

PROVOST ANNUAL REPORT





GREETINGS,

The wind is in our sails at The University of Texas at Tyler, and it is my pleasure to invite you to learn more about the amazing success we are cultivating among our faculty and student scholars.

From academics to research, we are sharing and creating knowledge that is transforming the lives of our students, our patients and our communities.

In an ever-evolving higher education landscape, our colleges, schools and academic support areas are adapting and growing to meet the needs of our students and industry partners.

The changing landscape does present some challenges, but as you will see in this report, we are well-positioned to meet those challenges.

Ultimately, our charge is to offer flexibility and develop a more engaging and efficient learning and health environment, delivering a world-class education for every student.

I hope you will find this report enlightening.

President
The University of Texas at Tyler



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A LETTER FROM THE PROVOST

DEAR FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND FRIENDS:

I am delighted to share with you the great accomplishments of our faculty and students in our 2022-2023 report. It has been a great year with several milestone accomplishments that give us a sense of joy and pride for the institution, from the inaugural White Coat Ceremony of our School of Medicine for 40 of the best and brightest students from East Texas, to the incredible success of our University Academy in receiving “A” ratings and Top School distinctions. We also celebrated our successful decennial reaffirmation of our accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and launched our universitywide Quality Enhancement Plan focusing on real-world problem solving.

Our long-awaited dream of an Honors College came to fruition, transforming an outstanding Honors Program that had grown from its first cohort of 20 students in 2009, to about 200 in 2022, with a projection to reach 300 students by 2025. The Honors College will help recruit more high-achieving students, serving East Texas and beyond.

Our student debate team finished in second place at the National Parliamentary Debate Association Championship, while our Model United Nations team received the Distinguished

Delegation Award, representing Greece while discussing rural economic development. Our civil engineering students’ concrete canoe team finished sixth in the nation, the highest finish of any Texas institution in the 35-year history of the competition. Our faculty were also recognized on several occasions.

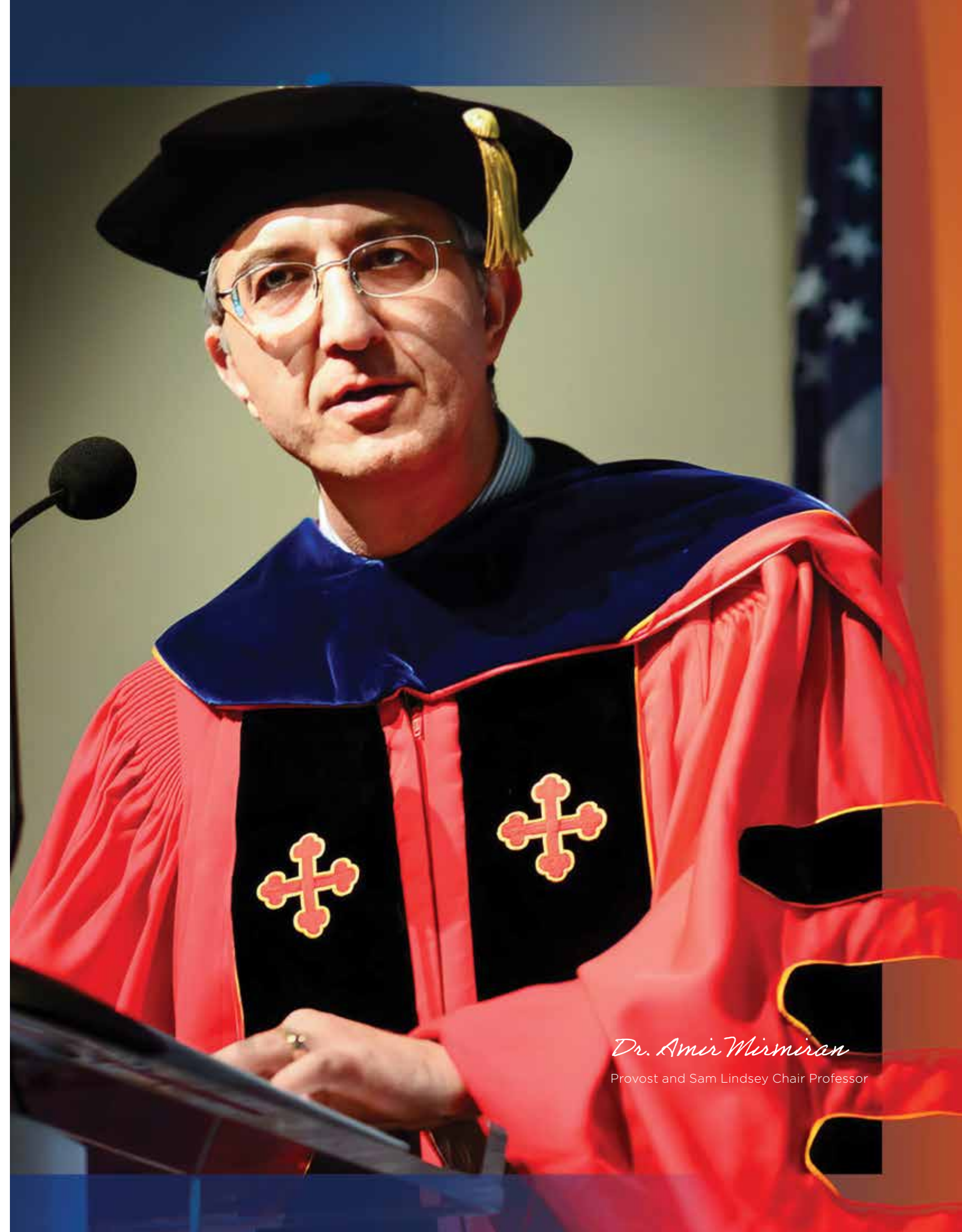
Our Soules College of Business’s online MBA program ranked No. 46 by Fortune Magazine as one of only two UT System campuses in the top 50 nationwide. Our College of Engineering moved up in the U.S. News & World Report’s national rankings from 75 to 42. This year, we also launched several new academic programs, including Doctor of Medicine, MS in Cybersecurity and Data Analytics, MS in Engineering Leadership, BS in Computer Engineering, BS in Construction Engineering and a number of certificates, including Business Legal Studies, Compliance and Diversity, Professional Public Speaking, Public Advocacy, Management Analytics, Project Management, Talent Development and Workplace Learning, Biomedical Sciences, Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences and Adult Geriatric Acute Care.

Our Ben and Maytee Fisch College of Pharmacy was recognized by our state legislators and received approval for state funding. We began

construction on two new buildings: the School of Nursing on the main campus and the Medical Education Building in the heart of Tyler’s medical district in Midtown. In fact, we were honored to have Gov. Abbott, UT System Board of Regents Chairman Eltife and UT System Chancellor Milliken join President Calhoun, EVP Philley and Dean Willis to break ground on our new Medical Education Building.

In what continues to make our university the preferred degree destination in East Texas, and because of the incredible work of our College Readiness Coaches, we had the highest number of First Time in College (FTIC) freshmen, breaking records in applications, admitted students, confirmations and enrolled students for the third consecutive year. We also celebrated our successful partnerships with Tyler Junior College, Kilgore College and Houston Community College on a number of initiatives, including the Patriot Promise Scholarship.

This coming year, we will continue to progress on our strategic plan, Rise as One, with a sharp focus on recruitment, retention and research. We hope that you will continue to invest your trust in our dream and join us for the next leg of this exciting journey!



Dr. Amir Mirmiran
Provost and Sam Lindsey Chair Professor



COLLEGE OF
**ARTS &
 SCIENCES**



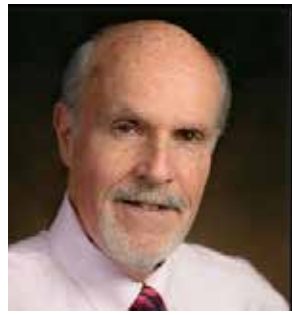
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN
 DR. NEIL GRAY

We had a great year with some historical recognitions and accomplishments. I am grateful to serve the best colleagues of my career. Our college is proud of our students, staff and faculty. The importance of the humanities, fine arts and sciences are often

underestimated. When we think about the ideas, discoveries and knowledge that move our world forward, the arts and sciences are always present. From the discoveries in science that make our lives better, to the creation of art and music that charms our soul, to the literature that strengthens our minds and sharpens our understanding of the cultures that came before us, the College of Arts and Sciences is the foundation of all learning. We are proud of the success our college family has had this year. They are training students to positively impact the lives of

East Texans in social work; creating meaningful and beautiful works of art; writing incredible poetry, fiction and nonfiction; preparing students for graduate and professional schools in medicine and other health professions; conducting cutting-edge research in science and more. The diversity of the contributions our faculty, staff and students make to understanding and improving the world around us is inspiring.

Dr. Neil Gray



Rich Kenney
Program Director



Ericka Robinson-Freeman
Associate Professor
of Practice



Kristin Mycke
Lecturer

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK: TRAINING WORKERS TO IMPACT THE LIVES OF EAST TEXANS

The projected need for social workers in Texas is on the rise. Because of its rural nature, aging population and mental health and economic challenges, East Texas has a unique need for social workers, according to a recent Texas Comptroller's report. The new Bachelor of Social Work program in the College of Arts and Sciences started strong, immediately nearing the cap on the number of majors established by the Council on Social Work Education's Commission on Accreditation (CSWE). Director Rich Kenney, Professor Ericka Robinson-Freeman and Professor Kristin Mycke have done excellent work building the program, serving our students and the community, and progressing toward accreditation by the CSWE.

The BSW program achieved candidacy for accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education's Commission on Accreditation. During one meeting, a CSWE reviewer told the dean that the application submitted by the SW team was the best she had ever seen. Director Kenney and his team have built strong relationships with the SW program at TJC and with social workers and organizations needing them in our community. The program's strong partnerships with the East Texas community ensure the professional and personal growth of our students. Our college is very proud of the quality work Professor Kenney and his faculty are doing.

We are also proud of the students in this program. The UT Tyler Social Work Program's student organization successfully wrapped up its inaugural year on campus in May. The club, which includes more than 20 members, participated in



26 unique events during its first year. Events included both fellowship and service activities that embodied the profession's six core values of service, social justice, dignity and worth of the person, competency and integrity.

The students partnered with a myriad of local community agencies engaging in awareness campaigns for social concerns such as interpersonal violence, mental health, Alzheimer's disease, veterans and child abuse. In addition, club members reached out to peers on campus, sponsoring "getting to know social work" events and stress relief activities. The photo shows the club's event supporting people and families who are currently living with Alzheimer's disease, or another kind of dementia, as identified by their use of blue pinwheel flowers.



Back row, left to right: Alex White, Brandi O'Shea, Rylee Bay, Emily Fowler.
Front row, left to right: Cheyenne Lortz, Shelley Fanning — BSW Majors

UT TYLER DEBATE TEAM RANKS AMONG TOP IN THE NATION

UT Tyler placed second at the National Parliamentary Debate Association National (NPDA) Championship this season hosted by University of the Pacific in Stockton, California. Joshua Smith



and Hunter Parrish exceeded expectations, finishing in second place at the national championship! They lost a close final round to the No. 1 seeded, top-ranked team in the tournament from the University of California - Berkeley. On their way to finals, they won close,

tough debates against the University of Chicago, Rice University, San Diego State University and other excellent competitors from across the country at the biggest tournament of the entire year.

Other UT Tyler debate members include Zachary Stanberry of Hallsville, Leilani Hurtado of Tyler, Harlin Dean of Allen, Rebecca Wood of Quitman, Amber McAdams of Boerne and Angie Carroll of Chicago.



Joshua Smith and Hunter Parrish —
Political Science Majors



From left to right: Rebecca Wood, Zachary Stanberry, Hunter Parrish, Dr. Joe Provencher, Joshua Smith, Amber McAdams, Harlin Dean, Angie Carroll, Leilani Hurtado



Jacob Lee, Ashlee Cabrera, Brandi O'Shea, Ashlynn Smith — BSW Majors



2023 NATIONAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS COMPETITION



Students in The University of Texas at Tyler's Model United Nations Program

were recognized at the 2023 National Model United Nations Conference in New York City. The group received the Distinguished Delegation Award for their representation of Greece while discussing various topics, including rural economic development, nuclear waste management and safeguarding the human rights of persons displaced by climate change. This distinction is presented to the top 5% delegations at the conference and acknowledges outstanding character involvement, teamwork, leadership, speaking, negotiating abilities and knowledge of the issues and proper usage of procedure rules.

The Department of Political Science and History Model United Nations Program also hosted its Seventh Annual High School Model United Nations Conference at UT Tyler. At this event, 91 students from across the East Texas region attended and competed. Throughout the day, students worked on resolutions while also practicing rules of procedure, giving speeches and voting on resolutions. The students tackled issues such as the effects of terrorism on education, the Libyan political situation, land-based pollution and the refugee crisis in Ukraine.

RAPHAEL'S LA FORNARINA: ONE OF ART HISTORY'S MYSTERIES

Dr. Elizabeth Lisot-Nelson, Associate Professor of Art History, conducted research at the Vatican Library, the State Archives in Siena and a section of Rome called Trastevere, where the artist Raphael's model for several famous paintings like *La Fornarina* and *La Donna Velata* resided. Despite being among the most iconic pieces of Western art and one of the gallery's most popular works, there is little information about the subject of the paintings that have captivated viewers and been shrouded in legend for 500 years.



Dr. Elizabeth Lisot-Nelson

Dr. Lisot-Nelson's research has resulted in a ground-breaking theory that the model was a Jewish girl who was likely betrothed to Raphael. Dr. Lisot-Nelson has delivered two conference papers on this topic and an essay, "The Jewish Bride and Oriental Concubine: Raphael's Donna Velata and La Fornarina," which will appear in the fall publication of the peer-reviewed journal, *Renaissance Papers*, in fall 2023.

Dr. Lisot-Nelson is also collaborating with the Tyler Museum of Art to write a book about the museum's Boeckman Collection of Mexican Folk Art. During a research trip to Mexico in November 2022, Dr. Lisot met with the internationally known artist, Oscar Soteno, at his studio in Metepec, where they discussed his family's generational history of creating and promoting Mexican ceramics. Señor Soteno explained the process of creating the celebrated *Arbol de Vida* (Tree of Life), several of which are in the Tyler Museum of Art's collection.



Raphael, La Fornarina, 1518-1520, National Gallery of Ancient Art, Rome, Italy. Detail.



Raphael, Woman with a Veil (La Donna Velata), 1516, Galleria Palatina, Palazzo Pitti, Florence, Italy



Dr. Elizabeth Lisot-Nelson's with Oscar Soteno next to *curanderos* (shaman) figurines, Sotano studio, Metepec, Mexico



Maggie Manning
Chemistry and Biochemistry



Shelby Cumbie
Chemistry and Biochemistry



Amaya Rolling
Biology

UT TYLER ACADEMY OF FUTURE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS JAMP SCHOLARS

Three students from The University of Texas at Tyler Academy of Future Health Professionals (AFHP) have been selected as Joint Admission Medical Program Scholars. This is the third consecutive year for the program to select three JAMP Scholars from UT Tyler. The three students accepted as JAMP Scholars this year are Maggie Manning, a chemistry and biochemistry major from Bullard; Shelby Cumbie, a biochemistry major from Jacksonville; and Amaya Rolling, a biology major from Tyler. Ayaan Khan of Longview, a biochemistry major, was named an alternate. This is a strong indicator of the enrichment AFHP provides to our students. A special thanks to Dr. Rachel Mason, Director of the AFHP, and Marti Halbrook, Assistant Director of the AFHP, for their excellent leadership.



MUSIC FACULTY DEVELOP A SOLID NATIONAL REPUTATION

Dr. Sarah Roberts, Associate Professor of Music, and Dr. Austin Seybert, Assistant Professor of Music, were both invited as featured guest artists at the national level. Dr. Roberts was the featured guest artist for the Virginia Tech Woodwind Day, and Dr. Seybert was the featured guest artist for the Gene Harris Jazz Festival at Boise State University. Dr. Jeremy McBain, Associate Professor of Music, performed concerts with the Lubbock Symphony, East Texas Symphony Orchestra, Texarkana Symphony and the BRNO Philharmonic.

Dr. Sooah Park, Associate Professor of Music, performed at Carnegie Hall in January 2023. This opportunity was a tremendous honor and a testament to her talent and international reputation in voice education and performance. She performed "Songs from Native Sounds" with Craig Ketter on piano. Her program included indigenous vocal music from various regions and featured songs by Cadman (whose works include tribal melodies from the Indianist movement), Rodrigo (who was inspired by Spanish folk music) and selections by various Korean composers.



Dr. Sarah Roberts
*Associate Professor
School of Performing Arts*



Dr. Austin Seybert
*Assistant Professor
School of Performing Arts*



Dr. Jeremy McBain
*Associate Professor
School of Performing Arts*



Dr. Sooah Park
*Associate Professor
School of Performing Arts*



Dr. Sooah Park performing at Carnegie Hall



Jaired Maddox
Political Science

2023 ARCHER FELLOWS FROM THE COLLEGE

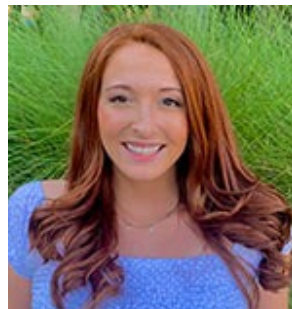
Jaired Maddox is a senior at The University of Texas at Tyler majoring in political science. In his Archer Fellowship, he is working with the House Democratic Caucus. He is also a full-time admissions officer and a proud member of UT Tyler's Black Student Association, an organization that enhances university activities through its inclusion and celebration of all ethnicities.

