

Texas A&M University-Commerce

## A&M-Commerce Digital Commons

---

[Browse All Subject Files](#)

[University Subject Files](#)

---

2001-10-27

### Wild With Pride Alumni Recognition Luncheon and Pep Rally

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.tamuc.edu/scua-univ-subjects-all>

---

#### Recommended Citation

Texas A&M University-Commerce, "Wild With Pride Alumni Recognition Luncheon and Pep Rally" (2001-10-27). *Browse All Subject Files*. 26.

<https://digitalcommons.tamuc.edu/scua-univ-subjects-all/26>

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the University Subject Files at A&M-Commerce Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Browse All Subject Files by an authorized administrator of A&M-Commerce Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@tamuc.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@tamuc.edu).

# Homecoming 2001

## “Wild With Pride”



Alumni Recognition Luncheon  
and Pep Rally  
October 27, 2001

# Homecoming 2001

## “Wild With Pride”

### Homecoming Luncheon and Pep Rally

#### 2001 Homecoming Committee

**Coordinator**  
Jonette Almon

**Alumni Representatives**  
Judy Anderson  
Dee Faires  
Peggy Fox  
Dr. Trezzie Pressley

**Student Representatives**  
Denise Jernigan, **Coordinator**  
Julie Alexander  
Summer Allen  
Amanda Arledge  
Mandi Brown  
Erin Brunson  
Heather Colomin  
LeeAnn Dodson  
Danna Freeman  
Johnny Hernandez  
Brittany Honeycutt  
Dixie Houser  
Kimberly Hulsey  
Julie Jay  
Sean Kendall  
Mary Mahaffey  
Mary Miller  
Ian Moreau  
Hillary Munsch  
Melissa Partney  
Monica Pollard  
Autumn Powers  
Erin Roberts  
Matt Rosenbalm  
Jennifer Schoech  
Jenny Varnell  
Cody Wooden

**Faculty & Staff**  
Dr. James Conrad  
Mary Lou Hazal  
Louis Margot  
Connie Mears  
Paul Peak  
Kayla Price  
Donna Thomas

**11:00 a.m.**

**Texas Ballroom**

**Sam Rayburn Memorial Student Center**

Emcee

Ms. Kayla Price  
*Director, Alumni Relations*  
*Executive Director, Alumni Association*

Luncheon Buffet

Spirit Rally

Coed Cheerleading Squad

Welcome

Dr. Keith McFarland  
*President and Chief Executive*  
*Officer, A&M-Commerce*

Introductions

Ms. Price

Presentation of  
Homecoming Court

Ms. Denise Jernigan  
*Student Coordinator,*  
*Homecoming Committee*

Recognition of  
Honored Class

Ms. Price

Introduction of Gold  
Blazer Award Recipient

Mr. Gary D. Finney  
*President, A&M-Commerce*  
*Alumni Association*

Response

Mrs. Diane LaFerney McDowell

Introduction of  
Distinguished Alumnus

Dr. McFarland

Response

Dr. Mike Moses

Adjournment

Ms. Price

---

## *Gold Blazer Award*

The Gold Blazer award is given annually to a member of The Texas A&M University-Commerce Alumni Association for extraordinary service to The Association and the University.



### *Gold Blazer Award Recipient* **Diane LaFerney McDowell**

Diane LaFerney McDowell received her Bachelor of Science degree in psychology in 1969 and her Master of Science degree in counseling in 1998 from Texas A&M University-Commerce. She was employed with the Dallas County Clerk's Office in 1969, with the Department of Urban Rehabilitation, city of Dallas in 1970, served as director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program at Paris Junior College from 1988 until 1991 and as a classroom teacher at North Lamar High School in Paris from 1991 until 1997. Mrs. McDowell then began her counseling career, serving as counselor at Lancaster High School, at Paris High School and currently at Commerce High School.

Mrs. McDowell worked diligently as a volunteer for Kappa Delta Sorority beginning in 1971 and culminating with her election as National Collegiate Vice President from 1981 until 1989. She was also actively

involved with several civic organizations in Paris, Texas, between 1984 and 1997.

