



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
Davis College

## Agricultural Education & Communications™

### **Dr. Rudy Ritz, Associate Professor Davis College Service Award**

Dr. Rudy Ritz is an excellent candidate for the Davis College Service Award. A member of the Agricultural Education and Communications Faculty since 2009, Dr. Ritz has played an important role in the department with outreach and engaging with stakeholders.

Dr. Ritz has served in multiple roles regarding the area of service, outreach and engagement. I personally know the quality, commitment and work ethic involved in his professional endeavors. The characteristic of having the intrinsic desire to constantly improve TTU and CASNR has been consistent over his 16 years of service.

Rudy has been very active regarding his commitment to students across the state serving in roles with Texas FFA as the superintendent of youth development events at the state level. Additionally, he has served the San Antonio Stock Show as a contest superintendent. Student-centered outreach and engagement is a focus to continue the grass-roots efforts to bring in new students. The bottom line is that Dr. Ritz has a passion for teaching and learning.

Recently, Dr. Ritz was instrumental in leading a team from Davis College to build relationships with stakeholders and students in the Rio Grande Valley. His work in the Valley will continue as our partnerships continue to grow in that region of Texas.

Furthermore, Rudy has served in a key role with the management team of the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation. His membership on this team began in 2013. He frequently serves as master of ceremonies at events such as field days or the annual water college. He serves in not only outreach efforts, but also in grant writing tasks to maintain the TAWC project. Recently, he played an active role in the newly awarded grant from the Texas Water Development Board.

He has also led the TTU team of PI's on a USDA HSI grant in a collaboration with NMSU involving undergraduate research and the recruitment of future scientists in agriculture.

In addition to these key engagement efforts, Rudy has number of additional service and engagement activities to his credit including:

- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo – Agricultural Mechanics Marketplace Superintendent (2017 to present)
- American Association for Agricultural Education (2008 to present)
- Texas Wildlife Association Member (2011 to present).
- Agriculture Teachers Association of Texas (1994 to present)
- Lubbock, Cooper Independent School District –CTE Advisory Committee (2013 to 2029).
- Lubbock Independent School District –CTE Advisory Council University Representative (2010 to present).
- Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills writing team – (August to October 2014).
- San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo –Agriscience Fair Superintendent (2012 to 2016).

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