Statement of Equal Opportunity in Educational Programs

“The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Edward W. Romero, Ph.D.; Director of Diversity and Inclusion; Texas A&M AgriLife, 2147 TAMU; College Station, TX 77843-2147. Call 979-845-2423. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to Mr. Steve Schulze, Chief Human Resources Officer and Director of Special Projects, Texas A&M AgriLife Human Resources.”

Admission Deadlines for U. S. Citizens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>October 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer or Fall</td>
<td>January 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall only</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Admission Deadlines for International Students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>August 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>November 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>January 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fellowship and scholarship opportunities are highly competitive and deadlines occur early in the Spring semester. If interested in applying for financial support or assistance for Summer or Fall semesters, it is suggested that you submit your complete application materials earlier than the January deadline, as early as December of the previous year. If you are not interested in financial support, applications will be accepted until January 2. For Spring, admission materials are due by October 1. Applications will also be accepted until April 1 for a Fall only review, however, meeting this deadline, you will not be eligible for any financial assistance by the department.

Application Procedures

Texas A&M University is noted for its comprehensive graduate degree programs in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications. When you apply to a graduate program, you first apply to Texas A&M University with the Office of Admissions and Records, College Station, Texas 77843-0100. To complete the file with the Office of Admissions and Records, the following items must be submitted:

- Submit the ApplyTexas application. Apply online at http://applytexas.org.
- Official transcripts from each higher education institution previously attended, excluding a TAMU transcript.
- Official Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores. These scores can be designated at the time of testing to be sent to Texas A&M University, code 6003. The Office of Admissions and Records will enter only official scores from the testing center. The testing center only keeps the official score report for 5 years. Our department will accept unofficial GRE scores if the applicant can provide an original copy of the official scores. To schedule at a testing center, please refer to the web site, http://www.gre.org.

For an applicant to be reviewed for admission to one of our programs, an individual must meet a minimum criterion score in order to be considered for a vote by the faculty. This criterion score is calculated using the individual percentile scores of the GRE and the GPA (Masters – use last 60 hours of undergraduate work; Doctoral – use Masters GPA). The minimum criterion score for master’s is 350; minimum criterion score for doctorate is 400.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores and Grade Point Average (GPA) data used to calculate your criterion score is outlined in detail on the last page of this document.

If the GRE was taken prior to August 1, 2011, your scores and GPA meet each category below and you have a declared Departmental Graduate Faculty interim major advisor, your application will be considered highly competitive and you may be admitted without a faculty vote:

Master’s applicants: GRE-V 410, GRE-Q 500, GRE-W 4.0, and at least a GPA of 3.1.
Doctoral applicants: GRE-V 450, GRE-Q 500, GRE-W 4.0, and at least a GPA of 3.7.
If the GRE was taken after August 1, 2011, your scores/percentile scores and GPA meet each category below and you have a declared Departmental Graduate Faculty interim major advisor, your application will be considered highly competitive and you may be admitted without a faculty vote:

Master’s applicants: GRE-Q 146 - 26%, GRE-V 148 - 36%, GRE-W 4.0 - 41%, and at least a GPA of 3.1.
Doctoral applicants: GRE-Q 146 - 26%, GRE-V 151 - 48%, GRE-W 4.0 - 41%, and at least a GPA of 3.7.

If you believe you may want a refresher of what the GRE test will entail, you may purchase a GRE guide book at Barnes and Nobles, titled: The ETS Official Guide to the GRE General Test. The price is generally around $40.00.

- International students, the TOFLC or IELTS exam is required. (see detailed information on the Office of Graduate Studies web page at http://ogs.tamu.edu for directions for waivers).
- In May 2011, the Texas State Legislature passed SB 1107, effective immediately, requiring all entering students under the age of 22 at public and private institutions of higher education to provide evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis or a signed affidavit declining the vaccination. If a distance student taking online courses, you may waive this requirement by completing a waiver form, see web page, http://admissions.tamu.edu/meningitis. Proof of vaccination, decline affidavit, or DE waiver must be submitted to the TAMU Office of Admissions and Records prior to your first semester of enrollment.

