the recipient of the first endowed professorship in the College of Sciences and Mathematics. Dr. Harris will implement and champion patent education on the SFA campus, offering the first course, Introduction to Intellectual Property, in fall 2017.

Dr. Kevin Langford (Associate Professor, Department of Biology) was named the 2016 recipient of the SFASU Foundation’s Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching.

Dr. Christopher Ivancic was co-author on the publication: Pape, P., Ivancic, C., and Hamilton, D. “A Look at Efficiently Predicting Variable Rankings by Relative Important”, National Cyber Summit (NCS) 2016, June 2016, Huntsville, AL.

Dr. Erin Bailey (Assistant Professor, DeWitt School of Nursing) was selected as a Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board committee member. The board makes recommendations on nursing curriculum and state-wide common prerequisites. Mr. Ed Michaels (Lecturer, Department of Physics, Engineering and Astronomy) has had three papers published in the 2016 Journal of the American Association of Variable Star Observers since last June.

Dr. Hector Ochoa (Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, Engineering and Astronomy) has a manuscript that has been accepted to the 124 Annual Conference of the American Society for Engineering Education. The Abstract: A Summer Camp in Engineering Physics for Incoming Freshman to Improve Retention and Student Success.”
James I Perkins College of Education

Dr. Judy Abbott, Dean

Haley Jameson and Heather Samuelson (Associate Professor and Assistant Professor of Dance) will be giving poster presentations at the Twelfth International Conference on the Arts in Society, which is being held at the American University of Paris in June.

Dr. Eric Jones and Dr. Dustin Joubert (Professor and Assistant Professor of Kinesiology) will be traveling to Denver with four kinesiology graduate students in May. The students will be presenting their research at the annual conference of the American College of Sports Medicine.

Dr. Derek Cegelka (Assistant Professor of Health Science) recently spoke to the Retired Teachers Association of Nacogdoches County on the importance of movement as people get older. The Daily Sentinel reported on the talk.

Dr. Chay Runnels, Mary Olle, Todd Barrios, Dr. Gina Causin, SFA Hospitality Administration program was ranked No. 3 on Universities.com – best hospitality administration management list.

https://www.universities.com/find/texas/best/hospitality-administration-management-degrees

Seven (7) hospitality administration student provided state scholarships to attend the Texas Association of Convention & Visitors Bureaus (TACVB) mid-winter conference.

Justin Pelham is working with East Texas Food Bank to provide cooking classes to community clients with his Community Nutrition class

Dr. Chay Runnels received the Jim Towns Mentoring Award

Sally Ann Swearingen is the regional chair for IDEC

Jamie Cupit received an invite from Cotton Incorporated to their 10th year celebration of Blue Jeans Go Green
Dr. Le’Ann Solmonson (Professor – Director of Professional Counseling Program) SFA received the No. 1 ranking from topcounselingschools.org for having the top-value counseling master’s degree in Texas.

Topcounselingschools.org is an organization committed to helping students find the best higher-education counseling programs. The rankings were created using the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs online directory to find accredited counseling programs in Texas.

Dr. Causin will be taking students to the Cannes Film Festive, Dr. Runnels will be taking students to Chicago to the National Restaurant Show and Ms Bridwell and Cupit will be taking students to NY for merchandising (all in the Maymester).

Dr. Michelle Williams (Associate Professor – Elementary Education) Dr. Brandon L. Fox (Associate Professor – Elementary Education) published “Nacogdoches: Integration and Segregation Then and Now”

Dr. Elizabeth Vaughan (Chair -Elementary Education) SFA’s online master's degree in early childhood education program has been ranked as one of the most affordable in the nation by affordablecolleges.com, a website dedicated to helping students find a path to a rewarding, quality education.

College of Liberal and Applied Arts

Dr. Brian Murphy, Dean

The Department of Psychology is having a banner year in regard to publication. The Department has produced Ten publications so far this year by the following faculty:

Dusty Jenkins (Associate Professor), Lauren Brewer (Assistant Professor), Scott Drury (Associate Professor), Sharon Eaves (Assistant Professor), Mark Ludorf (Professor), Catherine Pearte (Assistant Professor), Sarah Savoy (Associate Professor), Nathan Sparkman (Assistant Professor), Charles White (Instructor)

Dr. Dusty Jenkins (Assistant professor of psychology) Jenkins and Charles White, a recent graduate of SFA’s psychology master’s program, recently had their manuscript
“College Students’ Acceptance of Trans Women and Trans Men in Gendered Spaces: The Role of Physical Appearance” accepted for publication in the Journal of Gay and Lesbian Social Services.

