





WINTER 2021-22 | VOL.1

COLFA QUARTERLY

The official newsletter of the College of Liberal and Fine Arts TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY



Letter from the Dean

Greetings! We hope you enjoy this edition of our new quarterly newsletter. As you may know with newsletters, the major task is getting one completed. In the past few months we have welcomed two people who are helping us accomplish this and keeping you informed on a regular basis. Ms. Amanda Jenkins joined our Tarleton Radio staff in the Fall and will also be our communications coordinator for COLFA. She is being assisted by Ms. Sydney Brown, our new graduate assistant for our newsletter and social media. With their help and expertise, we will be able to highlight all of the great activities and accomplishments in the College of Liberal and Fine Arts!

In the midst of ongoing challenges related to COVID, we have seen tremendous activity and accomplishments from our students, faculty, and staff. Over the past two academic years it has been amazing to see the dedication, creativity, fortitude, and ability of so many! Join me in showing gratitude to all and as we continue to work together toward academic achievement and professional distinction.

As we start a new year and a new semester, we are excited for even more opportunities and greater potential. Tarleton continues to advance on multiple levels toward being a premier regional institution; the Hunewell Endowment will now provide \$250,000 per year for scholarships and support for students in our bands; our college has a new RELIEF program to assist students with expenses in unpaid internships; we are launching our 3-year Fine Arts development program; we will join with the Texas Folklore Society at their annual meeting, the first since our partnership began; our Wind Ensemble will showcase at the Texas Music Educators Annual meeting in February; our Tarleton Town Hall continues to impact retention and graduation rates; due to your support we raised almost \$30,000 for Dean's Circle in 2021 to support unique opportunities for students. And there is so much more!

I encourage you to connect with us! Let us know how we can network in your community to support opportunities related to our programs and for our students. Show your support through events and donations. As we continue to grow as a University and College and with your help, we can do great things that will have a lifelong impact on our students.

Sincerely,

Eric



Donors Support COLFA

Tarleton State University recently celebrated its fifth annual Giving Tuesday event, with more than 160 donors showing their support and donations totaling almost \$193,000; more than \$40,000 was designated for the College of Liberal and Fine Arts (COLFA) to support scholarships, programs, and activities. Areas such as bands, radio, the Dean's Circle, Texas Folklore Society, and others will have access to the donations, which provide vital funding for programs and services.

"Tarleton alumni, faculty, staff, students, friends, and family took on the challenge of making dreams come true on Giving Tuesday," said Shad Hanselman, Assistant Vice President for Engagement and Advancement Services. "We are humbled by their generosity and commitment to our students."

Tarleton transforms generations by inspiring discovery, leadership, and inclusion through teaching and research. Degree programs for more than 14,000 students In Stephenville, Fort Worth, Waco, Midlothian, at RELLIS Academic Alliance in Bryan, and online emphasize realworld learning that addresses regional needs while sustaining the values of excellence, integrity, and respect.

"More than \$40,000 of the donations were donated to the College of Liberal and Fine Arts to support scholarships, programs and activities."

Source: Marketing & Communications Media Press Release

RELIEF

Real-World Experiential Learning Internship Education Fund

Assistant Professor **Dr. Cessna Winslow** has helped create new opportunities for COLFA students through her efforts toward Real-World Experiential Learning Internship Education Fund (RELIEF).

Students who land an unpaid internship may now apply for funding to help offset a portion of the costs. There are numerous benefits associated with internships, such as networking with professionals, developing hands-on skills, and building a résumé and portfolio. Meanwhile, students who take unpaid internships sacrifice the opportunity to work a paid job and incur related expenses for things such as travel and food.

RELIEF will help many small businesses with tight operating budgets grow their organization through funding opportunities. In addition, RELIEF can boost the local economy and assist students, nonprofits, and other companies in the Cross Timbers area. Dr. Winslow's proposal was awarded about \$25,000 from Tarleton President James Hurley's Presidential Fund for Excellence Initiative.

Dr. Winslow commented,
"RELIEF has been a passion
of mine for a long time, and
it's wonderful to see it come
to fruition through the support
of President Hurley's fund.
Unpaid internships, while
providing valuable
experiences, are not always
an option for some students.
Funding these experiences
opens doors for more of our
students and allows them a
head start in the job market
and their career path."

