

COE N3 Never Normal News

Happy Stars Wars Day, Bearkats! May the fourth be with you through the rest of the semester.

People of the COE



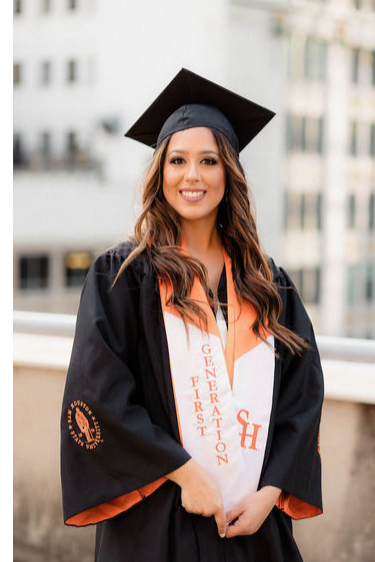
Dr. Sinem Akay-Sullivan

Born and raised in Turkey, Dr. Akay-Sullivan felt moved to help following the disastrous earthquakes that took a toll on the country in February. She has organized online zoom sessions to train those working with children in play therapy to work on healing the trauma endured. Read the full article [here](#).

Danielle Laird

College of Education graduate Dainielle Laird has defied the expectation of finishing your bachelor's degree at a certain age. A working wife and mother, Laird faced challenges in becoming a teacher, but is finally ready to graduate with a Bachelor of Education and a minor in special education.

Read the full article [here](#).



Program Receives National Recognition from International Literacy Association

Sam Houston State University is the latest recipient of ILA National Recognition—a seal of approval reserved for colleges and universities that exemplify the best in teacher preparation for literacy professionals.

National Recognition is a prestigious program designed to set institutions of higher learning apart. A university that has received National Recognition has undergone a rigorous review process to determine if it aligns with ILA's Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals, high benchmarks used to determine outstanding licensure, certificate, and endorsement programs.

Specifically, it is the [master's program](#) in reading and language arts, with a reading specialist certification, that has earned the honor, adding the program to a list of recipients that includes Loyola University Maryland, McDaniel College, Notre Dame College, Salisbury University, and The University of Texas at Permian Basin.

"We are proud to offer our candidates a high-quality, ILA nationally recognized program that builds and maintains a community of Bearkat literacy leaders who together positively impact and engage with literacy learning at all levels," said Patricia Gonzales Durham, associate professor at SHSU and the graduate program coordinator of the master's program.

The university will now be invited to move into a second phase of the review process that could potentially lead to ILA National Recognition With Distinction, the top honor in the National Recognition program, which signifies a school that exceeds ILA's rigorous standards. Universities that have achieved the distinction honor include Grambling State University, University of North Georgia, The University of Texas at San Antonio, and West Virginia University.

For more information on ILA's National Recognition program, visit literacyworldwide.org/natrec.

About the International Literacy Association

The International Literacy Association (ILA) is a professional membership organization of literacy educators, researchers and experts spanning 112 countries. For more than 65 years, ILA has set the standard for how literacy is defined, taught and evaluated, connecting research and practice to improve the quality of literacy learning across the globe. Through its Standards for the Preparation of Literacy Professionals, ILA provides an evidence-based benchmark for the development and evaluation of literacy professional preparation programs. ILA collaborates with partners across the world to develop, gather and disseminate high-quality resources, which include three peer-reviewed and edited journals—The Reading Teacher, Journal of Adolescent & Adult Literacy and Reading Research Quarterly.

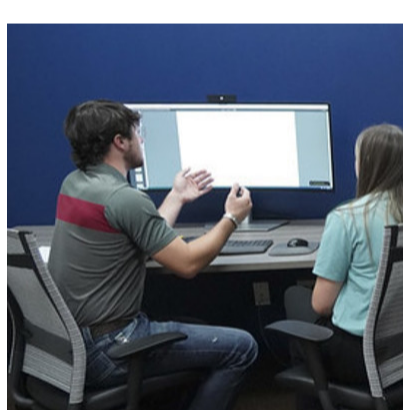


Spring 2023 Pre-Graduation Reception

Are you graduating in May? Join us for a pre-graduation reception complete with refreshments and photo ops! We can't wait to celebrate YOU!