A graduate applicant must have an interim major advisor (IMA) to be admitted. It is imperative for you to “meet” with faculty in your interest area and you may meet with others as well so that a major advisor can recommend you for admission to the program. (Please refer to the department web page, at http://alec.tamu.edu for detailed information about our graduate faculty as well as in the end of this handout). Action for departmental admission cannot be taken until all required materials have been submitted to the Office of Graduate Admissions and the ALEC department. Letters of recommendation may be submitted online with Office of Admissions and Records at http://applicant.tamu.edu if the application has been submitted.

Items for admission review to Master’s Programs

- Career goal consistent with a major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications as described in a “Statement of Career and Professional Goals.”
- Current résumé.
- Professional work experience is preferred but not required.
- Official Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) scores taken within 5 years and GPA of at least last 60 hours of undergraduate work. A criterion score is calculated using these scores and the total must meet a minimum of 350 in order to be considered for a vote by faculty.
- Official TOEFL or IELTS score taken within the last two years whose native language is not English. (see detailed information on the Office of Graduate Studies web page at http://ogaps.tamu.edu for directions for waivers).
- Letters of Recommendation from at least (3) three individuals in a position to assess the applicant’s professional qualifications and achievements. Limit of one from the ALEC department faculty or staff.
- Acceptance of a Departmental Graduate Faculty member to serve as interim major advisor (IMA). In order to be admitted, you must have an IMA.

Items for admission review to Doctoral Programs

- Career goal consistent with a major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications as described in a “Statement of Career and Professional Goals.”
- Detailed one page document listing start and end dates of at least three years of suitable professional work experience.
- Current résumé to demonstrate work experience.
- Official Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) scores taken within 5 years. GPA for Master’s Program in a related area from a college or university of recognized standing. A criterion score is calculated using these scores and the total must meet a minimum of 400 in order to be considered for a vote by faculty.
- Official TOEFL or IELTS score taken within the last two years whose native language is not English. (see detailed information on the Office of Graduate Studies web page at http://ogaps.tamu.edu for directions for waivers).
- Letters of Recommendation from at least (5) five individuals in a position to assess the applicant’s professional qualifications and achievements. Limit of one from the ALEC department faculty or staff.
- A professional portfolio demonstrating writing proficiency is recommended.
- Acceptance of a Departmental Graduate Faculty member to serve as interim major advisor (IMA). In order to develop a degree plan, you must have an IMA.
- It is highly recommended that PhD candidates visit the department.
Applicants which meet the criteria indicated above and submit complete admission packets by the deadline will be reviewed by the faculty. Final decisions are made by a majority vote of the faculty and a letter is sent to the candidate by April for summer and fall; July for fall; and November for spring.

**International Students**

International students applying for admission should note specific conditions to meet and procedures to follow. Applicants for admission from non-English-speaking countries must score 550 (paper-based)/213 (computer-based)/80 (Internet-based) or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Scores must be no more than two years old. A satisfactory score on oral and written English proficiency examinations is required after arrival on campus, depending upon responsibilities that a student may have as a graduate assistant. See [http://international.tamu.edu/](http://international.tamu.edu/) for additional information about procedures and requirements.

