

2024 SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Victor Allen

- Received the 2024 President Joseph A. Biden Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award.

Karla Arenas-Itotia

- Earned a micro-credential for Digital Promise & Verizon Innovative Learning Schools Gamifying Learning - VILS Micro-credential, Digital Promise.
- Received recognition for Exceptional Dedication and Positive Impact, UTA Division of Student Affairs.
- Awarded grant from the office of the Vice President for Research and Innovation for “Increasing Access to Health Services for Limited English Proficiency Patients Using Simulation-Based Learning: A Pilot Study”
- Awarded a grant for “Increasing Access to Health Services for Limited English Proficiency Patients Using Simulation-Based Learning: A Pilot Study” Center for Research on Teaching and Learning Excellence.

Monisa Caldwell

- Won GEM Award.

Christopher Clark

- Won GEM Award.

Dr. Saltanat Childress

- Received the Peer Reviewer Appreciation Award, Journal of Child and Family Social Work 2024
- Received the Peer Reviewer Appreciation Certificate, Children & Youth Services Review 2024
- Received the Peer Reviewer Appreciation Certificate, Journal of Refugee Studies, Oxford University Press

Dr. Jandel Crutchfield

- Received an award from Jobs with Justice for the project entitled, “Jobs with Justice - UTA Site.”
- Elected as Mansfield ISD School Board Place 2.

Dr. Noelle Fields

- Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice in Social Work, National Academies of Practice.

Jobanet Flores

- Won GEM Award.

Mark Frazier

- Recognized by the UTA Division of Student Affairs for being a difference-maker for our students.

Dr. Pamela Fox

- Won Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2024 NASW-TX NCT Fort Worth Area Branch's Social Work Month Awards Banquet.

Dr. Sophia Fantus

- Won the Piper Professor Award.
- Received the Provost's Nationwide Insurance Faculty Fellowship Supporting Equity in Student Success
- Awarded the UTA CARES grant to update the Social Work and Professionalism Course (SOCW 3300).
- Offered an academic year appointment as a Faculty Fellow for the Student Experience Project (SEP) Community of Practice (CoP)

Dr. Noelle Fields

- Elected to the Board of Directors of the Southern Gerontological Society.
- Received funding on a collaboration project titled, Promoting Quality of Life for Persons Living with Dementia and Their Family Caregivers: A Feasibility Study on Video Family Visits in Nursing Homes.

Dr. Genevieve Graaf

- Social Networks & Health Fellowship, Duke University Network Analysis Center.

Kiva Harper

- Recognized by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault this August for Excellence in Media.

Dr. Danielle Harrell

- Institute on Mixture Modeling for Equity-Oriented Researchers, Scholars & Educators (IMMERSE) Fellowship, University of California-Santa Barbara, School of Education.

2024 SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Rick Hoefler

- Most Promising New Textbook Award, The Textbook and Academic Authors Association

Dr. Darlene Hunter

- Inducted into the 2024 National Wheelchair Basketball Association Hall of Fame.
- Promoted to Associate Professor of Practice.

Dr. Ann Hunt-Rodgers

- Will serve as the Co-Chair for the Member and Leadership Engagement Committee (MLEC) through NASW starting in Spring 2025
- Recognized by the UTA Division of Student Affairs for being a difference-maker for our students.

Pamela Johnson

- Faculty Recognition, Division of Student Affairs.

Dr. Dianna Jones

- Awarded Faculty Teaching in the Archives grant for 2024-25 through the UTA Library to redesign two of our core macro courses, 3306 and 5306, to include the archival data from UTA Libraries Special Collections (SPCO) for student learning.
- Selected to be one of the EDGE Fellows for Fall/Spring.

Daisy Jones

- Won GEM Award.

Dr. Jaclyn Kirsch

- Received the Interdisciplinary Research Program (IRP) Grant through UTA.

Dr. Catherine LaBrenz

- Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure.
- Received funding through James Bell Associates (flow-through from the Annie E. Casey Foundation) to provide technical assistance on an evaluation of the FOCUS+ program at NewDay Services.
- Selected to serve on CSWE's Katherine A. Kendall Institute for International Social Work Advisory Board for a 3-year term.
- Selected for the Child Welfare Track Early Career Award through the Council on Social Work Education.