Taniyah "T.J." Jones is a senior at The University of Texas at Tyler majoring in history with a minor in pre-law. In her Archer Fellowship, she works with the National Urban League. On campus, she has served as the financial and recording secretary of the Upsilon Epsilon Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.



Taniyah "T.J." Jones
History & Pre-Law

Alexandria Smoot is a senior at The University of Texas at Tyler majoring in political science with minors in history and psychology. During Smoot's time at UT Tyler, she has mentored underclassmen, participated in the Honors Program, conducted political research concerning wedge issues, assisted in the polling center and competed in Model United Nations.



Alexandria Smoot
Political Science, History & Psychology

Elaina Gonzalez is a rising senior at The University of Texas at Tyler with a major in English and minors in political science, Spanish and writing with technology. She recently worked as the Opinion Editor for the Patriot Talon, the College Peer Partner for CAS, a Virtual Student Federal Service Intern and a Senator for CAS in SGA.



Elaina Gonzalez
English, Political Science, Spanish & Writing with Technology

ART FACULTY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS RESIDENCY

Merrie Wright, Professor of Studio Art, was awarded a five-week studio art residency at Ceramics, Residencies, Exhibitions, Teaching and the Arts (CRETA). This prestigious ceramic residency was located in the heart of Rome, Italy. The residency culminated in a three-person exhibition featuring the work of the current residents. Wright's exhibition, "Brick by Brick," featured ceramic sculptures she created during the residency.



Merrie Wright
Professor of Art

SUMMER CAMPS IN MUSIC A BIG SUCCESS

The School of Performing Arts successfully hosted three summer music camps. In its sixth year, the Jazz Camp hosted more than 40 students from all over Texas and featured guest artist Sergio Pamies, a Grammy-nominated pianist. In its second year, the Brass Camp hosted 20 brass students and featured Dallas Symphony Orchestra trumpeter Elmer Churampi as a guest artist. For the first time in the summer, the SPA offered a percussion camp, which hosted percussionists from the region.



FULL STEAM AHEAD AT THE DISCOVERY SCIENCE PLACE



The Discovery Science Place (DSP) launched "Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead" in April 2023, featuring established and emerging "makers" in our community who have a passion for science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. They showcased their talents through booths and engaging activities. In spring 2023, the DSP had

more than 6,000 students visit on field trips and are on track to host more than 70,000 visitors this year.



TEXAS INTERCOLLEGIATE PRESS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

The University of Texas at Tyler received eight prestigious awards at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association Conference. Receiving awards were Noah Tew (first place news photo), Nathan Witt (first place headline writing and second place podcasting), LaKyndra Larkin (third place TV news writing), Breanna Bolle and Paulina Mata (first place critical review), and Brynna Williamson (second place feature story/Spanish language and second place news story/Spanish language).



NSF RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES IN MATHEMATICS

The mathematics department continued its NSF-supported Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. In summer 2022, 10 students from across the country came to UT Tyler for an intensive two-month research experience with a local faculty mentor. Many UT Tyler mathematics majors have been involved in the REU Program.



Elizabeth Boshers
Biology

BIOLOGY STUDENT WINS PRESENTATION AWARD AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Biology major Elizabeth Boshers won first place in the undergraduate 10-Minute Paper Presentation competition in systematics, evolution and biodiversity at the joint annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America, Canada and British Columbia. Elizabeth is studying symbiotic interactions between fungus gardening ants and their microbiomes under an NSF post-baccalaureate fellowship.

SOULES

COLLEGE OF

BUSINESS



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. KRIST SWIMBERGHE



UT Tyler is one of only two UT System academic institutions ranked among the top 50 this year.

The Soules College of Business also welcomed our newest executive-in-residence, Dr. Rob Carpenter. Dr. Carpenter is a two-time Soules College of Business graduate. He holds an MBA in Healthcare Management and a PhD in Human Resource Development. He also is the current CEO of Advanta Genetics.

Faculty within all departments of the Soules College of Business are highly productive in all areas of scholarship. Dr. Marwan Al-Shammari was selected as the most recent recipient of the George W. and Robert Pirtle Professorship. Dr. Marwan Al-Shammari, Assistant Professor of Management, was nominated and selected by his peers for his research examining CEO characteristics, such as CEO narcissism and their influence on key organizational outcomes such as risk-taking, CSR and R&D spending.

However, our current and former students make us the proudest. In what follows, you can read about our Soules College of Business students who participated in the annual UTIMCO Scholars event. We are also grateful for our alumni who continue to give back to their alma mater and received the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award and the 2023 Graduate of the Last Decade Award.

I continue to be honored to serve and lead the Soules College of Business as Dean. I am grateful to all of those who play a role in making the Soules College of Business what it is today, and look forward to partnering with all of you to continue to move the Soules College of Business and The University of Texas at Tyler forward.

Dr. Krist Swimberghe

The Soules College of Business had a full 2022-2023 academic year. Faculty, staff and students prepared for and hosted an external accreditation review team from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business in April. The college received notification in June that our accreditation has been extended for an additional five years.

The combined effort of faculty, staff, students and community stakeholders resulted in the Soules College of Business's online MBA program being ranked 46th nationwide by Fortune Magazine, as noted on the publication's Best Online MBA Programs in 2023 list.



Dr. Greg Wang

HIGHLIGHTS

HRD SPOTLIGHT ON DR. GREG WANG

Historically, HRD is known as an applied field rather than a scholarly discipline. Until 2022, the mainstream HRD textbooks still claimed that there was no single unique overarching theory of HRD. Since 2002, Dr. Greg Wang has focused on establishing HRD’s unique identity and challenging mainstream views in theory development research. From identifying the boundary of HRD to conceptualizing a new definition of HRD to deriving a new set of HRD assumptions under globalization, Dr. Wang’s decade-long stepwise research resulted in a unique general theory of HRD published after a two-year, seven-round extended peer-review process in 2022.

The research has received national and international scholarly communities’ recognition and interest. For example, the published article received the First Runner-Up recognition for the Elwood F. Holton III Research Excellence Award at the March 2023 AHRD Conference. AHRD also invited Dr. Wang to participate in an April HRD MasterClass series podcast on the topic of HRD national policy and theory development, covering the macro-components of the new theory, and the International Association of Chinese Management Research (IACMR) invited Dr. Wang to deliver a two-hour session and share the new theory with the international management research community on its applicability to Chinese indigenous management research at the 10th Biennial IACMR Conference held in Hong Kong. Most recently, Dr. Wang was awarded a Faculty Development Leave to develop the first HRD theory book, “*Advanced Theories of Human Resource Development*,” as a graduate- and doctoral-level textbook.

SOULES COLLEGE EARNS ACCREDITATION EXTENSION

Following a review by its Continuous Improvement Review Committee, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business has extended its accreditation of UT Tyler’s business programs. The review, conducted every five years, indicates Soules COB has documented continuous improvements in support of its mission and strategic management plan to sustain AACSB accreditation status. This accreditation ensures that the Soules College of Business meets the highest standards of excellence in teaching, research, curriculum and learner success.

FABLEFEST

On March 30, the Department of Accounting, Finance and Business Law held FABLEFEST (Finance, Accounting, Business Law, Ethics), a student success initiative designed to engage students and strengthen relationships with faculty, staff and business community constituents. Approximately 100 students, 18 faculty and staff, and 25 representatives from 14 East Texas accounting and finance firms enjoyed three hours of games, swag, Poke in Da Eye barbecue, Pokey O’s cookies and ice cream, and door prizes. The event was so well-received that the department hopes to make this an annual event.





UTIMCO SCHOLARS

The University of Texas/Texas A&M Investment Management Company (UTIMCO) is the first external investment corporation formed by a public university system and oversees investments for The University of Texas and Texas A&M Systems. Adamaris Lopez, Bryan Rivas Guzman and Bryson Richards represented UT Tyler at the annual UTIMCO Scholars event, where they engaged with scholars from other UT System entities and networked with industry professionals from Bridgewater, PIMCO, BlackRock and JP Morgan. These industry partners were highly impressed by the talent in the room.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

The Distinguished Alumni Award recognizes an honoree as a highly successful professional, engaged community member and supporter of higher education. John Boyd received his BBA in Accounting from UT Tyler in 1993. Mr. Boyd serves as a member of the Board of Directors of Garrett Metal Detectors in Garland, Texas. Mr. Boyd is also Partner and Principal of Saville CPA and Advisors. Mr. Boyd additionally serves as a member of the Soules College of Business Advisory Board.



The Graduate of the Last Decade Award recognizes the accomplishments of a Soules College of Business alum. An honoree within 10 years of graduation from their last Soules College of Business degree is selected for their professional achievements, dedication to community service and support of higher education. Mr. Stephen Ray completed his BBA in Marketing in 2014. He serves as the Brand and Product Campaign Marketing Director at Texas Instruments. Mr. Ray was a UT Tyler Patriots men's basketball team member and a member of the all-academic team.

PARTNERSHIP WITH JOHN SOULES FOODS

The Human Resource Development Department continued its partnership with John Soules Foods Inc. and deployed the East Texas Employee Engagement Survey for the second year. This year's implementation included the development of an online application to allow managers and leaders to easily view how predictors of positive organizational outcomes varied by segments of the company. Select Soules employees also participated in focus groups, providing depth to the information identified in the engagement survey. According to the Soules Senior Director of Human Resources, Safety and Performance, the survey results and focus groups identified key areas of focus for individual development training that was held at all three of Soules' facilities. Plans are underway to deploy the survey for the third year at Bethesda Health Clinic.



TECHNOLOGY

Dr. Heshium Lawrence, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of Technology, received the prestigious Epsilon Pi Tau (EPT) William E. Warner Professional Practice Award for Region 4 this year. In addition, Dr. Mark Miller, Chair and Professor of Technology, was awarded the EPT Distinguished Service Member Award at the past ATMAE Conference held in Louisville, Kentucky. Professor Dominick Fazarro, teamed up with Dr. David Scott from the criminal justice division of the social sciences department with a new patent-pending method for latent fingerprinting using microscopy at the nano level. The students in Lecturer RaeJean Griffin's technology courses worked with Trinity Rail in Longview to assist with plant layout and Lean Six Sigma projects.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY

A MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM DEAN DR. SARAH SASS



Longview, Palestine and Tyler, led by Dr. Jo Ann Simmons and Campus Directors, Rachel Hawkins, Umami Bodede and Dr. Kelly Dyer.

has taken the lead in planning an Early Career Development Center (or “daycare”) with the university, which we envision as a center that will serve staff, faculty and students.

As a college, we represent three disciplines — counseling, education and psychology. We offer four bachelor’s, eight master’s and two doctoral degrees, along with two certification programs, five centers and K-12 STEM education at our three University Academy campuses.

Members of the college secured more than \$3 million of external grant funding from sources such as the Department of Education, Health Care Services Corporation, Department of Human Health Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, THECB and the Children’s Spirituality Research and Innovation Hub. We published and presented in diverse venues consistent with the mission and vision of the college and university in the form of journal articles, book chapters, books, presentations, colloquia and conferences. We engaged with national and international research societies, community groups, schools, mental health settings and more. I am pleased to congratulate our students, staff and faculty on our continued accomplishments!

This past year, each of our three units experienced successes in moving our college’s mission forward. Faculty developed plans for expansion to academic degree programs, including an MEd in Learning Technology, an MS in Psychological Sciences and a Behavioral Disorders track within our MEd in Special Education. Psychology was the second-largest undergraduate major at UT Tyler this past year, and we continue to see strong enrollment numbers collegewide. In addition to the University Academy having an amazing year (more below), Dr. Simmons

Sarah Sass

It was a pleasure to lead the College of Education and Psychology as Interim Dean during the 2022-2023 academic year, and I am delighted to highlight a few achievements of our students, staff and faculty. These achievements represent collaborative efforts that transcend disciplinary boundaries, are responsive to the communities in which we live, and often represent innovations in response to need.

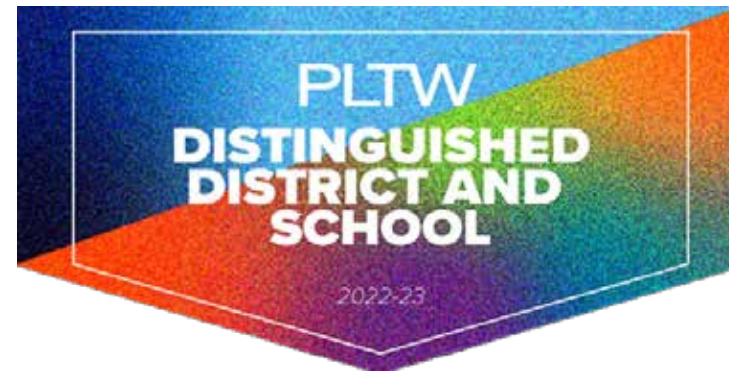
Students, staff and faculty in the college are organized into three units — the Department of Psychology and Counseling led by Dr. Amy Hayes, the School of Education led by Dr. Frank Dykes (fall) and Dr. Yanira Oliveras (spring), and the University Academy, our K-12 STEM charter school with three campuses in



HIGHLIGHTS AND FEATURES

Each of our three units experienced success this 2022-2023 academic year. Within the Department of Psychology and Counseling, Drs. Citlali Molina and Erin West received a five-year \$1.9 million “Mental Health Matters” Department of Education grant and will partner with the Brownsboro, Tyler and Winona Independent School Districts. This grant will enhance the capacity of school districts to provide mental health services to their students. Each year, the project will place UT Tyler graduate-level school counseling and clinical mental health counseling students at 15 high-needs schools within the three partnering ISDs.

Within the School of Education, Dr. Frank Dykes and colleagues were awarded a \$50,000 planning grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to develop an innovative program to increase the number of certified teachers in East Texas and strengthen the education training pipeline. We worked with 38 school district partners and three community colleges to develop the Patriot Pathways to Teacher Certification Plan. These pathways accommodate the working schedule of candidates seeking to become certified educators. UT Tyler will partner with clinical placement partners in area school districts. Districts, community colleges and UT Tyler will provide job-embedded training with a flexible schedule to allow individuals to complete both online courses and monthly cohort meetings held on the school district campus or university site. Clinical hours will be completed in the schools to assure students have the appropriate in-person experiences to be classroom ready upon completion.



This year, each of the three University Academy campuses received “A” ratings with all seven distinctions based on 2022 STAAR scores. Additionally, the district received the Postsecondary Readiness Distinction. UA schools are ranked in the top 5% of Texas. UA Longview was listed on the Texas Accelerating Women’s Success and Mastery in Computer Science Honor Roll. Women are still underrepresented in many STEM disciplines, including computer science. To be considered an inaugural AWSM in CS Honor Roll school, females must make up at least 50% of the high school computer science course enrollment for the 2021-2022 school year. UA Longview is one of less than 100 secondary schools in Texas to earn this achievement. The gender gap in this field persists despite many initiatives and efforts to close it, which makes UA’s achievement even more remarkable. Of the 47 graduating seniors this year, 87% are scheduled to enroll in a STEM major or related area, including 14 in biomedical sciences, 11 in engineering and 15 in traditional and related STEM programs.



MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

CEP hosted an inaugural Mental Health Matters conference, which provided continuing education to approximately 100 community participants from area ISDs and mental health agencies.



The School of Education co-hosted the Texas Association of Future Educators at UT Tyler with 21 schools and more than 300 participants.



Jenna Moore won the prestigious \$15,000 Jess Hay Chancellor's Graduate Student Research Fellowship from UT System. Jenna is a fourth-year doctoral student in the Clinical Psychology PhD program under the mentorship of Dr. Michael Barnett.



Jenna Moore
Clinical Psychology

STUDENT SUCCESS



FACULTY & STAFF SUCCESS



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. JAVIER KYPUROS



The College of Engineering continues to achieve ever more ambitious goals. This has been a record-setting year for the College of Engineering. The college rose in U.S. News & World Report's national rankings from 75th to 42nd. The faculty secured the highest dollar amount in newly funded external grants and contracts. The ASCE concrete canoe team finished sixth in the nation, which is the highest finish of any Texas institution in the 35-year history of the competition. The college's alumni continue to be among the highest paid in the entire University of Texas System for their respective disciplines. Last fall, the college, with sponsorship from Delek US, hosted the inaugural Ratliff Relays, a day-long event in which the college's students partake in one of four engineering design competitions.

This year, the faculty have been notably successful at securing grants and contracts to

conduct translational research and develop technologies that impact increasing national priorities. The faculty have secured millions in funding from the USDA, NASA, NIH, NSF and other federal agencies. Several faculty members were awarded research grants that address some of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE) Grand Challenges, including Advancing Health Informatics and Developing Carbon Sequestration Methods. Yet another was funded by both NASA and the USDA Agricultural Research Service to develop sensor technologies to monitor plant health both on Earth and in space. Our most recent faculty hires have been phenomenally successful, receiving early career recognitions, including the 2023 Curtis W. McGraw Research Award, earned by Dr. Shawana Tabassum of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Last summer, the college received approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to establish new undergraduate degree programs in Computer Engineering and Construction Engineering and a master's degree in Engineering Leadership. This coming fall,

we are poised to welcome the inaugural classes for each program. Plus, we are actively developing agreements to expand Patriot Pathways for Engineering to other community colleges in the Houston area and throughout East Texas.

As we expand our partnerships throughout East Texas, Houston and other neighboring areas, the college will provide critical pathways for promising students from diverse backgrounds and experiences to better address the challenges and opportunities most pertinent to our region, the state and the nation. As evidenced in the most recent ASEE "Engineering and Engineering Technology by the Numbers" reports from 2019 to 2021, the UT Tyler College of Engineering ranked in the top 50 nationwide for the percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded to underrepresented minorities. In 2019, the college was among the top 20% of underrepresented minority tenured/tenure-track faculty. The college also ranked among the top 50% of master's degrees awarded to underrepresented minorities in 2019 and 2020.

