



2026

UNIVERSITY  
**EXCELLENCE**  
*Awards*  
CEREMONY

**April 28, 2026 | 9:30 a.m.**  
**H-E-B Student Union Ballroom**

**Program**

**Welcome and  
Years of Service Recognitions**

**Dr. Taylor Eighmy**  
President

**Presentation of Faculty Awards**

**Dr. Heather Shipley**  
Provost and Senior Executive  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Presentation of Staff Awards**

**Andrea Marks**  
Senior Executive Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer



**UT San Antonio®**

## Retirees

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

James Adair	Elizabeth Delagarza	Viki Harden	Terri Reynolds
Bridget Agnew	Eustaquio DeLeon	Janis Harmon	Robert Rigney
Armando Alcala	Annette Diaz	Manuel Hinojosa	Melissa Rodriguez
Susan Allen	Manuel Diaz	Jacqueline Jackson	Alicia Salinas
Helene Benitez	Robert Dickens	Karen Jensen	Carlos Salinas
Lucy Blondell	Donna Edmondson	Prescott Kabrich	Jose Samaniego
Sarah Brandt	Michael Findeisen	Jerome Keating	Nina Siebold
Linda Burke	Belinda Flores	Pyotr Liberzon	Rebecca Smith
Wanda Burns	Margaret Floyd	Frank Maniscalco	John Strybos
Thomas Calucci	Blanca Garcia	Sylvia Mansour	Paul Tyler
Susan Colorado-Burt	Edward Gonzales	Cynthia Murphy	David Vance
Brad Cooper	Andrew Goodenough	Vu Nguyen	Arnold Villafranco
Roxanne Cuevas	Michael Guarino	Tia Palsole	Richard West
Crystal Darby	Norma Guerra	Michelle Phillips	Joanne Wright
Brian Davies	Ricardo Guzman	Sylvia Rayko	Maogen Zhang

## 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.

### Staff Awards

Stef Casper  
Debra Del Toro  
Angela Enriquez  
Angel Espinoza  
Lauren Hoffman  
Marisol Johnson  
Chloe Knauer  
Vivian Lockard  
Zachary Marcotte  
Sharon Martinez  
Andrea McClure  
Nina Morgan  
Alexandra Salazar  
Lauren Smith  
John Swisher  
Mickie Tencza  
Angela Trejo  
*in conjunction  
with Divisional  
Review  
Committees*

### Faculty Awards

Peter Amah  
Serge Ambrose  
Onur Bayar  
Joleen Beltrami  
Brian Brigham  
Glenn Brown  
Kristen Brown  
Samuel Byndom  
Felicia Castro-Villarreal  
Stacy Conrad  
Alberto Cordova  
Tansu Demir  
Lien Donald  
Judith Dones  
Robin English-Bircher  
Mark Eppinger  
Makiko Fukuda  
Susan Gelb  
Mauricio Gomez  
JudyAnn Gonzalez  
Guadalupe Gorordo  
Stephen He

### Steering Committee

Mary Anthony  
Kathryn Appenzeller  
Kiran Bhaganagar  
Angela Camarillo  
Shelly Crofford  
Debra Del Toro  
Chloe Knauer  
Alyssa Luna  
Jennifer Luna  
Katy Madden  
Kimberly Maldonado  
Georgina Martinez  
Sharon Martinez  
Dani McDavid  
Kelly Nash  
Anne Peters  
Wes Reel  
Feiyi Ring  
Liz Rockstroh  
David Rodriguez  
Mitzi Shipley  
Drew Vincent

# Years of Service

We're proud to celebrate our employees reaching years of service milestones with UT San Antonio and the University of Texas System between June 2025 - May 2026