COLFA congratulates Dr. Winslow for her dedication to helping students receive the full benefits of internships.

"Funding these experiences opens doors for more of our students and allows them a head start in the job market."

- Dr. Cessna Winslow



Source: Marketing & Communications

- Media Press Release

It's Time to Celebrate!

Communication Studies is celebrating 15 years as a department. Faculty and staff captured some of their memories for a podcast and soon-to-be-released documentary to commemorate the milestone. In addition, Tarleton President Dr. James Hurley helped celebrate with a special video with Department Head Dr. Christopher Gearhart. Find it on YouTube! Or scan the QR code.



TSMRI 11th Annual Conference

Twenty-five interactive Zoom sessions throughout November 2021 propelled the annual Texas Social Media Conference sponsored by Tarleton State University's Texas Social Media Research Institute (TSMRI). Participants stayed engaged through Twitter chats, live networking, weekly journal club discussions, and original social media research.

Tarleton graduate students Riley Odom, Megan Mackay, Erin McDonald, Bayley Chenault, and Sydney Brown presented a session, "How Public Health Agencies in the United States and the United Kingdom Communicate with their Target Audiences During the COVID-19 Pandemic."

The conference was planned by senior-level public relations and event management students **Fisher Pearce**, **Kennedy Whitten**, and **Kaylee Bentley**. The 12th annual conference will be held In Fort Worth in April.

Source: Marketing & Communications Media Press Release



Academic Journal started at Tarleton enters 10th year

The Journal of Social Media in Society (JSMS), co-sponsored by COLFA, released Volume 10, Issue 1, recently, starting its 10th year as an open-access peer-reviewed publication.

Co-founding editor **Dr. Sarah Maben** stated, "the JSMS was created to advance the study of social media with theory, research, and practice from all methodological frameworks."

To find more visit the journal online at http://thejsms.org

Comm Speaks

The Department of Communications Studies recently launched its official podcast, "Comm Speaks," which can be heard by scanning the QR code. Dr. Tracey Holley, Assistant Professor, hosts the podcast.



Dr. Edwards named to Panel for National Public Health Initiative

Dr. Jennifer Edwards, Professor of Communication Studies, has been appointed to the Transformative Educational Models and Pedagogy expert panel that will seek to Identify and promote concrete strategies to strengthen education for public health. The expert panel will inform Framing the Future: Education for Public Health 2030, an initiative of the Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health (ASPPH).

Dr. Edwards will join 12-15 experts from various disciplines for a twoyear period to help create "equitable, quality education in public health for achieving health equity and well-being for everyone, everywhere." Her research areas Include government communication, crisis communication during the pandemic, and executed a grant focused on encouraging rural representation In the 2020 Census. She is the executive director of both the Rural Communication Institute and the Texas Social Media Research Institute, founding editor of the Rural Communication Journal, and for 10 years a member of the Council on Undergraduate Research.



Source: Marketing & Communications
- Media Press Release

Find the full release at https://bit.ly/NPHEdwards

Texas Center for Community Journalism Welcomes New Director

The Texas Center for Community Journalism (TCCJ), based at Tarleton State University, has a new director, **Austin Lewter**, a news industry veteran. The Center is on the road again, offering training to community journalists. In fact, the November 18 "Eye on Design" workshop maxed out within 24 hours, a TCCJ record, according to Director Lewter.

"To me, It's just proof positive that we are doing work that is needed," said Lewter, a communication studies Instructor. "Because of the pandemic, we placed workshops on hold and worked through virtual means. I think people are excited about being back in person."

For more information about TCCJ and spring events, check out their Facebook @communityjournalism



Source: Marketing & Communications - Media Press Release

Prairie Endres-Parnell Completes 2 Years as ISEB President

Tarleton State University communication studies instructor **Prairie Endres-Parnell** has completed an unusual two-year presidency with the International Society for Educational Biography (ISEB).

Endres-Parnell, the organization's 35th president, never planned on back-to-back one-year terms.

