



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
Davis College

Agricultural & Applied Economics™

Davis College Service/Outreach Award

Dr. Donna McCallister is the AAEC nominee for the **Davis College Service/Outreach Award**. Dr. McCallister joined the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in 2015 as a Research Assistant Professor and entered a tenure-track faculty position as Assistant Professor in 2020. She has held a 25% research faculty appointment with Texas A&M AgriLife since 2017.

Dr. McCallister has been a member of the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation (TAWC) management since 2015. The TAWC works with producers in the Texas High Plains to address the issues of water management and conservation. She leads the economics task and is responsible for performing economic analyses on all grower sites. Regarding the declining Ogallala aquifer, sustainability has become a focus of agricultural production, especially in the Texas High Plains. Donna uses the Field Print Calculator from Field to Market to analyze crop production practices relative to profitability and sustainability. She has reported on her research at academic and professional conferences.

Field to Market is a non-profit organization with "... farmers, agribusiness companies, brands, retailers, civil society, academia, and public sector partners, each committed to catalyzing continuous improvement in the sustainability of U.S. commodity crop production." In 2021, Dr. McCallister received the Trusted Advisor Spotlight Award from Field to Market for her efforts to assist producers in maintaining profitability in the water-limited West Texas region. She currently serves on the Field to Market Educational and Outreach Committee.

Dr. McCallister's focus on sustainability has led to support for research projects from Field to Market, National Cotton Council, Cotton Incorporated, and USDA-NIFA. One project funded by Cotton Incorporated, "Evaluating Incentive Mechanisms to Promote Conservation and Sustainability in Texas Cotton Production," addresses the sustainability initiative of the U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol. Donna has made presentations on sustainability at numerous academic and producer conferences and extension meetings, the TAWC Water College, and TAWC field days.

Dr. McCallister is a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Agricultural Cooperative Council (TACC) and is Vice Chair of the Education and Member Services Committee. She has participated in TACC annual meetings and presented at the TACC Managers Conference. Her service on the TACC Board of Directors maintains an important relationship that Texas Tech has with agricultural cooperative industry members.

Dr. McCallister is serving as a member of the City of Lubbock's Water Advisory Commission where she provides valuable input into the city's water planning process by making recommendations to the City Council on the acquisition, utilization, and conservation of water resources, determining facilities and infrastructure needs, and setting water and wastewater fees and rate structures.

Dr. McCallister serves as the AAEC Master of Agribusiness program coordinator with responsibility for recruiting, advising, mentoring current students, and maintaining relationships with local industry to secure internship opportunities. She has served on search committees in PSS and at Texas A&M AgriLife and serves on the AAEC scholarships and awards committee.

Dr. McCallister has an active research program with success in obtaining grant funding and mentoring graduate students. Since entering a tenure-track position in 2020, she has been the PI/co-PI on 37 funded grants for \$16,600,000 of which her share was \$1,929,250. Dr. McCallister has partnered with scientists within the Department, Davis College, and Texas A&M AgriLife to write grant proposals. She has published in highly regarded journals within her research interest. She has 16 peer-reviewed publications, 8 since entering her tenure-track position.

Dr. McCallister is one of Davis College's outstanding young faculty and is a highly deserving candidate for the prestigious **Davis College Service/Outreach Award**.

Phillip Johnson
Chair AAEC