## **50 Years of Service**

Robert Renthal

## **45 Years of Service**

Janis Bush

Michael Miller

## **40 Years of Service**

Gerard Bustos

Linda Felan

James Nielsen

## **35 Years of Service**

Michael Almeida

Brenda Clarke

George Constantinides

Mansour El-Kikhia

Rafael Lopez-Mobililia

## **30 Years of Service**

Deborah Bailey

Edwin Barea-Rodriguez

John Chismar

Robert Dickens

Stephanie Gdovin

Sylvia Geddings

Robert Granado

Diane Hays

Hans Heidner

Anne Jimenez

Eugene John

Steven Mitchell

William Ramos

John Reynolds

Linda Shepherd

Howard Smith

John Soudah

Paul Tyler

## **25 Years of Service**

Emmanuel Akwar

Lisa Alonzo

Vladimir Andzic

Louis Badillo

Patricia Cerda-Arguijo

Stefanie Cisneros

Irene Coad

Carol Cox

William Dean

Annette Diaz

Aaron Fox

Manuel Gallegos

Kirsten Gardner

Artyom Grigoryan

Anne Hardgrove

Jose Iovino

Dean Lambert

Melvin Laracey

Ryan McMahan

Betty Merchant

Gregg Michel

Cynthia Munoz

Sharon Navarro

Christopher Ortega

Cliff Paredes

Jesus Pierce

Shashi Pinheiro

Maria Roberts

Angelika Rocha

Dana Rozelle

Stephen Saville

Cynthia Schweers

Jason Skow

Paul Smith

David Thompson

Linda Vaello

Alexander Ward

Gregory White

Tammy Wyatt

Wan Yao

John Zhang

John Zhao

## **20 Years of Service**

Maia Adamina

Tracy-Lea Alderete

August Allo

Armando Arciniega

Maria Arreguin

James Aviles

Darrell Balderrama

Elizabeth Bay

Jennifer Beavers

Hamid Beladi

Rena Bizios

Norma Blizard

Jeffery Boone

Monica Bowden

Hong Cai

Joseph Campbell

Juan Cantu

Guadalupe Carmona-Dominguez

Paul Carney

Gilbert Cassiano

Paula Castillo

Heather Castro

Ruben Cavazos

Andrey Chabanov

Bradley Chandler

Chonglin Chen

Fengshan Chen

Michael Coe

Braulio Contreras

Dainon Deviney

Jennifer Dilley

Christopher Dunn

Lucila Ek

Walter Ermler

Henry Esparza

Amanda Esquivel

Nestor Esquivel

Michael Fernandez

Joanne Ford-Robertson

Charles Fraga

Erica Garcia

Raul Garcia

Rosa Garza-Girdy

Ginnifer Gee

Ovidio Giberga

Dionne Granados

Thomas Gyori

Judith Haschenburger

Ginger Hernandez

Jesse Hernandez

Evaristo Hinojosa

Caroline Jirka

Lisa Johnston

Kimberly Juchnik-Kyle

Manjit Kaur

Brian Kelley

Leonard Kemp

James Linehan

Alyson Martin

Gerardo Martinez

Stephen Matthews

Tammy McDaniel

Ryan McPherson

Rhonda Minten

Paul Morton

Tracy Myers

Sharon Nichols

Jianwei Niu

John Nix

John Ortiz

Sara Oswald

Kathy Paradise

Kimberly Perez

George Perry

Julia Poo

David Riker

Shandra Rinckoard

Bigler

Armando Rodriguez

Iselda Rodriguez

Candid Rogers

Bruce Rudy

Jesus Salais

Mario Salas

Lilliana Saldana

Jacob Sanchez

Robin Sanders

Ruth Schaller

Eric Schlegel

Tara Schmidt

Janakiram Seshu

John Shaffer

Hatim Sharif

Dixie Shaw-Tillmon

Richard Sifuentes

Sandra Smith

Peggy Stuck

Jeremy Sullivan

Raymond Teske

Blanch Torres

Heather Trepal

Daniela Trevino

Gilberta Turner

Cirilo Vazquez

Jeffrey Volz

Tracy Walton

Zhiwei Wang

Kimberly West

Keying Ye

Qin Yin

Timothy Yuen

Dakai Zhu

## **15 Years of Service**

Joe Alderete

Janet Allen-McConkey

Lauren Beaver

Jonathan Brucks

Bianca Bunton

Langston Clark

John Colston

Elisabeth Cuadros

Mark Davidson

Susanne Davidson

Ronald Ellis

Eric Elmore

Zhigang Feng

Kasey Fielder

Lorelei Fogel

Hammargren

Thomas Freeman

Lindsay Fuller

Benjamin Garcia

Kerri Glaspie

Belinda Guevara

Amalia Guirao

David Holster

Jie Huang

Diana Huffaker

Kristi Johnson

Matt Keneson

Linda Kerns

Mario Kheirabadi-Neira

Oleg Larionov

Albert Lopez

Martha Martinez

Marcelo Marucho

Evage Mcgee

Clinton McKenzie

Kimberly McMahan

Karl Miller-Lugo

Allegra Montemayor

Erin Moring

April Munoz

Jeffrey Neathery

Richard Nuckels

Lindsay O'Day

Michelle Pina Theall

German Plascencia Villa

Arturo Ponce Pedraza

Thomas Porter

James Powell

Esiquio Prado

Heather Riddle

Feiyi Ring

James Rodriguez

Jorge Rodriguez

Manuel Rodriguez

Steven Rosbottom

Megan Joyce Rulewicz

Michael Rushforth

Rogelio Saenz

Vanessa Sansone

John Santos

Glen Shaffer

Bonita Sharma

Jonathan Sherette

Michael Silva

Ivanka Stamova

John Stratton

Zachary Tonzetich

Herlinda Tovar

Ashlee Vasquez

James Vaughan

Sarah Webb

Penny Wuebben

Jason Yaeger

Emily Young

Gwen Young

## **10 Years of Service**

Reza Aghayan

Marysol Aguilera

Carlos Aguirre

Jacklyn Aleman

Jessica Aleman

Adrian Ambriz

Michelle Baland

Elda Barajas

Jose Barrera

