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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2011

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, [\(leslie.cranford@ttu.edu\)](mailto:leslie.cranford@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Expert: Education Reform Looks at Multiple Difficult Realities

As the Texas Legislature prepares for a special session to finalize education finance bills, a Texas Tech University education expert says there are multiple and difficult realities the policymakers must consider before the process is complete.

Scott Ridley, the new dean of Texas Tech's College of Education, can discuss the challenges the Texas Legislature and those in other states have that are faced with reforms in education.

"On one front, P-20 (pre-school through higher education) educators are working very hard, feeling the pressure of accountability and are holding their collective breath that budget cuts will be no greater than they have previously heard. On another front, legislators are dealing with the greatest recession since the Great Depression. In light of this stark reality, a number of unpopular decisions must be made."

Before his appointment at Texas Tech, Ridley served as the associate dean in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University. He spent 21 years at ASU as a professor, program director, author and principal investigator of more than \$110 million in federal grants supporting district-based teacher and principal preparation programs and comprehensive school reform initiatives in urban and rural partner districts across the state of Arizona.

"In light of the current economics, the grand challenge for Texas and the nation is to evolve P-20 education to regain global excellence even during hard times," he said. "The general human tendency during challenging times is to 'circle the wagons,' to conserve and hold to the status quo. We can't afford to do this; our continued economic leadership in the world depends on our creativity now."

Ridley can be reached at (806) 742-1998, ext. 450 or scott.ridley@ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2011

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, [\(karin.slyker@ttu.edu\)](mailto:karin.slyker@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Forecasting Endeavour's Voyages into Space, from Start to Finish

Texas Tech Atmospheric Sciences graduate gives go/no go for launch.

After 12 missions to the International Space Station, the space shuttle Endeavour has returned to Earth. This mission's conclusion is bittersweet for Texas Tech University graduate Joel Tumbiolo.

"I worked Endeavour's first launch in May 1992, and last in May 2011," Tumbiolo said. "It's a reason to be proud."

Tumbiolo, a member of the 45 Weather Squadron at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., is the Delta Program launch weather officer at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Since March 1991, he has led all weather support for both the space shuttles and expendable vehicles alike.

"We monitor lightning across the area and ground-wind constraints throughout the countdown, including pre-launch operations, launch countdown simulations, final terminal countdowns and post-launch data analysis," Tumbiolo said. "Launch day can be very exciting, especially if there is weather in the area."

Moments before a vehicle blasts off from Kennedy Space Center in Florida, a NASA test director calls for a status check from all flight directors monitoring the various systems crucial to launch. Tumbiolo is among those responding with a "go/no go" for launch.

"We follow a very specific list of safety constraints," Tumbiolo explained. "If the data meets a certain criteria, launch must be postponed. And out of the more than 200 launches I've been a part of, I have probably scrubbed around 30 to 50 of them."

Tumbiolo received an associate's degree in geology from Vincennes University in 1981, followed by his bachelor's in atmospheric science from Purdue University in 1983. And for his master's, he decided on Texas Tech.

"Several friends of mine went to Texas Tech, and after about a year off, I joined them in Lubbock in 1985," Tumbiolo said. "I have many fond memories there, and of West Texas. In fact, I still keep in touch with people in the Atmospheric Science program."

After graduating in 1989, Tumbiolo became a meteorologist instructor at Chanute Air Force Base in Illinois, which put him on the path that led to his current position.

Once Endeavour cleared the launch tower for the last time on May 16, all support, including weather, transferred to Houston. Tumbiolo then turned his attention to the last shuttle mission.

Atlantis is now scheduled for that historic final launch July 8, but for now June 1 will go into the history books, as two shuttles are on site at Kennedy Space Center, at the same time. Endeavour glided back to Earth under the cover of darkness, just as Atlantis embarked on its slow 3.4 mile journey to the launch pad, with Tumbiolo keeping careful watch over the Florida skies.

"I've known what I wanted to do, since I was a kid," Tumbiolo said. "I never dreamed that it would lead me to NASA."

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CONTACT: Joel Tumbiolo, Delta Program launch weather officer, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, (321) 853-8106 or joel.tumbiolo@patrick.af.mil.

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2011

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, [\(806\) 742-2136](mailto:karin.slyker@ttu.edu)

Experts Available as 2011 Hurricane Season Begins

Wind scientists and economist discuss damage and safety.

Hurricane season officially began Wednesday, and forecasters say it is likely to be an above-average season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) outlook includes 12 to 18 named storms, six to 10 hurricanes, of which two or three typically impact the coast of the United States.

Texas Tech University has a number of researchers with extensive experience researching hurricanes such as Rita, Katrina and Ike, and can speak as experts about various aspects of these devastating storms.

John L. Schroeder (SHRAY-dur), associate professor of atmospheric science, visited affected areas after both hurricanes Rita and Katrina to deploy instrumented towers that gather high-resolution storm data at a time when most conventional observation systems fail. Schroeder can offer insight into how hurricanes develop, move and react to various meteorological elements. He is an expert on hurricane winds and has been actively intercepting hurricanes since 1998. **Schroeder can be reached at (806) 742-2813 or john.schroeder@ttu.edu.**

Bradley Ewing, professor of operations management in the Rawls College of Business, has studied the economic impact of hurricanes and tornadoes for more than 12 years. He can speak to the impact of hurricanes and tornadoes in cities such as Oklahoma City, Corpus Christi, Wilmington, N.C., Miami, and Nashville, Tenn. **Ewing can be reached at (806) 742-3939 or bradley.ewing@ttu.edu.**

Daan Liang, assistant professor of construction engineering technology, investigated building damages caused by Hurricane Katrina using satellite images and aerial photos along with ground survey results. Liang has studied how the construction of buildings affects their vulnerability against severe windstorms with various probability models. Recently, his research is focused on the advancement of remote sensing technology in documenting and assessing wind damages to residential structures. **Liang can be reached at (806) 742-3538 or daan.liang@ttu.edu.**

Larry Tanner, research associate, completed a six-month investigation working with the FEMA mitigation assessment team on the wind damage to residential structures from Hurricane Ike in Texas and Louisiana. He was also a member of the FEMA mitigation assessment team that studied Hurricane Katrina. He led a team that recorded wind and water damage along the coastline in Louisiana and Mississippi. Much of the damage done by Katrina, he said, resulted

from structures being built below the base flood elevation – or the elevation that flood waters will rise to during a 100-year storm event (meaning the storm only has a 1 percent chance of happening in a year). **Tanner can be reached at (806) 742-3476 ext. 336, or larry.tanner@ttu.edu.**

Ernst Kiesling, professor of civil engineering and executive director of the National Storm Shelter Association, recommends that homeowners who live above the flood plane in hurricane-prone areas buy a storm shelter for their home. As was seen in Houston preceding Hurricane Rita, evacuations are stressful and expensive. They often put immense strain on traffic corridors, leading to traffic jams and – in the case of Houston – fatalities. By utilizing in-home shelters, some families who are not required to evacuate can remain where they are and ease the traffic flow. However, Kiesling urges buyers to look for a seal of the National Storm Shelter Association when they buy a safe room for their home, because not all shelters are verified to be fully compliant with current standards for storm shelters and to provide full protection from extreme winds. Kiesling has more than 30 years of experience in the design, standards-writing and quality control of storm shelters. **He can be reached at (806) 742-3476, ext. 335 or ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu.**



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 3, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, melanie.hess@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

USDA and Michelle Obama Announce My Plate to Replace Food Pyramid

The USDA and First Lady Michelle Obama announced the new My Plate format yesterday as their replacement for the USDA's long-running food pyramid.

