SRSU WOMEN’S CONFERENCE
HEAR US ROAR!
2022
FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022
9:00AM - 1:30PM
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:00a.m.</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Morelock Academic Building (MAB)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Check in, tickets</td>
<td>Marshall Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Light breakfast provided</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:45a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Speaker</td>
<td>Morelock Academic Building (MAB)</td>
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<td>Sonia Perez</td>
<td>Marshall Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00-10:40a.m.</td>
<td>Panel Session I</td>
<td>Morelock Academic Building (MAB)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>choose one to attend:</td>
<td>Room 302</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women Trailblazers</td>
<td>Marshall Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women in Education</td>
<td>Room 101</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women in Technology</td>
<td>Room 206</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women in Counseling I</td>
<td>Room 207</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women in Counseling II</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:50-11:30a.m.</td>
<td>Panel Session II</td>
<td>Morelock Academic Building (MAB)</td>
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<td>choose one to attend:</td>
<td>Room 302</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women in Music</td>
<td>Marshall Auditorium</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women in Sports</td>
<td>Room 101</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women in Technology</td>
<td>Room 206</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Women in Counseling I</td>
<td>Room 207</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Women in Counseling II</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30a.m.-1:30p.m.</td>
<td>Academic Displays</td>
<td>Morgan University Center (UC)</td>
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<td>Presentations from 11:30-12:00</td>
<td>Espino Conference Rooms</td>
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<td>Displays continue through lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00-1:30p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Morgan University Center (UC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>tickets required</td>
<td>Espino Conference Rooms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation of Scholarship</td>
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<td>Recognitions</td>
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<td>Special concert by Naomi Ashley</td>
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<td>Prizes</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30p.m.</td>
<td>Free Concert</td>
<td>Morgan University Center (UC)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Naomi Ashley</td>
<td>Espino Conference Rooms</td>
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GETTING AROUND CAMPUS

The Women’s Conference will be held primarily in Sul Ross State University’s Morelock Academic Building (MAB), #4 on the map below. The keynote session and all panels will be in this building.

Lunch will be in the Morgan University Center Building (UC), #2 on the map below. Lunch will be served in the Espino Conference Rooms, on the second floor. Lunch can only be provided to those attendees who pre-registered.

The best route between MAB and the UC to avoid construction is through the campus mall, illustrated below with the dotted line.

The best parking for the day’s events is either the lot near the Morelock Building (MAB), circled in yellow on the map below, or the lot near the Morgan University Center (UC), circled in pink on the map below.

Naomi Ashley will perform Friday at 7:30p.m. in the Espino Conference Rooms of the Morgan University Center Building (UC), #2 on the map below. The best parking for this event is the lot near the Morgan University Center (UC), circled in pink on the map below.
SONIA PEREZ

Sonia currently serves as President of AT&T Southeast States, a role in which she is responsible for developing the overall strategic direction of the company’s corporate initiatives throughout Louisiana, Kentucky, and North Carolina. She actively engages an ecosystem of state, local, and federal government entities and leaders to implement the infrastructure necessary for creating Smart Cities and ensuring customers benefit from a connected environment.

A high-stakes strategist and passionate leader, Sonia has earned the reputation as a respected and admired difference-maker throughout her dynamic career at AT&T and in related private sector and non-profit endeavors. A fifth-generation Texan and proud Latina, she consistently contributes to the betterment of the communities in which she lives and works through support, sustainability initiatives, and strategic investment.

