



COE NEWS

A Publication of the College of Education at Texas State University

Recognizing Tomorrow's Professionals: Awards Day Celebration, Luncheon

The College of Education hosted its fourth annual Scholarship Donor Appreciation Luncheon on Sunday, April 12 in conjunction with its Scholarship Award Ceremony held during the Department of Curriculum and Instruction's Awards Day Celebration.

Donors from both in and out of state came to celebrate the scholarship recipients for their hard work and dedication to excellence in their fields. Dean Stan Carpenter highlighted the extraordinary work the College of Education is continuing to achieve, once again proving that investing in the College of Education is investing in the rising stars of Texas (and the world).



Following the luncheon was the awards ceremony, which recognized the scholarship recipients as well as officers from the department's student organizations, including the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI), the Bilingual Education Student Organization (BESO), and the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

Attendees of the awards ceremony were given an extra honor, playing witnesses to the first Kappa Delta Pi marriage proposal! Congratulations to the happy couple and to the 39 deserving students who were awarded a scholarship for the 2015-2016 school year!

We would like to thank Dr. Virginia Resta, the scholarship committee, and the dean's office for coordinating this lovely event. Most importantly, we'd like to thank our donors for their support. We appreciate those who were able to join us at the luncheon and know that everyone's spirit was in attendance. Your generosity helps the College of Education continue to enroll the best and the brightest, ensuring exceptional educators for the next generation. Together, we can continue to enhance human potential for all!

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in evidence-based practice, scholarship, and teaching

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in public and professional communities

2015-2016 COE Scholarships

- A+ Federal Credit Union Scholarship
- Anita Ogden Byington Memorial Scholarship
- Athletic Trainers Endowed Scholarship
- David F. Votaw Endowment
- Dorothy Boyd Memorial Endowment
- Ed and Linda Burkhardt Endowment Scholarship
- Emmett L. and Caroly Korff Education Scholarship
- Empress Y. Zedler Endowment
- Fred C. and Allene Preuss Willard Scholarship
- Hazel McCanne Endowment
- Henrietta H. Avent Endowment
- J. Lloyd Rogers Family Scholarship**
- Jessie Helen Haag**
- Johnston-Wendler Scholarship**
- Joyce Barrett Reasoner Endowed Scholarship
- Julia Victor and Leslie Carlisle McDonald Endowment
- Kathryn E. Motheral Endowment
- Liekovsky Scholarship**
- Martin Juel Endowment
- Mary Jane Hamilton Memorial Presidential Endowment**
- Mary Pavlu Gillar Scholarship
- Michael L. Abbott Graduate Scholarship in Education Administration
- Nell and Dexter Hoover Endowed Scholarship in Education**
- Raymond Cavness President's Endowed Scholarship
- Roena Hughson Memorial Scholarship
- Tague-Vaughn Endowed Scholarship for Recreation
- William M. Bechtol Graduate Fellowship for Teaching
- William T. Tilton

** More than one awardee

From the Dean's Desk

Friends,

Yet another semester has come and gone, and we are extremely proud of the growth and accomplishments the College of Education has to share. From our outstanding students to our accomplished faculty and staff, we continue to demonstrate the excellence we produce at the College of Education.

Take a dive and discover who joined the Bobcat family, what events are coming up, who received national and local recognition, how we are staying relevant to the needs of the people we serve, and how we are staying engaged in our community.

We welcome your suggestions and comments as you read what's in our newsletter this time and, indeed, at any time.

Best,
Stan Carpenter, Dean
College of Education



Welcome: New College Of Education Staff!

Jason Arredondo
Stores Clerk I
Health & Human Performance

Dr. Laura Cano Amaya Rodriguez
Program Coordinator
LBJ Institute

Cynthia De La Cruz
Outreach Coordinator
Dean's Office

Edgar Gomez
Grant Specialist-System Analyst
LBJ Institute

Dr. Judy Loreda
MSI TEN Faculty Coordinator
LBJ Institute

Elaine Webb
Administrative Assistant III
CLAS *Start date: May 4th

**LBJ Institute for STEM
Education and Research,
Education Specialists:**
Barbara Buckner
Armstrong Flight Research Center

