



Terry B. Rogers College of Education & Social Sciences

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

Monthly Faculty & Staff Newsletter



Dr. Gary Bigham
Regents Professor | Dean

Greetings from the Dean

Happy February! I trust that your spring semester is off to a smooth start. We began the semester with 1600 students in the college. By the fifth day of classes, we were up to 1608. Then on Census Day, our student headcount was 1609. Comparatively, the fall Census headcount was 1652. Thus, from fall to spring Census Day, we are -43 students. While I doubt you “feel” that difference in your classes since it is spread across the college, it is a number that we must remain attentive to.

Spring is a key time for recruitment. Kudos to the ARMR committee for their recruitment and retention efforts. I am seeing evidence, not only from the committee, but also from individual programs that recruitment is an important part of your spring semester work. Please know how much it is noticed and appreciated!

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It’s Time to Change Our Narrative!



In our quest to grow student enrollment, and with the spring semester being a critical recruitment time, it is time to change our narrative. In the video, that I also shared last year, Simon Sinek says, “Good marketing talks about the buyer and bad marketing talks about the seller.” If there is merit to this statement, then as we market what we sell, we must appeal to the needs of our constituents instead of trying to showcase ourselves.

Last year, I gave the example of how I believe Education’s BUFF START program did this when invited to the table with area superintendents who expressed their needs to us. The conversation was focused 100% on their needs, not ours. The motivation behind its creation was to serve a need conveyed to us by external constituents in our region. It produced enrollment and I anticipate increased enrollment to come.

Recently the Education department became aware of a TEA grant for ISD’s interested in having residency teacher candidates in their schools. One of the requirements of the grant is to partner with an EPP that is an approved provider of the the residency certificate. The EPP applied for this new certificate right away to be a viable partner for our local school districts.

I am also aware of Dr. Moeller’s efforts to meet the needs of firefighters who desire to have an EMA degree. While these are isolated examples, they are not the only instances of narrative change in the college. I hope to showcase several in the months ahead.

The census counts were not particularly exciting. The fruit of our labor may not be evident **YET**, but with current and forthcoming efforts, **we are well on our way** to attaining our goal of 2000 by 2030.

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

Our Why, How, and What

Why?

Everything we do in the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences centers on our deep-held belief that knowledge is key to shaping a better future for the people who comprise our society. In short, we do what we do because people matter!

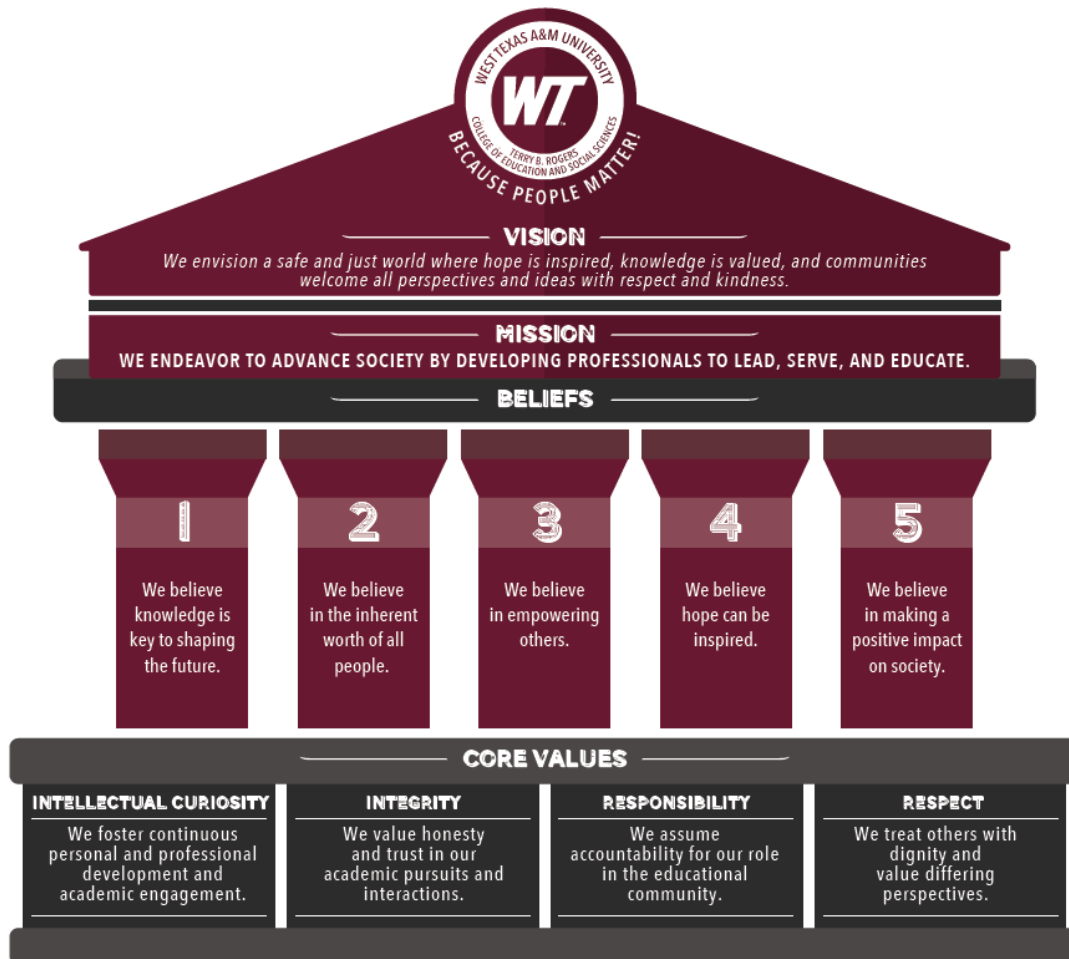
How?

Through a combination of traditional and online course offerings coupled with meaningful engagement in internships, practicums, clinical experiences, research, and service, we avail opportunities for individuals seeking advanced credentials to positively impact society. We offer high-quality, competitively priced degree and certification pathways for traditional and non-traditional students leading to Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctoral degrees, in addition to an array of professional certificates in Education and the Social Sciences.

What?

We contribute to the advancement of society by developing professionals to lead, serve, and educate.

WHY | VALUES | BELIEFS | VISION | MISSION



ALIGNMENT

As a college within the university, it is important that our values (and beliefs), vision, and mission align with the university's. However, with a focus on people and society, there is a reasonable expectation that our values, beliefs, vision, and mission as a college may have different, or more specifically defined meanings than those that may be more broadly defined by the university. Consider the following in terms of alignment:

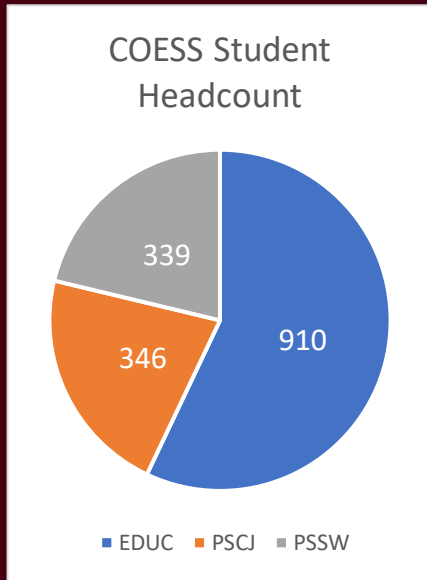
Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences	West Texas A&M University
<p>Our Why: Because people matter!</p> <p>Vision:</p> <p>We envision a safe and just world where hope is inspired, knowledge is valued, and communities welcome all perspectives and ideas with respect and kindness.</p> <p>Mission:</p> <p>We endeavor to advance society by developing professionals to lead, serve, and educate.</p> <p>Beliefs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We believe knowledge is key to shaping the future. • We believe in the inherent worth of all people. • We believe in empowering others. • We believe hope can be inspired. • We believe in making a positive impact on society. <p>Core Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual Curiosity – We foster continuous personal and professional development and academic engagement. • Integrity – We value honesty and trust in our academic pursuits and interactions. • Responsibility – We assume accountability for our role in the educational community. • Respect – We treat others with dignity and value differing perspectives. 	<p>Vision:</p> <p>Guided by its pioneering spirit, West Texas A&M University is recognized for its excellence in teaching and learning, and a strong focus on engaging students in experiences that aid in the development of skills, capabilities, and insights. Our vision is to become a Regional Research University responsive to the forces that shape who we are. Our distinctive focus on the people and places of the Panhandle region will be acknowledged throughout Texas, across the country, and around the world.</p> <p>Mission:</p> <p>The mission of West Texas A&M University is to provide intellectually challenging, critically reflective, regionally responsive, and comprehensive academic programs that discover, interpret, apply, and disseminate knowledge for preparing the next generation of global citizens.</p> <p>Core Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Freedom – We champion the free exchange of ideas. • Service – We put the needs of others first. • Pragmatism – We seek to apply what we learn for the betterment of community. • Innovation – We embrace better ways to shape the future. • Respect – We treat others with dignity which flows from the humanity of each individual. • Engagement – We promote citizenship and being part of something larger than oneself.

