

## 2020 Nancy J. Bell Faculty Excellence in Mentoring Award



**Dr. Linda Donahue** teaches arts administration courses and is currently active in both arts management and play directing. Dr. Donahue has served as Head of Arts Administration at Texas Tech University since 1997. This program was noted as one of the top arts administration programs in the US in both *American Theatre Magazine* and *Stage Directions*.

Her professional activities include expertise in arts management, funding, marketing, advocacy, and community engagement. She is active in the artistic world and has directed over 75 plays, including several on the TTU campus. The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival presented her a Meritorious Award for Directing. Her current or past board membership activities include Texans for the Arts (state-wide arts advocacy organization), Southwest Theatre and Film Association, and Texas Non Profit Theatres; she also served two terms as a grant evaluator for the Texas Commission for the Arts. She is on the Steering Committee of the Prague Playhouse (Czech Republic).

Dr. Donahue is a strong proponent in interdisciplinary research, uniting the arts with science (STEM) and/or medicine. Recent accomplishments include presenting two sessions which integrated arts performance and mentoring experience with chemistry graduate student teaching assistants and theatre graduate students for the purpose of increasing safety in the chemistry labs. Additionally, she partnered with the School of Nursing a project with student nurses to use performance techniques to reduce stress during the OSCI exams. She also developed a mentoring class, required for all students (BA, BFA, MA, MFA, PhD) in the School of Theatre and Dance: "Mentoring Community Outreach in the Arts." The focus of the class is to provide after-school arts activities for underserved students in such locations as Covenant Children's Hospital, the Burkhardt Center for Autism Research and Education, etc.

A strong proponent for international student opportunities, Dr. Donahue has led many student study abroad trips to England, Spain and the Czech Republic and has presented lectures or papers across the US, as well as in Spain (Granada, Barcelona), Athens, UK (London, Leeds, Liverpool), Toronto, Italy (Turin, Bologna), Belgrade, and Dubai (UAE). She won two awards for Outstanding Service as a Study Abroad Faculty-Led Program Leader, as well as the prestigious Donald R. Haragan Study Abroad Award.

Additionally, she was recognized by the 6-state Southwest region with the Molly Risso Outstanding University Drama Faculty Award in 2001. In 2004, she was inducted into the College of Fellows of the Southwest Theatre and Film Association, and she also served as President of the Fellows. She is a recognized Integrated Scholar at TTU and is a Fellow of the Institute for Inclusive Excellence. Dr. Donahue is a selected member of the President's Leadership Institute and serves as a Faculty Mentor for Service Learning at TTU.