Dr. Amber Wagnon, English lecturer, completed her doctorate at Texas Tech U.

The English Department was the sponsor of the Pulpwood Queens Weekend this January.

Dr. Jacqueline Cowan (Assistant professor in SFA’s Department of English and Creative Writing) was announced as the 2017-18 Wisely Fellow by the SFA School of Honors. Cowan will work closely with the honors community throughout fall 2017 and will lead a number of events focusing on the intersection between science, religion and modernity. In spring 2018, she will offer an honors course titled “Magic, Science and Modernity” and make arrangements for a campus-wide speaker.

Dr. Deborah Sibila (Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice) recently published “Citizenship Status and Arrest Patterns for Violent and Narcotic-Related Offenses in Federal Judicial Districts along the U.S./Mexico Border” in the American Journal of Criminal Justice.

College of Fine Arts

Dr. A.C. “Buddy” Himes, Dean

$8,000 grant awarded from the Texas Commission on the Arts for the art galleries.
$265,000 grant from the Bright Foundation of Nacogdoches to bring SFA’s bell tower into the 21st Century.

Dr. Gene Moon (Assistant Professor, music) awarded CFA’s second $125,000 endowed professorship, dedicated to orchestra.

A “spin-off” of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans presentation is a trip to Cuba with Piero Fenci representing the CFA and SFA — SFA’s first emissary to Cuba. This will be June 201
Dr. Susan Jennings (Professor - online B.B.A coordinator) - CollegeChoice.net, an independent online publication dedicated to helping students find the right college, has ranked SFA as the sixth best university in Texas to offer an online Bachelor of Business Administration.

Dr. Charlotte Allen (Professor of marketing) recently presented “Student Learning Styles” at the Decision Sciences Institute conference in November in Austin. Her research presented focused on whether or how an individual’s learning style impacts a person’s success in pursuing a collegiate education.

Dr. Rajat Mishra (Assistant professor in the Department of Management, Marketing and International Business) presented a paper titled “Strategic Capacity Planning: Evidence from U.S. manufacturing industries” with his co-author Dr. Randy Napier, clinical assistant professor at the University of Texas-Arlington at the 47th annual meeting of the Decision Science Institute in Austin.

Dr. Jared Barnes (Agriculture) was classified as a member of Greenhouse Product News (GPN) 2016 Class of “40 Under 40.” GPN recognizes 40 industry professionals under the age of 40 who are helping to determine the future of the horticulture industry. These individuals are today’s movers and shakers who are already setting the pace for tomorrow.

Dr. Joey Bray (Agriculture) presented “Spectrum, Intensity and Photoperiod: LED Lighting Program for Broiler Performance and Welfare” at the Texas Broiler Symposium, Center, TX; September 2016.

Dr. Joey Bray (Agriculture) received the following grants:

• LED Lighting Versus Incandescent Lighting Programs in Commercial Broiler Housing Evaluating Bird Performance and Energy Consumption. Sponsored by Once Innovations, Inc. ($11,600)

• US Poultry & Egg Association Industry Recruitment Grant. Funded by Frost, LLC. $3,000


**Dr. Erin Brown** (Agriculture) was involved in the following activities:

• Purple Premium Cattle Sale hosted on November 12. 3<sup>rd</sup> sale hosted by students enrolled in Advanced Beef Cattle (AGR 480). Sale Grossed $207,000 with 107 head of cattle in the sale.

• Student enrolled in ANS 243 Beef Cattle hosted an agriculture awareness event, Breakfast on the Farm, where the community was invited to the SFA Beef Farm for a pancake breakfast and then the students had activities for the community to learn about agriculture in Nacogdoches County. Event was held on April 30, 2016.

• Students enrolled in ANS 250 Artificial Insemination hosted 32 high school students in a one-day service learning project this past fall.

• 450 high school students came to the SFA campus to participate in the College Experience, hosted by the College of Forestry and Agriculture on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The event was organized by Erin Brown, Emily Payne, Joey Bray and grad student Courtney Branton.