STUDENT/FACULTY COUNT ASSESSMENT

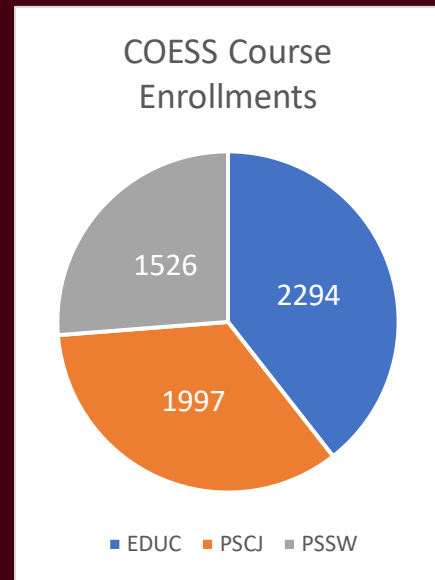
Spring Start Up Statistics

According to preliminary numbers obtained from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness, the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences began the Spring 2024 semester with 1595 students (varies slightly from Census Day stats) enrolled in 191 courses, with enrollment counts totaling 5817, taught by 77 faculty.

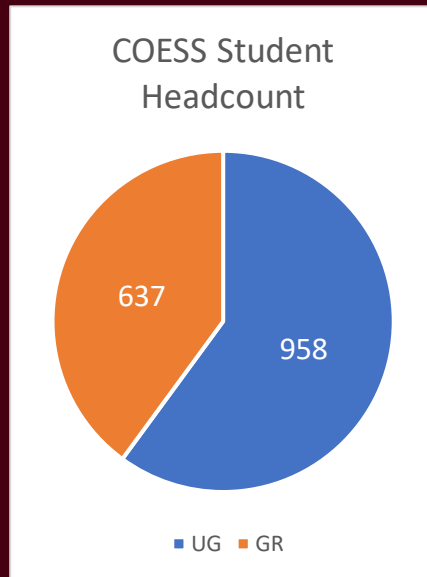
Student Headcount: 1595



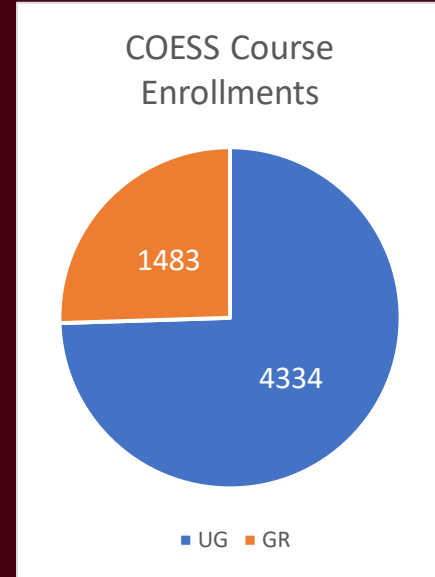
Course Enrollment Count: 5817



COESS Student Headcount



COESS Course Enrollments

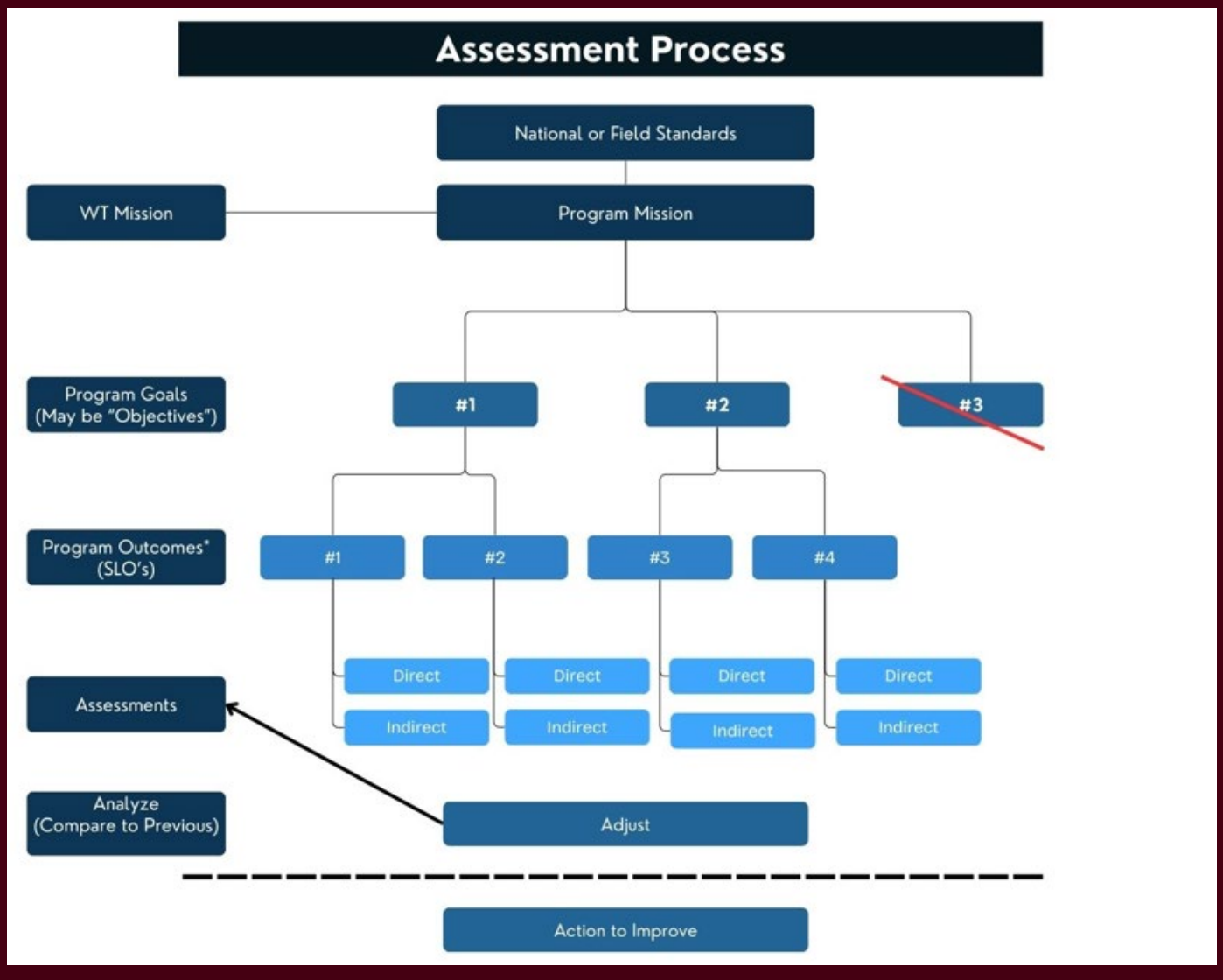


PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

Annual Program Assessment Requirement and Process

Aside from being a SAC-COC required activity, program-level assessment of student performance is a necessary activity to gauge both academic growth of students and levels of program goal attainment. In the absence of assessment, there is no meaningful way to measure the effectiveness of the strategies employed by programs within the academic unit. Assessment for Improvement is a component of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness.

Dr. Denton has graciously developed the process depicted below to guide each of our programs as they engage in the assessment process. Program chairs and directors should begin engaging faculty in the next round of assessment that will be due this summer.