Sonia has received numerous awards and distinctions including: LatinaStyle Magazine 2014 Corporate Executives of the Year, 2013 Inspiración Award from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana; 2015 Weiss Award from the New Orleans Council for Community and Justice, and the 2015 Role Model from the Young Leadership Council of New Orleans. She holds a Bachelor of Journalism Degree with Honors from the University of Texas at Austin and is a native of San Antonio, TX.
WOMEN IN EDUCATION
MORELOCK (MAB) MARSHALL AUDITORIUM
Kinsey Hansen, Angelo State University; Gina Shipley, Angelo State University; Liz Castillo, Alamo Colleges District; Jennifer Beasley, University of Arkansas

WOMEN TRAILBLAZERS
MORELOCK (MAB) 302
Liz Rogers, Lawyer; Amelie Urbanczyk, Montessori School Director; Virginia Sandoval, Family Crisis Center; Mary Baird, DOE-National Nuclear Security Administration

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY
MORELOCK (MAB) 101
Jennifer Miller-Ray, SRSU Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Professional Studies

WOMEN IN COUNSELING I
MORELOCK (MAB) 206
Erzulie Clark, SRSU Mental Health Counselor

WOMEN IN COUNSELING II
MORELOCK (MAB) 207
Mary Schwartz Grisham, SRSU Director of the Counseling and Accessibility Services
PANEL 2

10:50–11:30 a.m.

WOMEN IN SPORTS
MORELOCK (MAB) MARSHALL AUDITORIUM
Monica Salmon, Alpine ISD Coach & Teacher; Annika Canaba, SRSU Student Athlete; Amanda Workman, SRSU Athletic Director; Jessica Velasco, SRSU Assistant Professor of Political Science & Public Administration

WOMEN IN MUSIC
MORELOCK (MAB) 302
Naomi Ashley, Award-winning Performer

WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY
MORELOCK (MAB) 101
Jennifer Miller-Ray, SRSU Assistant Professor in the College of Education and Professional Studies

WOMEN IN COUNSELING I
MORELOCK (MAB) 206
Erzulie Clark, SRSU Mental Health Counselor

WOMEN IN COUNSELING II
MORELOCK (MAB) 207
Mary Schwartz Grisham, SRSU Director of the Counseling and Accessibility Services
WOMEN TRAIlBLAZERS

MARY BAIRD
Mary worked in the financial services sector for nine years before realizing her true calling lay elsewhere and decided to return to college. She enrolled at Sul Ross in 2011 and found that calling in geology, graduating in 2013 with a Bachelor of Science. She began her career as Staff Geologist with an environmental consulting firm in Houston, Texas. She was soon recruited by the Department of Energy (DOE) and in 2014 began working as an Environmental Scientist at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina. During her time at SRS, she won two national awards: the National Safety Council’s Rising Star of Safety award and VPP’s Outreach Award. In 2019 Mary and her family returned to Texas, where she now works as a Specialist for the DOE/National Nuclear Security Administration at Pantex Plant in Amarillo, Texas.

LIZ ROGERS
Liz grew up on a sheep and goat ranch in Uvalde County and graduated from high school with a class of twelve. She went on to Texas A&M University (B.A. 1975) and South Texas College of Law (J.D. 1978), and then returned to the west. After twenty-three years in El Paso, she moved to Alpine, where she ended an almost thirty-year career with the Federal Public Defender’s office in 2013. After circumnavigating the globe in the fall of 2013 on a freighter, she opened her own law practice, practicing exclusively criminal defense. She now raises Brite Ranch Herefords on her family ranch in Brewster County, and travels far and wide.

VIRGINIA SANDOVAL
Virginia is the Sexual Assault Victims Advocate for The Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend. Prior to this, she worked for twenty years at Workforce Solutions Borderplex as an Employment Specialist. Virginia is the mother of three children, all of whom graduated from Alpine High School. She has a passion for physical and emotional health, enjoying CrossFit training and walking her dog, Zena.

AMELIE URBANCZYK
Amelie is the Executive Director of the Alpine Montessori School where she has worked since 2009. In addition to her work in non-profit private education, she also has a passion for libraries and currently serves as secretary on the Alpine Public Library’s Board of Directors. Amelie spearheaded the first Women’s March in Alpine in 2017 and is a founding member of the band, The Swifts. She lives in Alpine with her husband and their two sons.
**JENNIFER BEASLEY**

Jennifer has more than twenty-five years’ experience in education, from elementary through university instruction as well as in training facilitation. Jennifer received the M.A. in Education Administration and Gifted Education, and the Ed.D. in Educational Psychology at the University of Virginia. Currently the Director of Teacher Education at the University of Arkansas, Jennifer received the 2012 College of Education and Health Professions Innovative Teaching Award and was elected in 2021 as a Teaching Academy Fellow. In addition to her publications, Jennifer serves on the editorial board for the National Association for Gifted Children’s publication Teaching for High Potential.

