

SHELBY DUPERIER

SAN ANTONIO, TX RANGE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

University of Texas at San Antonio
BS in Environmental Science

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

College of Science Research Conference Poster Presenter, UTSA (2017)
Dean's List (2016)
Honor Roll (2017, 2018, 2019)
President's List (2018)
Magna Cum Laude, UTSA (2019)
4.0 GPA, SRSU (2024)
Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society Poster Presenter (2025)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of the Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society (TCTWS)
Member of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF)
Range and Wildlife Club at SRSU

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I am a Survivor superfan! I am newly into professional soccer, particularly the Italian League. I love hiking, dancing, discovering new music, and traveling when I can. I've been to Europe three times now, but, I really want to go to Japan, Thailand, South Korea, and New Zealand!

BIO:

I am a Texas native and have split most of my time between San Antonio and Austin. Growing up, my weekends were full of outdoor activities including camping, biking, playing sports, and visiting Port Aransas, TX. I have always had a deep fascination with movies and music- a life-long love affair that has only grown as I've aged. I even spent all four years of high school in theatre and was the lead singer of an Austin-based band for five years! I've spent most of my adult life working in the hospitality industry, and as it turns out, I am very hospitable and great at working with people. The skills I learned as a server/bartender have been helpful in navigating my academic career because they are rooted in communication and collaboration. In my undergrad, I took a Desert and Field Biology course that involved camping from West Texas to New Mexico to Arizona. Having the experience shaped my appreciation for science and research, as well as bird watching- it's not just for retirees! After visiting West Texas for the fifth time, I decided I could certainly continue my education in conservation in the beautiful Big Bend region. My ultimate goal is to take complex conservation ideas, repackage them in a way that is understandable and engaging, and normalize their application within everyday life for everyday people. As I hone my scientific skills, I look forward to combining them with the creative parts of myself to effect the most change.

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JESSE ELLGREN

AURORA, CO RANGE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Colorado State University
BS in Fish, Wildlife & Conservation Biology
Concentration in Wildlife Biology

SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AGP PPOHA

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Borderlands Research Institute 15th Anniversary Scholarship Recipient (2024-2025)
Warner College of Natural Resources Student Graduation Ceremony Speaker (2014)
Xi Sigma Pi Forestry & Natural Resources Honor Society Member (2014)
NR Scholarship Recipient (2011)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of The Wildlife Society (TWS): The National, Texas, and Southwest Chapters
US Fish & Wildlife Service Bear Chemical Immobilization Workshop; Presenter (2023/2024)
Former President of the CSU Student Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology (2012-2013)

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I am a person that enjoys the outdoors in all of its forms and seasons. From warm month activities like hiking, backpack camping, hunting, and competitive disc golf to cold weather activities like snowboarding and ice fishing. If I am not outside I enjoy learning new songs to sing and play on my guitar. I also studied abroad in Southern Brazil back in 2013, so enjoy international travel and long road trips.

BIO:

I was born in Aurora, CO into a family with three brothers. At the beginning of the millennia, we moved to the Twin Cities of Minnesota, where I finished high school. Through my experiences with the Boy Scouts of America, I developed a passion for nature and animals. First trying the Pre-Vet route, I quickly found Wildlife Biology was where my interests are, leading me to earn my BS in Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology from Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Over the last ten years I worked on a myriad of different wildlife management and research projects to find where my career interests were. Starting my career working on a Bubonic Plague research project in prairie dogs, led to other experiences like: passive hair collection for bobcat and coyote population research and winter time urban Chronic Wasting Disease trapping and sampling. This ultimately led me to live-trap grizzly bear and black bears across the Inland Northwest with the US Fish and Wildlife Service for population research. My current passion for bear research and population modeling led me to start a Masters here at SRSU in Alpine and the Borderlands Research Institute.

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AARON FELDSTEEN

**HOUSTON, TX
AGRICULTURE**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

University of North Texas
BA in Anthropology

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Traveled to India as a Fullbright scholar

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AGP PPOHA**

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Certified in Community Health

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I'm not sure if this is interesting, but I guess I was among the first to be paid to write content for online publication. Before that, web pages were DIY. Other than that, I compose music for ensemble (I'm fascinated by tone-row music, and Musk-Konkrete), I collect MiniDiscs, and I have trekked Everest.

BIO:

My name is Aaron Feldsteen. I am currently a graduate student at Sul Ross State University, pursuing a Master's Degree in Agriculture. I earned my Bachelor's degree in Anthropology from the University of North Texas in 2007.

Since then, I have worked in tourism communications, serving as a communication advisor, web development overseer, and writer for tourism agencies across Southeast Asia and Asia, with a particular focus on Nepal, India, and China. Working in these densely populated regions, where park facilities and recreational opportunities are often limited, inspired my current research: Trans-Pecos play deserts. I'm examining the relationship between population density, park density, and BMI, and hope to find a playable native grass for parks in the Trans-Pecos.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

GRAY HANCOCK

NACOGDOCHES, TX RANGE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Sul Ross State University (2023)
BS in Natural Resource Management
Concentrating in Agricultural Business

SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AGP PPOHA

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Sul Ross Honors Graduate
Dean's List Fall/Spring 2019-2023 at SRSU
Magna Cum Laude, Bachelor of Science, SRSU

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I like to play baseball, fish, hike, kayak down rivers, and explore new places.

