



CAMERON UNIVERSITY

**SERVICE
RECOGNITION**

Reception & Dinner

2017

Schedule for the Evening

RECEPTION

5:30 p.m.

DINNER

6:00 p.m.

WELCOME

President John McArthur

PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS

Vice President for Academic Affairs Ronna Vanderslice

PRESENTATION OF STAFF AWARDS

President John McArthur

Staff Award for Excellence in Campus Stewardship

Staff Award for Excellence in Service

Staff Award for Excellence in Student Success

PRESENTATION OF RETIREMENT GIFTS

President John McArthur

Vice President for Academic Affairs Ronna Vanderslice

ADJOURNMENT

Retirees

SUE BOLTON

Sue Bolton of Grandfield joined the CU staff in March 2006. Like many other staff members, she is also a CU alumna, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in 1974. During her tenure as a staff member, Sue held positions in the School of Business, the Department of Art, and the Office of Development and Alumni Relations. Her husband Craig retired as manager of Tri-County Gin and now runs a farming and ranching operation. They have two children, Krystal, an accountant with the City of Wichita Falls, and Kyle, internet sales director at Newton Motor Group in Shelbyville, Tennessee. Sue plans to find a part-time position so she can devote more time to the study of art.

"It was a pleasure working with all of the special people in those departments and other campus employees.

My work with the students in the Art Department was especially rewarding. The students were amazing, talented and generous. I enjoyed watching them develop their personalities and perfect their art skills. Each day it was a joy to walk through the halls and view the artwork created by these talented students. I loved getting to know each one of them personally.

I would like to thank the members of the Administration, VP Johnson, Dr. Underwood, Edna McMillan, Maurissa Buchwald and Frank Myers for everything they did to make it possible for me to achieve my retirement goal."

KIMBERLY JOHNSON

A native of Portland, Oregon, Kimberly Johnson was the glue that held together the talented faculty and students when Cameron launched the Department of Multimedia Design in 1998. Even after the department was merged with Computing and Technology in 2011, Kimberly was available to meet the needs of CU's faculty and students until she retired on June 30, 2016. She has two children, Robyn and Jeff.

"We were together for 18 years, and they were wonderful years. We became close friends – like a family!"

Retirees

DR. HOWARD KUCHTA

Dr. Howard Kuchta's Cameron journey began long before he joined the faculty, as he earned an Associate's degree in 1959. After a 34-year career with Lawton Public Schools, he became a CU faculty member in 2008. His wife, Anna Claire, also retired from Lawton Public Schools. Although he's retiring from Cameron on May 10, he says he will be ready to explore new possibilities, and he's also going to travel.

"Working with such a dedicated group of professional educators has been a rich and rewarding experience and one I will greatly miss. I want to thank all who have supported me along this journey."

GREGORY LORD

After a fulfilling career in civic law enforcement, Gregory Lord brought his considerable knowledge and expertise to Cameron as a Public Safety Officer in 2006. Lord graduated from law enforcement schools ranging from bloodstain recognition to interrogation. Gregory served as an instructor for the D.A.R.E. program in the Lawton Public Schools. He was also a Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training instructor. His retirement plans actually don't include retirement, as he has accepted a position as the Director of Security for a private security agency. Gregory and his wife, Jaime, have six children (Brian, Corbin, Shane, Mina, Chasity and Nadalia) and four grandchildren.

"My years at Cameron overall were enjoyable. I had the opportunity to meet students from other countries and learn about their customs and cultures. When I transferred to the night shift, I quickly became acquainted with our local wildlife. The raccoons, possums and cats all seemed to have a mutual understanding as to whose turf was whose. I also learned how to herd deer in a police car from the garden and stadium area back across 38th street to the woods."

Overall, I was blessed to meet and work with some really great people. I will miss the interaction with the students and the friendship of my co-workers. It was a pleasure to be part of the Cameron family."

Retirees

SHARON RIGSBY

Sharon Rigsby has called Cameron her professional home since July 2003. She has provided administrative assistance to numerous Deans. When she retires on July 1, she has two goals: take a long nap (Plan A) and devoting herself to two endeavors: card-making and volunteering at her church (Plan B). No doubt she will also spend time with her children and grandchildren. Daughter Gwen Hunt is a teacher at Ridgecrest Elementary and has two sons, Aaron and Ty. Son Matthew Rigsby lives in Joplin, Missouri., and has two daughters, Scout and Reece.

"I have met some amazing faculty members at Cameron and over the years have really come to appreciate them even more. Kimberly Johnson has been a good friend and has always been able to make me laugh. I can always depend on Suzanne (Baker) and Liz (Ford) to be there as support for me. It has been a real joy to work in such a cooperative environment. There are so many others on campus that have really made an impression, it is hard to name them all."

DR. LINDA WRIGHT-SMITH

In May, Dr. Linda Wright-Smith will bring to an end 18 years of full-time service to Cameron University, yet her ties to CU started long before she became a full-time faculty member. She completed a B.S. in Electronics Technology in 1985 and then earned an M.Ed. in English Literature in 1992. She also served as an adjunct faculty member in the early 1990s. She and her husband, Milton (a retired software engineer) have two children and four grandchildren. Son Zechariah is currently stationed in Iraq as a helicopter pilot with the Oklahoma National Guard, and son Jeremiah – a former member of the U.S. Army and now in the National Guard – is a science teacher and cross country coach in Midwest City.

"I loved the time I spent with my Cameron family and wish this school all the luck in getting the funding to grow as a brick and mortar university while expanding their community of online students.

