



Terry B. Rogers College of Education & Social Sciences

Committed to Advancing Society by Developing Professionals to
Lead | Serve | Educate

Monthly Faculty & Staff Newsletter

Greetings from the Dean



Dr. Gary Bigham
Regents Professor | Dean

Welcome to the fall semester! As we embark on a new academic year, please allow me to express my gratitude for your dedication and commitment to our students and our shared mission, to advance society by developing professionals to lead, serve, and educate. Our dedication to students, our passion for knowledge and academic discourse, and our belief in the inherent worth of all people are what make our college thrive. Let's make this semester one filled with inspiration, collaboration, innovation, and success. I value each of you and am excited about all that we will accomplish together in the 2024-2025 academic year.

In This Issue

Greetings from the Dean

Why, Values, Beliefs, Vision, and Mission

Assessment, Accountability and Accreditation

Students

Curriculum & Instruction

Faculty and Staff

Research

Professional Service

Calendar

Follow us



wtamu.edu/coess

Our Why

At the end of the Spring 2024 semester, a committee was convened with the purpose of revisioning the college. We began by uncovering our why. Our process was largely informed by Simon Sinek. This is where we started:



Revisoning the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences

Our Why

Toward the end of the Spring 2024 semester, I convened a College Revisoning Committee tasked with identifying our why, establishing the core values that stand as the foundation upon which we are built, articulating our beliefs about who we are and what we do, creating a vision statement that was crafted to be about something much larger than ourselves, and creating a mission statement that is the actionable component of the model that bridges our beliefs to our vision while representing what all disciplines in our college do each day. The model portrayed in the graphic is the product of six to eight weeks of work from a committee, representative of all departments in the college, that embraced the importance of what we were doing and all were committed to the work.

We started with our “why.” Most meetings were preceded by a homework assignment. Upon acceptance to join the committee (pictured below) each member was tasked with the following prior to arriving at the first meeting:

Please view the following videos:

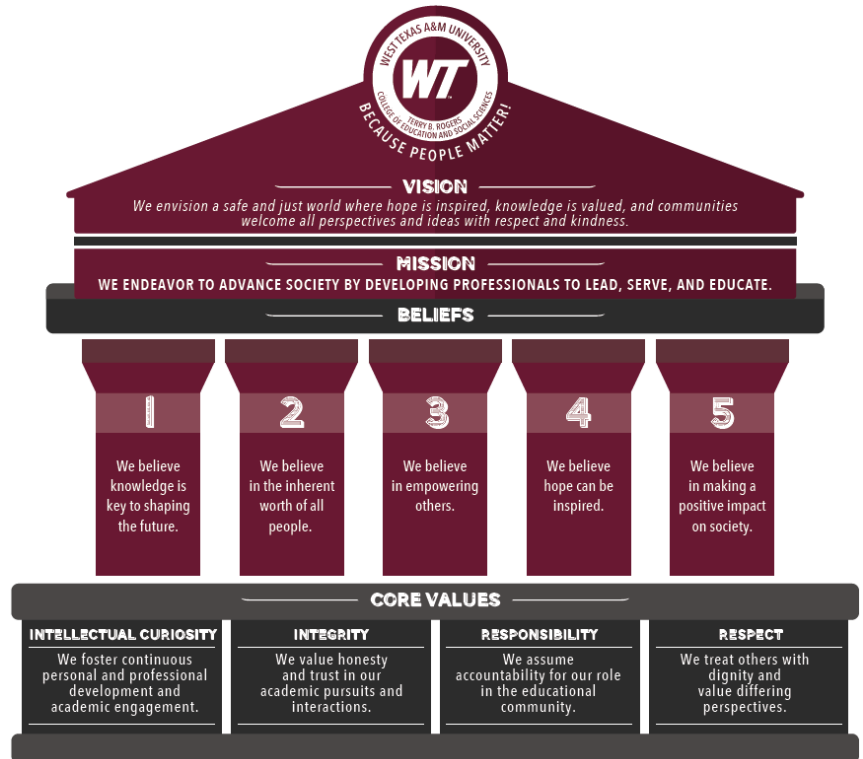
- [The origin of the WHY](#)
- [How can I find my why?](#)
- [What is the difference between a WHY and a Just Cause?](#)

After thoughtful reflection of the videos and self-examination, formulate your personal WHY and just cause. Then think about who we are as a college, what our contributions are to the college, and why we are here.

