

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
MAY		
Date	News Release	Writer
05/01/14	U.S. Energy Project to Give National Wind Institute Access to Research Data	Karin Slyker
05/02/14	Texas Tech's International Film Series Presents "Whale Rider" - advisory	Grace Acuña
05/02/14	Texas Tech School of Law Tops February Bar Exam Results	Callie Jones
05/02/14	Texas Tech Receives \$9.45 Million from United Supermarkets for United Spirit Arena	Dailey Fuller
05/02/14	Texas Tech University Names Weatherford High School Graduate the 2014 Distinguished Engineering Student	Jeff Sammons
05/05/14	Texas Tech Celebrates President's Excellence Awards	Callie Jones
05/05/14	Students Participate in Public Speaking Competition - advisory	Megan Ketterer
05/05/14	Texas Tech Participates in Recycling Program	Megan Ketterer
05/05/14	Expert Available to Discuss Causes of Motorcycle Accidents	Megan Ketterer
05/06/14	Texas Tech's International Honour Society Achieves Highest Standing	Lauren Kozlovsky
05/06/14	DNV GL/Texas Tech Collaboration to Further Wind Energy Education	Anna Young
05/06/14	Evolution of Motherly Role in TV Shows	Megan Ketterer
05/06/14	Texas Tech Researcher on NCA3: Climate Change Impacts Where Americans Live and Work	John Davis
05/06/14	Chancellor to Appear on Fox & Friends Morning Show - advisory	Jaryn Jones Kilmer
05/07/14	Texas Tech and Group NIRE Welcome Gamesa to the Reese Technology Center	Mark Harral
05/07/14	Texas Tech Faculty Alumni Recognized for Influence in Financial Advising	Callie Jones
05/08/14	Texas Tech Mathematicians Awarded \$645,030 NSF S-Stem Grant	John Davis
05/08/14	Demo Day to Showcase West Texas Start-up Companies	Jodey Arrington
05/09/14	Texas Tech to Announce New Model for Research - advisory	John Davis
05/10/14	Texas Tech's Chess Program Makes History with National Awards	K'Leigh Bedingfield
05/12/14	Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement	Callie Jones
05/12/14	Texas Tech Receives Top Marks for Online Programs	Callie Jones

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
MAY		
Date	News Release	Writer
05/12/14	Texas Tech Accepted to its First NSF Center in Cloud and Autonomic Computing to Offer Industry-Oriented Research and Scientific Expertise to Investing Businesses	John Davis
05/13/14	Texas Tech Vice Provost Coauthors Paris Book Festival Award	Megan Ketterer
05/13/14	Top Graduate Juggles Family, Life and School	Callie Jones
05/13/14	TECHcelerator Demo Day to Showcase West Texas Start-up Companies	Jaryn Jones Kilmer
05/14/14	Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement Schedule - advisory	Callie Jones
05/14/14	Statement from Mickey Long, Chairman, Texas Tech University Board of Regents	Randy Sanders
05/14/14	Chancellor Kent Hance to Announce Top Scholars - advisory	Dailey Fuller
05/14/14	TTU System Regents to Meet May 15-16	Dailey Fuller
05/15/14	Graduate Inspired to Give Back, Leave Legacy	Callie Jones
05/15/14	Texas Tech Celebrates Spring Commencement	Callie Jones
05/15/14	Pop-culture Expert: Godzilla Roars Back to Theaters	Karin Slyker
05/15/14	In Memory of Ophelia Powell-Malone, Texas Tech's First African-American Graduate	Callie Jones
05/16/14	Texas Tech Publication Named Best of the Best	K'Leigh Bedingfield
05/16/14	Chancellor Hance Recruits Top Scholars to Texas Tech	Dailey Fuller
05/16/14	Statement from Mickey Long, Chairman, Texas Tech University System Board of Regents	Randy Sanders
05/19/14	TTU System Regents Name Sen. Robert Duncan Sole Finalist for Chancellor	Randy Sanders
05/19/14	Statement from Chancellor Kent Hance	Randy Sanders
05/20/14	Texas Tech Named Champion of Diversity	K'Leigh Bedingfield
05/20/14	Texas Tech Researchers Receive \$300,000 NIH Grant to Study Auxiliary Benefits of Drug Treatment	John Davis
05/21/14	Texas Tech Commended Among 2014 Best Online Programs for Veterans	Karin Slyker
05/21/14	Texas Tech Professor: Expect Food Prices to Rise this Summer	Callie Jones
05/22/14	Pop-culture Expert Looks Back on the Original of X-Men	Karin Slyker

TABLE OF CONTENTS		
MAY		
Date	News Release	Writer
05/27/14	National Hurricane Preparedness Week: Experts Available to Discuss 2014 Season	Karin Slyker
05/27/14	Lubbock Chorale to Perform at Hance Chapel - advisory	Dailey Fuller
05/29/14	ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp Coming to Texas Tech	K'Leigh Bedingfield
05/29/14	Texas Tech Invites Students to Outdoor Summer Science Academy	K'Leigh Bedingfield
05/30/14	Texas Tech Name Top College in Social Media	Callie Jones
05/30/14	Texas Tech Graduate School Announces Fellowship Program	Callie Jones



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 1, 2014

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

### **U.S. Energy Project to Give National Wind Institute Access to Research Data** Memorandum enhances existing partnership with Pantex Renewable Energy Project.

Texas Tech University is receiving a boost to its existing research partnership with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Production Office (NPO) on the Pantex Renewable Energy Project at the Pantex Plant near Amarillo.

“This agreement will give us full access to information from an industrial facility directly using utility scale wind energy in our region,” said John Schroeder, director of the National Wind Institute at Texas Tech University. “The information complements our ongoing research efforts and provides real world examples for developing Texas Tech’s next generation coursework in wind energy.”

The wind farm, known as the Pantex Renewable Energy Project (PREP), is scheduled to begin operation in June 2014.

The NNSA Pantex Plant is the United States’ primary site for assembly, disassembly and maintenance of nuclear weapons. Its function is to meet and support the strategic mission of the Department of Energy (DOE) to enhance nuclear security through defense, nonproliferation and environmental efforts. As part of that effort, the NNSA and DOE are committed to exploring more renewable energy sources.

NNSA recently began construction on what will be the nation’s largest federally owned wind farm utilizing third-party financing. The wind farm currently is under construction on 1,500 acres of land located adjacent to the plant in Carson County, northeast of Amarillo. The area is rated a 4 according to the Wind Power Classification System, which means it is a good source for wind energy creation. The energy created will provide 100,000 renewable energy credits, and directly supply 60 percent of the annual electricity needed to power the adjacent Pantex plant.

### **Texas Tech Involvement**

“We are excited to expand on this partnership,” said Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. “It will be a step toward Texas Tech’s mission to develop a university owned and

operated world-class wind energy research center, including a utility-scale wind farm near PREP.”

Texas Tech owns 6,000 acres adjacent to the Pantex Plant. It is leased to the DOE/NNSA, serving as a security buffer for the Pantex Plant. It also is in prime position to gather valuable research data from the new PREP wind farm.