She is a member of several professional organizations and has been honored with the designation of Who's Who Among American Teachers, Outstanding Young Women of America, and was one of five Outstanding Senior Women at East Texas State University in 1969.

Mrs. McDowell is actively involved with the University. She is a member of the A&M-Commerce Alumni Association Board of Directors, having served as secretary, and volunteers many hours assisting with graduation receptions, Homecoming registration, Lion Nights and alumni receptions.

A resident of Commerce, Mrs. McDowell has two grown sons, Danny and Mark.

## *The Distinguished Alumnus Citation*

The Distinguished Alumnus Citation is given annually to a person, or persons, who have achieved extraordinary distinction in their chosen business, profession, life's work, or worthy endeavor.



### *Distinguished Alumnus* **Dr. Michael A. Moses**

Dr. Michael A. Moses has served in Texas public education for more than 25 years, starting as a teacher and administrator in the Duncanville and Garland school districts. He then served as superintendent for the Lubbock, La Marque and Tatum school districts.

From 1995 to 1999, he held the position of Texas Commissioner of Education, having been twice appointed by Governor George W. Bush and twice confirmed by the Texas Senate. Then, in 1999, he joined the Texas Tech University System as deputy chancellor with responsibility for governmental relations, development and institutional advancement, linkages between public education and the Texas Tech University System, news and publications, and the Chancellor's Council. Dr. Moses became superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District in 2001.

A native of Nacogdoches, Dr. Moses earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Stephen F.

Austin State University. He received his doctorate from Texas A&M University-Commerce in 1980 and attended the Superintendents' Work Conference at Columbia University.

He is the author and co-author of a number of articles on student performance, accountability, and teacher preparation and has given more than 600 speeches to education, business, civic and community groups. He has appeared before legislative committees on over 30 occasions and was invited to address the United States Congress freshman class concerning issues in public education.

Among awards Dr. Moses has received are the Texas Business and Education Coalition's Distinguished Service Award and Texas A&M University's Golden Deeds Award in Education. Former Texas Governor George W. Bush has said that of the more than 3,000 appointments he made while in office, the appointment of Mike Moses as Commissioner of Education was the "best appointment that I have ever made."

The Texas School Public Relations Association awarded Dr. Moses its 1998 Key Communicator for Public Education award, and both the National and Texas PTA have presented him with life memberships. He also was selected School Superintendent of the Year in two of Texas' educational regions.

Dr. Moses and his wife, Debi, a former public school teacher, are active in church and civic organizations and the parents of two sons, Mitchell and Mason.

# Texas A&M University-Commerce Alumni Association Board of Directors

Gary D. Finney, President  
Janet Estes Peek, Vice President  
Dwight York, Secretary/Treasurer  
Kayla Price, Executive Director

Judy Anderson  
Rene Castilla  
Dr. Sharon Chambers  
Dr. Kenneth L. Clinton, Jr.  
James Cowley  
William L. Crabtree, Jr.  
Dian Fife  
Arthur C. Fleming  
Kenneth A. Foust  
Maria Haynes  
Dr. Jan Huffstutler  
W. Jerry Hyde  
Rheba Icenhower  
Dr. Randy McBroom  
Diane LaFerney McDowell  
Donna Crowell Newkirk  
Beverly Lytle Pirkey  
Harry B. Power  
Sue Whitehead Shanks  
Dixie L. Stachowiak  
Jandy Jo Thompson  
Dr. Patricia Turner  
Robert L. Whitener, III  
R. Winston Williams

Dr. Madeline Justice, Faculty Senate Representative, Ex-Officio  
Jana Sandall, President of Student Body, Ex-Officio  
Chris Adams, Foundation Board Representative

## **Alumni Relations Staff**

Kayla Price, Director  
Jonette Almon, Assistant Director  
Linda Bobbitt, Administrative Assistant  
Emily Herriage, Student Assistant  
Bhagyalexmi Shilagani, Graduate Assistant