Media Resource Guide

April 2023

(External)
Media Procedure

All media requests, including both external and internal (student) media, should be directed to MarCom by contacting (210) 784-2443 / (210) 784-1615 or PR@tamusa.edu prior to contacting University resources. Requests for Information from news media under the Texas Public Information Act (TPIA) must be forwarded to MarCom at PR@tamusa.edu.

View the Texas A&M University San Antonio Media Procedure.

College of Arts and Sciences

Name: Dr. Jackson Ayres
Title: Assistant Professor of English
Department: Language and Arts
Primary areas of expertise: Modern & contemporary British literature; British modernism; film; comics and graphic literature; popular culture; cultural studies
Degrees: PhD; University of Kansas; Kansas State University; University of Arkansas

Name: Dr. Jose Rodolfo Valdez Barillas
Title: Assistant Professor of Biology
Department: Life Sciences
Primary areas of expertise: Ecology, Aquatic Ecology, Plant ecological interactions
Degrees: B.S. Biology; M.S. Rangeland Ecosystem Science; Ph.D. Rangeland Ecology
Name: Dr. Bryan Bayles

Title: Research Assistant Professor of Public Health

Department: Life Sciences

Primary areas of expertise: Health Equity; Chronic Disease Prevention (nutrition, diabetes, and mental health); Health Literacy; Medical Anthropology; Global Health

Degrees: PhD; University of Missour-Columbia MPH; University of Texas Health Science Center-Houston MA; University of Texas-Austin BA; Davidson College, NC

Foreign language: conversant in Spanish; Tojolabal Maya

Name: Dr. Daniel Braaten

Title: Associate Professor of Political Science

Department: Social Sciences

Primary areas of expertise: American Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, International Politics, Immigration, Human Rights, Refugees/Asylum, Environmental Politics, International Institutions

Degrees: 2003 B.S. in Political Science from North Dakota State University; 2005 M.A. in Political Science from University of Nebraska-Lincoln; 2012 PhD in Political Science from University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Name: Dr. Dolph Briscoe

Title: Lecturer of History

Department: CHP

Primary areas of expertise: Texas History; Political History; History of the U.S. Presidency; History of the Civil Rights Movement; Twentieth Century U.S. History
**Degrees:** Ph.D., History, The University of Texas at Austin M.A., History, Baylor University B.A., History, Baylor University

**Foreign language:** Intermediate Spanish

**Name:** Dr. William Bush

**Title:** Professor

**Department:** Communication, History, and Philosophy

**Primary areas of expertise:** Modern U.S. history, children and youth, juvenile justice, history of mental health policy and services

**Degrees:** Ph.D., American Studies; M.A., History; B.A., History

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**Name:** Dr. Vicky Elias

**Title:** Assistant Professor

**Department:** Social Sciences

**Primary areas of expertise:** Gender (particularly how the media portrays gender in older Americans, including children’s media); Marriage and Family (particularly changes associated with female empowerment i.e., changing gender and power structures within marriage and the effects of changing “marriages” on other aspects of society); Human Sexuality (particularly the effects of changing sexual identities on identity, role, and status)

**Degrees:** Ph.D. Sociology, Oklahoma State University; M.S. Sociology, Oklahoma State University; B.A. Psychology, Oklahoma State University Certificate in Women’s Studies, Oklahoma State University
Name: Dr. Fernando Calderon Gutierrez

Title: Postdoctoral Research Associate

Department: Life Sciences

Primary areas of expertise: Underwater cave fauna; Cave environments; Subterranean estuaries; Marine ecology; Flower Gardens Banks National Marine Sanctuary; Species delimitation; Evolution; Invertebrates

Degrees: Ph. D. Marine biology (Texas A&M University at Texas - TAMUG); M. S. Marine and Coastal Sciences (Autonomous University of Baja California Sur - UABCS, Mexico); BS. Marine biology (Autonomous University of Baja California Sur - UABCS, Mexico)

Foreign language: Spanish

Name: Dr. Ho Huynh

Title: Associate Professor

Department: Psychology (Life Sciences)