Arrive at the Wednesday’s meeting prepared to:

1. Share your personal WHY and just cause.
2. Engage in meaningful, informed, and thoughtful conversation to formally articulate what our college’s WHY is and what our just cause is.

Each of us told our story revealing how we each arrived in our positions within the TBRCOESS, followed with our personal why. Key phrases captured from the conversation included “advance self and society,” “influence and impact,” “grow and succeed,” “power of community”, “contribute to society,” “empowerment through education,” “make the world a better place,” and the list goes on. After two plus hours, we collectively arrived at our college’s why – “Because People Matter,” placed prominently at the top of the model.

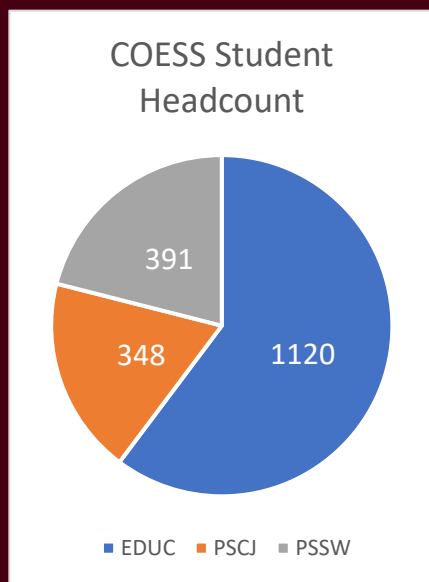


ASSESSMENT

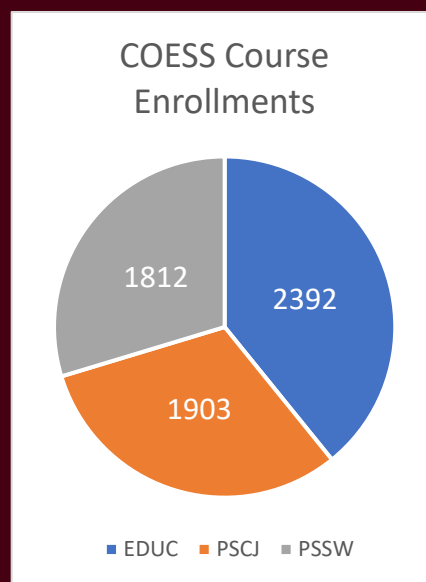
TBRCOESS Fall Start Up Statistics

According to initial numbers obtained from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences began the Fall 2024 semester with 1859 students enrolled in 279 sections of 191 courses, with enrollment counts totaling 6107, taught by 63 faculty. The breakouts by student headcount, course enrollment by section, course count, and faculty count follow.

