

COMING UP

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Cross Country at Mustangs Derby
TBA River Creek Golf Course

Moffett Library Walking Tours
10 a.m. & 2 p.m. Moffett Library

Men's Soccer vs. Rogers State (Okla.)
5:30 p.m. MSU Soccer Field

PRIDE Meet & Greet
5:30 p.m. Moffett Library Atrium

Live at the Lake: James Cook Band
6-8 p.m. Priddy Pavilion

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Volleyball vs. Washburn (Kansas)
11:30 a.m. Topeka, Kansas

Women's Soccer vs. Fort Lewis (Colo.)
2 p.m. Gunnison, Colorado

Volleyball vs. Northwest Missouri State
5 p.m. Topeka, Kansas

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

Sikes Lake Cleanup
9 a.m. East side Sikes Lake

Volleyball vs. Missouri Western
10 a.m. Topeka, Kansas

Volleyball vs. William Jewell (Missouri)
2 p.m. Topeka, Kansas

Men's Soccer vs. MSU Denver
2 p.m. MSU Soccer Field

Football vs. Mississippi College
7 p.m. Memorial Stadium

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Women's Soccer vs. Western Colorado
1 p.m. Gunnison, Colorado

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Staff Senate meeting
3 p.m. Dillard 274

Men's Soccer vs. Fort Hays State
5 p.m. Hays, Kansas

Women's Soccer vs. Oklahoma Baptist
6 p.m. MSU Soccer Fields

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Volleyball vs. Cameron
5 p.m. Portales, New Mexico

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Volleyball vs. Western New Mexico
5 p.m. Portales, New Mexico

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Volleyball vs. St. Edward's
Noon Portales, New Mexico

Volleyball vs. Eastern New Mexico
4 p.m. Portales, New Mexico

Men's Soccer vs. Southern Nazarene
7 p.m. Bethany, Oklahoma

Football vs. West Texas A&M
7 p.m. Canyon, Texas

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Women's Soccer vs. SW Oklahoma
2 p.m. Weatherford, Oklahoma

AROUND CAMPUS

MOSAIC rebranding

The goal of MOSAIC is to create an environment that fosters belonging, engagement, and empowerment for every student, faculty, and staff member at MSU Texas. With that in mind we are embarking on a transformative journey to establish a renewed identity and purpose on campus – a rebrand.

The purpose of this rebrand is to gain valuable insights and feedback from faculty, staff, students, and other stakeholders. We aim to better understand your needs, experiences, and aspirations and to find ways MOSAIC can support you. The rebrand efforts will serve as a vital platform to explore ideas that foster a sense of belonging, community and engagement at MSU Texas. By engaging with the campus community, we seek to collaboratively shape a people-centered design that ensures the MOSAIC Center remains a supportive and empowering space for all of MSU Texas. To achieve this vision, we need your valuable insights and perspectives.

We invite you to participate in the following opportunities:

MOSAIC Town Hall Meetings

Change is in the air for MOSAIC and MSU! Learn how you can be part of moving our community forward.

2 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11, BAC Lone Star

6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, CSC Comanche

Participate in Belonging and Community Survey

Complete a five-minute survey and have a chance to win one of five \$100 gift cards. Help shape the future of MOSAIC by sharing your ideas on belonging and community at MSU Texas. Open to all students, faculty, and staff. To take the survey, visit bit.ly/mosaicmsutexas.

MOSAIC Focus Groups

Share your experience and feedback on belonging and community at MSU Texas.

Tell us about how we can support you. There will be four focus groups for faculty, staff, students, and open/community.

Faculty: 10 a.m. Monday, Sept. 18, CSC Kiowa

Staff: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, CSC Kiowa

Students: 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4, BAC Spirit

Open: 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 10, CSC Kiowa

The feedback gathered from the rebrand efforts will play a pivotal role in guiding the future direction of the MOSAIC Center. Your involvement is essential, and we truly value your contributions. Together, we will work together to create a vibrant and supportive campus community.

