

Academic Affairs

GOOD WORK, TRANSFORMING LIVES

Dear Colleagues,

Spring Break reminds us that our semester has gone by too quickly and that April's month-long celebration of our faculty, staff, and student excellence is just around the corner. Before we get to those formal gatherings, please accept my appreciation for the good work that happens at Tech each day. Your work transforms lives. Our faculty and staff can enjoy a sense of pride for jobs well done and assisting others while they pursue their goals. Our students gain confidence and the skills needed to be productive citizens and valued members of their chosen professions. Our communities where we live benefit from the contributions each of you make through your service and expertise. I am grateful to share in this work with you, and we are pleased to share these accomplishments through this month's newsletter. Included in this edition is a list of our colleagues who were tenured and/or promoted and confirmed during our most recent Board of Trustees' meeting. This accomplishment is a signal achievement, and we celebrate with you. I wish everyone a successful end of the semester and look forward to sharing time with you soon.

Sincerely,

Phillip Bridgmon
Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

CEZEAUX NAMED NEW DEAN FOR EAS



The ATU Board of Trustees recently approved the appointment of Dr. Judy Cezeaux as the new Dean for the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences; Cezeaux will take office on Monday, June 18.

Cezeaux, a native of Texas, holds a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biomedical Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. She currently serves as the chair of biomedical engineering at Western New England University.

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SAVE THE DATE

- Staff Senate Meeting
Wednesday, April 4
- 2018 Scholarship
Benefit Gala
Friday, April 13
- Deadline for Professional
Development Grants
Monday, April 16
- Last Day to Drop with a "W"
Friday, April 20
- Reading Day
Wednesday, May 2
- Final Exams
Wednesday, May 2—
Tuesday, May 8

Promotion and Tenure

The following individuals were promoted to professor:

- *Rebecca Callaway, Department of Curriculum and Instruction
- *Shelly Daily, Department of Nursing
- *David Eshelman, Department of Communication and Journalism
- *Terri McKown, Department of Nursing
- *Cathi McMahan, Department of Parks, Recreation and Hospitality Administration
- *Michael Rogers, Department of History and Political Science
- *Sandra Smith, Department of Emergency Management
- *Ivan Still, Department of Biological Sciences
- *Jason Ulsperger, Department of Behavioral Sciences
- *James Walton, Department of Management and Marketing
- *Jason Warnick, Department of Behavioral Sciences

The following individuals were promoted to associate professor:

- *Wanda Christie, Department of Nursing
- *Pam Dixon, Center for Leadership and Learning
- *Sean Reed, Department of Music

The following individuals were promoted to associate professor and granted tenure:

- *Rene Couture, Department of College Student Personnel
- *Mariusz Gajewski, Department of Physical Sciences
- *Patrick Hagge, Department of History and Political Science
- *Masanori Kuroki, Department of Accounting and Economics
- *Dong Soo Lee, Department of Parks, Recreation and Hospitality Administration
- *Aaron McArthur, Department of History and Political Science
- *Shelly Randall, Department of Nursing
- *Jeremy Schwehm, Department of Professional Studies
- *Ellen Treadway, Center for Leadership and Learning

The following individuals were promoted to assistant professor:

- *Nancy Cox, Department of English and World Languages
- *Donna Sherrill, Department of Mathematics

The following individuals were granted tenure:

- *John Freeman, Center for Leadership and Learning
- *Alaric Williams, Department of College Student Personnel

Four recently retired members of the ATU faculty who gave a combined 93 years of service to the institution were granted emeritus status on Wednesday. They are: Dr. Cathy Baker, professor emeritus of geology; Dr. Theresa Herrick, professor emeritus of recreation and park administration; Dr. M. Annette Holeyfield, professor emeritus of health and physical education; and Dr. David Underwood, professor emeritus of education.



“My idea of education is to unsettle the minds of the young and inflame their intellects.”
- Robert Maynard Hutchings

Faculty Development Funds Awarded

As part of ATU’s commitment to the professional growth and development of faculty, opportunities for professional development and faculty research funds are available each year. Congratulations to the following faculty members who were granted awards from the categories indicated:

Professional Development Grant Awards

Douglas Barron	Jamie Earls	Sangki Lee	Jeremy Schwehm
David Blanks	Jorista Garrie	Charles Mebi	Sandy Smith
Michael Brodrick	Rebecca Garvin	Siriporn McDowell	Anita Taylor
Rajib Choudhury	Patrick Hagge	Debra Murphy	Christopher Trombly
Erin Clair	Emily Hoffman	TJ Perry	Rebecca Wiewel
Rene Couture	Virginia Jones	Regina St. John	Nansong Wu

Faculty Research Grant Awards

Jorista Garrie
Charles Mebi

Guest Lecture: *Don't Drink the Kool Aid*



On Thursday, April 5, the ATU Departments of Behavioral Sciences and History and Political Science will team up with the College of Arts and Humanities to host a guest lecture entitled “Don’t Drink the Kool Aid: Advice from a Jonestown Survivor.” Laura Johnston Kohl, one of 87 surviving members of the 1978 Jonestown massacre, will offer the lecture, which will take place in room 300 of the Ross Pendergraft Library and Technology Center. Admission is free and open to the public. A reception will begin at 5:30 PM, with the lecture to follow at 6:00 PM. For more information about Kohl’s appearance at Arkansas Tech, contact Joshua Lockyer, associate professor of anthropology, at jlockyer@atu.edu.