ACCREDITATION

School Psychology Program Receives Notice of National Accreditation

Under Dr. Denton's leadership, the School Psychology program has attained full accreditation by the National Association of School Psychologists. In a letter dated February 1, 2025, Natalie Politikos, PhD and Chair of the NASP Program Accreditation Board notified Dr. Denton that upon completion of review of WT's submission by reviewers trained in the application of the NASP Standards for Graduate Preparation of School Psychologists, the NASP Program Accreditation Board granted *NASP Accreditation – Full* to WT's School Psychology program for the period of February 1, 2025 through February 1, 2032.

CONGRATULATIONS to our School Psychology Program on the achievement of this major accomplishment!



National Association of School Psychologists

Grants NASP Program Accreditation

To

West Texas A&M University

Full Accreditation

February 1, 2025 – February 1, 2032

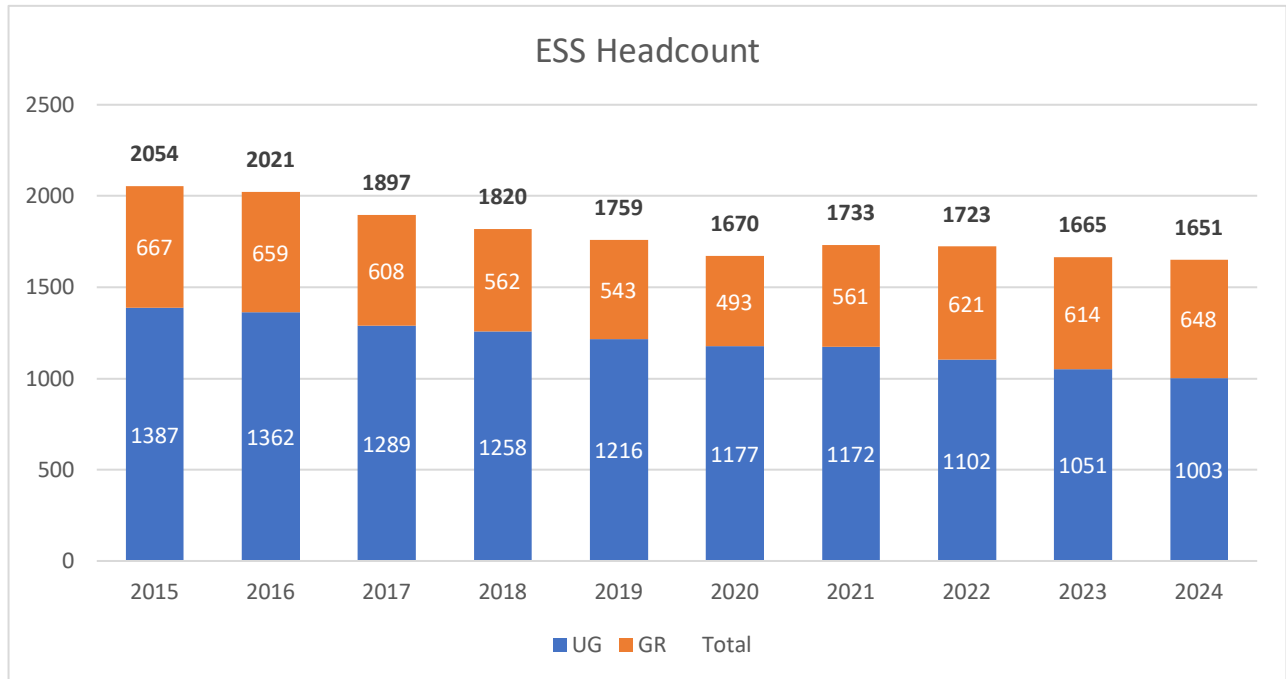
for its

School Psychology Program at the Specialist Level

COLLEGE ENROLLMENT GOAL

Increasing Headcount

Needs Assessment Data



University and College Goals

WT 125 Goal 3: Increase university enrollment through student recruitment and degree attainment.

TBRCOESS Goal: Increase enrollment in the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences to 2000 (headcount) by AY 2030-31 via active recruitment and retention measures.

The Math (in round figures)

Annually: $\frac{2000 \text{ headcount} - 1600 \text{ headcount}}{2030 - 2025} = \frac{400 \text{ headcount target growth}}{5 \text{ years}} = 80 \text{ headcount growth/year}$

$\frac{80 \text{ headcount growth/year}}{\sim 20 \text{ programs}} = \sim 4 \text{ headcount growth / year / program}$

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Fall Grades and Accolades

Course Enrollments	A	B	C	D	F	*Other
6159	3351	1273	620	179	291	445
100%	54%	21%	10%	3%	5%	7%

Departments	Enrolled	A	B	C	D	F	*Other
EDUC	2482 100%	1621 65%	341 14%	134 5%	26 1%	116 5%	244 10%
PSCJ	1952 100%	950 49%	512 26%	257 13%	67 3%	94 5%	72 4%
PSSW	1725 100%	780 45%	420 24%	229 13%	86 5%	81 5%	129 8%

* Note: Other includes X, XF, I, IP, and S

President's List

118

President's List

Dean's List

150

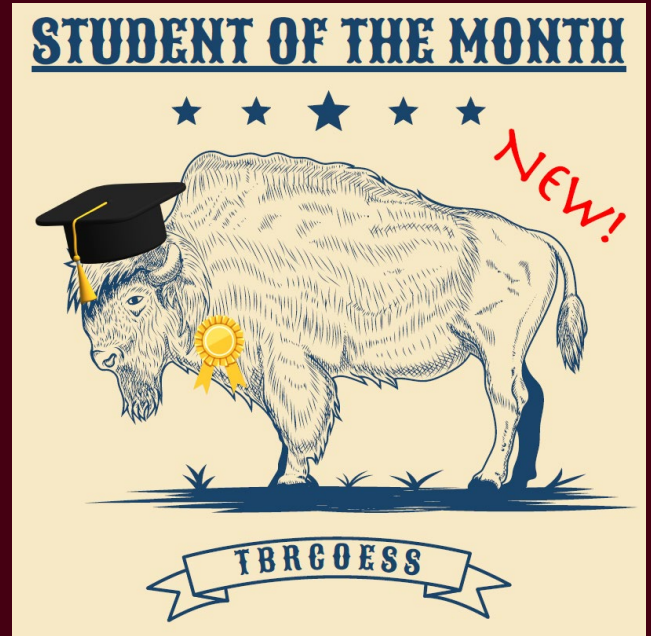
Dean's List

STUDENT OF THE MONTH

As a part of our student retention efforts, and in conjunction with our goal to increase student headcount, the Terry B Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences will recognize three students each full month of the regular, long semesters for the *Student of the Month*. Students will be nominated by their faculty and/or programs for this recognition, and awards will be chosen by the college leadership team. This recognition will allow the college to highlight students and their outstanding performance, encouraging perseverance in their studies.

Students will be nominated by faculty via an online submission. The criteria include (a) GPA >3.25, and (b) outstanding performance (e.g., academic achievement, research productivity, etc.). A student awardee will be chosen from each department (3 total) based on the faculty nominations. College leadership will verify GPA's and will choose awardees if multiple nominations are presented within a department.

Online nominations will be shared and open at the beginning of each full month of regular, long semesters: February, March, and April in the spring and September, October, and November in the fall. Then, awardees will be highlighted in college media and newsletters at the beginning of the following months. At the end of the semester, all awardees (9) will be recognized during a college event.



Faculty: Nominate worthy candidates via the nomination link or the QR code below.

**Nominate a Worthy
Student Now**



ROGERS LEAD WT

Rogers LEAD WT is currently recruiting students to apply for the Class of 2027. Now is the time to recommend outstanding students in our college who meet the Rogers LEAD WT criteria. Twenty-five students will be selected for Rogers LEAD WT through a selective application and interview process.

Students will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- Approach - LEAD Scholars are optimistic, energetic, and giving.
- Work Ethic - LEAD Scholars are responsible, take initiative, and show self-discipline.
- People Skills - LEAD Scholars communicate effectively with others, work as part of a team, and represent LEAD WT professionally on campus and in the community.
- Aspiration - LEAD Scholars demonstrate a desire for personal growth and development and will be able to articulate their goals and plans for the future.