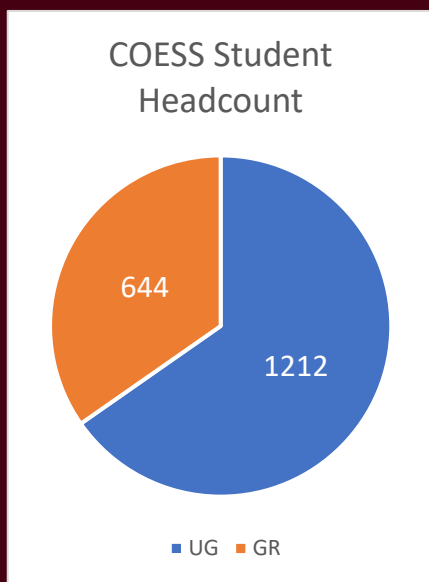
1859 Students



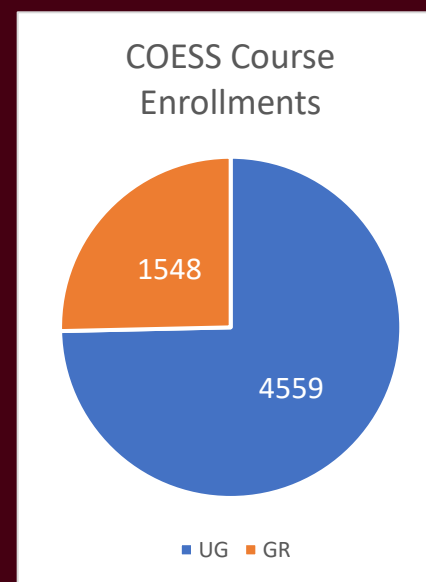
6107 Course Enrollments



COESS Student Headcount

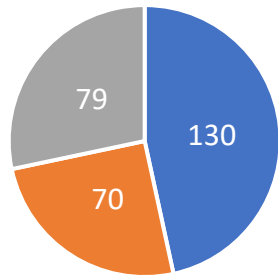


COESS Course Enrollments



279 Sections of 191 Courses

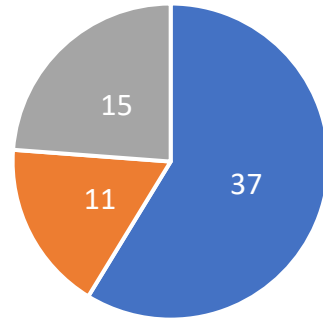
COESS Course Section Count



■ EDUC ■ PSCJ ■ PSSW

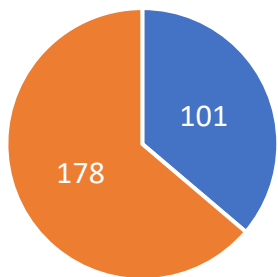
63 Faculty

COESS Faculty Count



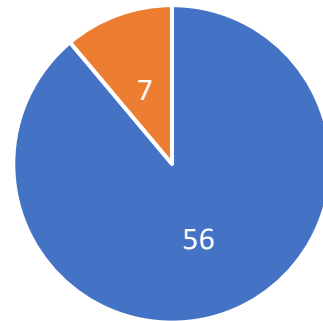
■ EDUC ■ PSCJ ■ PSSW

COESS Course Section Count



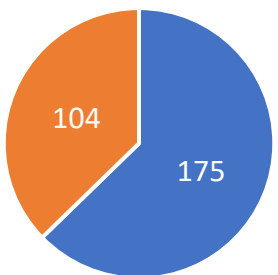
■ F2F ■ Online

COESS Faculty Count



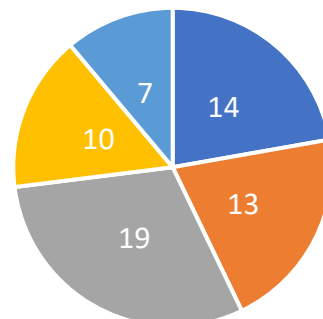
■ FT ■ PTI

COESS Course Section Count



■ UG ■ GR

COESS Faculty Count



■ Prof ■ Assoc ■ Asst ■ Inst ■ PTI

BUFF BRANDING

TBRCOESS Lunch on the Lawn

Our college hosted Buff Branding “Lunch on the Lawn,” on Friday August 24th. We had 15+ faculty greeting our incoming freshman and sharing information about their programs. This year’s group of students was much more engaged than last year. We currently have about 140 freshmen enrolled, approximately half of whom attended this event. The students received newly designed TBRCOESS branded shirts and Buff Branding buttons, and enjoyed music, fellowship, games, and lunch along with a cool treat (bomb pops and ice cream), wrapping up the event.



STUDENTS

STUDENTS



EDUC 1300 PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE LEARNING

Education's First Core 90 Course

The Department of Education welcomes its inaugural group of education majors taking their first education course as freshmen. Freshmen have not traditionally taken any education courses until they have completed a minimum of 54 hours of credit toward their bachelor's degree. The department is now able to take advantage of having an initial interaction with prospective educators through this course that simultaneously serves as a core course for them. According to the course description, this course examines the historical, philosophical, and sociological foundations of education. Theoretical models of strategic learning, cognition, and motivation will serve as the conceptual basis for exploring the components of effective learning. Dr. Adam Weiss is the instructor of this fall semester's course offering and he has designed it to maximize interaction with educators in the field. Additionally, they will have opportunities to meet education (and other) faculty and administrators.



