



# EDUCATED

NEWSLETTER OF THE LU COLLEGE OF EDUCATION &amp; HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

*we're so glad you're here!*

HEY, CARDINALS!

## *Greetings from the new Dean of the College!*

**Introducing, Dean Alberto Ruiz**

"Hi! My name is Dr. Alberto Ruiz and I am the new Dean of the College of Education and Human Development.

I'm excited to be here at Lamar University and to see what the future holds for us. I want to continue the great tradition of the COEHD for Southeast Texas, Texas and the US.

We will continue to produce great leaders and professionals for our ever-changing society with the latest teaching trends, research and service. We will continue to strive and achieve great success working together. Go Cards!!!!

Dr. Alberto Ruiz

[Click here to learn more about Dean Ruiz!](#)

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US!**

We'd love to meet you! Follow along on  
our college adventures!



# Awards and Accolades



## Dr. Katherine Spratt

**Advisor of the Year award** recipient  
at LU's "Toast to Leadership" award  
ceremony on April 13th, 2023.

- SURF Mentor
- Associate Professor – Teacher Education Department

Dr. Singh received this award as a result of a thorough evaluation of a highly competitive pool of applicants done by the Advisory Board members of O.U.R.

This award is given to an individual who exhibits **exceptional mentorship and professional development efforts** into working with undergraduate students.

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- Advisor of the Lamar Student Educator Association (LSEA)
- Associate Professor – Teacher Education Department

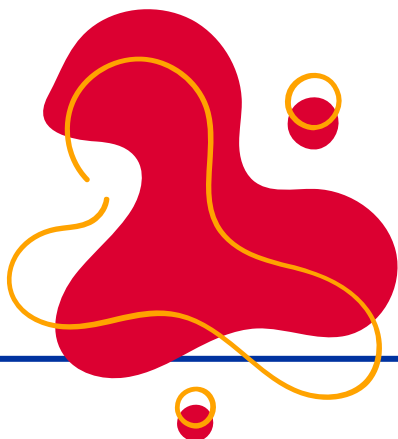
Outstanding Advisor award is named in honor of the late Dr. Melvin Brust, an emeritus professor and advisor to the Finance Association and Students in Free Enterprise at Lamar University. The award is given to an advisor who has shown **outstanding dedication, service and support to an organization and its members.**



## Dr. Mamta Singh

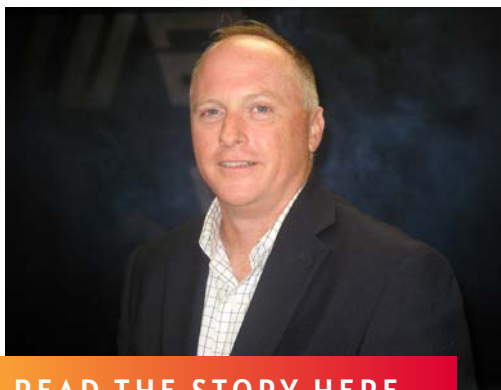
**Faculty Mentor Award** recipient in  
the HASBSEB category in the Office of  
Undergraduate Research (OUR)

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# Achievements, galore!



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## Dr. J. Kenneth Young

Associate Professor – Educational Leadership Dept.

**2023 Creighton Publication Innovation Award Recipient**

The International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership (ICPEL), established this award in honor of educational leader Ted Creighton and is given to recognize members whose **innovative, impactful work serves the profession and ultimately the children and youth in our schools.**

Founded on the principles of leadership, mentorship, and service, the Collegiate 100 group at Lamar University has consistently demonstrated an **unwavering commitment to making a lasting impact on the city of Beaumont.**

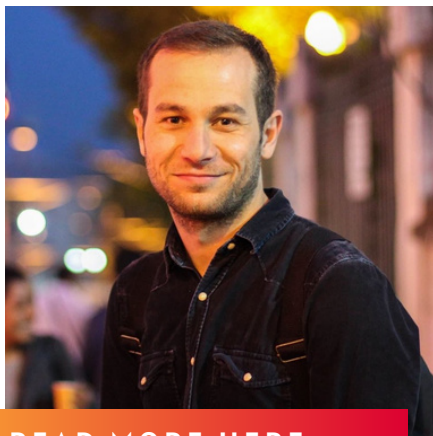
The organization is led by the Educational Leadership Dept.'s Dr. Kathryn Washington.



