



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Department of Agricultural Education & Communications

Dr. Courtney Meyers, Professor NARRU Distinguished Educator Award

With great confidence, I am pleased to recommend Dr. Courtney Meyers for **NARRU Distinguished Educator Award**. Dr. Meyers is one of the most accomplished professionals in her discipline. She represents the best of the Texas Tech University faculty and is known both across the institution and across her discipline. For these reasons, she was recognized as a Texas Tech Integrated Scholar in 2018 and with the Texas Tech President's Academic Achievement Award in 2021. Additionally, she received the 2022 Texas Tech Faculty Distinguished Leadership Award in part due to her commitment to advance the culture of teaching excellence at the university. She also received the 2022 USDA Regional Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences Award.

Since she joined the faculty at Texas Tech University in 2008, Dr. Meyers has clearly earned a reputation as an exceptional scholar in the discipline of agricultural communications. While maintaining a high teaching load, she has consistently maintained an active research agenda and has fueled an army of graduate research assistants. Her combined research activities are impressive in any setting, especially so for the standards of our discipline.

Dr. Meyers has worked with her colleagues to secure more than \$2 million in external research grants as a PI or Co-PI, with her part totaling over \$1 million. Her teaching and her research are highly integrated. As an example, one of her more recent awards from the USDA Higher Education Challenge Grant program was to develop innovative curriculum materials for teaching in her discipline. She has over 60 peer reviewed research publications, 130 referred presentations, and 160 referred posters.

In 2022, Dr. Meyers was a Fulbright Scholar in Australia, where she spent five months completing her project titled, "Exploring Agricultural Communications in Australia." As a Fulbright Scholar, Meyers researched how agricultural issues are being communicated in Australia. She collaborated with colleagues at Charles Sturt University to facilitate the curriculum development process for agricultural communications. Insights gained from her research have been used to create teaching case studies to help students develop critical thinking and communication skills.

Dr. Meyers is a highly decorated teacher and researcher, recognized for her excellence in a variety of settings. Just a few of the numerous notable teaching awards include AAAE Western Region Outstanding Manuscript Award in 2018, ACE Adviser of the Outstanding Dissertation Award and Adviser of the Outstanding Thesis Award in 2018, and *Journal of Applied Communications* Article of the Year in 2011 and again in 2012. Dr. Meyers is also committed to enhancing the culture of excellence at Texas Tech. She served as Chair-Elect of the Teaching Academy (2020-21).

Beyond all the points I have outlined in the letter, Dr. Meyers is synonymous with agricultural communications in higher education. For more than a decade, she has worked to elevate the program at Texas Tech, train future agricultural communicators, conduct impactful research, and provide valuable service to the profession. She is an outstanding leader who advocates for effective teaching at Texas Tech and beyond. She is consistently recognized as someone who will go above and beyond to help her students and colleagues succeed. In my assessment, she is most deserving of the **NARRU Distinguished Educator Award**.