Dozens of faculty gain recognition for hard work


Tuesday was an introduction of sorts for sociology assistant professor Krystal Beamon to other university faculty.

Beamon was one of dozens of faculty members who received an award, distinction or recognition at last month’s Faculty and Associates. President James Spaniolo delivered some remarks, while Provost Robert Hunter introduced the recipients and opened and closed the event.

Colleagues who Beamon hadn’t met and ones she recognized congratulated her after receiving the Award for Excellence in Learning.

“It’s a good feeling,” she said. “It’s a great time to be part of UTA. I think we all recognize that.”

Beamon was recognized for incorporating service learning in a sociology course on race, ethnicity and class. She said she knows and understands the community and wanted her students to as well.
“I just wanted to be a steward to help make students more civic minded – learning to give back to the community,” she said.

Yvette Weatherton, civil engineering senior lecturer, was one of three faculty members who won the Provost’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. It was the second time she received such recognition.

“It’s just a tremendous honor,” she said. “Even though I was nominated twice, I questioned whether I’d win twice.”

Letters of support from her students played a large role in her win, she said. Weatherton, who said she isn’t one to brag, wrote a letter thanking the students that vouched for her.

Colleagues and university leaders also recognized English language professor Kenneth Roemer, who won the Graduate Dean’s Award for Excellence in Doctoral Student Mentoring. Roemer, who’s worked at UTA since 1971, is also a member of the Academy of Distinguished Scholars and the Academy of Distinguished Teachers.

Roemer, who’s received multiple accolades and distinctions in his time at UTA, had two reactions Tuesday to his winning. One reason he could have won, he said, was because of his longevity with the university. It also denotes hard work, he said, adding that winning is still a humbling experience.

“I know with these awards [to] always know there are people who as good as you are or better,” Roemer said. “On the other hand, you feel really good to be recognized.”

Spaniolo spoke to the importance of UTA’s faculty.

“Today we are here to celebrate you. Your excellent courage in teaching, your commitment to public service,” he said Tuesday. “Because at the end of the day, our faculty are the heart and soul of our university.”

List of endowments for faculty positions as of April 1 recognized on Tuesday during the Spring Meeting of the Faculty and Associates
Endowments are funds donated to an institution as a source of income.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Deepak Datta – Eunice and James L. West Chair of Private Enterprise and Entrepreneurship
James Teng – Eunice and James West Distinguished Professorship (A)
Daniel Himarios – Eunice and James West Distinguished Professorship (B)
Xueming Luo – Eunice and James West Distinguished Professorship C (formerly Eunice and James West Distinguished Professorship)
James Campbell Quick – Goolsby – Jacqualyn A. Fouse Endowed Chair
Roger Meiners – Goolsby – The E.M. "Manny" Rosenthal Standard Meat Co. Endowed Chair
Thomas Hall – Public Accounting Professorship
Lawrence Chonko – Thomas McMahon Professorship in Business Ethics

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Marc Schwartz – K-16 Mind, Brain and Education Chair

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Jung-Chih (JC) Chiao – Janet and Mike Greene Endowed Professorship in the College of Engineering
Robert Magnusson – Texas Instruments Distinguished University Chair in Nanoelectronics
(To Be Announced) – Automation & Robotics Research Institute Chair
Frank Lewis – Moncief-O’Donnell Chair for the Automation & Robotics Research Institute
Ali Abolmaali – Dr. Tseng Huang Endowed Professorship

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Imre Demhardt – Jenkins and Virginia Garrett Chair in Southwestern Studies & History of Cartography
Dwain Ya’Ke Smith – Morgan Woodward Distinguished Professorship

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Mary Elizabeth Mancini – Baylor Health Care Research Professorship
Jennifer Gray – George W. and Hazel M. Jay Professorship  
Barbara Raudonis – Myrna R. Pickard Endowed Professorship  
Mary Lou Bond – Samuel Thomas Hughes Jr. Professorship  

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE  
(Vacant) – Hamish Small Chair of Ion Analysis  
Daniel Armstrong – Robert A. Welsh Distinguished University Chair in Chemistry  
Robert Gatchel – Nancy P. and John G. Penson Endowed Professorship in Clinical Health professorship  
Kevin Schug – Shimadzu Distinguished Professorship in Analytical Chemistry  

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK  
Catheleen Jordan – Cheryl Milkes Moore Professorship in Mental Health Research  
Beverly Black – Jillian Michelle Smith Professorship in Family Violence Research  
Richard Hoefer – Roy E. Dulak Professorship in Community Practice Research  

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