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## LU's Collegiate100

**Lamar University's C100 group** honored with a prestigious recognition by Beaumont City Council



[READ MORE HERE](#)

## Dr. Mehmet Akkurt

**Assistant Professor and Program Coordinator, Counseling Department**

Dr. Akkurt is invited to be a keynote speaker at the NBCC Foundation's *Advancing Global Health Equity* Conference this winter to discuss transnational mental health trainings conducted in Haiti, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

## *more news...*

### **One Time for Daylen: How Dimples Jones is turning tragedy into hope after the loss of her son**

"When you're grieving, sometimes you don't know what to say, how to say it or you just don't want to speak to anyone. The workbook is kid and adult-friendly with emojis and all sorts of creative pages for writing. It truly is a great tool for anyone who needs help expressing loss." – Mrs. Dimples Jones

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### **Educator gone Survivor, Special Education alumna achieves Final Five status on Survivor 44**

**LAUREN HARPE** SHARES HER EXPERIENCES FROM THE WILDEST ADVENTURE OF HER LIFE AND AT LU

"'Survivor' not only challenges you physically but also mentally and emotionally, in every aspect. It was tough, but I grew as an individual and human being by pushing myself to the limit and seeing how far I could go." – Harpe

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### **Collegiate 100 of Lamar University wins big at C100 Leadership and Career Institute Conference in Vegas**

**THE CONFERENCE** BRINGS HUNDREDS OF MENTORS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS TOGETHER

"This conference allowed for expanding skills, sharing best practices, networking, and learning how to positively impact youth and your community." – Dr. Kathryn Washington

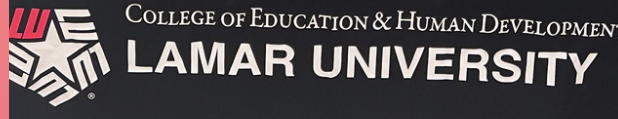
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# N. S. O. Success!

## SNAPSHOT AT SUMMER 23'S NEW STUDENT ORIENTATIONS







## LU Educational Leadership alumna receives Texas Women in Higher Education Representative of the Year Award

**DR. TERESA SIMPSON** HAS BEEN BREAKING THE GLASS CEILING OF HIGHER EDUCATION AT LAMAR UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND SINCE SEPT. '04.

"I used to coach volleyball, now I coach professional development." – Simpson

[READ THE STORY HERE](#)



## Health and Kinesiology alum named Class Leader and Top Shot in class at HPD

**BRANDON BAUMGARDNER** DEVELOPED SKILLS AS AN LU STUDENT THAT PREPARED HIM FOR HIS CURRENT ROLE.

"The police academy is very academically rigorous, so I was able to show up already having a solid basis for learning material and studying." – Baumgardner

[READ THE STORY HERE](#)

## Cooking Corner:

Let's get in the kitchen and get cookin'!



**CHEF CASEY GATES** OF THE CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM SHARES A FAVORITE SUMMER RECIPE!

## Cucumber Watermelon Salad

### Ingredients:

#### Honey-Lime Dressing:

- 2 tbsp local honey
- 2 tbsp fresh squeezed lime juice
- 2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil
- pinch of salt

#### Watermelon Salad:

- 1/2 watermelon peeled, cut into cubes
- 1 cucumber, cubed (about 2 cupsful)
- 15 fresh mint leaves, chopped
- 15 fresh basil leaves, chopped
- 1/2 cup crumbled feta cheese

### Instructions:

#### Make the dressing:

- In a small bowl, whisk together the honey, lime juice, olive oil and a pinch of salt.
- Set it aside for a moment.

#### Make the salad:

- In a large bowl or serving platter with sides, combine the watermelon, cucumbers and fresh herbs.
- Top the watermelon salad with the dressing and gently toss to combine.
- Top with feta cheese and serve. Enjoy!



## *Celebrate CentennialFest with us!*

To kick off our next centennial and celebrate 100 years of Cardinal pride, we invite you to our

# *LU Community Birthday Bash!*

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 17 @ 4PM

WHERE: LAMAR UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

FROM SHEILA UMPHREY RECREATIONAL CENTER TO  
PLUMMER BUILDING

ACTIVITIES:  
STILL CRUISIN' (ENTERTAINMENT)  
FAMILY ACTIVITIES  
BEER GARDEN  
FIREWORKS



*Click here for details!*



**LAMAR UNIVERSITY®**  
**A CENTURY OF LEADERS**

Stay tuned for the next edition of

# EDUCATED



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

## LAMAR UNIVERSITY

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