

Retirees

The following faculty and staff retired from UTSA over the past year. We appreciate their longtime service to the university and our campus community.

Stephen Amberg	Jaime Fernandez	Maricela Linan	Carol Rapps	Jose Uriegas
Patricia Arevalo	Daniel Garcia	Maria Lorusso	John Salas	Gerry Valdez
Juan Avalos	Maria Gonzales	Malgorzata	Albert Salgado	Rosa Varela
Bridget Baumgardner	Carrie Hansen	Oleszkiewicz-	Donna Sanders	Judith Verdon
Cheri Bratton	Melody Hensley	Peralba	Ravinderpal Sandhu	Juan Villarreal
Rene Colunga	Sonia Hernandez	Laura Oliver	Roberto Santellanes	Rhonda Wansley
Linda Day	Bryan Hillburn	Olinda Ongay	Hejin Shin	Gregory White
Oak Deberg	Johanna Hunziker	Paloma Perry	Colleen Snodgrass	Beth Wichman
Stephen Dingler	Roseanne Hurst	Gregory Peyer	Douglas Sonogo	Charles Wilson
Leslie Doss	Mary Kalicki	Marshall Pitman	Margarita Steigleder	George Wurth III
Michael Doyle	Max Kilger	Elba Ramos	Rebecca Trawick	
David Espinoza	Steven Levitt	Debra Rappaport	Mary Tutor	

Awards Committees

Many thanks to all who contributed to this year’s awards process—from reviewing nominations and selecting winners to organizing the ceremony. Their efforts made today's celebration possible.

University Excellence Staff Awards

Anna Boyer-Chadwick	Lauren Hoffman
Estefania Casper	Sharon Martinez
Debra Del Toro	Andrea McClure
Victoria Downing	Nikki McGovern
Angelica Enriquez	John Swisher
Amy Fritz	Mickie Tencza
Pebby Garner	Angela Trejo
Diane Gomez	
in conjunction with Divisional Review Committees	

President’s Distinguished Faculty Achievement Awards

Helyde Adan-Torres	Makiko Fukuda
Xueyin Bai	Aaron Galliher
Favor Campbell	Laura Gaviaia
Melanie Carless	Guadalupe Gorordo
Felicia Castro-Villarreal	Iffat Jabeen
Marco Cervantes	Gary Jacobs
Ana Marie Chamoun	Laura Kelly
Mark Davidson	Dina Krasikova
Mary Dixon	Brian Laub
Judith Dones	Donghun Lee
Alperen Ergur	Laura Levi

Wei-Ming Lin	Derek Plantenga
Kellie Lynch	Kelley Reno
Pamela Mahan	David Restrepo
David Matiella	Lindsay Ratcliffe
Alan Meca	Scott Sherer
Alberto Mestas	Bruce Stanfill
Gregg Michel	Mel Webb
Rita Mitra	Keying Ye
Jeffrey Neathery	Zhongxia (Shelly) Ye
Sara Oswalt	

University Excellence Awards Steering Committee

Kiran Bhaganagar	Kelly Nash
Angela Camarillo	Anne Peters
Shelly Crofford	Cynthia Ramirez
Chera Finkbiner	Liz Rockstroh
Pebby Garner	Marisol Rodriguez
Katy Madden	Mitzi Shipley
Kimberly Maldonado	Debra Del Toro
Georgina Martinez	Drew Vincent
Sharon Martinez	



2025 UTSA®
UNIVERSITY
EXCELLENCE
Awards
CEREMONY

APRIL 30, 2025 | 9:30 A.M.
H-E-B STUDENT UNION BALLROOM

PROGRAM

Welcome and
Years of Service Recognitions
Taylor Eighmy
President

Presentation of Faculty Awards
Dr. Heather Shipley
Provost and Executive Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Presentation of Staff Awards
Veronica Salazar
Executive Vice President for Business Affairs and
Chief Enterprise Development Officer



Years of Service

We're proud to celebrate our employees reaching years of service milestones with UTSA and the University of Texas System between June 2024 and May 2025

55 Years of Service

Melvin Guentzel

45 Years of Service

James Calder

40 Years of Service

Nikos Salingaros
Mehdi Shadaram

35 Years of Service

Mansour El-Kikhia
Bridget Drinka
Joleen Gould
Robert Hard
Miriam Martinez
David Pillow
Armando Trujillo