Maria Chambers
Ames Research Center

Marile Colon Robles
Langley Research Center

Stephen Culivan
Stennis Space Center

Brandon Hargis
Johnson Space Center

Kelly Hartford
Goddard Space Flight Center

Sandra Kaszynski
Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Susan LaBarre-Koehler
Glenn Research Center

Dr. Lester Morales
Kennedy Space Center

John Weis
Marshall Space Flight Center

Promotions

Shaunna Martin
Admin. Asst. II >> Academic Advisor I
Advising Center

Upcoming Events:

★ **Health & Human Performance's Brennan & Smith Lectures present:** Dr. Brian Hainline, Medical Director of the Sports Science Institute for the NCAA "Mind, Body and Sport: An Update on Collegiate Athletic Health and Safety" *Monday, April 27, 7 p.m. Alkek Teaching Theater (Alkek 250)*
*Free; open to public

★ **Commencement: C&I, CLAS**
Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m.
Strahan Coliseum

★ **Commencement: HHP**
Saturday, May 16, 2 p.m.
Strahan Coliseum

General News

Announcing 2014-2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Awards Recipients

The College of Education is proud to announce the 2015 Outstanding Graduate Student Awardees at the master's and doctoral levels: Ms. Stephanie Kneedler and Ms. Sydney Granger, respectively. They were presented with their awards during Graduate Student Appreciation Week at the Graduate College Awards Ceremony on Friday, April 10. ★



Stephanie Kneedler, School Psychology

What does it mean to receive this recognition?

It is an exceptional honor to be recognized by the college as the outstanding master's level graduate student. As a first-generation college student, I treasure this award not only personally but in the larger context of everyone who has challenged adversity to achieve their educational dream. I share in this recognition with all graduate students who have worked so hard to actualize their goals.

What have you enjoyed the most from your time at the College of Education?

I spent three years in the College of Education. I enjoyed working with the outstanding School Psychology program faculty. I give many thanks to program faculty Dr. Jon Lasser, Dr. Laurie Klose, Dr. Paul Jantz, Dr. Cynthia Plotts and Dr.

Desiree Vega for their guidance throughout the program. To learn from such intelligent and passionate people has been an honor and has shaped my goals for the future to pursue my education in school psychology further.

What does it mean to receive this recognition?

I am beside myself to not only be nominated, but also awarded the Outstanding Graduate Student Award at the doctoral level. My research interests center on policy, and in a doctoral program housed in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, my interests make me a little off-centered. For example, when working together on research projects, I have had many faculty members tell me, "I don't quite understand this policy stuff, but I will help you the best I can." Needless to say, having different research interests than my faculty members has been very challenging at times. The support and recognition of my faculty, the College of Education, and The Graduate College in the form of this award is the ultimate compliment because it tells me my research interests and professional goals are valid and legitimate, and, most importantly, the work I do is valuable, albeit different.



Sydney Granger, Developmental Education

What have you enjoyed the most from your time at the College of Education?

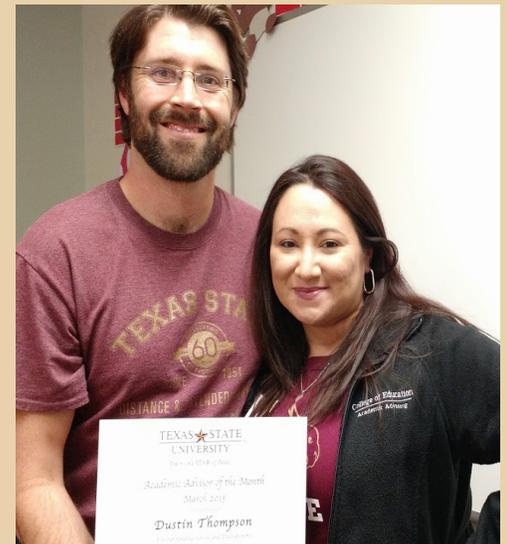
Being a part of the College of Education has been a wonderful and rewarding experience. The faculty, staff, and students in our college are so compassionate and enthusiastic to see everyone succeed more than anything. I felt supported and encouraged by everyone — and I do mean everyone. After completing an out-of-state internship last summer, Dr. Werner asked me to come by her office to tell her all about my experience. I saw Dr. Carpenter at a conference, and he asked thoughtful and meaningful questions about my dissertation and my plans after graduation. Judy Herington, our program's administrative assistant, won't let me leave her desk without first offering words of encouragement that usually start with, "You know what's special about you--." Most memorable, my dissertation defense was standing room only because so many classmates and faculty came to support me. I honestly can't imagine completing something as challenging as a Ph.D. in any other college.