**Suggested Timeline for Admission Procedures**

**8 weeks before deadline:**
- **Take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)** and request scores to be sent to TAMU ([http://www.ets.org/portal/site/ets/](http://www.ets.org/portal/site/ets/)), code 6003.
- For International Students, take the TOEFL orIELTS exam
  - Required for international students whose native language is not English. TOEFL is waived with a 400 GRE verbal or by receiving a baccalaureate degree with all four years of attendance at a US college or university.
- **Transcripts** - If you did not graduate from TAMU, request official transcripts to be sent to Office of Admissions & Records electronically or mailed to the address indicated below:
  
  Graduate Admissions Processing
  Office of Admissions and Records
  Texas A&M University
  P.O. Box 40001
  College Station, TX 77842-4001

**6 weeks before deadline:**
- **Apply to Texas A&M University** ([on-line at [http://www.applytexas.org](http://www.applytexas.org))
  - Application Fee
    - $50 for U.S. citizens
  - $90 for International applicants

**4 weeks before deadline:**
- **Request Letters of Recommendation** (Limit of one from the ALEC department)
  - 3 for Master’s; 5 for Doctoral
  - A recommendation form can be accessed online at: [http://applicant.tamu.edu](http://applicant.tamu.edu) and sent to your recommenders electronically. This is a step by step process to gain access in this system.
    - Once you have submitted the application in Apply Texas and the application has been processed in the TAMU Admissions Office, you will be provided a University Identification Number (UIN) or if have one, informed that your current UIN has been activated.
    - Use the UIN to access in [http://gateway.tamu.edu](http://gateway.tamu.edu). If you do not have a NETID and password, create a NETID and password in this system. This NETID and password will be your log in details for almost every aspect of your graduate program.
    - Use the NETID and password to access [http://applicant.tamu.edu](http://applicant.tamu.edu) and locate the area to enter your recommenders email addresses to send the recommendation form electronically to your recommenders.

**3 weeks before deadline** (these items may be submitted to the Program Coordinator):
- Submit a Résumé
- Submit Statement of Career and Professional Goals
- **Required for Doctoral candidates only**: One page document indicating professional work experience of at least 3 years; detail the information listing start and end dates.
- **Doctoral candidates optional**: A professional portfolio to demonstrate writing proficiency is recommended.
- Check to make sure all other materials have been received

*Note: Doctoral students may be interviewed by the graduate faculty as a part of the admission process. All prospective students are encouraged to meet with graduate faculty to determine interim major advisor preference.*
In May 2011, the Texas State Legislature passed SB 1107, effective immediately, requiring all entering students under the age of 22 at public and private institutions of higher education to provide evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis or a signed affidavit declining the vaccination. If a distance student taking online courses, you may waive this requirement by completing a waiver form, see web page, http://admissions.tamu.edu/meningitis. Proof of vaccination, decline affidavit, or DE waiver must be submitted to the TAMU Office of Admissions and Records prior to your first semester of enrollment.

The Settings Where ALEC Professionals Work

Graduate students will apply their area(s) of interest in a particular work setting. You should select a major professor and committee that will advise coursework to prepare you for one of these work settings:

1) Agricultural Communications/Agricultural Journalism, 2) eLearning and Professional Development, 3) Extension Education, 4) International Agricultural Development, 5) Organizational and Community Leadership, and 6) Teacher Education.

Departmental Areas of Expertise

Graduate students, in consultation with a graduate advisor and a graduate advisory committee, may select different areas of expertise to emphasize in their programs. These include: 1) Change Theory and Processes, 2) Learning and Cognition, 3) Planning and Needs Assessment, 4) Communication Theory and Practice, 5) Leadership Education Theory and Applications, 6) Instructional Design and Delivery, 7) Evaluation and Performance Measures, and 8) Research, Measurement, and Analysis.

Graduate Degrees Offered

1. Master of Science (thesis required) – major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
2. Master of Education (teacher certification option) - major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
3. Master of Agriculture (on-campus or distance education) – major in Agricultural Development
4. Doctor of Philosophy (dissertation required) - major in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications
5. Doctor of Education (on-campus or distance education; record of study required) – major in Agricultural Education

Master of Science (MS)

The Master of Science (thesis), a research-oriented degree program, requires a minimum of 32 semester credit hours of approved coursework. Required courses may include: Frontiers in Research (ALEC 695), one hour of seminar (ALEC 681), a statistics course, possibly a qualitative research methods, and 1-4 hours of research (ALEC 691). Coursework in the supporting fields in the MS program may be in any academic area that contributes to a student’s career objective.