Primary areas of expertise: Doctor-patient relationships; Body-mind relationships and health; anti-vaccination attitudes; humility/being humble; college student success (particularly for minority students)

Degrees: Ph.D. - University of California, Riverside; MA - University of California, Riverside; BS - University of Arizona

Foreign language: Vietnamese

Name: Dr. Katherine Gillen

Title: Associate Professor and Chair

Department: Language and Arts

Primary areas of expertise: Shakespeare, Medieval and Renaissance English Literature, Drama, Critical Race and Gender Studies
Degrees: Ph.D., English Literature, 2012; M.A., Literature, 2005; B.A., English and Sociology, 2002

Name: Dr. Amy M. Porter
Title: Professor
Department: Communication, History, and Philosophy
Primary areas of expertise: Spanish borderlands history, Women in colonial America
Degrees: Ph.D. in History; M.A. in History; B.A. in History and Spanish

Name: Dr. G. Robert Shelton
Title: Instructional Assistant Professor
Department: Mathematical, Physical, & Engineering Sciences
Primary areas of expertise: Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Computational Chemistry, Chemistry Education, Science Education
Degrees: Ph.D. Chemistry (University of Florida); M.S. & B.S. (Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville)

Name: Dr. Davida Smyth
Title: Associate Professor
Department: Life Sciences
Primary areas of expertise: Wastewater Based Epidemiology; Airborne transmission of microbes; Microbial Ecology and Genomics; Antibiotic Resistance in Urban Ecosystems; Antimicrobials in the Built Environment; Food-Energy-Water Nexus; Science Education and Civic Engagement; Student Reading Skills in STEM; Sustainable Science
Degrees: PhD Microbiology, University of Dublin, Trinity College, BA MOD Microbiology, University of Dublin, Trinity College
Name: Dr. Edward Westermann  
Title: Professor of History  
Department: Communication, History, & Philosophy  
Primary areas of expertise: Holocaust, Nazi Germany, Genocide, Military History, Airpower History  
Degrees: Ph.D., M.A.S., M.A., B.S.

Name: Dr. Megan Wise de Valdez  
Title: Associate Professor  
Department: Life Sciences  
Primary areas of expertise: Parasitology, Biology of Disease Vectors, Genetics, Invertebrate Zoology  
Degrees: Ph.D.; M.S.; B.S.

College of Business  
Name: Dr. Gilbert C. Barrera, Jr.  
Title: Clinical Assistant Professor  
Department: Accounting & Finance  
Primary areas of expertise: JD, CPA, Licensed to Practice Law And Accounting In Texas, prosecuted just over 100 jury trials combined in Travis County and Bexar County, Accounting, federal income tax, law, jury trials, criminal procedure, evidence law, business litigation, tax litigation  
Degrees: B.A. English; B.B.A. Accounting; M.P.A. Federal Taxation; J.D.
**Name:** Dr. Kevin Barton  
**Title:** Instructional Associate Professor  
**Department:** Computing and Cyber Security  
**Primary areas of expertise:** Cybersecurity, information security management  
**Degrees:** Ph.D. in Information Science; B.B.A.; Master of Information Systems and Security

**Name:** Dr. Arne Baruca  
**Title:** Associate Professor of Marketing  
**Department:** Management and Marketing  
**Primary areas of expertise:** Marketing - Branding, Sport Marketing, International Marketing  
**Degrees:** Ph.D. - University of Texas-Pan American (now UTRGV); M.SC. BA - University of Maribor, Slovenia; B.Sc. - University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
**Foreign language:** Italian, Slovene, Croatian

**Name:** Dr. Dennis Elam  
**Title:** Associate Professor  
**Department:** Accounting & Finance  
**Degrees:** B.B.A.; M.B.A.; Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin
Name: Dr. Weixing Ford

Title: Assistant Professor of Marketing

Department: Management and Marketing

Primary areas of expertise: Marketing, Consumer Behavior, Economics, Personal Finance and Investment

