In the News:

More exciting changes are happening in the Educational Leadership Department. Our department has grown to the point that the College of Education and Human Services will be dividing the programs into separate departments. Educational Leadership will house only EDAD Doctoral and Masters programs. This will include Superintendent and Principal Certification training. Other programs in the department including Higher Education, ETEC and Global eLearning will be moved into a new department called Higher Education and Educational Technologies. This move should provide a sharper focus on both new departments mission and goals.

Dr. Art Borgemenke, Associate Professor in our EDAD program has been announced as the new Executive Director of the Texas Council of Professors of Educational Administration (TCPEA). For those of you that have attended TCPEA conferences, you know that this organization represents the professors across the state that train and prepare principals and superintendents. We are glad that the new Executive Director will be from Texas A&M University-Commerce! Congratulations to Dr. Borgemenke.

The Educational Leadership Department will also be conducting a national search for a department head. Currently, Dr. Chuck Holt is serving as Interim Department Head and is assisting with the transition to two new departments.
What is Doctoral Candidacy?

One of the real milestones in your journey as a doctoral student is reaching candidacy. This term at our university designates a point at which a student has completed all core and research tools coursework, passed the written and oral comprehensive exams, and completed all residency requirements. This is the point at which a student may begin taking the EDAD 718 classes titled “Dissertation Writing”. It may not mean that a student has finished all classes, however. Many students may be taking electives and/or superintendent certification classes while in the candidacy stage. You will be assigned a dissertation chair once you reach this milestone. Remember your curriculum advisor is assigned as you enter the program. This professor serves to help you with your degree plan, approve your residency plan and answer program questions in the initial stage of your journey. This advisor will also administer your Comprehensive Exams. On the other hand, your dissertation chair will likely be a professor that shares an interest in your research topic or your methodology. More about this topic is found in your Doctoral Handbook also found at the Department Website.

New Doctoral Progress Report

The TAMU-C Graduate School is initiating a new requirement for Doctoral Students across the University. Doctoral candidates will be receiving a self-report form to complete that describes your progress towards the completion of your dissertation. This report will be retuned to the faculty doctoral committee and will serve to provide feedback to you and advice on your goals for the year. It will also allow the graduate school to check your intentions to complete the degree and a status update on your progress. Please be aware that you must provide a response to this progress report. Without this report being submitted, a student is subject to losing their assigned committee chair. The report is intended only for students in the dissertation-writing phase. Students still enrolled only in regular coursework should not receive this form. If you have questions you may contact Dr. Jane Clark, Coordinator for Enrollment and Admissions at jane.clark@tamuc.edu

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