Master of Education (MEd)

The Master of Education (non-thesis), a professionally-oriented degree program, requires a minimum of 36 semester credit hours of approved coursework. Students whose career objectives are concerned with formal or informal education in agriculture in areas such as teaching agricultural sciences, working as an Extension educator or in training and development seek this program. One required course: Frontiers in Research (ALEC 695).

Master of Agriculture (MAgr)

The Master of Agriculture (non-thesis), a professionally-oriented degree program, requires a minimum of 36 semester credit hours of approved coursework. An internship is a unique feature of the program. The internship involves either paid or unpaid employment with a cooperating business or agency. A professional paper is presented to the committee. This degree may be completed at a distance or on campus. Required courses include: Frontiers in Research (ALEC 695) and Professional Study (ALEC 693).

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

The Doctor of Philosophy is a specialized, research-oriented degree designed to prepare individuals for university faculty positions, public and corporate leadership roles in education, natural resource management, Extension Education, international development, and many other professional careers in agriculture and life sciences. The program requires a minimum of 64 semester credit hours, beyond a master’s degree, including 12 hours of dissertation research. A comprehensive research sequence including 18 hours of research methods is required.
Doctor of Education (EdD) - Campus
The Doctor of Education is a professionally-oriented degree designed to prepare a candidate for a position of leadership in the full range of educational settings, including public and private schools and colleges, business, government, industry and international organizations. A record of study and internship are required for this 64 semester hour program. A comprehensive research sequence including 12 hours of research methods is part of this program of study.

Doctor of Education – Joint Program at a Distance (D@D)
Commonly known as Doc@Distance, this is a joint distance program in Agricultural Education with Texas Tech University. Admissions deadlines are every two years in which the next review will be January 2017. If interested in seeking the Joint Doctor of Education (Doc@Distance) degree program, please visit the web page at http://alec.tamu.edu/academics/distance-education/joint-edd-program/.

Residency Requirement
Texas A&M University requires all graduate students to complete a residence requirement during their degree program. The major purpose of this requirement is to ensure that the student has an opportunity to benefit from the advantages of a university environment. Advantages may include, but not limited to, accessibility of library, and physical facilities, and opportunities to participate in a variety of cultural activities. Equally important to the graduate student are the advantages of becoming acquainted with the faculty and other students on a personal and a professional basis. The most important advantage is to ensure that the faculty have the opportunity to properly evaluate an individual and his or her development to guide and direct his or her studies and to determine competency. Please refer to the degree program of interest below:

Master of Science - complete 9 credit hours during one regular semester or one 10-week summer semester.

Master of Education - complete 12 credit hours during the degree program.

Master of Agriculture - complete 12 credit hours during the degree program, on campus or at a distance.

Doctor of Philosophy - complete 9 credit hours in two adjacent regular semesters or one regular semester adjacent to 10-week summer semester. (Fall-Spring; Spring-Summer; Summer-Fall)

Doctor of Education - complete 30 credit hours of which 18 must be taken as a full-time student (9 hours regular semester; 6 hours summer semesters). This requirement may be satisfied by a student who presents any combination of full-time study during summer sessions of at least 6 weeks duration and/or work as a full-time student during regular sessions which totals in the aggregate at least 18 semester hours, accomplished within five consecutive years beginning with the first course proposed to apply to this requirement.

If an individual is employed full-time while completing their degree program, the residence requirements may be fulfilled (or waived) by completion of less-than-full course loads. Employees must submit verification to the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (OGAPS) within the semester following the degree plan approval. Verification includes: 1) on office letterhead, a memo indicating date of employment, position held and job title; and 2) a waiver or exceptions electronic petition (http://ogsdpss.tamu.edu) submitted to OGAPS, which needs to indicate requesting waiver because of full-time employment and place of employment.

