

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

Welcome to New Administration

Dr. Jeffrey D. Cass **Dean of ATU College of Arts & Humanities**



Dr. Jeffrey D. Cass is the new dean for the ATU College of Arts and Humanities.

Cass served as professor of English at the University of Houston-Victoria (Texas) and served on the UHV faculty since 2012, including four years as provost and vice president for academic affairs (2012-16).

His previous administrative experience also includes service as dean of the University of Louisiana-Monroe College of Arts and Sciences (2007-12) and associate provost at Texas A&M International University (2003-07).

Cass began his teaching career on the faculty at Laredo Community College (Texas) from 1988-91. He joined the English faculty in the Texas A&M International University Department of Language and Literature in 1991, rising from assistant professor (1991-95) to associate professor (1995-2005) to professor (2005-07).

Mike Bogue **Director of the APEX Center**



Mike Bogue is the new director of the **Accelerated Plan for Educational Excellence** (APEX) Center for student success on the ATU campus in Russellville. In his new role as director of the APEX Center, Bogue will assist ATU students in gaining access to resources such as peer tutoring, academic coaching, group study sessions, and test preparation.

Bogue holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in general studies from the University of the Ozarks, a certificate in food processing technology from Arkansas Valley Technical Institute (now ATU-Ozark Campus), a Bachelor of Arts degree in English education from ATU, and a Master of Education degree in instructional technology from ATU.

Bogue has served on the ATU staff since 1993, most recently as coordinator of student success at ATU-Ozark Campus since 2011. His previous experience on the ATU campus in Russellville includes work on the library staff (1993-2001) and leadership of tutoring and freshman mentoring programs (2001-11). Bogue also has classroom experience as an instructor for English and first-year experience courses.

Dr. Richard Schoephoerster Dean of Graduate College and Research



Dr. Richard Schoephoerster is the new dean of the ATU Graduate College and will oversee all ATU research initiatives.

Schoephoerster holds three degrees from the University of Iowa: Bachelor of Science in biomedical engineering, Master of Science in mechanical engineering, and Doctor of Philosophy in mechanical engineering.

Schoephoerster has previously held leadership positions at Florida International University (FIU), the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), and the American University of Sharjah (AUS) in the United Arab Emirates as part of a career in higher education that spans 30 years.

Previously, he was a faculty member and department chair during 17 years at FIU before accepting the position of dean in the UTEP College of Engineering in 2007. Schoephoerster went on to serve as dean and professor in the AUS College of Engineering from 2016-19.

HLC 2020 Invitation and Update

The HLC 2020 Steering Committee would like to invite faculty and staff to attend Focus Groups as they finalize the five Criteria. Drafts of each criteria will be released on the HLC 2020 Reaffirmation webpage approximately one week prior to the Focus Group meeting scheduled for that Criterion. HLC Steering Committee members and other HLC peer reviewers from the Tech campus will be on hand to both answer questions about each draft, as well as to pose questions to attendees similar to those that will occur during the actual Reaffirmation of Accreditation Visit in November, 2020.

The public schedule of document availability and focus meeting dates is as follows:

	Draft Available at http://www.atu.edu/hlc	Focus Group Meeting Schedule
Criterion Five – Institutional Effectiveness, Resources and Planning	February 7, 2020	February 14, 2020 @ 3pm in Rothwell 138
Criterion One – Mission	February 14, 2020	February 21, 2020 @ 3pm in Rothwell 138
Criterion Two – Ethical and Responsible Conduct	February 21, 2020	February 28, 2020 @ 3pm in Rothwell 138
Criterion Four – Evaluation and Improvement	February 28, 2020	March 6, 2020 @ 3pm in Rothwell 138
Criterion Three - Teaching and Learning: Quality, Resources, and Support	March 6, 2020	March 13, 2020 @ 3pm in Rothwell 138