

KENYA KRESTA, M. Sc.

Adjunct Faculty, Chemistry
Curriculum Vitae

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EDUCATION

Non-Degree Graduate Student, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX, Summer 2017

Completed 3 hours of graduate level chemistry

Non-Degree Graduate Student, Illinois State University, Normal, IL, June 2016-August 2017

Completed 15 hours of graduate level chemistry

TMATE Program, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX August 1995-August 1996

Lifetime Teaching Certification, grades 6-12: *Composite Science*

M.Sc. Biology, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX, December 1991

Thesis: *ELISA determination of thrips-vectored tomato spotted wilt virus distribution in peanut foliage*

B.Sc. Biology (cum laude), Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX, August 1989

Graduate, L.V. Berkner High School, Richardson, TX, May 1982

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Businesswoman of the Year, National Republican Congressional Committee Business Advisory Council, 2003

National Leadership Award, National Republican Congressional Committee Business Advisory Council, 2003

Honored Teacher, Texas Academy of Math and Science, November 1998

Outstanding Graduate Paper, Beta Beta Beta Southern Regional Meeting, Lake Texoma, OK, April 1991

Beta Beta Beta (Biological Honor Society), Inducted March 1990

Distinguished Graduate Student, Dick Smith Scholarship, January 1990

A-Honor Roll, Fall Semester 1988

Distinguished Undergraduate Student, Seven Semesters, August 1985-August 1989

Phi Eta Sigma, (Freshman Honor Society), Inducted March 1986

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Faculty, Chemistry, Geosciences and Physics Department, Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX, August 2022-Present. Teach College Chemistry laboratory sections.

Adjunct Faculty, Science Department, Ranger College-Erath County, Stephenville, TX, August 2016-Present. Teach Dual Chemistry classes in collaboration with Stephenville High School.

Teacher, Science Department, Stephenville High School, Stephenville, TX, June 2014-present. Teach Dual Chemistry in collaboration with Ranger College-Erath County, AP Chemistry, Honors Chemistry I and Chemistry I on a 45 minute, nine period/day schedule.

Science Tutor/Substitute Teacher, Stephenville ISD, Stephenville, TX, November 2008-May 2014. Provided TAKS and STAAR Science tutorials to high school students as needed each semester to help improve their test scores; performed substitute teaching duties throughout the district, but mainly at the high school in the science department; proctored TAKS & STAAR tests and AP exams.

Office Manager, Family Medicine Clinic, Stephenville, TX, November 2000-June 2004. Supervised doctor, transcriptionist and three nurses, one of which also acted as the receptionist; managed patient database and networked computer system; managed patient medical records; interfaced with insurance companies where appropriate; verified patient insurance coverage; filed insurance claims; managed account payables and account receivables to include billing and collection of payments for outstanding accounts; performed secretarial and biweekly payroll duties; prepared monthly and year-end reports; financially counseled patients regarding payment; hired new personnel and maintained personnel records; received and sorted mail; deposited daily bank receipts; performed marketing duties.

Receptionist, Family Medicine Clinic, Stephenville, TX, November 1998-November 2000. Routed and handled all incoming calls; scheduled patient appointments; greeted patients; registered patients and checked for outstanding balances; pulled files at time of patient visits; managed and maintained appearance of reception area; made copies of patient records or other information as requested; accepted payment for services rendered or outstanding balances; maintained petty cash fund; posted daily receipts and compiled daily reports.

Teacher, Science Department, Granbury High School, Granbury, TX, August 1996-May 1998. Taught four classes of Pre-AP Honors Chemistry I and two classes of Chemistry I on a 55 minute, nine period/day schedule.

Teacher Intern, Science Department, Mineral Wells High School, Mineral Wells, TX, August 1995-May 1996. Taught three classes of Physical Science during the Fall semester and three classes of Biology I during the Spring semester on an accelerated block schedule.