Texas Tech University nutrition professor, Debra Reed, can discuss the government's new nutrition style.

"The plate graphic with its visual guide to food amounts will appeal to busy parents and is simple enough that young children will get the message about the proportion of foods that are recommended," Reed said.

The new My Plate format, made up of four different sections, will cater to the busy American lifestyle of today through its colorful and easy to follow graphic. Half the plate is made up of fruits and vegetables, while the other half is filled with a combination of proteins and grains. A dairy drink is added alongside the plate.

More information regarding My Plate and other nutrition tips can be found at the My Plate website, www.choosemyplate.gov.

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CONTACT: Debra Reed, professor, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3068, or debra.reed@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 3, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(Melanie.Hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:Melanie.Hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

National Champion and Knight Raiders Coach Susan Polgar Featured on HBO

WHAT: Susan Polgar, Knight Raiders coach

WHEN: 8-9:45 p.m. Monday (June 6)

EVENT: The Texas Tech University chess team coach, Susan Polgar will be featured as an expert guest on the HBO premier of "Bobby Fischer Against the World," a documentary exploring the life of the youngest grandmaster in history.

Polgar, a four-time women's world champion and five-time Olympic champion, is known as one of the best players of all time. Polgar will provide a brief lesson about the powers of pieces and basic chess rules at the beginning of the documentary.

Polgar led the Knight Raiders to become national champions last April.

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CONTACT: Paul Truong, director of marketing, SPICE, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7742, or paul.truong@ttu.edu.

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 3, 2011

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, [\(leslie.cranford@ttu.edu\)](mailto:leslie.cranford@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Expert: Officials Observing Closely European E. coli Outbreak

Sophisticated procedures are in place to reduce the likelihood of consumer exposure.

Three Americans who recently traveled to Germany have become sickened by what officials believe is the E. coli infection that has killed more than a dozen people, sickened thousands of others and caused serious illness in 470 – all of whom are either German residents or have visited the country in recent weeks.

Texas Tech University food safety expert Guy Loneragan said the outbreak of *E. coli* O104:H4 centered in northern Germany is being taken very seriously by public health officials, scientists and food producers around the world.

“The strain causing the current outbreak is a close cousin of *E. coli* O157:H7 but has only been observed very rarely in the past,” Loneragan said. “People typically become infected with these types of bacteria, called shiga-toxin producing *E. coli* (or STEC), through food and sometimes are part of a food-borne outbreak. It is assumed that in the current outbreak, people were infected via food. The initial epidemiological investigations suggest, although not definitively yet, that people were likely infected eating raw salad products.”

“There are several patients outside of Germany who have been affected, including some patients in the U.S., but almost all recently traveled to northern Germany and were likely infected there,” Loneragan continued.

“It is unclear why this STEC O104:H4 is causing such a large outbreak when it has never been observed in an outbreak in the past. It may be that the bacterium has mutated thereby allowing it to spread more widely in the food producing or processing environments, or the environmental or sanitary conditions in the place where the food contamination occurred were favorable for this rare bacterium to spread. The investigation continues and we hope that they quickly discover the source of contamination and reasons for the contamination.”

Over the past two decades, U.S. public health agencies, food safety regulatory agencies and food-producing industries have developed sophisticated procedures to reduce the likelihood of consumer exposure to STEC as well as provide early detection and mitigation of outbreaks. All are keenly watching the current outbreak and reevaluating existing strategies to help ensure the safety of the American food supply.

Loneragan can be reached during the weekend by email at guy.loneragan@ttu.edu or on weekdays at (806) 742-2805.

Follow Texas Tech Food Safety on Facebook.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 6, 2011

CONTACTS: Tina Dechausay; tina.dechausay@ttu.edu; (806) 742-3990, ext. 260
Amy Batheja; abatheja@law.txwes.edu; (817) 212-4061

Report Proposes Strategies for Reducing Pollutants in Drinking Water Systems

Researchers have known for more than 40 years that pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) such as hormones, prescription drugs and insecticides, can end up in drinking water systems. A report prepared by the Texas Tech University's Center for Water & Law Policy leaves aside the question of what, if anything, *should* be done, and asks instead, what *can* be done?

The report, "Alternative Strategies for Managing Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products in Water Resources," is the third phase of a long-term project funded by a \$450,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

The report acknowledges the difficulty of addressing PPCPs through the legal system and legislation/government action. Authors Gabriel Eckstein and George William Sherk propose that a more effective way of responding to PPCPs in drinking water supplies may be to focus on alternative strategies that stress removing PPCPs from the source. For example, pharmaceutical and personal care product manufacturers could create take-back programs, potentially reducing the amount of PPCPs that are thrown away.

In addition to the alternative strategies, the report also includes a summary of current research, a review of short- and long-term impacts on human and environmental health, and current legal and governmental mechanisms by which water supplies are protected. Furthermore, the research discusses a case study – phase two of the EPA funded project – in which studies were conducted in West Texas on the presence of PPCPs in treated water returned to the environment.

A website, www.micropollutants.org, was created in phase one of this project, and houses the complete report (available for download in PDF format). The website is also a clearinghouse for data and reports about PPCPs in drinking water systems across the country.

Eckstein, a professor of law at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, is a senior fellow with the Texas Tech Center for Water Law & Policy. Prior to joining the law faculty of Texas Wesleyan, Eckstein held the George W. McCleskey Chair in Water Law at the Texas Tech School of Law where he also served as the first director of the Center for Water Law & Policy. An internationally recognized expert in water law, Eckstein has worked directly with the United Nations and other world bodies on water-related issues and laws.

Sherk is chief operating officer of the International Performance Assessment Centre for Geologic Storage of Carbon Dioxide (IPAC-CO₂) in Regina, Saskatchewan. Prior to joining IPAC-CO₂, Sherk

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was Managing Director of the Colorado Energy Research Institute at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Colo. and an adjunct professor at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. He is also of counsel to the law firm of Sullivan & Worcester in Washington, D.C., and an honorary associate at the UNESCO Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

The Center for Water Law & Policy at Texas Tech was created in 2005 in response to the growing need for research into and information about global water issues. It was designed to create and nurture opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration on legal and policy issues related to the use, allocation, management, regulation, and conservation of fresh water resources at all levels of civil society – from the purely local to the decisively global. The center is part of the Texas Tech interdisciplinary water initiative, which involves faculty and students representing the disciplines of law, public policy, economics, agriculture, geosciences, engineering, biological sciences and health sciences.

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Contact: Tina Dechausay, communications coordinator, Texas Tech School of Law, (806) 742-3990 ext. 260, or tina.dechausay@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 7, 2011

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, [\(leslie.cranford@ttu.edu\)](mailto:leslie.cranford@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

State Employees Donate \$22,000 to Children's Miracle Network

Texas Tech contributed nearly \$8,600 to the hospital fundraiser.

Texas Tech University employees demonstrated their heart for charitable giving, as \$22,341 was donated Sunday (June 5) through the State Employee Charitable Campaign to the Children's Miracle Network telethon, a fundraising event for University Medical Center's Children's Hospital. Texas Tech's portion amounted to \$8,583.

