

# College of Arts & Sciences



## NEWS & NOTES

February 2022

### MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

*Dr. Dolores Guerrero*



Greetings from the College of Arts and Sciences!

I hope everyone is off to a strong start to this Spring semester. It's been a busy month and it is exciting to see faculty, students, and staff back on campus. Although we continue to manage COVID and its impact, our work and commitment to our programs and students shines through in activities and achievements.

We've compiled this newsletter to share a snapshot of your hard work, achievements, and reminders of upcoming opportunities. We launched the Spring semester with our Spring College meeting which was well attended via Zoom and in person. It was wonderful to see so many of you online and in person. It is always a great opportunity to share what is happening across all our departments and programs. This start was followed up with a back to school social for the campus and a ceremony to recognize two of our COAS outstanding faculty - Congratulations to Dr. Susan Roberson and Dr. Nirmal Goswami for their recognition as Regents Professors.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and join us in applauding our colleagues for all the hard work and achievements. We, in the Dean's office, are committed to creating new initiatives which support faculty and students to partner and work together. This Spring, we introduced a new program to fund Student Assistantships. We received a strong group of submissions and awarded funding to 20 faculty across COAS. I am excited to see the results of these collaborations for our students and faculty. Please note that there are a few additional calls for proposals which are still open-Research Funding and OER. Please check the deadlines so you don't miss out on these funding opportunities.

On a sad note, COAS and Javelina Nation lost a long-time colleague, Dr. Don Daughtry, Professor of Psychology, who passed away unexpectedly at the start of the semester. He will be missed by colleagues and students. We extend our condolences to his family, friends, and current and past students.

Lastly, I'd like to encourage you to consider nominating your colleagues for the 2022 COAS Faculty and Staff Awards. Nominations are open and due by March 1st. This is our chance to recognize the outstanding contributions of faculty and staff.

I extend my best wishes for a successful semester.

Sincerely,  
*Dolores*



# TWO FACULTY RECOGNIZED AS REGENTS PROFESSORS

On January 19, 2022 members of the university gathered to celebrate the accomplishments of two esteemed faculty members from the College of Arts & Sciences. Congratulations to Regents Professor Dr. Nirmal Goswami, Professor of Political Science (2018 - 2019) and Dr. Susan Roberson, Professor of English (2019 - 2020). Both individuals were recognized and received their Regents medallions.



January 27, 2022 was an exciting day for Javelina Nation, as the university announced Javelina Promise - a tuition assistance program that will cover tuition and fees, for up to four years, for eligible students with household incomes of less than \$65K.

With the introduction of the Javelina Promise, TAMUK is able to provide students with increased access to a world-class, affordable education.

To learn more about the program, please visit:  
[www.tamuk.edu/JavelinaPromise/index.html](http://www.tamuk.edu/JavelinaPromise/index.html)

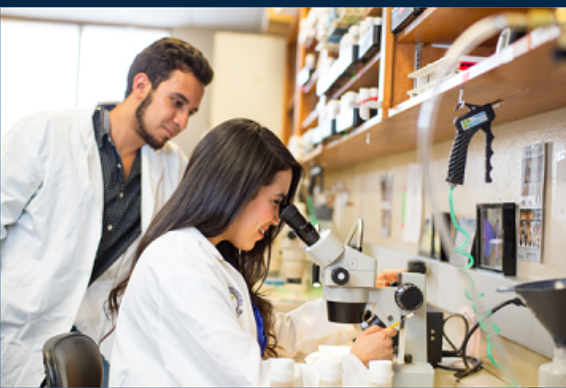


## Welcome to the Team!

- Dr. Richard Laughlin, Associate Professor, has been appointed Chair, Department of Biological & Health Sciences.
- Melinda Perez has joined the School of Music as Administrative Associate III.







## FACULTY TRAVEL FUNDING AWARDED



## STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIPS AWARDED FOR SPRING 2022

The College of Arts & Sciences issued a call for proposals, allowing faculty the opportunity to apply for funding to support a student assistantship for the spring 2022 semester.