The new Memorandum of Understanding, signed May 1, will provide Texas Tech, the National Wind Institute (NWI) and collaborators with NPO’s approval for reasonable access to the following:

- the wind turbine site for the purpose of monitoring equipment installation,
- supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) data from wind farm (including, but not limited to, yaw and pitch, data from anemometers and wind vanes, vibration and noise data from turbine mounted sensors),
- SONic Detection And Ranging (SODAR), meteorological (MET) tower data and metadata,
- Maintenance data related to the turbine operations; and
- power quality and electrical data from equipment.

In turn, Texas Tech/NWI will provide the NPO with reports of its findings.

“We are enthusiastic to team with the NNSA in collaboration on the Pantex Renewable Energy Project,” said Robert V. Duncan, Texas Tech University Vice President for Research. “The data that we obtain and analyze will provide a profound service in the national interest in wind energy, which currently supplies five percent of our national electrical power needs.”

The collaboration also will contribute to long-term renewable energy goals shared with DOE/NNSA to conduct wind research, contribute to workforce development, and develop wind energy technologies to help solve problems in industry.

“Texas Tech’s continued collaboration with Pantex is vital as we advance our research enterprise and further our forward progress as a national research university,” said Chancellor Kent Hance. “Our work with Pantex has been exciting, and we are grateful to strengthen this partnership that is leading to impactful wind research.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Anna Thomas Young, associate managing director, National Wind Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-3015 or [anna.t.young@ttu.edu](mailto:anna.t.young@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH  
UNIVERSITY.

## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 2, 2014

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, dailey.fuller@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-0057

**Texas Tech Receives \$9.45 Million from United Supermarkets for United Spirit Arena**  
Facility to be renamed United Supermarkets Arena, funds to support extensive renovations to student athlete spaces

Texas Tech University officials announced today (May 2) receiving \$9.45 million from United Supermarkets to renew the Texas-based grocery chain's naming rights on the United Spirit Arena and begin renovations to the venue.

Funds from the 10-year extension will begin extensive renovations on facilities for Texas Tech volleyball and men's and women's basketball teams. The arena will be renamed United Supermarkets Arena, subject to approval by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents at its upcoming meeting, May 15-16, 2014.

"As an industry leader and great corporate citizen, we are truly thankful to United Supermarkets for their continued support of Texas Tech and are proud to bear their name on such an important facility," said Chancellor Kent Hance. "The generosity of United Supermarkets will provide state-of-the-art amenities for our student athletes and help us continue to educate, serve and grow fearless champions."

United Supermarkets secured the original naming rights on the facility in 1996 with a \$10 million, 20-year agreement supporting the construction of the multi-use, 15,000-seat arena. Since opening its doors, the arena has become the premier entertainment and athletic venue of the Lubbock community and surrounding South Plains region, hosting a multitude of concerts by internationally recognized performers such as Elton John, George Strait and Aerosmith.

"We are extremely pleased to be able to renew our arena agreement with Texas Tech," said Robert Taylor, president of The United Family™. "We believe this facility is among the finest venues in the country and enhances not only the student experience at Texas Tech, but the quality of life for West Texans as well. We're grateful for our long partnership with Texas Tech and look forward to more new and exciting things in the years to come. We are especially thankful for the incredible support of our guests, who make moments like this possible."

In addition to hosting community events, as well as graduation ceremonies and athletic events for local high schools, the arena is also the site of commencement ceremonies for Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

"United Supermarkets and Texas Tech have enjoyed a lengthy relationship and we are proud to continue that today," said M. Duane Nellis, president of Texas Tech. "Like Texas Tech, United has

been a steward of the community for many years, conducting outreach and supporting local and regional endeavors. Their commitment to Texas Tech and this area is a testament to the leadership of the United team."

Renovations to the arena are a top priority for the athletic department's current fundraising effort, The Campaign for Fearless Champions, which has goals of enhancing athletic facilities, investing in scholarship endowments and growing the Fearless Champions Leadership Academy through donations and planned gifts.

State-of-the-art improvements will be made to locker rooms, film rooms and training facilities that have not been upgraded in the 15 years since the building's construction. Additional funds will support other arena projects and priorities of The Campaign for Fearless Champions.

"The support from United Supermarkets brings great momentum to our campaign efforts," said Kirby Hocutt, director of Texas Tech Athletics. "Today's announcement will ensure that our arena remains an unparalleled venue in the Big 12 Conference and nation. Thank you to United Supermarkets for investing in our vision and student athletes."

#### **About The United Family™**

Now in its 98th year of operation, United Supermarkets, LLC – d.b.a. The United Family™ -- is a Texas-based grocery chain with stores in 31 markets across north and west Texas. A self-distributing company with its headquarters in Lubbock and distribution centers in Lubbock and Roanoke, United currently operates 60 stores under four unique brands: [United Supermarkets](#), [Market Street](#), [Amigos](#) and United Express, along with ancillary operations R.C. Taylor Distributing, Praters and Llano Logistics. The company is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Albertson's LLC. For more information, please visit [www.unitedtexas.com](http://www.unitedtexas.com).

#### **CONTACTS:**

**Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu).**

**Eddie Owens, director of communications & public relations, The United Family™, (806) 788-4863, [eowens@unitedtexas.com](mailto:eowens@unitedtexas.com).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 2, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech School of Law Tops February Bar Exam Results** Students had the highest passage rate among first-time examinees.

With the Texas Board of Law Examiners February Bar Exam results released this week, Texas Tech University School of Law received the highest passage rate for its first-time examinees at 91.67 percent. Texas Tech ranked first among the nine Texas law schools for first-time examinees.

“Texas Tech is one of the premier law schools in Texas and the nation, and our students’ recent performance on the bar exam proves it,” Chancellor Kent Hance said. “We have a long history of having the highest pass rates in Texas. I congratulate our newly licensed colleagues on this accomplishment and thank the faculty who prepare our students for this tough exam.”

Overall, the February Bar Exam had a first-time passage rate of 76.82 percent (80.28 percent among Texas law schools). The total number of examinees who passed was 781.

Texas Tech was followed by Baylor University, Texas A&M and the University of Houston among first-time examinees.

“I am exceptionally proud of our alumni and their dedicated preparation for the bar exam,” said Darby Dickerson, dean of the School of Law. “Their success is the result of hard work throughout law school, as well as guidance from our faculty, particularly Professor Cassie Christopher, director of bar preparation resources.”

Christopher said this accomplishment is no small feat.

“The law school is thrilled for these newly minted attorneys,” Christopher said. “We are so proud of all their hard work, and grateful for the support of the faculty and the law school community. Passing the bar exam is a tremendous achievement, and we look forward to hearing great things about these new lawyers.”

The School of Law prepares students for the bar in a variety of ways, including a rigorous curriculum, an open-door policy for faculty, free additional programming for upper-level students on bar test-taking strategies and topical reviews, one-on-one counseling sessions

to help prepare students for the academic and non-academic aspects of studying for the bar. The school is about to launch a new mentoring program that matches alumni and interested students for the bar-study period and also now offers a Texas Practice course that allows students to hone essay-writing skills.