"The donation came from funds given through the SECC, which wraps up each October," said David Abercia, the university's SECC coordinator and executive associate to the president. "Texas Tech employees are the biggest contributors of the campaign."

Texas Tech's contribution at the local level accounts for more than 50 percent of the local campaign, with the Texas Tech University System as a whole making up 90 percent of local contributions.

Also, Abercia said, Texas Tech employees are the fourth-largest contributors among higher education institutions statewide, with the system as the third-largest contributor from higher ed.

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CONTACT: David Abercia, executive associate, Office of the President, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2121 or david.abercia@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 9, 2011

CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

A First-Hand Account of Texas Tech's Opening Years

Alumna of 1930 paints a rare snapshot of the university's history.

It's 1928 in Lamesa, a city 60 miles south of Lubbock, and the graduation ceremony from the town's high school just took place. The class composed of girls and boys includes Wilma Jones, now Wilma Leslie. Two years after, later-governor of Texas, Preston E. Smith would graduate. Both individuals would leave Lamesa to attend Texas Technological College, now Texas Tech University, Leslie with a certificate in home economics and Smith graduating with a bachelor of business administration.

Smith passed away in 2003, but Leslie lives today at 100 years old. She still remembers her contact with Smith and returns every five years to their high school's combined reunion.

Leslie attended the college from 1928-1930 during the academic and summer sessions. She said she still remembers the terms were divided into three sections: a fall, winter and spring session. Leslie can vividly recall many specific events that went on during her time at Texas Tech including professors, leisure time and landscape.

"I remember one professor, Dean Weeks, she wore white gloves and went around the windows to see if we dusted well," Leslie said. "Inspection was about once a month and somebody was always watching and waiting for her."

Although Margaret Watson Weeks, dean of home economics, was a tough professor, Leslie said she had good intentions.

"We were scared of her. She was strict and wanted our sewing and cooking to perfection, but it was good for us. We did learn," Leslie said.

When Leslie went to Texas Tech, in the first eight years of the college, it was common that most students lived off campus in private housing which had to be approved by the college. Leslie said she lived with seven other girls in a house where they had one telephone that was not used much and where she got along well with her roommate.

"The woman who owned the house we lived in would cook for the girls in the house and others who came over to eat," Leslie said. "There were rules in the house. Boys could come visit, but of course could not go upstairs. There was a curfew, too. It was probably 10 on school nights and a little later on weekends, maybe 11."

For fun, Leslie said there was not much to do, so she and her friends would drive around in someone's car or ride the bus all throughout downtown since it did not cost much. If they felt adventurous she said they would go off campus and dance, but many of the dance halls were not approved for college students, so they could face probation. Most of the time Leslie said she and her friends would hang out at their favorite place.

"There was this drugstore on College Avenue, now University, where we would drink Cokes in the afternoon and just sit around and yak," she said.

Leslie said all the girls always had a game of bridge, the card game, playing on someone's bed. It was something they all enjoyed and to this day she still plays and wins. In terms of the courting process, Leslie said when she went on dates she did about the same things she would do with her friends; going to the movies and driving around was how you got to know someone.

"In those days you didn't pick up the phone and talk to someone for a while. I met my husband when he was a senior at Tech and I was a freshman. After he finished school we started corresponding, and after about a year and a half we married," Leslie said.

Will E. (Bill) Leslie and Wilma Leslie were married 58 years. Bill Leslie graduated in 1929 in the first four-year graduating class from Texas Technological College with a civil engineering degree, though he worked more in the electrical engineering field and then became a florist in Memphis, Texas. Wilma Leslie said she and her husband were ever grateful for his education from Texas Tech when the Great Depression hit.

"Bill always had a job and didn't get laid off. While it affected others, we didn't really suffer. Texas Tech paid off," she said.

Wilma Leslie went to college when tuition was only \$30 and Paul Horn, the first president of the university, presided. Classes were held in only five buildings at the time: the west engineering, textile engineering, dairy barn, administration and home economics buildings. The football team was called the Matadors. The Leslies have seven great-grandchildren and five grandchildren that went on to attend Texas Tech.

"Texas Tech has changed by leaps and bounds since I went, but it is a wonderful school, and I think one of the leading universities. I hope and I'm sure that my family will continue to attend," she said.

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CONTACT: Linda Sanders, daughter of Wilma Leslie, (806) 535-0926 or lmsanders6@yahoo.com.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, melanie.hess@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

The Summer of the Superhero

This summer's movie industry is flooded with comic book action figures coming to life. Thor and X-Men were the first to hit the theaters and will soon be followed by films with even more hype, Green Lantern, Captain America and Transformers.

Texas Tech University Tech University humanities librarian, film, comic book and superhero expert, Rob Weiner, is available to discuss these upcoming films.

Weiner said Captain America, set to release on July 22, is next to Spider-Man, Marvel Comic's most iconic character.

"Captain America represents truth, justice and the American ideal," Weiner said. "Dressed up in the American flag, Captain America is the human form for Democratic principles. He is beyond partisan politics and is the embodiment of the founding concepts America was based on."

Green Lantern, heading to theatres on June 17, may not be a character well known to the public. However, with Ryan Reynolds as its star, Weiner said he believes people will be curious about the film. As for Transformers, Weiner describes the films as "popcorn", fun films that he has no doubt will do well in the box office.

Weiner is the author of *Marvel Graphic Novels and Related Publications: An Annotated Guide*, a 385-page reference work focusing on Spider-Man, Iron Man and The Fantastic Four, and has edited a book on Captain America called "Captain America and the Struggle of the Superhero."

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CONTACT: Rob Weiner, subject librarian, Texas Tech University Libraries, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2238 or rob.weiner@ttu.edu.



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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 13, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

New Hybrid Doctoral Program Caters to Busy Schedules

Designed with the busy lives of education professionals in mind, Texas Tech University's Department of Curriculum and Instruction's new hybrid doctoral program will debut in January 2012.

The research-oriented program in Curriculum Studies and Teacher Education will combine the advantages of online courses with two-week intensive, face-to-face summer courses and will provide busy professional educators with the opportunity to advance their education.

Margaret "Peggie" Price, associate professor and program coordinator, said the faculty seek to prepare professional educators to effectively address accountability and other issues facing schools and teacher education programs.

"The faculty decided to create and offer the online version of the Curriculum Studies program so that place-bound students could earn a research degree and, thereby, become better prepared to serve the needs of pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students or to seek teacher education positions in higher education," Price said.

The program will begin reviewing applications for the spring 2012 cohort on September 15 and strongly recommends applicants submit their materials prior to this date.

In order to apply for the program, students must have a master's degree from an accredited institution with at least one graduate-level course in each of the following: curriculum theory or development, diversity studies and introductory statistics. In addition, two graduate-level courses in philosophical, historical, cultural, psychological, political, global or aesthetics studies must have been successfully completed.

Prerequisites not met at the time of admission must be completed by the end of the second year of doctoral study with the exception of graduate introductory statistics which must be completed by the end of the first year. More information about the program can be found at www.de.ttu.edu/doctoral/curriculum-instruction.

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CONTACT: Teresa Neal, administrative assistant, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 430 or teresa.neal@ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 15, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech University at El Paso Welcomes New Director of Architecture

Texas Tech University College of Architecture at El Paso today welcomes its new director and associate professor, Robert Alexander González.

