Faculty Senate Report—July 16, 2013

Outstanding Faculty Activities & Accomplishments

Nelson Rusche College of Business

• Dr. Treba Marsh, professor of accounting, had six articles published or accepted for publication in scholarly journals during the 2012-2013 academic year, including the Journal of Public Budgeting, Accounting, & Financial Management (coauthored with Dr. George Hunt), Journal of Business and Economics Research, Journal of Business Case Studies (coauthored with Dr. Jack Ethridge), and Journal of Accounting & Finance, and Journal of International Energy Policy (coauthored with Dr. Violet Rogers and Dr. Jack Ethridge).

• Dr. Kelly Noe, assistant professor of accounting and faculty advisor for Beta Alpha Psi, led the SFA chapter to earning the "Superior Chapter" award for 2012-2013 at the national level.

• Dr. S. Ann Wilson, professor of business communication and department chair, served in 2012-2013 as the Vice President and General Program Chair Elect for the Federation of Business Disciplines and received the FBD Outstanding Educator Award for 2013 from both the Association for Business Communication Southwestern United States and the Association for Business Information Systems.

• Dr. Debbie DuFrene, business communication professor and associate dean, co-authored a book published by Business Expert Press for the James I. Perkins College of Education awards at the National Student Advertising Competition and the American Advertising Federation.

• Dr. Marlene Kahla, associate professor of marketing, was faculty advisor to the student chapter of the American Marketing Association that won a portfolio.

• Investment Strategies (RISE) conference in Dayton, Ohio, where SFA received the second-place award in growth for the performance of their stock portfolio.

• Dr. Todd Brown, chair and associate professor of economics and finance, successfully coached and prepared students for the Redefining Learning. 

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• Dr. Mitzi Perritt, professor of interior design, was awarded a faculty scholarship for universal design with Cynthia Leibrock in Colorado. Additionally, she worked with the city and county of Nacogdoches on Housing Week with interior design students. Finally, she was the faculty sponsor for a collaborative project between five students that was selected as the “Top Scholar” presentation for the Undergraduate Research Conference in the spring semester.

• Hospitality faculty Todd Barrios was selected as one of six chefs nationwide to attend a trip to Wisconsin for an externship in cheese making.

• Drs. Carl Pfaffenberg and Chay Runnels, associate professors in human sciences, completed a visitor services study for the Nacogdoches Convention and Visitors Bureau to inform their strategic planning. Additionally, Dr. Runnels lead an initiative that resulted in a partnership between SFA and Nacogdoches County that will provide for numerous internships for human sciences students.

• Dr. Mary Olle, assistant professor of human sciences, will serve as the state president for American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences for the next year.

College of Fine Arts

• Graficas Gallery recently presented an exhibition of ceramic art of Piero Fenci entitled, "Master Works in Bronze and Ceramics" in Nantucket, Massachusetts. Mr. Fenci, the recent recipient of the Texas Master Award, is a professor of art and head of the ceramics area at SFA.

• Dr. Carolyn "CC" Conn, assistant professor in the School of Theatre, is currently serving as guest lighting designer for two productions, “Much Ado about Nothing” and “The Matchmaker,” at the professional Indiana Festival Theatre in Bloomington.

• Dr. Laura Rikard, assistant professor of acting, recently performed in a two-character drama, "Last Train to Nibroc," in the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, South Carolina.

• Dr. Zach Hanks, visiting professor of performance, voices multiple characters in a major new online video game, “Neverwinter” based on the popular table-top role-playing game Dungeons and Dragons.

Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture

• Dr. Daniel Scognamillo, associate professor of forestry, and Dr. Gary Kronrad, the Bone Hill Foundation Distinguished Professor, have developed a memorandum of agreement between SFA and a forestry university in Misiones, Argentina. They have conducted three faculty-led study abroad programs in Argentina and Brazil in the last three years and have exchanged several students for multiple teaching and research purposes.

• Dr. Leon Young, Regents Professor of agriculture, just returned from Mozambique, where he assisted in developing a soil testing protocol as part of a program within USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) with the "farmer to farmer” program.

• Dr. Steve Bullard, Dean of the College of Forestry and Agriculture, currently serves as president of the National Association of University Forest Resources Programs, an association of 80 colleges and universities across the U.S.
Dr. Shiyou Li, research professor in forestry, has received two provision patents for work with the plant giant salvinia. One patent relates to a chemical compound isolated by Dr. Li that shows very promising results in vitro for controlling specific types of cancer cells. The second patent is for a mechanism to control giant salvinia, an invasive water plant that is destroying the ecology of millions of acres of water resources across Texas, the U.S., and the world.