For more information, email mosaic@msutexas.edu or call ext. 4500. Find more information about the rebrand at the [MOSAIC webpage](#).

PRIDE Meet & Greet

PRIDE, the MSU Texas LGBTQ+ student organization, is sponsoring a meet and greet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 7, in the Moffett Library Atrium. Pizza and pie will be provided by the Queer and Trans Professionals in Education.

There is no requirement for membership and the event is open to all who are interested. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and get involved on campus.

Contact PRIDE co-advisors [Eboneigh Harris](#) or [Jonathon Quam](#) for more information.

WFMA: Live at the Lake Sept. 7 & Sept. 21

Live at the Lake will close out the 2023 summer season with two performances in September. The James Cook Band will play from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 7, at the Priddy Pavilion at the Wichita Falls Museum of Art at MSU Texas. On Thursday, Sept. 21, the G Top Band will play from 6-8 p.m.

The Gypsy Kit food truck will be on hand. Bring your chairs or blankets and drinks (limited to beer and wine). Recommended donation of \$10 at door. Call the museum at ext. 8900 for more information.

Sikes Lake Cleanup

Midwestern State University with American National Bank & Trust, Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept., and the Rolling Plains Chapter of the Texas Master Naturalists will host a cleanup day for Sikes Lake at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 9. Volunteers will meet on the east side of Sikes Lake. Free snacks and drinks will be provided to volunteers after the cleanup. Call Armando Muniz in Facilities Services at ext. 4678 for more information.

Biannual Faculty Art Exhibition

The artistic talents of the faculty and staff of the Juanita & Ralph Harvey School of Visual Arts is currently on display at the Juanita Harvey Art Gallery in the Fain Fine Arts building. Faculty and staff participating in the exhibition include Carlos Aleman, Jason Bly, Sharon Gibson-Bly, Leah Gose, Steve Hilton, Suguru Hiraide, Nancy Kizis, Ann Marie Leimer, William McKinney, Pam Moller, Morgan Page, Catherine Prose, and Jean Shon. There will also be an alumni print exchange in the Foyer Gallery. The faculty exhibition runs through Sept. 22. Call ext. 4264 for more information.

Family Weekend 2023

Family Weekend 2023 will be Friday and Saturday, Sept. 23-24. Family Weekend is a time for families to join their MSU student for fun and college memories. **Activities are open to all students, faculty, staff and their families.** Events include fun and games at the Quad, and family tailgating before the Mustangs' football game with Eastern New Mexico Saturday night. See the event schedule on the [Family Weekend webpage](#). Contact [Angie Reay by email](#) or call ext. 4466 for more information.

Fall 2023 Faculty Intramural Grants Request for Proposals

The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research is pleased to announce a request for proposals for Fall 2023 Faculty Intramural Grants. Intramural Grants are designed to encourage, facilitate, and support the research efforts of MSU Texas faculty. These seed grants support faculty initiatives in all disciplines, including basic, applied, and pedagogical research as well as creative projects. These awards are intended to support the research trajectory of individual faculty members as well as catalyze future external grant proposals. Priority will be given to applicants with plans to use the results of their intramural grant to explore external funding opportunities. Please visit the [Intramural Grants webpage](#) for additional information and to download the full request for

proposals, guidelines, and application materials. Please email sponsoredprograms@msutexas.edu with any questions.

Deadline: 5 p.m. Oct. 23, 2023

Submission method: [Intramural grant submission web form](#)

Grant funding period: Dec. 1, 2023-Aug. 31, 2024

Coffee and Collaboration

The Office of Sponsored Programs & Research will host come-and-go Coffee and Collaboration sessions from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. the first Thursday of the month this fall in the Faculty Resource Center in Ferguson 201. Staff will be available to answer questions. No questions? Feel free to stop and say hello and grab a coffee between classes. Coffee and pastries will be provided. Fall 2023 dates are Sept. 7, Oct. 5, and Nov. 2. Contact [Courtney Hoover](#) at ext. 4958 for more information.