**LIZ CASTILLO**

Liz is a Chicana higher education professional, playwright, and poet who has devoted her career to serving first-year students from historically excluded populations. She first fell in love with working with college students as a recruiter at Sul Ross State University. In 2017, Liz took her passion, creativity, and energy to St. Philip’s College when she accepted the position of Director of Student Success.

**KINSEY HANSEN**

Kinsey earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Phoenix. After working at private universities, she had the privilege of serving at community colleges, such as Howard College, developing a greater passion for serving students. Kinsey earned a Doctor of Education in Higher Education with a specialization in Community College Administration and currently serves in what she refers to as the "best job ever": Assistant Professor at Angelo State University. She also serves as Program Coordinator for Administrative Leadership and the Quality Matters Coordinator.

**GINA SHIPLEY**

Gina serves as Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction at Angelo State University. She began her career as the Public Information Officer and Human Resources Manager for the City of Fredericksburg, but she eventually discovered her passion for education, going on to earn a M.Ed. in Student Development & Leadership in Higher Education from ASU, and then an Ed.D. in Leadership in Higher Education from Hardin-Simmons University. Within ASU’s College of Education online graduate programs, Dr. Shipley primarily teaches social and cultural influences and leadership courses.
ANNIKA CANABA
Annika was born and raised in Alpine, graduating from Alpine High School in 2018. After graduation, Annika decided to stay home and attend Sul Ross State University where she became a multi-sport collegiate athlete, playing both volleyball and softball. She has earned many awards throughout her collegiate career. In 2020-2021, Annika was named Woman of the Year for the American Southwest Conference and the ASC distinguished Scholar Athlete of the Year. Annika graduated magna cum laude with her bachelor’s degree in kinesiology in 2021 and will complete her master’s degree in sports administration in 2022.

JESSICA VELASCO
Jessica is an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Administration at Sul Ross State University in Alpine, where she currently serves as the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR). She has a B.A. in Political Science from Texas A&M University, M.S. in Educational Administration from Texas A&M University, post-graduate work in political science and public administration from Sul Ross State University, and Doctor of Public Administration (DPA) from Valdosta State University in Georgia.

MONICA SALMON
Monica is a native of Alpine and a proud alumna of Alpine High School class of 2004. As a daughter of successful athletes (and a long line of female athletes) in her family, she understands the long-lasting benefits that participating in athletics has on students. Monica graduated from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin, earning her Bachelor’s in Criminology with a minor in Psychology. Monica also holds a Master of Education from Sul Ross State University. Monica is currently the girl’s physical education teacher and athletic coordinator at Alpine Middle School, and head softball coach at Alpine High School, where she also serves as assistant football and assistant girls’ basketball coach.

AMANDA WORKMAN
Amanda grew up in the South Plains Texas town of Post. Upon high school graduation, she attended Midland College (A.A. 2005) and West Texas A&M (BA 2006, MA 2009). Amanda worked in the athletic department at WTAMU for eleven years prior to becoming the Athletic Director at Sul Ross State University. While at WTAMU, Amanda served as the Senior Associate Athletic Director for External Relations and was instrumental in the design, implementation, and fundraising for the new on-campus football stadium.
WOMEN IN TECHNOLOGY

JENNIFER MILLER-RAY

Jennifer is a cognitive scientist specializing in STEM literacy, makerspace pedagogy, and digital resources. An assistant professor in the College of Education and Professional Studies, Jennifer has designed digital literacy and makerspace events for multiple museums, and she has implemented makerspace initiatives in over thirty public schools. In addition, she has developed massive open online courses through Canvas’s Open Network, highlighting NASA MMS Education Outreach programs through mobile makerspace initiatives. Her research centers around a makerspace digital literacy process in which participants connect curriculum content to informal makerspace activities serving the career role of a journalist, scientist, or engineer. Recently, Jennifer was awarded the Noyce Scholars en la Frontera NSF grant, for which she serves as the primary research investigator.