ROGERS LEAD WT APPLICATIONS

PRIORITY DEADLINE IS
FEBRUARY 9, 2025

FINAL DEADLINE IS
FEBRUARY 23, 2025



240

Total Rogers LEAD WT
graduates



\$1,000

Scholarship awarded to
scholars each semester



\$179,000+

Scholarship awarded to
scholars each year



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
WTAMU.EDU/LEAD



Rogers LEAD WT
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

[A list of students](#) from our college who qualify for LEAD based on a 2.75 or higher GPA and having at least four long semesters remaining at West Texas A&M University (beginning at the start of August 2025) is accessible faculty only. **The priority deadline is February 9th and the final deadline for applications is February 23rd.**

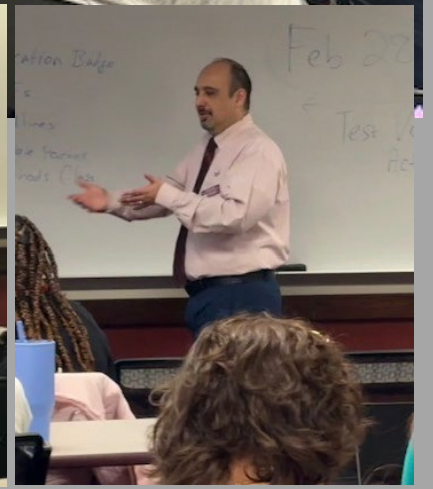
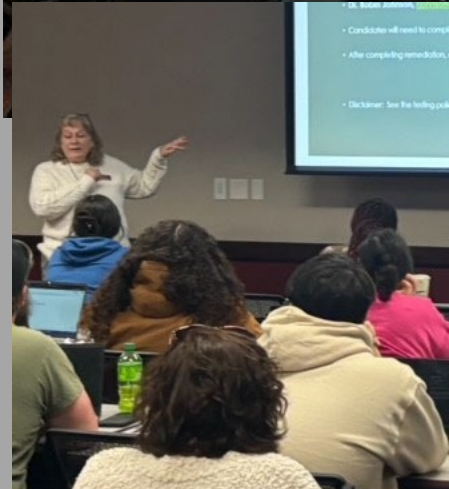
[Rogers LEAD WT Website](#)

[Rogers LEAD Application](#)

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

The Educator Preparation Program's (EPP) methods orientation was conducted on January 24th. The 60+ attendees gained information on topics inclusive of methods placement for classroom field-based experiences, testing support and resources, test voucher eligibility, and future clinical teaching information.

STUDENTS



2025 Application Deadline EXTENDED to February 17!



McNair Scholars

Charles Butt
SCHOLARSHIP FOR ASPIRING TEACHERS®

Scholarships of up to \$8,000 or \$10,000 depending on University Program

An investment in the most promising future educators in Texas

RAISING TEXAS
TEACHERS

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FOUNDATION



For more information, visit:
CharlesButtScholarship.org

STUDENT SUCCESS

Student hasn't logged in to WTClass or attended class, submit an Early Alert!

New year. New form. Same resource. Submit Early Alerts!

1. Select the **EA icon** in WTClass OR access Early Alerts through **Buff Success**.

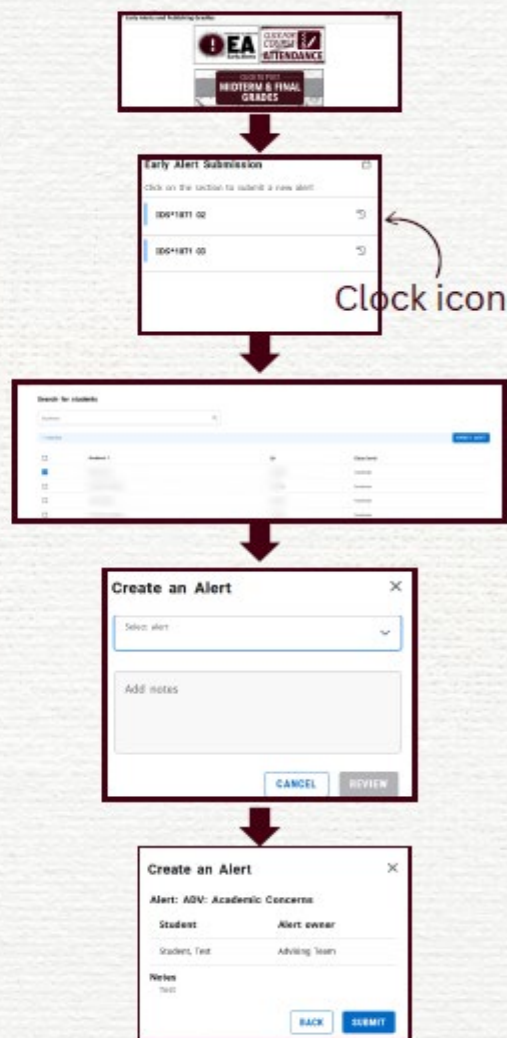
2. You will be routed to Buff Success; identify the **Early Alert Submission Card**. Select course

3. Select the box next to the student(s) an alert is needed for

4. **Create an alert.** Select the alert; these options are more detailed. Add notes: this should include message you want shared with the student and/or is relevant information to the adviser making the call. These notes **WILL** not be forwarded to students.

5. **REVIEW.** You will review the details of your alert and the department managing contact. **SUBMIT.**

6. **Click Icon.** Select the clock icon next to the course to review previously submitted alerts for this course and check the status.



TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Library Lifesavers

The Cornette Library welcomes us to the spring semester! They would like to share a few library lifesavers to get your semester off to a great start.

Federal Publications

- As the only [Federal Depository Library](#) in the Texas Panhandle, the Government Documents unit has been assisting patrons since 1928. Let us help you, too!

Interlibrary Loan

- If we don't have what you need in our collection you can borrow it through Interlibrary Loan. Create an account or log in here [ILL login](#).

EBSCO

- **EBSCOhost's interface has changed.** Please check and refresh any links to materials hosted on the EBSCO platform.

OER

- Use the [Open Textbook Library](#) to read vetted reviews of high-quality OER.

Research

- Cornette library has a chat service on our website that is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week. If you need research help and can't see us in person, feel free to chat with us anytime, day or night.

Please call (806) 651-2215 if Cornette Library can assist you in any way.

Online Programs Rise in National and State Ranks According to U.S. News & World Report

WT's online bachelor's program rose to [32nd in the nation](#) and ranks 4th in Texas. Two programs from the Terry B. Rogers College of Education and Social Sciences were highlighted. The master's programs in Criminal Justice and Education were included in the Best Online line up! Refer to the [press release](#) for more details.


INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Canvas Course Migration Training

To assist with the transition from Bb to Canvas, our friends in Instructional Technology have scheduled a series of workshops designed to assist you with cleaning up migrated courses in preparation for a successful launch in WTClass Canvas.

ALL FACULTY (teaching F2F and online) are highly encouraged to attend at least the First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop.

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Date	Workshop
Mon. 2/10 9:00 am – 11:00 am	<p>First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop</p> <p>For All WTAMU Faculty</p> <p>In this hands-on workshop you will learn how to access and navigate within the new WTClass Canvas system.</p>  <p>Workshop topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessing and editing course content migrated from Blackboard • Editing the course home page • Communicating with students • Organizing course content within Canvas modules • Creating a “to do” checklist for students • Making content available to students • Viewing your course as a student • Uploading your course syllabus • Using “Instructor Only Links”: early alerts, attendance, and publishing grades • Introduction to the gradebook in Canvas • Copying your course into a new semester course • How to access help and additional Canvas-created training
Wed. 2/12 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Thurs. 2/13 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Fri. 2/14 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	
Tues. 2/18 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Tues. 2/18 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Thurs. 2/20 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Fri. 2/21 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Mon. 2/24 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Tues. 3/4 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Tues. 3/18 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Wed. 3/19 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Thurs. 3/20 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Tues. 4/1 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Wed. 4/2 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Fri. 4/4 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Tues. 4/8 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Wed. 4/9 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Thurs. 4/10 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Fri. 4/11 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm	
Thurs. 5/1 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Fri. 5/2 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Fri. 5/13 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Wed. 5/14 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Tues. 6/10 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Tues. 6/24 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
Mon. 7/14 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
Tues. 7/22 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Mon. 8/4 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Tues. 8/5 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
<p>Location: Marmaduke Center Training Room 55D</p>	

Register at: <https://www.trumba.com/calendars/wtamu-it-training>

On May 30, 2025, students taking 2025 SU1 courses will gain access to their courses for the first semester in the new WTClass Canvas system. In preparation for the launch of WTClass Canvas for the 2025 SU1 term.