"When COVID-19 emerged, I realized we couldn't ethically hold an in-person conference, which meant not voting in new leadership, so the executive team all agreed to extend our service."

The international group began in 1982 with a call for researchers to value educational biographies. The organization promotes the study of the lives of educators and their contributions to pedagogical theory and practice.

ISEB will honor the outgoing president at the annual conference Sept. 30-Oct. 2 in St. Louis, Mo.

Others from Tarleton will present at the conference — **Dr. Delwin Richey**, Department of Communication Studies, on "Assault on Laughter: Mark Twain Learning the Lecture Business, 1866-1868"; Dr. Elizabeth Wallace, Director, Student Affairs Assessment and Strategic Initiatives, on "Exploring the Journey: Being Seen, Unseen, and Seen Again in a Higher Education Context"; and Dr. Lora Helvie-Mason, Dr. Christy Tabors and Dr. Sarah Maben on "Ascending Women: Challenging the One-Way Career Path in Higher Education."

Of her year at the helm, Endres-Parnell said she is most proud of holding the organization together despite the complications of being international in a global pandemic.

She joined the Tarleton faculty in 2009, teaching everything from beginning speech courses to persuasion, intercultural communication, and communication theory on the Stephenville and Fort Worth campuses.

She holds an MFA in acting and directing and an MA in communication studies from Texas Tech University. Her research focuses on LGBTQ issues, rhetoric, and performativity.



Source: Marketing & Communications - Media Press Release

Take a Break and Learn!

Students interested in an exciting and educational spring break have the opportunity to participate in the study away trip to the nation's capital during spring break, March 6-11. Participants will tour national monuments and historic sites, have the opportunity to visit phenomenal museums, and participate in a variety of other activities such as private tours and attending a Nationals baseball game! Any student may sign-up, though students in US History and Federal Government core courses may find the trio especially beneficial as the trip will enhance key ideas and concerts covered in those courses.

Students should be on the lookout for more information on trip details and cost. COLFA and university financial assistance will keep the costs as low as possible.

For questions contact **Dr. Jensen Bransombe** (branscombe@tarleton.edu) or **Dr. Marcie Reynolds** (reynolds@tarleton.edu).



Students and Faculty Partner for Research

Sociology Assistant Professor **Dr. Atsuko Kawakami** and History Professor **Dr. Jensen Branscombe** worked with history student **Elliot Sherrill** on a conference paper discussing the effects of the pandemic on student-faculty relationships and mentoring. Elliot presented the paper at a virtual conference In October.

Congratulations, Elliot!

Sociology Club

The Sociology Club had busy fall 2021 semester with active weekly discussions; sociology faculty and Sociology Club members also hosted a semi-annual pizza party in October, participated in Tarleton's Halloween Festival, and Tarleton's Pride Fest by hosting trivia.

The Sociology Club is planning to host another pizza party in the Spring too.



History Students are Making Strides

History students got plenty of hands-on research experience during the fall 2021 semester. In Dr. Deborah Liles' Crime and Punishment class, students used an Erath County jail log found in the Dick Smith Library that covered 1877-1910. Many of the students In this class had been In the previous class that helped transcribe the log into an Excel document with over 3,500 entries. Included in this information was the person's name, date arrested, age, sex, race, extra descriptions, who did the arresting, alleged crime, arrest date, sentence, and fines. In addition, students learned about racial disparity, religious intolerance, immigration, gun control, mental health, the penitentiary and local jails, bootlegging, and several other fascinating topics.

Several students wrote influential papers. Dr. Liles is working with several students to propose a panel for the next Central or West Texas Historical Association conference meeting. These students are **Carson P.**

McCleskey ("Convict Farms and the Texas Prison System"), Laura Parra ("Lunacy in Texas, 1860-1910"), and Kaitlyn Drollinger ("Irish Immigration to Erath County"). Furthermore, Kaitlyn Drollinger's paper has been submitted to the West Texas Journal to be considered for publication.

Kaitlyn produced another exceptional piece of scholarship in **Dr. Patrick Funiciello**'s course on the World Since 1919. Her Presidential Honors Program paper on the life and struggles of Armenian artist Arshille Gorky interwove several broad historical intersections covered in the course: imperial collapse, the plight and trauma of migrants, and the role of ethnicity and historical memory in identity formation.