Change in Coordination of ADHE Program Reviews

OFFICE OF ASSESSMENT AND INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS (OIAE)

As of this spring 2018 semester, the coordination of the Arkansas Tech University process for ADHE Program Review has been transferred to the Office of Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness (OIAE). Per Arkansas Higher Education Coordinating

Board (AHECB) standards, academic programs that do not carry a specialty accreditation and are provided at a public college or university are required to perform a program review on a 7-10 year cycle. Christine Austin, director of OIAE, will assist ATU academic programs that do not have a special accreditation to prepare for this self-study process. ADHE Program Review is meant to aid in ensuring quality of academic offerings and includes items such as program need/demand, curriculum, faculty, resources, course delivery methods, student outcomes, and recent/planned program improvements. The change in coordination will allow academic departments/programs to flow from the internal program review process that is newly in place into the external ADHE program review.

For more information on either the internal or the ADHE Program Review process, please contact Christine Austin (479.880.4282/caustin@atu.edu). Sara Bailey in Academic Affairs (479.964.0583 ext. 4354/sbailey19@atu.edu) will remain the contact for all financial aspects (paying for costs associated with the external reviewers/consultants).

New Faculty Portal

The Office of Disability Services has launched a new Disability Services Faculty Portal. This portal allows instructors to have access to all of their students’ accommodation information in one place. There is a link to the “Instructor Portal” on the Disability Services website (www.atu.edu/disabilities), under the Faculty Resources tab.

You will use your OneTech username and password to log in. There are four main modules within the Faculty Portal: Overview, Alternative Testing, Notetaking, and Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This will not replace the e-mail sent by the Office of Disability Services, but it will help gather all of the information in one place. For more information, contact the Office of Disability Services at (479) 968-0302.

2018 Out of the Darkness

Arkansas Tech University will host its 2018 Out of the Darkness suicide prevention campus walk in Russellville on Saturday, April 7. Registration will begin at 8:00 AM at Doc Bryan Student Services Center. The 1.5-mile walk will start at 9:00 AM in front of the Doc Bryan Center. Any individual is eligible to walk, and there is no fee to participate. Teams and individuals can raise and donate money if they so choose. Individuals or teams can pre-register for the walk at www.afsp.org/atu; the website also offers tools for fundraising. Data from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) shows that suicide is one of the two leading causes of death among Arkansans age 10-34. “So many lives have been touched by suicide,” said Kristy Davis, ATU associate dean for student wellness and co-coordinator of the event alongside Tonya Oates of Turning Point Adult Behavioral Health at St. Mary’s Regional Medical Center. “Some of us walk to honor our loved ones and some of us are walking to save future lives. No matter the reason, I’m just glad so many in our community and surrounding areas gather for the event each year.” In its first four years, the ATU Out of the Darkness walk has raised \$78,503. Tech ranked among the top 10 AFSP fund-raising campus walks in the United States in 2014, 2015, and 2016. Please contact Kristy Davis at 479-968-0329 with questions.



College Highlights

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

Faculty/Department Accomplishments

Jesse Ring gave a solo exhibition entitled *Painted Ground* at the University of Cincinnati Clermont's PNB Gallery.

Anthony Caton was asked to serve on the editorial board of the *Science Publishing Group*.

Carl Brucker received an ESL grant from the state for \$150-200,000, depending on student demand.

Student Accomplishments

Five ATU students placed in the River Valley Arts Center's Collegiate Competition.

Best of Show—Yangsook Ahn's "Nostalgia"

1st Place—Megan McClain's "Delilah"

2nd Place—Emily Geels' "Take What the Land Gives You"

3rd Place—Emily Geels' "Jazz Band"

Honorable Mention—Lauren Saab's "Dog with Crown"

Patrick Brown's "Arbitrium"

Yangsook Ahn's "The Middle-Aged"

The *Arka Tech* won four awards at the Southeast Journalism Conference in February.

EDUCATION

Faculty/Department Accomplishments

Linda Bean, Latasha Holt, and Tim Carter served on a panel for teachers who are teaching concurrent credit education courses in Arkansas during the Career Technical Education Regional Advisory meeting.

Christopher Trombly served on a panel of experienced educational advocates at the ASCD annual LILA conference and joined a group of educators from across the state in visiting the offices of Arkansas' entire Congressional delegation to advocate on behalf of students, families, and educators.