STUDENTS

Student Intervention Resources

Early Alert Program

Early Alerts are available any time class is in session.

Behavior Intervention Team (BIT)

Promotes the development of a healthy campus community at West Texas A&M University.

- Click on the boxes to learn more about these valuable resources -

TEACHING RESOURCES

Library Lifesavers

Article Accessibility

Proxy your links through the library to make them accessible to students off-campus by adding “<https://login.databases.wtamu.edu/login?url=>” at the beginning of the URL.

Copyright

When working with digital content, remember that the library staff can help you with copyright questions.

Instruction

The library teaches classes about Information Literacy topics. Everything from developing a research topic to how to cite using your preferred style.

OER

New to OER? Try the Best Bets Section: <https://infoguides.wtamu.edu/oer/OERresources>

Research

Cornette Library’s research desk is open from 8am – 8pm every weekday. They are available to help find the perfect research article and/or assist in building literature reviews.



Teaching Excellence Center

WELCOME TO THE TEACHING EXCELLENCE CENTER

The TEC was established in 2009 as a resource to support teaching and learning across the University through workshops, seminars, discussion and review of quality materials. The Center will also provide consulting services and peer observation opportunities for enhancing teaching. We hope that the Teaching Excellence Center will provide support and encourage your efforts to support the student-centered mission of West Texas A&M University.

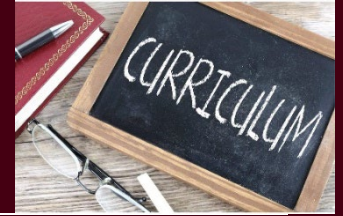


The mission of the TEC is to promote effective teaching and engaged learning through support of faculty as they strive to provide valuable learning experiences for our students. Our goals include supporting faculty needs through workshops, materials, seminars, small group discussions, and consultations as needed by departments, programs or on an individual basis.

CURRICULUM AND SCHEDULING

Curriculum Cycle

The first hard due date for curriculum is upon us – MONDAY, September 9. We want to be intentional, thorough, and complete. Our goal is to submit well-written documents. Please know that your professionalism, attentiveness to substance and detail, and allocation of time to the process is tremendously appreciated.



Due Dates	Items
May 1-15	Early submission for review
Sept. 9	Curriculum due to direct supervisors
Sept. 16	Curriculum due to Deans
Sept. 17-27	College curriculum committees convene to review curriculum to forward to next level
Sept. 30	Curriculum due to Teacher Ed Unit, Core Committee and Graduate Committee
Oct. 7	All curriculum due to University Committee (Academic Affairs)
Nov. 1	University Curriculum Committee Meeting

Spring Course Scheduling



The deadline for January and Spring SCHEDULING is at noon on Friday September 13!



Due Dates	Items
Sept. 13	January and Spring courses due
Sept. 19	Spreadsheets with imported data sent to departments for corrections
Sept. 24	Department corrections due
Sept. 24-25	Registrar's office completes corrections
Sept. 26-27	Room scheduling process begins
Oct. 1	Schedule available on web

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

New Process for Adding Panopto Videos to WTClass

Panopto, the university tool for sharing premium video content in courses, has updated the process for adding video to WTClass. This new process is designed to be more user-friendly and will make integrating video into your courses easier. If you are currently creating new premium video course content to upload into Panopto, be sure to check out the instructions.

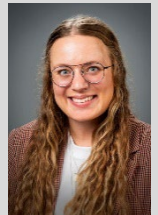
To assist you with the new Panopto process, written and video instructions have been created. See below:

[Written Instructions](#)[Video Tutorial](#)

LMS Transition from Blackboard to Canvas

After a five-week faculty evaluation, which included a faculty feedback and recommendation survey, **West Texas A&M University will transition to a new Learning Management System (LMS), Instructure's Canvas, on June 4, 2025.** This launch date coincides with the 2025 Summer I semester.