The college is pleased to announce student assistantships were awarded to 20 faculty members across the college, resulting in \$30,000 in funding to support student employment and hands on learning.

Congratulations to the following faculty:

- Dr. Melinda Brou, School of Music
- Dr. Rudi Bohm, Biological & Health Sciences
- Dr. Abiola Dipeolu, Psychology & Sociology
- Dr. Colleen Ferguson, School of Music
- Dr. Jacob Galan, National Natural Toxins Research Center
- Dr. Maribel Gonzales-Garcia, Chemistry
- Dr. Nirmal Goswami, History, Political Science & Philosophy
- Dr. Christine Hahn, Chemistry
- Dr. Elizabeth Janzen, School of Music
- Dr. Haeyoung Kim, Biological & Health Sciences
- Dr. Soyoung Kwon, Psychology & Sociology
- Dr. Jingbo Liu, Chemistry
- Dr. Sajid Liu, Chemistry
- Dr. Aniruddha Mukhopadhyay, Language & Literature
- Dr. Tim Oblad, Psychology & Sociology
- Dr. Rafael Perez-Ballesterro, Biological & Health Sciences
- Dr. Liliana Rodriguez, Psychology & Sociology
- Dr. Richard Schneider, Physics & Geosciences
- Dr. Montamas Suntravat, National Natural Toxins Research Center
- Dr. Teresa Young, Clinical Health Sciences

Special thanks to the review committee for their service to the college: Dr. Ann Fronckowiak, Dr. Haibin Su, Dr. Brian Robinson and Dr. Robert Luckett.

The college has finalized faculty travel awards for the February 2022 award cycle. A total of 16 faculty were awarded funding totaling \$13,697.

**Mark your calendar...**the final round of faculty travel support funding for the academic year will be April 7-8, 2022.



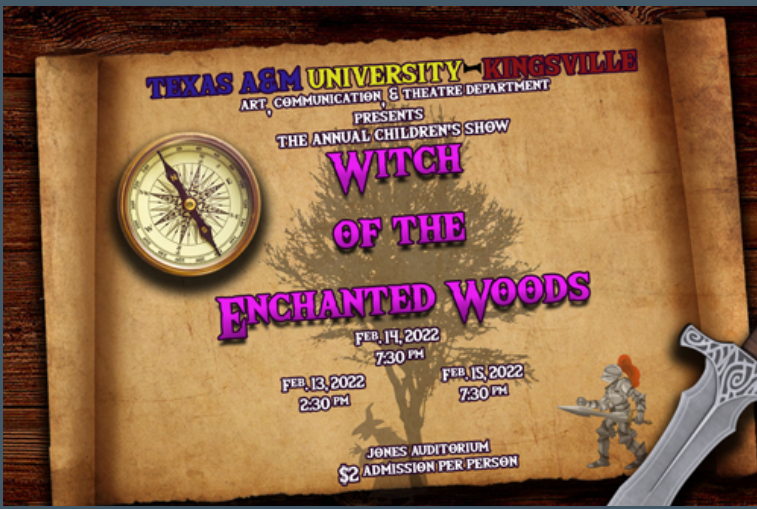
## UPCOMING PROPOSAL DEADLINES

• **Open Educational Resources (OER)** - Arts & Sciences seeks proposals from faculty to develop, modify, or adopt OER for implementation in AY 2022–2023. COAS will select up to five proposals for developing new OER and up to five for adopting and/or modifying existing materials. Awardees will receive 2022 summer pay up to \$3,000 (for new) or up to \$1,000 (for existing). **The submission deadline is February 15, 2022.**

• **Spring 2022 Research Support** - Arts & Sciences is pleased to announce funding availability for Faculty Research Support. Proposals are currently being accepted for faculty support to write research proposals with the potential to secure external funding, or for research that will result in significant future publications. Faculty Award period: March 1, 2022 –July 31, 2022. Faculty may request support up to \$6,000.00. **Proposals must be received by 5p.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.**