2025 SUMMER ONLINE FACULTY are urged to attend the first 3 workshops sequentially in February and March.

The first three workshops, in sequential order, are listed below:

- ① First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop
- ② WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop Part 1
- ③ WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop Part 2

Date	Workshop
Thurs. 2/19 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	<p>WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop Part 1</p> <p>For Faculty Who Teach Online and Faculty Who Use WTClass Extensively</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop</p> <p>This hands-on workshop is a continuation of the “First Steps” workshop where you will explore your migrated course, learn to restructure and move content between modules, rename, reorganize, and remove modules, control access, and create a student to-do list. Additionally, you will learn to add and edit pages, publish content for student access, and view the course as a student. Wondering how well your gradebook migrated? We will look at your migrated gradebook and discuss gradebook settings and how to clean up and reorganize gradebook columns. You will also learn how to copy content between courses.</p>
Thurs. 2/20 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Thurs. 2/27 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Fri. 2/28 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Mon. 3/3 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Wed. 3/5 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Thurs. 3/20 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Fri. 3/21 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Thurs. 3/27 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Tues. 4/15 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Wed. 4/16 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm	
Thurs. 4/17 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Tues. 5/20 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Wed. 5/21 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Wed. 6/11 9:00 am – 11:00 am	
Wed. 6/25 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
Tues. 7/15 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
Wed. 7/23 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
Wed. 8/6 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	
Mon. 8/11 11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)	
<p>Location: Marmaduke Center Training Room 55D</p>	



Date	Workshop
Fri. 2/21	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Wed. 2/26	11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)
Wed. 3/5	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Thurs. 3/6	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Thurs. 3/6	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Wed. 3/19	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Fri. 3/21	1:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Mon. 3/25	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Wed. 3/26	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Fri. 3/28	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Mon. 3/31	11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)
Tues. 4/22	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Wed. 4/23	12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
Thurs. 4/24	11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)
Tues. 5/27	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Wed. 5/28	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Thurs. 6/12	9:00 am – 11:00 am
Thurs. 6/26	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Wed. 7/16	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Thurs. 7/24	11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)
Thurs. 8/7	10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Mon. 8/18	11:00 am – 1:00 pm (Zoom)

WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop Part 2

For Faculty Who Teach Online/Faculty Who Use WTClass Extensively

3

PREREQUISITES:

- First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop
- WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop Part 1

This hands-on training is the second part of the *WTClass Canvas: Understanding and Preparing Migrated Content Workshop*. It is designed for faculty who teach primarily online, or who use WTClass extensively. This training will cover more details about managing migrated tests, announcements, rubrics, student groups, and more! Additionally, you will learn how to update or add Zoom, Panopto, Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor, Turnitin, SoftChalk, and ebook publisher content in Canvas. You will also explore how to apply and use the WT Online Best Practices Template in your courses.

Location:
Marmaduke Center Training Room 55D

FACULTY NOT TEACHING IN THE SUMMER have the added convenience of delaying enrollment in the First Steps in the WTClass Canvas Migration Workshop until April through July.

Clean-up of online course migrations WILL BE NECESSARY.

Register at: <https://www.trumba.com/calendars/wtamu-it-training>

Information from the 2025 Faculty Resource Fair



Provides a diverse selection of [presentations](#) designed to engage your classroom or student organization and enhance professional development. If you're looking to collaborate on career development assignments, our team is here to partner with you and make the process as seamless as possible. Additionally, we work with employers at the local, regional, and national levels to connect students with part-time, internship, and full-time opportunities. **CC 113 | 806.651.2345 | wtamu.edu/career | wtcareer@wtamu.edu**



Oversees orientation programs for [freshmen](#) (offered in Summer and January) and [transfer](#) students (available year-round), including managing the WT Family Network Facebook page. Additionally, it coordinates Supplemental Instruction (SI) and [tutoring](#) programs, as well as retention initiatives and reporting. **CC 108 | 806.651.2341 | Amanda Lawson: Retention Programs and Testing: alawson@wtamu.edu | Tommy King: Orientation and Peer Leaders: rking@wtamu.edu | Lexi Thomas: Transfer Programs, Buff Branding, Family Programs: lthomas@wtamu.edu | Gregg Lawler: Tutoring and SI Programs 651-2399, glawler@wtamu.edu**



Provides support and [accommodations](#) for students with disabilities while serving as their advocate. If a student reports to you that they need accommodations (for example, extra time on a test), please refer them to get registered with our office. We collaborate closely with faculty and staff to monitor student progress and foster a positive educational experience. **CC 106 | 806.651.2335 | osa@wtamu.edu**



Offers personal and group counseling, as well as crisis intervention services. Students can access the [TFLUS Mental Health app](#), which provides 24/7 support through chat, phone, video, and in-person services. The app also offers peer support and a library of resources tailored to students' mental health needs—all free of charge. For severe, chronic, or long-term mental health concerns, referrals to community agencies are available. **CC 116 | 806.651.2340 | scs@wtamu.edu**



reservable meeting and event spaces, both within the JBK and across campus. It hosts the Information Desk, Event and Production Services, and convenient resources like BuffPrint for making copies or collecting exam materials, such as scantrons. Students, faculty and staff can also make Gold Card deposits, request temporary parking permits, and access a notary public. At the JBK, we encourage educational, social, and cultural development in our students and strive to enhance student life on campus. **JBK 136 | 806.651.2394 | jbk@wtamu.edu**



Supports over 500 military-affiliated students annually through [benefits processing](#), [resource guidance](#), and access to a dedicated veterans lounge. The most popular academic programs among these students include Business, Management, Engineering, and Nursing and Health Sciences. **Neal Multicultural Suite, JBK 133 | 806.651.4390 | veteranbenefits@wtamu.edu**



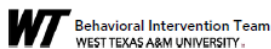
An on-campus, state-licensed child care facility serving WTAMU students, faculty, and staff. Open year-round and aligned with the WTAMU calendar, we provide reliable support to ensure parents can attend classes and work. Children aged 18 months to 5 years are eligible for registration. **North side of the VHAC, in the basement | 806.651.2974/2997 | twhigham@wtamu.edu**



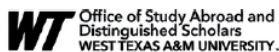
Supports students through the adjudication of [Student Handbook](#) violations and manages its annual updates to align with Texas A&M University System rules and applicable laws. The Office of Community Standards publishes educational materials on topics such as alcohol and drug use, conflict resolution, hazing, amnesty policies, and healthy living. These resources are shared via social media each semester. Additionally, the office hosts programs focused on community development, including bystander intervention, substance education, and wellness strategies tailored to campus needs. **JBK 102P | 806.651.2389 | studentconduct@wtamu.edu**



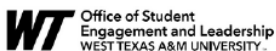
Student Medical Services is staffed with a board-certified physician, two family nurse practitioners, two registered nurses, an X-ray technologist, and dedicated administrative support to meet the medical needs of our students. Services include care for illnesses, injuries, routine medical issues, and preventative care. Free cold care packs are also available. If a medical or mental health concern affects a student's academics, we can provide a letter at the student's request which does not share diagnosis but does note ongoing care.
VHAC 104 | 806.651.3287 | medical@wtamu.edu



The team is dedicated to fostering a healthy campus community at West Texas A&M University. They provide early intervention and support for students exhibiting behaviors that may raise concerns about their well-being or the safety of the University community. Faculty and staff are encouraged to submit early notifications for students in crisis or displaying concerning behaviors through the [BIT/CARE form](#).
 Students unable to attend class or complete assignments due to medical or mental health issues should submit an [absence notification form](#) through Niza Cooper in the Student Affairs Office at 806.651.2050.