Departmental Assistantships
Assistantships are available on a competitive basis to qualified individuals. An applicant cannot be considered for an assistantship until all admission materials are received from the Office of Graduate Admission and the ALEC Department. Specific assignments are made based upon the needs of the Department and the experience of the students. Applications for assistantships can be found at http://alec.tamu.edu/student-opportunities/assistantships/. A letter of interest to the contact listed on the position announcement specifically detailing your qualifications should also accompany the application. You may apply for more than one assistantship. The deadline is October 1 for Spring review and January 2 for Summer or Fall review.

Applications received after the January 2 or October 1 for semester indicated will not be eligible for financial support or assistance by the department.
ALEC Graduate Fellowships

Graduate Fellowships are available for truly outstanding scholars on a competitive basis from several sources including Texas A&M University funds. Most Fellowship programs require the applicant to be nominated by a faculty member. The Associate Head for Graduate Programs can assist interested individuals with seeking and applying for fellowships for truly outstanding scholars. Fellowships are awards to study; no departmental work will be assigned. Most Fellowships come with their own academic requirements and time limitations. Students on Fellowship may volunteer for departmental assignments to gain the experience.

Departmental Graduate Scholarships

Scholarships are available to assist in funding graduate study for exceptional students. Students are encouraged to pursue scholarships from all available sources. Students must apply for a scholarship completing a scholarship application by indicated deadlines. A review will take place by the scholarship committee and decisions announced to the recipient. The application is available on the department web page, http://alec.tamu.edu/Home/Academics/Scholarships/ScholarshipApplicationInstructions.aspx. The Department offers three graduate scholarships listed below.

- **Mary Nell and Frederick P. Cherry ’41 Memorial Scholarship:** Awarded to a one or more full-time masters or doctoral students in good academic standing pursuing a graduate degree in ALEC.
- **R.B. Dooley ’39 Endowed Scholarship:** Awarded to a one or more full-time out-of-state masters or doctoral students pursuing a graduate degree in ALEC.
- **Myrna and John Hendrick ’57 Graduate Scholarship:** Awarded to one or more full-time masters students pursuing a Master of Education degree program.
- **Frank Sheppard Scholarship:** Awarded to one or more full-time masters or doctoral students in good standing with research interests related to Community Resources and Economic Development Programs of Texas Cooperative Extension.
- **G. Rollie White FFA Scholarship:** Highly competitive scholarship in which the recipient is an ALEC graduate student engaged in agricultural leadership, education, and communications.

Other scholarship opportunities are outlined in detail on our web page, http://alec.tamu.edu.

Financing Your Education

Pursuing graduate study is expensive. However, in addition to graduate assistantships described above, opportunities for financial assistance through fellowships, work study, financial aid, and participation in departmental contract work may be possible.

- **University fellowships or scholarships:** Contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies (OGAPS) at (979) 845-3631, or http://ogaps.tamu.edu. Deadlines occur early January, therefore, to be eligible for these opportunities it is suggested to submit applications materials in December of previous year.
- **Financial aid and work study:** Contact the Office of Graduate Student Financial Aid (including grants and loans) at (979) 847-9061.
  
  All students may be eligible to apply for Financial Aid. However, if you are approved for government financial assistance (FAFSA), and you receive any other financial assistance as a student, such as scholarships, fellowships, grants for conference registration or travel costs (plane tickets, meals etc.), awards (ex: essay contest), prizes (gift cards) and gifts for academic pursuits or achievements, please be aware these types of funding may reduce the amount of Financial Aid you receive.
- **Part-time employment within TAMU System:** Contact the TAMU Department of Human Resources at (979) 845-5154.
- **Housing information:** Contact the Housing Office at (979) 845-4744 (on-campus), (979) 845-1741 (off-campus).