Congratulations on your success, Kaitlyn!

Several other history students worked as history interns under the supervision of Dr. Liles. These interns worked on transcribing census records from 1850 and 1860 that list the slave owners in Texas. This information serves as the basis for a searchable database that will soon be available to the public. It is the only database that offers this information.

Interns also worked on transcribing the names of Freedmen in 1867 and 1868. This project has so far found over 12,000 previously overlooked names that will be added to a searchable database that will soon be available to the public.

Some interns worked on transcribing interviews from the early members of the Tarleton Rodeo Team and others researched the Timberlake Ranch to create informative posters for the center.

History interns for the fall semester were Elliot Sherrill, Laura Parra, Nicholas Williams, Sutton Horner, Kaylee Sixkiller, Jewelian Smith, and Jillian Tyler.

At the W.K. Gordon Center, history graduate **Abigail Horsley**, who also graduated in December, worked as an intern and learned the workings of a museum.

Students interested in working as an intern in history, contact Dr. Liles at dliles@tarleton.edu.

The Mount Olivet Project, which is the Black cemetery in Stephenville will be among the exciting projects interns will work on in the Spring semester.

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Tarleton's Geography and GIS Program Celebrate GIS Day

During the fall 2021 semester, Tarleton's Geography and Geographic Information System (GIS) program joined thousands of GIS lovers and users around the world to celebrate GIS Day, an annual world event celebrating the technology of Geographic Information Systems that was initiated by spatial analytics world-leader ESRI, and which first took place in 1999. During this event, held at Tarleton Fort Worth, there were many fun activities, including guest speakers and geospatial developers Ms. Melissa Jurrens and Ms. Katelynn Whittington from the Texas Division of Emergency Management, who shared geography games, and an aerial mapping demo.



Tarleton GIS to visit Tarrant County College

During the spring 2022 semester, **Dr. Yolanda Tsang** and some of her Geography and Geographic Information System (GGIS) students will visit a GIS class at Tarrant County College Trinity River campus to introduce our BAAS GIS program. There are plans for other promotional tours and events to foster the relationship between the Tarrant County College System and Tarleton. We are delighted that many TCC students are interested in our GIS program!

Geography and GIS Student receives Award

Senior Geography and Geographic Information System (GGIS) student Robert Schaefer was presented the second-place award in a student paper competition hosted by the Southwest Division of the American Association of Geographers (SWAAG) during the organization's annual conference in October. His research focused on unconventional hydrocarbon exploration techniques using GIS and remote sensing approaches. Find more information online at https://bit.ly/GISaward.



Bah Humbug!

Tarleton Theatre presented Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* in early December.

Tarleton Theatre promised, "new scary bits, a few good laughs, a tender moment or two, and some surprises" in a fresh, lively adaptation. The audience met Mr. Bentley, learned about the letters Scrooge wrote his sister Fan, found out who Mr. Newbury was, and relived the timeless tale of curmudgeon's redemption with the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, as well as Tiny Tim and Bob Cratchit, the Ghost of Jacob Marley and Old Fezziwig, and Scrooge's nephew Fred and the love of Scrooge's life, Belle.

The production featured **Charlie Smith** as Scrooge, **Clay Luton** as Mr. Bentley, **Tyler Krumm** as Bob Cratchit, **Gerik Lyssy** as Jacob Marley, and **Elenas Garcia** as Tiny Tim.

Theatre Associate Professor Prudence Jones was the show's director and designed the sets. The crew included Riley Fischer and Carol Stavish, costumes; Cheynne Nash, lighting; Vivian Alonso, sound; Samantha Heately, hair design; Gabe Escoto, makeup; and Sarah McGrath, projection.

The production was very successful and received praise from the community.



