Four educators receive Regents' Outstanding Teaching Award

Four faculty members are among 96 educators recognized this year by The University of Texas System Board of Regents for excellence in the classroom.

The UT System’s most innovative and dedicated educators will share $2.4 million this month as winners of the Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award. Faculty members from across the UT System’s 15 academic and health institutions will receive $25,000 each and will be honored at a ceremony Wednesday, Aug. 20, in Austin.

UT Arlington's honorees are:

- Krystal Beamon, assistant professor of sociology;
- Darryl Lauster, assistant professor of art and art history;
- Allan Saxe, associate professor of political science;
- Kevin Schug, Shimadzu Distinguished Professor of Analytical Chemistry.

The four bring UT Arlington’s total number of Regents’ Outstanding Teaching Award recipients to 45 since the program’s inception in 2008.

The awards highlight the talent and commitment to excellence in teaching among UT Arlington faculty members, President Vistasp Karbhari says.

"Preeminent research universities are distinguished by the quality of their faculty members and the faculty’s dedication to students," Dr. Karbhari says. "The best teachers instill in their students a shared passion for lifelong learning and discovery."

Read more about UTA's Regents Outstanding Teachers recipients.
STEM Academy created with AISD

A new partnership between UT Arlington and the Arlington Independent School District will offer high school students classroom and enrichment experiences that put them on a path to success in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and math.

The new STEM Academy will open in August 2015 at Martin High School, with students from across the district selected the previous spring. When the program is fully implemented, 100 students each from grades 9 through 12 will have the opportunity to choose one of four pathways: engineering, biology/biomedical science, computer science, and math/science.

UT Arlington College of Science and College of Engineering faculty and staff will work with instructors at the high school level to align and enhance curriculum in the STEM Academy.

Juniors and seniors in the program will also have opportunities to take dual credit classes that help them meet STEM college requirements before high school graduation and take advantage of off-campus opportunities for innovative learning.

Read more about the STEM Academy.

Unmanned vehicle systems certification program expands to graduate level

UT Arlington will start a graduate-level unmanned vehicle systems certification this fall in anticipation of a growing need for engineers in the quickly emerging field. The program expands upon an April 2014 announcement that offers an undergraduate certification in unmanned vehicle systems this fall to degree-seeking students.

Both programs are a collaboration between the College of Engineering and the UT Arlington Research Institute, which won Federal Aviation Administration approval early this year for unmanned aircraft system test flights at the institute’s Fort Worth campus.

Engineering Dean Khosrow Behbehani says the certificate will help meet industry demand for highly educated employees in the areas of unmanned air, ground, and water vehicles.

Read more about the graduate-level unmanned vehicle systems certificate.

Follow the radio waves to exomoons, UT
Arlington physicists say

Scientists hunting for life beyond Earth have discovered more than 1,800 planets outside our solar system, or exoplanets, in recent years, but so far, no one has been able to confirm an exomoon. Now, UT Arlington physicists believe following a trail of radio wave emissions may lead them to that discovery.

Their recent findings, published in the Aug. 10 issue of The Astrophysical Journal, describe radio wave emissions that result from the interaction between Jupiter’s magnetic field and its moon Io.

They suggest using detailed calculations about the Jupiter/Io dynamic to look for radio emissions that could indicate moons orbiting an exoplanet.

“This is a new way of looking at these things,” says Zdzislaw Musielak, professor of physics and co-author of the paper. “We said, ‘What if this mechanism happens outside of our solar system?’ Then, we did the calculations and they show that actually there are some star systems that if they have moons, it could be discovered in this way.”

Joaquin Noyola is lead author on the new paper, and Suman Satyal is a co-author. Both are doctoral students in Dr. Musielak's research group.

Read more about the exomoon research.

Maverick Stampede starts Monday with Move-in Event

The countdown is on to the kickoff of Maverick Stampede Welcome Week beginning Monday, Aug. 18.

The Move-in Event on Monday is a tradition of helping residence hall students move into their new homes. Faculty, staff, and student volunteers lend a hand or two so new residents can unpack and settle in. Register to volunteer.

Other events Monday include a free lunch for students and their families and friends 11 a.m.-2 p.m. on the University Center mall, courtesy of the Parent and Family Center, and Late Night Shopping at Target at 11 p.m.

Don't miss MavsMeet Convocation at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 19, at College Park Center or the AfterParty on The Green at College Park.

Read more about the Maverick Stampede schedule of events.

All faculty invited to orientation Aug. 18

New Faculty Orientation now includes information sessions for all members of the faculty including part-time, long-serving, tenured, tenure-track, clinical, in-practice, and adjunct faculty members.

Orientation is Monday, Aug. 18, in the Carlisle Suite of the E.H. Hereford University Center.
The all-faculty sessions review new or revised policies and programs. Attend one of three sessions set for 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 5:30 p.m.

Learning communities seek members

The Professional Learning Community program has expanded to four groups for the 2014-15 academic year, each with its own focus. PLC is part of the Learning Innovation and Networked Knowledge (LINK) Research Lab.

The groups provide opportunities for software experimentation, course redesign, group conference attendance, informal learning, and a project based on the theme of the group.

This year's groups are:

- **Connected Learning and Building Online Community**, facilitated by Andy Herzog
- **Open Educational Resources**, facilitated by Suzanne Beckett
- **Tech Tools for Teaching**, facilitated by Diane Mitschke
- **Retooling the Core**, facilitated by Laurel Mayo

Applications are accepted through **Friday, Aug. 15**. Find more information on the LINK Research Lab website.

University Club closed until Aug. 21

The University Club in Davis Hall is on break to prepare for the fall semester. Lunch service returns at 11 a.m. **Thursday, Aug. 21**.