Back-to-Back Recognition for Advising Team

Academic Advisor I Naomi Wilson was selected as the Texas State Advisor of the Month for February 2015. Following Naomi's recognition was Academic Advisor I Dustin Thompson's selection as the Texas State Advisor of the Month for March 2015.

The Advisor of the Month nomination pool consists of advisors from every college across campus. We are so proud to have such strong advisors working with our students.

Congratulations to you both and to our amazing College of Education Advising Team! ★



Dustin Thompson, March 2015 Advisor of the Month, with Naomi Wilson, February 2015 Advisor of the Month

Sydney also won first place in Texas State's 3MT (3 Minute Thesis) competition held by The Graduate College!

Excellent

Dr. Stewart named to Fulbright Specialist Program



Dr. Trae Stewart, associate professor, was selected for the Fulbright Specialist Program roster. The program coordinated by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) and the Institute of International Education's Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), hosts opportunities for international collaboration to further the development of curriculum and faculty, institutional planning and a variety of other activities.

"To be selected for the roster of specialists is quite humbling and a much appreciated recognition of my work by respected peers," Stewart said. "I look forward to exceeding CIES' expectations as I represent Texas State University and the United States in collaborative projects on education and community development."

The Fulbright Specialist Program promotes linkages between U.S. scholars and professionals and their counterparts at host institutions overseas. The program awards grants to qualified U.S. faculty and professionals in select disciplines to engage in collaborative two- to six-week projects at eligible institutions in more than 140 countries worldwide.

"Dr. Stewart's recognition brings great credit to the College of Education and the university, but more importantly indicates our engagement with the international community," said Stan Carpenter, dean of the College of Education. "When we give more, we learn more and that helps our students and our state."

Stewart specializes in service-learning and community engagement, international education, teacher education, instructional and civic leadership, and youth psychosocial development. He has consulted all over the world on these topics, including New Zealand, Afghanistan, Palestine, Australia, the United Arab Emirates, and Ireland. ★

Dr. Dickinson named Fulbright Scholar



Associate Professor Gail Dickinson has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to lecture and do research at the Royal University of Phnom Penh in Cambodia during the 2015-2016 academic year, the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board announced recently.

For Dickinson, this grant is more than a personal accomplishment; it is an opportunity for creating change internationally. "The educational system [in Cambodia] is at a unique stage because there is intense pressure on the government to end corruption, and one of the easiest areas to do that is the educational system," Dickinson said. "The new minister of education is working closely with the Royal University of Phnom Penh to introduce effective teaching methods and higher standards to the nation's teachers and professors. I will have the opportunity to influence science instruction at a national level."

Dickinson received her Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin. Her research focuses on project-based instruction, simulations and technology in science concept attainment and problem solving, and factors affecting science teacher recruitment and retention. ★



...in evidence-based practice, scholarship, and teaching.

Texas State Journal Editors Receive Award for *English in Texas*

The National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) awarded the affiliate journal of the Texas Council of Teachers of English Language Arts, *English in Texas*, an Honorable Mention in the 2014 National Affiliate Journal Awards competition. *English in Texas* is led by the editorial team of Gwynne Ellen Ash, Lori Assaf, Carol Delaney, and Jane Saunders, of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Texas State University, and Valerie Taylor of Westlake High School in the Eanes Independent School District. According to NCTE, “The purpose of the award is to honor exceptional affiliate journals and their editors and to encourage high quality in publications.”

Journals are evaluated by a panel of judges analyzing evidence of research and scholarly exploration, variety of content, effective writing, professional graphics, and appeal to different levels of instruction. Each year, one affiliate journal is awarded the highest honor, and two journals receive honorable mentions. This honor was presented at the November 2014 NCTE convention, and all five editors of *English in Texas* were present to receive the award.