González, who specializes in Pan-American and Latin American modern architecture, as well as the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, has taught at Florida International University, Tulane University, University of California at Berkeley and Arizona State University.

Michael Peters, associate dean for external programs, said Texas Tech is fortunate to have González as the new director of architecture in El Paso.

"His broad experience in architectural education and his scholarship in Pan-American architecture and culture make him the ideal person to lead the College of Architecture as it embraces the border area," Peters said.

In addition to teaching, González is the founding editor of international journal, *Architecture and Urbanism in the Las Américas* and author of recently released book, "Designing Pan-America: U.S. Architectural Visions for the Western Hemisphere."

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CONTACT: Karin Slyker, senior writer, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, or karin.slyker@ttu.edu.

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 16, 2011

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, [\(806\) 742-2136](mailto:karin.slyker@ttu.edu)

Texas Tech Vietnam Center and Archive Director Honored by Vietnamese Government

Texas Tech Vietnam Center and Archive director Stephen Maxner received the Medal for Records Management and Archives Career of Vietnam on Thursday (June 17), for his contribution to the archives and relations between the archives institutions of both countries.

"To receive such an award from the Government of Vietnam is an honor that reflects the hard work and dedication of everyone at the Vietnam Center and Archive and Texas Tech," Maxner said.

This award is a culmination of nearly a decade of cooperative archival projects and exchanges between Maxner, Vietnam Center founder Jim Reckner, and Vu Thi Minh Huong, the director general of the State Records and Archives Department of Vietnam.

Earlier this week, Maxner accompanied Huong and Minister of Home Affairs of Vietnam Tran Van Tuan to Washington, D.C., where they met with the Archivist of the United States David Ferriero.

The delegation will conclude their visit in Lubbock, to discuss collaboration and joint projects between the Vietnam Center and Archive, the Vietnam State Records and Archives Department, and the National Archives and Records Administration.

The Vietnam Center was the first U.S. institution to establish a formal relationship with Vietnam, even before the U.S. National Archives.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Stephen Maxner, director, Vietnam Center and Archive, Texas Tech University, (806) 773-8105 or steve.maxner@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 16, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [\(john.w.davis@ttu.edu\)](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Researchers Receive \$1.2 Million from Office of Naval Research for Better Explosives Detection

Four Texas Tech University professors recently received a four-year \$1.2 million grant from the Office of Naval Research to develop more effective detection systems for finding explosive material.

The grant funds a project titled “Resolving the Complexity of Hot Spots Caused by Weak Energy Concentration and Coupling in Composite Energetic Materials.”

“In layman’s terms, basically we’re trying to enhance detection for explosives,” said Louisa Hope-Weeks, an associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. “The new technology can be used by the Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Administration and military applications.”

Recipients of the competitive grant also included Brandon Weeks, an associate professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering; Greg McKenna, a Horn Professor and holder of the John R. Bradford Chair in Engineering in the Department of Chemical Engineering; and Michelle Pantoya, a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

“We need better, more enhanced sensitivity to keep up with what’s out there,” Weeks said. “Things are changing around the world. The problem now is they’re making homemade explosives that current sensors can’t find.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 17, 2011

CONTACT: Liza Muse, [\(liza.muse@ttu.edu\)](mailto:liza.muse@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2270 ext. 295

Texas Tech Summer Jazz Festival Celebrates Stan Kenton's 100th Birthday

Texas Tech University's School of Music Summer Jazz Band will host its 28th annual Summer Jazz Festival concert at 8 p.m. June 28 in Hemmle Recital Hall.

The Summer Jazz Band will perform music by the Stan Kenton Band, honoring the 100 years since Kenton's birth. Kenton was one of the first band leaders to feature Latin music. To reflect that innovation, the jazz band will play music from the Caribbean Jazz Project and the Tito Puente Orchestra.

"This concert has something for everyone. We are playing fiery Latin music in the style of Stan Kenton," said Alan Shinn, professor of percussion. "The evening will be a great escape and it's free!"

Inspired by the Texas Tech Steel Drum Band's recent visit to New Orleans, the Summer Jazz Band will also perform "Royal Street," a Dave Zoller chart that takes the listener on a stroll of Royal Street where the sounds of bands can be heard coming through the doors of the venues during a stroll in the French Quarter.

The concert will also feature three vocalists, Rachel Boyd, Clair Pender and Andy Johnson. Boyd will sing "Honeysuckle Rose," while Pender will play piano and sing "My Shining Hour." Johnson will perform the Frank Sinatra classic, "One For My Baby," a Frank Mantooth arrangement commissioned by the Texas Tech Jazz Ensemble and directed by Alan Shinn.

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CONTACT: Liza Muse, publicity specialist, School of Music, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2270 ext. 295 or liza.muse@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 20, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Personal Financial Planning Students Influence Washington, D.C.

National champions of the 2010 iOME Challenge from Texas Tech University's Division of Personal Financial Planning (PFP) were awarded the highly-influential opportunity to discuss retirement policy ideas for Generation Y with policymakers and members of Congress in Washington, D.C., in May.

Graduate student team members Benjamin Cummings, Chris Browning, Shaun Pfeiffer and Tom O'Malley, who won the iOME Challenge for their essay and video addressing the importance of improving retirement saving rates among younger generations, emphasized to policy makers the importance of improving retirement policy for the Millennial Generation, which is facing reduced future entitlements and increased responsibility for funding their own retirement.

The students met with Sen. Herb Kohl and Debra Whitman, staff director and chair of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, to discuss upcoming policy initiatives. They also met with Sen. John Cornyn, Rep. Reid Ribble and Rep. Randy Neugebauer regarding the importance of the current budget debate.

"These policies greatly impact our generation, but not many people are letting their voices be heard," Cummings said. "We appreciate the opportunity to let policy makers know that we care about our retirement, too, even though it won't be for a while."

During their meetings, students explained their proposal for improved simplicity and retirement plan defaults to increase savings rates and improve information disclosure, allowing employees to make better decisions. Among their suggestions was the unique idea of providing employees with an estimate of their expected retirement income based on their current 401(k) savings.

Michael Finke, the team's faculty advisor and associate professor in the PFP division, said the team made an impression on Washington, D.C.

"Both Sen. Cornyn and Sen. Kohl share the same conviction that retirement policy needs to be improved to ensure a smooth transition to self-funded retirement plans," Finke said. "And Reps. Neugebauer and Ribble were particularly interested in discussing the current budget debate's importance to the younger generation."

Sen. Cornyn was also impressed to hear that Texas Tech has the largest financial planning program in the United States, Finke said.

In addition to the trip to Washington, D.C., the team received \$10,000 in prize money for their winning entry.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

CONTACT: Michael Finke, associate professor, Division of Personal Financial Planning, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5050 or michael.finke@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 20, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, melanie.hess@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Recently Funded Project Could Change Future of High Plains Agriculture

A Texas Tech University graduate student received a \$5,000 grant from the Texas Water Resources Institute, which will help fund the first year of her research investigating irrigation on the Texas High Plains.

Cora Lea Emerson, doctoral candidate in the Department of Plant and Soil Science, will investigate possible solutions to the decline in available water resources.

Cotton is the staple of West Texas agriculture and accounts for a large portion of the region's income. However, with decline in available irrigation, the agriculture industry faces a number of problems.

