

The Vision

TABPHE's vision is to ensure that the higher educational system in the state of Texas provides equitable opportunities and advancement for Black personnel while fostering a positive environment for Black students to successfully matriculate.

Faculty Senate vision is to focus on access, participation and success of students in quality undergraduate and graduate degree programs, so that Texas A&M University-Commerce will become the university of choice for those seeking a higher education in the Northeast Texas area. As a result, Texas A&M University-Commerce will be recognized for the creation of partnerships and initiatives that promote intellectual, social, environmental, economic and cultural advancement of their region and state.

Our Mission

The Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education (TABPHE) is a statewide, voluntary, educational association that represents all levels of higher education and serves as a voice for Black faculty, staff, students and administrators in order to ensure a better educational system for all. TABPHE provides an avenue for professional development opportunities that enrich higher education personnel and improve the quality of their professional growth.

The Faculty Senate represents the faculty and professional librarians of Texas A&M University-Commerce by studying and investigating matters of concern and recommending constructive changes to the president of the university.

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Faculty Senate Academic Life and
Practice Committees and
Texas Association of Black Personnel
in Higher Education
Present

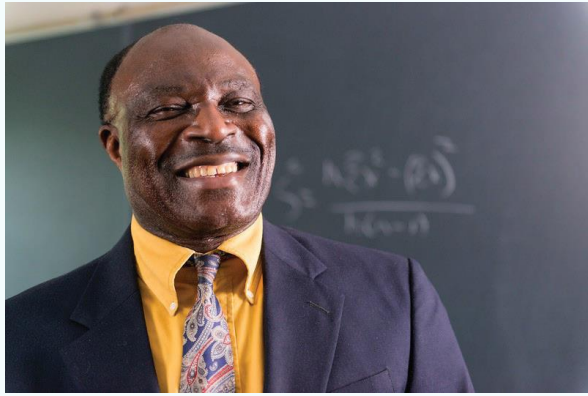
Dr. Augustine “Chuck” Arize

Junior Faculty Award Ceremony

Tuesday October 5, 2021

6:00 pm

Virtual



Dr. Augustine “Chuck” Arize

Professor of Economics and Finance

Augustine (Chuck). Arize is a Regents' Professor of The A&M University System & Lion Legacy Endowed Distinguished Professor in the Economics and Finance Department at Texas A & M University-Commerce. He has won the highest award given by the A&M University System and received numerous teaching and service awards from Texas A&M University-Commerce. He has given over 300 excellence awards to students and established endowed scholarship funds in honor of several business professors and deans. He received a commendation by the State Texas Legislature and MLK Hall of Fame. He holds a doctorate in Applied Econometrics/Statistics from North Texas State University. He is a respected authority on the effects of exchange rate volatility on trade flows. His papers have been cited by over 3500 scholars, including the World Bank, Harvard University, the United Nations, The European Economic Commission, and several other international entities. Dr. Arize has won numerous awards for his accomplishments. His research has appeared in several journals, including Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Business and Economic Statistics, Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, Financial Review, Review of Quantitative Finance & Accounting, Global Finance, Quantitative Finance, The International Journal of Finance, International Review of Economics & Finance, the Applied Economics, The World Economy, Southern Economic Journal, and Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance. He is currently an associate editor of several journals.

Honors and Awards

- ❖ Regents' Professor, The Texas A&M System
- ❖ “Lions’ Legacy Endowed Distinguished Professor
- ❖ Ivory Moore/ David Talbot Distinguished Leadership Award
- ❖ John Humphreys Academic Excellence Award
- ❖ David Talbot Outstanding Professor of the Year Award
- ❖ David Brown Life Time Teaching Award
- ❖ Professor of the Year Award (AACA)
- ❖ MLK Lifetime Achievement Award (AACA)
- ❖ Dean, College of Business and Entrepreneurship “STAR” Award
- ❖ Faculty Senate, Named the “Chuck Arize Award for Imagination in Teaching”
- ❖ The Texas A&M System Teaching Excellence Award
- ❖ The Texas A&M System Regents Scholar Award
- ❖ H.M. Lafferty Distinguished Faculty Award for Research
- ❖ Paul W. Barrus Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching
- ❖ NISOD Excellence in Teaching Award~UT Austin
- ❖ Faculty Senate Distinguished Professor Award

The Augustine “Chuck” Arize Junior Faculty Award for Dedication and Excellence

This award was established to honor **junior faculty (assistant professor level)** for their teaching, research, and service to the university. It is presented each fall by The University’s chapter of Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education in conjunction with the Faculty Senate Academic Practices Committee. This award is named in honor of Dr. Augustine “Chuck” Arize. Dr. Arize is the University’s most distinguished professor. He is The Regents’ Professor (Texas A&M System), Lions’ Legacy Endowed Distinguished Professor, and The College of Business “STAR” Award recipient.