Source: Marketing & Communications Media Press Release

Upcoming Fine Arts Events

January 24

Dr. Leslie Spotz Faculty Recital (piano)

February 21

London Pinder & David Keaton Mitchell Junior Recital

February 28

Tarleton Invitational
Wind Ensemble Concert

January 29

Brass, Woodwind, Percussion Day

February 23-26

Tarleton Theatre
Presents "Cabaret"

February 4-5

Texan Sing

February 25

Dr. Leslie Spotz &
Sharon Lavery Piano
Recital

February 6

Tarleton Wind Ensemble
Preview Concert

February 25

Joshua Verden & Brandon Hogan Junior Recital

For more Information and dates, scan the QR code!



Dr. del Carmen at FBI Academy

COLFA Associate Dean and Professor **Dr. Alex del Carmen** served as a guest instructor at the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Va. in October.

Dr. del Carmen spoke with participants about police best practices, racial profiling, and civil liability In law enforcement. His background includes serving as a professor and Associate Dean of the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice, and Public Administration. In addition, he oversees the department of Criminal Justice and Public Administration, along with several institutes of research and training. Dr. del Carmen received his Ph.D. in criminology from Florida State University and has authored numerous articles and books. Check out his most recent book, Racial Profiling in Policing: Beyond the Basics, from Kendall Hunt Publishing.



Congratulations, Dr. del Carmen!

Source: Marketing & Communications Media Press Release

Student Highlights

Graduate Research Assistant Alexis Soriano, pictured below with Officer Demetrius Franklin of the Tarrant County Sheriff's Office in front the Tarrant County Corrections Center in Fort Worth, is assisting Dr. Tara O'Connor Shelley by administering surveys to inmates as part of grant-funded research on illegal marijuana and violent crime in North Texas. The grant is funded by the National Institute of Justice and U.S. Department of Justice and involves several faculty, including Dr. Olga Semukhina, Dr. Chris Copeland, and Dr. SooHyun O.

The Criminal Justice Brown Bag series, which presented on Zoom and planned monthly through April, will welcome faculty members as they share research findings and teaching methods relating to the field of to Criminal Justice. Find dates and more information online at https://bit.ly/CJBrownBag by scanning the QR code.





Student Highlights

Ph.D. students **Kevin Denney**, **Ryan Roger**, and **Richard Savage** presented their research on "Intoxicated Driving in the Age of COVID-19: Did the Texas Stay-at-Home Order Crash the DWI Arrest?" during a research webinar for the School of Criminology, Criminal Justice and Public Administration.

In November, **Dr. SooHyun O** and undergraduate student **Danielle Sponberg** presented their research entitled "Forecasting Juvenile Crime Hot Pots: An Application of NIJ-awarded Forecasting Algorithm" at the 76th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology (ASC) in Chicago.

Mike Thomas, a current Ph.D. student, shared his presentation entitled "Predicting Further Criminality of Known Marijuana Suspects" at the 76th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Chicago.



Congrats Dr. SooHyun O & Danielle!

Chris Cook, a student in the criminal justice Ph.D. program, was sworn in as the President of the National Information Officers Association in September.



Ph.D. student **Ryan Rider** helped author an article on a software feature in the 3D world of crime scene reconstruction entitled "Accuracy of Linear Measurements using Google Maps in FARO Zone 3D for Forensic Reconstruction of Outdoor Scenes."

Awesome work, Ryan!

Congratulations, Chris!

Ph.D. student **Sofia Brabham** shared a presentation on "Correctional Officer Stress" at Educational Excellence Week Symposium, which was held in April 2021 at Tarleton. **Way to go, Sofia!**

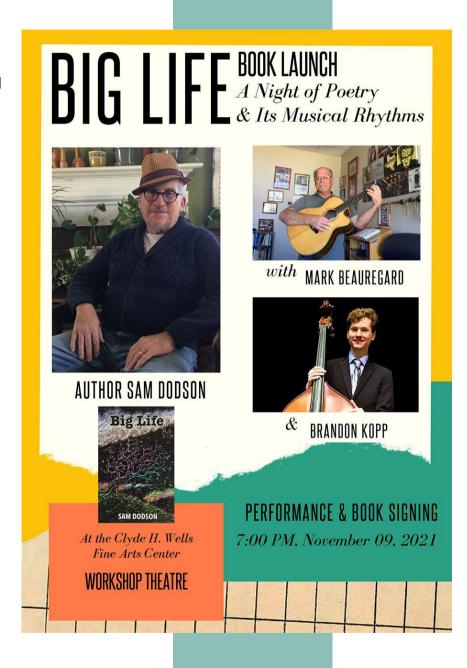
Dr. Dodson Hosts Book Release Event

English professor **Dr. Sam Dodson** recently hosted a book launch event for his new book, *Big Life*. The event featured reading of excerpts from the book, musical rhythms from Mark Beauregard and Brandon Kopp, and book signing.

