

Kirk Williams

EDUCATION

MS in Agronomy 1988

Oklahoma State University-Stillwater, OK

BS in Crops 1986

Texas Tech University-Lubbock, TX

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer-Full Time 2023-Present

- Taught PSS 4310-Viticulture II-Grape Production (New course for me to teach in 2023)
- Co-Taught PSS 1311-Science of Wine (New course for me to teach in 2023)
- Teach five online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every year.
- Started a new cohort of 30 viticulture certificate students in 2023.
- Coordinated registration with Continuing Education Department.
- Marketed programs to new students at meetings and through social media.
- Assisted managing Fredericksburg teaching vineyard by directing Technician.
- Trained two new technicians that maintain the Fredericksburg and FBRI vineyards.
- Raiders Uncorked Student Group Advisor

Senior Teacher-Full Time 2014--2023

Viticulture Certificate Program, Plant & Soil Science Dept., Texas Tech University

- Teach five online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every year.
- Developed and taught twice the Viticulture for Winemakers course for the Winemaking Certificate program.
- Started a new cohort of 30 students every year since 2013.
- Coordinated registration with Continuing Education Department.
- Marketed programs to new students at meetings and through social media.
- Assisted managing Fredericksburg teaching vineyard by directing Technician.
- Trained three new technicians that maintained the Fredericksburg teaching vineyard.

Instructor-Part Time 2008-2013

Viticulture Certificate Program, Plant & Soil Science Dept., Texas Tech University

- Developed five new online viticulture courses.
- Developed four new hands on vineyard courses
- Taught five online viticulture courses and four hands on vineyard courses every two years.
- Assisted in the development of the Fredericksburg teaching vineyard.

Instructor 1996-2014

Agriculture/Landscape & Turfgrass Management, Palo Alto College, San Antonio, TX

- Developed a Landscape & Turfgrass Management AAS program.
- Developed eight new courses in Landscape & Turfgrass Management.
- Oversaw operations of greenhouse, turfgrass and horticulture demonstration areas.
- Supervised full time employee and part time employees.
- Managed budgets and did purchasing for program.
- Recruited and advised students.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Owner/Operator

1997-present

Williams Ranch Vineyard, Tokio, TX

- Developed a 7.5-acre vineyard from the ground up.
- Responsible for all management practices in vineyard.

Technical Sales Representative

1989-1996

ICI/Zeneca Ag Products, Sacramento, CA

- Managed a four-million-dollar sales territory that included 25 separate products.
- Territory had 30 different crops represented.
- California Pest Control Advisor license.

GRANTS

Texas Department of Agriculture

2021

Development of a novel method to assist grape growers reduce off-target auxin herbicide drift related injury.

-Dr Montague, Dr Dotray, and Kirk Williams

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Texas High Plains Winter Bud Damage Survey, ASEV-ES, Austin, TX, June 2023

Nematodes: The Hidden Pest. Newsom Grape Day, Plains, TX. April 2023

Berry Sensory Analysis: Harvest Decision Aid. TWGGA Grape Camp, Dripping

Springs TX, November 2022.

Phenoxy Herbicides and Grapevines: A Review, Newsom Grape Day, Plains, TX, April 2018.

Maximizing Weed Control in Vineyards, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX November 2018.

Weed Control for Small Vineyards, Gulf Coast Grape Growers Meeting, Cat Spring, TX, February 2018

Planting A Vineyard, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX, November 2012.

Micronutrients, TWGGA Grape Camp, Fredericksburg, TX, November 2014.

MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

Maximizing Weed Control with Herbicides, The Grapevine Magazine, December 2023

Keeping up with the Drip, The Grapevine Magazine, September 2023

Improving Late Season Spray Coverage, The Grapevine Magazine, July 2023

HONORS AND AWARDS

T.V. Munson Award for Contributions to Industry,
Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.

2018

NISOD Teaching Excellence Award for Dedication & Persistence,

2010

Palo Alto College

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2023

Assisted Viticulture Professor Search Committee

Hiring Committee-Lecturer-Horticultural Crop Production

Hiring Committee-Technician III-Lubbock

Hiring Committee-Technician III-Fredericksburg

2022

Hiring Committee-Program Coordinator-Certificate Programs

2021

Hiring Committee-Technician III

2020

Hiring Committee-Senior Teacher-Small Farms

2019

Hiring Committee-Technician III

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Committee Chair

2021 to present

Growers Advocacy Committee, Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.

- Started new committee and recruited members.
- Make recommendations to legislative committee.
- Developed a grape growers business guide calendar.

Committee Member

2022 to present

Legislative Committee, Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.

- Make recommendations about legislative matters to TWGGA board.

Secretary/Treasurer

2022 to present

Texas Wine Grape Research Foundation

- Started new foundation and got founding documents completed.
- Take minutes at meeting.
- Handle banking transactions.

Regional Director**2019 to 2021***Texas Wine & Grape Growers Assoc.*

- Served as Region 1 Grower Director.
- Brought issues to TWGGA board for action including herbicide drift issues, freeze damage and grower pricing.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- American Society of Enology and Viticulture (ASEV)
- Texas Wine & Grape Growers Association (TWGGA)