“It is clear through the February Bar Results that Texas Tech School of Law prepares students extraordinarily well for the most important examination in their lives as attorneys,” said President M. Duane Nellis. “We are incredibly proud to not only offer students a very affordable option with our law school, but also one that enables students to be successful.”

More information can be found at <http://www.ble.state.tx.us/>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Kari Abitbol, assistant director of communications, School of Law,** (806) 834-8591, or [kari.abitbol@ttu.edu](mailto:kari.abitbol@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 2, 2014

CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, [jeff.sammons@ttu.edu](mailto:jeff.sammons@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-3451

### **Texas Tech University Names Weatherford High School Graduate the 2014 Distinguished Engineering Student**

The Texas Tech Whitacre College of Engineering has selected Amber Helm as the recipient of the 2014 McAuley Distinguished Engineering Student Award.

This award, provided by members of the Whitacre College of Engineering Dean's Council, is named in memory of James A. McAuley, an active member of the Dean's Council, and a Texas Tech Distinguished Engineer.

Helm competed for this honor and was selected because of her outstanding academic achievements, honors, activities, interests and aspirations. She has a 3.93 GPA and will graduate Summa Cum Laude with Honors in May with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. Amber is a 2010 Weatherford High School graduate and the daughter of Mark Helm and Lila Deakle.

As a freshman, she immediately became involved in undergraduate research projects in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry under Dominick Casadonte, the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She worked with sonochemistry and its applications for the creation of batteries and hydrogen fuel cells.

After completing a study abroad program at the Texas Tech campus in Seville, Spain, she began her sophomore year as an Honors College mentor and joined two student organizations: Alpha Omega Epsilon (A.O.E.) and the Engineering Ambassadors. A.O.E. is an international professional and social engineering sorority that strives to encourage self-confidence, professionalism and motivation among females in engineering. As an Engineering Ambassador, she assisted with college events, prospective student visits, outreach activities in the community and recruiting for the college.

During the summer after her sophomore year, she worked for Encana Oil and Gas in Plano, where she was a drilling engineer intern. This experience with drilling rigs and the mechanics and procedures for drilling deep, high pressure, horizontal wells piqued her interest in the upstream oil and gas industry. The following summer she worked for Anadarko Petroleum Company in Denver, in the field and office as a production intern.

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

Helm began her junior year as event coordinator for A.O.E., a position that allowed her to gain leadership experience and build connections on campus. This year she was selected as a delegate to attend the A.O.E. international convention in Salt Lake City. She also became involved with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Texas Tech Society of Petroleum Engineers, and the Texas Tech Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

Helm currently is ending her year-long tenure as the president of A.O.E., a position that she said she has enjoyed because she has had the opportunity to encourage younger students, make lifelong friends and see the organization grow nearly three times larger.

Reflecting on the challenges of a demanding chemical engineering program, Helm admits, “It took friends and family to encourage me and help keep me grounded when I wanted to give up. It took professors, classmates and my sorority sisters to keep me on the right track and focused.”

Helm has accepted a full-time position with Anadarko as a production engineer in Kermit, and will begin work after graduation. She plans to remain involved at Texas Tech after graduation as an alumnae advisor to A.O.E., a campus recruiter for Anadarko, and member of the Texas Tech engineering young alumni organization, Young Guns.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, director of marketing, Whitacre College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3451, or [jeff.sammons@ttu.edu](mailto:jeff.sammons@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 2, 2014

CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, jeff.sammons@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-3451

### **Texas Tech University Names Weatherford High School Graduate the 2014 Distinguished Engineering Student**

The Texas Tech Whitacre College of Engineering has selected Amber Helm as the recipient of the 2014 McAuley Distinguished Engineering Student Award.

This award, provided by members of the Whitacre College of Engineering Dean's Council, is named in memory of James A. McAuley, an active member of the Dean's Council, and a Texas Tech Distinguished Engineer.

Helm competed for this honor and was selected because of her outstanding academic achievements, honors, activities, interests and aspirations. She has a 3.93 GPA and will graduate Summa Cum Laude with Honors in May with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering. Amber is a 2010 Weatherford High School graduate and the daughter of Mark Helm and Lila Deakle.

As a freshman, she immediately became involved in undergraduate research projects in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry under Dominick Casadonte, the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry. She worked with sonochemistry and its applications for the creation of batteries and hydrogen fuel cells.

After completing a study abroad program at the Texas Tech campus in Seville, Spain, she began her sophomore year as an Honors College mentor and joined two student organizations: Alpha Omega Epsilon (A.O.E.) and the Engineering Ambassadors. A.O.E. is an international professional and social engineering sorority that strives to encourage self-confidence, professionalism and motivation among females in engineering. As an Engineering Ambassador, she assisted with college events, prospective student visits, outreach activities in the community and recruiting for the college.

During the summer after her sophomore year, she worked for Encana Oil and Gas in Plano, where she was a drilling engineer intern. This experience with drilling rigs and the mechanics and procedures for drilling deep, high pressure, horizontal wells piqued her interest in the upstream oil and gas industry. The following summer she worked for Anadarko Petroleum Company in Denver, in the field and office as a production intern.

Helm began her junior year as event coordinator for A.O.E., a position that allowed her to gain leadership experience and build connections on campus. This year she was selected as a delegate to attend the A.O.E. international convention in Salt Lake City. She also

Office of Communications and Marketing

became involved with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Texas Tech Society of Petroleum Engineers, and the Texas Tech Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society.

Helm currently is ending her year-long tenure as the president of A.O.E., a position that she said she has enjoyed because she has had the opportunity to encourage younger students, make lifelong friends and see the organization grow nearly three times larger.

Reflecting on the challenges of a demanding chemical engineering program, Helm admits, “It took friends and family to encourage me and help keep me grounded when I wanted to give up. It took professors, classmates and my sorority sisters to keep me on the right track and focused.”

Helm has accepted a full-time position with Anadarko as a production engineer in Kermit, and will begin work after graduation. She plans to remain involved at Texas Tech after graduation as an alumnae advisor to A.O.E., a campus recruiter for Anadarko, and member of the Texas Tech engineering young alumni organization, Young Guns.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, director of marketing, Whitacre College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3451, or [jeff.sammons@ttu.edu](mailto:jeff.sammons@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 2, 2013

CONTACT: Grace Acuna, [grace.acuna@ttu.edu](mailto:grace.acuna@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

**Texas Tech’s International Film Series Presents “Whale Rider”**

- WHAT:** Texas Tech University’s International Film Series May premiere
- WHEN:** 6 p.m. Friday (May 5)
- WHERE:** Room 281 in the College of Media and Communication Building, 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Flint Avenue
- EVENT:** Texas Tech’s International Film Series (IFS), along with the Thomas Jay Institute for Hispanic and International Communication and Texas Tech’s Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center, is presenting a free screening of the Sundance Film Festival winner “Whale Rider”.

Released in 2003, “Whale Rider” earned over 25 awards and 30 nominations at various film festivals around the world, including the Toronto and Sundance Film Festivals. Star Keisha Castle-Hughes was nominated for the Academy Award in 2004.

