

TEXAS STATE VITA

ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

NAME Ronald C. Brown

TITLE Dean, University College & Professor, History

EDUCATION

DegreeYear		University	Major	Thesis/Dissertation
A.B.	1967	Wabash College	History	Nonthesis
M.A.	1968	University of Illinois	History	Nonthesis
Ph.D.	1975	University of Illinois History	American Great Basin and Rocky Mountain West, 1860-1920	Hard-Rock Miners of the West, 1860-1920

EXPERIENCE (Academic)

University	Position	Dates
Texas State	Instructor of History	1975-78
	Assistant Professor of History	1978-81
	University Archivist	1979-83
	Director of Honors Program	1980-94
	Associate Professor of History	1982-85
	Professor of History	1985-Present
	Acting Dean, College of General Studies	1995-99
	Dean, University College	1999-Present

HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Alpha Theta (National History Honorary), 1969

Honorary Member of Golden Key National Honor Society

Presidential Seminar (“At Work amidst the Ore: Reflections on Hard-Rock Miners and Mining in the American West”), Southwest Texas State University, 1980

SWTSU Student Body Educator of the Year, 1981-82

Faculty Developmental Leaves, 1983 & 1991 (each proposal ranked 2nd)

Golden Key, Key Advisor Award, 1984

Honorary Member of Sigma Iota Rho

Honorary Member of Phi Sigma Iota

Honorary Member of Alpha Lambda Delta

Donald B. Hoffman Scholarship Award (Phi Alpha Theta national advisor award), 1992

Phi Alpha Theta Certificates of Appreciation, Sigma Zeta Chapter, 1992, 1993-94

Honors Students Special Award, 1996

Honors Students Special Award, 1992

Rotarian of the Year, 1993-94

Rotary Foundation District Service Award, 1995-96

Friend of SLAC Award, 1996

Mentor Award, 1997

Commencement Speaker, SWT Graduate School, August 1997

Colorado Endowment for Humanities Award for *No One Ailing Except a Physician: Medicine in the Mining West, 1848-1919*, 2001.

Vice Presidential Candidate, Mining History Association, 2002

Stephany Goodbread Faculty Advisor of the Year, 2004, Honors Student Association

President, Mining History Association, 2004

Texas State University-San Marcos Nominee for the FYE Freshman Advocate Award, 2006.

COURSES TAUGHT

History 1310 – History of the United States to 1877

History 1320 – History of the United States Since 1877

History 3342 – Social and Intellectual History of U.S. to 1865

History 3343 – Social and Intellectual History of U.S. since 1865

History 3352 – The Trans-Mississippi West, 1803-Present

History 3369F – Frontier Heritage in Film and Fiction

History 3369K – History of Texas

History 3372 – Texas History Survey

History 3369M – Blacks in American History

History 5350 – Seminar on the American West

History 5347 – Oral History in Texas

History 5345D – Oral History in Theory and Practice

English (Honors) 2390 – Materialism, Christianity and the Work Ethic in the Making of America

Honors 2391G – America in the Sixties
Honors 3391 – Oral History and the Texas Sesquicentennial
Honors 4390A – Honors Thesis Research Methods
Honors 4390B – Honors Thesis
Industrial Arts 3322 – Development of Technology (co-taught)
NEH Summer Institute for Secondary Teachers, Environmental History Institute Core Faculty
Honors Seminar in the SWT Honors Math Camp

ORGANIZATIONS

American Council of Academic Deans
Association of American Colleges & Universities (hereafter **AAC&U**), Institutional
Representative
Association of Deans and Directors of University Colleges and Undergraduate Studies
Council for the Administration of General and Liberal Studies
Great Plains Honors Council
Mining History Association
National Collegiate Honors Council (hereafter **NCHC**)
National Academic Advising Association
Oral History Association
Texas State Historical Association
Western History Association

SERVICE

Profession:

President, Great Plains Honors Council, 1985-86

Travel Awards Committee, Great Plains Honors Council, 1987-95

Local Arrangements & Program Committee, Great Plains Honors Council, 1986

Executive Committee, Great Plains Honors Council, 1985-87, 1989

Site Selection Committee, Great Plains Honors Council, 1984-86

Pre-College Gifted Committee, NCHC, 1992-95

NCHC and Kettering Foundation Team, National Issues Forum on Higher Education, 1995-1996

Co-founder, Mining History Association, 1989

Council Member, Mining History Association, 1989-91

Treasurer, Mining History Association, 1991-97

Program Chair, Mining History Association, 1991

Membership Committee, Western History Association, 1976-87

Local Arrangements Committees for Western History Association Conferences in San Antonio, 1983, and Austin, 1993

Billington Prize Committee, Western History Association, 1981-84, Chair, 1983-84

Site Selection Committee, Western History Association, 1984-86, Chair, 1985-86

Executive Committee, Council of Administrators of General and Liberal Studies (CAGLS), 2000-

Co-Editor, Newsletter of CAGLS, 2001-

Vice President Nominee, Mining History Association, 2002

Session Chair or Commentator:

Golden Key National Honors Society conferences, Great Plains Honors Council, Mining History Association, National Collegiate Honors Council, Southwest

Social Science Association, Texas State Historical Association, University of Wisconsin Labor History Conference, Western History Association

Text & Manuscript Reviewer:

Harper-Collins, Ohio University Press, University of Nevada Press, University of Oklahoma Press, *Journal of American History*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, *Labor History*

Journals with published book reviews:

American Historical Review, *Arizona and West*, *Journal of American History*, *Labor History*, *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, *Western Historical Quarterly*

University:

University Publications Advisory Committee, 1979-80

Advisor, Honors Students Association, 1980-94

School of Liberal Arts Review Group, 1988-90

Publications Committee, 1978

SACS Administration Subcommittee, 1977-78

Honors Program Committee, 1979-Present (ex officio, 1980-Present)

University Archives Committee, 1979-88

Unofficial University Historian, 1978-Present

Faculty Research Committee, 1980-82, Chair 1981-82

Martin Luther King Lecture Committee, 1990-91

Chair, Multicultural Program Committee, 1990-93

Co-Director, Evans Scholar Retention Initiative (Honors & Alumni Association), 1993-94

[Faculty Senate] Committee on Committees, 1986-89, Chair 1987-89

[Faculty Senate] Academic Core Committee, Chair 1991-95

Co-Chair, Freshman Convocation Committee, 1996-Present

Coordinator, Freshman Academic Success Team, 1998-Present

Coordinator of SWT's National Student Exchange Program, 1995-Present

Orientation Planning Committee, 1996-Present

Orientation Committee, 1996-Present

Admission Standards Committee, 1996-Present

Scholarship Quality Team, 1994-97

Freshman Year Experience Quality Team, 1995-97

Chair, Presidential Award for Teaching Excellence, 1995-Present (ex officio)

Chair, General Studies Council, 1995-2000 (ex officio)

Chair, General Education Council, 200-Present (ex officio)

SWT Honors Math Camp Endowment Advisory Committee, 1997-Present

HIV/AIDS Institutional Advisory Committee, 1992-Present

Search Committee for Chair, Department of Political Science, 1995-96

Search Committee for Chair, Finance & Economics, 1996-98

Search Committee for Chair, Department of Art, 1999

Athletic Advisory Committee, 1995-1999

Athletic Director Search Committee, 1996

Athletic Certification Subcommittee on Academics, 1997-99

Search Committee for Director of Admission, 1998

School of Liberal Arts Review Group

Chair, Craddock Scholarship Committee, 1982-95 (ex officio)

Chair, Jim and Elizabeth Camp Scholarship Committee, 1985-95 (ex officio)

Executive Planning Council, 1995-Present (ex officio)

Council of Academic Deans, 1995-Present (ex officio)

Advising Council, 1998-Present (ex officio)