"The goal of the study is to determine whether alternative biomass crops are a better choice in rotation with cotton than more traditional crops, such as grain sorghum, or a better choice than continuous cotton given the region's water constraints and increased disease and pest pressures in cotton monoculture," Emerson said.

Emerson's proposal said that the efficient use of low levels of supplemental irrigation in such rotations may stabilize biomass crop production, compared to dryland, and provide economic return as available irrigation quantities decline in the future.

Dick Auld, from Texas Tech's Department of Plant and Soil Science, and James P. Bordovsky, with the Texas AgriLife Research Center, are co-principal investigators on Emerson's project.

Other contributors to the study include Texas AgriLife Research, Texas A&M University System, the International Cotton Research Center administered through the Texas Tech College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources and the USDA-ARS Ogallala Research Initiative.

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CONTACT: Cora Lea Emerson, doctoral candidate, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Tech University, (806) 928-9185 or coralea.emerson@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

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DATE: June 21, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [\(john.w.davis@ttu.edu\)](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Two Texas Tech Students Earn Fulbright Scholarships

Two students at Texas Tech University received scholarships from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

Kendra Phelps, a doctoral candidate in biology, earned a research-based fellowship to study bats in Malaysia, and Julie Meadows, who graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in music, earned an English teaching assistantship to Malaysia.

"I will be studying bat conservation and looking at the impact humans have on caves and how that affects bats as well as the cycle of virus transmission," Phelps said. "A lot of zoonotic diseases from bats are showing up in humans because humans are having more contact in these areas. This research project is human health and bat conservation."

Meadows, who minored in linguistics and Asian studies, said she will assist teaching English to Malaysian high school students.

"I'm excited to do some work in another Asian country and hopefully get some more international experience that will be useful later on," she said.

Phelps and Meadows are two of the more than 1,600 U.S. citizens who will travel abroad for the 2011-2012 academic year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

The program offers fellowships for U.S. graduating college seniors, graduate students, young professionals and artists to study abroad for one academic year and operates in more than 155 countries worldwide. Recipients of Fulbright grants are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.

Jane Bell, Fulbright program advisor, said she was proud of this year's winners.

"In the thirteen years that I have served as Texas Tech's Fulbright Program advisor, this was the most competitive year ever," she said. "Kendra and Julie should be proud of their accomplishments."

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 21, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [\(john.w.davis@ttu.edu\)](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

3-D Movie Featuring Texas Tech Paleontologist Wins BAFTA Award

A 3-D film featuring a Texas Tech paleontologist recently earned an award from the British Academy of Film and Television Arts.

Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech University and expert on how pterosaurs flew, was featured in Sky1's "Flying Monsters 3D," narrated by Sir David Attenborough.

The film is the first 3-D film ever to earn a BAFTA award in the Specialist Factual category, and it beat out the BBC's "Human Planet."

"Pterosaurs were highly successful flying reptiles that lived 228 to 65 million years ago from the late Triassic Period to the end of the Cretaceous Period," Chatterjee said. "They dominated the sky, swooping over the heads of other dinosaurs. Their sizes ranged from that of a sparrow to a Cessna plane with a wingspan of 35 feet."

Attenborough, 85, and one of the best-known natural history filmmakers, interviewed Chatterjee on the evolution of Pterosaurs, which were the earliest vertebrates to take to the skies and develop the power of flight.

The film opened in December 2010.

For more, visit <http://www.flyingmonsters3dmovie.com/>

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CONTACT: Sankar Chatterjee, Horn Professor of Geosciences, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech, (806) 787-4332, or sankar.chatterjee@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 21, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

BBC's "Chess Girls" Tells Unique Story of Grand Master Susan Polgar

Susan Polgar's parents defied the government in communist Hungary to school their daughter in a highly unusual way- chess, eight hours a day, every day.

Now a Grand Master, Polgar's story of ascension to worldwide fame through her childhood as a unique education experiment is portrayed in BBC's recent production, "Chess Girls."

Polgar, who is well known for breaking the gender barrier in chess by becoming the first female Grand Master, had anything but a normal upbringing. The BBC radio documentary, which premiered June 16, shares the exceptional progression of Polgar and her two sisters, Judit and Sofia.

"My father had that idea even before I was born. When he had children he'd like to raise them in a special way," Polgar said, "focusing on a certain area and trying to excel, rather than kind of being mediocre in many things."

"Chess Girls" dramatized the irregularity of Polgar's schooling and noted that the media was often surprised to hear the Polgar girls genuinely say they were happy.

Polgar said her family was often criticized, but she never felt negatively about her early days.

"My childhood was good," Polgar said. "It was certainly very natural because it was the only environment I knew, so that was very normal for me."

At 15 years old, Polgar was ranked as the number one women's chess player in the world.

"I was pioneering in open competition," Polgar said. "At that time, it was simply revolutionary because most women simply admitted that they are not as good as the men, just like in physical sport. Even though, chess is not a physical sport, but a mental exercise. Therefore, that has been a major theme of my career, to fight for gender equality."



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In her current position as the director of the Susan Polgar Institute for Chess Excellence (SPICE) and Knight Raiders coach, Polgar employs many of the same techniques her father used to help her achieve her status today.

"I incorporated all the different knowledge I acquired over the years," Polgar said. "And I am trying to share the best of it with our chess team members here."

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CONTACT: Paul Truong, director of marketing, SPICE, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7742, or paul.truong@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

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DATE: June 21, 2011

CONTACT: Norman Martin, [\(norman.martin@ttu.edu\)](mailto:norman.martin@ttu.edu)
(806)742-2802

Texas Tech women's rodeo team has Top 5 finish at National Finals Rodeo

Texas-tested rodeo skills helped guide the Texas Tech University Women's Rodeo Team to a fourth-place national ranking on Saturday (June 18) at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyo.

"All four of our members gained points during the week," said Chris Guay, Texas Tech's rodeo coach and an instructor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences.

The team included:

- Goat Tying: Bailey Guthrie, a junior pre-physical therapy major from Rigby, Idaho
- Barrel Racing: Taylor Langdon, a sophomore radiology technology major from Aubrey.
- Barrel Racing: Haley Nelson, a junior English major from Channing
- Breakaway Calf Roping: Kirsten Stubbs, a sophomore agriculture and applied economics major from Eldorado

According to program officials, the national finals are considered the "Rose Bowl" of college rodeo. It's where the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association crowns individual event champions in saddle bronc riding, bare back riding, bull riding, tie-down roping, steer wrestling, team roping, barrel racing, breakaway roping and goat tying. In addition, national team championships are awarded to both men's and women's teams.

During the competition, Nelson and Stubbs placed well in their events, while Langdon finished seventh in the finals and fifth in the individual national barrel racing standings. Guthrie placed second in go round two and first in the finals. Her strong showing put her in the fifth spot in the national goat tying standings. The women's competition was won by Montana State University, followed by Sam Houston State University, Tarleton State University and Texas Tech.

Texas Tech men's rodeo team members ended the year among the nation's Top 20 rodeo teams. They placed 19th in the national standings.

Separately, C.J. Kerr, a junior animal and food sciences major from Paradise, won first in go round two, third in go round three and third in the finals. He finished in the fifth spot in the national steer wrestling standings. Luke Creasy, a senior English major from Alberta, Canada, took seventh in go round two and completed the season 14th in the nation in bareback riding.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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More than 400 cowboys and cowgirls from more than 100 universities and colleges compete in Casper each year. Contestants compete all year in one of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's 11 regions for a chance to rope or ride in the national finals. The top three students in each event, and top two men's and women's teams from the regions qualify.