Dr. Javier Kypuros





HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

CONCRETE CANOE

The UT Tyler ASCE concrete canoe team placed first overall in the Texas-Mexico Region 6 Competition, and the canoe entry christened “Camoo” advanced to nationals, where the team placed sixth overall. That ties for the highest finish nationally of any Texas institution in the competition’s 35-year history. Region 6 is ASCE’s largest region worldwide. This is the third time that UT Tyler placed first at regionals since 2012 and the first time UT Tyler placed in the top 10 nationally, which is a marked improvement over its top 15 finish in 2012. The team placed sixth in technical report, fourth in oral presentation and eighth in final product.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKING

For 2023, U.S. News & World Report ranked the College of Engineering 42nd among the “Best Undergraduate Engineering Programs” at institutions that do not offer a doctorate in engineering. It rose 33 spots from the previous ranking and continues to be the highest-ranked college of engineering amongst its public Texas peers. This is the fourth year in the top 100 and the first year in the top 50. “Our breadth of current and emerging undergraduate programs rivals research institutions in large metroplexes around the state, and as evidenced by the placement of our alumni in industry-leading corporations throughout the world, the College of Engineering strives to prepare alumni who will be change agents in their organizations and communities,” said Dr. Javier Kypuros, Dean of the College of Engineering.

DR. SHAWANA TABASSUM’S TECHNOLOGIES FOR SMART FARMING AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

During the last 18 months, Dr. Shawana Tabassum has been awarded nearly \$1 million as principal investigator in externally funded grants and contracts from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS), NASA, American Association of University Women (AAUW) and NSF. Her plant sensors and technologies will enable smart farming and sustainable agriculture both on Earth, in partnership with the USDA, and in space, collaborating with NASA. She has already been nationally recognized by the American Society of Engineering Education (ASEE) with the prestigious 2023 Curtis W. McGraw Research Award. Her innovations stand to have a transformational impact on agriculture and beyond.

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

RATLIFF RELAYS

Last fall, the college, with sponsorship for Delek US, hosted the inaugural Ratliff Relays. To honor the legacy of former Lt. Gov. and civil engineer William Ratliff, we established the Relays as a day-long event in which the college’s students partake in one of four engineering design competitions — including cardboard canoe, bean-bag catapult, autonomous robotics and extreme water treatment.

THE NAMING OF THE LANCE C. HIBBELER MATERIALS TESTING LABORATORY

Dr. Lance Hibbeler, a 2006 graduate of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, donated \$150,000 to support the Materials Testing Laboratory. Dr. Hibbeler is an engineer at Intel Corp. in Oregon. After UT Tyler, he received master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He credits his experience as an undergraduate in the lab as an inspiration for his professional pursuits and accomplishments.



SCHOOL OF NURSING



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. BARBARA HAAS

an RN-BSN completion track or the innovative concurrent associate degree-BSN track. The concurrent program enables students currently enrolled in an associate degree nursing program to simultaneously complete their baccalaureate nursing coursework and graduate with a BSN within weeks of earning their ADN.

Graduate students pursuing a master's degree in nursing have options to specialize in one of five programs: administration; education; informatics, quality and safety; family nurse practitioner; and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner. Certificates are also available within each of these five specialty areas. Two doctoral programs offer students the option to pursue a clinically-focused Doctor of Nursing Practice or a research-focused PhD in Nursing.

Planning is underway to develop an additional master's degree for adult-geriatric acute care nurse practitioners and a third doctoral program for certified registered nurse anesthetists. Both programs are being

developed in response to community needs and changes in health care delivery.

We also built new clinical partnerships and experiences for students, continued the School of Nursing reorganization to build faculty research capacity and broke ground for an addition to the Tyler campus nursing building. See the details that follow!

Steve Jobs is quoted as saying, "Innovation is the ability to see change as an opportunity — not a threat." I have long described the School of Nursing faculty and staff as fearless, as they do not back away from change but rather embrace the opportunities that come with change. The 2022-2023 academic year was no exception. School of Nursing faculty, staff and students continued to innovate, build and reinvent themselves and our School, all while staying true to our mission to empower students to excel as nurse clinicians, leaders and scholars in a caring, learner-centered, strengths-based environment.

Dr. Barbara Haas

The 2022-2023 academic year for the School of Nursing may best be summed up in a single word: building! Whether it was new program development, faculty development, clinical opportunities or physical space, our 86 full-time faculty and 21 full-time staff were engaged in building a bigger and better School of Nursing to serve our community.

With an enrollment of 2,186 students, the School of Nursing comprises nearly 25% of the university's student population. Our programs are offered in three locations (Tyler, Longview and Palestine) and in face-to-face and online environments.

Undergraduate students are enrolled in one of three baccalaureate tracks: a year-round, accelerated generic BSN,



HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES



Dr. Susan McBride
Associate Dean for Research

A major focus for the School of Nursing this year was building research capacity. Dr. Susan McBride joined the UT Tyler School of Nursing in fall 2022 as its first Associate Dean for Research under the new organizational structure. A Certified Professional in Healthcare Information & Management Systems and Fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, Dr. McBride is leading the School of Nursing to our next level of research development. Dr. McBride's work has advanced health policy and practices used by federal, state and regional organizations to improve healthcare delivery systems and population health. Her \$12 million in funded research has resulted in national best practices for proper identification of patients across care settings, advanced data analytics, and implementation of safe and effective use of health information technology. She has furthered nursing knowledge through the development of nursing education for healthcare informatics framework to reinforce quality and safety education for nurses' competencies, developed a new model of graduate informatics education throughout the state, and produced a strong record of more than 40 national and international conference presentations and more than 30 publications, along with co-authoring an award-winning informatics textbook.

Since her arrival, Dr. McBride has established several interprofessional collaborative research projects with UT Tyler School of Health Professions, UT Houston School of Public Health, University of Missouri and the Greater Longview Optimal Wellness, or GLOW Project.

She has recruited high-level researchers to the university, provided mentoring and research workshops to faculty and staff and submitted federal grants. She is currently working on establishing an Institute for Clinical Innovation, Data Science and Health Care Research.

One of this year's grant recipients was Dr. Jenifer Chilton. Her Specialized Preceptors Innovate Nursing Education, or SPIN grant, supported an innovative partnership with Memorial Hermann-Katy, Memorial Hermann-Cypress and Medical City-Dallas. Grant funds were used to hire embedded adjunct faculty within the facilities. Faculty training prepared adjuncts and preceptors for the educator role. The embedded preceptors and faculty were able to provide students with exceptional clinical experiences. Students were exposed to magnet-hospital level of care, and many secured positions within the facilities by the end of their rotation. The project served as an innovative solution to the faculty shortage, limited clinical opportunities locally and a means for the hospitals to recruit outstanding students. This is truly a win-win-win project for the clinical facilities, students and School of Nursing!



Dr. McBride and research retreat participants



Dr. Jenifer Chilton



Anna Hanson, Jennifer Reed and Dr. Chilton deliver swag to Memorial Hermann SPIN faculty and preceptors.

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS



The School of Nursing's commitment to excellence was recognized this year with a full 10-year reaccreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the national oversight body for baccalaureate and graduate nursing education.



Groundbreaking for nursing addition



Dr. Tanna Nelson

A groundbreaking was held in spring 2023 for a \$35 million expansion of the main campus nursing building. The new facility will house a state-of-the-art simulation center and skills labs.

Congratulations to Dr. Tanna Nelson, 2020 PhD in Nursing graduate. Dr. Nelson is currently a staff scientist and lab manager in the Advanced Visualization Branch of the National Institute for Nursing Research at the National Institutes for Health.



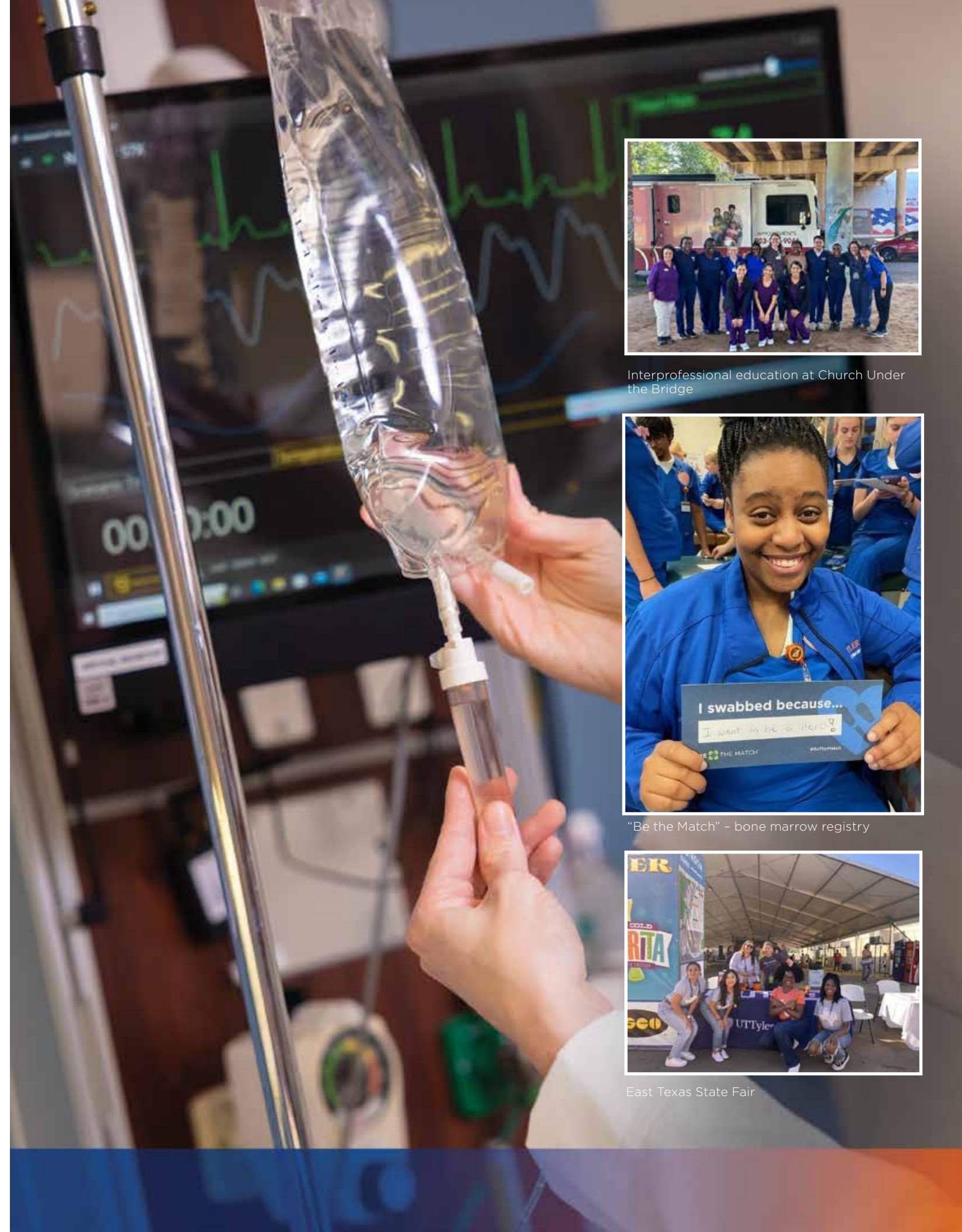
Interprofessional education at Church Under the Bridge



"Be the Match" - bone marrow registry



East Texas State Fair



BEN & MAYTEE FISCH

COLLEGE OF

PHARMACY



The Late Dr. Lane J. Brunner
Founding Dean



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DR. AMY H. SCHWARTZ

The Ben and Maytee Fisch College of Pharmacy had an eventful year that began with misfortune, however, concluded with several outstanding accomplishments. The term perseverance best describes the faculty, staff and students. The legacy of Founding Dean, Dr. Lane Brunner, will forever be immortalized. Dr. Brunner, along with the founding faculty and staff, established a remarkable program that has graduated outstanding pharmacists.

Throughout the year, faculty and students worked diligently on scholarly endeavors and community initiatives. Publications, presentations and community service are highlighted in other sections. I arrived in March amidst much activity. Student enrollment activities were in high gear, and classes were winding down. The Class of 2023 graduated with many accomplishments and honors.

The students remain the greatest source of joy, and to watch them develop into pharmacists is a privilege. Many students attended state and national conferences, and several presented their work. Similarly, the faculty were prolific in pursuing grant

funding and publishing the accomplishments of their scholarly work. The staff is the glue that keeps all others functioning, and their support was especially outstanding this past year. Faculty, staff and students provide tangible services to East Texas and beyond.

Lastly, the college is excited to participate in the newly developed Health Affairs Division and looks forward to future interprofessional education, practice and research initiatives.

Dr. Amy H. Schwartz

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH OUTCOMES

The department had a very productive year. Three faculty successfully pursued promotion and/or tenure. Drs. Joseph Glavy and Ayman Hamouda attained Full Professor with tenure, while Dr. Michael Veronin attained Full Professor.

Faculty submitted numerous grants to various external funding sources resulting in five awards recipients were Drs. Santosh Aryal, Ayman Hamouda, Osama Shoair and Yanyan Wang. Farah Deba successfully procured funding to support an undergraduate research fellow. Several faculty who submitted grants to the NIH received high scores, which hopefully will lead to subsequent awards.

Faculty recipients of FCOP internal grants included Drs. May Abdelaziz, Yanyan Wang, Osama Shoair, Farah Deba and Ayman Hamouda. Dr. Abdelaziz and Dr. Deba were also recipients of UT Tyler internal grants. The faculty actively engage pharmacy and undergraduate students in their research.

Elizabeth Yett was elected to the APhA-APPM (American Pharmacists Association-Academy of Pharmacy Practice and Management) Preceptor Special Interest Group Coordinator-elect. The APhA-APPM is dedicated to assisting members in enhancing the profession of pharmacy, improving medication use and advancing patient care.



The faculty published 12 original research articles and gave 24 presentations, several of which included students. Many of the faculty/student endeavors were highlighted during the Lyceum, during which two students received presentation awards.

Several of the faculty were selected to serve on national committees and panels. Lastly, the department sponsored a visiting Fulbright scholar, who provided insight into his research and the Fulbright experience.

CLINICAL SCIENCES

The department experienced a challenging year; however, it was similarly productive and successful. One faculty, Dr. Tianrui Yang, successfully pursued promotion to Associate Professor.

The faculty provided 29 national, regional or local presentations; had nine manuscripts accepted for publication; and were awarded three internal grants and one external grant.

Dr. Jose Vega was awarded the Mildred Henderson Grinstead Professorship in Interprofessional Education. Dr. Vega has served as the FCOP Director of Interprofessional Education for many years; thus, receipt of this honor is befitting.



Dr. Rachel Bratteli annually travels to the Amazon region of Brazil to participate in The Forgotten People medical outreach. The program focuses on caring for the persecuted, elderly, homeless, abandoned and disabled children, refugees and people with diseases. The following picture provides a glimpse into the experience and depicts Dr. Bratteli in action.

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The office had a successful academic year, focusing on three primary areas: admissions, the development of a pharmacy career educational recruitment program and enhanced existing efforts towards pharmacy student development and success. Outreach to East Texas colleges and universities helped formalize the early assurance program and led to the establishment of several memorandums of understanding. Additionally, face-to-face recruitment resumed, which included participation in many events across the region and FCOP Open House events.

New marketing strategies were implemented to support admissions. The new email and call campaigns enhanced awareness and interest in the program. Marketing materials were updated, and videos highlighting faculty, students, and alumni activities and accomplishments were developed. Additionally, new scholarship opportunities were developed to identify and recruit high-quality students. Beginning fall 2023, FCOP will provide free tuition to incoming and current students who have demonstrated high academic achievement. These programs aim to improve program marketability and incentivize students to maintain academic excellence.

The office also established pharmacy career pathway programs within several area K-12 programs. The goal is to continue to support these programs to ensure continued awareness and interest in the profession across the region. Additionally, a significant effort has been made to strengthen the recruitment of UT Tyler undergraduate students. Through these efforts, the admission cycle appreciated an 108% increase compared to the previous cycle.



Patriot Premiere



Fall Open House



Jump Start

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. Elizabeth Yett received the Texas Society of Health System Pharmacists Lourdes M. Cuellar Star Award. The award honors the legacy of one of Texas' most influential woman pharmacists.

Three faculty completed the Association of College and University Educators course — Drs. May Abdelaziz, Young Lee and David Pearson. The program requires much diligence and demonstrates dedication toward enhancing their academic abilities to better support student learning and success.

The Preceptors of the Year selected by students were Dr. Justin Hooper, Director of Corporate Clinical Pharmacy at CHRISTUS Health (institutional), and Dr. Henna Vazirani, staff pharmacist with Brookshire Grocery Company (community).