Support students pursuing nationally competitive scholarships and those interested in studying abroad. Provide guidance to faculty planning faculty-led study abroad trips, including opportunities to apply for site visit grants to aid in program development.
CC 115B | 806.651.2587 | studyabroad@wtamu.edu



Serve as a resource and connection point for student organizations supported by faculty advisors. Our goal is to bridge the gap between faculty encouraging student involvement and engagement opportunities through student organizations, Greek Life, campus activities, and the Buff Strong program. This office also is responsible for supporting the student travel process.
JBK 103 | 806.651.5320 | wtoSEL@wtamu.edu



Residential Living offers three VIP guest rooms located in Cross Hall, providing hotel-like accommodations for special guest speakers, interview candidates, and interim housing for new faculty members. These rooms are available with one-bed or two-bed options and include a range of amenities such as designated parking, a private bathroom, an external entrance to the building, a micro-fridge, ironing essentials, linens and towels, access to ice and vending machines, cable TV, and internet access. Due to limited availability, reservations should be made early. The cost per night is \$75. **SW Corner of Centennial Hall | 806.651.3000 | housing@wtamu.edu**



[Our mission](#) is to foster a campus community that empowers students to address social, environmental, and global challenges. Through educational opportunities and service-learning experiences, we aim to cultivate civic responsibility, a sense of belonging, and a commitment to making a positive impact. This office also oversees several key initiatives: The International Student Organization (ISO): Open to all WT students, the ISO engages international students by connecting them with resources, fostering community, and integrating them into campus life. The WT Foster Care Program: Dedicated to supporting the academic success of students who have experienced foster care while integrating them into campus life. Divine Nine Re-establishment: Committed to reintroducing members of the Divine Nine fraternities and sororities to WTAMU, for recruitment, strengthening retention, leadership development, and encouraging student engagement. **Neal Multicultural Suite, JBK 133 | 806.651.8480 | aallen@wtamu.edu**



Rec Sports, located in the Virgil Henson Activities Center, offers a variety of amenities, including a recreational pool, weight room, bowling alley, climbing tower, GroupX fitness classes, WT Outdoors programs, sports clubs, and multi-purpose courts. Faculty and staff can purchase [memberships](#) for themselves or their families, with the option of payroll deduction. The VHAC is also an excellent venue for hosting student events, parties, and other events!
VHAC | 806.651.2323 | recsports@wtamu.edu

February 13th

First United Bank Center | 10 AM - 2 PM

EXPO

CAREER AND INTERNSHIP

..... Funded in part by the Kim Muller Program Fund

We need YOUR help!

The EXPO is a great opportunity for students who are looking for internships, full-time opportunities, or simply looking to network and/or explore career options.

Student attendance at the EXPO relies heavily on your support. Requiring or giving extra credit for attendance is an easy option and we can help! Email us your course name/number and we can send you a list of which of your students attended the EXPO!

Want our staff to come do a quick 5 minute "EXPO Promo" for your class? Send us an email with your class day, time, and location so we can coordinate with you!

wtcareer@wtamu.edu

Don't forget to let students know about our **EXPO Essential Days** where they can have their resume reviewed, have their headshot taken, and visit the Professional Clothing Closet.

January 28th | 12 PM - 5 PM | CC 113

February 4th | 12 PM - 5 PM | CC 113

****Virtual options available for resume reviews****

****No appointments needed for resume reviews on these two days****

WT Office of Career and Professional Development
WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Office of Career and Professional Development

The Office of Career and Professional Development is here to support you and your students on their career development path.

There are many ways you can add career development-related assignments to your spring curriculum and we will compare your class roster to attendance for all OCPD appointments and events to make tracking easy for you.

Classroom presentations:

- Presentation [topics](#) keep growing and now include Career Conversations, an option for a guided conversation with employers working within industries of interest to your students!
- OCPD can interact with your students through live virtual, pre-recorded, in-person, and hybrid options.
- If there is a day that you need to miss class, don't cancel! Host us instead.
- To schedule, **complete the [online form](#)** or email us at wtcareer@wtamu.edu.
- If you **advise a student organization**, they can schedule a presentation with this form, too.



Mock Interviews:

- [Once per month](#), Panhandle employers with hiring experience lead interviews and offer constructive feedback to our students.
- Virtual and in-person interview options are available.
- Students must **pre-register** and **spots are limited**, so please contact us if you are planning to require a mock interview as part of an assignment.

Spring 2025 Career Events

- Save the date for 6 upcoming [job fairs](#).
- This semester, we have a one-stop-shop for students to prepare for the Career and Internship Expo.
 - Expo Essentials: 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM on [January 28th](#) and [February 4th](#)
 - Drop-in opportunity for resume reviews, professional clothing closet browsing, and headshots.
- Students can workshop their LinkedIn profile with support from local professionals at [LinkedIn Link-Up](#).
 - February 7th, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM.
 - Spots are limited so encourage students to register today!

Reach out to wtcareer@wtamu.edu or ext. 2345 with questions.

Texas Higher Education COORDINATING BOARD

Digital Learning Summit, February 11-12, 2025 – Registration Open

The Division of Digital Learning at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board is excited to open registration and announce plenary speakers for the third Digital Learning Summit. This year's theme, *Choosing Agility: Adapting to a New Era of Innovation in Digital Learning*, explores strategies for building flexibility to thrive in an evolving digital landscape.

This free virtual event brings together colleagues from across Texas and beyond to explore cutting-edge trends transforming higher education and will be headlined by nationally acclaimed thought leaders:

- [Bryan Alexander](#), Ph.D., Senior Scholar, Georgetown University
- [Yakut Gazi](#), Ph.D., Vice Provost for Learning Innovation and Digital Education, Duke University
- [Todd McLees](#), Founder, HumanSkills.ai
- [C. Edward Watson](#), Ph.D., Vice President for Digital Innovation, American Association of Colleges and Universities, Co-Author *Teaching with AI*

[Registration and the Agenda at a Glance](#) are now available.

To enhance the virtual summit experience, institutions are invited to host live campus Idea Exchanges. These onsite events offer a dynamic platform to extend discussions from thought-provoking sessions, exchange ideas sparked by summit content, and share insights on digital innovation within your communities. A comprehensive Host Institution Guide will be provided to support successful event planning for those who [sign up](#).

We encourage you to share this announcement with faculty, librarians, instructional designers, administrators, digital learning staff, and other campus leaders who may be interested in advancing digital innovation. We look forward to your participation in this year's Texas digital learning conversation.

Visit [DLTX](#) to keep up to date on Digital Learning News and Events.

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Tolman, Program Director, at digitallearning@highered.texas.gov.

Student Mental Health Support

The Texas A&M University System is collaborating with the JED Foundation to better support mental health across campus. A JED Foundation staff member will present a free virtual webinar to help faculty and staff better support students in distress.

Gustavo Molinar will be presenting The Jed Foundation's "You Can Help a Student" for all TAMU System schools from 1 to 2 p.m. CST Feb. 11. This presentation, titled *You can Help a Student: Recognizing Signs of Distress amongst Young Adults* is intended for any faculty/staff at any TAMUS school.

Participants will be able to:

- 1) Describe the mental health landscape of students
- 2) Identify signs of distress in peers, students, and self
- 3) Discuss how they can help when someone is in distress or experiencing suicidal ideation
- 4) Identify where to go when professional help is needed and know where to find additional resources

[Register](#)

If you have questions, contact [Chris Thomas](#) at or [Amy Andersen](#).

ACUE Course Opportunity

As part of our commitment to student success and your professional development, WT is providing you with high-quality courses in effective teaching practices, in partnership with the [Association of College and University Educators \(ACUE\)](#).

- ✓ Your certification in the ACUE Framework will be endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE)
- ✓ The evidence-based practices you will learn are proven to increase student engagement, retention, and performance
- ✓ Courses are online, asynchronous, taken alongside a cohort of your peers

[CLICK HERE TO INVEST IN YOURSELF](#)

This course will begin February 17th and space is limited so you are encouraged to register as soon as possible. Learn more by reading the course description below or attending an [ACUE Information Session](#).

Course Title: Creating a Productive Learning Environment

Course Description: Create an optimal environment that supports learning, increases engagement, and helps students persist in meeting academic challenges. ACUE's **Creating a Productive Learning Environment** course equips instructors with evidence-based teaching practices that help faculty ensure access to learning and provide feedback necessary for students to improve their performance. Modules in this course present practices for leading a productive first day, promoting a civil learning environment, ensuring access to learning, helping students persist in their studies, providing useful feedback, and checking for student understanding. Completing this course is one step toward becoming certified in ACUE's Effective Teaching Practice Framework, endorsed by the American Council on Education (ACE). This course contains six modules that take approximately 8 weeks to complete.