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CONTACT: Norman Martin, unit coordinator, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2802 or norman.martin@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 21, 2011

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, [\(karin.slyker@ttu.edu\)](mailto:karin.slyker@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech's Dragonfly Wins Competition for Extraordinarily Tiny Devices

Microelectromechanical device opens new possibilities in aerial surveillance.

A dragonfly as small as a dust mote, its four tiny wings beating like it had momentarily alit on a lily pad designed by Texas Tech University engineering students, was a winner in this year's design contest for novel microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), held at Sandia National Laboratories.

The gadget opens new possibilities in the design of aerial surveillance devices, which have many uses, from quantifying the radiation leaking from damaged Japanese nuclear reactors to delineating enemy positions.

The dragonfly features biologically mimetic wings about the width of five human hairs. It is intended to generate aerodynamic lift and thrust by flapping its wings instead of a motor-driven propeller or jet thrust. Flapping is achieved when small intermittent electric currents cause thermal expansion and contraction in the wings. Clever engineering uses the wing material's response to create strokes that are more aerodynamic and hence more efficient.

Texas Tech's team consists of Sahil Oak, Ashwin Vijayasai, Gautham Ramachandran, Jarrod Haning, Jeremy White and Justin Brough, said Tim Dallas, team advisor and electrical engineering professor.

"Among the countless insect species able to fly, we chose the dragonfly because it flaps its wings in the vertical direction, rather than back-and-forth or in a rotary motion," said Oak. "The vertical motion of the large wings in our design not only provides greater surface area for lift than most flying insects but the wings cool faster, enabling faster flapping."

A highly sensitive microvalve, designed by students at Carnegie Mellon University, was the winner of the educational MEMS.

This year's contest participants also included the universities of Oklahoma and Utah, and the Air Force Institute of Technology.

The two winning teams will see their designs birthed in Sandia's microfabrication facility, one of the most advanced in the world.

The contest is open to institutional members of the Sandia-led MEMS University Alliance program, part of Sandia's outreach to universities to improve engineering education. It provides an arena for the nation's student engineers to hone their skills in designing and using microdevices. Such devices are used to probe biological cells, arrange and operate components of telecommunications and high-tech machinery and operate many home devices and strengthen national security.

The entire contest process takes almost nine months. It starts with students developing ideas for a device, followed by creation of an accurate computer model of a design that might work, analysis of the design and, finally, design submission. Sandia's MEMS experts and university professors review the design and determine the winners.

Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lockheed Martin Corporation, for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration. With main facilities in Albuquerque, N.M., and Livermore, Calif., Sandia has major research and development responsibilities in national security, energy and environmental technologies and economic competitiveness.

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CONTACT: Tim Dallas associate professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3533 ext. 255 or tim.dallas@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 23, 2011

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, [\(leslie.cranford@ttu.edu\)](mailto:leslie.cranford@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Center for Sensory Disabilities Partners with Indian Rehab Council Sowell Center will host three from India to sign MOU.

A partnership between Texas Tech University's College of Education and the Rehabilitation Council of India hopes to advance the development of both entities, especially in academic programs and research activities in certain fields.

Texas Tech's Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities will host three individuals from India from June 24-July 1, to celebrate the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the council and the university.

The formal ceremony is at 10 a.m. June 27 in room 104 of the Administration Building. Provost Bob Smith and Ambassador Tibor Nagy, the director of the Office of International Affairs; Nora Griffin-Shirley, the director of the Sowell Center; and Scott Ridley, dean of the College of Education, will participate in the signing.

"This agreement builds on the Fulbright experience I had in 2009 in India," Griffin-Shirley said. "Returning to Texas Tech with a commitment to carry on the mission of the Fulbright Program to increase mutual understanding, this MOU offers the opportunity for both TTU and Indian faculty and students to engage in research to benefit individuals with disabilities, specifically those with blindness and additional disabilities such as autism spectrum disorder."

The Indian delegation includes: J. P. Singh, member secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India; Hemlata Chari, deputy director, National Center for Disability Studies, Indira Gandhi National Open University; and S. R. Mittal, Department of Education, Central Institute of Education, Delhi University. Mittal himself is blind and was the former director of the National Institute of the Visually Handicapped.

"This visit will enable us to share the best practices in India and U.S. and get mutual benefit for the programs in special education," Chari said. "If possible we will look forward to develop a collaborative program of short duration for the professionals of both the countries."

The agreement includes provisions for the institution and council to exchange information, faculty and students in both academic and research programs, as well as to formulate specific action agreements to assist in creating and operating academic and

research programs. The partners also agree to explore ways to finance joint projects through special government and other funding sources.

The visit also includes a seminar hosted by the Sowell Center from 2 -5 p.m. June 30 in Room 001 in the College of Education. Topics of discussion are Education and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, including those with Blindness in India, and Preparation of Special Educators in India through Distance Education. A reception will follow. Community members are welcome to attend and there is no charge. For more information contact Kelly Golden at (806) 742-1997 ext. 233 or kelly.j.golden@ttu.edu.

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CONTACT: Judy Simpson, assistant dean, Operations, Outreach, and Public Relations, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 456, or judy.a.simpson@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

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DATE: June 23, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Selected to Implement AVID Post-Secondary Grant

The enrollment growth experienced by Texas Tech University during the last several years has produced larger and more diverse incoming freshmen classes.

The university-wide effort to ensure the academic success and retention of these first-year students will receive financial support for the next two years as a result of a \$60,000 post-secondary grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to implement the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) system to assist university retention efforts.

Coupled with support from Juan Munoz, vice provost and vice president of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, key faculty, unit directors, coordinators, graduate students and tutors will form an AVID team. This collaboration will expand the support systems in place that ensure academic success and retention for first-year students.

"Through institutional academic engagement, the grant will boost Texas Tech's ability to serve incoming first-year students who have been in the academic middle and help them succeed utilizing AVID strategies," Munoz said. "By challenging first-year misnomers like fear, apathy, being ill-prepared, not communicating with professors and lack of confidence to meet university expectations, the Texas Tech AVID team will support students who are underprepared for college."

AVID's mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. The AVID program levels the playing field for minority, rural, low-income and first-generation students.

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CONTACT: Juan Munoz, vice president, Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7025, or juan.munoz@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

EMBARGOED UNTIL 6 p.m. CDT JUNE 23

DATE: June 23, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [\(john.w.davis@ttu.edu\)](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Researchers Discover Two Ground-Nesting Birds Eavesdrop on Chipmunk Chatter to Find Safe Neighborhoods

Ground-nesting birds face an uphill struggle to successfully rear their young, with many eggs and chicks falling prey to predators.

However, two researchers at Texas Tech University have found that some birds eavesdrop on their enemies, using this information to find safer spots to build their nests. The study – one of the first of its kind – was published this week in the *British Ecological Society's Journal of Animal Ecology*.

Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) and veeries (*Catharus fuscescens*) both build their nests on the ground, running the risk of losing eggs or chicks to neighboring chipmunks that prey on the birds.

Nesting birds use a range of cues to decide where to build their nests, but doctoral candidate Quinn Emmering and Kenneth Schmidt, an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, wondered if the birds eavesdrop on the chips, chucks and trills chipmunks use to communicate with each other.

