

**Dr. Colleen M. Fitzgerald** is Associate Vice President for Research and Professor of English at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Dr. Fitzgerald earned an undergraduate degree in French from Loyola University (New Orleans), followed by master's and doctoral degrees in linguistics at the University of Arizona. Her research investigates both the phonology (sound systems) of Native American languages, and Indigenous language documentation and revitalization, with frequent points of intersection between these themes, drawing frequently from community-based language research models. This work has been funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Endowment for the Humanities. From 2015-2019, Dr. Fitzgerald served as a Program Director at NSF while on detail from the University of Texas at Arlington, where she was a tenured Full Professor and former Department Chair in the Department of Linguistics and TESOL. During her four-year rotation in NSF's Directorate of Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE), she managed an inter-agency partnership funded jointly with the National Endowment for the Humanities. In addition, she worked on two of NSF's Ten Big Ideas, a set of forward-thinking, cross-directorate convergent initiatives to address some of the world's major challenges. Dr. Fitzgerald also served on the SBE Communications Team and made significant contributions to communications and outreach for the Directorate and NSF more generally.

In her current position at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, she is responsible for three units: the Office of Sponsored Research Administration, the National Spill Control School, and Research Development and Commercialization. Her responsibilities range from designing funding competitions to coaching and supporting faculty grant proposals to fostering the development of interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research teams. Specific contributions include a new summer grant-writing program for campus researchers; a themed internal funding competition focused on natural and anthropogenic hazards and disasters, with an eye to building interdisciplinary, multi-college teams; and a Virtual Proposal Writing Challenge to encourage completion of new grant proposals. The latter counts among her efforts to find innovative ways to support and engage researchers as COVID-19 transformed the campus into a virtual mode. Another such effort was to launch a daily webinar series, held in late spring for five weeks, which drew presenters from nearly all of the departments in the Division of Research and Innovation, highlighted campus researchers' responses to the pandemic, and brought in external speakers from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Environmental Protection Agency, among others. Beyond these activities, she is also engaged with her professional organizations, with service in various capacities for the Society for the Study of the Indigenous Languages of the Americas, the Linguistic Society of America, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.