COMPLIANCE CORNER

FACULTY AND STAFF

The Travel Tipster

By Jeff Mayo

Reminder: When allocating your CBA travel card charges, add what the charge was for along with the purpose of the trip.

Examples: Dinner;
XYZ Conference or Lodging while recruiting or Parking Fee; TMEA



Effective Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2025, the maximum mileage reimbursement rate for state employee travel in a personal vehicle increased to 70 cents per mile, up from 67 cents in 2024. A travel voucher form and mileage log form for 2025 are available on the WT Intranet here: wtaccess.wtamu.edu/travel/

THE CONTRACTS REMINDER



By Susan London and Erika Conley

If an agreement requires a signature please don't sign it. There are only a handful of people who are designated to sign on behalf of WT (ex. Bryon McCafferty, Randy Rikel, Dr. Wendler). Always send your documents to contracts@wtamu.edu; you can copy Susan and/or Erika but always email to the contracts email.

It is very important for you to send an agreement/contract to us as soon as possible. **The average contract takes about 4-6 weeks to negotiate and execute.** Any agreement is routed to several people for approval, which can take some time. The sooner you send something the better!

Make sure if you are using a template for a Guest Speaker Agreement/IPC or a FUA

(facility use agreement) that is the most recent OGC approved version. In the bottom right corner of the blank template it will say, "OGC approved, Feb 13, 20XX," make sure that these say at least 2023. If you find out you are using an out of date template, please reach out and I can send you an up to date template. We are also working on putting these templates on the website to make things easier.

If you ever have any questions, please feel free to reach out. You can email the contract inbox (contracts@wtamu.edu) for any new contract submissions or questions. You can contact Susan London (Contract Administrator) at ext. 2112 or Erika Conley (Contracts Specialist) ext. 2107.


SCHOLARLY PRODUCTIVITY


Student and Faculty Member Joint Publication

Ameliorating Mental Health Emergencies: Crisis Intervention Teams in Police Departments

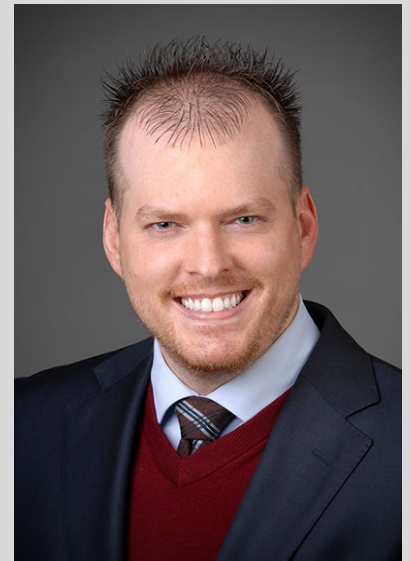
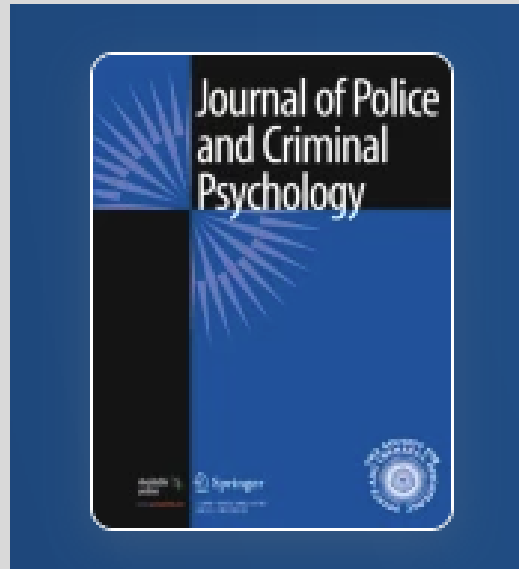
Published: 28 January 2025

(2025) [Cite this article](#)

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 Access provided by Texas A&M University – Evans College Station

RESEARCH



Publication Co-Authored by Allan Baltazar and Dr. Brandon Bang

Allan Baltazar is pursuing his Master of Arts Degree in Psychology.

Dr. Bang is an Assistant Professor and Director of the Criminal Justice Program.

Dr. Sohee Kim Co-Authors Article

The Effects of Absolute Status, Relative Status, and Patriarchal Culture on the Victimization of Women: An International Comparative Study

International Journal of Law, Crime and Justice



[Access Article Online](#)

[Access Article PDF](#)

Dr. Kim is an Assistant Professor in the Criminal Justice Program.

RESEARCH

Paper Presentation at the Southern Political Science Association Conference



Dr. Dave Rausch and Mary Scanlon Rausch recently presented a paper at the 2025 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Title: "A Tale of Two State Questions: Direct Democracy and Marijuana Legalization in Oklahoma"

Abstract:

At the June 2018 primary election, Oklahoma voters considered a citizen initiative to allow the licensed cultivation, use and possession of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Oklahoma voters considered a proposal to expand marijuana legalization to recreational use in March 2023. The medical marijuana proposal was successful, receiving over 57 percent of the vote in a state that most observers consider to be reliably conservative. Recreational marijuana was rejected in 2023 with over 60 percent voting no. This paper examined the two initiative campaigns. The present research analyzes the role of morality in the voting differences seen in different parts of the state. Using OLS regression, this paper examines the vote on the initiatives at the county-level and considers the role of religious affiliation, political party identification, and rurality in the success or failure of the initiatives. The findings suggest that support and opposition to marijuana legalization in Oklahoma are the result of many factors.



Educational Research Examines Academic Success of Refugee Students



Due in part to grant funding from the Amarillo Area Foundation and her recent professorship appointment, Dr. Sang Hwang, Lanna and Bob Hatton Professor of Education, is conducting a study in Eastridge Elementary within Amarillo ISD where she and her research assistants are engaged in observations of children in the classroom and after-school program settings. Her work focuses on monitoring second-generation refugee students where she is examining the influence of parental involvement on their academic success. In collaboration with 3rd-grade teachers in ELAR, Math, and Science, she and her associates will assess 30 selected students over the next three years, tracking their progress until graduation. Additionally, they aim to engage parents by inviting them to learn about their child's activities and providing strategies and resources to support learning at home.