IFS is sponsored by the Texas Tech Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center, Department of Journalism and Electronic Media, and the Thomas Jay Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication.

For more information about the International Film Series visit <https://www.facebook.com/TTUIntlFilmSeries>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Robert Peaslee, coordinator, International Film Series, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-2562, or [robert.peaslee@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.peaslee@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Expert Pitch

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 5, 2014

CONTACT: Megan Ketterer, [megan.ketterer@ttu.edu](mailto:megan.ketterer@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Expert Available to Discuss Causes of Motorcycle Accidents**

May is Motorcycle Awareness Month, and motorists are reminded to be cautious, alert and visible when on the road.

A Texas Tech University faculty member, Pat DeLucia, learned through research that motorcycle accidents are not necessarily caused by poor driving or carelessness, but may be related to a basic human error judgment.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, motorcyclists are 35 times more likely to experience a deadly accident on the road than those in passenger cars.

DeLucia, professor in Texas Tech University's Department of Psychology and coordinator of the Human Factors Psychology Program, said her results show that small objects can appear farther away than larger, farther objects. Through her research, she found that an object's size affects distance perception and may be the basis of car drivers miscalculating motorcyclists' distance and speed.

To learn more about DeLucia's research, visit [here](#).

### **Expert**

Pat DeLucia, professor, Department of Psychology, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0968 or [pat.delucia@ttu.edu](mailto:pat.delucia@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 5, 2014

CONTACT: Megan Ketterer, [megan.ketterer@ttu.edu](mailto:megan.ketterer@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Students Participate in Public Speaking Competition**

**WHAT:** Texas Tech University students will participate in SpeakUp!, a persuasive speech contest hosted by the Department of Communication Studies.

**WHEN:** 6 p.m. Tuesday (May 6)

**WHERE:** Allen Theatre

**EVENT:** Students participating in the competition are enrolled in public speaking and business and professional communication classes at Texas Tech. A representative who completed preliminary rounds from each class will compete.

Judges include SGA President Hayden Hatch, Radio Personality Chad Hasty, and Bailey Watson, SACSCOC coordinator.

Cash prizes are awarded to winners. The event is free and open to the public.

The competition is hosted by the Department of Communication Studies, Pearson Education, and Barnes & Noble at Texas Tech.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Rush Robinson, intern, Department of Communication Studies, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3911, or [rush.robinson@ttu.edu](mailto:rush.robinson@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 5, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Celebrates President's Excellence Awards**

Faculty, staff and students honored for Diversity & Equity and Academic Advising,

Texas Tech University President M. Duane Nellis presented awards to six faculty, staff and students for President's Excellence in Diversity & Equity and six faculty and staff for President's Excellence in Academic Advising.

"I truly appreciate your commitment to the university mission and playing an important role in Texas Tech reaching new heights of excellence," Nellis said. "As Texas Tech sets its sights on achieving Tier One status, diversity and equity are issues that not only highlight the integrity of the university, but are also necessary for the institution's success."

The President's Excellence in Diversity & Equity awards recognize individuals who provide Outstanding service to equity and diversity enhancement at Texas Tech University or in the community, or with outstanding activities and projects that contribute to a better understanding of equity and diversity issues.

Nearly 40 faculty, staff and students were nominated for the Diversity & Equity awards. Recipients were as follows:

#### Junior Faculty Award Recipient

Eugenia J. Charles-Newton, faculty services librarian in the Law Library

#### Senior Faculty Award Recipient

Al Sacco, Jr., dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering

#### Staff Award Recipient

Jamie L. Perez, assistant director in the Whitacre College of Engineering Dean's Office

#### Student Award Recipients

Ibrahim H. Yeter, graduate student in the College of Education

Gustavo A. Chavira, senior in the College of Arts & Sciences and Rawls College of Business Administration

Office of Communications and Marketing

Charles Olivier, senior in the College of Visual & Performing Arts

“The President’s Excellence in Equity and Diversity awards recognize exceptional faculty, staff and students that work to protect and preserve a campus environment where all of its members can succeed,” said Juan Muñoz, senior vice president for Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement and vice provost for Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs. “We are proud and inspired by their leadership in this area.”

The Academic Advising awards recognize outstanding academic advising achievements. Nine individuals and groups were nominated for the individual and team awards.

Recipients were as follows:

Individual Award Recipient

Kathy Nordstrom, Department of Visual & Performing Arts  
Emmett Elam, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics

Team Award Recipient

TECHniques Center, Student Disability Services (Carol Scott, Kyla Shannon, Jac Cooper and Hannah Bergren)



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 5, 2014

CONTACT: Megan Ketterer, [megan.ketterer@ttu.edu](mailto:megan.ketterer@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Participates in Recycling Program** Give and Go! program begins on campus May 5.

Texas Tech University is participating in the 2014 Give and Go! Move Out 2014 collection drive. The university is one of 15 schools participating in the drive.

The Give and Go! program partners Keep America Beautiful and Goodwill Industries International with support from the College and University Recycling Coalition.

According to the program website, Give and Go! works with universities to implement effective collection drives during spring move out time.

Bins will be placed at residence halls beginning May 5 until May 19. A Goodwill truck will be parked at the United Supermarkets Arena May 14-16 to collect items from off-campus students.

For more information, visit the Keep America Beautiful website [here](#).

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Melanie Tatum, unit manager, University Student Housing, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1570 or [m.tatum@ttu.edu](mailto:m.tatum@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT: Jaryn Jones Kilmer, [jaryn.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:jaryn.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

**Chancellor to Appear on Fox & Friends Morning Show**

**WHAT:** Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance will make a guest appearance on the Fox & Friends television show via satellite.

**WHEN:** 5:15 a.m., Wednesday (May 7)

**WHERE:** FOX NEWS Network (see local listings)

**EVENT:** Tune into Fox & Friends to see Chancellor Kent Hance discuss his letter to Condoleezza Rice and his thoughts regarding her recent withdrawal from Rutgers University commencement ceremonies. Hance will join the show via satellite telecast.

**CONTACTS:** Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu).



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT: Anna Young, [anna.t.young@ttu.edu](mailto:anna.t.young@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-3015

### **DNV GL/Texas Tech Collaboration to Further Wind Energy Education**

Project will expand availability of wind power courses for National Wind Institute.

Texas Tech University's National Wind Institute and DNV GL, will collaborate on a teaching project to expand the availability of wind power courses to Texas Tech students.

Classes will be provided through both in-class and online channels enabling global access to cutting edge instruction and utilizing real-life case studies from the wind energy industry. This collaboration will strengthen future workforce development and allow students in remote locations to participate in a high-quality, certified education process.

With the nation's renewable energy goal of "20% Wind by 2030," this joint effort by Texas Tech and DNV GL will broaden the selection of wind power classes at the university, and provide a Texas Tech certification program for future wind industry professionals who will be vital as the wind power industry continues to expand.

"The National Wind Institute strives to educate the next generation of wind energy professionals," said John Schroeder, director of the National Wind Institute (NWI). "This partnership with DNV GL is another yet another step forward to advance wind energy research and education."

