

Nelson Rusche College of Business

Dr. Timothy Bisping, Dean

Dr. Mark Scanlan and Dr. Mikhail Kouliavtsev (Associate Professors of Economics) were featured as experts on WalletHub.com – the first-ever website to offer free credit scores as well as full credit reports that are updated daily. Dr. Scanlan provided his knowledge about unsecured credit cards for bad credit. Dr. Kouliavtsev was featured in an article about the Federal Reserve’s rate hike report.

Dr. Mishra (Assistant Professor Management and Marketing) has been named editor-in-chief of the Modern Project Management Journal by Modern Business Press, an online network of business, technology, computing, and education journals. The Modern Project Management Journal features the latest research on various areas of project management from scholars and practitioners aimed toward bridging the gap between theory of project management and its implementation in the real world. Mishra will continue to serve on the editorial board for both the International Journal of Business Management and Business Quest and for the International Journal of Modern Management Sciences as well as review the International Journal of Quality and Reliability Management.

Dr. Gina Harden (Assistant Professor of Management) will be honored at this year’s Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. Harden teaches management productivity systems and management information systems to both graduate and undergraduate students. She serves as the faculty advisor for the Society for Advancement of Management. Harden also received the 2014 Outstanding Intellectual Contribution Award and the 2015 Outstanding Researcher Award for the College of Business.

Rusche College of Business recognizes faculty members with annual awards. Faculty honored includes **Drs. Gina Harden, Mark Scanlan, Calee Jo Holcombe, Carol Wright, Jason Reese, and Treba Marsh**. Harden, assistant professor in the Department of Management and Marketing, was recognized with the college’s Marlin C. Young Teaching Excellence Award. Scanlan, professor in the Department of Economics and Finance, was honored with the Teaching Innovation Award for a new activity he incorporated in a money and banking course. Holcombe, assistant professor in the Schlieff School of Accountancy, received the Outstanding Service/Experiential Learning Award. The college’s Research Excellence Committee awarded Wright, assistant professor in the Department of Business Communication and Legal Studies, the Outstanding Researcher Award. Reese, assistant professor in the Department of Management and Marketing and sports business program coordinator, received the Distinguished Service Award. Lastly, from the Schlieff School of Accountancy, Dr. Treba Marsh was named the Distinguished Faculty Member for her service to the college.

James I. Perkins College of Education

Dr. Judy Abbott, Dean

Drs. Raul F. Prezas (Associate professor in Human Services) and Paul R. Shockley (Lecturer in the Division of Multidisciplinary Programs) co-authored an article, “Honoring All Perspectives in Ethical Challenges: A Practical Method for Preserving Human Dignity in Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Cases,” in the Texas Speech Language Hearing Association’s Communicologist publication. The manuscript proposes an eight-fold method for honoring personal dignity of practitioners, clients, and families when moral conflict arises. It also offers a case study example and addresses the broader perspective of virtue ethics in the speech and language setting.

Dr. Scott Bailey (Associate Professor for Educational Leadership) will be honored at this year’s Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. Bailey also works as a professional service provider and is sanctioned by the Texas Education Agency to assist struggling public school districts and campuses. Additionally, he serves as a trainer for the Texas Teacher Evaluation System where he has trained more than 1,000 teachers and principals about quality instruction and continuous improvement.

Todd Barrios (Clinical Instructor for Human Sciences) will be honored at this year’s Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation with the Faculty Senate Teaching Excellence Award, which honors non-tenure track faculty members. A certified executive chef through the American Culinary Federation, Barrios is ServSafe certified in food safety and sanitation and as an instructor. He is a registered ServSafe examination proctor through the National Restaurant Association. Additional focus areas are culinary arts and food service management.

A group of faculty from the **James I. Perkins College of Education** recently presented research at the American Educational Research Association annual meeting in New York City. Presenting faculty included the following:

Lauren Burrow (Assistant Professor), Jim Ewing (Assistant Professor), Deborah Williams (Assistant Professor), Tingting Xu (Assistant Professor), Chrissy Cross (Associate Professor), Ali Hachem (Assistant Professors), Dr. Heather Olson Beal (Associate Professor), Dr. Patrick Jenlink (Professor), Dr. Flora Farago (Assistant Professor)

Dr. Patrick Jenlink (2017-18 Regents Professor) will present at the Regents Lecture Series. Jenlink’s lecture, “Dare Educators Build a New Social Order?,” focuses on the challenge for educator preparation programs to prepare future teachers and leaders who embody a passion for public concern, including issues of oppression, poverty, and economic and political injustices. Jenlink is doctoral program coordinator and professor for the Department of Secondary Education and Educational Leadership. He has authored or co-authored hundreds of books, book chapters and journal articles as well as served on myriad committees for students completing their these or dissertations to complete master or doctoral degrees.

Dr. Luis Aguerrevere (Associate Professor in the Department of Human Services) has been selected for a research pilot study grant for his research titled “Effects of Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation on Facial and Emotional Regulation in Individuals with Autism: A Pilot Study.”

