

# TCPEA News

Late September, 2022



**TCPEA** TEXAS COUNCIL OF PROFESSORS OF  
EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

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## ***Message from the Executive Director***

*We had a very nice meeting in San Antonio last week. It was certainly good to interact with those who were able to be in attendance.*

*As we move forward, we will be welcoming new additions to the Executive Board (ballot in this mailing) and initiating the planning and processes for this organizational year. This means that we will reconstitute our standing committees and begin the process for planning the addition of a third TCPEA meeting, scheduled in concert with the TASA June meeting. This TCPEA meeting is tentatively scheduled to be a two-day Writing and Research Workshop, designed for professors, practitioners, and graduate students.*



*Our next meeting is Midwinter. The Midwinter Call for Papers is due at the end of October. I encourage you to share this information with colleagues and graduate students who are engaging in research. Moreover, I encourage you to attend the meeting, add to the discussion, and take advantage of the many networking opportunities.*

*Finally, our annual awards nominations also close at the end of October. If you know someone who is deserving, please complete the nomination form.*

*Regards,*  
*John Decman*



## **Fall Meeting NOTES**

We were privileged to have our guest speaker from TEA, Emily Grace, engage with the members in a discussion of current issues. At the conclusion of her presentation, she specifically indicated that TEA is interested in "systemic intentional research" on topics that are timely and needed in today's environment. For those members who are involved in doctoral dissertations and those who are developing and growing their research agendas, the following topics were listed:

- Teacher vacancy
- Teacher retention
- High-quality virtual instruction
- Comprehensive approaches to virtual pedagogy
  - There is an absence of research in training teachers to meet student needs in virtual environments.



Dr. Emily Grace visits with membership during the 2022 Fall Meeting via Zoom

President-Elect, Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, moderated a panel of School Leaders in a discussion titled "Voices from the Field for Continuous Program Improvement. We were privileged to hear thoughts from practitioners about identity, readiness, and other preparation-related topics. Participating in the panel were Dr. Janis Jordan, Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction, Northside ISD; Alyta Harrell, Associate Superintendent for Campus Development, Pasadena ISD; and Dr. Walter Jackson, Superintendent, Laporte ISD.



Panelists Dr. Janis Jordan, Alyta Harrell, and Dr. Walter Jackson interact with TCPEA Members at the Fall 2022 TCPEA Meeting.

## ***James A. Vornberg Living Legend Awarded***

The *James A. Vornberg Living Legend Award* was announced at the Fall Meeting. A committee comprised of Executive Board Members and former Vornberg Award winners recommended two recipients of the award in 2022: Dr. Julia Ballenger and Dr. Wes Hickey. Both join a very small group of special individuals who TCPEA recognizes as having contributed an outstanding degree of service and commitment to the organization.



## ***NEW Executive Board***

The terms of four of our executive board members ended at the completion of the fall meeting. We have a slate of four candidates to fill the open positions. To adhere to our bylaws, we are asking for an "Acclamation Vote" to fill these positions. The link is below:

**Please Vote Here**

## ***Links to Annual Awards Nominations (click title for link to form)***

### **TCPEA Advocate of the Year**

TCPEA established the Advocate of the Year Award in order to recognize outstanding professors focused on service to the profession and the organization. Nominees for this award must be active members of TCPEA. Deadline: October 30.

### **TCPEA Educator of the Year**

TCPEA established the Educator of the Year Award in order to recognize outstanding instructors in the field of educational leadership in Texas. Nominees for this award must be active members of TCPEA. Deadline: October 30.

## **TCPEA Researcher of the Year**

TCPEA established the Researcher of the Year Award to recognize outstanding researchers in the field of educational leadership in Texas. Nominees for this award must be active members of TCPEA. Deadline: October 30.

## **TCPEA Outstanding Dissertation Award**

Presented January at the Midwinter Conference, this award recognizes an exceptional doctoral level dissertation that expands the knowledge of educational leadership at the postsecondary or K-20 levels. Doctoral dissertations must be successfully defended within the previous year from the award date. The award will include an honorarium of \$250 and one-year membership to TCPEA. Deadline: October 30.

## ***Links to TCPEA Conference Activities***

### **Midwinter Call for Papers**

TCPEA Call for proposals for paper presentations at the Midwinter Conference in January 2023. Members and non-members of TCPEA may submit proposals for consideration. Deadline: October 30.

## ***Message from the Immediate Past President***



It would not be an exaggeration to say that serving as the president of TCPEA for this last year was a highlight of my career. Not only did I have the opportunity to work alongside an incredible group of colleagues serving on the executive board, but also be a part of some incredible things that will shape the future of our organization for years to come. In addition to creating or renewing organizational structures that facilitate the maximization of member involvement, ownership, and support, we were

able to strategically think about and implement strategies to best serve our field, as well as leaders within the Texas public education system. We developed and hosted professional development webinars; held virtual conferences during the pandemic; increased our journal offerings and opportunities; streamlined the membership process; took over the management of the TCPEA website; strengthened our relationships with TASA through involvement in the Higher Education Committee; and developed an additional summer conference beginning in the Summer of 2023 focused on the support of producing quality research. Along the way, I was also able to get to know many of you much better and develop what I believe will be long-term friendships.

Although I am truly saddened that my work on the board with Dr. Jennifer Butcher, Dr. Julie Combs, Dr. Dianne Reed and Dr. Nate Templeton, all of whom have been incredible board members in service to TCPEA, is coming to an end, I am excited about our new president, Dr. Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz, and all that she will accomplish this next year in cooperation with our new executive board. I hope that you all will continue to not only be involved with our good work and encourage your colleagues to do the same, but that

you will support this board and organization by getting involved in ongoing committee work and nominating leaders from the field to one of the numerous recognitions we provide as an organization. It is in our work together that we can maximize our impact on the field.

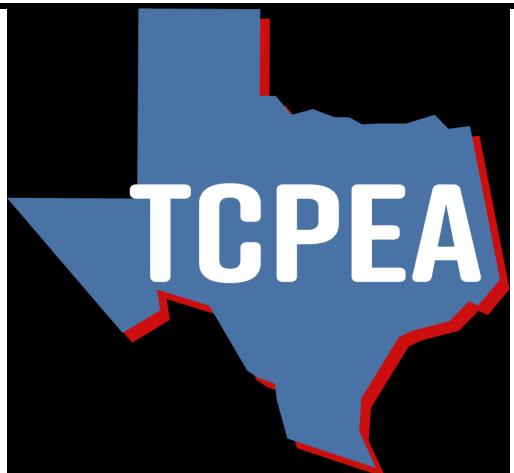
Finally, I would be remiss if I did not also mention my deep appreciation and admiration of our executive director, Dr. John Decman. If you have ever had the pleasure of being able to work alongside caring, intelligent, and creative visionaries who are guided by a deep commitment to a calling greater than themselves and their accolades, then you have an inkling of my experience being able to work alongside John Decman this last year. As an organization, TCPEA has been incredibly fortunate- or blessed- to have a history of great leadership. John Decman, in my experience, continues that tradition and has a vision for helping TCPEA become more than what many of us and our founders could have ever imagined. Thank you, John, for your friendship and leadership.

So, thank you TCPEA members for a great year! I look forward to continuing to serve you and the organization as I take a victory lap as the immediate past president this next year and seeing you at Mid-Winter!

Ken







## **Is Your Membership Current?**

Please renew your membership.

Become a member today!

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**TCPEA.org**

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Questions or comments?

Email John Decman at  
[executive.director@tcpea.org](mailto:executive.director@tcpea.org)