The program adds depth to Texas Tech's wind energy program by adding four classes containing up-to-the-minute wind industry case studies developed and led by DNV GL experts who can draw on the company's 30-year history of involvement in all aspects of the wind industry.

By combining DNV GL's industry expertise with Texas Tech's academic excellence, students will have access to wind industry experts to provide current, real-world experiences to supplement the academic fundamentals while working to attain either a managerial or a technical focused Wind Power Certificate from Texas Tech. The program is open to qualified undergraduate and graduate students, and each course will contain cutting edge content from DNV GL, which is known for its high-quality workforce training and thought leadership in the renewable energy industry.

“Renewable energy professionals worldwide already rely on a variety of DNV GL's existing training programs,” said Kevin Smith, director at DNV GL. “We are excited to participate with Texas Tech in training the wind industry’s future workforce and graduates with industry specific knowledge and case studies so they have increased familiarity with the latest business needs and challenges. We look forward to further collaboration with Texas Tech to educate the wide range of professionals required to meet national wind energy goals – both in the U.S. and other countries.”

This collaboration is slated to last three years and planned to start July 2014 once details are finalized.

DNV GL is a global provider of risk management services with approximately 16,000 employees in more than 100 countries around the globe. Approximately 1000 DNV GL professionals are engaged in providing feasibility consulting, analysis, design, testing, management, certification, and verification services to a wide range of wind, solar, wave, and tidal industry clients.

Texas Tech has an international reputation in wind research and engineering. It has implemented the nation’s only Bachelor’s degree program in wind energy and a doctorate program in wind science and engineering.

To learn more about DNV GL renewables, please visit [www.dnvgl.com/renewables](http://www.dnvgl.com/renewables).

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Anna Young, associate managing director, National Wind Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-3015 or [anna.t.young@ttu.edu](mailto:anna.t.young@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Expert Pitch

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT: Megan Ketterer, [megan.ketterer@ttu.edu](mailto:megan.ketterer@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Evolution of Motherly Role in TV Shows**

With Mother's Day approaching, many people can turn to television shows to provide classic examples of various types of mothers.

A Texas Tech University assistant professor studied how women's gender roles on TV shows have evolved. She found characters are growing to reflect a more accurate depiction of women in today's society.

Kristi Humphreys, an assistant professor in the School of Art, focused her research on how women were portrayed on television throughout the decades.

Humphreys found television shows in the 1960s featured women as more domestic when in reality, how women were portrayed did not match the reality of the amount of housework. Humphreys said one of the reasons a disconnect exists is because many of the shows were written by men.

Gradually over time more men were seen as doing household duties, in shows such as "The Cosby Show" in the 1980s.

Viewers began seeing more of a domestic reality in the 1990s and 2000s in shows like "Roseanne."

For more information on Humphreys' research, visit [here](#).

### **Expert**

Kristi Humphreys, assistant professor, School of Art, College of Visual & Performing Arts, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5756 or [kristi.humphreys@ttu.edu](mailto:kristi.humphreys@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT: John Davis, [john.w.davis@ttu.edu](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Researcher on NCA3: Climate Change Impacts Where Americans Live and Work**

New assessment of national, regional impacts shows challenges ahead for the U.S.

Climate change is visible and occurring throughout the U.S., but the choices we make now will determine the severity of its impacts in the future, according to a Texas Tech University climate scientist who served as a lead author on a report released today by the White House.

Katharine Hayhoe, director of Texas Tech's Climate Science Center who was recently listed on the 2014 TIME 100 most influential people in the world, was one of 300 authors from private, public and academic sectors to contribute to the Third National Climate Assessment (NCA3). The project is a product of the U.S. Global Change Research Program, a consortium of 13 federal departments and agencies overseen by a 60-member federal advisory committee.

Experts view the study as the most comprehensive plain-language to date on what climate change means for the United States. It features 30 chapters and two appendices covering topics including eight U.S. regions, forestry, agriculture and human health.

The report confirms that climate change is affecting every region of the country and key sectors of the U.S. economy and society, underscoring the need to combat the threats climate change presents and increase the preparedness and resilience of American communities.

"Climate change is no longer a future issue," Hayhoe said. "We are experiencing its impacts today. In the Great Plains, rising temperatures are already increasing demand for water. Future increases in temperature and shifts in precipitation patterns will constrain development, stress our natural resources, and increase competition for water among communities, agriculture, energy production, and ecological needs.. For the U.S. as a whole, climate change will affect our lives through its impacts on our health, our water resources, our food, our natural environment and our economy."

Hayhoe served as lead author on the Climate Science Chapter, the Climate Science Appendix and the Commonly Asked Questions Appendix. These discuss how climate is

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

changing, why it's happening and how it affects the United States. She also developed the high-resolution climate projections used in many of the regional and sectoral chapters.

“This report is intended to start conversations around the country about how we can best adapt to coming changes and what we might do to mitigate the worst of the impacts,” Hayhoe said.

Emily Therese Cloyd, public participation and engagement coordinator for the NCA3 said the report is envisioned as an ongoing process that will continue to deliver new, relevant science and information about climate change science, impacts and responses.

“The Third National Climate Assessment report is one part of that process,” she said. “The Global Change Information System is an online resource which houses the NCA3 and will be updated with future National Climate Assessment reports and data.”

The NCA3 is available to [download](#) and can be [explored interactively](#) through the [newly redeployed website](#). In this mobile-compatible site, every piece of the report is shareable, including graphics, key messages, regional highlights, full chapters, and more. The new site features accessible and dynamic [information](#), [topical call-outs](#), [resources](#), and [news](#) about [global change](#) and related Federal [research](#) and [engagement](#) efforts.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Katharine Hayhoe, associate professor and director of the Climate Science Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-8665, or [katharine.hayhoe@ttu.edu](mailto:katharine.hayhoe@ttu.edu)**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 6, 2014

CONTACT: Lauren Kozlovsky, [lauren.kozlovsky@ttu.edu](mailto:lauren.kozlovsky@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's International Honour Society Achieves Highest Standing** The university's Chapter of Golden Key receives Gold Standing.

Texas Tech University's Golden Key International Honour Society chapter recently achieved Gold standing for the 2012-2013 academic school year.

Chapters receiving this standing met requirements by collaborating with other student organizations, participating in or planning service projects, implementing new member events and networking with Golden Key honorary members and alumni. Less than 25 percent of the chapters reached this standing.

Chapter advisors Janet Veal and Heather Medley look forward to the upcoming academic year and they already have made plans to grow the membership, activities and leadership opportunities within the Texas Tech chapter.

"Congratulations to Janet Veal, Heather Medley and the members of the Golden Key International Honour Society on this well deserved recognition," said Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. "Golden Key is a wonderful organization, providing valuable support to our students. We are honored to receive this designation."

Golden Key is the world's largest society with more than two million members and 400 chapters across the U.S. and around the world. Its mission is to unlock the potential of each member by upholding standards of excellence on campus and beyond. The society offer members opportunities, connections and scholarships to support members for them to lead and help others.

"I'm very excited that Golden Key has achieved the Gold Standard for the second year in a row," Veal said. "Achieving the gold standard means the Texas Tech chapter has exhibited leadership, service, and rigorous academic skills that are required by the national chapter."