Degrees: Washington University in St. Louis, MS; University of Houston, PhD

Foreign language: Chinese

Name: Dr. Daniel Glaser

Title: Professor

Department: Management and Marketing

Primary areas of expertise: Supply Chain Management, TQM, Lean Management, Purchasing Management, International Management with an emphasis on Latin America and Romania

Degrees: Ph.D. in Management, Texas A&M University- Commerce, University of North Texas

College of Education and Human Development

Name: Dr. Berenice de la Cruz

Title: Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator

Department: Counseling, Health and Kinesiology

**Degrees:** Ph.D. August 2009, The University of Texas at Austin (UT), Major: Special Education, Specialization: Autism and Developmental Disabilities; M.A. July 2004, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), Major: Clinical Psychology; B.S. May 2002, UTEP, Cum Laude, University Honors Degree, & Departmental Honors, Major: Psychology, Minor: Statistics

**Foreign language:** Spanish

**Name:** Dr. Theresa Garfield

**Title:** Interim Project Director of P.P.O.H.A. Grant and Professor

**Department:** Educator and Leadership Preparation

**Primary areas of expertise:** Advocacy, special education law, teacher preparation, efficacy, assistive technology, emotional/behavioral disorders, social justice, equity for diverse students

**Degrees:** Ed.D., Educational Leadership; M.A., Special Education; B.A., Elementary Education and English; Northcentral University (18 Post-doctoral hours); The University of Texas at San Antonio; Our Lady of the Lake University

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**Name:** Dr. Elisabeth Krimbill

**Title:** Assistant Professor

**Department:** Educator and Leadership Preparation

**Primary areas of expertise:** Public School Law and Ethics; School Leadership

**Degrees:** EdD in Education Leadership from the University of Texas at San Antonio; MEd in Education Leadership from Lamar University; MEd in Elementary Education
Name: Dr. Sukho Lee

Title: Professor and Associate Chair

Department: Counseling, Health & Kinesiology

Primary areas of expertise: Exercise Physiology

Degrees: Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin, Seoul National University

Name: Dr. Scott Peters

Title: Associate Professor

Department: Counseling, Health & Kinesiology

Primary areas of expertise: Substance Use Disorders, Serious Mental Illness, Crisis Intervention, Homelessness, Intimate Partner Violence, Supervision

Degrees: Ph.D., Counselor Education & Supervision; M.A., Counseling; B.A., Special Education; University of Texas at San Antonio; Northeastern Illinois University

Name: Dr. John Smith

Title: Professor

Department: Counseling, Health & Kinesiology

Primary areas of expertise: Tracking and monitoring physical activity in various populations

Degrees: Ph.D. Kinesiology; M.S. Kinesiology; B.S. Physical Education; Texas Woman's University; Texas A&M University-Kingsville; University of Texas at San Antonio
Name: Dr. Christine Wong
Title: Assistant Professor
Department: Counseling
Primary areas of expertise: Role of religion and spirituality in mental health

Degrees: PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision (2016) - University of Texas at San Antonio; MA in Community Counseling (2013) - University of Texas at San Antonio; BA in Interdisciplinary Studies (2010) - University of Texas at San Antonio

Name: Dr. Hsiao-ping Wu
Title: Associate Professor
Department: Educator and Leadership Preparation
Primary areas of expertise: Second language acquisition, ESL teaching pedagogy, Applied linguistics, Computer-mediated communication, Linguistic analysis, Research methods

Degrees: Ph.D., Program of Culture, Literacy and Language; M.A., Bicultural-Bilingual Studies- English as a second language concentration, B.A. -Shih-Chien University, Taipei, Taiwan, Department of Applied Foreign Languages; The University of Texas at San Antonio, Shih-Chien University

Staff
Name: Aurora Medina
Title: Assistant Director, Ready To Work
Department: Mays Center
Primary areas of expertise: Ready To Work; Texas Two-Step Program
**Degrees:** MBA Management Texas A&M San Antonio; BA International Relations St Mary's University San Antonio