Dr. Lydia Richardson and Deena Petersen were awarded the Parkinson Voice Project’s National SPEAK OUT! And LOUD Crowd Grant. The grant program honors Dr. Daniel R. Boone, a world-renowned speech-language pathologist and voice expert and former president of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Parkinson Voice Project’s speech therapy program is based on the teachings of Boone, who recognized in the late 1950s that individuals with Parkinson’s could improve their communication if they speak with “intent.”

James I. Perkins College of Education recognized several faculty members as the college’s Teaching Excellence Award honorees. Honorees included **Dr. Adam Akerson, Dr. Darla O’Dwyer, Dr. Kathy Sheriff, Dr. Todd Whitehead, and Dr. Scott Bailey**. Additionally, Dr. Bailey was selected to represent the Perkins College of Education at the university’s Teaching Excellence Convocation. The college also recognized Faculty Senate Teaching Excellence honorees for non-tenure track faculty members.

College of Fine Arts

Dr. A.C. “Buddy” Himes, Dean

Dr. Mario Ajero (Professor of Piano) presented in three sessions at the 2018 Music Teachers National Association National Conference at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort in Lake Buena Vista, Florida. He was a member of a panel discussion which was aimed at giving college students and young professionals a perspective of what college search committees look for in candidates for prospective faculty member position. His second session shared strategies for teaching piano students of varying skills in a group setting followed by a session in which Ajero demonstrated various ways he enhances piano instruction with keyboard technology for students at SFA.

Dr. Inga Meier (Assistant Professor in the College of Fine Arts) will be honored at this year’s Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. She teaches courses in plan analysis, theatre history, film history, dramaturgy and more. Her research is focused on performances of terrorism, violence, and trauma. Her writing has been published in *Film and History*, *The Theatre Annual* and in the anthology “Recovering 9/11 in New York.” She currently serves as secretary and debut panel coordinator for the Theatre and Social Change Focus Group of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.

Dr. Mario Ajero (Professor of Piano) judged for the 2018 East Texas Music Teachers Association Achievement Auditions at The University of Texas at Tyler. Close to 100 piano students participated in the event. Ajero provided ratings and constructive criticism to students’ performances and helped select young pianists to perform in the event’s honors recital.

Candace Hicks (Assistant Professor of Art) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for her research titled “Many Mini Murder Scenes.” Hicks’ project will expand on the standard

theatrical diorama display to incorporate audience participation elements in her crime scene dioramas based on fictional stories. The result will be a public exhibition, including a guidebook that allows the viewer to unravel the clues in the crime scene – not to solve the crime, but to delve into the cultural significance of the mystery.

Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture

Dr. Hans M. Williams, Dean

Dr. Jeremy Stovall (Associate Professor of Silviculture) is to be honored at this year's Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. Stovall teaches dendrology and silviculture as well as several other graduate and undergraduate courses. Each summer he teaches a travel course on field ecology in the southern Appalachian Mountains. His research focuses on restoring severely disturbed ecosystems using various silvicultural tools, such as herbicides, mechanical site preparation and thinning. Stovall also serves as the faculty advisor to the Sylvans, SFA's timbersports team that has won four of the past five Southern Forestry Conclaves.

Dr. Christopher Schalk (Assistant Professor of Forestry) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for his research titled "Examining Terrestrial Food-web Structure in Managed and Unmanaged Forests in East Texas." Schalk will concentrate on forest management practices and how they impact food webs (consumer-resource relationships). Such research data will help land managers make more informed decisions concerning forestry practices in addition to providing seed data for Schalk to be competitive in external funding.

Dr. Craig Morton (Professor of Agriculture) was named Nacogdoches County's 2018 Agriculture Educator of the Year. He has taught in SFA's Department of Agriculture for two decades. Recently, Morton received the award from Cory Beasley of Citizen's 1st Bank.

College of Liberal and Applied Arts

Dr. Brain Murphy, Dean

Dr. Steven Galatas (Associate Professor of Political Science) will be honored at this year's Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. Galatas teaches basic courses in American and Texas government as well as advanced courses in the politics of the Middle East, European countries and the European Union. He has led study-abroad programs to Germany, Belgium and Canada. His research examines links between party competition, partisanship and voter turnout in elections in Texas, Canada, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

Drs. Anne Collins Smith and Owen M. Smith (Professors of Philosophy and Classical Studies) co-translated the book “Castle in the Stars: The Space Race of 1869” by Alex Alice into English. The tale of a 19-th century space race was published in September 2017 by First Second Books, and has been named one of The Best Books of 2017 by Kirkus Reviews.

Dr. Scott Hutchens (Professor and Chair of the Department of Psychology) was selected as SFA’s College of Liberal and Applied Arts representative for the Symposium on Arts and Research Spotlight Award for excellence in research and scholarship. Hutchens’ research demonstrated a more effective and interactive teaching strategy in which students worked in groups to answer discussion questions and lead group discussions. Students were able to develop and practice marketable skills such as oral communication, critical thinking and teamwork skills every class period of their general psychology course.