"Dr. Dodson has been praised for his poetry performances magnified with jazz and rock and roll. Sam Dodson is a terrific poet and a consummate storyteller," said Thomas Schatz, professor of film at University of Texas at Austin and author of Hollywood Genres, Boom and Bust, and The Genius of the System.

Dr. Dodson received an MA from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska. He is also the author of *Berryman's Henry: Living at the Intersection of Need and Art*, published in 2006, as well as numerous articles.

Congratulations Dr. Dodson!



Source: Marketing & Communications

Media Press Release

Free Speech & Civil Disclosure

The Government, Legal Studies, and Philosophy (GLSP) program hosted a Free Speech & Civil Discourse presentation in September, in cooperation with the Honors College. The program was presented by **Drs. Craig Clifford** and **Charles Howard** and welcomed more than 100 student attendees.

Government Program Hosts Town Hall

The Government, Legal Studies, and Philosophy (GLSP) department hosted a town hall event on October 5, bringing together almost 700 students and dozens of volunteers who discussed various state and national gun policies, voting laws, abortion, and many other topics. In addition, students had the opportunity to meet with consultants in smaller groups and discuss their views, with the consultants providing feedback to assist students in preparing their final papers.

Constitution Day

Constitution Day was a great success during the Fall 2021 semester. A new webpage was created to launch the event and can be viewed by scanning the QR code below. In addition, free printed copies of the Constitution were passed out on all campuses, and the Dick Smith Library hosted the Constitution Day display.





Photo Source: Tarleton State University Libraries







Upcoming Town Hall Dates

Monday, March 14 Texas

Tuesday, March 29 Federal

Celebrating Successes

Public Policy Students Prese<mark>nt Resear</mark>ch

Students in **Dr. Eric Morrow**'s public policy course gained hands-on experience by conducting a semester-long project with city and county leaders in Quanah.

The students worked in teams during the fall 2021 semester and met with the city council and county judge. Groups focused on tourism, workforce development, public utilities, and community services. Their research led to recommendations from federal and state programs, other organizations, and foundations. Seven out of fifteen students traveled to share their Ideas.

Jerry Addington, Clay Botello, Tyler Cooper, Michael Cote, Lea Hart, Alessa King, and Elliot Sherrill were among the seven who traveled to share and apply their knowledge.

Dr. Morrow stated, "the students had the opportunity to learn about public policy and to apply what they learned to a rural Texas community. They had the opportunity to have an impact on the future and quality of life in the region. They gained experience and skills that will help them contribute to their communities wherever they go."

County Judge Ronald Ingram and Mayor Kathy Butler will review the research.

Leaders from the area and university have big hopes that collaboration between Tarleton and Quanah will continue.







Source: Marketing & Communications Media Press Release





Student intern **EJ White** is pursuing a degree in communication studies while supporting programming and music for KXTR 100.7, Tarleton's student-hosted station. Student interns also host weekly radio shows from the new broadcasting desk (pictured) installed in the KXTR Studio during the fall 2021 semester and partially funded by proceeds from local businesses that sponsor programming and internships while promoting their goods and services to listeners through underwriting and membership. Nine interns are supporting Tarleton Radio during the spring 2022 semester.

Amanda Jenkins.

Development Director, joined Tarleton Radio staff in late November. Prior to joining Tarleton staff four years ago, Amanda served as a newspaper editor, award-winning journalist, and advertising sales executive. Amanda has a degree in mass communication and is currently pursuing a master's degree.





James Woodward, community member and volunteer disc jockey, hosts "Big Band Ballroom" on KTRL 90.5 FM from 1 p.m. until 3 every Monday and NPR's flagship news magazine shows, "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered," every weekday morning.