Kristine Benson	Hejamadi Rao	Clarissa Barrientos	Cain Green	Selena Olivares
Fikrewold Bitew	Jessica Reid	David Beheshti	Argon Gruber	Claribel Olivas
Kathleen Blanton	Charles Reyes	Melissa Bernal	Shalan Hall	Christina Page-Sutter
Donald Brown	Robert Ripley	Kimberly Bishop	Rodney Harborth	Patrick Page-Sutter
Yongcan Cao	Emanuel MAL Rodriguez	Angelique Blackburn	Mohammad Jahid Hasan	Tej Pandit
Ricardo Castillo	Amin Sahba	Nansy Blake Lopez	Lisa Hernandez	Jodh Pannu
Bradley Christianson	Leslie Sanchez	Maia Bland	Alyssa Herrera	Angela Paz
David Daigle	Teresa Sandoval	Krista Bouvier	Laura Herrick	Stephanie Peche
Adolph Delgado	Matthew Schurmann	Rebecca Bria	Travis Hestilow	Canales
Ashley Denney	Amanda Shope	Betty Briones	Mary Hickman-Herschell	Monica Perales
Jolyn Dominguez	Eric Silva	Kristen Brown	Terrence Hill	Marc Perry
David Dunnington	Larry Sjelin	Sara Buckley	Sung-Ho Hong	Lyric Pryor
Ryan Filo	Travis Sjelin	Amy Buechler-Steubing	Mohammad Hoque	Zhuolin Qu
Evette Flores	Miriam Sobre	Zachary Butler	Joseph Houpt	Rahul Raghavan
Cy Fondal	Kaye Steinhour	Serina Cabarubio	Elias Hudson	Daniel Ramirez-Escobedo
Lisha Garcia	Rebecca Stortz	Abi Caceres Figueroa	John Huggins	Praveen Ranjan
Marisela Garcia	Rebecca Stratton	Jiannan Cai	Joshua Hurtado	Juan Sebastian Rincon
Joshua Gerken	Amanda Swaney	Benjamin Cardiff	Andleeb Irfan	Tabares
Gloria Gonzales	Jennifer Swoyer	Stephanie Cardwell	Alireza Jahanara	Frank Rosinia
Amandine Grenier	Firat Testik	Esperanza Carrasco	Stephen Jauregui	Alexandra Salazar
Allison Gutierrez	Reyna Tostado	LuAn Casarez	Chloe Johnson	Savera Salim
Michael Hanna	Brenya Twumasi	Enrique Casasnovas	Brittainy Jones	Brooke Salzman
Tanoya Harris	Oren Upton	Corina Castillo-Johnson	Stacy Jones	Larry Samaniego
Bryan Heard	April Valdez	Stephany Castruita	Tristan Jones	Sonya San Miguel
Annie Herrera	Santiago Valdovinos	Valeria Cenoz	Kara Joyner	Alejandra Santos
Ivan Hurd	Omar Valerio-Jimenez	Patrick Cereceres	Ivalina Kalcheva	Arturo Schultz
Angel Ipiná	Jessica Vela	Nora Charles	Amir Karimi	Morteza Seidi
Kalpana Iyengar	Noe Vela	Nicole Cherry	Alliah Kelley	Jazmin Serna
Lorena Jeter	Jose Velasco	Barrett Codieck	Hyewon Kim	LaDonna Sewell
Tomichan Chettupuzha	Giselle Villalpando	Genesis Cordia	Heather Kingsley	Kyle Shaney
Johny	Johnathan Votion	Charles Cosnowski	Isil Koyuncu Kilci	Inchul Shin
Traci Keck	Joseph Waelbroeck	Rachel Cruz	Assel Krymkulova	Megan Smith
Mariah Kilbourne	Kenneth Walker	Angela De La Cruz	Audrey Lamb	Wan Song
Max Kilger	Hunter Westbrook	David Diaz	Tatiana Layman	Paul Sotello
Mitchell Knight	Daniel Wherritt	Connor Doherty	Haylee Lee	Jacob Stauffer
Catherine Komisaruk	Marcy Wilburn	Ao Du	Won-Haeng Lee	Raymond Swisher
Aimin Liu	Cedric Williams	Claudia Elenes	Zhiyong Lin	Ian Thacker
Xavier Loredó	Melissa Williamson	Matthew Elliott	Austin Lord	Jenitha Antony Merlin
Pamela Mahan	Nancy Wood	Alperen Ergur	Natalee Marion	Thomas Moorthy
Jade Martinez	Katherine Woodhouse	Jake Erney	Miguel Martinez	Edit Toth
Bijo Mathew	Shantae Wright	Lemira Esparza	Gonzalo Martinez Medina	Manisha Vaswani
Kareem Mattis	Li-Hua Yen	Sergio Esquivel	Frances Matos-Schultz	Dominic Villanueva
Maria Medrano Guillen	George Zavala	Deborah Eyzaguirre	William McCulley	Nisha Vinayaga
Matthew Melancon		Caitlin Farias	Victor McLerran	Sureshkanth
Tyler Minnigh	<b>5 Years of Service</b>	Bailey Farmer	Ryne Medina	Drew Vincent
Betty Mkwinda Nyasulu	Lorna Adams	Jorge Felipe-Gonzalez	Marzieh Memar	Claire Walton
Maria Montalvo	Binay Adhikari	Helena Fischer	Cindy Mendoza	Raveen Wijewickrama
Stephen Morgan	Alejandro Aguilar Quirino	Erika Flores	Kathleen Meneely	Elliot Williams
Sandra Morissette	Sheikh Imran Uddin	Truman Gamblin	Melissa Mifflin	Eric Wooldridge
Kelli Morrison	Ahmed	Hector Garcia	Cameron Miles	Tong Wu
Vanesa Nieto Estevez	Olabayo Ajetunmobi	Jessica Gehrtz	Uchenna Miles	Richard Wyatt
Belinda Perez	George Akech	Habtom Gobeze	Paul Millette	Fang Xu
Simon Perez	Beatriz Alaniz	Gabriela Gomez	Alexander Morales	Bedrettin Yazan
Diana Pirhala	Einás Albadawi	Liliana Gomez	Sandra Morales	Dengdeng Yu
Kendra Pittman	Bianca Alvarez	Alyssa Gonzales	Alejandro Morales	Ada Zamarripa
Nicole Poole	Carolina Arango-Vargas	Jessica Gonzales	Betancourt	
Ashley Poronsky	Hayri Arslan	Jenny Gonzalez	Brenton Morgan	
Luca Pozzi	Ali Atabey	Maria Gonzalez Porras	Emily Nicklett	
Melissa Ramirez	Mauricio Avendano	Guadalupe Gorordo	Bryana Nunez	
Rica Ramirez	Gabriela Azuara	Robert Graham	Cristian Nuno	