30 Years of Service

Liao Chen
Mary-Margaret Echevarria
Christopher Ellison
Belinda Flores
Wendy Frost
David Hansen
James Jinks
Richard LeBaron
Angelia Lemmonds
Victor Lopez
Mary McNaughton-Cassill
Patricia Ramirez
Terri Reynolds
Barbara Smith
Valerie Sponsel
Thomas Thomson
Frederick Wiedner
Zenong Yin

25 Years of Service

Kristin Aguero
Rebecca Anderson
Allison Baca
Karan Bhanot
Weiming Cao
Fengxin Chen
Geneva Fitzsimmons
Margaret Floyd
Cynthia Galindo
Lisa Johns
Dung Le
Mark Leung
Ruben Lopez
Rebecca Luther
Paul Macdonald
Sylvia Mansour
Peter Morales
Srinivasan Rao
Matthew Ruiz
Raymond Sadeghi
Alicia Salinas
Minako Shibazaki
Casey Sisco
Martha Smith
Denise Villarreal
Renee Walter
Wendy Witt

20 Years of Service

Mariposa Agaard
Richard Armendariz
Karen Aston
Roselena Balderas
Jennette Barreto
Sean Beatty
Rachel Blanquiz
Melissa Cadena
Ramiro Cantu
Astrid Cardona
Guadalupe Carmona-Dominguez
Vanessa Carter
Jinny Case
Marco Cervantes
Amy Chanmugam
Jesse Chavez
Darren D'Attilio
Mary Dixon
Eduardo Duenez
Erika Escamilla
Julie Fisher
Kathryn Fleuret
Thomas Forsthuber
Amy Fritz
Amanda Garcia
Minerva Garcia-Delgado
Gary Gaufo
James Gerhardt
Armando Gonzalez
Heather Green
Jianmin Guan
Donna Harris
Flor Hernandez
Denise Hidrogo
Joseph Howard
Jenny Hsieh
Orestes Hubbard
Chiung-Yu Hung
Yufang Jin
Marisol Johnson
Gerald Juhnke
Carrie Langford
Jacqueline Loden
Tracy Lopez
Justin Lowe
George Marez
Michael McDonald
Jan McKinney
Cathy Montanez
Laura Munroe
Teresa Pena
Lloyd Potter
Marcela Ramirez
Roberto Ramon
Vanessa Ramos
Janette Riddell
Ana Rodriguez
David Rodriguez
Roger Saldana
Traci Sandoval
Maria Santos
Jessenia Skelton
Boyka Stefanova
John Stephen
Suzanne Stokes
Julie Sylvan
Andrea Whitlock
Cheri Wiese
Colleen Witt
Yinlong Zhang

15 Years of Service

James Adair
Ynes Alderson
Steven Amren
Armando Araiza
Cara Baker

Neel Baumgardner
James Benson
Alicia Bernal
Kiran Bhaganagar
Justin Bingham
Irasema Boatright
Emily Bonner
Curtis Brewer
Francesca Bronder
Jo Anna Caballero
Diana Calloway
Griseida Campos
Ashley Castillo
David Castillo
Felicia Castro
Lynda Cavazos
Shital Chaudhari
Andrea Chavez
Hsing-Huei Chou
Mehdi Daghir
Daniel Davied
Jaime De Hoyos
Robert De Hoyos
Antonio De La Cruz
Abraham DeLeon
Terri Earnest
Rami El-Farrah
Rodolfo Esparza
Christopher Fassler
Heather Finkel
Jason Gagliardi
Kristina Garza
Kalia Glover
Lara Goldmann
Diane Gomez
Robert Gomez
Antonio Gonzalez
Maria Gonzalez
Matthew Grunstra
Yilmaz Hatipkarasulu
Maria Hernandez
Lesli Hicks
Robert Hopper
Colin Howlett
Damaris Ibarra
Jacqueline Jackson
Sean Johnston
Youngjoong Joo
Andra Kiser
Ram Krishnan
David Kuenstler
James Lee
Cynthia Lima
Agustin Llano
Cassandra Lopez
Xochitl Lopez-Lozano
Marisol Mandujano
Fernando Martinez
Glenn Martinez
Mei-Lani May
John McDowell
Henry Meade
David Miskey
Brande Mora
Juan Mora
George Morales
John Murphy
Kelly Nash
Cheryl Negrete
Erika Olvera
Vanessa Padron
Laura Paschal
Jude Patin
Jacob Payne
Timothy Peltonen
Anne Peters
Annette Portillo
John Quarles
Adam Quintero
Jeffrey Ragsdale
Patricia Ramirez