WOMEN IN COUNSELING

ERZULIE CLARK

A proud United States Air Force veteran, Erzulie graduated from Texas A&M University-San Antonio with a M.A. in Guidance and Counseling, as well as her MBA. Erzulie has been working as a counselor for the past eight years with a diverse clientele and a scope on everyday-life experiences, situational stressors, and severe mental health concerns. Erzulie has been employed in a variety of mental health settings, which includes inpatient psychiatric hospitals, outpatient psychiatric clinics, private practice, and now as a mental health counselor for Sul Ross State University. Erzulie’s focus is with aiding individuals who are experiencing anxiety, depression, women issues, grief, and trauma. Her primary populations are adults, military, LGBTQ+, and individual who are young at heart.

MARY SCHWARTZE GRISHAM

Mary has worked as a counselor in West Texas for ten years. She completed licensure in 2014 after graduating from Sul Ross State University and a two-year internship at the High Frontier of Fort Davis. Mary has worked for the Texas Workforce Commission as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and currently works as the Director of the Counseling and Accessibility Services office at SRSU as a Mental Health Counselor and ADA Coordinator for students. She practices primarily with the Internal Family Systems model, and runs a small private practice, Equanimity Big Bend.
With a cream-and-Kalua voice, Chicago Indie-Folk songwriter, Naomi Ashley, sings songs that are intimate, plain-spoken and gorgeously sung, drawing on American folk, blues, and country traditions. Lyrical layered, her songs surge with all the contradictory impulses of real life, with stories laced in compassion, and dry, resigned wit. Her sound covers the expanse between soothing and toe-tapping with irresistible hooks that stick around long after the songs are over.

Growing up on a farm in Northwest, Iowa, Naomi moved to Chicago after college to be surrounded by the experiences of the big city. She quickly became seduced by the music scene and unique realness of the writers and artists therein. Genuineness has always been gospel to Naomi, and it shows through her live performances where audiences are invited into the experience with warmth and good humor.

With four studio albums, a live record, and a handful of new singles, Naomi has had songs featured in television and film, most recently in the Showtime series Work in Progress. Multiple grants from the City of Chicago and State of Illinois have allowed Naomi to engage her experimental spirit, as well as creating multi-genre shows with visual and spoken-word artists. Her most recent work is a series of singles: "I Wanna Be In Love With You," "God Bless the Naïve," and "I Hope It Snows." The upbeat songs fall somewhere between vintage nostalgia and gypsy jazz and were recorded with some of Chicago’s best jazz/folk instrumentalists.

For the concert at Sul Ross State University, Naomi is joined by Chicago multi-instrumentalist and record producer, Jon Williams.
THANK YOU
President Pete Gallego; Joan Oesper for printing; Dean Wilkinson and Derek Pollachi for publicity; Aramark and Men of EC for serving; SRSU Theatre Production for The Cake; Dr. Savannah Williamson and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for organizing the scholarship; speakers, performers, and panelists; and the planners and organizers of this inaugural Women’s Conference: Dr. Jeanne Qvarnstrom, Dr. Yvonne Realivasquez, Dr. Sally Roche, Dr. Bonnie Warnock, Dr. Barbara Tucker, Dr. Laura Payne, Dr. Patricia Nicosia, Bonnie Albright, Brandy Snyder, Amanda Workman, April Aultman Becker, Elisha Jimenez; and everyone else who made today possible.

WHAT DID YOU THINK?
Thank YOU for attending Sul Ross State University’s inaugural Women’s Conference. We plan to make this an annual occurrence, but we do want your feedback on the day. Scan this QR code with your phone to take a quick survey to let us know what you liked about today and what you think we can improve on for 2023. We hope we see YOU right here again next year!