



College of Liberal Arts - Deans' Areas of Responsibility

Interim Dean of Liberal Arts – Dr. Steven Oberhelman, Professor, International Studies (100% FTE)

- Leads strategic planning and provides vision
- Appoints and supervises associate and assistant deans, department heads, center and institute directors, and other academic program leaders
- Integrates college priorities with TAMU mission, goals, strategies
- Serves on university-level Council of Deans and other committees as assigned
- Point of contact: Mandy Stark (mandys@tamu.edu)

Associate Dean for Faculty – Dr. Violet Showers Johnson, Professor, History (100% FTE)

- Assists departments and programs in supporting and enhancing the professional development of faculty leading to success in research, teaching, and service such that faculty receive outstanding recommendations for promotion and tenure and attain timely promotions to the rank of professor; as well as success in awards and recognitions
- Handles faculty grievances
- Coordinates faculty hiring, including the certification of search pools, review of requests for hiring authorization, and partner placements
- Oversees the promotion and tenure process and the review, award, assessment, and success of endowed appointments
- Serves on the Dean of Faculties Faculty Operations Council
- Primary point of contact: Katherine Payne (kpayne@tamu.edu)
- Point of contact for Promotion & Tenure and Faculty Hiring: Becky Jobling (bjobling@tamu.edu)

Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs – Dr. Maria Escobar-Lemmon, Professor, Political Science (100% FTE)

- Encourages and facilitates external research funding; oversees development, reviews, and approvals for proposals and applications for external funding submissions
- Serve as a member of the University Research Council and Graduate Operations Committee (GOC)
- Oversees development of graduate programs and strategic allocation of graduate enhancement funding, tuition allocations, and college-funded fellowships and other programs.
- Manages internal faculty grants and oversees Faculty Development Leave
- Oversees Center & Institutes
- Coordinates Assessment of Graduate Programs
- Coordinates the Graduate Certificate
- Point of contact: Sarah Franke (sfranke@tamu.edu)



Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs – Dr. Leroy Dorsey, Professor, Communication (100% FTE)

- Oversees undergraduate operations including advising, course scheduling and classroom coordination, scholarships, enrollment management, recruiting, student retention
- Oversees high-impact undergraduate curricular and co-curricular experiences (Regents' Scholars, common intellectual experiences for new students)
- Oversees the Cornerstone Honors program, and the Freshmen Innovation Group program, including the development of their high impact practices and learning experiences
- Develops and manages international programs; oversees faculty-led study abroad programs
- Coordinates quality enhancement planning and assessment of undergraduate programs in AEFIS
- Serves on Academic Operations Committee (AOC) and Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC)
- Point of contact: Mandy Stark (mandys@tamu.edu)

Associate Dean for Inclusive Excellence – Dr. Leroy Dorsey, Professor, Communication (50% FTE)

- Oversees the enhancement of programmatic climate & diversity-related matters, advises the dean on all relevant matters, and serves as a resource for the college on diversity
- Represents college on Diversity Operations Committee (DOC) and prepares required reports
- Serve as *ex officio* member of College Graduate Instruction Committee (GIC) and Undergraduate Instruction Committee (UIC)
- Acts as College liaison with DEI-related interdisciplinary programs (AFST, LMAS, WGST, and RELS)
- Primary point of contact: Mandy Stark (mandys@tamu.edu)

Assistant Dean for Finance and Operations – Ms. Kristine Brisco (100% FTE)

- Provides leadership, planning, and oversight of college financial and business operations
- Oversees development and administration of annual and biennial operating budgets; provides long-range budget planning expertise and direction for integrating annual budget preparation with college and university strategic priorities and initiatives.
- Assists Dean with the planning, coordination, and management of college administrative operations
- Point of contact: Mandy Stark (mandys@tamu.edu)

Associate Dean for Information Technology, Instructional Technology, and Facilities – Dr. Paul Wellman, Professor, Psychology (100% FTE)

- Oversees informational technology infrastructure and develops overarching strategy for college information technology functions
- Serves as liaison between IT and faculty on instructional technology and pedagogy initiatives
- Plans and coordinates college space and facilities; coordinates assignments; advises dean on effective strategy for the built environment
- Serves on University committees related to information technology.
- Serves as the primary Public Informational officer
- Point of contact: Connie Davenport (cdavenport@tamu.edu)