English in Texas is a peer-reviewed journal that focuses on scholarly and pedagogical articles related to English Language Arts. In addition to scholarly articles, the journal includes regular columns on new media, educational epiphanies, exceeding the standards, book reviews, and student writing and art. Themed issues are published biannually.

For more information, visit: tctela.org/english-in-texas. ★



(From left to right): Gwynne Ellen Ash, Jane Saunders, Carol Delaney, Valerie Taylor, and Lori Assaf accepting their NCTE Affiliate Journal Award

Dr. Vega named AAHHE 2015 Faculty Fellow

The American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) is committed to addressing pipeline issues in higher education, specifically, the underrepresentation of Hispanics in higher education and administration. The AAHHE Faculty Fellows program provides tenure-track faculty with the opportunity to attend AAHHE's national conference. There, the Faculty Fellows are introduced to a network of Hispanic faculty and administrators from across the nation and are provided mentorship to help them navigate the complexities of academia. The program honors tenure-track faculty that demonstrate the ability to contribute to a defined area of scholarship and contribute to the enhancement of Latinas/os in higher education. ★

“It was an honor to be selected as a 2015 AAHHE Faculty Fellow and participate in the 10th annual AAHHE national conference. Throughout the four days of the Faculty Fellows program, myself and seven other faculty fellows selected from across the nation engaged in various activities related to professional and personal growth. I met with senior faculty and administrators, served as a mentor to a Graduate Fellow, presented my research, and engaged in critical dialogue related to successfully gaining tenure. The experience allowed me the opportunity to build a national network of colleagues and receive ongoing mentorship. I am humbled to have received recognition as a Faculty Fellow!” — **Dr. Desiree Vega**



Relevant

Dr. Murray et al. Recognized as Champions Awards Recipients



On February 24, 2015, Dr. Tinker Murray attended and presented an abstract at the National Physical Activity Plan Congress in Washington, D.C., that highlighted the Seguin ISD School Health Advisory Council, which was one of three programs nationally recognized as Champions at the conference.

After just four years, the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP) is having a positive impact around the nation. For the first time, individuals and organizations were recognized for their exceptional efforts in implementing the plan and setting a standard for achievement. The new Champions Awards shined a national spotlight on those who are making a significant commitment to adopting Plan strategies and showing progress toward

improving physical activity for their target audience.

The Seguin ISD School Health Advisory Council was initially designed after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Coordinated School Health model with a primary emphasis on promoting physical activity to students, faculty/staff, and the community. The model now primarily focuses on utilizing and implementing strategies and tactics within the education sector of NPAP and has achieved a number of outcomes, including campus walking trails for nine schools constructed with improved connectivity/access to city parks, improved FITNESSGRAM scores, named best District Student Health Advisory Council in Texas, and a bond election that resulted in \$88.3 million of funding for new school and community improvements based on council recommendations.

Congratulations to Dr. Murray, the Seguin ISD School Health Advisory Council and the Health and Human Performance Department! ★

National Physical Activity Plan Congress

February 23-24, 2015
Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center,
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C.



PROGRAM



www.npapcongress2015.org

Poster Title:

The Seguin ISD School Health Advisory Council - An Evolving Model for the Promotion of School and Community Physical Activity

Authors:

Tinker D. Murray, Texas State University

*Pete Silvius, Seguin Independent School District

*Erik Silvius, HEB Foundation

Dane Boyle, Guadalupe Regional Medical Center and Resolute Health Hospital

Dot Whitman, Seguin Independent School District

Mary Squires, Metro Elementary School of Design

**William G. Squires, Texas Lutheran University

**Former master's students in Recreation*

***Distinguished Alumnus of Texas State University*



...to the needs of the people we serve.

TEI Receives Half-Million Grant to Address State, Regional Needs

The Education Institute (TEI) has been awarded a \$500,000 grant to coordinate a statewide professional development system for Texas Developmental Education professionals from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB).

The purpose of the Texas Success Initiative Professional Development Program (PD Program) is to coordinate a statewide professional development system for developmental educators at Texas public institutions of higher education with an emphasis in the areas of advising and placement, non-traditional instructional models and career pathway models serving students in Developmental Education.