Presentation Opportunity

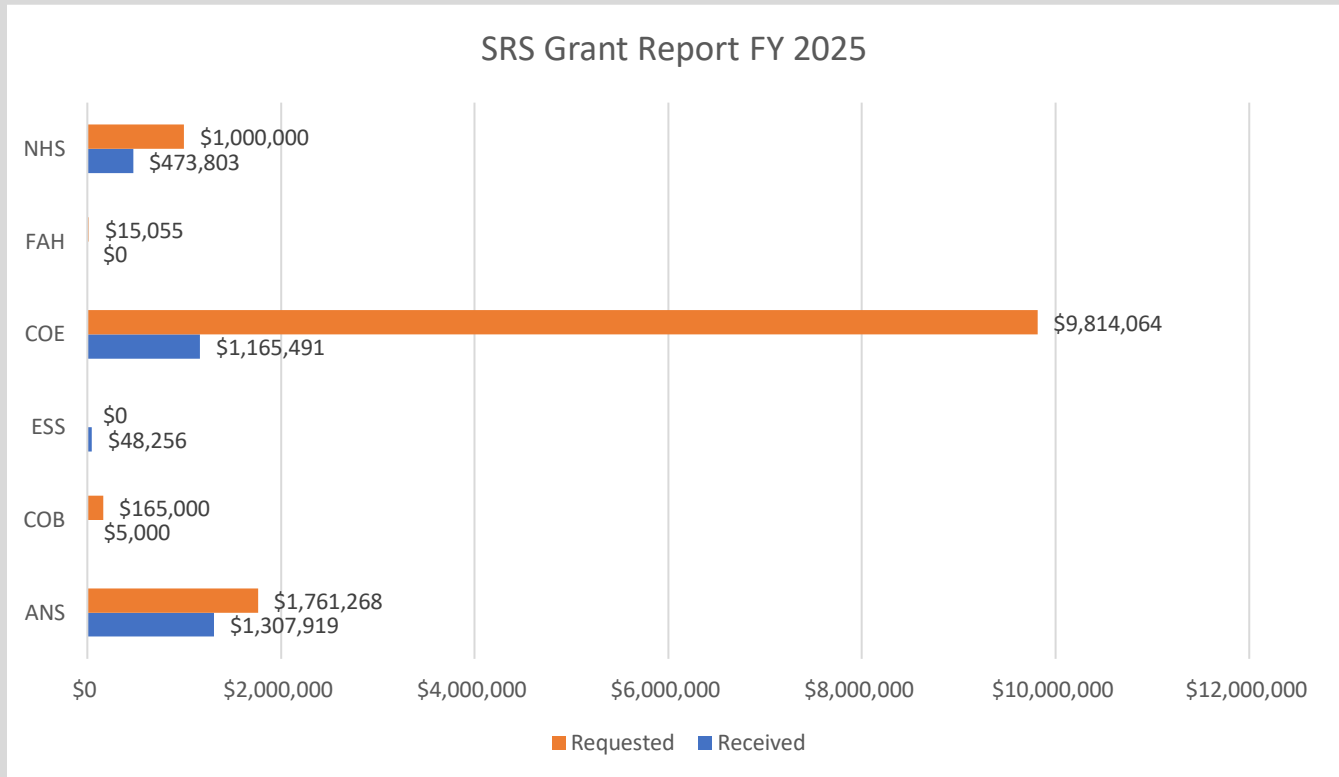
RESEARCH

A graphic for a conference. At the top, it says 'CHANCELLOR'S CONFERENCE ON ACADEMIC TECHNOLOGY'. Below that, in large white letters, is 'CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSES:'. Underneath that, in a smaller white font, is 'Looking Back As We Leap Forward'. The background features a stylized figure in blue and orange, appearing to leap or fly over a circuit board pattern. At the bottom left, it says 'JUNE 9 & 10, 2025 AT RELLIS CAMPUS' and 'JUNE 12, 2025 ONLINE'. At the bottom right, it says 'Hosted by: THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM' and 'CATIE Council on Academic Technology and Innovative Education'.

Ctrl + Click on graphic for additional information

Sponsored Research Services Grant Report

Steve McLean, Director of Sponsored Research Services, reported the following for FY 2025:



Note: FY 2025 proposal and award activity spans September 1 through January 31, 2025

OUTREACH

Center for Learning Disabilities

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

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

ENROLLMENT GROWTH

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE



Help grow future teachers for our Texas Panhandle schools!

This session is for high school students currently interested in or planning to pursue a career in education. It will feature student activities, information from area colleges about pursuing a degree in education, and other benefits that come from a career in teaching.

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

9:30AM-2:30PM | WTAMU LEGACY HALL

REGISTRATION WILL OPEN IN JANUARY



REGISTER AT www.esc16.net



Mindy Hampton CTE/Lead CCMR
806-677-5145 | mindy.hampton@esc16.net

Want to advance your education career?

Path2Teach

Hear from **WTAMU, Amarillo College, 240 Certification, iTeach, and GCU** on teaching and administration opportunities.

This event is open to teaching aides, paraprofessionals, current teachers, counselors, and principals looking to **advance their careers.**



Door Prizes | Light Food

IN-PERSON SESSION: 1026812 or VIRTUAL SESSION: 1026830

FEB 27*

Region 16 ESC | 5800 Bell Street | 6:00-7:30PM



educationcu.com



Serve. Lead. Ignite.

esc16.net



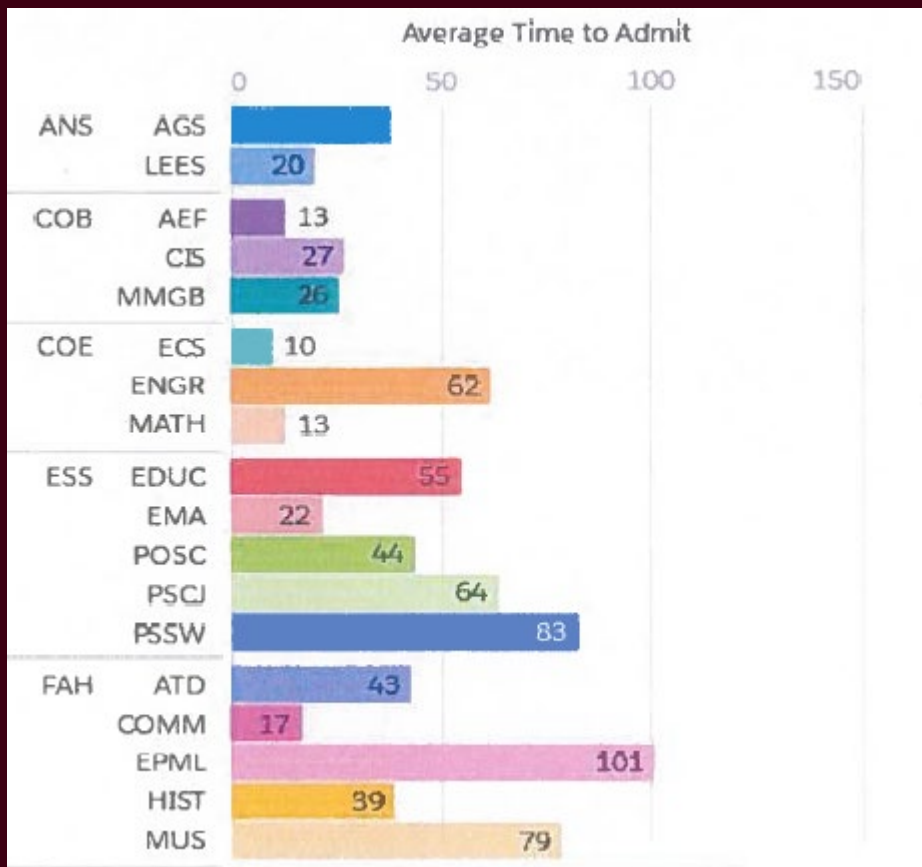
P-16 COUNCIL
Texas Panhandle

panhandlep-16.net

For more information contact stephanie.behrens@esc16.net

Application to Admission

As we face the realities associated with decreasing enrollments, simply recruiting students is not enough. We cannot afford to lose any recruited students along the way. I am aware of instances in our college where we have lost students for various reasons in the application phase. The graph below shows the average number of days *graduate* students in departments across the university experience in the application to admission process. As you can see, within our college, this report reveals a range of 22 to 83 days. While I understand that there are legitimate reasons for differentiation, this prompts me to ask if we should review our systems and processes in this area to identify ways we might be able to reduce the time from application to admission in our graduate programs.



February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Scholarship Application Priority Action Date
2	3 2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline CLD Workshop APS due	4	5 12 th Class Day	6	7 Buffalo Roundup	8
9	10	11	12	13 9:40: Spring Career and Internship EXPO; FUB 6:30: EPP Pinning Ceremony; JBK Legacy Hall	14 Buffalo Roundup	15 Fall Graduation Application Available
16	17 2:00: IRB and IACUC Submission Deadline 20 th Class Day	18 Greenlighting available for May, SU 1, SU2, and Fall	19	20	21 Buffalo Roundup IT Maintenance →	22
23	24	25	26	27 Last day to drop or withdraw from 8-week classes with grade of X 9:30: Why Teach?; JBK Legacy Hall	28 Buffalo Roundup 11:00: Induction/Mentoring Meeting; OM 218	

Academic Affairs Calendar

Academic Calendar (Registrar)

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 2:00: <u>IRB</u> and <u>IACUC</u> Submission Deadline CLD Workshop	4	5	6 Faculty and Student Research Poster Session and Research Fair; Cornette Library	7 Buffalo Roundup	8
9	10 Spring Break	11	12	13	14 University Closed	15
16	17 2:00: <u>IRB</u> and <u>IACUC</u> Submission Deadline	18	19	20 Finals for 8 wk classes	21 Buffalo Roundup Midterm IT Maintenance	22
23	24 Midterm grades due for developmental and core courses	25	26 8:40: Educators EXPO; FUB	27	28 Buffalo Roundup 11:00: Induction/Mentoring Meeting; OM 218	29
30	31 Last day to drop/WD with grade of X					

Academic Affairs Calendar

Academic Calendar (Registrar)