

Aarianna Longino Bio

Aarianna Longino is dedicated and committed to advancing academic excellence, fostering student success, and driving institutional growth. With years of experience in higher education, Aarianna has worked closely with students to guide them along their academic journey. She does this through a combination of personalized advising, mentorship, and strategic program development. The use of these tools ensures her students are equipped with the resources and guidance needed to succeed both academically and personally.

Known for a student-centered approach, Ms. Longino has worked across a variety of roles creating supportive and empowering environments for students. In her current role as Graduate Program Coordinator for the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology at Sam Houston State University, Aarianna has been instrumental in developing and managing programs that enrich the graduate experience from orientation sessions and workshops to career development initiatives. As the recipient of the 2024 Academic Affairs Distinguished Staff Rookie Award, Ms. Longino has led initiatives that have significantly improved student engagement, retention, and successful outcomes.

Ms. Longino holds degrees from Prairie View A&M University and the University of Texas at Austin. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the Ed.D. in Higher Education Leadership program at Sam Houston State University, where she is completing work on her dissertation. Aarianna is passionate about the transformative power of educational advocacy, to ensure higher education remains accessible for future generations.

Aarianna B. Longino

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Experienced professional with years of experience in higher education, specializing in student development, enrollment management, student success and optimization of undergraduate and graduate-level academic programs. Expertise in advising students through program requirements, research projects and career planning. Ability to provide tailored mentorship, address student concerns and facilitate strong academic performance while promoting a collaborative and supportive environment. Adept at student affairs and program assessment, with a strong focus on creating innovative learning environments.

EDUCATION

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX

Expected Graduation-Spring 2026

Doctor of Education in Higher Education Leadership

The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX

May 2018

Master of Music in Opera Performance

Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX

December 2015

Bachelor of Arts in Music- Vocal Performance

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX

October 2022-Present

Graduate Program Coordinator- College of Criminal Justice

- Graduate advising for all graduate students in the online and in-person graduate programs for the Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology and the Department of Victims Studies.
- Maintains admission decisions, application tracking, and overall student progress within various graduate programs.
- Coordinates and supervises program activities including the development of new graduate programs and certificates across the College of Criminal Justice.
- Organizes New Student Orientation and PhD Preview Weekend for prospective students.
- Assist Associate Deans, Department Chairs, and Graduate Program Directors in developing initiatives and practices to increase graduate student enrollment.
- Process degree audits to clear students to participate in commencement ceremonies each semester.
- Participates in recruitment events including attendance at career fairs, institution presentations, and conferences.
- Prepares financial and statistical reports such as graduate program self-studies and ADPCCJ report.
- Monitors scholarship, travel and graduate assistantship budgets.
- Assist with planning and coordinating events and initiatives for graduate students.
- Engages in strategic planning and program assessment to evaluate and enhance.
- Supervise undergraduate work study students.

Program Coordinator- McNair Scholars Program

- Tracked student progress for the McNair grant and assisted in preparing yearly performance report.
- Developed workshops and seminars for McNair scholars.
- Assisted with grant writing and data collecting.
- Managed scholarship budget.
- Maintained purchasing and travel procedures.
- Served as Co-teacher for McNair Scholars program research course.
- Maintained alumni relationships with former McNair scholars to foster partnerships for future students.
- Student mentor and advocate for program scholars.
- Partnered with other TRIO programs and student support services to increase student engagement and campus involvement.
- Provided guidance and supervised work-study students and graduate assistants.
- Attended recruitment events and professional conferences to engage with prospective McNair Scholars.

AWARDS

- Academic Affairs Distinguished Staff Award Winner- 2024 Rookie Award
- Student Diversity Recruitment Fellowship Recipient- University of Texas at Austin

SKILLS SUMMARY

Microsoft Applications

Academic Advising

Strategic Planning and Curriculum Development

Advocacy and Mentorship

Higher Education Collaboration

Data Management and Analysis

Leadership and Administration

Relationship Building and Partnership Development