Alfonso Rios
Cynthia Roberts
Alexandra Rodriguez
Elizabeth Rowe
Erica Sosa
Randy Spencer
Miranda Swain
Suzanne Tanaka
Victoria Tesillo
Saadet Toker Beeson
Monica Torrez
Angela Trejo
Gilberto Ugalde
Difernando Vanegas
Blane Walter
Lily Wang
Rebecca Weston
Sarah Wigley
Bruce Williams
Heather Williams
Walter Wilson
Todd Wright
Xiaohe Xu
JingYong Ye

10 Years of Service

Jenaia Alcantar
Alisha Aldape
Jean Antao
Claudia Arcolin
Paul Ardoin
Juan Avila
Summer Batiste
Melissa Blanton
Wendy Boaglio Grateareaux
Jonathan Bonner
Justin Boyd
Anna Boyer-Chadwick
Anthony Bright
JoAnn Browning
Maria Camargo
Favor Campbell
Rachel Cannady
Denis Cano
Kathryn Carrillo
Julian Chavez
Martha Sidury Christiansen
Catherine Clinton
Christopher Combs
Alta Compton
Ashley Cuevas
Sheila Darcey
Jessica Dawson
Carelli De La Garza Torres
Donna Degen
Samuel DeJulio
Kevin Desai
Shelly Dotson
Karen Duncan
Karl Fisher
Mario Flores
Jimi Francis
Martin Gallegos
Jocelyn Garcia
Vanessa Garza
Zinthia Garza
Jesus Adolfo Garza Decanini
Amy Gomez
Analicia Gonzales
Angela Grant
Angelique Gregory
Richard Gretz
Wendell Griffith
Jonathan Gutierrez
Zaid Haddad
Willie Hale
Kirsten Hanson
Sheri Hardison
Lauren Hoffmann
Norma Hogan

Jeffrey Howard
Rual Huerta
Saima Humayun
Cayla Jimenez
Destiny Jones
Pamela Jones
Zachary Jordan
Monica Juarez
Renee Juchnik
Mary Kelley
Md Shamsad Khan
Andrew Konove
Huy Le
Alexander Lewis
David Lopez
Edgar Madrigal
Anastasia Maltseva
Kelley Marcantel
Andrea Marquez
Michael Martin
Valerie Martinez
Janeth Martinez-Cortes
Adolfo Matamoros
Ritu Mathur
Chad McFadon
Maria Mendiola
Marissa Mexquitic
Donna Miller
Molly Miller
Tonya Miller
Victoria Miller
Anne Mitchell
Jose Morales Escalante
Beth Morley
Sapna Naik
Leslie Neely
Austin Negron
Magdalena Nerio
Thomas Nese
Vu Nguyen
Alexander Nicasio
Jacklyn Olveda
Armando Ortiz
Cynthia Ortiz
Melanie Pardaen
Priya Prasad
Scott Reuter
Levi Rex
Juan Reyes
Carlos Rodriguez
Veronica Rodriguez
James Roe
Jesus Romo
Jerod Ryan
Ramin Sahba
Veronica Salazar
Sarah Sanchez
Aaron Sanders
Nancy Seidensticker
Carmen Sepulveda
Jessica Stanford
Jelena Todici
Miguel Angel Torres Martinez
Chelsea Trotter
Guadalupe Vargas
Sean Vargas
Parul Varma
Destiny Velasquez
Zijun Wang
Ana Weissling
Deborah Weissling
Stacey Wells
Jaylon Wilson
Kai Xu
Zhongxia Ye