Dr. Joyce Johnston (Director of Multidisciplinary Degrees) is one of two recipients for the Texas American board of Trial Advocates 2018 Champion of Civil Justice award. Johnston received the award on behalf of her work with SFA’s Pre-Law Academy, which she has overseen since 2003. The Pre-Law Academy is an innovative summer program that introduces high school students currently in their sophomore, junior, or senior year to the exciting opportunities associated with a career in law. Johnston was nominated for the award by Judge Kerry Russell and Randi Russell, civil chief in the U.S. Attorney’s office for the Eastern District of Texas.

Dr. Courtney Adams Wooten (Assistant professor of English) co-edited the book “WPAs in Transition: Navigating Educational Leadership Positions.” The book shares a variety of professional and personal perspectives about the costs, benefits, struggles, and triumphs experienced by writing program administrators making transitions into and out of leadership positions. Contributors serve in various positions such as writing center directors, assistant writing program administrators and writing program administrators.

College of Liberal and Applied Arts and the Department of Psychology presented research projects and hosted research talks and workshops at the Southwestern Psychological Association Annual Convention. The presentations were the result of more than 30 research projects in the department. According to Dr. Scott Hutchens, students voluntarily worked in faculty’s active research teams and laboratories for the majority of the projects.

Sonnie Mosier (Administrative Assistant in the Department of Military Science) recently received the Public Service Commendation Medal from the U.S. Army, which is one of the highest public service decorations the Army gives to civilians. Mosier, who has worked in the military science department for 21 years, has participated in the commissioning of 266 of the 646 cadets who have completed SFA’s ROTC program. She serves as the University liaison for military science faculty and staff and supports the cadets in various instances.

Dr. Paul Shockley (Lecturer of Philosophy in Multidisciplinary Programs) was invited to speak about how to help the world’s honeybee population to the Oyster Creek Rotary Club in Missouri City, Texas. His presentation was titled “Save the honeybee, save the world.”

College of Science & Mathematics

Dr. Kimberly M. Childs, Dean

Dr. Kevin Langford (Associate Professor of Biology and Pre-Health Professions Program Director) was selected as the interviewer during the 2018 Archie McDonald Speaker Series.

Langford interviewed guest speaker Dr. Jennifer Arnold, medical director for the Simulation Center at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, and television personality on The Learning Channel's docu-drama "The Little Couple."

Dr. Alexandra Martnova-Van Kley (Professor of Biology) was recently awarded Best Paper at the 2018 Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Chemical Processes annual conference in Singapore for her paper "Catalytic Activities of *Pyrococcus horicoshii* Mutant Endoglucanase." The paper details improvement of the activity of an enzyme from a thermostable microorganism found in the deep sea involved in cellulose breakdown.

Dr. Sarah Canterbury (Associate Professor in the Department of Biology) is to be honored at this year's Teaching Excellence Awards Convocation. Canterbury teaches courses for biology majors and non-majors and enjoys the diverse population of students. She is also the faculty advisor for several clubs, including Tri-Beta Biological Honors Society, Women in STEM, and Yoseikan Budo.

Dr. John Brannon Gary (Assistant Professor of Chemistry) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for his research titled "Bioinspired D Catalysis: Using Nature as an Inspiration for Developing New Chemistry." Gary's research seeks to develop new chemical models based on natural enzymes rather than the more expensive metals used in current practices to produce many commodity chemicals. He hopes to use this preliminary data to garner external funding in the future to continue to research using other types of experiments, such as water oxidation.

Dr. Xiaozhen (Jenny) Han (Assistant Professor of Chemistry) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for her research titled "The Preparation of Multi-Target Anticancer Prodrugs: Ru(II) (Arene) Complexes with Selenium-Containing Flavonols." Han seeks to develop water-soluble, multi-target anticancer drug agents by combining certain flavonols with metal fragments. The multi-target anticancer drugs are important with diseases as complex as cancer and could possess a lower toxicity that could help reduce side effects of cancer treatments.

Dr. Sheryll Jerez (Associate Professor of Environmental Science) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for her research titled "Comparison of Benzene and Other Volatile Compounds in Ambient Air near the Eagle Ford Shale Area." Jerez will develop standard operating procedures for certain analyses performed with the new gas chromatography/flame ionization detector system. In addition, she will research the air quality impacts on people in rural East Texas from fracking sites.

Dr. Jacob Turner (Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Statistics) has been selected for a research and creative activity grant for his research titled "Robustness to Model Selection in Longitudinal Gene Expression Studies." Turner will research high throughput gene expression data

to develop new theoretical and methodological approaches to improve current standards of practice, which will be useful to the bioinformatics and biostatistics research communities.

Dr. Hector Ochoa (Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics, Engineering and Astronomy) has been selected for a research pilot study grant for his research titled “Establishing a Methodology to Fabricate and Test Super Coiler Polymer Actuators using Traditional and Conductive Polymers.”