Information on the costs of attending graduate school, visit the Student Business Services web page, http://finance.tamu.edu/sbs/.
Departmental Graduate Faculty

The Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications at Texas A&M University is widely recognized as among the top three departments in the nation. Faculty members in the Department provide leadership to national and international organizations within the discipline. **Graduate applicants must have an interim major advisor (IMA) to be admitted.** Applicants are encouraged to come for a Prospective Student Day visit or contact faculty within your interest area to learn more about faculty research and interest and graduate student opportunities.

Graduate faculty who work full-time in the department cluster into learning communities based primarily on the settings where we work. Other graduate faculty members are employed throughout the university and could serve on your graduate advisory committee. The following list may help you to locate potential faculty members to serve as your major advisor based on your focused area of study. Please note, faculty may have interests that cross several different areas which are identified by the interests listed for each.

**Agricultural Communications-Agricultural Journalism Faculty**

**Holli Archer, Assistant Professor**
- B.S., Oklahoma Panhandle State University; M.S., Oklahoma State University; Ph.D. Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Workplace Communications, Writing-intensive courses, Student Writing Skills
- holli.leggette@ag.tamu.edu, 979-458-3039

**Deborah Dunsford, Senior Lecturer**
- B.S., Kansas State University; M.A., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: Agricultural Communication; Writing Instruction; Issues Management
- dunsford@tamu.edu, 979-458-3389

**Billy McKim, Assistant Professor**
- B.S., University of Wyoming; M.S., University of Missouri; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: Agricultural Communication; Radio Broadcasting and Promotions; Research Design, Methods and Metric Development; Evaluation
- brmckim@tamu.edu, 979-845-0794

**Tobin Redwine, Assistant Professor**
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas Tech University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: Agricultural Communication; Communication Strategies; Photojournalism
- tredwine@tamu.edu; 979-862-3005

**Tracy Rutherford, Professor and Associate Head for Undergraduate Programs**
- B.S., Cornell University; M.A., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Agricultural Communication; Technology Adoption; Visual Communication, New Media
- rutherford@tamu.edu, 979-458-2744

**Technology-Enhanced Instruction Faculty**

**Kim Dooley, Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Operations**
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.Ed., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Technology-Enhanced Instruction; Technological Change; International Agricultural Development
- k-dooley@tamu.edu, 979-862-7620

**Julie Harlin, Associate Professor**
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Oklahoma State University
- Professional interests: Teacher Education, Delivery Strategies; Learner-Centered Instructional Design, At-Risk Youth; Technology-Enhanced Instruction
- j-harlin@tamu.edu, 979-862-3014

**Theresa Pescal Murphrey, Associate Professor**
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S. Texas A&M University; Ph.D. Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Technology-Enhanced Education; Learner-Centered Instructional Design; Online Learning; International Agricultural Development
- t-murphrey@tamu.edu, 979-458-2749

**Robert Strong, Associate Professor**
- B.S., Middle Tennessee State University; M.S., University of Tennessee; Ph.D., University of Florida
- Professional interests: Technology-Enhanced Instruction; Research Measurement and Analysis; Extension Education; Leadership Education; Climate Change; Nonformal Learner-Centered Instruction
- r-strong@tamu.edu, 979-845-1139
Extension Education Faculty

Chris Boleman, Assistant Professor/Extension Specialist; Assistant Agency Director, Texas 4-H Program Leader
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Extension Education; Extension Advisory Councils/Leadership; Program Development; Evaluation/Accountability
- ct-boleman@tamu.edu

Scott R. Cummings, Professor, Extension Specialist, and Associate Department Head for Extension
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.P.H., The University of Texas School of Public Health; Dr.P.H., The University of Texas School of Public Health
- Professional interests: Extension Education; Evaluation/Accountability; Program Development; Methods of Behavioral Change
- sc-cummings@tamu.edu, 979-847-9388

Jeffrey Ripley, Associate Director – County Operations
- B.S., Tarleton State University; M.Ed., Southwest Texas State University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: Extension Education; Evaluation; Program Development; Strategic Planning
- j-ripley@tamu.edu, 979-845-7280