Numerous faculty members, including Dr. Joey Bray, assistant professor of agriculture, and Dr. Theresa Coble, associate professor of forestry, across the college have received significant grants totaling over $800,000 to conduct research and collaborate with other universities.

College of Liberal and Applied Arts

Recently named chair of the Department of Government, Dr. Kwame Badu Antwi-Boasiako, associate professor of political science and public administration, has been invited by the University of Ghana for two consecutive years to serve as an external examiner to help structure the university’s public administration program. In the last year, he has published three articles and has one book, The Theories of Decentralization and Local Government, forthcoming.

Dr. John Hendricks, professor and chair of mass communication, has two books this year. Palgrave Macmillan published Social Media and Strategic Communications, and Presidential Campaigning and Social Media: An Analysis of the 2012 Election is forthcoming with Oxford University Press.

Dr. Linda Thorsen Bond, assistant professor of journalism, will serve as is guest editor of the Global Media Journal—American Edition for fall, 2013. Her issue is “Transforming Teaching and Learning: Small Media, Global Reach, Big Impact.” While at the Broadcast Educators and National Association of Broadcasters national conference, she met with academic authors on the study of convergence and change in broadcast, print and online media.

Dr. Dianne Dentice, associate professor of sociology, has been invited to work with the Southern Poverty Law Center in an examination of racism in the United States.

Dr. Bill Forbes, associate professor of geography, recently completed a livability study for the city of Kilgore and is in discussions with the city of Nacogdoches for a similar study.

Dr. Mark Sanders, chair of the Department of English, finished his second Ph.D. this past May, with a doctorate in Higher Education Leadership from the University of Idaho.

SFA Writer-in-Residence Joe Lansdale’s novel Cold in July is being adapted to the big screen, as announced at this year’s Cannes Film Festival. Casting has begun, and Michael C. Hall, who played on “Dexter,” will be the lead actor.

Dr. Christine Butterworth McDermott, associate professor of English, has nonfiction forthcoming in the anthology, All That Glitters: Sliver of Stone Nonfiction. She recently launched her online journal, Gingerbread House, and her collection of poetry, Woods & Water, Wolves & Women, is being taught in a creative writing class in the fall at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

College of Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Sara Bishop, interim director of the School of Nursing, and Dr. Susan McDonald, assistant professor of nursing, presented the results of qualitative work done as part of evaluating an innovative clinical simulation, “Perinatal End of Life Care,” at the Drexel University Simulation in Healthcare conference.

Dr. Chris Barker, associate professor of geology, recently lead some twenty-four students on the annual Geology Summer Field Camp in the Rocky Mountains. This six week rigorous summer learning experience is required for undergraduate geology majors at SFA and has earned a national reputation as an outstanding experience for geology majors. This year, fourteen of the students participating in the camp were from other universities, including students from Michigan, Illinois, Louisiana, Kansas, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Maine. Not only does the experience benefit all students, it provides great opportunity for national recruitment of students for the master’s degree program in geology at SFA.

Several professors, including Drs. Kefa Onchoke, Odutayo Odunuga and Michele Harris, in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry have recently published articles with students.

SFA graduate Melinda J. Wurtz and Dr. Alyx S. Frantzen, associate professor of chemistry, recently presented their research, “From Grade School to Graduate School: Experimentation Through the Ages,” at the national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

Dr. Alyx S. Frantzen, associate professor of chemistry, was the faculty sponsor for SFA student Ervin J. Goodrum’s research, “Can You Feel the Heat?!,” which was selected as his college’s Top Scholar award for the 2013 Undergraduate Research Conference in the spring semester.

Biology, chemistry, geology, and computer science professors collaborated to offer the iMAS Academy to approximately 100 ninth-grade students from five area school districts last month. SFA STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) faculty members, master teachers and student assistants spent the week guiding participants in the discovery of academic skills necessary for STEM careers such as forensics, engineering, health care and environmental science.

Chemistry, nursing, computer science, and physics professors collaborated to offer the iMAS Unleashed Academy to approximately 45 students in June. This academy was for GT science/math students who will enter the eighth or ninth grade in the fall.