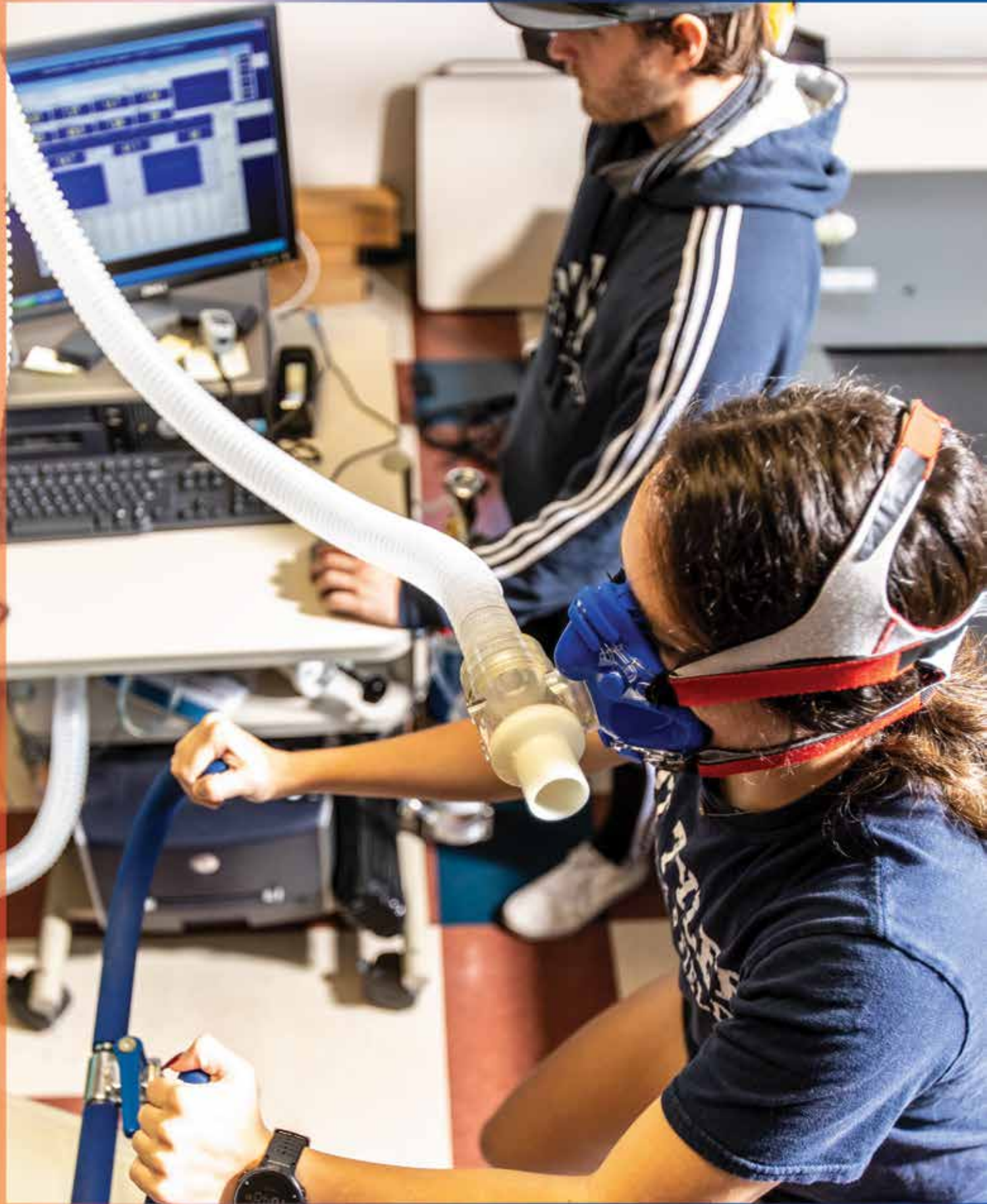
Several FCOP students were recipients of national awards. David Foote was awarded the United States Public Health Service Excellence in Public Health Pharmacy Award, and Lauren Johnson was selected to attend the 2023 NCPA Foundation-UAMS Pharmacy Ownership and Leadership Academy this summer. Additionally, the APhA-ASP chapter was awarded the Region 6 Award for Operation Reproductive Health.

The FCOP Class of 2023 graduates who applied for a residency program matched at 100%, which was the highest pharmacy residency match rate in Texas and the United States. Many faculty supported the students; however, Drs. Winter Smith and Elizabeth Yett formally guided the students through the process.

Dr. Winter Smith was elected to serve on the American Society of Health-system Pharmacist, Commission on Credentialing.



SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN DR. THERESA BYRD



As Inaugural Dean of the School of Health Professions, it's an honor to report on the gains achieved over the past year. Since arriving on campus in March, it's been a pleasure to meet our faculty, staff and students. The School of Health Professions is unique in that it is the only school with programs on both the academic and health campuses.

On June 23, 2023, the school's faculty and staff — as well as the Vice President of Strategic Planning — convened for a full day of strategic planning. The day culminated with the school's new vision statement: "Positively impact health for all." Our mission is to "Provide high-quality health education in a collaborative environment that promotes scholarship, innovative research and community partnerships to create sustainable solutions that positively impact learners and health for all."

With our vision and mission in mind, we crafted our one-, three- and five-year goals.

Those include finalizing the organizational structure, moving forward on accreditation of all creditable programs, needs assessing needs and developing a community advisory board. Adjustments have been made to our school's organizational structure which now encompasses four departments — Kinesiology; Public Health; Rehabilitation Sciences; and Health Care Policy, Economics and Management. Like all good that is the result of higher education, the following summary of the 2022-2023 academic year was a concerted effort of department chairs, center directors, faculty and staff.

Dr. Theresa Byrd

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

There are 25 faculty in the SHP, nine of whom are at the HSC and 16 on the main campus.

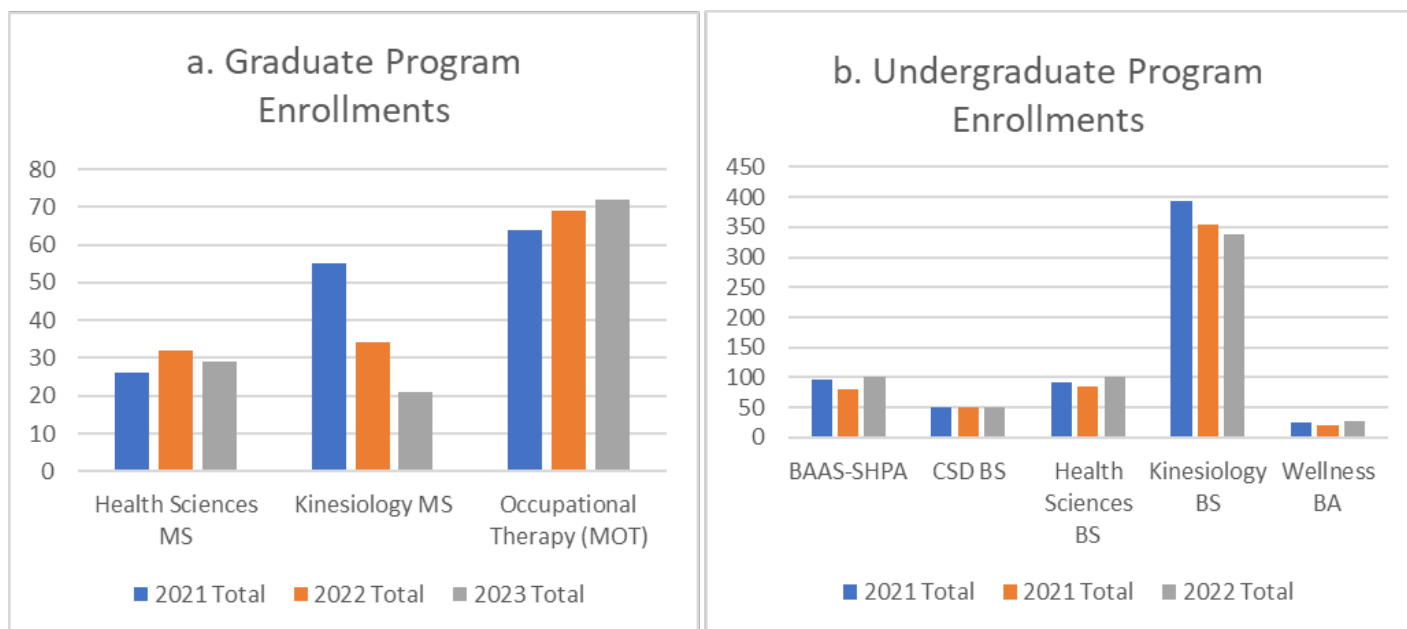
SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS — M (MAIN CAMPUS)

The School of Health Professions-A (SHP-A) includes the Department of Kinesiology, the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and the Department of Public Health (health sciences programs).

Total enrollment in SHP-A programs for the 2022-2023 academic year was 739 students, including 122 graduate and 617 undergraduate students (Figure 1). This represents a modest overall 2.2% increase over total enrollment for 2022. Strong enrollment increases were observed in the Bachelor's of Applied Arts and Science (BAAS-SHPA) program (+26.3%), the Health Sciences BS program (+20.2%) and the Wellness BA program (+35.0%). Small decreases in enrollment occurred in the Kinesiology BS and Health Sciences MS programs. The Kinesiology MS program experienced a large decline in enrollment for the second straight year (-38%). We are completely revising the Kinesiology MS program curriculum and planning a new marketing campaign to launch the revised program in fall 2024.



Figure 1. SHP-A program enrollments for academic years 2021 through 2023, a. for graduate and b. for undergraduate students.



REHABILITATION SCIENCES UPDATE

The Master of Occupational Therapy program received full accreditation status from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education in 2021. The MOT program's annual accreditation report was accepted by ACOTE without a request for further information. The on-site visit following initial accreditation post-COVID was in October 2022, which concluded with no follow-up questions. The MOT received permission to expand admissions to students from any undergraduate discipline and offer a post-professional doctoral option.

RESEARCH: FUNDED GRANTS

1. Knee extensor eccentric control for landing balance of stand-to-sit and its relationship with postural stability during perturbation responses, Funded by UT Tyler Internal Grants Program Competition for FY 2023-2024 (June 1, 2023), awarded May 2, 2023 (\$30,000.00), PI: Woohyoung Jeon, Co-Investigators: Karan Singh, Xuanliang Dong and Chung Hyun Goh.
2. Effect of varying cooking and storing techniques on starch structure, concentration and bacterial degradation. Funded by UT Tyler Internal Grants Program Competition for FY 2023-2024 (June 1, 2023), awarded May 2, 2023 (\$30,000.00), PI: Madhura Maiya, Co-Investigator: Farah Deba.
3. Rural Communities Opioid Response Implementation. Federal Award 6 GA1RH39612-01-02, PI: Harrison Ndetan; Sub-award to Fletcher Njororai (\$25,133), 01/01/2023 - 08/31/2023.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Department of Kinesiology hosted the 10th Annual UT Tyler Physical Education Workshop Oct. 7, 2022, featuring Master PE Teacher Ben Pirillo from McKinney. Forty physical education teachers from school systems across East and Southeast Texas attended the workshop.

The Department of Kinesiology continued its association with the local non-profit, charity, Kourage Health, to offer exercise prescriptions and supervised exercise opportunities to local

physician-referred chronically ill patients. Currently, we have about eight active participants who exercise regularly in the Exercise Center in the Herrington Patriot Center building, supervised by Ms. Ashley Dalby, program coordinator of the or a graduate assistant.

FACULTY AND STAFF

Ms. Ashley Dalby, Lecturer, was awarded the prestigious UT System Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award.

LOOKING AHEAD

The new Speech-Language Pathology MS program is expected to launch in fall 2024. An accreditation site visit from the American Speech and Hearing Association is scheduled for September 2023.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS — H (HEALTH CAMPUS)

- CAHME candidacy eligibility approved — August 2022
- CAHME candidacy submission — January 2024
- Reduction in curriculum from 48 credit hours to 36 credit hours (effective fall 2023)

Summer 2022 - Spring 2023

- 19 graduates
- 52 enrolled

MHA STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2023 UPD Honor Society inductees: 8

Summer '22 through Spring '23 — Twenty-two MHA students rotated through partnering health care and health services agencies to gain hands-on administrative, policy and management experiences in residencies or Capstones, where they assessed program needs and strengths and developed strategic plans with the institutions.

NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The HPEM department earned the Association of University Programs in Health Administration Award for program engagement by a new MHA program.

The East Texas Human Needs Network Comprehensive Community Assessment was released in July 2023. HPEM faculty collaborated with SOM faculty to design a survey for ETHNN's CCNA. HPEM faculty co-authored the CCNA report.

Dr. Kimberly Elliott graduated from the Leadership Tyler Program — Class 36

The school conducted 11 research and sponsored activities through collaborative efforts, totaling \$138,061.08.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

This department crosses both campuses (see report on SHP-A). The MPH program resides on the north campus but has faculty teaching in the program on the main campus. With the closing of the School of Rural and Community Health and the opening of the SHP, most MPH faculty moved into the SOM. We are currently recruiting new faculty, including a Chair for the Department of Public Health, and we hope to have them in place in the next academic year. The MPH program has applied for CEPH accreditation and is on track to have the site visit in summer 2025, depending upon CEPH scheduling. We are modifying the curriculum to fully meet all CEPH competencies. We hope to introduce concentrations in the MPH across the next two years.

MPH EDUCATION

The number of MPH students has remained steady over the last seven years, averaging 15 students per year. Our goal is to increase this number by 1) obtaining CEPH accreditation, 2) joining ASPPH after accreditation and taking advantage of the SOPHAS application system, 3) developing new concentrations based upon recommendations from our community advisory board and local health departments, 4) developing dual degree programs (MD/MPH, PharmD/MPH, etc.), 5) having an annual

presence and exhibit at AUPHA and 6) working with marketing to develop recruitment campaigns.

MPH STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Greg LaMay presented for the Graduate School Three-Minute Thesis competition, "A Social Media Campaign for ETX Wellness Initiative."

Hannah Adcock presented at TPHA meeting in November 2022, "The Relationship Between Transportation and Financial Strain in Northeast Texas."

Blair Zdenek presented at the TPHA meeting in November 2022, "Determining the Association Between Financial Strain and Food Insecurity in Northeast Texas."

RESEARCH

Byrd, TL. NIH. Get PHIT (Gaining Equity in Training for Public Health Informatics and Technology). Subcontract with UT Health Houston and UT Tyler SON. \$90,000.

COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

TEXAS HOME VISITING PROGRAMS

Several programs have developed under the umbrella of the grant-funded Texas Home Visiting program. All programs are focused on healthy early childhood development, improving family life and preventing child maltreatment.

The Nurse-Family Partnership is a home visiting program focused on working with first-time, low-income pregnant women throughout the pregnancy and until the child turns two years old. Seven bachelor's educated Nurse Home Visitors develop and sustain relationships with 25 clients, each in varying stages of pregnancy and parenting in Smith and Henderson Counties. They focus on healthy pregnancy, full-term delivery, maternal and infant health, and empowering mothers to best meet infants' needs. The NHVs connect new mothers and families to resources and encourage them to dream and plan to achieve

economic self-sufficiency. Many clients return to school and work to provide the best future for their infants. The program has the capacity to serve 175 East Texas mothers.

Moving Beyond Depression is a unique grant-funded program that meets the behavioral health needs of home-visiting clients who are diagnosed with postpartum depression and anxiety. The grant was sought due to the scarcity of therapeutic services in the community. The MBD-trained therapist provides 15 free weekly sessions of cognitive behavioral therapy to PAT and NFP clients who are identified as high-risk and agree to treatment. The therapist and referring home visitor work together closely to ensure that the client is supported and the child's needs are met. The therapist can support 50 women annually.

Brain Scientist Dads is a newer project that is a collaboration between UT Health Houston, Texas Home Visiting, and Northeast Texas WIC, and funded by the Episcopal Health Foundation. The focus of the project is to educate fathers-to-be and fathers of children under age three about their role in child development in the critical first three years of life. Working with a Father Advisory Council of community leaders, an eight-week curriculum was designed to address infant brain development, bonding, infant feeding and care, co-parenting and men's health. Male community health workers were trained to facilitate the sessions along with the Father Advisory Council members. The eight-week program was piloted in January and February 2022, and eight men graduated. Plans are in the works to conduct future groups in both English and Spanish during the next two years of EHF funding. There are plans to also offer a version of the program to teen fathers.

HEALTHY MUJERES

As an offshoot and extension of the original, very successful Healthy Families Initiative, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission funded a new program called Healthy Mujeres. This program, led by our Austin-based team, has been providing contraception, pregnancy-related services and preventive services to traditionally underserved populations residing in the Rio Grande Valley

through a mobile van and community clinics. The reach of the services has now expanded beyond the original program's Hidalgo County service area.

TEXAS SAFE BABIES

In its seventh year, the Texas Safe Babies initiative, funded by the Department of Family and Protective Services, is focused on developing and evaluating population maltreatment prevention strategies. Activities are divided into direct parent education and support, systems change work, and research and evaluation. Direct parent education and support are achieved with the Father's Playbook App, the Parenting Action Plan and the Family CARE Portfolio, (formally Plan of Safe Care.)

The Father's Playbook App was developed in collaboration with UT Austin to help new fathers support their family during pregnancy, encourage participation in the pregnancy and plan for the baby's arrival. Version 3.7 of the Father's Playbook App was released in May 2022. The app has had 1,954 unique downloads in the past year and has reached nearly 5,000 fathers since its inception.

A parenting action plan was developed with Baylor College of Medicine to help new mothers and fathers plan for difficult parenting moments with a newborn. The plan has been incorporated into the Father's Playbook App since April 2021, and it is being distributed with the Family CARE Portfolio. In July 2022, we will be launching the second randomized control trial of the Parenting Action Plan to assess its effectiveness in reducing parenting stress and negative parental attributions.

The Family CARE Portfolio, formally Plan of Safe Care, was also developed with Baylor College of Medicine and is an organizational tool co-designed with pregnant women with substance use disorder to help them navigate through multiple systems. The past four months have been focused on evolving the training and language in the portfolio to emphasize the use of this tool for all families, not just those with substance use disorders. During the past year, 811 professionals have attended a training course on the Family CARE Portfolio, and 634 portfolios have been distributed to community organizations and medical clinics to provide to families.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDING DEAN DR. BRIGHAM C. WILLIS

The 2022-2023 academic year for the School of Medicine has been a celebration of many firsts and a true testament to the time and support faculty and staff, community members and donors have dedicated to help lay the foundation of a new school.