This award represents the highest award given to a University assistant professor. It comes with a \$200.00 stipend and a gold medallion.

Dr. Mylynka Kilgore Cardona



Dr. Mylynka Kilgore Cardona is an Assistant Professor of History. She holds a Ph.D. in Transatlantic History from The University of Texas at Arlington (2015). Dr. Cardona specializes in the intersection of gender and travel, especially in the nineteenth century. In her research, she seeks to understand how and why people travel and explore and looks to the past for answers. A transatlantic historian with a background in historical cartography, Dr. Cardona worked as the Map Curator for the Texas General Land Office. While there, she produced exhibits featuring Texas' state and county maps in the Witte Museum in San Antonio, The Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin, and The Houston Museum of Natural Science before joining the TAMUC Department of History in 2017. Dr. Cardona serves as the advisor for the Eta Beta chapter of the History National Honor Society – Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club. She is also a member of the Gender Studies faculty and a co-coordinator for the TAMUC Safe Space Ally training. Dr. Cardona is also the advisor for the TAMUC Public History Graduate Certificate. She is a board member for the Society for the History of Discoveries and is the Second Vice President of the Texas Map Society. Dr. Cardona is currently writing a book manuscript about nineteenth-century Dutch woman Alexandrine Tinne who traveled and explored the Nile River in the 1850s and 1860s. This manuscript investigates not only Tinne's explorations but also how her contemporaries wrote about her and how historians and others represent her image/story. Dr. Cardona has forthcoming articles on social mobility, respectability, and the reparations paid to the nineteenth-century owners of enslaved people in the British Empire and on the history and art placed on twentieth-century Texas county maps. She is also completing a book chapter on nineteenth-century explorers for the Bloomsbury series *A Cultural History of Exploration*.

Dr. Kamshia Childs



Dr. Kamshia Childs is originally a native of Wichita, Kansas who was a first-generation college student, turned teacher, turned professor. She obtained a Doctor of Education in Curriculum and Instruction at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas, and she also holds a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education (ESL), and a Master of Science in Curriculum and Instruction (Reading and Language Arts) from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas. Dr. Childs has worked in education and schools for almost 23 years (first beginning as a tutor and paraprofessional), but she has professionally been a literacy educator for 19 years. She has a wide range of experience in working in rural and urban settings in grades K-12 and in multiple university settings. Dr. Childs has worked in online settings (Kansas State MAT Online One-Year Teaching program), at a community college (San Jacinto College-South), and at an HBCU (Texas Southern University), but found a home at Texas A&M University-Commerce in 2019 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, in the College of Education and Human Services. Within the Curriculum and Instruction Department, Dr. Childs teaches various reading courses, is the RDG 370 Course Coordinator, and supervises and observes student interns in partnering school districts while they are in their Internship and Residency semesters. Dr. Childs has published several articles in peer-reviewed literacy journals, published individually and co-published book chapters, written a self-published book titled, "29 Days to L.O.V.E. Literacy", and she presents at state, local, national, and international conferences on topics related to literacy teaching strategies, digital literacies, educator empowerment, parent involvement, and culturally relevant pedagogy. Outside of TAMUC, Dr. Childs currently serves as the Chair of the Board of Directors for the Texas Association for Literacy Education (TALE), and mentors several educators and students pursuing undergraduate and graduate studies. She has also served her department by working with colleagues to align course curriculum to meet the Science of Teaching Reading and EdTPA standards, done work for the US PREP grant, and was instrumental in putting pre-service field experiences completely online in 2020-2021 (due to the pandemic) by serving as the GoReact Coordinator for her department. As a teacher educator and professor, Dr. Childs takes pride in providing instruction that is engaging and relevant. She plans lessons and lectures that challenge students—yet does not forget to be personable and involve her audience. Her passion and "heart of a teacher" that she developed as a classroom teacher for 11 years and being a first-generation college student is what drives her work, and she hopes to continue to greatly impact the university and surrounding community, and the careers of future teachers and in-service educators.