ABOUT US

Tarleton Radio has a two-fold mission of providing unique listening formats and cultural experiences through KTRL 90.5 FM and KXTR 100.7 LPFM while offering hands-on, paid work experiences and volunteer opportunities to Tarleton State University students interested in business management, broadcasting, music, and communications.

WAYS TO SUPPORT

Broadcasting at KTRL 90.5 and KXTR 100.7 - non-profit public radio stations - is made possible by the support of listeners, members, and underwriters. For more information about membership, underwriting packages, or volunteer opportunities, please call 254-968-1941 or email radio@tarleton.edu.

THANK YOU

KTRL staff, student interns, and community partners appreciate your support! Your contributions are vital.

Congratulations 2020-21 COLFA Faculty Award Winners!

Dr. Eric Morrow, Dean, recently announced winners of the 2020-2021 COLFA Faculty Awards; following their college honors, each of these outstanding faculty members were nominated for university-level honors.

"These faculty have been recognized by their peers as exemplary in their work, and on behalf of the college, I want to thank each one of you for your leadership in these areas," Dr. Morrow said, adding that the honor includes a stipend for their exemplary service.



Dr. David Robinson - The **Barry B. Thompson Service Award** is presented to a faculty member in recognition of service to students, the campus community, and contributions to student-faculty interactions outside the classroom.

Ms. Prairie Parnell - The **Engaged Faculty Award** is given in recognition of exemplary engaged scholarship and leadership by a faculty member.





Dr. Atsuko Kawakami - The **Faculty Excellence in Scholarship Award** recognizes exemplary performance in scholarship, research, and/or creative activity.

Mr. Tim Harding - The Faculty Excellence in Student Success Award is given annually to one faculty member in recognition of extraordinary efforts to increase student success.





Dr. J. Bradley Baker - The **Outstanding Junior Faculty Award** is given in recognition of demonstrated excellence in teaching, scholarly or creative activities, and service by a faculty member beginning an academic career.

Dr. Brittany Rodriguez - The **O.A. Grant Excellence in Teaching Award** honors effective and dedicated teachers.



Meet our New Faculty & Staff! Welcome to COLFA!

Communication Studies



Mr. Kirk Wise Instructor



Mr. Austin Lewter Instructor & Director of Texas Center for Community Journalism

Criminal Justice



Dr. Casey Heath Assistant Professor

Criminal Justice



Dr. Stan Korotchenko Assistant Professor



Dr. Tiffany McLaurin Instructor & Coordinator



Dr. Ji Seun Sohn Visiting Associate Professor

English & Languages



Dr. Kristina Downs
Assistant Professor &
Executive Director of the
Texas Folklore Society



Ms. Lisa LaTouche Instructor



Ms. Danielle Littlefield Instructor



Ms. Carrie Morrow Instructor



Ms. Renae Green Visiting Instructor



Mr. Steven Thayer Visiting Instructor

Fine Arts



Dr. J. Bradley Baker **Assistant Professor**



Dr. Ben Charles **Assistant Professor**



Ms. Julie Simpson **Administrative Associate**



Dr. Chris Prosser **Visiting Assistant Professor**

Celebrating Granbury's 115th



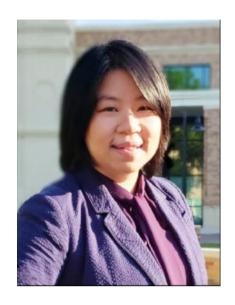
Several of members the Texas Folklore Society took part in Granbury's Sesquicentennial in November. Board member and renowned cowboy poet John Pelham, far right, was asked to read some of his poetry during the celebration. Founded in 1909, the Texas Folklore Society, a COFLA partner organization, is the oldest state folklore organization continuously functioning in the United States.