Our multimedia male faculty showed remarkable bravery when they showed up for a basketball game against myself and Karen Hardin to raise money for the Leukemia Society. I had played while in the U.S. Army, and Karen had played in college. We slaughtered them.

The most unusual incident was when Abbas (Johari) saw a snake in his office. I pulled the drawers open, crawled part way in, and grabbed the snake. One of my students went for a shoe box, and I asked Abbas to drive me and the snake to the ballpark so I could release it – but the human's primordial fear of snakes was hitting him really hard, so another student brought his pickup over, and I jumped in the cab with the snake in the shoe box. I gripped the shoe box on my lap against my tummy when we heard a distinct stound of a snake tail rattling in the box. I looked at the student, and he looked at me. I said, 'When I put him in the box, he was a king snake.' We were having our doubts, and I pushed the box out to the edge of my knees. At the ballpark, the student got a long stick while I put the box on the grass. He flipped the top off the box and turned it sideways. Out crawls a young, beautiful king snake. The next day, a female student brought me her pet boa constrictor, and with the boa wrapped up one arm and cuffing its head in my other, I walked down to Abbas' office to show him. Abbas looked at us, bent forward and pet the boa, then gave the boa an air kiss and told him how beautiful he was."

CAMERON UNIVERSITY WOULD LIKE TO
RECOGNIZE AND THANK THE FOLLOWING
RETIREEES WHO ARE NOT IN ATTENDANCE
THIS EVENING:

Dr. Johnny Carroll
Lisa Foshee
George Makos
Bert Ramsey

Neal Spottedhorse
James Isham
Dr. Robert Yuyuenyongwatana

Service Award Honorees

5 YEAR PINS

Lisa Armstrong
Dr. Thom Balmer
Taylor Barnett
Dr. Theresa Billiot
Dr. Stephanie Boss
Geraldine Brady
Vinetta Buchanan
Megan Canfield
Richard Colavito
Sarah Collins
Dr. Terry Conley
Sean Delcamp
Dr. James Dover
Jenny Dunivan
Cody Gardner
Stefani Goode
Ashre Griffin
Laura Hamilton
Dr. Dana Hilbert
Andra Hunt
Dr. Jean-Jacques-
Kengwoung-Keumo
Amy Kruscavage
Jeffrey Larson
Michelle McDowell
Dr. Kyle Moore
Dr. Deidre Onishi
Ray Ortiz
Brandi Parker-Nunley
Justin Perry
Mary Pettit
Dr. Muhammad Qayyum
Dr. Holly Rice
Alexander Rosin
Maritza Santana
Dr. Jeff Seger
Douglas Shaw

Charles Smith
Curtis Stolp
David Stone
Dr. Matthew Van Sant
Richard Warren
Clinton Wieden
Dr. Yanjun Zhao

10 YEAR PINS

Teresa Briggs
Dr. William Carney
Christopher Castillo
Doug Cole
Dr. Marco Columbus
Dr. Pedro Diaz-Gomez
Claudia Edwards
Dr. Michael Estep
Elizabeth Ford
Tiffany Hamilton
Miriam Hernandez
Dr. Gregory Herring
John Herring
Johnny Higdon
Amanda Hofflinger
Dr. Jennifer Holloway
Jennifer Jackson
Julie Kendall
Gregory Lord
Dr. John Masters
Michael McCallick
Debbie Mefford
Keith Mitchell
Frank Myers
Zeak Naifeh
Dr. Jonathon Odo
Lester Ogan
Mark Polson

Dr. Lynda Robinson
Bill Schemonia
Brandy Shaw-Brown
Dr. Ali Soylu
Dr. Derik Steyn
Dr. Ronna Vanderslice
Jackie Walbrick
Kai Williams

15 YEAR PINS

Dr. Syed Ahmed
Suzanne Baker
Ronald Gaines
Lorie Garrison
Dr. Gregory Hoepfner
Dr. Sarah Janda
Dr. Christopher Keller
Dr. Su Lee
Dr. Danny McGuire
Cynthia Meadows
Scott Putney
Alice Smith
Sarah Stroud
Dr. Aubree Walton
Lora Young

20 YEAR PINS

Catherine Blackman
Ed Burris
Brenda Dally
Margot Gregory
Karen Hardin
Dr. Thomas Labe
Mely Lim
Doreen Thomas

25 YEAR PINS

Ninette Carter
Robert Connelly
Dr. Leon Fischer
Dr. Carolyn Kinslow

30 YEAR PINS

Stephen Adams
Vicki Henson
Dr. Abdulhamid Sukar

40 YEAR PIN

Dr. James Lambert

The Significance of the Service Pin

As you examine your pin, you will notice that it may differ slightly from those given to your fellow employees. Each pin indicates your years of service, and the stones set into the lower portion of the pin represent a 5-year increment of service.

YEARS OF SERVICE

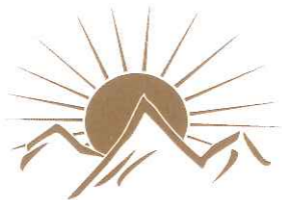
STONE

5 years	Pin
10 years	Pin with Golden Topaz
15 years	Pin with Onyx
20 years	Pin with Garnet
25 years	Pin with Blue Topaz
30 years	Pin with Sapphire
35 years	Pin with Diamond
40 years	Pin with two Diamonds
45 years	Pin with three Diamonds

Service awards are computed according to the official hiring date of the employee. Those recognized tonight observed their various 5-year anniversaries during the period of May 2, 2016, to September 1, 2017.

Please congratulate tonight's award recipients for their work ethic and dedication to Cameron University.

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