5 Years of Service

Jessica Acosta
Aanuoluwa Adelani
Bridget Agnew
Ryan Aguayo
Albert Aleman

Jesus Alfaro Calamaco
Jordan Allen
Ulises Alvarez
Jazmin Azcona
Mary Kathryn Babin
Hamid Badali
John Bagarozzy
Harold Baker
Jeremiah Barber
Isai Barboza-Ramos
Robert Bement
Clarissa Benavides
Francisco Benavides
Mitra Bokaei Hos seini
Jenell Bramlage
Glenn Brown
Thomas Brown
Zachary Brown
Anthony Burgos-Robles
Justin Burke
Isaac Bustos
Melanie Carless
Monica Casanova
Guadalupe Castaneda
Jeffrey Castle
Pamela Castro
Richard Chacon
Debaditya Chakraborty
Andrew Chapman
Horacio Cibrian
Isaura Contreras Rios
Fernando Cordova
Jeanette Cortez
Jeralynn Cossman
Alifer Crom
Thomas Crowell
Saugata Datta
Sean Davis
Alexis Dawson
Chayla De La Garza
Izaak De Leon
Jacob DeHoyos
Katia Diamante
Suzana Diaz Rosencrans
Samantha Docken
David Dominguez
Madelyn Duffey
Manuela Enriquez
Angel Espinoza
Laura Everett
Kathleen Ewoldt
Josefina Fernandez
Maria Fernandez
Matthew Fey
Dana Fisher
Devin Flaherty
Siobhan Fleming
Andrew Foster
Melissa Foster
Estefania Fuentes-Gonzalez
Athanasios Galiopoulos
Daniel Galliher
Eduardo Gandara Garcia
Brandy Garcia
Leslie Garcia
Daniel Garza
Madelyn Gibson
Yanmin Gong
Robert Gonzales
Catherine Gonzalez
Mathew Gonzalez
Nicholas Graham
Adrian Grant
Corrina Green
Deaven Greenberg
Joshua Guerra
Larissa Guerra
Traci Guinn
Yuanxiong Guo
Juan Gutierrez
Teresa Gutierrez
Yolanda Gutierrez

Brandon Hall
James Hallmark
JoAnne Hancock
Joseph Harjo
Jessica Hartley
Jason Hassay
Eric Hauer
La Tanya Henry
Moises Hernandez
Tina Hill
Gay Hobgood
Joo Eun Hong
Jiana Hook
Mariah Hopkins
Po-Chun Huang
Melanie Huffman
Alyssa Ibarra
Sebastiano Ibarra
Jalisa Jackson
Kaitlin Jackson
Crystal Jarrell Johnson
Zhiyuan Jia
Valerie Johnson
Lila Jordan
Ana Juarez
Jihye Jung
Jeongsoo Kim
Jill King
Olamiposi Kolajo
Derek Kubacki
Dhireesha Kudithipudi
Venkatesh Kumaresan
James Kuykendall
Uriel Laguna
Glenn Lahodny
Monica Lawson
Scott Lehrman
Emily Lerma
Itamar Lerner
Jess Loepp
Ja Loflin
Heather Longoria
Analise Lopez
Carlos Lopez
Diane Lopez
Roberto Lopez
Cory Lucantonio-Garcia
Mario Maldonado
Joe Mallen
Buddhi Ashan Mallika
Kankanamalage
Luis Martinez
Miriam Martinez
Roberto Martinez
Andrea McClure
Jessica McConnell
RaLynn McGuire
Shawn McSherry
Josephine Medel
Josephine Melendez
Philip Menard
Sylvia Mendoza
Karl Miller-Lugo
Jose Mireles
Charles Moke
Jose Montes Bojorquez
Dante Montoya
Jared Morehead
Belen Moreno
Farah Nadela
Michael Newell
Erick Olivares Bravo
Rebecca Ornelas
Melanie Ortigosa-Farrera
Timothy Palese
James Palmer
Se-Woong Park
Maria Rosaria Pasqualicchio
Vania Perez
Donald Petersen
Teena Philip
Alexia Pollock