The professional development system is to be research-based and address state and regional needs. TEI will work with THECB and regional leaders and the doctoral program in Developmental Education to conduct a needs assessment, establish an advisory committee, identify subject-matter experts for development of professional development content, procure existing online professional development content and convert new topics to hybrid and online formats, and create the framework that will guide the training content and delivery. In addition, TEI will develop and maintain the statewide web-based resource site.

Dr. Emily Miller Payne is the principal investigator and Mary Helen Martinez will serve as grant director. ★

Texas State: Totally into Wellness

The Texas State Employee Wellness Pilot Program has proven successful with more than 500 Texas State employees registering as members. Ms. Carolyn Clay and Dr. Lisa Lloyd in the Department of Health and Human Performance partnered with faculty and staff from many key areas including the Office of Human Resources, the Student Recreation Center, the Division of Nutrition and Foods, and the Department of Physical Therapy, to help Texas State employees make their health a priority.



During this 15-week pilot program (January 12 through May 3), members have been able to participate in open swim at the Aqua Sports Center, racquetball at Jowers Center, group training classes at various locations throughout campus, lunch-and-learn sessions covering a variety of wellness topics, and wellness checks while also receiving a weekly newsletter with behavior coaching tips and nutrition information. While Phase I is coming to a close, employees should not fret. Phase II will begin May 4, 2015! Phase II promises to be even better and help meet the needs of our employees by offering more group training classes, more lunch-and-learn sessions and making behavior coaching sessions open to all.

For more information, visit worklife.txstate.edu and click on the "Wellness" tab. Registration is ongoing, and employees can join anytime. Sign up to help make Texas State one of the healthiest places to work! ★

Engaged

STREAMing: Successfully Inspiring Students



Saturday January 31, 2015 from 11am-4pm
San Marcos Activity Center & San Marcos Public Library

Come explore the arts and creative pursuits within
SCIENCE | TECHNOLOGY | ENGINEERING | READING & WRITING | ART | MATHEMATICS
This free interactive festival includes hands-on art activities for kids of all ages.
Don't miss performances by Terri Hendrix and Dirty Car Artist - Scott Wade.
create your own stop motion animation, learn how to use a 3D printer,
and so much more!

SPONSORED BY



On January 31 Texas State University's Department of Curriculum and Instruction and the Art Education Department joined forces to host STREAM Fest, a free interactive art festival for kids of all ages.

The festival provided hands-on activities that demonstrated how artists draw upon the other disciplines (science, technology, reading/writing, engineering, art, and mathematics) to create varying forms of art.

A total of 20 hands-on booths were available for children, including:

Science

- Rock salt watercolor painting
- Color mixing with light and transparencies
- Abstract drawings from microscope projections

Technology

- Imagination station's stop motion animation
- 3D printing demonstration

Reading/Writing

- Calligraphy
- Comics and manga
- Paper engineering: pop-up card-making and shadow puppets
- Storybook character face painting

Engineering

- Freestyle building station
- Make and take structure building
- Artistic robots