To access the call for proposals, please visit:

[www.tamuk.edu/artsci/about-COAS/fsresources.html](http://www.tamuk.edu/artsci/about-COAS/fsresources.html)



## ACT DEPARTMENT PRESENTS ANNUAL CHILDREN'S SHOW

The Art, Communication and Theatre department will present their Annual Children's Show with three performances that are open to the public. This year's show is The Witch of the Enchanted Woods.

The public showings will be a Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 13, and at 7:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday, Feb. 14-15. The show will be in Jones Auditorium and admission is \$2.

## SANCHEZ PUBLISHED IN THE NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE

Dr. Elda Sanchez, Professor of Chemistry and Director of the National Natural Toxins Research Center recently published an article in the New England Journal of Medicine.

*Snake Envenomation*, Steven A. Seifert, M.D., James O. Armitage, M.D., and Elda E. Sanchez, Ph.D was published on January 6, 2022.

[www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra2105228](http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra2105228)

## KWON PUBLISHES WORK RELATED TO COVID-19

Dr. Soyoung Kwon, Associate Professor of Sociology has recently published her work on mental distress during COVID-19.

*The interplay between partisanship, risk perception, and mental distress during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States*, was published in *Psychology, Health & Medicine* on January 20, 2022.

[WWW.TANDFONLINE.COM/DOI/FULL/10.1080/13548506.2022.2029916](http://WWW.TANDFONLINE.COM/DOI/FULL/10.1080/13548506.2022.2029916)

## VELEZ & LAUGHLIN RECEIVE GRANT AWARD FROM THECB

As a part of the Accelerating Credentials of Purpose and Value Grant Program, two faculty members in Biological & Health Sciences have received a grant award from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to establish a post-baccalaureate certificate in Health Sciences. PI is Dr. Maria Velez-Hernandez and Co-PI is Dr. Richard Laughlin. Total award is \$472,170.



## Ensembles to perform at TMEA Showcase

Two ensembles from the School of Music have been selected to perform at the Texas Music Educators Association conference in San Antonio, Texas this February.

The Saxophone Ensemble, led by Dr. Tom Zinninger will perform on Thursday, February 10, 2022. This ensemble will present a diverse program of orchestral as well as original music, including *The Sorcerer's Apprentice* by Paul Dukas and the world premiere of *Identity* by Tom Zinninger.

The Trumpet Ensemble, led by Dr. Kyle Millsap will perform on Friday, February 11, 2022. This ensemble consists of undergraduate and graduate music majors. They will perform a program consisting of staples of the trumpet ensemble repertoire, new works commissioned specifically for this group, and arrangements for jazz trumpet ensemble.

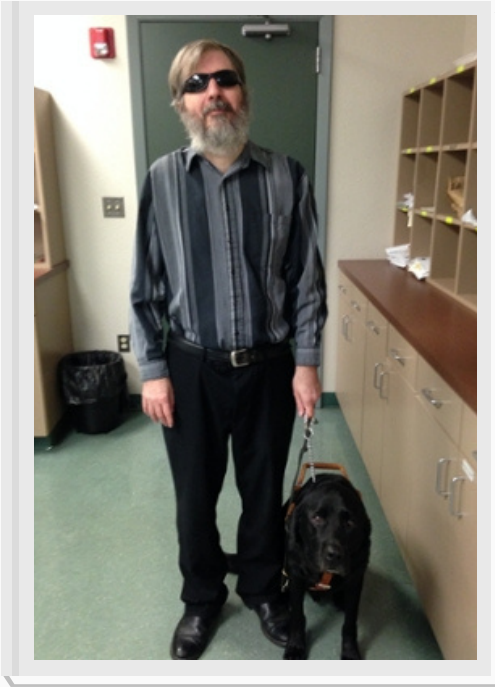
Congratulations to both studios on this tremendous opportunity.