Enrollment Management Council, 1998-Present

University Assessment Advisory Committee, 1997-2000

Liaison Council (SWT/SMCISD), 1997-Present

Team Leader, Freshman Academic Success Team, 1999

Co-Chair, PAWS Preview 1999-Present

Reading Across Strategic Plans: Student Learning and Success, 2003-04

Chair, Freshman Building Feasibility Study Committee, 2003-04

3-1-3 Co-Liaison with SMHS, 1995-Present (Early Admission Program designed to combine high school Advanced Placement courses and selected SWT courses so as to permit accumulation of possible 30 semester credit hours in senior year)

Co-Advisor, Golden Key National Honor Society, 1981-88 (Key Chapter Awards for 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, and 1986)

Advisor, Rotaract, 1988-Present (Newcomer Award, Rotary District 5840, 1998)

Presidential Investiture Committee, 2002-2003

Celebration of Name Change and Old Main Committee, 2003

Departmental:

Co-Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta (history honorary), 1980-2000 (chapter recognized as Honorable Mention, Best Chapter, 1991-92; Best Chapter, 1992-93; Best Chapter, 1997-98; Hosted Regional Conferences, 1986, 1993)

“History of Country Music” Departmental Evaluator, 1978

Textbook Committee, 1977-83

Organizer & Coordinator of Departmental Colloquia, 1977-87

Undergraduate Advisor, 1982-87

Chair, Academic [Strategic] Planning Committee, 1985-86

Taylor-Murphy Building Renovation Committee, 1985-87

Chair, Travel Committee, 1983-86

Hiring Committee, 1984-85, 1986-89, Chair, 1988-89

Chair, Department Chair Evaluation Procedures Committee, 1993-94

Retirement Policies Committee, 1994

Student Evaluation Committee

Community:

Co-President, Lorenzo de Zavala Elementary School PTA, 1985-86

Co-President, Bowie Elementary School PTA, 1987-88, 1988-89

Board of Directors, Rotary Club of Greater San Marcos, 1985-99, 2000-02;
Secretary/Treasurer, 1989-90; Vice President, 1990-91; President-Elect, 1991-92;
President, 1992-93; Rotary Foundation Chair, 1992-Present; Secretary, 2002-03

Chair, Scholarship Committee, Rotary Club of Greater San Marcos, 1992-96

Oral History Consultant, San Marcos Public Library and San Marcos Heritage
Association, 1986-Present

Chair, SWT and Rotary Clubs of San Marcos Reception for German American
Partnership students from Grosschonau, Germany, 1997

Board of Directors, San Marcos Rotary Foundation, 1990-Present; President,
1996 and 1998-99

Chair, Scholarship Committee, San Marcos Rotary Foundation, 1991-96, 1998

Co-President, SMHS Band Boosters, 1994-95 (organization raised \$100,000 to
send Rattler Band to Washington, D.C.)

Co-Chair, SMHS Band Boosters Chicken BBQ, 1996

Co-Chair, Seniors '97 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Graduation Party

San Marcos Consolidated Independent School District Budget Committee, 1995-
96

Parliamentarian, Rotary District 5840, 1995-96

Rotary Foundation Subcommittee Chair, Rotary District 5840, 1998-99

Den Leader, Cub Scout Pack 116, San Marcos, 1986-90

Assistant Scoutmaster & Merit Badge Counselor, Troop 1954, 1990-97

Merit Badge Counselor, BSA National Jamboree, 1993

Subject Counselor, SMHS Academic Decathlon Team, 1995-96; 1999

Volunteer, The Children's Museum in New Braunfels, 1995-2001

First Presbyterian Church (San Marcos): Session, 1980-83, 1984-86, 1988-91;
Pastor Nominating Committee, 1987-88; Capital Campaign, 1990-91; Youth
Group Sponsor, 1992-95

Continuing Education & Conference Teams:

General Studies and History Department Team, Texas Instruments Quality
Training, 1995

SWT Quality Training, 1996

Author of SWT Proposal & Team Leader, Asheville Institute on General
Education, 1996