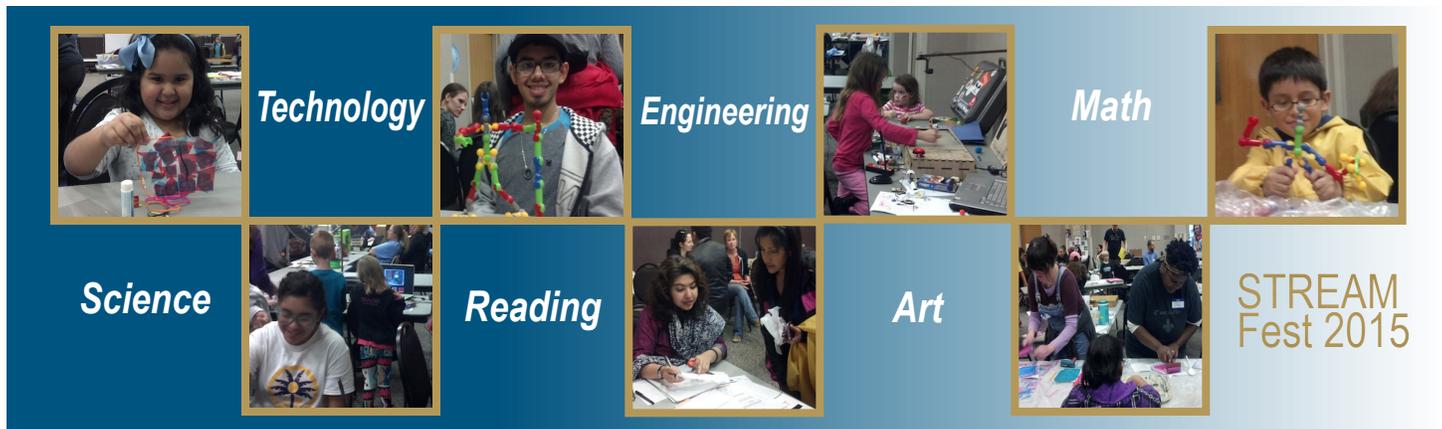
Art

- Freestyle art space
- Collaborative drawing
- Printmaking
- Reflective drawings

Mathematics

- 3D modular kirigami paper puzzles and tangrams
- Tessellations
- Photo symmetry
- Inkblot mandalas

Live performances and entertainment rounded out this five-hour educational funfest. Thanks to the coordinating efforts of Dr. Shaunna Smith, Educational Technology, who spearheaded the event, hundreds of local residents and their families found new ways of creative inspiration. ★





...in public and professional communities.

Coming Together: Highlights of the 2015 TASA Conference

Texas State University's College of Education was well represented at the 2015 Texas Association of School Administrators (TASA) Midwinter Conference, which was held from January 25 to 28 at the Austin Convention Center. More than 20 students, representing both the School Improvement program and the Superintendent Certification program, participated in the conference, which is the key annual meeting in Texas that brings together policymakers and practitioners. In addition, members of the faculty presented two sessions during the conference that focused on future-ready transformational leadership and Texas State programs. Yvonne Hernandez, a doctoral student in the School Improvement program, was awarded the Johnny L. Veselka Scholarship and recognized as an outstanding student of Educational Leadership.



Yvonne Hernandez, 2015 Johnny L. Veselka Scholarship Recipient



(From left to right): Dr. O'Malley, Dr. Boone, and Dr. Nelson enjoying the 2015 TASA Conference

During the conference, the College of Education hosted a reception for Texas State alumni, students, and members of the community. Dr. Mike Boone was honored for his years of service, and many former students shared how much Dr. Boone's guidance and instruction had positively impacted their lives. Dr. Michael O'Malley, Counseling, Leadership, Adult Education, and School Psychology Department chair, presented a gift to Dr. Boone, on behalf of the department. Dr. Stan Carpenter, dean of the College of Education, spoke to the group about Texas State's progress, enrollment growth, status as an Emerging Research University, and recognition as a Hispanic-Serving Institution.

We are grateful for our partnership with TASA, who provided discounted registration for Texas State students, and appreciative of the following businesses supporters for sponsoring the reception: Linebarger Goggan Blair & Sampson, LLP Attorneys at Law; PBK; Aramark; Walsh, Anderson, Gallegos, Green & Trevino; Renaissance Learning; Echelon; Moak, Casey & Associates. ★

Networking the Right Way

Academic Advisors — Bailey Verschoyle, Dustin Thompson, Naomi Wilson, and Drew Carmichael — made their way to the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Region 7 Conference in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on March 5. As a member of the Region 7 team, our academic advisors were able to meet face-to-face with advisors from seven other states, including Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and, of course, Texas. With representation from public, private, small and large universities, academic advisors are able to network and learn valuable insights into what works and doesn't work at other schools, which can then be used with our College of Education students.

Not only are the advisors networking to gain ideas and new approaches, but also how to handle any future concerns. "Sure I can go on the website and see what someone is doing, but it's great to meet someone face-to-face and exchange ideas and make a personal connection that you can later utilize when you encounter an issue you'd like a different perspective on," explained Dustin Thompson.

Our amazing academic advisors had a blast in Louisiana. They came back ready with some great ideas for their new two-year strategic plan to improve their advising processes and programs. ★



(From left to right): Drew Carmichael, Bailey Verschoyle, Naomi Wilson, and Dustin Thompson

Our Mission

**As a premier professional school,
Texas State University's College of Education
is dedicated to enhancing human potential for all
through excellent teaching, relevant scholarship, and community engagement.**

Learn more at education.txstate.edu

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