Dr. Edith Gonzalez

Dr. Edith Gonzalez is an Assistant Professor of Counseling at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Her education includes a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Houston, a Master of Education in Couples, Marriage and Family Counseling from William and Mary, and a PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision from William and Mary.

Dr. Gonzalez's primary research interests include (a) Issues in Marriage and Family Counseling, (b) Social Advocacy for Underrepresented Populations, (c) Implications of Bilingual Counseling and Supervision, and (d) Working with Latinx immigrant families. Dr. Gonzalez is a Licensed Professional Counselor in Virginia and a National Certified Counselor. Her clinical background includes work with couples and families in community agencies.

Dr. Gonzalez is an active member of the American Counseling Association (ACA), International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC), Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES), Texas Counseling Association (TCA), Texas Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, and Texas Counselors for Social Justice (TxCSJ). Dr. Gonzalez currently serves as the Associate Editor for the Journal of College Counseling and Secretary for TxCSJ. In her free time, Dr. Gonzalez enjoys spending time with her family and dogs.

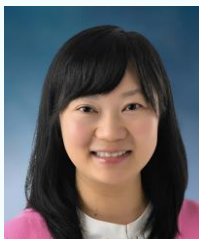


Dr. Mohamed Komaki

Upon graduating from Case Western Reserve University in December 2017, **Dr. Mohamed Komaki** joined Marketing and Business Analytics Department at TAMUC. Since then, he has been actively engaged in research by publishing several articles and presenting at conferences. Also, he has been collaborating with undergraduate and graduate students and other faculties on research topics to help our students be role models in their future professional careers. He has been deeply engaged in serving the academic community by serving as an invited reviewer for more than a dozen A* or A journals in his field as well as serving as a reviewer and/or session chair for international conferences. He has received several Outstanding Reviewer awards from journals.

Dr. Komaki has been actively involved in serving at the departmental level, college level, and university level. At the department level, he has engaged with curriculum evaluation of the Business Analytics program, faculty search committee, Google Analytics referee, etc. At the college level, he has served in Quality Oversight Committee, the Students and Alumni Engagement committee, and so on. At the university level, he has served at the Faculty Leave committee, Institutional Review Boards (IRB) committee, Faculty Award committee as well as a faculty judge at research symposiums. Dr. Komaki has conducted several projects for the community through the Center for Excellence of the College of Business. For instance, the feasibility study of broadband internet of Farmersville, TX, where he investigated the feasibility of the broadband internet implementation in the City of Farmersville and presented the result to the city manager and city council members. As a result of the project, the city secured a \$2.5 Million grant through CARES Act. The other projects conducted by Dr. Komaki are intellectual property monetization practices, as well as identifying and analyzing available tools for managing the whole life cycle of intellectual property from conception, valuation, and disposition for Lockheed Martin. As a teacher, Dr. Komaki invests in maximizing students' growth. He has mentored several undergraduate and graduate students on projects where many of them have landed in big companies due to the hands-on experience. Some of the companies that hired these students are L3Harris, Sabre, and so on. He won the best internship advisor award at Texas A&M University-Commerce in December 2018 due to his excellent mentoring service. In his classes and projects, he applies innovative techniques to increase students' engagement.

Dr. Mimi Li



Dr. Mimi Li is Assistant Professor of Applied Linguistics/TESOL in the Department of Literature and Languages at Texas A&M University-Commerce (TAMUC), where she teaches courses in linguistics/applied linguistics and advises graduate students. Dr. Li earned her Ph.D. in Second Language Acquisition/Instructional Technology from the University of South Florida. She worked at Marshall University and then Georgia Southern University prior to her appointment at TAMUC. Dr. Li is an enthusiastic educator who has taught diverse student populations for twenty years. Her students enjoy her engaging and insightful classes, admire her professional knowledge, and appreciate her nice personality. Of note, she excels in online teaching and won the Faculty Senate's Teaching-Technology Award. Dr. Li makes efforts to socialize her students into an academic culture that fosters an appreciation for research, critical inquiry, self-reflection, and discovery. She teaches to fan the sparks and to create new possibilities; she has witnessed her various students grow and glow in academia and profession. Her research areas focus on second language writing and computer assisted language learning. She has conducted research projects on online collaborative writing, computer-mediated teacher/peer feedback, multimodal composing, game-based vocabulary learning, and multimodal pedagogy in teacher education. She has published her work in prestigious journals such as *Journal of Second Language Writing (JSLW)*, *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, *Language Learning & Technology (LLT)*, *Language Teaching*, *System*, *Computers & Education*, and *Computers and Composition (CC)*. She received the JSLW 2016 Best Article Award for the publication on wiki-based collaborative writing. She has also recently completed her first monograph entitled "Researching and Teaching Second Language Writing in the Digital Age" with Palgrave Macmillan, supported by the AHSS Research Fund, in addition to multiple book chapters. Moreover, Dr. Li has started to take a leading role in the wider applied linguistics community. She serves as an editor of the Language Teacher Education and Technology Forum for LLT, and on the editorial boards of JSLW, LLT, and CC. She co-edited the 2017 special issue on "Second language writing in the age of computer mediated communication" and is co-editing the 2022 special issue on "L2 writing assessment in the digital age" for JSLW. Besides, she has been engaged in reviewing journal manuscripts, conference proposals, and book proposals. Dr. Mimi Li's contribution is widely acknowledged in her profession.