Our faculty has grown significantly, with 60 new recruits joining us to support the development of our school and expand our graduate medical education programs. Over the course of the year, we were granted our preliminary accreditation status by the LCME in June 2022 and SACSCOC approval in December 2022.

We celebrated the groundbreaking of our Medical Education Building in January. This state-of-the-art facility, set to open 2025, will provide ample space for interdisciplinary education, including classrooms, simulation labs and training spaces. In March, we wrapped up our first recruitment cycle with

TMDASAS match day. With an overwhelming number of applicants, our admissions team reviewed thousands of applications to fill 40 spots for our inaugural class, 95% of which represents East Texas and its neighboring counties.

The school has established strong clinical system partnerships to support its educational and research endeavors. With UT Health East Texas serving as our primary affiliate, our partnerships with Family Circle of Care and Christus Trinity Mother Frances enhance the school's mission to build collaboration among our other regional hospitals.

As part of an R2 Carnegie classified research institute, we aim to foster research success in both our clinical and basic sciences. During the year, the Health Science Center was awarded \$45.28 million to support 38 grants, fueling our continued efforts to recruit top-notch faculty and advance research.

Our Simulation in Medicine and Immersive Learning Experience Center has officially opened, equipped with cutting-edge technologies to provide immersive education.

The center aims to advance health care in rural East Texas through simulation sessions for undergraduate and graduate medical education, faculty and affiliated health care professionals.

In June, we welcomed our first class with a vibrant welcome week, which included an academic house sorting ceremony, comprehensive orientation sessions and various activities to help students integrate into our school community. We ended the week on a high with our inaugural white coat ceremony. This momentous occasion marked the entry of 40 students into the medical profession and symbolized a historic moment for East Texas.

I continue to be honored to serve and lead the School of Medicine and am grateful to all who have worked tirelessly to get us to this pivotal moment. These achievements reflect our commitment to strive for excellence in medical education, research and community service. We are proud to be a part of The University of Texas at Tyler and help make a difference for East Texas.

Brigham C. Willis

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

WHITE COAT CEREMONY

On July 1, 2023, the school held its inaugural white coat ceremony for the Class of 2027. This day signified the students' entry into the medical profession and symbolized a historic moment for our school. Forty students were cloaked with white coats and recited the physician's oath. Students like Justin Crowe, a native of Jacksonville, Texas, and a former undergraduate of UT Tyler, celebrated the next step of his journey. "For me, the White Coat Ceremony symbolizes not just the first steps in becoming a physician but also in giving me a chance to give back to the community."

The ceremony concluded with the recitation of the Physicians Oath, a solemn pledge that embodies the ethical principles and responsibilities of a physician. Dr. Beverly Waddleton, a former family practice physician at UT Health East Texas, led the students in the pledge. Dr. Julie Philley delivered the keynote speech — highlighting the role and responsibility of a physician and the commitment of serving East Texas.

Each student is sorted by academic house and led by faculty and staff co-leads. There are four academic houses within the School of Medicine: Reverentia, Beneficentia, Constantia and Civitas, representing the school's values of respect, service, perseverance and community.



MEDICAL EDUCATION BUILDING GROUNDBREAKING

On Jan. 23, we broke ground on our Medical Education Building, a planned five-story and nearly 248,000-square-foot facility. We were honored to have Texas Gov. Gregg Abbott, UT System Board of Regents and other key stakeholders join in the celebration. The \$308 million project is currently under construction on roughly five acres adjacent to UT Health East Texas' midtown campus. This project will support interdisciplinary education for medical students, resident training and nursing. The facility will include classrooms, simulation labs, clinical and operating room training spaces, and multipurpose event and lecture spaces. The building will have a skybridge connection to UT Health East Texas' midtown campus and provide outpatient and specialty clinical services with exam rooms and imaging facilities as well as blended programming and clinical spaces for patient care. With a planned opening in spring 2025, medical students will continue to train at the Health Science Center.

ADMISSIONS RECRUITMENT CYCLE

Over the course of the academic year, the school completed its first admissions recruitment cycle. During the cycle, more than 4,000 applications were initiated. Out of these applications, 2,034 were completed, and 272 students were invited for interviews.

The admissions process spanned from September to January, with the goal of filling 40 spots for the inaugural class. The selection committee sought to identify students who possessed a strong commitment to community involvement and service, who were prepared academically and who expressed a keen interest in primary care and preventive health.

Our admissions model was built in hopes that the students admitted would align with our core values, which include Community, Perseverance, Respect, Excellence, Service and Creativity. An encouraging aspect of the admissions cycle was

the strong representation of East Texas and its neighboring counties among the selected students.

Approximately 95% of the inaugural class hails from this region, emphasizing the school's commitment to addressing the health care needs of East Texas.

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS

Our graduate residency training programs finished a strong recruitment season, welcoming 73 new residents and fellows to East Texas starting on July 1. Since 1988, we have graduated 407 residents, and at the close of the academic year, we have 147 resident physicians practicing throughout UT Health East Texas' hospitals and clinics. With 10 residency programs and five fellowship programs, our plans to distribute residents across the region expanded with the addition of the hospice and palliative care, gastroenterology and cardiovascular disease fellowships and our transitional year residency program. In June, we celebrated our internal medicine residency as we graduated the first class of 20.

AAMC CAMPAIGN — POWER OF ACADEMIC MEDICINE

In June, the School of Medicine participated in a nationwide campaign sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges alongside seven institutions, including Johns Hopkins Medicine and the Ohio State University College of Medicine. The campaign focused on highlighting the unique power of academic medicine and informing policymakers how innovations in medical education and research are improving the health and well-being of communities. Dr. Gisele Abron, Associate Dean for Admissions, represented the school in Washington, D.C. on Capitol Hill alongside UT Tyler President Kirk A. Calhoun, MD. Abron presented our innovative admissions model design, which follows a four-pillar, missions-centered index.

OFFICE OF FACULTY AFFAIRS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The School of Medicine has actively recruited academic, research and clinical faculty during the past academic year to grow the organization. A total of 60 faculty were recruited since Sept. 1, 2022, to support the development of the new School of Medicine and its expansion of graduate medical education programs (residencies and fellowships). Extensive work has been conducted to develop new departments and an organizational structure that aligns with the mission and goals of the School of Medicine and meets accreditation requirements. There are currently a total of 13 planned academic departments within the School of Medicine.

NEW FACULTY

Dr. Jarett D. Berry is Professor and Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine. He graduated from UT Southwestern Medical School and subsequently completed his internal medicine residency at UTSW and his clinical cardiology and cardiovascular epidemiology research fellowships at Northwestern University in Chicago. Prior to joining the school, Dr. Berry was on the faculty at UT Southwestern Medical School for nearly 15 years. While at UT Southwestern, Dr. Berry served as the principal investigator of the Dallas Heart Study, a large observational cohort study of nearly 3,000 Dallas County residents designed to characterize cardiovascular disease in an aging population.

Dr. Elza Mylona is an accomplished academic leader with a strong background in medical education. Currently serving as the Vice Dean for Academic and Faculty Affairs at the School of Medicine, she brings a wealth of experience to her role. With previous positions at renowned medical schools, such as the State University of New York School of Medicine and Eastern Virginia Medical School, Dr. Mylona has honed her expertise in curriculum development, faculty development and institutional effectiveness. Her extensive educational background, including a PhD in Instructional Technology, further complements her role as the Founding Chair for the Department of Medical Education.



Dr. Jennifer Honda, a highly acclaimed researcher and an expert in the field of nontuberculous mycobacterial infections, joined the school in April. Honda serves as the director for the Center for Mycobacterial Treatment and Discovery. Her groundbreaking work is supported by prestigious organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Upon arrival, Dr. Honda was granted a STARs award from UT System to acquire state-of-the-art lab equipment to support her growing research program and help attract and nurture talented researchers who can tackle the pressing challenges associated with this global infectious lung disease.

Dr. Cheryl McCullumsmith, an professional in the field of psychiatry and neuroscience, has been appointed as Distinguished University Professor and Founding Chair for the Robert M. Rogers Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine. Dr. McCullumsmith is board certified in psychiatry and psychosomatic medicine and is committed to holistic medical treatments and evidence-based behavioral health interventions. She is an active member of various prestigious health care organizations and has received awards recognizing her accomplishments in the field. Dr. McCullumsmith holds a Bachelor of Science in physics from MIT, a PhD in neuroscience and an MD with research honors from the University of Michigan.

OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION

Utilizing the curriculum plan designed by the SOM planning team, our pre-clerkship faculty developed the first 18 months of our medical school curriculum, including courses that contain foundational basic and clinical science content, interprofessional education concepts, and population health and systems science. Our Phase 2 team is currently designing an innovative clinical experience program to prepare students for their clerkships, emphasizing experiential learning and direct patient care.

SIMULATION IN MEDICINE AND IMMERSIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE CENTER

The UT Tyler School of Medicine Simulation in Medicine and Immersive Learning Experience Center officially opened in spring 2023 under the direction of Wesley Lockhart. The Center exist to provide immersive education that prepares compassionate health care professionals to deliver exceptional patient-centered care. The center serves to host simulation sessions for UME, GME, faculty and affiliated health care professions so our advanced simulation technologies and interdisciplinary approach can help make significant strides in advancing health care in rural East Texas. The simulation side of the SMILE center has spent the past year equipping the center with state-of-the-art, high fidelity mannequins, low- and mid-fidelity mannequins and task trainers.

CLINICAL SKILLS/SIMULATED PATIENTS

The Simulated Patients Program in the SMILE Center launched its recruitment in spring 2023. With more than 100 applicants, 35 people have been onboarded so far, and 15 more are in progress. The SP program offers community members a part-time position to role-play as patients and help train medical students in their communication and non-invasive physical examination skills. Our goal is to involve the East Texas community and allow them to invest in our student.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

During Welcome Week, the first class of students, along with dedicated faculty and staff, engaged in a community service day. They volunteered at various local organizations, including PATH, where they painted a house to provide a fresh start for someone in need. At Keep Tyler Beautiful, they dedicated their efforts to cleaning up the rose garden, restoring its beauty for the community to enjoy. They also assisted the Hand Up Network by working in their retail store. Lastly, they joined forces with the East Texas Food Bank, helping to distribute food to those facing food insecurity.





HONORS

COLLEGE



A MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDING DEAN DR. PAUL STREUFERT

During our Honors Convocation at the start of each school year, we distribute a new Honors t-shirt to all our students, staff and faculty. The message on the shirt is chosen by our rising seniors, students entering their final year in Honors at UT Tyler, and each year the phrase becomes the theme for our community. For fall 2022, the seniors chose the phrase “Honor Your Growth,” and in this academic year, our Honors community discussed, debated and reflected on our history as an Honors Program while preparing for our transformation into an Honors College.

The UT Tyler Honors College came into being on Jan. 27, 2023, with final approval from President Calhoun. As a new college, we have set high

standards and lofty goals, with an expected enrollment of 225 honors students fall 2023, culminating in 300 students by fall 2025. This growth in our community will allow our staff and faculty to share our academic excellence, our involvement in undergraduate research and our co-curricular events with more students. We will honor our growth by engaging, challenging and listening to our students, preparing them for their next steps in life and career. This past academic year, we recruited our second class of Honors Scholars, those students who rank among our institution’s very best, and along with our traditional 40 honors students, we expect this year’s cohort to be the most talented and active in our history.

Our growth manifested spatially in AY 2022-2023 in a change of location, as the Honors College moved from our former home in the University Center to our new home in HPR. This transition accommodates a

greater number of students with increased classroom and meeting space, while allowing us to connect and collaborate with academic colleagues in our new neighborhood.

No year since 2009, the founding date of the Honors Program, has seen greater growth in honors education at UT Tyler. We are proud of our accomplishments this year, which include outstanding alumni success, a Lyceum student research showcase that tested the limits of our physical space, as well as a rare opportunity for students to travel to New York City for a unique research experience with their faculty mentor. We in the Honors College look forward to the creative and collaborative work ahead as we partner with UT Tyler’s other colleges and schools to a rich, engaging experience for our students.

Dr. Paul Streufert

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

RESEARCH TRIP FOR TWO HONORS NURSING STUDENTS

All senior-level students in the Honors College complete a research project with a faculty mentor. Honors students spend many hours pulling articles, reading, analyzing data and presenting their work or the work of their research team. While all students are required to present their research at a conference or submit a manuscript for publication in a research journal, in fall 2022, two honors seniors received the unique opportunity to accompany their faculty mentor to a presentation at the United Nations in New York City.

Dr. Cathy Miller, Professor of Nursing at UT Tyler, researches human trafficking and has published extensively on it, particularly the identification of trafficking victims by health care professionals. This past fall, Dr. Miller was part of a team that presented a study, “A Global Response to Human Trafficking in the Healthcare Setting: A Human Trafficking Protocol for Healthcare Providers Worldwide,” at a special session of the United Nations. Dr. Miller invited two honors nursing students, Andrea Reyes and Kevin Larios, to accompany her to learn the nuances of this complex problem. The presentations at the special session included a wide variety of research approaches, making evidence-based arguments informed by survivors’ testimonials, all to develop a protocol to better identify and help victims. Both Andrea and Kevin were given a tremendous opportunity to observe the workings of health care policy directly related to their major and research.

In the months following Andrea and Kevin’s visit to the U.N. session, they joined Dr. Miller’s research team. Their work during the academic year produced an extensive annotated bibliography, as they examined the effect of the internet on human trafficking. The anonymity of both the digital world and the use of cryptocurrency has allowed human trafficking to flourish worldwide, and their assistance aided Dr. Miller in the next steps of her research. Kevin and Andrea presented their findings in a poster entitled “Intersection of Human Trafficking and Digital Media Platforms” at the 2023 Lyceum, the UT Tyler student research showcase hosted by the Honors College.



Kevin Larios, Dr. Streufert, Andrea Reyes and Dr. Miller outside the United Nations building in New York



Kevin Larios, Dr. Streufert and Andrea Reyes at the Hall of Flags at the United Nations



Andrea Reyes and Kevin Larios at the Hall of Flags at the United Nations

ALUMNI SUCCESS

This academic year saw one of the biggest graduating classes in our history. Forty honors students, between the fall, spring and summer semesters, graduated from UT Tyler and took their next steps into the professional world. Building on their experiences in Honors, both in lower division coursework and in their research projects, our students have set their sights high and are prepared for those challenges. Highlights include:

- Jenna Thornhill — Nursing. Jenna, who worked with research mentor Dr. Beth Mastel-Smith, accepted a position as an ICU nurse at Christus Trinity Mother Frances in Tyler.
- Madison Isenberg — History. Madison presented her senior project “Volksdrogen: The Third Reich Powered by Methamphetamine” at the Richard Macksey Symposium at Johns Hopkins University and has applied for a Fulbright scholarship to attend graduate school in Germany for library and archival sciences.
- Matthew Hoffman - Mechanical Engineering. After completing his senior project on indoor air quality at Creekview High School, Matthew accepted a position as project manager at EMA Engineering in Tyler.
- Wyatt Schaeffer - Biochemistry. Wyatt, whose senior research project was entitled “Identification of the Source of C. perfringens Contamination of Yogurt,” will begin as a first-year medical student at the Long School of Medicine at UT Health San Antonio this summer.

Two graduates in particular — Jacob Williams (history) and Dnyanada Patil (civil engineering) — made UT Tyler Honors College history by choosing the University of California, Berkeley for their post-graduate studies. Dnyanada will work on a two-year master’s degree in civil engineering, while Jacob will begin a six-year PhD program in ancient history. The Honors College is proud to send Jacob and Dnyanada to this prestigious institution to earn their degrees.



Dnyanada Patil prepares to attend UC Berkeley.



Jacob Williams presents his senior project at the GPHC conference.

MINI HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

CONVOCATION AND RECORD CLASS

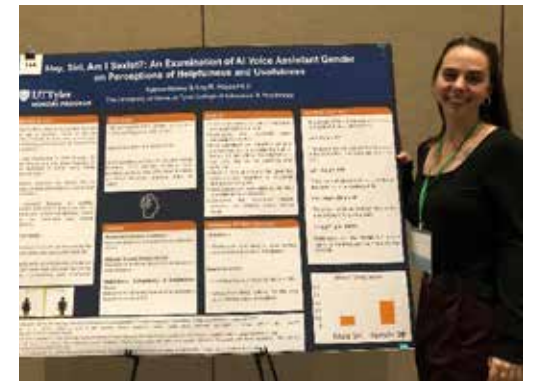
The Honors College welcomed its largest incoming student cohort in August 2022. With the addition of the Honors Scholars scholarship, we added 60 first-year students and a large group of transfer students to reach our record size of 193. This growth is our first step toward our goal of 300 students by fall 2025. Our Honors Convocation on Aug. 20 featured a murder-mystery puzzle, which encouraged teamwork, problem-solving and connection among our new and veteran students.



HONORS STUDENT RESEARCH SUCCESS

Honors College students had great success presenting their research in AY 2022-2023. At the meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council conference in November, four UT Tyler students presented their research: Katrina Henley (psychology), Gaini Ibrasheva (biochemistry), Mariana Jovanovic (communications) and Amanda Swanberg (nursing). Katrina Henley won first place in the research competition in the Social and Behavioral Sciences for her poster, “‘Hey, Siri, Am I Sexist?’ An Examination of AI Voice Assistant Gender on Perceptions of Helpfulness and Usefulness.” Katrina is the fifth UT Tyler Honors student to win a national award and the first in psychology.

On the regional level, 19 UT Tyler Honors students made presentations at the Great Plains Honors Council Conference in March.