"Veeries and ovenbirds arrive annually from their tropical wintering grounds to temperate forests," Emmering said. "They must immediately choose where to nest. A safe neighborhood is paramount, as many nests fail due to predation. Predators are abundant. However, many predators communicate with one another using various calls, scent marks or visual displays that become publicly available for eavesdropping prey to exploit."

Working in the forested hills of the Hudson Valley 85 miles north of New York City, Emmering and Schmidt tested their theory that ovenbirds and veeries might be eavesdropping on chipmunks' calls before deciding where to nest. At 28 study plots, a triangular arrangement of three speakers played either chipmunk or grey tree frog calls (a procedural control), while at 16 "silent" control sites no recordings were played.

"Chipmunks call often during the day and sometimes join in large choruses," Emmering said. "We thought this might be a conspicuous cue that nesting birds could exploit."

The researchers found that the two species nested further away from plots where chipmunk calls were played. The size of the response was twice as high in ovenbirds,

which nested 65 feet further away from chipmunk-playback sites than controls, while veeries nested only 32 feet further away.

The weaker response by veeries suggests they may not attend to chipmunk calls as ovenbirds do. This difference could ultimately have an effect on how their respective populations are able to respond to dramatic fluctuations in rodent numbers that closely follow the boom-to-bust cycles of masting oak trees.

"We found that by eavesdropping on chipmunk calls, the birds can identify hotspots of chipmunk activity on their breeding grounds, avoid these areas and nest instead in relatively chipmunk-free spots," Emmering said.

Veeries are forest thrushes with warm, rusty-colored backs and cream-colored, spotted chests. Ovenbirds are large warblers with dark streaks on their underside, and are olive above with a bold white eye-ring and an orange crown bordered by two dark stripes.

Ovenbirds and veeries primarily forage on the ground and the shrub layer of the forest. Veeries build open, cupped-shaped nests directly on the ground or up to 3 feet high in shrubs. Ovenbirds, on the other hand, always nest on the ground, building dome-shaped nests made of leaves, pine needles and thatch with a side entrance. Ovenbirds are so-called because their unique nests resemble a Dutch oven where they "cook" their eggs.

Chipmunks produce three types of calls: a high pitched "chip," a lower pitched "chuck" and a quieter "trill" consisting of multiple, twittery notes. Chips and chucks are often given in a series when a predator is detected and trills are usually in response to being chased.

Journal of Animal Ecology is published by Wiley-Blackwell for the British Ecological Society. Content lists are available at www.journalofanimalecology.org. The paper will be published on Friday (June 24).

Copies of the paper, audio clips and photographs are available from Becky Allen, *British Ecological Society Press Officer*, at +44 (0)1223 570016, cell: +44 (0)7949 804317, or beckyallen@ntlworld.com; or John Davis, senior editor, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, (806) 252-8803 or john.w.davis@ttu.edu.

The British Ecological Society is a learned society, a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. Established in 1913 by academics to promote and foster the study of ecology in its widest sense, the society has 4,000 members in the UK and abroad. Further information is available at www.britishecologicalsociety.org.

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CONTACT: Quinn Emmering, doctoral candidate, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 928 9988, or quinn.emmering@ttu.edu; or Kenneth



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Schmidt, associate professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University,
(806) 742-2710 ext. 277, or kenneth.schmidt@ttu.edu.



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Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 24, 2011

CONTACT: Rebecca Douglas, [\(stevie.douglas@ttu.edu\)](mailto:stevie.douglas@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Center for Sensory Disabilities Partners with Indian Rehab Council

WHAT: Texas Tech University's Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities will host members of the Rehabilitation Council of India to promote cooperation in advancing disability related research.

WHEN: Monday and Thursday (June 27 and 30)

WHERE: Texas Tech University Campus

EVENT: The signing of the memorandum of understanding will be at 10 a.m. Monday in Room 104 of the Administration Building. The ceremony will commemorate the commitment between the Sowell Center and India's Rehabilitation Council to cooperatively advance research that benefits those with disabilities.

The visit also includes a seminar hosted by the Sowell Center from 2-5 p.m. Thursday in Room 001 in the College of Education.

Topics of discussion are Education and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities, including those with Blindness in India; and Preparation of Special Educators in India through Distance Education.

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CONTACT: Kelly Golden, business assistant, Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1997 ext. 233, or kelly.j.golden@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 27, 2011

CONTACT: Alison Howard, allison.howard@ttu.edu
806-742-0057**Texas Tech University System Names New Vice Chancellor**

EDITOR'S NOTE: A photo of Hudson is available at

<http://www.texastech.edu/stories/11-06-vice-chancellor-tim-hudson.php>

Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance announced today (June 27) the hiring of Tim Hudson as a vice chancellor with a primary focus on distance education and academic affairs. He will begin his duties on August 1.

Hudson will coordinate and support the distance education and online programs at each of the Texas Tech University System institutions.

"As the demand for online education increases, public higher education must remain innovative and meet the needs of students," Hance said. "The Texas Tech University System will continue to proactively address this crucial issue with the help of Dr. Hudson."

"It is a privilege to join the Texas Tech University System, a nationally recognized, premier system of higher education," Hudson said. "I believe the component institutions have great potential to become leaders in this field and play a key role in helping the state achieve its 'Closing the Gaps' goals. I am excited to be a part of a team committed to making high-quality higher education more accessible and taking the system's programs to the next level."

According to Eduventures, online learning is expected to grow from 780,000 students in 2004 to an estimated 3.97 million students in 2014. Babson Survey Research Group estimates the percentage of all enrolled students taking at least one online course in 2008 was 25 percent compared to only 12 percent in 2003.

"With Dr. Hudson's leadership, our institutions will be at the forefront of distance and online education, providing our students with the best possible opportunities to succeed," Hance said. "We are excited to have him as part of our team."

As online education has become an increasingly vital component of higher education, Hudson will develop a comprehensive, system-wide strategy to enhance these programs at Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Angelo State University and their off-campus sites. Hudson's focus will be to enhance access and academic experiences, improve efficiency and increase course offerings. Increased

online educational opportunities will also provide convenience for both traditional and non-traditional students.

Hudson is currently a special assistant to the chancellor for international programs and initiatives at the University of Houston System. He previously served as president of the University of Houston-Victoria (UHV) from 2004-2010. During this time, UHV inaugurated several new degrees, doubled its enrollment and became a statewide leader in online programs. Before becoming president of UHV, he spent two years as provost and vice president for academic affairs at the University of Southern Mississippi (USM) where he had previously been the founding dean of its College of International and Continuing Education.

Hudson earned his bachelor's degree in history and Latin American studies at the University of Mississippi in 1975 and received an ITT International Fellowship to Colombia. He earned his master's degree in geography in 1977 from USM and his doctorate in geography from Clark University (Worcester, Mass.) in 1980. He and his wife, Deidra, have three children at home, a 13-year-old daughter and 9-year-old twins, a boy and a girl.

Sources: Eduventures and Babson Survey Research Group

CONTACT: Allison Howard, communications coordinator, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, allison.howard@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 27, 2011

CONTACT: Rebecca Douglas, stevie.douglas@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech To Be Designated As a “Mother-Friendly Work Place”

A grant of up to \$70,000 will soon make Texas Tech University one of a select group of higher education institutions in Texas designated as a “Mother-Friendly Workplace.”

