

Dr. Todd Brashears, Professor
Nominee for Davis College Advising Award

Dr. Todd Brashears has exhibited exemplary dedication and achievement in his role as a graduate student advisor within the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications. His instrumental contribution to the development and launch of the department's online Ed.D. 2019, as well as our MS program, has not only catalyzed a significant surge in graduate student enrollment but has also necessitated a considerable expansion in both course offerings and personalized student advising by faculty members. Dr. Brashears, recognized as our foremost expert in distance-delivery pedagogy for graduate courses, has demonstrated remarkable leadership by assuming the responsibility of guiding our graduate students with utmost proficiency and care.

In addition to delivering a minimum of two graduate-level distance courses each semester, Dr. Brashears currently chairs 14 graduate students, comprising two on-campus Ph.D. candidates, eight Ed.D. candidates enrolled in distance learning, and four M.S. candidates engaged in remote study. Each of these students, irrespective of their physical location, undertakes thesis or dissertation work of comparable rigor, demanding substantial guidance and support from their committee chair. Notably, the mentorship provided by Dr. Brashears is particularly crucial for distance students, given the inherent challenges of maintaining effective communication and engagement with off-campus learners. Since his tenure developing distance courses while stationed in Washington, D.C., Dr. Brashears has consistently borne the highest advising workload within the department, emphasizing his unwavering commitment to supporting the academic journey of our graduate students.

At the most recent commencement ceremony in Spring 2024, Dr. Brashears admirably chaired the committees of two distance M.S. students and served as a committee member for two additional M.S. candidates and one Ed.D. candidate, facilitating the successful graduation of all five students under his guidance.

Dr. Todd Brashears has built an outstanding record of accomplishment. He has been recognized for his teaching through numerous awards, including the following:

- Distinguished Agricultural Leadership Educator Award, AAAE, 2019.
- Fellow. Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education (AIAEE). 2017
- President's Leadership Institute class of 2015-2016.
- Exemplary R&D Collaborations: Agriculture, Food, Nutrition, and Natural Resources (2011). Award presented March 15th, in Washington, D.C. by the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- Distinguished Research Award, Southern Region, AAAE, 2010.
- CASNR Outstanding Teaching Award, 2009.
- CASNR Outstanding Jr. Faculty Award, 2008.
- Texas Tech Alumni Association New Faculty Award, 2008.