CAMPUS NEWS

2023-2024 Parking Decals

All students, faculty, and staff who park on campus are required to have an MSU Texas parking decal.

Vehicle parking decals are valid for their respective academic year, Sept. 1-Aug. 31. Faculty/Staff decals may be purchased online and paid for with a credit card or by payroll deduction. Cash or check only will be accepted in the parking office.

[Register for parking permits online.](#)

For additional information or assistance, contact the MSU Texas Police Department Parking Office at ext. 4310 during business hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Gaines Dental Hygiene Clinic

MSU Texas Dental Hygiene students are now taking appointments for students, staff, and faculty. Call ext. 4737 or visit the Gaines Dental Hygiene Clinic located in Centennial Hall 120 to make an appointment.

Academic calendars available at Print Shop

The University Print Shop is offering 2023-2024 academic wall calendars for \$3.50 each. The academic calendars are also available in the 24x30 size in black for \$13.50 or maroon for \$16.50 each. There is a \$4.50 charge for lamination. Calendars may be [ordered online](#). Contact [Emily Allen](#) at ext. 6235 for more information.

Commencement returns to MSU Texas campus

After the May 2023 Commencement ceremony, a 15-member cross-campus committee met over the summer to review the

feasibility of returning Commencement to the MSU Texas campus. Throughout these meetings, the committee reviewed the challenges and opportunities related to such a move. Members of the committee were Debbie Barrow, Marcy Brown-Marsden, Steve Callarman, Paul Chappell, Jeff Desborough, Debra Higginbotham, Barry Macha, Rhonda McClung, Michael Mills, Amanda Raines, Laura Salazar, Amanda Snodgrass, Betsy Tucker, Chris Thames, and Tiffany Ziegler.

We are delighted to inform you that the committee unanimously recommended returning Commencement to D.L. Ligon Coliseum on our campus beginning in December 2023. Benefits of returning Commencement to the MSU Texas campus include the ability to live stream the ceremony, creating a Celebration Plaza on Council Drive, and allowing our distance education students to culminate their educational journey on campus. Students will receive tickets for their guests with an online exchange program available.

To accommodate the return to campus, MSU will hold three Commencement ceremonies as follows:

Friday

3:30 p.m. Spirit of the Mustangs Graduate Walk (formerly known as Senior Walk)

6 p.m. Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School Commencement Ceremony

Saturday

10 a.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised of three academic colleges

2 p.m. Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony comprised of three academic colleges

Additional details and volunteer opportunities regarding the Commencement ceremonies will be announced throughout the fall semester.

Returning Commencement to the MSU Texas campus is an excellent opportunity to celebrate our graduates and create new traditions. We hope you are as excited about the return to campus as we are.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Essays by Associate Professor of English **Greg Giddings** and Marketing & Public Information Assistant **Kathy Floyd** are included in a book released Sept. 5 by the University of Texas Press honoring Texas author Larry McMurtry. The book, *Pastures of the Empty Page: Fellow Writers on the Life and Legacy of Larry McMurtry*, also includes works by Lawrence Wright, Stephen Harrigan, Paulette Jiles, Diana Ossana, William Broyles, Stephen Graham Jones, and Skip

Hollandsworth. It was edited by Pulitzer finalist and jurist George Getschow.

The Texas Association of Journalism Educators announced that Associate Professor of Mass Communication **Bradley Wilson** will receive the Texas Treasure Award for “outstanding service and dedication to the teachers and students of scholastic journalism.” He will receive the award at the TAJE state convention in San Antonio Oct. 8.

Graduate computer science student **Leslie Cook**, a member of Associate Professor of Computer Science **Eduardo Colmenares’** High Performance Computing research group, participated in a summer-long internship at the Computational Systems Engineering and Cybernetic Division of the prestigious and renowned Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This past summer, Cook worked side-by-side with some of the leading scientists in the world and explored problems in the following areas of study: large-scale grid models to study contingencies and solutions; digital twin live simulation of the grid fed by real-time data to automatically detect anomalies and support resilience; protection of U.S. power grid assets; threat monitoring and defense using hardware and software innovations, including adoption of trusted IoT devices; and unique low-voltage software-defined cybersecurity test beds fed by real-time data.

