



BILINGUAL PROGRAMS Spring 2008

a message from
Rafael Lara-Alecio, Director of Bilingual Programs

Greetings! Dear Colleagues, It is a great pleasure to see the ending of this academic year full of rewards and celebration. To mention some of which we feel extremely proud...11 will be graduating and ready to impact the academic lives of hundreds of English language learners in Texas, across the nation, and around the world. Congratulations to each of you. Also congratulations to our in-service teachers who have finished their Bilingual/ESL training through our online courses. I extend my thanks to **Polly Trevino, Brooke Kandel** and **Janie Kemp** as well as to our online instructors **Kathleen Cox** and **Cindy Guerrero-Vallecillos** and to all the **staff** and **student workers** who made these online courses what they are.

Congratulations to our College of Education and Human Development not only for the high quality publications that bring recognition to our program and the University but also for the opportunity to accomplish our University missions: research, teaching, and services.

In our next newsletter we will welcome our new undergraduate, masters, and doctoral students.

Alumnae News

Lindsay Cuthbert, '07 received the First Year Elementary Educator of the Year Award for Northside ISD, San Antonio. Ms. Cuthbert teaches first grade in a Dual Language program

at May Elementary School. Visit <http://www.nisd.net/news/> for more. **Raquel Leiker**, MEd '04, is Assistant Principal at Johns Elementary in Arlington ISD.

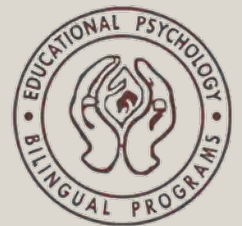
Undergrad News

Daniel De La Rosa, a senior in the Bilingual Education Program, is the recipient of the Jane Stallings Outstanding Service Award for 2008. The award recognizes one student from the College of Education and Human Development each year for their outstanding service. Daniel's service includes activities at the program, student organization, department, college and community

levels. **Kimmie Mappus** was nominated for the Outstanding Student Employee Award for 2008. Only 41 students were nominated for this award from the 15,000 student employees in the university. **Brenda Sandoval** will be recognized as a Distinguished Honor Graduate on Friday, May 9.

Graduate News

Polly Trevino, Brooke Kandel, Kathleen Cox, and **Cindy Guerrero-Vallecillos** participated in presentations at the American Educators Research Association (AERA) Convention in New York City during the week of March 24 - March 28.



For more information:

visit our website
<http://ldn.tamu.edu>

email us
bilingualed@tamu.edu

call us
979.845.2599



Lindsay Cuthbert, Northside ISD

Faculty News

Dr. Fuhui Tong has received recognition as a Mexican American and U.S. Latino Research Center Fellow and a grant. **Dr. Rafael Lara-Alecio** received two additional years of funding from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to continue the Online Bilingual Education Certification Test

Prep Course. **Miranda Walichowski** won a Wakonese South scholarship to the 2008 Center for Teaching Excellence Conference. The competition was based on a written composition entry. **Sandra Acosta** presented a paper at Southwest Educational Research Association.

Online Programs

The Bilingual Education Programs (EPSY) now offers two online certification test prep courses, one for the TExES ESL Supplemental #154, and one for the TExEX Bilingual Supplemental #102(EC-4) or #112(4-8). These two courses were developed at the request of the Texas Education Agency and funded through the Student Success Initiative – Limited English Proficient (SSI-LEP).

To date 380 participants have completed the ESL course; 24 are participating in the first Bilingual course. New cohorts begin June 2, 2008 for both courses.



BESO

Tiberio 'Tibby' Garza, Treasurer, was honored with a plaque of appreciation for his service to BESO over the past several years. Tibby supports the foundation and continuity of the organization through quiet leadership and dedication. **Daniel De La Rosa**, President, was awarded two grants for BESO, \$200 for Worldfest from the Association of Former Students (Nov. 07), and \$350 from the Texas Alliance Foundation (April 08) to be used by BESO in the 08-09 academic year.

Officers were elected for the 2008-2009 academic year at the April 2nd meeting. Outgoing officers are: President - **Daniel De La Rosa**, Vice President -

Sarah Claycamp, Secretary - **Claudia Meza**, Treasurer - **Tiberio Garza**, Public Relations - **Isela Vasquez**, Past president - **Kimmie Mappus**.

“BESO’s goals for next year are to recruit and spread the word about bilingual education.”

The incoming officers are: President - **Leeann Herrera**, Vice President - **Betsy Hernandez**, Secretary - **Diana Gonzalez**, Treasurer - **Heidy Son**, Public Relations Team - **Isaac Salazar** and **Patricia Vasquez**, Past president - **Daniel De La Rosa**. BESO’s goals for next year are to recruit and spread the word about bilingual education, and to send members to the TABE Conference in Arlington.

Daniel De La Rosa, Jane Stallings Award recipient, and Dr. Douglas Palmer, Dean

Bilingual Program Faculty

Rafael Lara-Alecio, Ph.D.
Director and Professor

Yolanda Padrón, Ed.D.
Professor

Sharolyn Pollard-Durodola, Ed.D.
Associate Professor

Fuhui Tong, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Miranda Nava-Walichowski, M.Ed., ABD
*Assistant Clinical Professor
Field Placement Coordinator*

Sandra Acosta, M.A., M.Ed., ABD
*Lecturer
Undergraduate Program Coordinator*



BESO honors Tiberio Garza

Upcoming Events

Graduation Reception

Reception for the May 2008 pre-service teacher graduates will be held Friday, May 9, 4:30-6:30 p.m. in 503 Harrington Tower.

Graduation Ceremony

College of Education and Human Development graduation is Saturday, May 10, 2:00 p.m. in Reed Arena.