Philip Shackelford, Professor and Extension Specialist
- B.S., Tarleton State University; M.S., Tarleton State University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: Extension Education, Competencies for Extension Agents, Program Development and Design, Connecting Agriculture, Food and Health
- p-shackelford@tamu.edu; 979-845-7280

T. Andy Vestal, Professor and Extension Specialist
- B.S., Tarleton State University; M.S., Texas Tech University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Delivery Strategies; Food Safety and Security; Extension Education; Emergency Management; Agricultural Literacy
- t-vestal@tamu.edu, 979-862-3013

International Agricultural Development

John “Jack” Elliot, Department Head and Professor
- B.S., Washington State University, M.A., Washington State University, Ph.D., Ohio State University
- Professional Interests: International Agricultural Development; Agricultural Literacy; Human Capacity Development
- jelliot@tamu.edu, 979-845-6944

Manuel Pina, Associate Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University, M.S., Texas A&M University, Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional Interests: International Agricultural Development; Extension Education; Grant Writing
- m-pina@tamu.edu, 979-862-1978

Gary Wingenbach, Professor
- B.S., Oregon State University; M.Ag., Oregon State University; M.A.T., Oregon State University; Ph.D., Iowa State University
- Professional interests: International Agricultural Development; Agricultural Communications; Online Learning Processes
- g-wingenbach@tamu.edu, 979-862-1507

Organizational and Community Leadership Faculty

Barry L. Boyd, Associate Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Leadership Education; Learner-Centered Instructional Design; Transformational Teaching
- b-boyd@tamu.edu, 979-862-3693

Chanda Elbert, Associate Professor
- B.S., Southern University AMC; M.S., University of Nebraska–Lincoln; Ph.D., The Pennsylvania State University
- Professional interests: Leadership and Multicultural Environments; Women in Leadership; Evaluation and Accountability
- celbert@tamu.edu, 979-458-2699

Lori Moore, Associate Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., University of Florida
- Professional interests: Collegiate Leadership Programs; Delivery Strategies; Adult Education/Training
- lmoore@tamu.edu, 979-845-1295
Summer Odom, Assistant Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Collegiate Leadership Education; Workplace Leadership Skills; Delivery Strategies; Leadership Core Beliefs/Values
- summerodom@tamu.edu, 979-862-7650

Jennifer Strong, Associate Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.S., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Oklahoma State University
- Professional Interests: Leadership Development, Pedagogical Practices of Leadership Education, Ethics and Organizational Culture
- dr.jen@tamu.edu, 979-862-1423

Teacher Education Faculty
Gary E. Briers, Professor
- B.S., Texas A&M University; M.Ed., Texas A&M University; Ph.D., Iowa State University
- Professional interests: Teaching Methodology; Research Design/Methodology; Human-Animal Interactions; Technology-Enhanced Instruction; International Agricultural Development
- g-briers@tamu.edu, 979-862-3000

Tim Murphy, Professor
- B.S., University of Missouri-Columbia; M.Ed., University of Missouri-Columbia; Ph.D., Texas A&M University
- Professional interests: Teacher Education; Youth Development; Technology-Enhanced Instruction; Research, Measurement and Analysis; STEM Integration
- tmurphy@tamu.edu, 979-862-3419
For an applicant to be reviewed for admission to one of our programs, an individual must meet a minimum criterion score in order to be considered for a vote by the faculty. This criterion score is calculated using the individual percentile scores of the GRE and the GPA (Masters – use last 60 hours of undergraduate work; Doctoral – use Masters GPA). The minimum criterion score for Master’s is 350; minimum criterion score for doctorate is 400.

Review the percentile scale chart at the end of this document -- To calculate the criterion score, take your Quantitative score and align with the third column to indicate your Quantitative percentile. Do the same for the Verbal and Writing sections. Calculate your GPA and multiply by 100. Add all the totals together to get the criterion score. To be considered for the vote by faculty for a Masters program, the total must be at least 350; to be considered for a vote by faculty for a doctoral program, the total must be at least 400.