History, Sociology, Geography & GIS



Dr. Jensen
Branscombe
Associate Professor &
Department Head



Dr. Yuen "Yolanda" Tsang Assistant Professor

Government, Legal Studies, & Philosophy



Mr. J. Gary Douglass Instructor

Public Administration



Dr. Tracy E. Rickman Instructor



Dr. Jack Philips Instructor



Dr. Jie Tao Visiting Assistant Professor

Texans Mingle at Inaugural College of Liberal and Fine Arts Leadership Council

The Inaugural COLFA Leadership Council was held on December 3, which brought together alumni and supporters with our college leadership team, faculty senators, and the COLFA Student Advisory Council. The purpose of the annual event is to bring people together around our degree programs to share ideas and experiences that will help our planning as well as to network for potential collaborations throughout our region. The 2022 COLFA Leadership Council will meet the weekend of Homecoming in the Fall.



Saluting COLFA Leaders



Kicking off the spring 2022 semester, Dr. Eric Morrow, Dean of COLFA expressed thanks to the department's Associate Deans and Department Heads.

"They have met the challenges of the past year with care for their students, faculty, and programs. They have gone above and beyond to provide a quality learning and work environment. They have been great collaborators in our shared work. I am thankful to be a member of this team and to share in the potential we have at this unique time at Tarleton State," Morrow said.

Pictured below: (I to r - front) **Dr. Alex del Carmen**, Associate Dean; **Dr. Vicky Johnson**, Department of Fine Arts; Dean Morrow; **Dr. Rhonda Dobbs**, Department of Criminal Justice; **Dr. Jensen Branscombe**, Department of History, Sociology, and Geography/GIS; (back) **Dr. Chris Gearhart**, Department of Communication Studies; **Dr. Chris Morrow**, Department of English and Languages; **Dr. Amy O'Dell**, Department of Government, Legal Studies and Philosophy; **Dr. Galia Cohen**, Department of Public Administration; and **Dr. Ben Sword**, Associate Dean.

COLFA Recognizes Outstanding Grads

On December 10, COLFA began a new tradition - recognizing outstanding graduates from each of the college's degree programs. Previously, outstanding graduates were recognized by their department; now, with 24-degree programs and major concentrations, our COLFA leadership decided to expand the honor to our programs as well. Outstanding graduates received a unique COLFA/Tarleton medal to wear during their graduation ceremonies. Graduates, their families, and college leaders gathered after the ceremony for a lunch reception. COLFA is excited to share all of our outstanding graduates and the new traditions recognizing their excellence and achievements!



Bayley Chenault Master of Arts in Communication



Emily Kahler
Public Relations &
Social Engagement



Madison Levy
Professional & Relational
Communication



Cody Vannoy Speech Communications



Brian Martin Journalism & Broadcasting



Hollis Gregory
Master of Criminal Justice



Forrest Wyly Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice



Megan Person Master of Arts in English



McKenzie Campbell Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art



Rylie Fischer Theatre



Adrian Gonzales
Master of Music



Narciso Molina Bachelor of Music

Continued...

Outstanding Graduates



Austyn Wiles
Art & Digital Media Studies



Michael Cote Political Science



Dawson Reyes Legal Studies



Larry McConn Master of Public Administration



Elliot Sherrill History



Fall 2021 Graduatates

We wish you success in your future endeavors!



Name		Maiden Name						
Address								
		State Zip						
Home Phone	Mobile Phone		Email					
Spouse/Partner's Name	Em	Employer's Name:						
☐ I am an alumnus/alumna:								
Degree	Major		Graduation Year					
LEVELS OF SUPPORT: <i>Plea</i> □ \$250 □ \$500 □ \$1,000 □			ount toward this amount.					
PAYMENT SCHEDULE: ☐ One-Time Payment ☐ Monthl	y Payments (12 months) 🖵 F	Please continue my	gift payment indefinitely					
PAYMENT INFORMATION Please make your check payable to information below for a credit card payor Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Dis	ayment:	complete the	My Gift Amount \$					
Card Holder's Name								
Card #								
Expiration Please charge the credit card abo	ve for all payments toward th	CVV Code _ is pledge.	Billing Zip					
Signature								
☐ I have enclosed a check								
MATCHING GIFT: ☐ My employer/spouse's employer	will match this gift. I will contac	ct my employer to i	nitiate the match.					
MISCELLANEOUS: ☐ I am interested in joining the Alun ☐ I am interested in how I can be m			luded Tarleton in my will ested in leaving a gift to Tarleton in my will					