

# College of Education

**NEWSLETTER**

Spring, 2023



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**JOAN PEDRO**  
DEAN, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

## *Dean's Message*

*As we ended the fall semester and moved into Spring 2023, we want to reiterate our College's commitment to continue to engage in practice and inquiry with integrity. We continue to work to reflect our vision and mission of the college that reflects transformational education and to reach out to the community in meaningful ways. We also strive to be culturally responsive and caring for all our students. Our faculty continue to engage in innovative teaching and research that add to the knowledge base of education. I am so proud of the faculty, staff and students in the College of Education, as we strive to enhance our diversity, equity and inclusion for all our constituents. Our future is bright if we make it so, as we continue to transform student's lives, translate knowledge and transcend boundaries.*

*Sincerely*

*Joan Pedro*

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**WELCOME OUR ASSOCIATE DEAN**



*This Fall semester we welcomed **Dr. Terry Shepherd**, Associate Dean and Professor of Special Education.*

*Dr. Shepherd comes to us from the University of Indiana where he was associate dean for 6 years.*

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**WELCOMES NEW FACULTY**

Dr. Diana Wandix-White,  
Multicultural Education

Dr. Neelofer Tajani,  
Early Childhood  
Education

Dr. Heather Pule,  
Literacy

Dr. Jane Cooper,  
Educational Research

Dr. Emily Horton,  
Counseling

Dr. Queinnise Miller,  
Educational Leadership

Dr. Miriam Thomas,  
Library Science

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### FACULTY SUCCESS



University of Houston-Clear Lake's Assistant Professor of STEM Education **Carol Waters** received the 2023 BASU Fellowship from the National Association of Research in Science Teaching (NARST)



**Dr. Leslie Gauna** was the Keynote Speaker for the 1st National Gathering of Communities of Math Teacher Educators in Chile.

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### GRANT SUCCESS



*Houston Endowment – COE received \$250,000 to develop and continue our Success through Education Program (STEP) to work with Houston ISD and Channel View ISD*

*Department of Education Hawkins Program Grant  
1.5 million over 4 years*

*STEM Hawks: Noyce Scholarship Program University of Houston-Clear Lake \$1,199,699*



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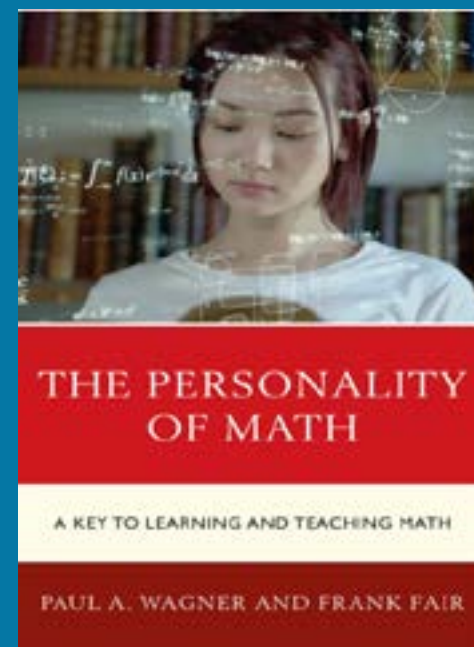


## FACULTY AND ALUMNI SUCCESS



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## FACULTY BOOK FEATURES



**Assistant Professor of STEM Education Carol Waters** is a strong advocate of STEM Education who was awarded the 2023 Basu Fellowship. NARS is a global organization for improving science education through research. Dr. Waters is investigating the most effective practices in STEM programs in elementary schools, and her findings have recently been published in the *Journal of Science, Mathematics and Technology* in an article entitled, "Exploring Effective Practices of an Elementary STEM Block Program." She states, "In order for young students to become successful future collaborators, critical thinkers and problem solvers, STEM must be a mindset ingrained in a school's culture." Andrea Montalvo, who is working toward her Bachelor of Science in Education with Core Studies EC-6, in her Methods classes with her own students, shares what she has learned in Dr. Water's class. "I'll be using these hands-on tactics in my own classroom." She said often in Waters' class, the lesson is a hands-on activity.



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## CELEBRATING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

*UHCL - COE Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with Rose Mary Salum*

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## STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

*College of Education students volunteered at Pasadena secondary STEAM Fair*



Writer and founding editor of the bilingual literary magazine *Literal: Latin American Voices* and *Literal Publishing*.

**Rose Mary Salum** will share her experience as a Mexican immigrant including her impetus for funding and sustaining a bilingual magazine and publishing company. Together, we will reflect on the opportunities for dialogue initiated by Houston area Hispanics.

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### PILOT LAUNCH OF CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL EDUCATION

*COE launches the Pilot for the Center for Transformational Education supported by COE Board of Advisors with the themes of Inspiration, Innovation, and Empowerment.*

*This center was conceived based on UHCL strategic plan and COE's strategic mission to develop and to build on faculty research and development. To encourage the best practices within the professional fields.*

*The Center's vision is to transform education through collaborative research, innovation, and practice, with the mission to further the goals of educational research in the College of Education and beyond. Our center is based on the values of innovation and partnership and responds to community needs and is inclusive of all education stakeholders.. The activities conducted will be evidenced through the faculty and staff commitment to learners and educators.*

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### AWARDS AND HONORS



*The Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) awarded the José A. Ruiz-Escalante Higher Education to **Dr. Judy Marquez** at the 50th Annual Conference on October 15, 2022.*

[www.uhcl.edu/education](http://www.uhcl.edu/education)