BIO:

My name is Gray Hancock, and I was born and raised in Nacogdoches, Tx. I grew up on a small family ranch and spent my childhood exploring the natural world. Growing up, we would travel to Big Bend National Park and the surrounding Trans-Pecos region of Texas. I fell in love with West Texas and decided to pursue a degree in Natural Resource Management at Sul Ross State University. Throughout my time at Sul Ross, I spent the weekends traveling the area and kayaking stretches of the Rio Grande. This fueled my interests in hydrology and studying how water interacts with surrounding ecosystems, spurring interest in furthering education at the graduate level. When the opportunity to pursue a graduate degree studying hydrologic interactions at Sul Ross through Borderlands Research Institute presented itself, I was eager to join and started my master's degree in June 2023! I am excited and look forward to my time here at Sul Ross!

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

PALOMA JIMENEZ

**EAGLE PASS, TX
CRIMINAL JUSTICE**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Sul Ross State University
Criminal Justice, Minor in Business Administration
Southwest Texas Junior College
Associates of Arts

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Dean's List
Magna Cum Laude
Member of Alpha Chi

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Alpha Chi Certificate, Dean's List recipient every semester

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

My birthday is the exact date of 9/11/2001, I like to read Colleen Hoover books and spend time with my loved ones.

BIO:

I am always so eager to learn new things and expand my knowledge, I love school as much as I hate to admit it because I have been in school most of my life now as a graduate. I have traveled to Japan which is one of my dreams come true. I work for the Health and Human Services Commission as a Texas Works Advisor. I like to help families in need and helping people in general. I am a hardworking and dedicated person who wants to accomplish anything I set my mind to. Nothing is impossible if you just believe and work hard. I was born and raised in Eagle Pass, TX and continue to live in my hometown because my heart is fulfilled by creating memories with loved ones and I have everything I could have ever wanted here. I am the youngest of 3 siblings and we are all girls. I will be graduating in Spring 2026. God willing I plan to work in a job related to law enforcement it is in between CBP or in homeland security.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

REAGAN LYNCH

**GAINESVILLE, TX
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Sul Ross State University (2007)
BA in Political Science

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Pi Sigma Alpha

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of the Grant Professionals Association
Member of the National Grants Management Association

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I am blind and I have had two Presidential appointments to Federal Advisory Committees

BIO:

I'm a grant strategist, policy advisor, and advocate for digital equity with over 15 years of experience helping public institutions and nonprofits secure and manage funding. I've led efforts that resulted in more than \$165 million in awarded grants and helped manage over \$1 billion in public investments. My focus areas include rural development, education, and infrastructure.

As Principal Consultant at Alpha Omega Strategies, I work with schools, municipalities, and mission-driven nonprofits to build competitive funding strategies, meet compliance requirements, and align public dollars with local priorities. I specialize in federal grantmaking policy, with particular expertise in the Uniform Guidance. I also advise organizations on government funding readiness, including SAM.gov registration, internal controls, and audit preparedness.

Much of my perspective is shaped by lived experience. As a blind professional, I understand how systems can either support or exclude. I advocate for accessible technology and digital inclusion, and I contributed to the Texas Web Accessibility Guidelines to help institutionalize inclusive practices. Whether I am writing a grant, leading a community needs assessment, or advising on funding strategy, I focus on building systems that are equitable, accountable, and responsive to the people they serve.

I currently serve as Chair of the Grant Professionals Foundation and stay engaged in national networks focused on grantmaking, rural policy, and digital access. At my core, I am a systems builder. I help organizations translate their mission into action and secure the resources needed to sustain meaningful impact.

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ALONZO MARTINEZ

**ABILENE, TX
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

University of Texas Permian Basin
BA in Political Science

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

4.0 GPA for Spring 2025 Semester

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Secondary composite certification for social studies, grades 7-12
Active member of the National Education Association
Active Member of the Texas State Teachers Association

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I spend most of my free time hiking, camping, fishing, mountain biking, or doing anything outdoors. I also have an affinity for BBQ, travel, reading, and the American West.

BIO:

Hello, my name is Alonzo Martinez. I grew up in a few different places between Abilene and San Angelo, TX. I've lived the majority of my life and continue to live in Abilene, where I graduated from high school. As a young man, I completed my undergraduate degree in Odessa, TX, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. After graduating from UTPB, I moved back to Abilene and have taught social studies in some form for the last 13 years. I enjoy interacting with my students, whom I see as future citizens. I hope that my interactions with students have allowed me to make a positive impact and provide some resolution to the issues that collectively affect our shared communities.