Coordinator for SWT Team at AAC&U Regional Conference on General
Education, 1997

Planning and Implementing a Chair Retreat, AAC&U, 1997

Quality-Centered Chair Training, Miami University (Ohio), 1997

Covey Training, 7 Habits, 1997

Taking Leadership in Multicultural Education, SWT, 1997

Covey Training, Principle-Centered Leadership, 1998

Portfolio Assessment Workshops, AAHE Assessment Conference, 1998

Co-Coordinator of AAHE Assessment Conference Team, 1998

Co-Coordinator of an SWT Team at National Orientation Directors Assn.
Conference, 1998

CASE Workshop for Deans and Development Officers, 2000

Rethinking Scientific Literacy in an Age of Diversity & Specialization
(AAC&U), 2000

Rapidly Changing Times in Higher Education, 2000

AAHE/IUPUI Assessment Institute, 2000

ACAD/AACU Tools and Techniques for Decision Making, 2001

The ACT Assessment Institute, 2001

ACE Conference on Fostering Innovation in Undergraduate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics for All Students, 2002

II. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

BOOKS

Hard-Rock Miners: The Intermountain West, 1860-1920. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 1979.

Beacon on the Hill: Southwest Texas State University, 1903-1978. Dallas: Taylor Publishing Company, 1979.

with David Nelson, *Up the Hill, Down the Years: A Century in the Life of the College at San Marcos.* Virginia Beach: Donning Company, 1999.

and Duane A. Smith, *No One Ailing Except a Physician: Medicine in the Mining West, 1848-1919.* Boulder: Associated University Presses of Colorado, 2001.

and Duane A. Smith, *New Deal Days: The CCC at Mesa Verde.* Mesa Verde Centennial Series. Durango: The Durango Herald Small Press, 2006.

ARTICLES/CHAPTERS

"A Dedication to the Memory of Fred A. Shannon, 1892-1963," *Arizona and the West*, 20 (Spring 1978), 1-4.

"Western Miners in the Twentieth Century," in Duane A. Smith, ed., *Natural Resources in Colorado and Wyoming*, Manhattan, KS: Sunflower University Press, 1982

"Funding Thesis Research Grants," *The National Honors Report*, XVII, 1 (Spring 1996), 15.

"Clark C. Spence." *The Mining History Journal: The Tenth Annual Journal of the Mining History Association* (2003): i.

"C. Spence Here!: Interviews of Gene M. Gressley." *The Mining History Journal: The Tenth Annual Journal of the Mining History Association* (2003): 23-32.

"Daniel C. Jackling and Kennecott: A Mining Entrepreneur's Adjustment to Corporate Bureaucracy." *The Mining History Journal: The Tenth Annual Journal of the Mining History Association* (2003): 133-142.

“Julian W. Feiss, Geologist and Educational Theorist,” *The Mining History Journal: The Twelfth Annual Journal of the Mining History Association* (2005): 1-8.

PROFESSIONAL PAPERS

“Fred A. Shannon and Walter P. Webb at Skytop: A Contrast of Historical Methodology,
Texas State Historical Association, 1977

“At Work amidst the Ore: Reflections on Hard-Rock Miners and Mining in the American
West,” Presidential Seminar, 1980

“Critics of the Frontier Thesis,” Texas Lutheran College Krost Center Symposium on “Walter
Prescott Webb and the Crisis of the Frontierless Society,” 1981

“Our Students Need to Write: My Experiences with the Directed Topic Paper in American
History Survey Courses,” Southwest Social Science Association, 1982

“Daniel C. Jackling and Kennecott Copper Company: A Mining Entrepreneur’s Adjustment to
the Corporate Bureaucracy,” Western History Association, 1985

“Medicine on the Industrial Mining Frontier,” Western History Association, 1993

“African-American Music and Musicians,” NCHC, 1994

“Funding Undergraduate Thesis Research,” NCHC, 1995

“Challenges and Opportunities of State-Mandated General Education Core Curricula—The
Texas Example,” Southern Association of Colleges and Schools conference, 1997