When: May 12, 11:30am-1:00pm

Where: TEC 279



COE Research Center is Hiring: Graduate Assistant Wanted

The College of Education Research Center is looking for a motivated graduate student-researcher to join us in supporting researchers in the College of Education!

[Application Instructions](#)

[Email](#) the COE Research Center for additional information

Undergrad Scholarship Opportunity

240 Tutoring is offering a **scholarship for the summer semester**. The 240 Tutoring Gives Back scholarship will award **\$1,000** to one teacher candidate. The scholarship deadline is **May 12th, 2023**.

[Apply here](#)

Email [240 Tutoring](#) for assistance

Dissertation Announcements

Angela Johnson's Dissertation Proposal Defense, GRIT AS A PREDICTOR OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND PERSISTENCE AMONG ABE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN AN ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM, has been scheduled for May 10, 2023, at 10:00 AM via Zoom. Zoom meeting ID: 860 1371 4845 | Zoom link: <https://shsu.zoom.us/j/86013714845>. The dissertation committee consists of: Dr. Forrest Lane, Dr. Nara Martirosyan, and Dr. Victoria Hollas.

Candi Ward's Dissertation Final Defense, INCREASING STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH ACADEMIC VOCABULARY STRATEGIES IN 5TH GRADE SCIENCE, has been scheduled for May 10, 2023, at 10:00 AM in TEC 279. The dissertation committee consists of: Dr. Benita Brooks, Dr. Lory Haas, Dr. Alma Contreras-Venegas, and Dr. Melanie Kinksey.

Detrick McAfee's Dissertation Proposal Defense, TEXAS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TYPE AND DIFFERENCES IN THE READING PERFORMANCE OF BOYS OF COLOR: A MULTIYEAR STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION, has been scheduled for May 11, 2023, at 1:00 PM at The Woodlands Center Room 109. There is a Zoom meeting as well. Zoom meeting ID: 876 0697 5133 | Zoom link: <https://shsu.zoom.us/j/87606975133>. The dissertation committee consists of: Dr. Cynthia Martinez-Garcia, Dr. John R. Slate, and Dr. Clare Amparito Resilla.

LaTonia Amerson's Dissertation Proposal Defense, DIFFERENCES IN ALGEBRA I END-OF-COURSE EXAM GRADE LEVEL PERFORMANCE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENTS BY GENDER AND ECONOMIC STATUS: A MULTIYEAR STATEWIDE INVESTIGATION, has been scheduled for May 11, 2023, at 2:30 PM at The Woodlands Center Room 111. There is a Zoom meeting as well. Zoom meeting ID: 823 2887 2979 | Zoom link: <https://shsu.zoom.us/j/82328872979>. The dissertation committee consists of: Dr. Cynthia Martinez-Garcia, Dr. John R. Slate, and Dr. Clare Amparito Resilla.

Taniya Thongtai's Dissertation Final Defense, IMPROVING THAI ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE (EFL) PRESERVICE TEACHERS' READING FLUENCY AND COMPREHENSION WITH READERS THEATER, has been scheduled for May 11, 2023, at 12:30 PM at TEC 131. The dissertation committee consists of: Dr. Chase Young, Dr. William Blackwell, Dr. Benita Brooks, and Dr. Melinda Miller.

Upcoming COE Events

RULE - May 4, 3:00-5:00 p.m., TEC 279

Pinning Ceremony - May 9, 2:00 p.m., LSC Orange Ballroom

Pre-Graduation Reception - May 12, 11:30 - 1:00 p.m., TEC 279

Hooding Ceremony - May 12, 10:00 a.m., LSC 241

COE Commencement - May 12, 2:30 p.m., Johnson Coliseum, [Commencement info](#)

Art in Education - May 25, 4:00 p.m., TEC 279

[See all events](#)



To be included in the next N3,

[Share your news](#) with Shellee Goodwin in the COE Communications Hub by noon on Monday.

This email was sent to students of the College of Education.