Sushil Prasad
Priscilla Prasath
Joe Price
Shweta Priyadarshini
Steven Quezada
Randolph Quinn
Elyse Ramirez
Hector Ramirez
Richard Rayne
Pablo Requena
Matthew Reyes
Jamal Rhadbane
Pierre Richard
Troy Richardson
Georgie Riggs
Jessica Rivera
Adrienne Rodriguez
Amiee Rohlfing
Van Rolle
Lindsay Rule
Jenny Russell
Ann Ryan
Jose Salazar Aguilera
Francesco Savelli
William Schaefer
Shelby Scott
Rohisha Shakya
Alexandra Sheldon
James Sheppard
Sara Shields-Menard
Nicholas Shumpert
Stephani Slowik
Lisa Smith
Angela Speck
Heather Staples
Victoria Stephens
Ana Stevanovic
Patrick Stiles
Jeff Stover
Jake Sullivan
Anthony Surratt
Vivian Ta-Johnson
Marcus Tapia
Antonia Taylor
Jon Taylor
Werner Teichroeb
Michael Thomas
Robert Tokunaga
Ivan Toledo
Carol Torok
Kurt Traylor
Esteban Urena-Benavides
Eric Uriegas
Melinda Utoft
Lukas Valdes
Genesis Valdez
Allison Veach
Lucinda Vela
Michael Vela
Carlos Velez
Melissa Viesca-Benavidez
Alexandria Vigil
Alyssa Vikesland
Rhonda Waller
Min Wang
Alan Whittington
Damon Williams
Rachel Woolf
Mimi Xie
Thomas Yee
Brianna Yoder
Nicholas Young
Alexis Zacarias
Bushra Tasnim Zahed
Oswaldo Zapata Correa
Catalina Zarate
Guoquan Zhang
Yan Zhang
Hongyi Zhu
Daniel Zucker
Bianca Zunigak



2025 UTSA[®] UNIVERSITY EXCELLENCE *Awards* WINNERS

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award
for Teaching Excellence

Vikram Kapoor (Tenured)

Monica Lawson (Tenure-Track)

Jose (Francisco Herbert) Acero (Fixed-Term Track)

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award
for Excellence for Core
Curriculum Teaching

Drew Stephen (Tenured/Tenure-Track)

Mimi Yu (Fixed-Term Track)

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Excellence in University Service

Curtis Brewer (Tenured/Tenure-Track)

Susan Thomas (Fixed-Term Track)

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Excellence in Community
Engagement

Tracy Cowden (Tenured/Tenure-Track)

Guillermina Zabala Suárez (Fixed-Term Track)

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Research Achievement

Jenny Hsieh (Tenured)

Juliet Wiersema (Tenured)

Thayne Currie (Tenure-Track)

Ian Thacker (Tenure-Track)

Thomas Yee (Fixed-Term Track)

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Excellence for Performance and
Creative Production

Rachel Cruz

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Excellence for Advancing
Globalization

Elizabeth Sooby

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Innovation & Impact (I²)

Integrated Mathematics-Enhanced (IME)

STEM Inquiries

Jessica Gehrtz, Stacy Jones

Su Liang, Tina Vega

President's Distinguished
Achievement Award for
Excellence for Mentoring

Kasandra Keeling (Tenured/Tenure-Track)

Hector Aguilar (Fixed-Term Track)

Richard S. Howe Outstanding
Undergraduate Teaching Award

Andrea Caldwell Marquez

Richard S. Howe Faculty
Excellence in Service
to Undergraduate Students Award

Andria Crosson

University Excellence
Collaboration Champion Award

Tyler Boehme

Siobhan Fleming

University Excellence
Excellence in Customer Care Award

Elizabeth Estrada

Richard S. Howe Staff
Excellence in Service to
Undergraduate Students Award

Daniel Ramirez-Escobedo

University Excellence
Innovation Trailblazer Award

Erica Clark

Brandy Garcia

University Excellence
Leadership Award

Lauren Apgar

University Excellence
Rising Star Award

Fernando Cordova

University Excellence
Extra Mile Award

Antonia Martinez

University Excellence
Team Spirit Award

Technology Solutions Strategic Services

Andrea Bell, Jose Chapa, Vanity Davis

Humberto Guevara, Moises Hernandez

Kevin Lozano, Jonathan Medrano

Juan Ospina, Araceli Pacheco

Alexandra Salazar, Aslam Tejani

Ashlee Vasquez, Jesus Villanue

University Excellence
Order of the Roadrunner Award

Martha Gutierrez Saul