“Interviewing NASA: Collaboration between the Johnson Space Center and Southwest Texas
State University Oral History Project,” Oral History Association, 2000

“Perspectives on Assessment in the New Knowledge Economy,” AAC&U, 2001

“PAWS Preview: Providing a ‘Just in Time’ Orientation for Student Success—The Transitional
Link,” Southwestern Region College Board Conference, 2001

“Restructuring for Success: A Comprehensive New Student Experience, First –Year Experience
Conference, 2002

DOCUMENTARIES

Consultant and Participant, Argonaut Mine Disaster in California, 1999

WORKSHOPS

“Consultants Corner,” Great Plains Honors Council, 1995

- “Assessment of Teaching Effectiveness for Post-Tenure Reviews,” Conference of American Agricultural Economics Association, 1996
- “Getting the Most Mileage from Your Honors Funds,” Developing In Honors Workshop, NCHC, 1996
- “The Four-Way Spotlight on Literary,” Texas Association of Partners in Education, 1999
- “PAWS Preview: Providing a ‘Just In Time’ Orientation Experience for Student Success,” National Orientation Directors Association Region IV Conference, 2000.
- “Perspectives on Assessing General and Liberal Education,” Assn. for General and Liberal Studies, 2000
- “Success in General Education: Building Internal Campus Partnerships,” Assn. for General and Liberal Studies, 2000
- “Evaluating the Campus Demand for Accountability,” National Student Exchange, 2001
- “Developing in Honors” Workshop at the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference, Washington, DC, 2000 & 2001
- “Articulation Agreements Ease Transition for Community College Students,” National Collegiate Honors Council, 2001
- “PAWS Preview: An Orientation for Student Success,” Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board’s “Closing the Gaps Conference,” 2001
- “Building the Foundation for a Successful NSE Program: Are We Using the Right Tools,” National Student Exchange, 2002
- “Evaluating the Campus Demand for Accountability,” National Student Exchange, 2001.
- “The Question of Articulation,” Great Plains Honors Council, 2004.
- “Assessment of Honors Programs and Colleges,” Developing in Honors, National Collegiate Honors Council, 2005.
- “Assessment in General Education,” Association of Deans & Directors of University Colleges & Undergraduate Studies, 2006.

GRANTS

Faculty Research Grants, 1979-80, 1983-84, 1985-86

American Philosophical Society Travel Grant, 1993

Faculty Advancement Center Merrick Grant for Teaching, 1987

Researcher In-kind Housing, Mesa Verde National Park, Summers 1991-92

Merrick Endowment Grant for Pre-College Summer Program, 1987-88 (grant funded first two Honors Summer Math Camps prior to National Science Foundation funding)

Merrick Endowment Grants for Astronomy in Art, History and Literature, 1993 & 1995

Merrick Endowment Grant for Honors Cohort Experience, 1994

Merrick Endowment Grant for Freshman Seminar Synergy Proposal, 1997-98

Merrick Endowment Grant for Development of Web Site for Writing Intensive Course Students and Faculty, 1998-99

Portz Grant for Honors Curriculum Innovation (enhancement of History of African American Music honors course), 1993-94

Joint Honors Program and Alumni Association Retention Incentive Grant, Evans Scholars Program, 1993-94

WORKING DOCUMENTS:

3-1-3 Materials for Integrating High School Advanced Placement with Early Admission

SWT's Pew Award Nomination Application and Documentation

Commuter Academic Reinforcement Study

Synergy Proposal for Core-Curriculum Course Theme Coordination

Major Scholarship Recipient Recognition Plan, 1997-98

Freshman Academic Success Team Recommendations

Charts and Recommendations Related to Core Curriculum revision of 1999

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS:

- Assessment strategies in general education
- Factors in altering student retention
- Case study of the Civilian Conservation Corps at Mesa Verde National Park, 1933-1942
- Daniel C. Jackling and the entrepreneur's challenge in a corporate bureaucracy
- International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers (formerly the Western Federation of Miners)
- Fred A. Shannon and his role as a prototype for the "New Western Historians"