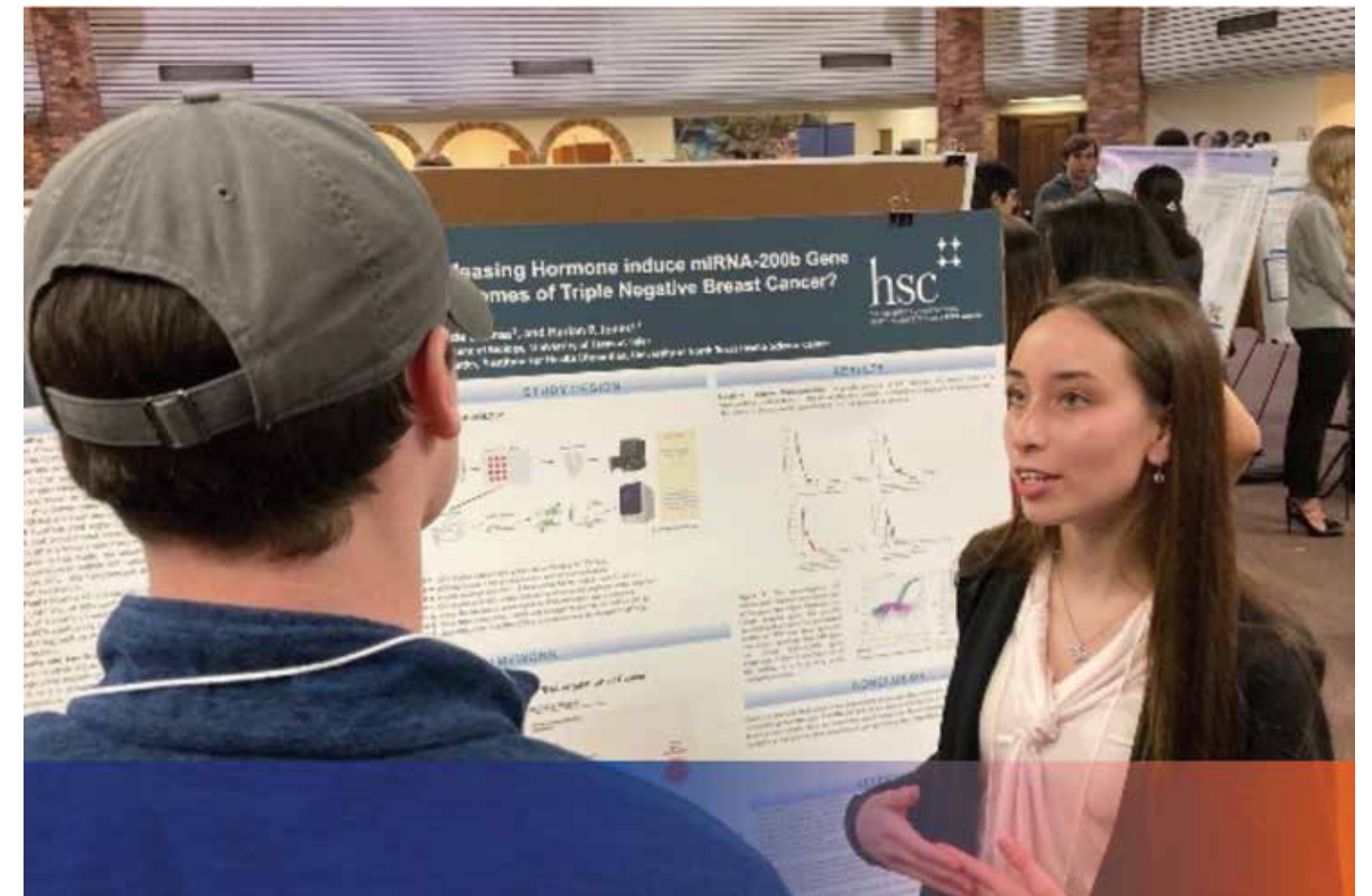


Katrina Henley and her award-winning poster at NCHC



Wyatt Schaeffer presents his project at GPHC.

Olina Zusinas presents her project at GPHC.





HONORS COLLEGE LYCEUM

The Honors College hosted the eighth annual Lyceum, UT Tyler's student research showcase, on April 14, 2023. More than 220 students participated in the Lyceum, representing all of UT Tyler's colleges and schools. One-hundred thirty presentations were made between the panels in the morning, the poster session in the afternoon and the fine arts hour. This year's Lyceum also included a significant first: six students from the TJC Honors Program presented posters alongside their UT Tyler colleagues.

Jeff Noblitt, VP of Marketing and Communications, listens to a student presentation.

First-place award winner Luis E. Perez presents during the fine arts hour.



ARCHER FELLOWS

The Honors College oversees UT Tyler's participation in the Archer Fellowship, a UT System program that sends students to Washington, D.C. for an intensive experience through internship and academics. By serving our entire student body through the Archer Fellowship, the UT Tyler Honors College hopes to engage our community in a meaningful way. AY 2022-2023 saw an increase in applications and participation, signifying a greater awareness of the benefits of this prestigious program.

During summer 2023, three graduate students are representing UT Tyler, which is a record number:



Kathryn Chamberlain
Political Science
Internship: Department of Energy



Kirby Cotter
Political Science
Internship: Department of Energy



Greyson Givens - Honors Alumnus
Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Internship: Library of Congress
So Others May Eat

UT Tyler will have three undergraduate Archer Fellows representing the institution in the upcoming academic year:



Elaina Gonzalez
English, Political Science,
Spanish & Writing with Technology
Current Honors College Student



Joshua Smith
Political Science
Current Honors College Student



Audrey Harris
Political Science
Current Honors College Student

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL



A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN DR. STEVEN IDELL



Undoubtedly, one of the most significant accomplishments during the past year resulted from a strategic examination of how to best recruit and retain graduate students. In January 2023, the Graduate School transitioned into an integrated yet interdependent graduate student support model.

The restructuring changed the focus of the Graduate School to graduate student support, programmatic and faculty professional growth, graduate faculty reviews and student retention. An enduring focus is expansion of competitive, extramurally-funded research in each college. These measures will predictably enhance the academic portfolio of the university and the strength of its faculty and programs and will durably foster enrollment of academically gifted students in the near term and future.

As I leave my administrative role, I remain passionate about the growth of top-shelf graduate programs and the growth of the graduate student population at our institution. I will closely follow progress in all of the areas described below. I know that Dr. Mokhtari will continue to enhance progress towards our aspirational goals related to expansion of the graduate student population and enable them to achieve their career goals. Our prospects are solid.

I invite you to read this report and reach out if you have questions or wish to learn more about or facilitate in our initiatives. We welcome your thoughts and feedback.

Dr. Steven Idell

This annual report provides an update on the accomplishments of the Graduate School during the 2022-2023 academic year. Looking back on this academic year, I want to express my thanks and appreciation to all the members of the Graduate School community. This includes graduate students who we serve and faculty and staff who dedicated countless hours to supporting their graduate training. I want to congratulate members of the Graduate School team who diligently address graduate student and program challenges.

GRADUATE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION MANAGEMENT MODEL

The Graduate School is overseen by Dr. Steve Idell, Senior Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School, and Dr. Kouider Mokhtari, Associate Vice President for Research and Associate Dean of the Graduate School. Three positions support the operations of the Graduate School.

As a result of the restructuring of the Graduate School during the 2022-2023 academic year, recruitment reverted to Enrollment Management, which occurred during summer and fall 2022. As of January 2023, the Graduate School transitioned into an integrated yet interdependent graduate student recruitment and retention management model, which provides greater collaboration with other UT Tyler academic campus units. Graduate School personnel have also changed, enabling the realignment of responsibilities. Graduate faculty and programmatic vetting remain top Graduate School priorities. The Graduate School's core areas of focus include graduate program integrity, graduate student retention and graduate student success.

THREE-MINUTE THESIS COMPETITION

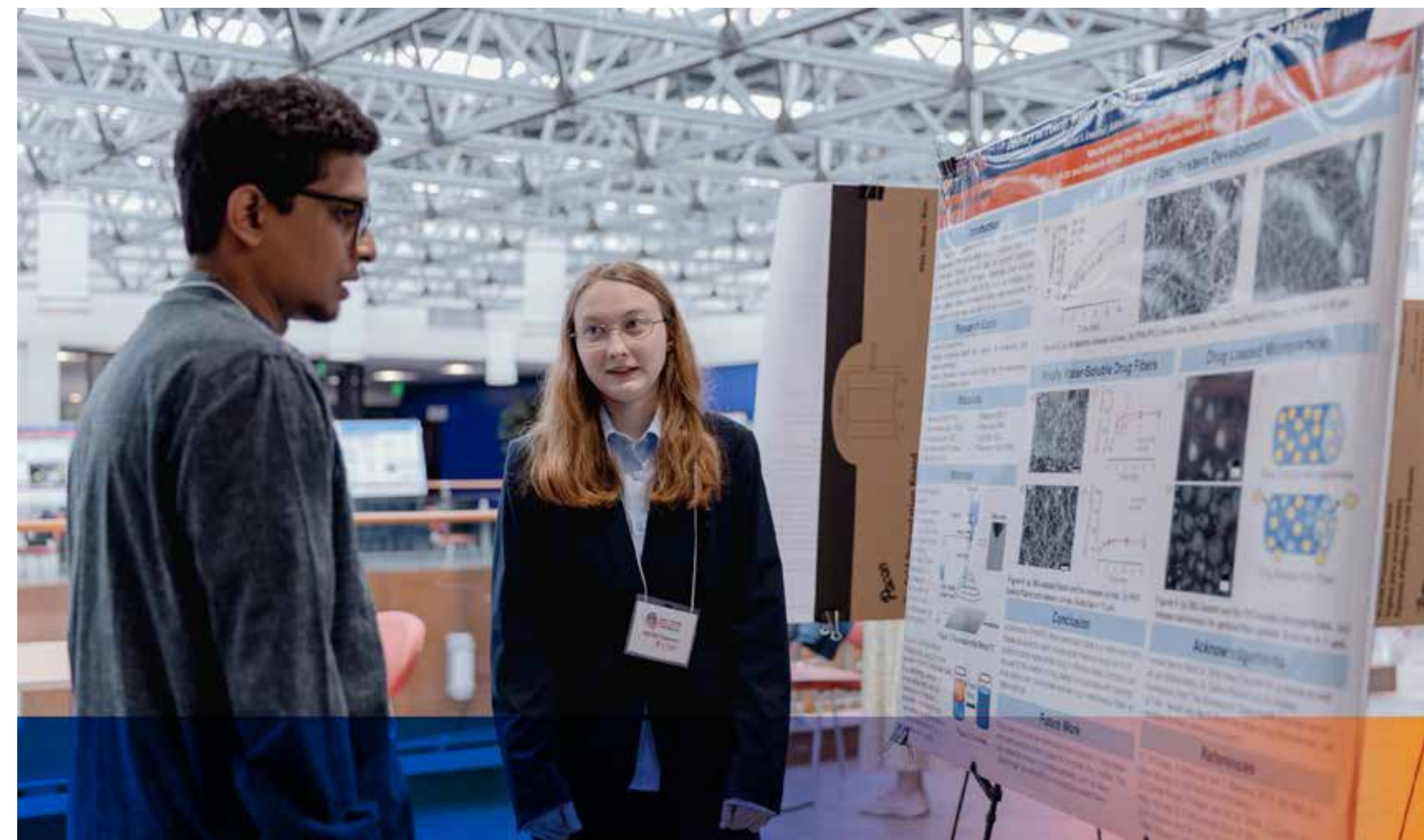
The Graduate School hosted the 2023 Three-Minute Thesis Competition (3MT) on April 4, 2023, on the main campus, and 64 graduate students from several colleges participated. The prize winners are described below.

PLACE	NAME	PRIZE	AREA OF STUDY	INSTITUTION
First	Sarah Glaesemann	\$2,000	Chemistry	UT Tyler
Second	Danish Ansari	\$1,000	Biotechnology	UT Tyler
Third	Giovanni Josue Cerrato	\$500	Mechanical Engineering	UT Tyler
Third	Ratri Mukherjee	\$500	Electrical Engineering	UT Tyler

EAST TEXAS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The ORSSP hosted the fourth East Texas Research Conference (ETRC) in spring 2023 on the UT Tyler main campus, showcasing the research and scholarship of UT Tyler faculty and students and others from academic institutions throughout East Texas and the local community. The conference featured a keynote address, oral presentations and poster presentations around the theme of "Innovate. Inform. Influence." Winners of the best poster research competition are described in the following table.

PLACE	NAMES	PRIZE	AREA OF STUDY	INSTITUTION
First	Louisa Wildman, John Macfarlane, Jeremy Horton, Rayford McCracken and George Ogutu	\$1,000	Biotechnology	Le Tourneau University
Second	Olivia Donnelly, Sarah Kushner, Emily Shea and Kayla Woodsworth	\$500	Biotechnology	Le Tourneau University
Third	Amro Zahrawi	\$250	Mechanical Engineering	UT Tyler



GRADUATE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL SUPPORTS 47 HIGH-QUALITY GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND CERTIFICATES

The University of Texas at Tyler is home to eight colleges and schools with 47 graduate degree programs and certificates that provide a path for graduate students to strengthen their skills and talents and achieve their career objectives.



STUDENTS SATISFIED WITH THEIR ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE AT UNIVERSITY

The 2022 Graduation Exit Survey results showed that 96 % of graduate students were extremely satisfied or satisfied with their overall experience at UT Tyler.

Overall Satisfaction with UT Tyler



FACULTY, STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE

The Muntz Library, Office of Research, Scholarship and Sponsored Programs and university colleges/schools help fund article processing charges for faculty, students and staff who publish in quality open-access journals. Now in its fifth year, the Open Access Funding Initiative provided \$38,000 to enable faculty to publish research manuscripts using open-access publishing.

FACULTY, STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PRODUCTS SHOWCASED VIA SCHOLAR WORKS

All theses, dissertations and event series (e.g., Graduate School/Lyceum) have 1,050 works with 49,256 downloads between Sept. 1, 2022, to now, from 186 countries. Between Sept. 1, 2022, and May 31, 2023, 42 theses and dissertations were posted on Scholar Works.

ONLINE ONBOARDING FOR STUDENTS

Active graduate students will have an opportunity to complete an online orientation via Canvas. During fall 2023, members of the Graduate School transfer current online modules from Canvas to Advantage Design, a recently acquired software that will provide students with a more engaging and effective onboarding experience. The Graduate Student Association has been created with expanded interactions planned for the coming academic year.

EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

One of the most common sources of funding for graduate students is graduate assistantships. Graduate teaching and research assistantships support the university's instructional and scholarly activities. The Graduate School works closely with the Office of Academic Affairs to make assistantship offers to eligible students engaged in research. These awards assist students in paying for their graduate education and provide exposure to high-quality research experiences mentored by outstanding faculty. In the 2022-2023 academic year, 90 graduate students working on theses and dissertations received graduate teaching assistantships to support instructional and scholarly activities. Research assistantships were also provided to graduate students during the past academic year.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

During fall 2022 and spring 2023, the Graduate School, in partnership with the Office of Research, Scholarship and Sponsored Programs, provided a series of professional development opportunities to enhance graduate education and research for faculty, staff and students. These opportunities include but are not limited to: research design and data analysis, human research protection, research compliance and funding opportunities. The Research Design and Data Analysis Lab offered 30 webinars, consulting services and a faculty writing retreat. Across all initiatives, the lab had about 400 hours of recordable engagement with UT Tyler constituents.

PEER MENTORING FOR STUDENTS AND FACULTY

During the 2022-2023 academic year, members of the Graduate School developed a peer-mentoring program in biotechnology. The program regularly advised mentees about navigating presentations, data assembly, and interpretation and thesis writing. The Graduate School team envisions expanding the mentoring program to other graduate programs across the university during AY 2023-2024.

ADVISING AND MENTORING

During the 2022-2023 academic year, members of the Graduate School collaborated with staff in the Soules College of Business to implement EAB Navigate, a student success management system. Navigate links administrators, advisors, deans, faculty, other staff and students in a coordinated online network designed to help schools and colleges proactively manage student success. The Graduate School envisions expanding the mentoring program to all graduate programs across the university during AY 2023-2024.



OFFICE OF
**RESEARCH,
 SCHOLARSHIP,
 & SPONSORED
 PROGRAMS**



A MESSAGE FROM THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
 DR. STEVEN IDELL

University research programs remained competitive. More than 90% of external funding for research awarded to UT Tyler is for projects conducted at the Health Science Center Campus, where the National Institutes of Health is the main sponsor. Focus areas include (1) lung injury and repair, (2) pulmonary infections and immunology and (3) innate immunity, including clotting. A fourth focus is clinical translational science, which is designed to rapidly introduce advances in medicine to the community. This is the central focus of a large NIH Clinical Translational Science Award (CTSA) received by HSC researchers with partners at UT Houston, MD Anderson, Rice, UT Rio Grande Valley and Texas Tech.

New collaborative research projects in stroke therapeutics, behavioral health (depression, bipolar disease and PTSD), targeted therapy for cancer, smoking cessation, and preventative measures for diabetes are planned or underway with the CTSA. UT Tyler's HSC researchers also conduct trials in pulmonary disease, building on an international reputation of expertise in mycobacterial

diseases, including TB. Research discoveries include a new medication for lung scarring and infections surrounding the lungs are being commercialized.

College of Engineering faculty are funded by NSF and other sources to develop sensor and robotics technology to increase agricultural yield, biosensors to detect and treat behavioral and neurologic diseases, and a project to define new targets to prevention cardiovascular disease have been developed. Better and more durable building and road materials are also under investigation.

Fisch College of Pharmacy investigators seek to identify new targets to improve dementia and behavioral health disorders. The School of Nursing is conducting informatics-related research. Projects in the School of Health Professions include exercise physiology and occupational health projects.