Arkansas Radio Theatre

March 31—*The Maltese Cat*

April 7—*Othello*

April 14—*Trifles*

Saturdays at 7:00 PM on KXRJ
91.9 FM

Graphic Design Senior Exhibition

The Norman Art Gallery will host the Graphic Design Senior Exhibition, beginning on Wednesday, March 28, and running Wednesday, April 11, from 8:00 AM—5:00 PM.

Distinguished Speaker Series

The Arkansas Tech University College of Business will host its annual Distinguished Speaker Series on Wednesday, April 11. Jamie Sorrells, president and co-owner of Sorrells' Body Shop, will serve as the guest speaker. The event will be held in the Doc Bryan Lecture Hall from noon until 1:00 PM, with refreshments available in the rotunda at 11:30 AM.

High School Business Challenge

The finale of the 2018 High School Business Challenge will take place on Friday, April 6. The High School Business Challenge is a business model competition where high school students present their business plan for a new product, service, or expansion of a current business in hopes of winning a \$500 grand prize.

ATU Plant Sale

The spring ATU plant sale will take place on Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14 from 8:00 AM–5:00 PM.

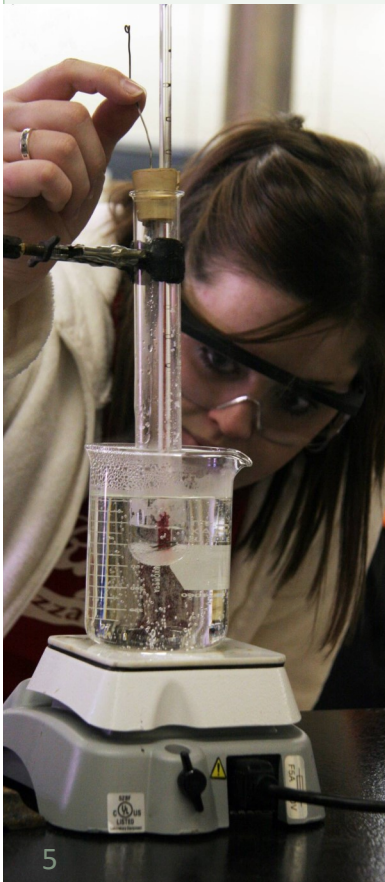
Graduate Student of the Month

December's winner was Megan Staudt from Emergency Management for her scholarly work being conducted with her thesis.

January's winner was Gainella Edelen from the TESOL master's program for her outstanding leadership.

February's winner was Emma Curry from the MBA program, and she is being recognized for outstanding leadership.

Faculty and staff can nominate any graduate student they feel is deserving of recognition by submitting a short nomination form: <https://www.atu.edu/gradcollege/gss-nomination-form.php>.



ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES

Faculty/Department Accomplishments

Bruce Chehroudi, Professor and Mechanical Engineering Department Head, will be a member of the Organizing Committee and Keynote Speaker at the 6th International Conference and Exhibition on Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering in Atlanta, Georgia (Nov 7-8, 2018).

REC Foundation Conducts State Championship at ATU

On Saturday, March 3, the Robotics Education and Competition (REC) Foundation conducted its 2018 Arkansas state championship at Tucker Coliseum on the ATU campus. The event included more than 100 teams; students from the elementary, middle, and high school levels competed in the VEX IQ Challenge and the VEX Robotics Competition.

eTECH

Faculty/Department Accomplishments

Jeff Aulgur, Department Head and Associate Professor of Professional Studies, was selected as the President-Elect of the Adult Higher Education Alliance (AHEA) at the 42nd Annual AHEA Conference on March 8th in Orlando, Florida. The title of his conference presentation was "Open Source, Quality Matters, and Making Meaning: An Online Redesign Journey."

Annette Stuckey, Visiting Assistant Professor of Professional Studies, was awarded a Lifetime Teacher's License by the Arkansas Department of Education on January 1, 2018.

GRADUATE COLLEGE

Nominations for Graduate Student Council

The Graduate College is seeking nominations for graduate students to serve on the Graduate Student Council for the 2018-19 academic year. We are looking for graduate students that are good role models, leaders, and are willing to work toward improving the services and programs we offer to our graduate students. Send your nominations to Chris Giroir at cgiroir@atu.edu.

NATURAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

New Nursing Scholarship

The Chair of the Department of Nursing Scholarship is a new, privately-funded scholarship fully endowed by Dr. Richard Kluender and his wife, Katherine Kluender, of Russellville. This scholarship will assist upper-level ATU nursing students. Applicants for the scholarship must be full-time junior or senior nursing majors. Additional requirements include high academic standing within the department, excellent professional potential, demonstrated leadership and service potential through extracurricular activities and financial need. The scholarship will be awarded for one semester and renewable for a subsequent semester provided the recipient continues to meet the criteria. Call (479) 968-0219 or visit www.atu.edu/nursing to learn more about the ATU Department of Nursing.