Dr. Kathy Lee

- Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure.
- Outstanding Reviewer Award, Journal of Applied Gerontology.

Dr. Dana Litt

- Outstanding Faculty Research Award, School of Public Health, University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Meverlyn Maisonave

- Recognized by the UTA Division of Student Affairs for being a difference-maker for our students.

Dr. Diane Mitschke

- Promoted to Full Professor.

Dr. Tiara Okoruwa

- Recognition for Exceptional Dedication and Positive Impact, UTA Division of Student Affairs.

Tracy Orwig

- Distinguished Fellow, Texas IPE Consortium. Fernando G. Torgerson, UTA School of Social Work.

Dr. Morgan PettyJohn

- Elected to serve on the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies Program Advisory Board at UTA starting in the Fall.

Joyce Peters

- Recognized by the UTA Division of Student Affairs for being a difference-maker for our students.

Karen Magruder

- Won the 2024 Outstanding Contributions to Social Work Education Award.
- Winner of the 2024 President's Award for Excellence in Distance Education Teaching.
- Promoted to Associate Professor of Practice.
- Awarded UTA Libraries' Open Initiative Grant.
- Awarded an Open Initiatives grant through UTA Libraries to write and publish an OER digital resource book, AI-Powered Education: Innovative Teaching Strategies to Elevate Student Learning.

2024 SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Karen Magruder

- Appointed as a founding member to CSWE's newly created Council on Environmental Justice and Human Rights (CEJHR).
- Selected as the winner of the BSW Teaching Award for excellence in teaching at the BSW level for the 2023-2024 Academic Year.

Dr. Yangjin Park

- Barbara Thompson Award for Excellence in Research on Military and Veteran Families, Military Family Research Institute at Purdue University and Military REACH at Auburn University.
- 2024 BEST QUANTITATIVE ARTICLE, Families in Society/Sage Publishing.

Dr. Kathleen Preble

- Selected as the recipient of the Healing Action Network "Community Impact Award."
- Research and Scholarship Impact Award, School of Social Work.

Dr. Maryam Rafieifar

- Awarded a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for her project entitled, Shifting Grounds: Assessing the Impact of Florida's Immigration Policy on Immigrant Families.

Dr. De'An Roper

- Promoted to Associate Professor of Practice.
- Elected onto the Board of Directors for NALGAP (The National Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Addiction Professionals).
- Appointed as a member of the Council on Social Work Education's (CSWE) Council on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression (CSOGIE).

Dr. Jessica Sanchez

- Accepted as Committee Member of NASW-TX Women's Rights Committee.
- Selected as a summer Faculty Success Fellow.
- Received the Latina Trailblazer of the Year award from the annual COSIGN Magazine awards in Dallas.

Dr. Jessica Sanchez

- Appointed to the National Association of Social Work (NASW) National Committee on Women's Issues.
- UTA Annual Faculty & Staff Recognition, UTA Student Affairs.

Dr. Christine Spadola

- Elected to serve on the My Health My Resources (MHMR) Foundation Board of Directors for Tarrant County.

Dr. Eusebius Small

- Promoted to Full Professor.

Dr. Christian Vazquez

- RISE 100: Postdoctoral Fellow Hire, The University of Texas at Arlington.
- Launched Travel and Small Grant program, Pennington Biomedical Research Center.

Dr. Micki Washburn

- Received award from the Phase 4 Postdoctoral Fellow Program of the RISE 100 initiative.
- Promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure. Faculty Senate Travel award, University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Joyce White

- Received Experiential Learning Faculty Fellowship Grant and UTA CARES OER Modification Grant.
- Selected for the CSWE Women's Council Mentor Award.
- Appointed to serve on the CSWE Council on Practice Methods and Specializations for a 3-year period from July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027.
- Selected as one of the 2024-2025 EDGE Faculty Fellows.

Dr. Rachel Voth Schrag

- Accepted as a Distinguished Fellow for the National Academies of Practice (NAP) Social Work Academy.

Dr. Ling Xu

- Won the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching - Tenured.