## IN MEMORIAM DR. DONALD DAUGHTRY

The college is mourning the loss of Dr. Donald Daughtry, Professor of Psychology and Graduate Coordinator of the Psychology program. Don was a member of Javelina Nation for 28 years beginning in 1994. His daughter, Tami, said the family is grateful to those who have already reached out to them and that it is wonderful that her father knew so many great students and colleagues throughout his career. There will be no public services, but his wife, Dorothy, would welcome cards or flowers at home at 340 Dana St. Kingsville, TX 78363.



## SCHEDULE A CLASS VISIT OR COLLABORATION WITH THE CONNER MUSEUM

**Located across the street from Manning Hall,  
the Conner Museum is open to scheduling class visits  
or collaborations.**

**Please contact us at 593-2810 or by email at  
[connermuseum@tamuk.edu](mailto:connermuseum@tamuk.edu)**



## DIPEOLU SELECTED AS DLIT FACULTY CHAMPION

Dr. Abiola Dipeolu, Assistant Professor of Psychology has been selected as the Distance Learning & Instructional Technology Faculty Champion for the College of Arts & Sciences.

Dipeolu will become a member of TAMUK's Distance Learning Advisory Council and will disseminate quality assurance process information to the college dean, chairs and faculty who teach online.

We thank Dr. Dipeolu for her service to the college and look forward to new initiatives that will improve the quality of our distance learning course offerings.



# ANNUAL FACULTY EVALUATION PROCESS OPENS



## ANNUAL FACULTY EVALUATION DEADLINES

The online annual evaluation process has opened for faculty members to submit completed E-Portfolios to Blackboard. All full-time faculty (tenured, tenure-track, professors of practice and lecturers) in the College of Arts & Sciences will be required to submit an E-Portfolio in Blackboard for the 2021 calendar year.

The Office of the Dean has prepared a resource guide to help faculty navigate the process. It is available on the college website: [www.tamuk.edu/artsci/about-COAS/fsresources.html](http://www.tamuk.edu/artsci/about-COAS/fsresources.html)

### Reminders & Recommendations

- Allow plenty of time to prepare the portfolio, as the submission deadline and subsequent review schedule are strictly followed.
- Do not omit any required sections or combine elements that should remain separate.
- It is recommended that faculty align their Narrative with their department's scoring tables (i.e. list activities in the order they appear on the document the chair uses to assign points). This helps ensure all activities receive credit and are located in the correct category.

*As the process routes through Blackboard, there are no exceptions to the established deadlines.*

#### March 10, 2022

Last day for faculty members to submit completed E-Portfolio to Blackboard course.

#### March 11, 2022

Blackboard course opens for Department Chair review.

#### April 8, 2022

Last day for Department Chairs to post evaluation to the Blackboard course. Chair will conduct meeting with faculty and provide copy of evaluation document outside of Blackboard.

#### April 11, 2022

Blackboard course opens for Dean review.

#### May 13, 2022

Last day for Dean to post evaluation report to Blackboard course. Dean's office will provide copy of evaluation to faculty outside of Blackboard.

## College of Arts & Sciences 2022 Faculty & Staff Awards

The College of Arts & Sciences is currently accepting nominations for the 2022 Faculty & Staff Awards.

Awards will be issued in the following categories:

Dean's Award for Outstanding Leadership

Dean's Award for Outstanding Teaching

Dean's Award for Outstanding Service

Dean's Award for Outstanding Scholarly & Creative Production

William J. Hall Faculty Award

Olan Kruse Science Faculty Award

Dean's Staff Excellence Award



Nominations are due to the Office of the Dean by March 1, 2022.

Please visit [our website](#) to learn more about eligibility and nomination details.

For questions or additional information, please contact [elisa.guerra@tamuk.edu](mailto:elisa.guerra@tamuk.edu).