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Janet Veal, senior academic advisor, Honors College, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1912 or [janet.veal@ttu.edu](mailto:janet.veal@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 7, 2014

CONTACT: Mark Harral, [mark.harral@groupnire.com](mailto:mark.harral@groupnire.com)

(806) 771-7722

### **Texas Tech and Group NIRE Welcome Gamesa to the Reese Technology Center**

Texas Tech University System and Group NIRE welcome Gamesa Technology Corp. Inc., to its research facilities at the Reese Technology Center (RTC) in Lubbock.

Group NIRE and Gamesa Technology Corp., Inc., have completed the installation and commissioning of the first 60Hz G114-2.0 MW wind turbine at the RTC. Erection and commissioning of the prototype were completed mid-March.

The prototype is deployed near Texas Tech University's National Wind Institute's (NWI) field site, which includes a wealth of instrumentation that will enhance collaborative research projects. NWI's cutting edge facilities include a fully instrumented 200-meter meteorological tower, SODAR, a radar profiler, multiple 80-meter instrumented towers and other world renowned facilities.

The NWI has an international reputation for excellence with its 43-year history in studying the wind and its unique educational activities, such as the interdisciplinary bachelor's degree in wind energy and the nation's only doctorate program in wind science and energy.

The project is being implemented in collaboration with Group NIRE whose research facility focuses on testing, certifying and validating the next generation wind turbines and other energy assets. Group NIRE performs all testing in real world environments as part of their research and development partnership with Texas Tech and NWI.

"The Office of Corporate Engagement at Texas Tech is proud to work closely with Group NIRE to attract industry leading companies like Gamesa to West Texas, the top region in North America for wind resources and research expertise," said Russell Thomasson, director of Texas Tech Corporate Engagement and chairman of the National Institute of Renewable Energy (NIRE).

"The construction of the Gamesa G114 2MW wind turbine is an important project for both Group NIRE and Texas Tech University System as we recruit more companies like Gamesa to our energy asset testing and certification facility," said Group NIRE's Chief

Executive Officer Mark Harral. “This is the beginning of a long-term relationship with Gamesa and we welcome them to West Texas.”

The turbine will be used for validation testing, certification testing and future research and development projects. Testing will include safety and functional tests, load measurements and power curve measurements among others. Slated for completion in 2014, Type Certification, a widely accepted industry certificate that is offered to signify a quality product, will soon become the model for doing business in this sector.

The G114-2.0 MW flagship wind turbine is an evolution of Gamesa’s celebrated 2.0-2.5 MW turbine platform, which is widely tested and validated with more than 15 gigawatts installed around the world and can boast average availability of over 98 percent. The model features a swept area 38 percent larger than that of the G97-2.0 MW. This and other improvements enable the turbine to produce 20 percent more energy than its predecessor.

“The proven technology we’ve incorporated into the G114-2.0 MW model places it among the most reliable, efficient and cost-effective wind turbine technologies available today,” said Gonzalo Onzain, vice president of sales and marketing for Gamesa North American.

Validation and Certification of the G114-2.0 MW 60Hz model using prototypes erected here in the U.S. follows the same strategy used by Gamesa for its G90 and G97 models, ensuring that the first machines delivered to North American customers have already been tested and proven to meet North American standards.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: John Schroeder, director, National Wind Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5678, or [john.schroeder@ttu.edu](mailto:john.schroeder@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 7, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Faculty, Alumni Recognized for Influence in Financial Advising** Four Texas Tech faculty members and one alumnus were named to the IA 25.

Texas Tech University's Department of Personal Financial Planning (PFP) in the College of Human Sciences features three faculty members and one alumnus who were all named to the IA 25, a list of the most influential people in and around the financial advising industry. The list was published in the May 2014 issue of *Investment Advisor*.

Included on the list were Professors Harold Evensky, Deena Katz and Michael Finke as well as Caleb Brown, member of the Board of Directors for FPA Dallas-Fort Worth and a Texas Tech alumnus.

"Texas Tech has long been a leader in financial planning education and applied research," said Vickie Hampton, chair of the PFP Department. "Our PFP faculty is committed to working with practitioners and academics across the nation to build the financial planning profession so that it can better serve the public. I am honored to work with these three faculty members who have been recognized as leaders in the profession and to have one of our own graduates also in this esteemed group."

Individuals chosen for the list, which includes Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez and NextGen Founder Michael Kitces, were selected based on their influence in the past and for the likelihood they will influence the markets, how advisors invest and plan retirement for clients, and who will affect the regulatory and legislative environment in which advisors operate.

This is Katz's eighth time to make the list, and together she and her husband, Evensky, have made the list a total of 13 times.

"They've both been influential for years because of their intellectual capital, their early adoption of the fee-only model, their work on getting advisors recognized as a profession, their leadership in advisor associations and their promotion of female advisors," the duo's profile reads. "At a stage in their careers when many advisors might be expected to slow down, Katz and Evensky are instead doubling down on their commitment to the next generation of advisors. Beyond teaching classes and mentoring students at Texas Tech

University, and helping graduates get actual jobs, they're also evangelists for the next generation of planners.”

In the same vein, one of those graduates is paving the way for career changers and students to pursue careers in financial planning.

Brown's career day program focuses on younger talent and career changers, guiding them to career opportunities. He and Kitces founded New Planner Recruiting in 2009 which assists firms with finding and attracting students and qualified young talent.

Brown said that his experience at Texas Tech shaped his career, even though he didn't realize it prior to arriving on campus.

“I immediately recognized the program was different than anything I had ever seen: small, but growing, personalized, intimate, and the reality that the professors were personally vested in my success and I was not just another number on a roster,” Brown said. “These experiences, along with developing some important key contacts, close friends I have to this day, have had substantial impacts on my life and short career thus far.”

Finke's realm of influence rests primarily in his efforts in research, which are helping to make Texas Tech the center in higher education for financial planning. He made headlines last year when he challenged the traditional four percent rule in retirement planning.

Finke's profile reads: “Finke said he and his colleagues' goal is ‘trying to introduce a different way of thinking about building a retirement income plan’ and retirement risk, including the importance of considering ‘partial annuitization,’ responding to changes in the marketplace and how much retirees should spend.”

The profile points out how Finke's research is becoming increasingly important as the baby boomer generation begins to retire.

“To have three of our faculty members and one former student listed on the Investment Advisor's Top 25 is a testament to the quality of Personal Financial Planning faculty and program,” said Linda Hoover, dean of the College of Human Sciences. “Their collective contribution to the field of financial planning is significant, and their commitment to helping to develop the next generation of financial planners is critical to the future of the field. We are very proud of Professors Harold Evensky and Deena Katz, Dr. Michael Finke, and Caleb Brown and congratulate them for this important recognition.”

The full IA 25 list as well as profiles for each individual can be found at <http://www.thinkadvisor.com/2014/04/28/the-ia-25-for-2014>.