I chose to complete my graduate studies at Sul Ross due to the recommendation of a friend. I am glad that I took their advice. Naturally, Sul Ross is the logical western conclusion to my higher education journey. I have lived in West Texas in some form or fashion my whole life, and while I enjoy traveling extensively, I'm always happy to come home. I am concerned about our unique policy problems, particularly in education, that affect rural and less populated urban areas that are representative of the life I encounter every day. It is my hope that I might have something to contribute to those policy areas in my studies and give back to this region that has give me so much.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

ARON OLAGUE

**GEORGETOWN, TX
BUSINESS ADMIN/SUPPLY CHAIN MGMT**



SR

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Sul Ross State University
BA in Business Administration

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

Cum Laude Honor
Dean's List every semester

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Student Support Services
SRSU Football Team

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I love to travel, spend time with my 4 dogs, and my loved ones. I also love working out and making money.

BIO:

I was born and raised in Georgetown, TX. I graduated from East View High School in 2022, and then I committed to Sul Ross State University to pursue my Bachelor of Business Administration and continue playing football. I have excelled on and off the field during my time here at Sul Ross. I have managed to play every single game while maintaining a spot on the Dean's list every semester. I have not graduated with Cum Laude Honors and will continue my education pursuing my Masters of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management while playing my Senior Football season at Sul Ross State University.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

MIRANDA PEÑA

**AUSTIN, TX
ENGLISH**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

University of North Texas
Master of Library Science
Sul Ross State University
BA in English, Minor in Spanish

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

First generation college student
Maintained 4.0 GPA throughout my MLS Program
Served as an officer for the Library and Information Science Student Association (LISSA)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Member of the American Library Association (ALA)
Member of the Texas Library Association (TLA)
Former committee member for the TLA roundtable for new member mentoring

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I'm an avid traveler. I have visited 14 countries, including backpacking in South America for six months and living in the Dominican Republic for four years. I'm an animal lover! I currently have two mini Australian shepherds, a Maine Coon cat, an aging, retired racehorse, and an inherited leopard tortoise.

BIO:

My name is Miranda Peña, I'm currently working as a librarian for a rural community college in North Texas. I'm a Sul Ross alumni, receiving a BA in English before going on to earn a Master of Science in Library Science from University of North Texas. I've devoted my entire career to education, and am now pursuing my second masters in English so that I have the flexibility to transition to college faculty. The area of research that most interests me is AI, more specifically how its rise is affecting student's research, writing style, and voice.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

PAUL STADELMAN

**SAN ANTONIO, TX
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**



SR

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Franciscan University of Steubenville
BS in Social Work

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AAO PPOHA**

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

PPOHA Fellow

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I live in San Antonio with my best friend and wife Lauren. We have two beautiful girls and a big white dog named Luna. I've worked in faith based sector for 10+ years and I'm interested in the intersection of organizational management and the non profit sector, specifically Church organizations. I'm a social worker by training and have found that social work case management has played a significant role in my project management process. Seeking common professional practices across various disciplines has given me a unique perspective in the non profit sector, which has become more the case the further along I am in the MBA program at Sul Ross. I love the outdoors, going to the park with my kids, and cooking. I currently work in marketing and communications for the Archdiocese of San Antonio and the San Antonio Mission Church Communities.

BIO:

I am an MBA student at Sul Ross, a PPOHA Fellow, and the Marketing and Community Manager at El Camino de San Antonio Missions, an organization run by the Archdiocese of San Antonio. He has worked in faith based sector for 10+ years and has is interested in the intersection of organizational management in the non profit sector. A native Texan, Paul currently resides in San Antonio with his wife Lauren and their two girls.

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COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

AUDREY TAULLI

LUCAS, TX RANGE & WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

PRIOR EDUCATION:

Texas A&M University
BS in Wildlife & Fisheries Sciences
Minor in Forestry



SR

**SUMMER 2025 FELLOW
AGP PPOHA**

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Professional Leadership Certification through the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets
Texas Chapter of the Wildlife Society
Texas Wildlife Association
The Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators
Guild of Natural Science Illustrators

INTERESTING FACTS- HOBBIES/INTERESTS:

I have a huge love for being outdoors, including horseback riding and camping. I also love art, and am working on becoming a certified Scientific Illustrator. I enjoy drawing, painting, and digital illustration.

BIO:

grew up north of Dallas in a small town called Lucas, TX. I spent a lot of time outside as a kid, either playing sports, riding horses, or hunting/fishing and camping as a kid. A trip to Yellowstone National Park when I was in high school helped me realize I could have a job that involved being outside, and I was hooked. I spent my undergrad years at Texas A&M and with the Corps of Cadets, and after graduating worked for the AgriLife Research and Extension branch of the University. I spent four and a half years on a crew surveying military installations in eastern and south central New Mexico. I also began a Scientific Illustration certification program last year that I am slowly working through with the hopes of becoming a published illustrator in the future.

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