

New Faculty Spotlight  
Ian Scadden  
Department of Agricultural Sciences



Kyra Rost  
College of Science and  
Engineering Technology  
Sam Houston State  
University

Ian Scadden is a recently hired Lecturer at Sam Houston State University. He received his Bachelor's degree from Brigham Young University-Idaho in Agronomy, Crop, and Soil Science. He then earned his Master's degree at Texas A&M University, in Plant Breeding. Scadden was recently accepted into the Texas A&M University Plant Pathology PhD program and will start the program in Fall 2019. Scadden teaches lectures and labs for Floral Design, Plant Science and Landscape Design. As a Lecturer, Scadden is currently not in the process of doing any research, although his research interests are in tree pathology and nematology.

Scadden decided to work for SHSU because he wanted to make a difference in the education system and fill the "Science gap" between what the average person/student knows and what expert scientists/researchers know. Ultimately, he felt that Sam Houston was the best place to do that, along with allowing him a broader research span. He explained that his greatest moments at SHSU so far have been getting thanks from his students for being enthusiastic and excited to come to class. One student expressed that Scadden helped him find his true passion in the Plant and Soil Science field and he successfully changed his major. Scadden relayed, that his favorite part of his job is seeing the connection that students make between the material taught in class and the real world.

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# Interesting facts

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## What is your favorite Movie/ TV show?

“My favorite movies would be Lord of the Rings and Star Wars. My favorite TV shows would be Star Trek and Avatar: The Last Airbender”.

## What was your first job?

“My parents owned a theater company, so I helped out there. I taught workshops, did singing telegrams, and acted in various plays”.

## What do you do in your free time? Any hobbies?

“In my free time, I typically spend time with my wife and 3 kids. We watch movies, read books, and play board games. Occasionally, I play Dungeons & Dragons. Overall, I’m just a huge nerd”.

## Who is your favorite artist?

“My favorite artists are Ella Fitzgerald and Harry Connick Jr., both American jazz musicians”.

## What did you do in college?

“In my undergraduate life I was (and still am) a member of the American Society of Agronomy, the Soil Science Society of America, and the Crop Science Society of America. I got married and worked two jobs, so I wasn’t heavily involved in student activities, but I did sing with a choir for two semesters and occasionally participated in a capoeira club. In my masters degree, I organized and ran a weekly seminar for plant breeding faculty & students, and occasionally arranged a board game luncheon with my fellow grad students.”