As the current LMS contract expires on July 31, 2025, WT's instructional technology team is fully committed to working toward a seamless transition to Canvas. In preparation for the transition from Blackboard to Canvas, faculty members were carefully screened and selected to serve as mentors to colleagues within each of the academic colleges. The role of mentors is to learn the Canvas system as an early adopter, prepare and teach a course in Canvas in the Spring 2025 pilot semester, and provide expertise, assistance, and encouragement to colleagues in navigating the migration to Canvas. Faculty mentors for our college are Drs. Vince Nix and Alicia Macchione.



Additionally, to keep everyone informed and up to date on the progress of the migration, the instructional technology team has created a [dedicated migration website](#). This website will serve as a central hub for information, resources, and training updates related to the transition to Canvas. You are encouraged to check the site regularly as we transition to the Canvas environment. The migration website link is [Canvas Migration Website](#).

Early Access Canvas Training

Early adoption faculty may register for WTClass Canvas kick-off training that begins in October.

[Register Now](#)

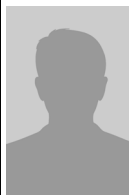
WELCOMING COLLEAGUES TO NEW POSITIONS

New Places



Gilbert Antunez – Assistant Director of Educator Preparation and Certification, Director of Field Placements and Experiences

Dr. Crystal Hughes – Associate Professor of Curriculum and Instruction, Executive Director of Educator Preparation and Candidate Performance



Robin Johnson – Instructor of Education and Testing Coordinator, Office of Educator Preparation

Ray Rigoni – Academic Advisor / Certification Support, Office of Educator Preparation



Dr. Lan "Misty" Song, Assistant Professor of Education and Core Research Methodologist

New Faces

...so new that we do not yet have photographs for most

Heidi Brooks – Administrative Associate, Office of Educator Preparation

Dr. Brian Farmer – Instructor of Political Science, Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice

Dr. Leslie Salazar-Hinojosa – Instructor of Social Work and MSSW Field Director, Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work

Ana Ibarra – Instructor of Social Work and Field Liaison, Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work

Robin Johnson – Lead Academic Advisor – Office of Educator Preparation

Julio Medina – Academic Advisor, Dean's Office

Dr. Lydia Miller – Assistant Professor of Social Work, Department of Psychology, Sociology, and Social Work

FACULTY AND STAFF

Do You Know...

- Click on the boxes to learn more -

About the benefits and perks that come with being a WT employee?

About the Faculty Resources and Support page on the college website?

About the Travel Procedures support page on the college website?

About the student organizations within college?

TENURE AND PROMOTION

Promoted to Professor

Promoted to Professor



Dr. Betty Conway
Professor of Education
Dr. Geneva Schaeffer Professor
of Education and Social Sciences
Head of the Department of Education

Promoted to Professor



Dr. Janet Hindman
Professor of Education
Dyke Rogers Professor of Educational Leadership
Director of Leadership in Higher Education
Ed.D. Program

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor



Dr. Ray Barbosa Jr.
Associate Professor of Education

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor



Dr. Adam Weiss
Associate Professor of Education

Candidates for Tenure and Promotion

Candidate for Professor



Dr. Beth Garcia
Associate Professor of Education
Sylvia Nugent Professor of Education

Candidate for Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor



Dr. Brandon Bang
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
Criminal Justice Program Director

Application Due Date is September 16th - Interfolio

Candidates for Third Year Review



Dr. Vince Nix
Assistant Professor of Education
Core Research Methodologist



Dr. Sohee Kim
Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Liz and John Mozola Faculty Excellence Awards

Congratulations to Dr. Brigette Whaley, Associate Professor of Education, and Dr. Elizabeth Rogers, Assistant Professor of Counseling, for being named winners of the Liz and John Mozola Faculty Excellence Award.



For additional information, refer to the August 15 [press release](#).

Associate Degrees and Dual Credit Offerings

Although the WTAMU initiative to offer embedded associate degrees for students pursuing bachelor's degrees and dual credit are not one and the same, my past experience in the public secondary schools causes me to view a strong connection between the two. Regardless, my purpose is to give a shout-out to two of our faculty who have accepted the challenge of teaching dual credit courses to local high school students. THANK YOU, Drs. Justin Moeller and Nicole Kraus, for including dual credit students in your Political Science and Sociology courses this fall. Dr. Moeller has 53 enrolled in POSC 2305 and Dr. Kraus has seven enrolled in SOCI 1301.