Bookstore extends hours for school year's start

The UTA Bookstore has extended hours in preparation for the fall semester. The extended hours are:

- 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. **Saturdays, Aug. 16 and 23**
- 11:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. **Sundays, Aug. 17 and 24**
- 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. **Thursday, Aug. 21**, and **Monday-Tuesday, Aug. 25-26**
- 7:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m. **Friday, Aug. 22**
- 7:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. **Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 27-28**
- 7:30 a.m.-6 p.m. **Friday, Aug. 29**
- 10 a.m.-4 p.m. **Saturday, Aug. 30**
Freshen up

Workers add a fresh coat of paint to the Social Work Building A. The former Arlington High School structure was built in 1922.

Transcripts now available in PDF

UT Arlington now offers transcripts in PDF format. Students can send PDF transcripts by email to another university, a potential employer, or themselves.

Read more about ordering transcripts.

Purchase parking permit now

Parking permits for the 2014-2015 academic year are available through your MyMav account.

The faculty/staff permit is $190 for the year, and the student permit price is $150. Once ordered, the permit will be sent to the mailing address on your account.

Questions? Contact Parking and Transportation Services at parking@uta.edu or 2-3907.

Preston elevator off two days

The Preston Hall elevator will undergo upgrades and be unavailable Thursday-Friday, Aug. 14-15.

Programs, volunteers needed for Maverick Cookout, Activity Fair

Staff an information table for your program, department, or organization at the Maverick Cookout Featuring the Activity Fair Day 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Tables are limited. Visit the Activity Fair Day information page to sign up online.

Volunteers will work a 30-minute shift serving soda or flipping hamburgers on the grill. Register to volunteer.

For questions, email Molly Albart at molly@uta.edu.

Confirm benefit choices are correct

Review changes you made during the annual enrollment for benefits, which ended July 31. You should have received a confirmation statement the next day via email. You should review your first earnings statement of the new plan year—typically Oct. 1—to confirm that your UT Benefits elections are correct.

If you see any discrepancies between the elections on your confirmation statement and the UT Benefits coverage shown on your earnings statement, contact the Benefits Office immediately to review the circumstances and request a correction. Contact the Benefits Office at 2-5558, 2-5554, or benefits@uta.edu.

Complete Evidence of Insurability, Eligibility forms by Aug. 15

All Evidence of Insurability and Evidence of Eligibility applications and all required dependent documentation must be postmarked or completed via My UT Benefits no later than Friday, Aug. 15.

Evidence of Insurability: You are required to complete Evidence of Insurability (EOI) if you elected to add or
increase Voluntary Group Term Life or short- or long-term disability. For long-term care insurance, employees are not required to complete EOI, but retirees, spouses of employees and retirees, and other individuals eligible to enroll in LTC are required to submit an EOI form.

**Evidence of Eligibility:** Supporting documentation is required if you added your spouse or dependent children to your UT Benefits coverage for the first time. You may submit required documentation, such as marriage and birth certificates, electronically through My UT Benefits or provide a copy directly to the UT Arlington Benefits Office in Suite 212 of the J.D. Wetsel Service Center. Call the Benefits Office at 2-5558 or 2-5554, or email benefits@uta.edu.

**Employment Information**

Check out employment opportunities at uta.edu/jobs. Have questions? Call Human Resources/Employment Services at 2-3461 or TDD 2-8139, or email employment@uta.edu. The University of Texas at Arlington is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer.

**Thursday, Aug. 14**

**Advanced Supervisory Skills** Register. Free. 9-11 a.m., J.D. Wetsel Service Center. Human Resources.

**Tuesday, Aug. 19**

**Wine Appreciation** Explore the history of wine and enjoy a four-course food sampling and wine pairing. Call 2-2581 for faculty, staff discount fee of $80. 7–9 p.m. Tuesdays through Sept. 9, Romano’s Macaroni Grill. Continuing Education.

**Coming up**

**Statistics Workshops** SPS training 1-3 p.m., **Friday, Aug. 22**, Room 04, University Hall. Also, SAS training, 1-3 p.m. **Friday, Aug. 29**, Room 04, University Hall. Statistical Services.

(For an expanded list of events, see the UT Arlington Calendar.)

**Coming up**

**Blood drive** Donate the gift of life at Carter Blood Care's mobile unit. All day, **Monday-Friday, Aug. 25-29**, Central Library mall, University Center mall. Carter Blood Care.

**Ongoing**


**Exhibit: The Great War: Fort Worth and Arlington During WWI** A photo exhibition honoring the 100th anniversary of World War I showcases Fort Worth’s Camp Bowie and UTA predecessors Carlisle Military

**Special Collections: The U.S.-Mexico War, 1846-1848** Attention on the "forgotten" U.S.-Mexico War through letters, diaries, daguerreotypes, sketches, maps, and other materials. Gallery hours 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Mondays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, sixth floor, Central Library. Through Aug. 30. UT Arlington Libraries, Special Collections.


**Planetarium** The summer schedule includes Texas Stargazing; Astronaut; Back to the Moon for Good; One World, One Sky: Big Bird's Adventure; Pink Floyd; Secret of the Cardboard Rocket; Spacepark 360; and Stars of the Pharaohs. Planetarium.

(For an expanded list of events, see the UT Arlington Calendar.)

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_MavWire_ is published on Mondays and Thursdays (except for holidays) during the fall and spring semesters and on Thursdays during the summer. To submit items for possible inclusion in _MavWire_, email mavwire@uta.edu. Items must be received three working days before distribution. Inclusion of events and activities in _MavWire_ does not necessarily constitute an endorsement by the University. Read the _MavWire Guidelines_.

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