*Investment Advisor* is part of the [ThinkAdvisor Network](#), which provides resources and information for the investment advisory community.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Melissa Wofford, director of marketing and communications, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3031, or [melissa.wofford@ttu.edu](mailto:melissa.wofford@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 8, 2014

CONTACT: Jodey Arrington, [jodey.arrington@ttu.edu](mailto:jodey.arrington@ttu.edu)  
806-742-4105

### **Demo Day to Showcase West Texas Start-up Companies**

The [Office of Technology Commercialization](#) at the [Texas Tech University System](#) will host its inaugural [Demo Day](#), showcasing technology start-ups from student teams at Texas Tech and experienced entrepreneurs in the West Texas region.

The event will be held from 3-6 p.m. on Thursday, May 15 at the [Rawls College of Business](#). Jamie Rhodes, founder of the nationally-acclaimed [Central Texas Angel Network](#), will serve as the keynote speaker emphasizing the importance of local investor groups to an innovation economy.

“We are thrilled to showcase the wealth of talented entrepreneurs and researchers at Texas Tech during our first Demo Day,” said [Kent Hance](#), chancellor of Texas Tech University System. “As we continue to enhance research at our universities, it is important to bring these discoveries to the market for the benefit of society as well as Texas Tech.”

Eight companies with products such as medical devices, cancer therapies, software solutions and new engineering technologies will participate in the event. They will have 10 minutes to pitch their business followed by an opportunity to network with the companies. The event will be attended by venture capitalists, angel investors, local business leaders, alumni and other community stakeholders. One student-based venture will win a trip to an entrepreneurial hub such as Austin or Silicon Valley.

“As we expand the technology pipeline at Texas Tech, it is critical that we create linkage to the vast entrepreneurial talent and capital sources in this community,” said Vice Chancellor for Research and Commercialization [Jodey Arrington](#). “The benefits of such a partnership include high tech jobs, opportunities for Texas Tech graduates to stay in Lubbock and developing the next generation of entrepreneurs for West Texas.”

A reception will immediately follow the presentations along with the keynote speech by Rhodes.

Rhodes is co-founder and CEO of National NanoMaterials, which manufactures Graphenol™, a functional form of graphene or thin sheets of carbon. With more than 30 years of experience in technology management, he also is founder of both Central Texas

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

Angel Network and Alliance of Texas Angel Networks, which provide funding and support to Texas entrepreneurs across a broad spectrum of industries. Rhodes holds both a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Texas and has served on advisory boards at St. Edward's University, Texas State University and the University of Texas.

For more information about Demo Day, visit <http://innovatetexastech.com/demoday/>.

### **About the Texas Tech University System**

The Texas Tech University System is one of the top public university systems in the state of Texas, consisting of four component institutions and operating at 12 academic sites and centers. Headquartered in Lubbock, Texas, the TTU System has an annual operating budget of \$1.7 billion and approximately 17,000 employees focused on advancing higher education, health care, research and outreach.

In 2013, the TTU System's endowment passed \$1 billion, total research expenditures were approximately \$200 million and total enrollment exceeded 44,000 students. Whether it's contributing billions of dollars annually in economic impact or being the only system in Texas to house an academic institution, law school, and medical school at the same location, the TTU System continues to prove that anything is possible.

**CONTACT: Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 8, 2014

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

### **Texas Tech Mathematicians Awarded \$645,030 NSF S-STEM Grant** Money funds scholarship program for low-income math majors.

Mathematicians at Texas Tech University recently received a \$645,030 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund a scholarship program for low-income students interested in pursuing a degree in mathematics at Texas Tech and three regional community colleges.

The five-year grant will fund the South Plains Mathematics Fellows (SPMF) program, which will provide scholarships of up to \$10,000 per year to 52 financially disadvantaged students. Texas Tech has partnered with Midland College, Odessa College and Mesalands Community College in Tucumcari, N.M.

Kent Pearce, lead investigator on the grant and chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, said this program is an offshoot of another Texas Tech mathematics scholarship program called the South Plains Mathematics Scholars (SPMS) program. Beginning in 2007 and ending last September, SPMS provided scholarships to 40 students with financial need, more than 70 percent of whom graduated, or are on track to graduate, with a bachelor's degree in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) discipline.

“Partnering with other colleges was designed to separate and distinguish our SPMF proposal from other proposals landing at NSF,” Pearce said. “We wanted to illustrate that this type of partnering with regional colleges could be reproduced at research institutions across the country. Part of the approach represented that this type of effort to coordinate the transition of STEM students from regional colleges to research universities could increase the overall number of students in STEM fields, both by infusing new students in the pipeline and by enhancing the retention of new and existing STEM students.”

Brock Williams and Jerry Dwyer are mathematics professors and co-PI's on the project. Dwyer, also director of the STEM Center for Outreach, Research & Education, said the main idea is to provide scholarships to talented students who have financial need.

“Basically, if a talented student has financial need, they may attend a community college when otherwise they might actually go to a university,” he said. “This program gives

opportunities to people who might not attend a research university because of cost. We specifically look to support mathematics students with financial need.”

The program will begin with eight freshmen at Texas Tech, four from Midland, and two each from Odessa and Mesalands, Dwyer said.

Program students who attend either of the colleges or Texas Tech also will receive mentorship to ensure success in their education, Dwyer said. After the community college students graduate, they will transition to Texas Tech to finish their bachelor’s degrees.

“A key part of it is we will mentor the students, give them support and nurture them through the system,” he said. “At the community colleges, they’ll be mentored there, and the mentors will get them ready to come here. When they come here, we will continue to mentor them for their junior and senior years. A key feature of SPMF is the mentoring component.”

President M. Duane Nellis said it is important universities such as Texas Tech enhance the student pipeline toward STEM disciplines to help address our innovation deficit.

“Student enrollment in STEM programs is a national challenge, but one that is necessary not only for these programs, but also for the future of our country,” he said.

Forrest Kaatz at Mesalands Community College is senior personnel on the grant. He said Mesalands has participated in Texas Tech’s summer Math Camp for the last several years.

“This represents a closer relationship between the institutions,” he said. “Mesalands Community College has a STEM grant which supports math and science tutoring and lead faculty will assist in mentoring students. MCC has significant minority enrollment and many students qualify as those in need, so this grant will assist the nurturing of mathematical talent. We are excited about this new opportunity to assist scholars in STEM disciplines in the region.”

Krista Cohlma, professor and chairwoman of the Department of Mathematics at Odessa College, is a co-PI on the grant. She said SPMF is the first scholarship at Odessa College purely focused on mathematics majors.

“This project allows our students to obtain a great educational foundation at OC and will allow our students to know early in their collegiate education that there is a well-supported path for them beyond Odessa College,” she said. “The support these students receive at the community college, both financial and otherwise, will greatly help these students when they transition to the university.”