RESEARCH FUNDING

TBRCOESS Faculty Research Award Application

Consistent with Goal 2 of West Texas A&M University's strategic plan to "Become a Regional Research University" and in alignment with the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences core value "Intellectual Curiosity" and belief that "knowledge is key to shaping the future," the college will once again provide research funding, up to \$2,000, for *mostly* empirical research projects that show promise of creating new knowledge and publication in peer-reviewed upper-tiered journals. The process is more formalized than it was last year, complete with a detailed application. Application instructions, the proposal document, the budget spreadsheet, and the application submission portal are all available on the TBRCOESS Faculty Resources and Support page.



RESEARCH

Internal Grant Programs 2024 Call for Proposals

WT's Killgore Research Committee requests proposals for the Internal Grant Programs. Grants are available for ALL disciplines.

Completed Proposals Due:
SEPT. 6 | 11:59 PM CST

PROGRAMS

- Killgore Faculty Research Grant
- Graduate Student Research Grant
- President's Undergraduate Research Grant

VISIT: WTAMU.EDU/SRS



WT Graduate School and Research
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

806-651-2732 | SRSInternalGrants@wtamu.edu | wtamu.edu/srs

NOTE: Deadline for Application is September 6th

Sponsored Research Services

The office of Sponsored Research Services (SRS) is a service unit reporting to the Vice President for Research and Compliance and Dean of Graduate Studies, Dr. Angela Spaulding. Their mission is to support West Texas A&M University researchers in securing external funding and providing expert advice and administrative services during the pre- and post-award stages of the sponsored research project. They are committed to providing internal and external customers professional and responsive service at all times.

[Sponsored Research Services](#)

Free Research Training Webinars

The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station is offering TAMU System members access to Hanover Research Training webinars on the third Thursday of every month, 10-11 AM CT in the fall and spring.

September 19

Crafting a Compelling
Proposal Narrative

October 17

Diversifying Your
Research Portfolio

November 21

10 Tips and Tricks for a
Great NSF Project Summary

[REGISTER
NOW](#)

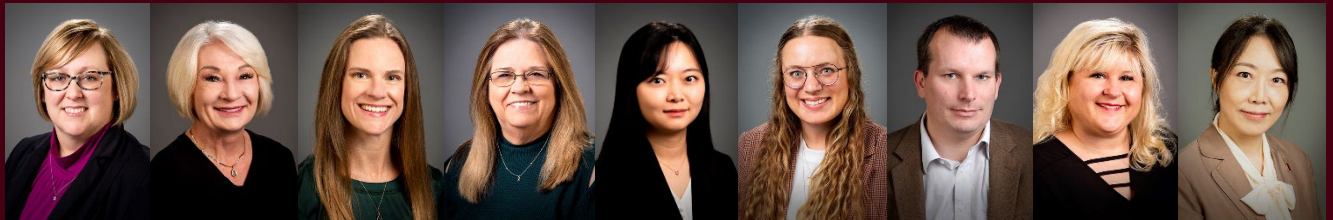
COLLEGE COMMITTEES

ARMR Committee

In the Spring 2024 semester, I created the Advertising, Recruiting, Marketing, and Recognition (ARMR) committee for the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences. The purpose of the ARMR committee is to strategically enhance the college's visibility, attract prospective students and talented individuals, promote academic and extracurricular achievements, and acknowledge the contributions of students, faculty, and staff. Through innovative advertising campaigns, targeted recruitment efforts, effective marketing strategies, and thoughtful recognition initiatives, the committee is tasked with fostering a positive and vibrant college community while supporting the college's overall mission and goals.

