From global internships and study abroad opportunities to hands-on courses and programs, we in Stephen F. Austin State University’s School of Human Sciences have had a productive year. Our experienced faculty and staff members continue to inspire and encourage students in their fields of study by engaging them in real-world experiences. In this newsletter, you will notice many of the achievements and projects our students and faculty and staff members have been involved with this year. I hope you enjoy this annual issue, and join me in welcoming our new faculty members. As you read the wonderful happenings at SFA, remember we’d love to hear about your successes. Please visit us on Facebook at SFA School of Human Sciences or visit our homepage at www.sfasu.edu/hms to fill out an alumni information form.

The faculty and staff members in the School of Human Sciences wish you a happy holiday and New Year!

Dr. Lynda Martin
Director of SFA’s School of Human Sciences
Students collect nearly 1,000 books in drive

Jacks Council on Family Relations and the Residence Hall Association held a book drive on campus as well as in the Nacogdoches community in April. The students collected approximately 1,000 books and donated them to the Greater East Texas Community Action Program Head Start and Early Head Start.

SFA student completes master’s degree online in India

More than 14,000 miles away in Bangalore, India, SFA graduate student Nandita Mehrotra studied patient-turnaround time at an outpatient cancer center in India and the role interior design plays in health care settings.

As a full-time employee in India, Mehrotra was able to complete her Master of Science in human sciences online in May through SFA's School of Human Sciences within the James I. Perkins College of Education.

"The ability to pursue a master's degree in the U.S. while living in India was wonderful," Mehrotra said. "I was able to complete my degree only because it was available online."

SFA Online

With SFA’s online degree programs, you can further your education anywhere, anytime. Learn about our master’s degree online at [http://www.sfaonline.info/#!humansciences-c5dk](http://www.sfaonline.info/#!humansciences-c5dk).

Master of Science emphasis fields:

- Human Development and Family Studies
- Family and Consumer Sciences
- General Interior Design
- Health Care Interior Design
Interior design students participate in IIDA Product Runway

For the past three years, SFA’s interior design students have participated in the International Interior Design Association Product Runway, which is an avant-garde couture fashion design competition influenced by the reality TV show, Project Runway. Product Runway puts teams of interior design and architecture professionals and interior design students in a fashion design competition where competitors are tasked with creating handmade garments out of standard architectural finish materials, such as glass, tile, carpet and wood. Students who participated this year are Jennifer Gregory, Meagan McNabb, Pamela Garcia, Brittany Rathbun and Laura Aguilar.

Culinary students cater to SFA film students in summer

During the summer 1 session, students in the filmmaking program at SFA produce an independent full-length feature film. These students must remain on set throughout the day while they learn from SFA faculty members and visiting alumni with industry experience. The culinary students prepare meals for the film students. This collaboration allows both sets of students to receive real-world experience.

Dr. Mary Olle, assistant professor in the School of Human Sciences, and Claudann Jones prepared tasty delights at “Cooking Up the Blues,” a cooking demonstration, at the 27th Annual Texas Blueberry Festival.
Dr. Mary Olle selected for Marriott’s 2016 faculty internship

Dr. Mary Olle was selected as one of Marriott’s 2016 faculty interns during the summer. Olle interned at the Marriott at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Grapevine, Texas. She had a behind-the-scenes view of hotel operations, including human resources, housekeeping, banquet, food and beverage operations, and public relations.

"During this experience, I realized even more that you have to have a passion for what you do," Olle said. "There is a place for everyone in hospitality whether you're interested in event coordinating, finance, accounting or culinary aspects."

SFA hospitality administration senior interns in Spain

Philip Richardson, a hospitality administration major, completed his three-month internship in Barcelona, Spain, at Equity Point, a hostel catering to international youth travelers. The program is through Adelante: Internships Abroad and Study Abroad and included two weeks of extensive Spanish courses in a language school, housing and job placement. Richardson worked with scheduling reservations, housekeeping, checking in guests, booking tours and more.

Students attend the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences — Texas Affiliate conference

The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences — Texas Affiliate held the state conference at Bryan College Station. During the conference, SFA faculty members shared research and student members of the Family and Consumer Sciences organization painted art canvases to auction and raise funds for the student group.
SFA fashion merchandising and hospitality administration students partnered in October to coordinate Green is the New Black, which raised awareness about sustainability.

Inside SFA’s Culinary Café, hospitality administration students worked as event planners and served a three-course dinner based on the farm-to-table sustainability concept.

Following dinner, event attendees toured the fashion gallery that highlighted the Blue Jeans Go Green project, which SFA’s fashion merchandising students organized. Cotton Incorporated sponsored Blue Jeans Go Green, and the project challenged people to donate denim to be upcycled into UltraTouch denim insulation. This is the third year SFA has participated in the project.

The evening culminated with a fashion show with the theme “The Fifth Element.” Students were inspired by the four natural elements of water, wind, earth and fire, and the fifth element of denim to create their designs out of recycled materials and denim.
In May, Dr. Lynda Martin, director of the School of Human Sciences, and Dr. Gina Fe Causin, assistant professor, accompanied SFA hospitality students, Anna Smith and Amanda Powers, to the Cannes Film Festival in Cannes, France. Smith and Powers worked with the Cannes International Film Festival Culinary Program. They helped prepare meals for the various activities at the festival, which celebrates cinematographic art with various workshops, seminars, film screenings and more.