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**Advancing Globalization Award**

Raymond Cho

**Community Engagement Award**

Juan Manuel Niño (Tenured/Tenure-Track)  
Purnima Chawla (Fixed-Term Track)

**Core Curriculum Teaching Award**

Robert J. Hard (Tenured/Tenure-Track)  
Reza Aghayan (Fixed-Term Track)

**Faculty Mentoring Award**

Nicole Cherry (Tenured/Tenure-Track)  
Katheryne Harrell (Fixed-Term Track)

**Innovation and Impact Award**

Innovation in Emergency Airway Management Team

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Robert De Lorenzo, Connor J. Evans,  
Rakib Hasan, Lyle Hood, Jacob Provencio

**Performance, Creative Production or  
Creative Work Award**

Rachel Woolf

**Research Excellence Award**

Ruyan Guo (Tenured)  
Janakiram Seshu (Tenured)  
Mimi Xie (Tenure-Track)  
Alexey A. Soshnev (Tenure-Track)  
Sharon Wilcox (Fixed-Term Track)

**Richard S. Howe Outstanding  
Undergraduate Teaching Award**

Mariah Hopkins

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

Amanda Fernandez

**Teaching Excellence Award**

Jennifer Beavers (Tenured)  
Lacy J. Barton (Tenure-Track)  
Thomas Ervin (Fixed-Term Track)

**University Service Award**

Ron Ellis (Tenured/Tenure-Track)  
Mary Dixon (Fixed-Term Track)

**Collaboration Champion Award**

Jenny Gonzalez  
Bryan Tobias

**Excellence in  
Customer Care Award**

Shaun Davis  
Jean-Luk Rueda

**Extra Mile Award**

Agustin Llano

**Innovation Trailblazer Award**

Hanin Alhaddad

**Leadership Award**

Alegra Lozano

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

Kimberly Perez

**Rising Star Award**

Vanity Davis

**Team Spirit Award**

Development and Opening  
of the New Institute of  
Texan Cultures Team

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Bianca Alvarez,  
James Benavides,  
Esteban Cantu,  
Robert Gonzales,  
Michelle Hamilton,  
Kandice Howard-Fambro,  
Nansy Lopez Gutierrez,  
Monica Perales,  
Danielle Ramos,  
Marcela Summerville,  
Marcus Tapia,  
Allison Valdivia,  
Cristina Winston

**Order of the  
Roadrunner Award**

Minako Shibazaki