Dr. Bahar Modir



Dr. Bahar Modir joined Texas A&M University-Commerce in Fall 2018 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. She was a remote adjunct faculty at A&M-Commerce in Fall 2017 and Spring and Summer 2018. She earned a bachelor's degree in Physics from Arak University and a Master's degree in Atomic Molecular Physics from Tehran University in 2011. She joined Kansas State University (KSU) in August 2013 to pursue her PhD in physics. She always had a passion for teaching. After realizing Physics Education Research (PER) is a research-based discipline which explores teaching and learning physics, she joined the PER group at KSU. She received her PhD in August 2017. She joined the Mathematization group where her PhD dissertation focused on how students use their knowledge of math in physics in the upper division physics course of Quantum Mechanics. She uses different theories to explore students' learning process during group problem solving activities. She also investigates how learning occurs in an online learning community. Her research has been published in *Physical Review Physics Education Research* journal and *Physics Education Research Conference* proceedings. She has presented as an invited speaker at the American Association of Physics Teachers Meeting in 2020 and American Physical Society April Meeting in 2021. She serves as part of the leadership team of the Noyce and PhysTEC teacher preparation programs, co-PI on a PhysTEC Regional Network grant, and co-PI on an REU Site (Research Experiences for Undergraduates) grant. She teaches introductory calculus-based physics courses and a course on learning and teaching physics related to her field of research. She has developed an elective course of Computational Waves for Educators as part of the online M.S. in Physics with Teaching Emphasis program. She helps with organizing workshops to provide professional development and support to high school teachers and A&M-Commerce students interested in teaching. As the advisor of the Society of Physics Students (SPS), she supervises SPS students to provide demos to high school students as part of the Department of Physics and Astronomy Physics Day event. She also attends the Dallas ISD STEM Expo with SPS students to provide outreach activities to K-12 students for increasing their interest in physics and more broadly science.



Dr. Zachary Palmer

Dr. Zachary Palmer is an assistant professor in the department of Sociology & Criminal Justice. He received his PhD in sociology from Purdue University in 2019 and this is his third year at TAMUC.

His research focuses on gender and masculinities, with particular attention to how men respond to shifts in gender politics—from men's rights movements to men who are fans of *My Little Pony*. He teaches a wide variety of courses in sociology, including both undergraduate and graduate level sociological theory, racial and ethnic diversity, and sociology of gender.

He currently serves as the graduate coordinator for the Sociology master's program, the department representative for Faculty Senate, and a member of the advisory committees for both the African American and Gender Studies minors. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his 2 ½ year old son, Avi.



Call To Order

Dr. Willie Edwards, Master of Ceremonies
TABPHE, Past President

Scripture and Prayer

Dr. Deirdre Hill Jenkins
Assistant Director, Trio Ronald E. McNair Program

Greetings

Dr. John Humphreys, Provost, Texas A&M University-Commerce
Dr. Julia Ballenger, President of Faculty Senate
Texas A&M University-Commerce

The Occasion

Dr. Josh Thompson, Professor
Department of Curriculum and Instruction

Introduction of Speaker

Veronica Reed, Vice President, TABPHE-TAMUC

Address

Dr. Kimberly McLeod, Dean, College of Education and Human Services

Presentations

Dr. Joyce Miller, Professor
Curriculum and Instruction

Closing Remarks

Dr. LaVelle Hendricks, President, TABPHE-TAMUC
Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education