Research Assistant, Entomology Department, Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (Texas A&M AgriLife Research), Stephenville, TX, January 1991-June 1995. Managed laboratory, chemical stocks and inventory while assisting in design and execution of agricultural research at both on- and off-station sites; responsible for data collation and entry, conduction of literature reviews, summarization of pertinent information for project leader and presentation of experimental results in a professional format; supervised undergraduate student workers and graduate students involved in project activities.

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Regional and National Presentation of Research Results

Within-plant distribution of thrips vectored tomato spotted wilt virus in peanut. K. K. Kresta, F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the National Meetings of the Entomological Society of America, New Orleans, LA, December 1990.

Correlation between symptom expression and virus presence in peanut leaves infected with tomato spotted wilt virus. K. K. Kresta and F. L. Mitchell. Presented at the Regional Meetings of the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, Lake Texoma, OK, April 1991. (**Note:** received the outstanding graduate paper award).

Determination of thrips-vectored tomato spotted wilt virus distribution in peanut by ELISA. K. K. Kresta, F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the National Meetings of the American Peanut Research and Education Society, San Antonio, TX, July 1991.

Histological study of tobacco thrips feeding on peanut foliage. F. L. Mitchell, V. K. Lowry, K. K. Kresta and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the 1993 International Conference on Thysanoptera, Burlington, VT, September 1993.

Weed hosts harboring tobacco thrips, *Frankliniella fusca* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in central and south Texas. K. K. Kresta, F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the 1993 International Conference on Thysanoptera, Burlington, VT, September 1993.

PCR amplification of ribosomal internal transcribed spacers in vector Thysanoptera. F. L. Mitchell and K. K. Kresta. Presented at the National Meetings of the Entomological Society of America, Dallas, TX, December 1994.

Acquisition and transmission of tomato spotted wilt virus by tobacco thrips and western flower thrips. K. K. Kresta, F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the National Meetings of the Entomological Society of America, Dallas, TX, December 1994.

Biology of dragonfly naiads in relation to habitat and water quality. J. L. Lasswell, F. L. Mitchell, A. L. Kenimer, L. M. Hauck and K. K. Kresta. Presented at the Water for Texas Conference, Austin, TX, January 1995.

Transmission efficiency of tobacco thrips and western flower thrips vectoring tomato spotted wilt virus to peanut leaf disks. F. L. Mitchell, K. K. Kresta and J. W. Smith, Jr. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Peanut Research and Education Society, San Antonio, TX, July 1997.

PCR amplification of thrips DNA and its uses in IPM. F. L. Mitchell, K. K. Kresta and J. Brady. Presented at the Southwestern Branch meetings of the Entomological Society of America, Corpus Christi, TX, February 1998.

Refereed Journal Publication

Kresta, K. K., F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. 1995. Survey by ELISA of thrips-vectoring tomato spotted wilt virus distribution in foliage and flowers of field-infected peanut. *Peanut Science* 22(2): 141-149.

Book Chapters

Mitchell, F. L., V. K. Lowry, K. K. Kresta and J. W. Smith, Jr. Histological study of tobacco thrips feeding on peanut foliage. 1995. *In* Parker, B. L., M. Skinner and T. Lewis (eds.) *Thrips Biology and Management: Proceedings of the 1993 International Conference on Thysanoptera*. Plenum Press.

Kresta, K. K., F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. Weed hosts harboring tobacco thrips, *Frankliniella fusca* (Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in central and south Texas. 1995. *In* Parker, B. L., M. Skinner and T. Lewis (eds.) *Thrips Biology and Management: Proceedings of the 1993 International Conference on Thysanoptera*. Plenum Press.

Conference Proceedings

Kresta, K. K., F. L. Mitchell and J. W. Smith, Jr. 1991. Determination of thrips-vectoring tomato spotted wilt virus distribution of peanut. *Proceedings of the American Peanut Research and Education Society* 23(1): 77.