Advertising	Recruiting	Marketing	Recognition
Promoting the college and its programs and services	Developing activities focused on the individual relationship with potential students	Identifying customer needs and determining how best to meet those needs while simultaneously enhancing the college's brand over time	Acknowledging and rewarding students and faculty for their contributions to the college

Dr. Justin Moeller and Kristy Bartlett were appointed co-chairs of the committee. My intent is for the committee to be representative of all aspects of our college by department (ED, PSCJ, PSSW), primary course-level assignment (UG, GR, EdD), primary course delivery modality (F2F, online), and position/rank (staff, PTI or clinical, assistant, associate, full professor). By way of membership, the committee size may range from 5 to 10 in number, with the expectation that some members may fill two or more membership roles. The 2024-2025 committee is pictured below.



Upcoming Event: Major Exploration Fair

The **Major Exploration Fair** is designed to provide prospective students with valuable insights into the various majors our colleges offer and the potential career paths they can pursue. We believe your participation will be instrumental in making this event a success.

Details of the Event:

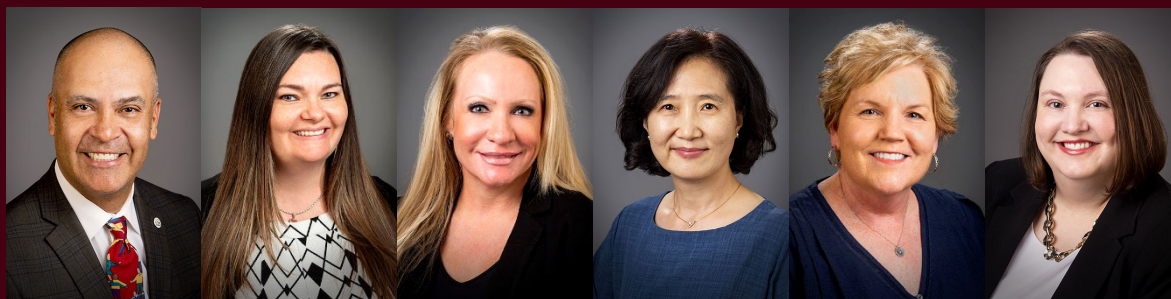
- **Date:** October 24th
- **Time:** 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (set up starting at 10:00 AM)
- **Location:** Jack B. Kelly Student Center Commons
- **Setup:** Each department will be provided with a 6' table and chairs
- **Materials:** We ask that you bring promotional giveaways, brochures, and flyers about the majors your college offers
- **Interaction:** Representatives should be prepared to answer questions from exploring students about the majors and their related career opportunities

Additionally, each department will be partnered with an industry professional who is currently utilizing their degree from your college. This partnership aims to provide a comprehensive perspective for students, combining academic insights with real-world applications.

Induction and Mentoring Committee

Based on my philosophy that any college is only as good as its faculty, in the Spring 2024 semester, I created the Induction and Mentoring committee for the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences. I believe that the time invested in hiring and developing high quality faculty pays innumerable dividends. Accordingly, the purpose of the Induction and Mentoring committee is to facilitate a seamless and supportive transition for new members to the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences. This committee is dedicated to creating a structured induction process designed to ensure that new faculty are integrated into the community, understand organizational values, and have access to essential resources. Additionally, the committee strives to provide meaningful mentoring relationships by pairing experienced faculty with new faculty to foster professional growth, skill development, and a sense of belonging. Through these efforts, the committee aims to cultivate a positive and inclusive organizational culture that promotes long-term engagement and success for all members.

Dr. Crystal Hughes was appointed chair of the committee. My intent is for the committee to be representative of all departments (EDUC, PSCJ, PSSW), and all ranks (assistant, associate, and full) of the tenure-track professorship. The committee size may range from five to 10 in number, with the expectation that some members may fill two or more membership roles. The committee lost one member who moved to another university. The remaining members are pictured below.



Due to the lack of time at our college meeting on August 21st, this committee was not afforded the opportunity to share the mentoring program they developed in the spring. Accordingly, you will be hearing from them in the coming days with a program and a request for volunteers. I applaud this group for the work they accomplished in a very short amount of time.