In a highly competitive process, **Colmenares’** graduate research student, **Chintan Mehtah** (member of the High Performance Computing and Deep Learning Research Group), has been selected by the Texas Advanced Computing Center at UT Austin, to showcase his research during the annual TACC Symposium for Texas Researchers (TACCSTER’23) Sept. 27-29. The TACC Symposium is a meeting of scientists, engineers, scholars, and students from across the state of Texas who use, and would like to use, the Texas Advanced Computing Center to advance their research goals.

Undergraduate research scholars funded for fall 2023

The MSU Texas Office of Undergraduate Research will fund 16 undergraduates, one graduate mentor, and 12 faculty mentors in 14 EURECA research projects for the fall 2023 term. These projects were selected by peer review from the six colleges.

The EURECA scholars, along with other undergraduates involved in research through coursework and programs across campus, will present their results at the 21st Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Forum Nov. 16 in the Clark Student Center.

Fain College of Fine Arts

Ma Iris Thea Gison, “Motion-capture character design for live performance”

Mentor: Jason Bly, art

Dillard College of Business Administration

Romario Hughes, "The impact of financial literacy programs and incentives on consumer debt and health behaviors: An exploration of psychological factors and behavioral change strategies"

Mentor: Qian Li, finance

Anne Akpabio, "The impact of mergers, acquisitions, and corporate restructuring on the stock market and real estate industry"

Mentor: Lin Wang, accounting and finance

Gunn College of Health Science and Human Services

Myia Davis and Jessica Walla, "An analysis of Compton scatter intensities under different clinical conditions"

Mentor: Rodney Fisher, radiologic technology

McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering

Zantia King, "Better estimation of above ground biomass for MSU Texas tree species with parameter optimization and model validation"

Mentors: Kashif Mahmud and graduate student Elizabeth Elkins, environmental science

Jordan Swearingen, "Characterizing granite-captured rhyolite, Wichita Mountains, Oklahoma"

Mentor: Jonathan Price, geosciences

Luis Tamez, "Reversion of antibiotic-resistance to antibiotic susceptibility: genetic effects"

Mentor: James Masuoka, biology

Zaniya Medlin, "Genetic typing of E. coli strains from local waterfowl to determine the presence of virulence factors"

Mentor: James Masuoka, biology

Francine Pascal, "Effect of indole, tryptophan and serotonin on germination of *Candida albicans*"

Mentor: James Masuoka, biology

Nasiha Khan, "Effect of wall protein glycosylation on *Candida albicans* cell surface properties"

Mentor: James Masuoka, biology

Abigail Guinan, "Using membrane protein chaperone to disrupt the alpha-synuclein protein aggregation: A potential treatment for Parkinson's Disease"

Mentor: Fu-Cheng Liang, chemistry

Sharome Burton, "Controls architecture for autonomy-ready battery electric passenger vehicle"

Mentor: Yu Guo, mechanical engineering

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Andres Revis, "The Lao perspective in the bombing of Laos during the Cold War"

Mentors: Mike Rattanasengchanh and Eric Lynch, political science

Federica Manno and Jackson Redding, "Multi-level drivers of climate change perceptions and actions: A cross-country analysis"

Mentor: Juheon Lee, political science

For more information contact the [Undergraduate Research Office](#) in the CSC 161, ext. 6275, or visit the [EURECA website](#).

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

STAFF

Stacia Haynie, President

Sara Conyers, Secretary, Mass Communication & Theater

Latreanna Jackson, Director, Clinical Teaching and Innovation

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Carol Ann Stiltner, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Franklin Tillman, Assistant Professor, Marketing

Adrianna Vinar, Associate Professor, Nursing

Meng Yu, Assistant Professor, English

The next *Update* will be published Sept 18, 2023. Please submit your information to public.information@msutexas.edu by 5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, to be included in the next issue.