The Texas Department of State Health Services was awarded a competitive grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (DSHS) to implement the Texas Mother-Friendly Worksit Policy Initiative. The award is designated to facilitate the development and implementation of best-practice workplace policies that support infant nursing statewide.

The DSHS has targeted Texas Tech to serve as a pilot worksite during the grant period to test strategies, tools and messaging regarding worksite lactation support. Administered through the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, the grant will be used to purchase supplies, including top-of-the-line breast pumps, and to renovate at least five rooms across the Texas Tech campus by Jan. 1, 2012, for worksite lactation support purposes.

According to a survey conducted in 2008 by the Texas Tech University Gender Equity Council, there is a need among female faculty, staff and students for private, designated workspace on campus for pumping natural milk. As a result of the council’s recommendation, new Operating Policy and Procedure 70.46, “Break Time for Nursing Mothers,” was recently adopted to establish standards and protocols for nursing and lactation accommodation on campus. The survey and recommendation for university policies in support of infant nursing reflect President Guy Bailey’s strong belief in creating an environment at Texas Tech that supports gender equality.

“There is no question about the health benefits of infant nursing for both the mother and her child,” acknowledged Juan Muñoz, Vice President of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement at Texas Tech. “As we have in so many other fields and endeavors, Texas Tech will become a leader in support of women’s health in the workplace, and designation as a Mother-Friendly Workplace will show our commitment to that goal.”

According to the DSHS, the benefits of a Mother-Friendly Workplace include reduced employee turnover, shorter maternity leave, lower absenteeism due to a sick child, increased productivity among employees with new children, enhanced loyalty among

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employees, improved positive image, lower and fewer health insurance claims and an overall higher morale among employees. Designation as a Mother-Friendly Workplace also serves as an enticing recruitment incentive for faculty, employees and staff.

In order to help identify sites on campus for renovation as private lactation support rooms, as well as crafting a plan in support of nursing mothers in the workplace, the Division of Institutional Diversity has engaged a task force comprised of representatives from across the Texas Tech campus. Their duty will be to ensure that the grant money is effectively utilized, to report developments to the DSHS, and to craft a future plan in support of a Mother-Friendly Workplace.

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CONTACT: Juan Munoz, vice president, Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7025, or juan.munoz@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 28, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [\(melanie.hess@ttu.edu\)](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech University Announces Presidential Scholarships to Transfer Students

In order to provide deserving students with a college experience free of financial stress, Texas Tech University announced an additional \$500,000 in Presidential scholarships available to community college transfer students for fall 2011.

The 2011 Presidential Transfer Scholarships provide \$5,000 over two years to students who maintain full-time enrollment and a 3.0 GPA at the Texas Tech Lubbock campus.

On June 6, Texas Tech offered Presidential Transfer Scholarships to an additional 150 transfer students with at least 40 credit hours and 3.0 GPA to encourage enrollment for fall 2011.

Texas Tech President Guy Bailey said the expansion of scholarship opportunities for future Texas Tech students underlines the university's commitment to recruiting high-caliber undergraduates and is one more step closer to achieving Tier One status.

"Texas Tech recognizes the value of high-achieving transfer students," he said. "Our increased commitment to community college transfers demonstrates our pledge to support transfer student's success."

More information on this new scholarship opportunity can be found at
<http://www.scholarships.ttu.edu/InstitutionalScholarship.aspx>.

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CONTACT: Helen Carter, Associate Director of Scholarships, Scholarship Office, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3144 ext.270 or helen.carter@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2011

CONTACT: Rebecca Douglas, [\(stevie.douglas@ttu.edu\)](mailto:stevie.douglas@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech History Professor Receives Fulbright Scholar Award

A Texas Tech University history professor has recently received a Core Fulbright Scholar Award.

In the spring of 2012, Texas Tech associate professor, Ron Milam, will travel to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam to teach the course “America’s Historical Role in International Relations” at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities.

“This will be academically challenging for me, even though I teach this course every year here at Texas Tech.” Milam said, “Teaching it in the country that defeated America will be very special. To be able to return to the country that I fought against many years ago and to contribute to their educational system will be very rewarding.”

Milam teaches classes on U.S. history, the Vietnam War, and graduate and undergraduate courses in military history. He serves as the academic advisor for the annual student trips to Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Thailand. He also has received the President’s Excellence in Teaching Award and the Distinguished Faculty Award, and was recently named an Academic Fellow for the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies.

The Fulbright Program is a competitive international exchange designed to promote a mutual appreciation of knowledge and cooperative research worldwide. Founded by United States Senator J. William Fulbright in 1946, the Fulbright program is one of the most prestigious awards in the world, and each year sends 800 American professionals abroad to lecture and conduct research in a wide variety of academic fields. Forty-three Fulbright alumni have won Nobel Prizes and 78 have won Pulitzer Prizes for their work done abroad.

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CONTACT: Jane Bell, Director, ICC Operations, Texas Tech University Office of International Affairs, (806) 742-2974, jane.bell@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2011

CONTACT: Rebecca Douglas, [\(stevie.douglas@ttu.edu\)](mailto:stevie.douglas@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Professor Elected to Board of Directors of Light Up The World

Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business professor, Terry McInturff, has been elected to the Board of Directors of Light Up The World (LUTW).

Last year, McInturff led 11 energy commerce graduate students to the Costa Rican jungle to begin work on a world energy project called “Selva Luminosa” or “Bright Jungle.” The program is partnered with Light Up The World (LUTW), a non-governmental organization that provides basic energy needs to rural communities in developing nations.

The trip was designed to educate students about energy poverty and the significance of basic energy needs in improving destitution. The group literally “lit up” provincial areas by designing and implementing community-based installations of solar home systems.

Because of his involvement in this effort, McInturff was elected to the LUTW Board of Directors this year.

McInturff is a professor of practice in energy commerce, and the Director of Academics and Development for Rawls College of Business. He has a bachelor’s degree in education and a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from Texas Tech, and has completed post graduate studies in international business and environmental policy and management.

For more information on LUTW visit the website at: <http://energymap-scu.org/light-up-the-world/>.

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CONTACT: Susan J. Brown, Director of Alumni/Public Relations, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, (806)742-1571, susan.brown@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 30, 2011

CONTACT: Rebecca Douglas, [\(stevie.douglas@ttu.edu\)](mailto:stevie.douglas@ttu.edu)
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech 2011 Ornament Now On Sale

In honor of the 40th birthday of beloved mascot, Raider Red, the official Texas Tech University holiday ornament is now available for purchase.

This year's edition features the 2010 Most Collegiate Mascot in his signature "Guns up" pose to commemorate his induction into the university family in 1971. These handcrafted keepsakes make the perfect gift for any occasion and add a touch of Texas Tech spirit to every home.

The first official university ornament was designed by the wife of former Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and Texas Tech alumna, Nelda Laney, in 1997. The ornament instantly became a Red Raider tradition that has continued for 15 years.. A portion of the proceeds from each sale has been donated to campus beautification efforts, and grants. In 2005, the holiday fundraiser awarded more than \$18,000 in scholarships.

All 15 editions of the official ornament are available for purchase at www.ornaments.ttu.edu.

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CONTACT: Sarah Barron, coordinator, Presidential Services and Communications, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2121 or sarah.barron@ttu.edu.