

Jennifer Ann Scasta, Ph.D.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Texas A&M University, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

Program Director- Industry & Student Engagement

July 2018 – Present

- Act as liaison between employers, students and the Texas A&M University College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
- Facilitate and execute the AGLS Career Fair (formerly known as ACE Day) with the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Student Council
 - Increased company participation by more than 150%
 - Increased student participation by more than 125%
- Forge relationships with new employers not currently participating in on-campus recruiting
- Recruit and partner with high profile companies to build campus brand and provide students with career opportunities
- Create, compile and distribute employment and AGLS Career Fair statistics of undergraduate agriculture students to the college deans

Texas A&M University, Career Center

Senior Career Coordinator: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

February 2014 – June 2018

Career Coordinator: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

October 2011 – February 2014

- Served 6,500 students from 14 academic disciplines regarding professional career planning
- Enlisted the assistance of expert agricultural employers to judge the Grand Innovation Challenge competition
- Oversaw the Professional Development Certificate committee to design and implement an undergraduate university-wide certificate program designed to provide professional development opportunities for students
- Implemented webinar technology for Career Center staff to utilize to virtually engage students, employers, and other stakeholders
- Managed the social media committee and improve social media followers by 42%
- Chaired the 2014 – 2015 Communications Committee that coordinated and implemented new communication strategies throughout the office while improving rapport and morale among members
- Organized and implement specialized programs such as the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Women's Summit, College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Men's Summit, Aggies in Agriculture Mentoring Program, and campus wide Sophomore Women's Summit to provide enhanced professional development opportunities to young people
- Coordinated and developed 3 to 5 career related programs each semester for students to attend
- Delivered career related presentations to audiences with up to 500 attendees, reaching approximately 4,500 students each calendar year
- Met with students on a one-on-one basis to provide career advising, graduate school advising, and major advising
- Manage performance of graduate assistants, student workers, and respective committees

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sam Houston State University, Department of Agricultural Sciences

Adjunct Faculty Member

January 2017 – Present

- Coordinate and facilitate the acquisition of knowledge to 25 students each semester through online dissemination
- Create content to develop students' ability to understand agricultural communications and agricultural advocacy
- Develop content to encourage positive understanding and promotion of diverse agricultural practices
- Student Evaluations
 - **IDEA Evaluation System** (5.0 – point scale for each course taught per semester)
2017 – Fall: 4.0
Summer: 4.3
Spring: 4.5
- Student Comments
 - “Mrs. Scasta is awesome. She is always willing to help and is very easy to contact (fast response) which is very uncommon with online professors.”
 - “Great teacher! Would take other classes that she teaches.”
 - “The professor made this class exceptional by thinking through the material to assist students in developing their own objectives in relation to advocacy.”
 - “Professor Scasta was an excellent teacher to take. She made the course relatable and her lessons were always something different, making the subject interesting.”

Texas A&M University, Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications

Assistant Lecturer

August 2015 – Present

- Coordinate and facilitate the acquisition of knowledge related to academic and career success
- Develop content and assignments to encourage professional and self-development for over 80 students
- Implement classroom activities related to learning styles, communication skills, and case studies
- Teach students about five Grand Challenges initiated by Texas A&M University through research presentations
- Student Evaluations
 - **TAMU Evaluation System** (5.0 – point scale for each course taught per semester)
 - 2017 – Fall: 4.88
 - Spring: 4.93
 - 2015 – Fall: 4.97
 - 2016 – Fall: 4.86
 - Spring: 4.96
- Student Comments
 - *Jennifer Ann is a great professor. She is always encouraging. She truly wants the best for each of her students.*
 - *Loved this course and learning from Professor Scasta.*
 - *It was a pleasure to study with Ms. Scasta. Would highly recommend her to any and all Agriculture students.*
 - *Ms. Scasta is an incredibly bright and passionate individual and was an inspiration to how I approach my day.*
 - *She made the class fun and enjoyable. She is a rockstar!*

EDUCATION

Texas A&M University: College Station, Texas

May 2018

Doctor of Philosophy: Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications

Certificate in eLearning Development

Certificate in Leadership Education, Theory, and Practice

Oklahoma State University: Stillwater, Oklahoma

May 2012

Master of Science in Agriculture; Major: Agricultural Communications

Texas A&M University: College Station, Texas

August 2010

Bachelor of Science: Agricultural Leadership & Development

Emphasis in Animal Science and Business

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS & POSTERS

Scasta, J.A., Murphrey, T. P., & Dooley, K. E. (2017, February). Employer perceptions of student participation in high impact experiences: Generational differences.

Scasta, J.A., Murphrey, T. P., & Dooley, K. E. (2016, September). Employer expectations of entry-level agricultural leadership graduates: A qualitative study.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Association of Leadership Educators

American Angus Association

American Association for Agricultural Education

Red Angus Association of America

North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture

National Association of Colleges and Employers

AgCareers.Com University Group

Ag Future of America Campus Liaison

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Texas Aggie Cattlewomen, TAMU

Advisor

July 2018 – Present

Silver Spurs: BCYLS Buyers Group

Treasurer

April 2016 – Present

- Coordinate reverse raffle, grossing over \$75,000 annually
- Solicit sponsorships and auction items
- Sell raffle tickets and dinner tickets
- Purchase youth exhibitor livestock projects at the Brazos County Youth Livestock Sale

Maroon & White Leadership Fellows, TAMU

Leadership Coach

August 2016 – Present

- Provide leadership coaching to one undergraduate student
- Meet weekly with student to facilitate meaningful reflections
- Engage student in conversations that encourage diversity of thought

Aggie Angels, TAMU

Advisor

April 2014 – Present

- Provide advisement to undergraduate women's organization whose primary function was to provide support to the Texas A&M University basketball teams
- Assist in managing budget in excess of \$25,000 and encourage members to employ fiscally responsible decision making skills
- Handle all academic issues and require a high academic standard from all members

Academic Affairs Climate and Diversity Committee, TAMU

Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee

April 2014 – May 2015

- Explored issues within the division related to recruitment, hiring, selection, retention, and promotion for all staff, with special emphasis on those identified in the Diversity Plan
- Met as a subcommittee on a monthly basis to look into the career ladders and diversity within the division

National Junior Angus Association

Foundation Director

July 2010 – July 2011

- Worked closely with Angus Foundation President Milford Jenkins to raise significant dollars to support the Angus Foundation's Vision of Value: Campaign for Angus through soliciting donations and public auction events
- Organized Angus Foundation Golf Tournament held in conjunction with the 2011 National Junior Angus Show
- Spoke publicly at American Angus Association events to encourage and promote charitable giving to the Angus Foundation

Junior Board Member of the single largest breed organization with more than 7000 members July 2009 – July 2011

- Elected and served on a 12-person board of directors that is responsible for planning, funding and executing the National Junior Angus Show, the world's largest single breed livestock exposition
- Orchestrated and organized Leaders Engaged in Angus Development conference that provides leadership opportunity, personal encouragement, industry awareness and character-building activities to youth
- Developed and presented workshops on resume writing, cover letter writing, and interviewing skills during LEAD and Raising the Bar conferences