In the College of Education and Psychology, DOD-sponsored research is being conducted in memory and dementia, and a Department of Education-funded project is helping address the mental health needs of students in East Texas K-12 schools. In the Soules College of Business, artificial intelligence and machine learning are being explored to address cybersecurity challenges.

NSF-sponsored projects in the College of Arts and Sciences include archaeological fieldwork

in Belize and summer workshops in mathematical research. State grant funds support threatened and endangered species assessment projects and the development of an open-source textbook in philosophy. USDA funds support the development of a nationally scalable monitoring and assessment framework for wetlands. The Welch Foundation supports student research and the acquisition of equipment for research in the chemistry department.

Recruitment of outstanding faculty was supported by the introduction of generous start-up packages and the creation of mentorship teams to enhance research competitiveness across the university. For the first time, hiatus support was provided to Pharmacy faculty to maintain the competitiveness of current research programs.

As I leave my administrative role, I remain passionate about the growth of research and research experiences for students at our institution. I know Dr. Mokhtari will continue to enhance progress toward our aspirational goal of doubling our university research expenditures within the next five years. I invite you to read this report and reach out if you have questions or wish to learn more about our research initiatives. We welcome your thoughts and feedback.

Dr. Steven Idell

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

SPONSORED PROGRAMS

The Office of Research, Scholarship, and Sponsored Programs is overseen by Dr. Steve Idell, Senior Vice President for Research; Dr. Kouider Mokhtari, Associate Vice President for Research; and Panda Powell, Director. Staff provide expert guidance and support across the funding life cycle, including identifying sources of funding, assisting with proposal development, negotiating contracts, setting up and monitoring budgets and ensuring compliance with federal, state, and university regulations and policies.

SPONSOR	MAIN CAMPUS	HSC CAMPUS
National Institutes of Health	25	52
National Science Foundation	19	1
Other Agencies and Institutions of Higher Education	28	27
Private Non-Profit Foundations	30	9
Private For-Profit Organizations	4	2
Total	106	91

Number of proposals submitted to external sponsors through June in AY 2022-2023

MEASURE	MAIN CAMPUS	HSC CAMPUS
Active Awards	135	200
Research Expenditures	\$1,993,857	\$25,205,932

Number of active awards from external sponsors managed by the ORSSP offices and research expenditures through June for the main campus and through May for the HSC.

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE

Research compliance on the main and HSC campuses is overseen by Dr. Anna Kurdowska, Associate Vice President for Research Compliance and Research Compliance Officer. The biggest accomplishment for Research Compliance was the addition of the main campus to the HSC’s Animal Assurance. The IACUC reviewed 25 protocols and 117 amendments. The IBC reviewed 12 hazardous chemical protocols, two recombinant DNA protocols and six addenda. IORRC reviewed 10 infectious organism protocols and 12 addenda, and granted four protocol extensions and approved six new BSL3 users.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

The Institutional Review Board consists of three committees that serve the UT Tyler enterprise. Two committees at the Health Science Center review biomedical studies, and one committee at the main campus reviews social behavioral and academic studies. The IRB office is under the supervision of Lisa Bush, Director of the Human Research Protections Program. The IRB utilizes IRBManager, an online IRB management platform, to service the entire UT Tyler research enterprise by providing electronic submission forms, notifications and storage of key research documents. As of June 30, 2023, the IRB has cumulatively reviewed 133 new research protocols, 154 renewals and 307 modifications as well as closed out 143 studies. There are, on average, 625 active/ongoing research studies involving human subjects as participants that the IRB maintains

regulatory oversight on the main campus and the Health Science Center.

EAST TEXAS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The ORSSP hosted the fourth East Texas Research Conference in spring 2023 on the UT Tyler main campus, showcasing the research and scholarship of UT Tyler faculty and students and others from academic institutions throughout East Texas. The conference featured a keynote address, oral presentations and poster presentations around the theme of “Innovate. Inform. Influence.”

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

INTERNAL RESEARCH AWARDS

Fifteen applications were received for the AY 2023-2024 internal awards program, and seven were funded and set up to start in June. Funded projects involved joint research conducted by faculty from the main campus and the HSC. In total, approximately \$275,575 was awarded.

STARS AND RISING STARS AWARDS

The University of Texas System Board of Regents established the STARS (Science and Technology Acquisition and Retention) Program to help recruit and retain highly qualified research faculty at UT System institutions. During AY 2022-2023, we used our annual STARS funding allocation to supplement institutional resources to recruit and/or retain seven faculty members in the College of Engineering, the School of Medicine and the School of Nursing. Faculty selected for Rising STARS and STARS awards are expected to show evidence of accomplishment in research with demonstrated capacity for nationally competitive extramural research support and graduate student training.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT LEAVE

Out of six applications received for the AY 2023-2024 Faculty Development Leave Program, five were awarded.

FACULTY/STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Several professional development workshops were held during the fall and spring semesters to enhance faculty and student research and scholarship, including but not limited to finding opportunities, preparation and submission of grant proposals and research compliance. The Research Fellows Program supported a cohort of seven faculty members to develop concept papers for their research programs to build external funding proposals. The Research Design and Data Analysis Lab offered 30 webinars, consulting services and a faculty writing retreat. Across all initiatives, the lab had about 400 hours of recordable engagement with UT Tyler constituents.



OFFICE OF DIGITAL LEARNING



DIGITAL LEARNING & UT TYLER ONLINE ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS 2022-2023

1,336
Fully Online
Courses
Fall '22 and Spring '23

UT TYLER ONLINE

25 Graduate
Degrees



2 Undergraduate
Degrees

Enrolling approximately

2,000 students



This year, the learning systems support team provided support to the existing platforms and launched new services through the following activities:

FALL '22
84%
Course
utilization in
Canvas



SPRING '23
87%
Course
utilization in
Canvas



Digital Learning
Support Requests

6,000
1,097 24/7 Support tickets

12,768 Canvas Studio Videos Uploaded

13,951 Proctor U Exams Delivered

★ Implementations ★

35 Workshops Delivered

The Office of Digital Learning delivered 35 workshops including topics on course design, new Canvas features, academic integrity, cheating and student engagement.



Canvas Credentials

Implemented Canvas Credentials (formerly Badgr Pro) which will allow UT Tyler to offer customized badges and certificates.



Grade Pass-Back

A grade pass-back option was deployed in Peoplesoft allowing Canvas grades to be imported into the grade roster for both midterm and final grade reporting.



Canvas Catalog

Implemented Canvas Catalog platform which will support continuing education initiatives for the colleges.



Microcredential Initiative Launch

Helped launch microcredential initiatives from the STRADA Foundation / UT System and UT Tyler.



Online Course Revision Guide

An online course revision guide was launched to help guide conversations about updates or revisions instructors would like to make to their course.



Online Instructor Certification Course

A new online certification course was developed and launched this year, which is available to any faculty or staff member who would like to participate.

THE LIBRARIES



ROBERT R. MUNTZ LIBRARY

The university continues to invest in renovating the Robert R. Muntz Library. During the last year, all the air-handling equipment was replaced, and half of the third floor was transformed into a collaborative study space with new furniture and group study rooms. The library-grade modern furniture includes booths, individual study pods, a large S-shaped sofa, and various tables and chairs. PUF LERR funding (Permanent University Fund Library, Equipment, Repair and Rehabilitation) from the state of Texas provided for the renovations. What remains is to modernize the elevators, upgrade the stair railing and replace the flooring, with an anticipated completion date of early 2025.

The library is participating in a universitywide strategic initiative to reduce the cost of textbooks, making UT Tyler more affordable for students. Textbook costs continue to skyrocket, with an increase of more than 1,000% since 1977, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. To help address the problem, the library has been providing free access to electronic textbooks to students. Not all textbooks are available for library purchase, but if a title is available, especially with acceptable limits on simultaneous users, and reasonably priced, the library purchases the book electronically for all to use. This project began in fall 2020, and since then, the library has purchased 510 e-textbook titles for \$92,000. With the support of Academic Affairs, the library is also incentivizing the use of open educational resources by awarding grants to faculty members willing to adopt an OER for their classes. These are the library's most important initiatives as they make a college education more accessible to our students.

The Muntz Library continues to support open-access publishing, making it possible for more scholars and the general public to freely view, cite and share new knowledge from journal articles. With the support of Academic Affairs and the colleges' deans, the library conducts a program to pay the article processing charges for UT Tyler researchers. APCs represent an alternative financing model of journal publishing that circumvents the paywall.

Both the Muntz Library and the Wise Library are currently implementing the Open Athens authentication system, which will seamlessly direct all patrons to their respective libraries.

Two new librarians joined the Muntz Library in 2022-2023. Nick Bambach is the librarian for history and social sciences; Esmeralda Rodgers is the librarian for nursing and health sciences.

WATSON W. WISE MEDICAL RESEARCH LIBRARY

The Wise Library, located on the Health Science Center campus, welcomed the inaugural cohort of the UT Tyler School of Medicine in August. To support student learning and reduce expenses, the library provided free electronic access to 21 of the 38 assigned textbooks in addition to three print copies of all textbooks for the first-year program.

The library added new subscriptions to important scholarly biomedical journals this year, like Science Translational Medicine, Critical Care Medicine and Pediatric Critical Care Medicine. All of these are considered 'must-have' journals in their fields. Also acquired was the Bates Visual Guide, a streaming platform with eight hours of video content providing instruction on head-to-toe and systems-based physical examination techniques.

To spur the production of high-quality systematic and other advanced literature reviews by Health Science Center faculty and students, the library acquired a subscription to the Covidence systematic review management software. Covidence is a cloud-based system that shepherds review writers through the process and produces important documentation for reporting results in publication.

The Muntz and Wise Libraries are building collections, making physical improvements and devising new ways to better serve our developing clientele on all fronts. We look forward to continued excellence in services and innovation in the year to come.



ACADEMIC SUCCESS

& UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES



A MESSAGE FROM THE ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS & DEAN OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

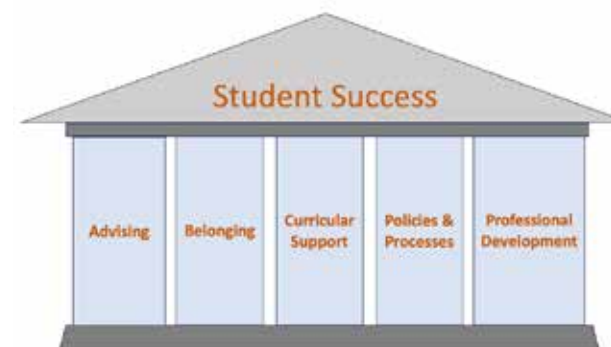
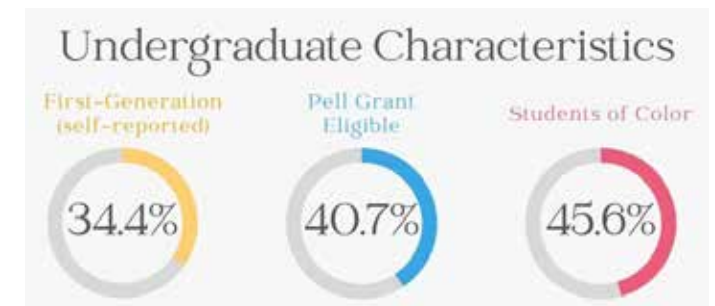
DR. COLLEEN SWAIN

As the Associate Provost for Academic Success and Dean of Undergraduate Studies, I am

honored and privileged to lead the dedicated staff and faculty members of Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies. This unit advances the academic success of UT Tyler's undergraduate students through our work with students, faculty and staff. Our work aligns with UT Tyler's Strategic Plan priorities to *enrich the student experience, elevate economic opportunity and social mobility in our students, and advance excellence in teaching, research and health care*. The student success work occurring in our unit is based on the following evidence-based research pillars.

Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies supports the general needs of the more than 7,000 undergraduate students and special populations, such as first-generation, who enrich the UT Tyler community. UT Tyler's fall 2022 undergraduate population's characteristics more closely represent the diversity in East Texas than ever before.

The following items highlight evidence-based strategies used by Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies to meet the general and specific needs of UT Tyler's students.



The unit looks forward to the upcoming year with a laser-like focus on retaining UT Tyler's undergraduate population.

Dr. Colleen Swain

HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURES

MONTHLY CHECKLISTS

Checklists assist students in learning and protect against some types of failure. We provide monthly checklists for incoming students and specialized materials for special populations like our First-Generation Students.

I'M FIRST

Supporting first-generation students is critical so they gain the cultural capital needed to be successful college students. We offer a First-Gen Monthly Checklist, provide a *College Lingo* Glossary, and teach the First-Generation Living and Learning Community seminar. This year, we helped students start a student-led organization, First Generation Patriots, with 93 members in its inaugural class.



First Generation Patriots Service Project

LONGVIEW UNIVERSITY CENTER

The Longview University Center is an Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies unit serving students in Gregg and surrounding counties. The LUC provides academic programming and resources for nursing and industrial technology students. One way the Longview University Center supports students is through the LUC Golf Tournament, which raises scholarship funds for LUC students who are also veterans.

Kick-Off College Successfully Week-by-Week

June-July 2023

- Make sure you've scheduled an advising appointment
- Make sure you've attended an orientation session
- Be sure to confirm your spot ([click here if you haven't done so](#))

8/7/23-8/11/23: Second-to-Last Week of Summer

- Make sure you've taken care of all holds on your account in MyUTTyler (or have emailed the appropriate staff)
- Go through the Canvas101 course (linked in the below checklist)
- Make sure to accept your registration agreement ([click here if you haven't done so](#))

8/14/23-8/18/23: Last Week of Summer

- Download and review ALL syllabi for all your courses in Canvas
- Set up payment for tuition, fees, refund preferences, etc. in MyUTTyler - deadline for payment is 8/28!
- Contact Technology Support if you are having issues accessing anything online or gaining access to your Patriot credentials/accounts ([click here for more info](#))

8/21/23-8/25/23: First Week of Class!

- Make sure to arrive to all classes at least five minutes early (at least 30

General Student Checklist

ADVISING

Our undergraduate advising community provides holistic advising, enabling current and prospective students to have a dedicated and compassionate advocate on their pathway to degree completion, and equips students to use various advising technologies to give them more ownership of their educational experience.



Advising Appointments

ACADEMIC ALERT SYSTEM

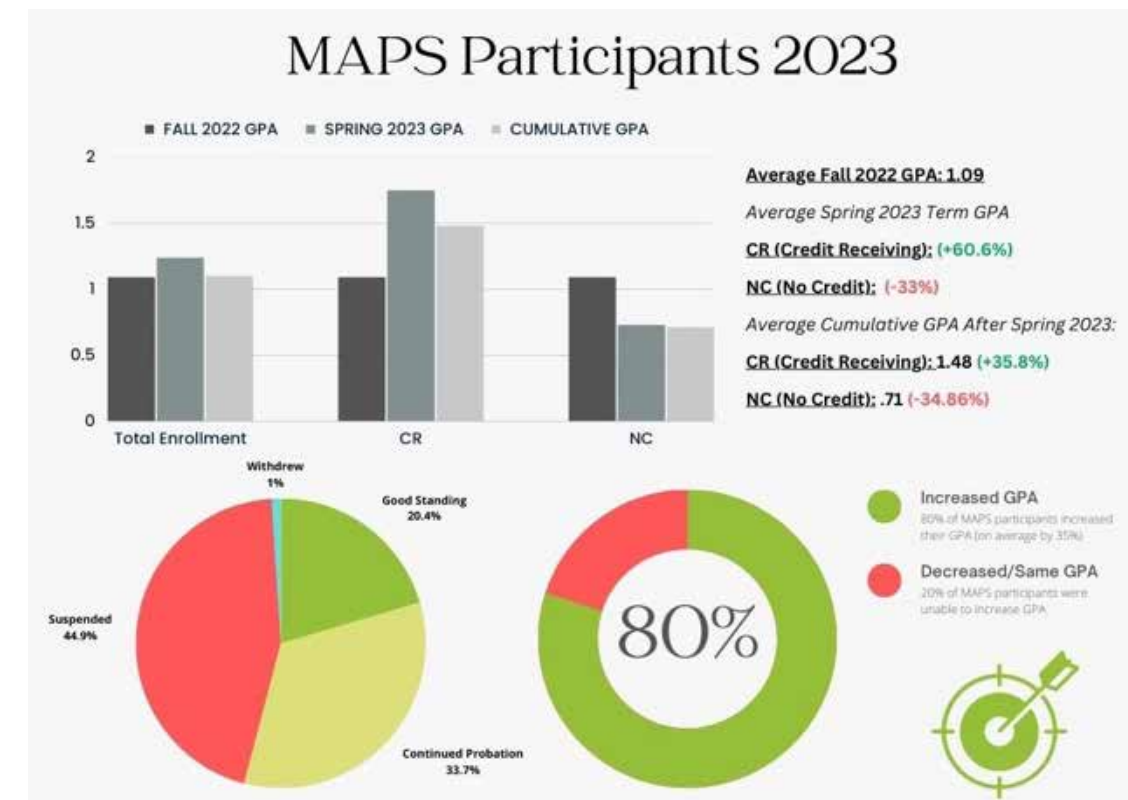
Alerts inform students of their progress in required coursework. The First Month Alert assists first-year or incoming transfer students in gauging their initial progress in courses, and the Midterm Alerts provides course feedback for all undergraduates. When a faculty member places an alert, advisors and Academic Success staff provide students with appropriate action steps for improvement.



Alert Systems Results

MENTORING AND ADVISING PATRIOTS FOR SUCCESS

The MAPS Program enables first-year students not in good academic standing after their first semester to build a growth mindset and learn student success strategies. Our MAPS programming is customized to get our first-year students back on track.