Buff Alert

The induction component of the total program will eventually include key information akin to some that has been intentionally scattered throughout this newsletter (e.g., employee benefits and perks, faculty support and resources, BIT, early alert, etc.). In addition to these and others that have not yet been mentioned is Buff Alert. Buff Alert is an emergency notification service that gives West Texas A&M the ability to communicate health and safety emergency information quickly—by email, text and push notifications by downloading the SafeZone mobile app. WT network emails will be included; however, the download of the app is necessary to receive the full benefit of SafeZone. Download the app at www.safezoneapp.com and search WTAMU. SafeZone is limited to current Students, Faculty and Staff. Surrounding community members may follow University social and local media outlets for campus news. Whether you are new to WT or a veteran who has never downloaded the app, I encourage you to do so today.

OUTREACH



WT WEST TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY™

Center for
Learning
Disabilities



The Center for Learning Disabilities (CLD) hosts Community Workshops throughout the academic year. The line-up for 2024-2025 is as follows:

September 9	Crisis Planning for Neurodivergent Students
November 4	Technology and Students with Learning Differences
February 3	Legal Issues and Special Populations
March 3	Practical Tips to Support Students with Learning Differences at Home
April 7	Differentiation in the Classroom for Students with Learning Differences
May 5	Transition to College Panel: Advocacy and Recommendations from College Students' Lived Experiences

Registration for each workshop is available on the CLD website. The CLD offers educational opportunities and support for parents, students, and teachers.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

12th Annual Helen Piehl Distinguished Lecture

Understanding ADHD and Its Complications in Children and Related Disorders

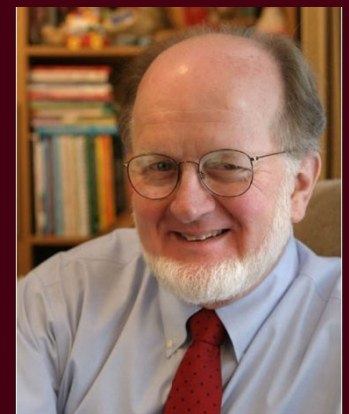
Date: Thursday, October 10, 2024

Time: 8:30 to 12:00

Speaker: Thomas E. Brown, Ph.D.
Director of the Brown Clinic for Attention and Related Disorders
Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Neuroscience
University of California, Riverside School of Medicine
Brown ADHD Clinic Manhattan Beach

Platform: Face to Face and Webinar

Location: Alumni Banquet Facility



September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labor Day; University Closed	3 2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline	4	5	6	7
8	9 Curriculum Due to Direct Supervisors CLD Workshop	10	11 12 th Class Day	12	13 Winter Intercession and Spring Course Schedules Due to Registrar	14
15	16 Curriculum Due to Dean T&P/3 rd Yr Review Folders Due; Interfolio 2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline	17 College Curriculum Committees Convene T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene	18	19	20 8:00 pm: IT Maintenance	21 2:00 am: IT Maintenance
22	23 College Curriculum Committees Convene T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene 20 th Class Day	24	25	26 6:00: Celebration of Donors; Alumni Banquet Facility	27	28
29	30 Curriculum Due to Teacher Ed Unit, Core Committee & Graduate Committee T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene					

Academic Affairs Calendar

Academic Calendar (Registrar)

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	30 T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene	1 Provost notifies tenured faculty continuing review faculty <u>2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline</u> Summer 2026 study abroad proposals due	2	3	4 8-Week Classes; Last Day to Drop/Withdraw with Guaranteed X	5
6	7 T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene Homecoming Week All curriculum due to University Committee	8	9	10 8:30 a.m.: 12 th Annual Helen Piehl Distinguished Lecture; Alumni Banquet Facility	11	12 Homecoming Parade; TBD 7:00 Homecoming Game; Bain-Schaeffer Buffalo Stadium
13	14 T&P/3 rd Yr Dept Committees Review and Convene	15 Dept Head T&P/3 rd Yr Rvw Recommendations Due to Dean <u>2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline</u>	16 T&P/3 rd Yr College Committees Review and Convene <u>2:00: TBRCOESS Meeting with President; JBK Thunder</u> Finals for 8-Week Courses	17	18 Mid-Term 8:00 p.m.: IT Maintenance	19
20	21 Grades due: 8-Wk Courses; Midterm Developmental & Core Courses	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Last day to drop/withdraw with guaranteed X	1 University Curriculum Committee; TBD	

Academic Affairs Calendar

Academic Calendar (Registrar)