Students from fashion merchandising, interior design/merchandising and agriculture toured Paris, France, to gain hands-on experience and a global perspective.
SFA's family and consumer sciences degree ranked among top 50 in the nation

SFA has been ranked among the top 50 great value colleges for family and consumer sciences degrees in the nation by Great Value Colleges, a website dedicated to helping students discover the best degree and college for them.

SFA's No. 47 ranking among the almost 400 U.S. colleges identified for comparison distinguishes it as one of the most attractive programs for consumer sciences students.

The ranking was created based on master's and doctoral degree, research, internship and scholarship opportunities. Data also was collected from payscale.com and university websites.

Students gain experience as dietitians through hospital simulation

Sarah Drake, clinical instructor in SFA's School of Human Sciences, partnered with the DeWitt School of Nursing to offer a nutrition counseling simulation to her students. Through the simulation, students learned what it was like to be a dietitian in a hospital setting. To complete this project, students were given information regarding two scenarios, including the clients' medical information such as weight and height, lab values, insurance coverage and more.

Interior design students collaborate with Love INC to build bathing, laundry facility for homeless

SFA interior design students partnered with representatives from Love INC, a non-profit, Christian organization, to renovate a storage building, located on Ruby Street in Nacogdoches, into a bathing and laundry facility for the Nacogdoches homeless community.

Students created a name and logo and designed the interior and exterior perspectives and a handicapped accessible floor plan of the storage building to present to Love INC. After Love INC representatives select a design, SFA interior design seniors will perfect and present it to the city. The timeline for this project is indefinite.
SFA interior design students participate in Nest Fest fundraiser

Interior design students Jennifer Gregory and Cody Johnson participated in the seventh annual Nest Fest fundraiser, an event benefiting the Renesting Project in Bossier City, Louisiana. The students created and designed a living room with slightly used furniture and other repurposed items. The Renesting Project is a non-profit organization that provides gently used furniture and household items to clients of registered social service agencies as they transition from homelessness.

Jacks Council on Family Relations serves community with Thanksgiving Homebound

In fall 2015 and 2016, Jacks Council on Family Relations served hundreds of families through its annual Thanksgiving Homebound project. Meals were provided to adopted organizations in fall 2016 that included Solid Foundation, GETCAP Head Start and the Family Crisis Center of East Texas. JCFR also served the Boys and Girls Club in 2015.

Students attend Tourism Summit in Houston

Each year, Houston hosts a Tourism Summit to bring together organizations involved in the hospitality community to learn from one another and from national experts in the field. This year’s summit took place Sept. 7 at the George R. Brown Convention Center.

Interior design faculty members host alumni event

Interior design faculty members hosted an alumni event at Kitchen Source in Dallas, Texas.
Designing a Residence in Sweden
Olivia Bufalini and Umeki Earl
Mentor: Sally Ann Swearingen, M.A., M.F.A.

The Economic Impact of the 2015 Big Nac Music Festival
Brandon Wade Chaddick
Mentor: Gina Fe Causin, Ph.D.

IES Dallas Student Lighting Competition
Olivia Bufalini and Umeki Earl
Mentor: Sally Ann Swearingen, M.A., M.F.A.

The Crucial Impact of College Campus Visits
Jennifer Moore
Mentor: Gina Fe Causin, Ph.D.

Implementing Sustainable Meal Planning Practices Through Meal Mentoring at an East Texas Food Bank
Anitra Greusel
Mentor: Mary Olle, Ph.D. and Gina Fe Causin, Ph.D.
Dr. Becky Greer retires
Greer came to SFA in 1981 as an instructor for the fashion merchandising program while working on her doctoral degree from Texas Woman’s University in clothing and fashion merchandising. Greer was instrumental in opening the fashion merchandising gallery and incorporating the tartan project into her class, which developed the official SFA tartan. Greer dedicated herself to the fashion merchandising program and she will be greatly missed.

New Faculty Members

Lynsey Cortines
Cortines received her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees from SFA. She currently teaches undergraduate and web-enhanced courses in the human development and family studies program. Prior to becoming a clinical instructor, Cortines worked on campus as an academic adviser and served as an adjunct faculty member in SFA’s School of Human Sciences.

Dr. Flora Farago
Farago joins the human development and family studies program after receiving her doctoral degree from Arizona State University. Farago has a bachelor’s and master’s degree in psychology from the University of Texas at Dallas. Farago’s research and teaching interests center around gender and ethnic-racial socialization in young children. She is passionate about anti-bias education and community involvement. In her free time, Farago enjoys dancing, yoga, hiking, reading, and spending time with her family and cat, “Mufasa.”

Dr. Rachel Jumper
Jumper has worked with children and families in both early childhood settings and non-profit organizations. Her research background is in communication, focusing on family communication in health contexts and on children’s communication with their parents, peers and teachers about bullying experiences in school.

Justin Pelham
Pelham transferred to SFA earning his bachelor’s in food, nutrition and dietetics. He was accepted into the highly competitive SFA dietetic internship and completed his Master of Science the following year. Before transitioning to clinical instructor at SFA, Pelham worked as the lead dietitian at Nacogdoches Medical Center working closely with the interdisciplinary team in the ICU, medical-surgical floors, women’s center and oncology sector. He established an outpatient medical nutrition therapy program with particular focus on diabetes and weight management. Also, he served as treasurer for the East Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics for two years.

Dr. Flora Farago