Spring 2023 MAPS Results



Fall 2022 Golf Tournament Team Winners

ACADEMIC COURSE SUPPORT

Because of the rigor of many undergraduate courses, academic support for courses with traditionally high grades of DFW is available. Academic course support occurs through programming in the PASS Tutoring Center, Supplemental Instruction sessions and Upswing. The evidence indicates that students using these resources are more successful than those who do not.

Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 Academic Support Results



TRANSFER STRATEGIES

Transfer students are important members of the UT Tyler undergraduate community. Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies collaborates with Texas community college colleagues to establish articulation agreements and design curricular pathways enabling community college students to matriculate to UT Tyler with minimal credits lost from their community college experience.

The Longview University Center actively partners with Kilgore College. This past year, UT Tyler signed an articulation agreement with Kilgore College, and the faculty created major-based transfer pathways from Kilgore College to UT Tyler. As part of the articulation agreement, Kilgore College students may take some of Kilgore College's required curricula at the Longview University Center and then seamlessly transition to full-time studies at the Longview University Center to complete their degree.



UT Tyler and Longview University Center Articulation Agreement Signing Ceremony

MINI-HIGHLIGHTS & BRIEFS

FACULTY AND STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies also supports our faculty and instructional staff through the work of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and the Association of College and University Educators courses. The CETL offers a wide variety of learning opportunities, with more faculty who previously did not use the CETL participating than ever before. UT Tyler had 28 faculty complete a rigorous, year-long course on *Effective College Teaching Practices*, which enabled them to earn an ACUE pin, an Effective Teaching certificate, which the American Council of Education recognizes, and four digital badges. We had two additional faculty members earn at least one digital badge.

CURRICULAR ANALYTICS

Undergraduate Studies partners with academic departments to ensure degree programs are of the highest quality. Curricular analytics tools enable faculty and administrators to consider how their majors progress through the degree. This visual tool also highlights courses with high centrality, blocking and delay factors, the length of prerequisite pathways and the scaffolding/building of knowledge within the degree plan.

NEW LEADERS IN ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

This past year, Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies welcomed two new Academic Success and Undergraduate Studies leaders. Dr. Danielle Bailey is an Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Director of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Dr. Rodney Ellis serves as the Director of the Longview University Center. Drs. Bailey and Ellis are already significantly impacting the effectiveness and efficiency of their areas.



CETL Professional Development Offerings for fall 2022 and spring 2023 and ACUE Pinning Ceremony



Dr. Danielle Bailey



Dr. Rodney Ellis

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT



INTRODUCTION

The 2022-2023 academic year was another record-breaking year for the Division of Enrollment Management. We have continued our synergies of improved student service and strategic enrollment initiatives to better support our constituents and foster enrollment growth. Through outreach to the community, we were able to build stronger relationships with our East Texas high school community and higher education partners. Through our efforts, The University of Texas at Tyler is becoming a first-choice, four-year university for our local high school and transfer students.

of new freshmen ranked in the top 10% of their high school class.

We continued our partnership with our local high schools with our College Readiness Program for the second full year. We expanded our partners from 10 to 24 high schools, providing College Readiness Coaches once a week in the high schools to assist students in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, applications for college admissions and scholarship applications. These hands-on partnerships to assist our local high schools in ensuring their students successfully transition to college have been extremely well received by our partners and continue to foster greater awareness and affinity for UT Tyler in our East Texas community.

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

For fall 2022, we set new records in freshman recruitment. We had the highest number of First Time in College (FTIC) freshmen, breaking records in applications, admitted students, confirmations and enrolled students for the third consecutive year. We also had record diversity in our freshman class with more than 50% students of color for the second year in a row. Academic student quality also continued to increase with our highest number

Admissions established an admission officer position located at the Houston HCC campus. This is strategic for us to develop the Houston market and bolster our community college transfer population from the area. While this was implemented in spring 2023, we are already seeing market penetration and applicant yield from the area.



GRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT



In December 2022, we welcomed Graduate Admissions and Recruitment under the umbrella of Enrollment Management. Our staff hit the ground running, and we were able to come from behind and reach a positive increase in new graduate students in spring 2023. We have added dedicated staff for graduate recruitment. Our staff have partnered with graduate programs to develop new recruitment sites that highlight programs in both virtual and online events to share more information regarding the programs to prospective students as well as generate leads for student recruitment.

Graduate Admissions implemented the Patriot Admit program for participating graduate programs for students starting in fall 2023. Our undergraduate students and alumni are responding to the opportunity, and we are seeing an increase in new students in the graduate programs for fall 2023.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS



The Office of Student Financial Aid was remarkably successful in improving student service and awarding for 2022-2023. Financial Aid was able to start awarding students aid in February for the upcoming fall 2022-2023 academic year. This was the earliest students had been awarded in UT Tyler institutional history. Awarding students earlier in the process is a key strategy for applicant yield, as students who know what their aid package is are more likely to confirm attendance and yield as an enrolled student. This was a big accomplishment, and it took an operational shift to make it happen. Because students were packaged earlier and able to complete their enrollment and registration process, we were able to measure at the Enrollment Service Center (One-Stop Shop) that more than 1,000 fewer students, from the previous year, needed assistance with financial aid at the start of the term. One thousand less students had to wait in line because Financial Aid was proactively assisting them in the onboarding process.

There were several positive changes in scholarships for the 2022-2023 academic year. Through the generous \$1 million gift from UT System, we were able to expand the Patriot Promise Program to include transfer students for the first time. The Honors Scholars Program was developed to increase the Honors Program by 25 students, with scholarships covering full tuition and mandatory fees. The Office of Student Financial Aid and Scholarships was able to utilize the application tool, Blackbaud, to consolidate endowment scholarships so students could complete one application and be matched to any of the 376 endowments they may qualify for. Through promotion of the application, we were able to more than double the applications from the previous year, and every qualified applicant was able to receive an endowment award.

REGISTRAR

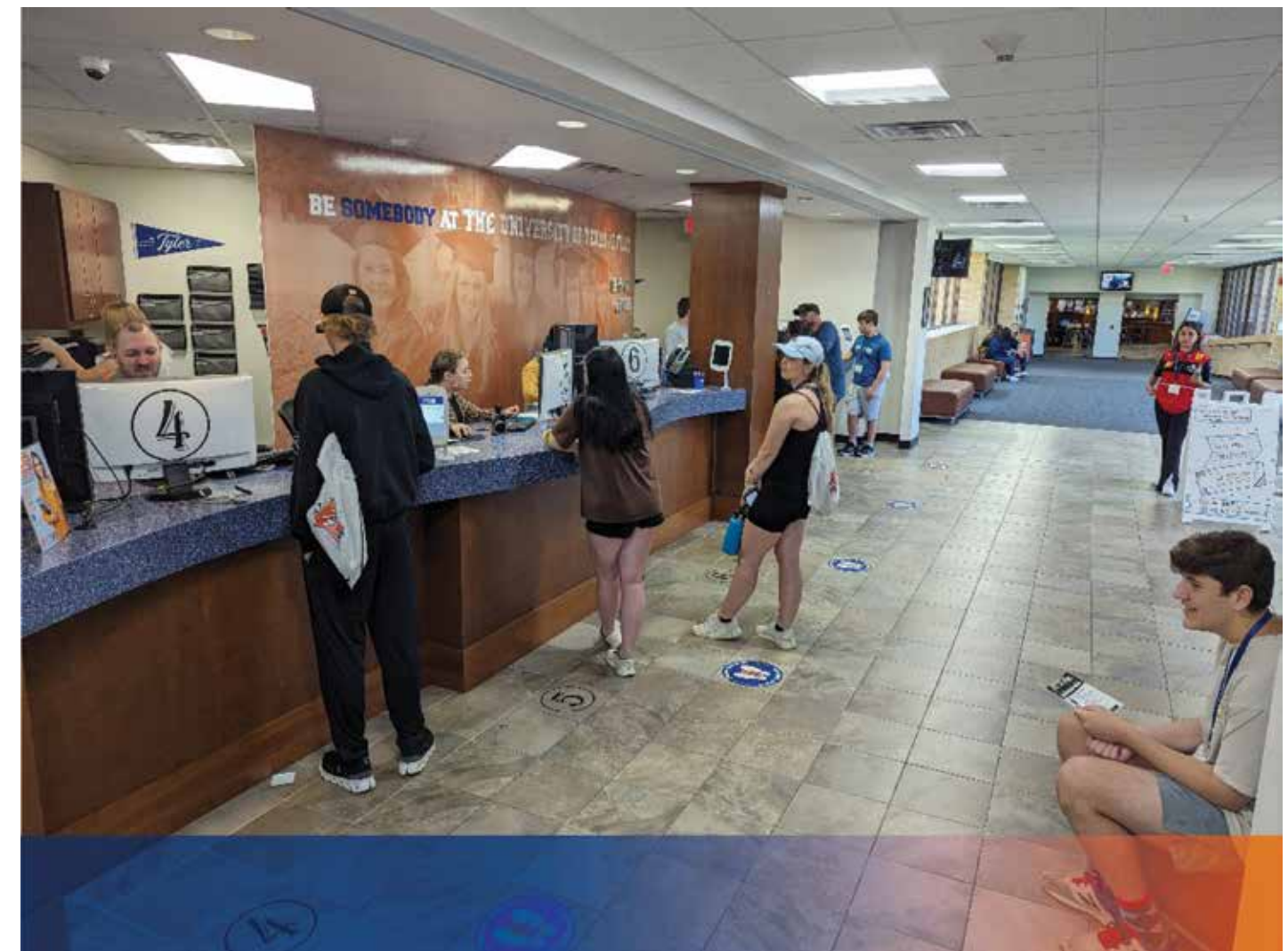
In 2022-2023, we welcomed Dr. Troy White as the new Registrar for UT Tyler. Dr. White was the former Registrar at East Texas Baptist University and has 13 years of higher education experience. The office spearheaded new transcript evaluation training for Academic Advisors. The Registrar also focused on optimizing Ad Astra and its usage in the university colleges for class scheduling.



Dr. Troy White
Registrar

ENROLLMENT SERVICE CENTER

The Enrollment Service Center did an excellent job optimizing student service. TSI programming and reviews managed more than 4,800 student and staff requests and still maintained a 24-hour turnaround throughout the busy summer period. The ESC established a new and improved “Drop Portal” that facilitates greater transparency and tracking in the process as well as timely withdrawal processing. The ESC also launched standardized training videos and resources collection for staff and faculty. The ESC is now partnering to assist with onboarding new advisors and faculty through orientation.



ASSESSMENT & INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

OFFICE



ASSESSMENT

NUVENTIVE ANALYTICS

The migration from Nuventive Improve (formerly TracDat) to the new cloud-based platform, Nuventive Analytics, began during summer 2022 and continued into the fall semester. Staff conducted training sessions and recorded a series of short user tutorials on Nuventive Analytics. Feedback from users was positive regarding the professional development and the new system. The user tutorials are available on the AIE website. AIE staff are consistently working with the Nuventive team to continue modifications and updates. AIE staff are currently working with unit administrators to update and align the assessment outcomes with the new strategic plan, *Together as One*.

GRADUATION EXIT SURVEY

The I.E. Advisory Committee's charge for the 2022-2023 AY was to recommend updates for the UT Tyler graduation exit surveys. The committee convened in the fall semester to review the survey items. Committee members were assigned survey sections to review with colleagues to ensure survey items result in meaningful and actionable information for continuous improvement planning. AIE office staff continue to collaborate with committee leads to complete initial recommendations in summer 2024. SGA senators volunteered to pilot the draft surveys in fall 2023 for final edits. The revised surveys will launch in January 2024 for students who apply for graduation in 2024-2025.

ACCREDITATION SUPPORT

DECENNIAL REAFFIRMATION

The AIE Office staff facilitated a successful SACSCOC reaffirmation for UT Tyler. The Board of Trustees approved the reaffirmation on December 6, 2022. The next SACSCOC reaffirmation is scheduled for 2031, and a Fifth Year Interim Report (FYIR) is scheduled for 2027.

The University of Texas at Tyler is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees. UT Tyler also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of UT Texas at Tyler may be directed in writing to the Southern



Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500; or by using information available on SACSCOC’s website, sacsoc.org.

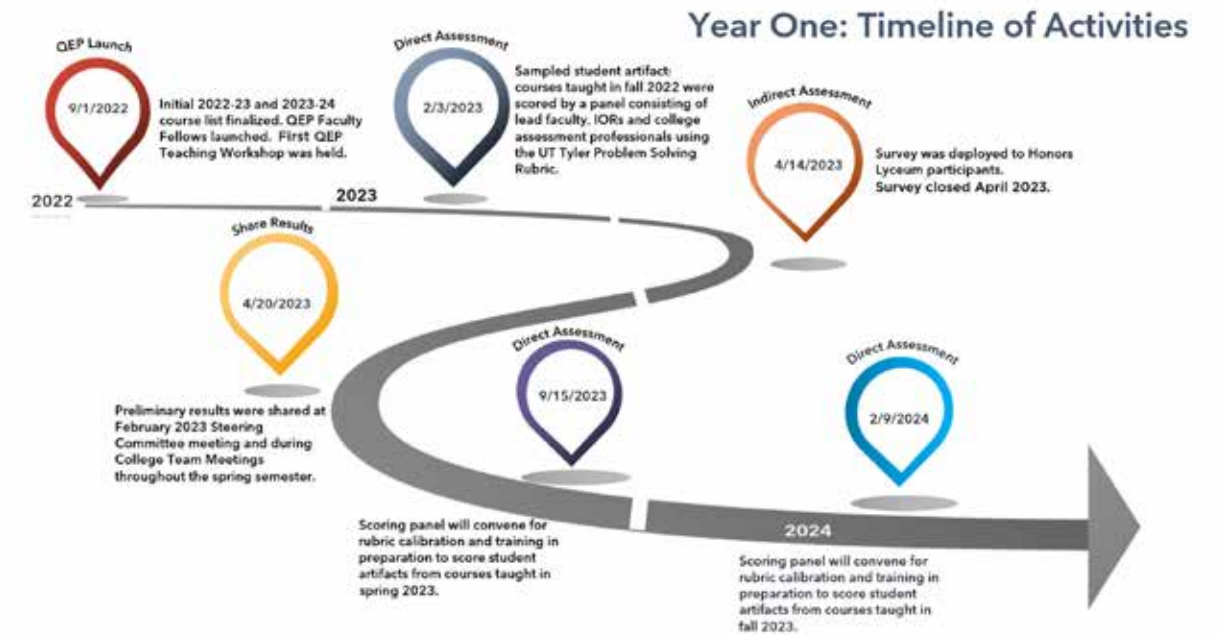
THE UT TYLER QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN: REAL-WORLD PROBLEM SOLVING

As part of the decennial reaffirmation, UT Tyler identified a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) focused on real-world problem solving in support of the UT Tyler mission and strategic plan. The QEP is focused on undergraduate programs, capitalizing on existing resources and strengths to develop students’ real-world problem-solving skills and prepare them for success beyond our institution. To prepare for the QEP launch in fall 2022, QEP college and school teams, comprised of QEP faculty, students, career success coaches and librarians, promoted QEP awareness and participation in the QEP. A QEP student advisory committee was formed to advise on QEP initiatives.

Faculty identified 10 undergraduate courses across six colleges and schools: the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Psychology, the College of Engineering, the School of Health Professions, the School of Nursing and the Soules College of Business. Fall enrollment in QEP courses was 292, and spring enrollment was 393, for a total of 685 students impacted in Year One.

In addition to QEP courses, two faculty development initiatives were launched during Year One. The first QEP Teaching Workshop was held in September 2022, featuring Dr. Ashley Finley, Vice President of Research and Senior Advisor to the President, from the American Association of Colleges and Universities. The workshop, titled *Wicked Problem Solving: A Distinctive Learning Approach for Student Success In and Beyond the Classroom*, examined the cross-disciplinary skills that students need to address “wicked problems” and practical strategies for faculty to link wicked problem solving with classroom practices and assessment.

The QEP Teaching Workshop coincided with the launch of the QEP Faculty Fellows Cohort, which is comprised of QEP course instructors-of-record, whose purpose is to support the incorporation of real-world, problem-solving learning strategies and curricular redesign across UT Tyler. QEP Faculty Fellows gathered regularly throughout the fall and spring semesters to explore and share real-world, problem-solving teaching strategies, expand and diversify pedagogy, and enhance curriculum in support of the QEP.



Planned QEP initiatives for 2023-2024 include revisions to the *Real-World Problem Solving* assessment rubric and process, opportunities for Lyceum participants to present a QEP-aligned project, QEP Signature assignment development training offered through the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and the Office of Digital Learning, expansion of the QEP Faculty Fellows Cohort from a one-year to a two-year term, and development of a UT Tyler QEP signature assignment repository.

UT Tyler
The University of Tennessee at Tyler
QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN

TEACHING WORKSHOP WITH
DR. ASHLEY FINLEY
VICE PRESIDENT OF RESEARCH AND SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT, AACU

WICKED PROBLEM-SOLVING: A DISTINCTIVE LEARNING APPROACH FOR STUDENT SUCCESS IN AND BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

SEPT. 30
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
UC BALLROOM; ZOOM AVAILABLE

RSVP TODAY

QR Code

kat@uttyler.edu
www.uttyler.edu/qepp

The capacities and dispositions needed to tackle problems, both known and unknown, are at the root of the concept of “wicked problems.” This workshop will unpack “wicked problems” to examine how an emphasis on cross-disciplinary skills and core practices can promote:

- **Equity and inquiry** across application and discovery.
- **Practical strategies** that authentically link wicked problem-solving with classroom practices and assessment.
- **Actionable learning outcomes** that foster student engagement.



UTTyler
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT TYLER

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