If you took the GRE after August 1, 2011, your scores/percentile scores and GPA meet each category below and you have a declared Departmental Graduate Faculty interim major advisor, your application will be considered highly competitive and you may be admitted without a faculty vote:

- Master’s applicants: GRE-Q 146 - 26%, GRE-V 148 - 36%, GRE-W 4.0 - 41%, and at least a GPA of 3.1.
- Doctoral applicants: GRE-Q 146 - 26%, GRE-V 151 - 48%, GRE-W 4.0 - 41%, and at least a GPA of 3.7.

If the GRE was taken prior to August 1, 2011, are official in the TAMU system taken within the last five years, your scores and GPA meet each category below, and you have a declared Departmental Graduate Faculty interim major advisor, your application will be considered highly competitive and you may be admitted without a faculty vote:

- Master’s applicants: GRE-V 410, GRE-Q 500, GRE-W 4.0, and at least a GPA of 3.1.
- Doctoral applicants: GRE-V 450, GRE-Q 500, GRE-W 4.0, and at least a GPA of 3.7.

If you believe you may want a refresher of what the GRE test will entail, you may purchase a GRE guide book at Barnes and Nobles, titled: The ETS Official Guide to the GRE General Test. The price is generally around $40.00.

All applicants must have a faculty member to agree to serve as the interim major advisor (IMA) in order to be admitted.

Our Invitation

Graduate programs in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications at Texas A&M University have much to offer. Should your interest in our programs reach the serious stage, we would welcome the opportunity to host a visit to campus and the community and have you interact with our faculty and graduate students. After all, you will be making a considerable investment of time and money in pursuing a graduate program and we want you to be certain that you have made a good choice.

For more information about the department, its graduate programs, the graduate faculty, and to schedule a visit to campus, contact the graduate program coordinator, Clarice Fulton, or browse our web page at [http://alec.tamu.edu](http://alec.tamu.edu).

Administrative Office

Clarice Fulton  
Graduate Program Coordinator  
Texas A&M University  
Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications  
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College Station, TX 77843-2116  
Phone: (979) 862-7180  
FAX: (979) 862-7190  
Email: cfulton@tamu.edu  
[http://alec.tamu.edu](http://alec.tamu.edu)
GRE SCORES and PERCENTILE RANKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PREV</th>
<th>NEW</th>
<th>QUANT %</th>
<th>NEW</th>
<th>VERBAL %</th>
<th>SCORE</th>
<th>WRITING %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
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<td>95</td>
<td>170</td>
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<td>170</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>780</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>99</td>
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<td>770</td>
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<td>4.5</td>
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<td>170</td>
<td>99</td>
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<td>740</td>
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<td>72</td>
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<td>49</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

ALEC Criterion Score Calculation
(GRE-V %ile + GRE-Q %ile + GRE-W %ile) + (last 60 hrs GPR x 100)

Master's Minimum to be considered: 350
Doctoral Minimum to be considered: 400

Old Test Minimums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRE-Q</th>
<th>GRE-V</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Last 60 hrs. GPR</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>450</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Master's Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRE-Q</th>
<th>GRE-V</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Last 60 hrs. GPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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</table>

Doctoral Applicants

New Test - Highly Competitive Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRE-Q</th>
<th>GRE-V</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Last 60 hrs. GPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Master's Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRE-Q</th>
<th>GRE-V</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Graduate GPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>146</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Doctoral Applicants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRE-Q</th>
<th>GRE-V</th>
<th>Writing</th>
<th>Graduate GPR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>3.7</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

If your scores and GPA meet each category above for the degree of interest, your application will be considered highly competitive and you may be admitted without a faculty vote. However, you must still have a faculty member to agree to serve as your interim major advisor (IMA).