Margaret Wade, dean of Mathematics and Science at Midland College, also is a co-PI on the grant. She said collaborating with Texas Tech is of great importance to students and faculty.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

“The ties we have developed help to promote the study of mathematics and to support the students we send forward from Midland College for more advanced degrees,” Wade said. “This grant will enable us to support students financially and educationally as they pursue their goals.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Kent Pearce, professor and chairman, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2566 or [kent.pearce@ttu.edu](mailto:kent.pearce@ttu.edu); Jerry Dwyer, professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2566 or [jerry.dwyer@ttu.edu](mailto:jerry.dwyer@ttu.edu); Brock Williams, professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2566 or [brock.williams@ttu.edu](mailto:brock.williams@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 9, 2014

CONTACT: John W. Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

**Texas Tech To Announce New Model for Research**

WHAT: News conference

WHEN: 2 p.m. Monday (May 12)

WHERE: Room 120 of the Experimental Sciences Building, located at Eighth Street and Canton Avenue. Once on Canton Avenue, drive south and use the R-2 Parking Lot.

EVENT: Officials at Texas Tech University will announce an innovative new approach to allow businesses access to university expertise and research talent to solve business problems.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Chris Cook, director, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, or chris.cook@ttu.edu.**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 10, 2014

CONTACT: K'Leigh Bedingfield, kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's Chess Program Makes History with National Awards**

Red Raiders named Chess College of the Year,  
And their coach named Grandmaster of the Year.

Texas Tech University made history by being named Chess College of the Year by [The United States Chess Federation](#), along with the program's head coach [Alex Onischuk](#) being named Grandmaster of the Year.

"No college program has ever in history won both of these awards in the same year," Texas Tech's Chess Program Director Al Lawrence said. "Being chosen as Chess College of the Year by The United States Chess Federation is a wonderful recognition of Texas Tech's achievements."

Texas Tech's nationally recognized chess program was nominated for the award due to its skillful players and its outreach in the Lubbock and campus communities.

"Outreach for the chess program and the Knight Raiders, Texas Tech's chess club, is our number one priority. We're committed to sharing the many benefits of chess—and the fun," Lawrence said. "The Lubbock community and Texas Tech students have a rare resource: some of the top chess players in the world."

Top chess players in the world include Onischuk, ranked as one of the top 100 players in the world for the past 18 years. Onischuk began playing chess when he was 6 years old and continues to play while he trains students in the program.

"In chess, winning Grandmaster of the Year is a bit like a journalist winning the Pulitzer," Lawrence said. "Coach Alex had an incredible year competitively, while at the same time, devoting his full time to Texas Tech's team."

Lawrence and Onischuk came to Texas Tech two years ago and helped the team advance to the Final Four of College Chess tournament this year.

"Despite the challenges of having to reconstitute our chess program, we have done so with great care, integrity, and effectiveness," said [Juan Muñoz](#), senior vice president for Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement and vice provost for

Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs. “This award acknowledges that Texas Tech University will remain a formidable presence in collegiate chess for the foreseeable future. We are so very proud of this recognition, and of the members of the Texas Tech Chess program that have so aptly earned it.”

Onischuk said both awards are great recognition for the program.

“We are honored to get these awards,” he said. “Our students come from all over the world, and I get to learn so many new things from my students every day. They all work hard on chess, and I’m glad that they all have improved individually during the last two years.”

The program will receive the awards at the U.S. Open Chess Championship in Orlando, Florida, this August.

“I congratulate the chess program and coach Alex for these national honors that bring great distinction to Texas Tech University,” President [M. Duane Nellis](#) said. “Our chess program provides another avenue to recruit some of the brightest, hard-working students to Texas Tech, so their success and commitment is important in helping us become a top-tier university.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Al Lawrence, program director, Chess Program, Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity, & Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0997 or [al.lawrence@ttu.edu](mailto:al.lawrence@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Web Only

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 12, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement**

Thousands of students will graduate Friday and Saturday (May 16-17) during five Texas Tech University commencement ceremonies at the United Spirit Arena.

Commencement exercises for the College of Arts & Sciences begin at 3 p.m. Friday. The Graduate School will follow at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, the Rawls College of Business, Honors College, College of Media and Communication, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Wind Energy and the Office of the Provost (B.A. University Studies) will begin their ceremony at 9 a.m. The Colleges of Architecture, Education, Engineering, Human Sciences and Visual and Performing Arts will begin commencement exercises at 1:30 p.m. The School of Law will wrap up the weekend with its hooding ceremony at 6 p.m.

All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena (18<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue).

Chancellor Emeritus Kent R. Hance will speak at Friday and Saturday's ceremonies while Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott will speak at the Law School hooding ceremony.

#### **About Kent R. Hance**

Hance became chancellor of the Texas Tech University System in December 2006, which was comprised of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Since then, the System has doubled in size, growing from two universities to four with the addition of Angelo State University and creation of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso.

Under Hance's leadership, the TTU System has set records in enrollment, research and degrees awarded. Hance, who announced his retirement for later in 2014, completed a billion-dollar capital campaign nearly a year early.

He is a former Texas state senator, Texas Railroad Commission chairman and U.S. congressman. In 1981, Hance authored President Reagan's tax bill, which remains the largest tax cut in American history. As a congressman, Hance served on the Ways & Means, Agriculture and Science & Technology Committees.

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

Before his political career, Hance was a faculty member at Texas Tech University for five years. In 1973, Hance was recognized as an Outstanding Professor. Additionally, he has taught a leadership seminar class while serving as chancellor and will continue to teach this course as chancellor emeritus.

He is a founding partner of his Austin-based law firm, Hance Scarborough, LLP. A native of Dimmitt, Hance received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Texas Tech University in 1965 and his law degree from the University of Texas in 1968.

### **About Greg Abbott**

Attorney General Abbott oversees more than 700 attorneys who represent the State of Texas. He personally has appeared in courtrooms around the state and obtained indictments against criminals charged with offenses ranging from attempted aggravated assault of a child to capital murder.

His public service career began in Houston as a state trial judge in the 129<sup>th</sup> District Court. In 1995, then-Gov. George W. Bush appointed Abbott to the Texas Supreme Court. Twice elected to the Texas Supreme Court, Abbott earned numerous awards, including “Jurist of the Year” from the Texas Review of Law & Politics and Appellate Specialists; and “Appellate Judge of the Year” from the Texas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Attorney General Abbott has held leadership positions in numerous community organizations and served as the Honorary State Chairman of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Texas in 2004.

A native Texan, Attorney General Abbott graduated with a B.B.A. in Finance from the University of Texas and received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University, after attending Texas Tech University School of Law his first year. Shortly after graduating from law school, he was partially paralyzed by a falling tree while jogging. He and his wife Cecilia have been married for 32 years and live in Austin with their daughter, Audrey.

### **Additional Information**

Ceremonies can be viewed online at [www commencement.ttu.edu/livestream](http://www commencement.ttu.edu/livestream).

Jones AT&T stadium will be open for graduates to take photos with family members and friends from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Friday. Graduates may enter through the top of home tunnel on the southwest side by Gate 1. Graduates and their visitors can park in the C1 lot west of the stadium.

For more information about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

**CONTACT: Peggy Flores, commencement coordinator, Texas Tech University  
Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, (806) 742-7742  
or [peggy.flores@ttu.edu](mailto:peggy.flores@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*



# Web Only

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 12, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Receives Top Marks for Online Programs**

The university was ranked 45<sup>th</sup> out of top 100 by BestColleges.com.

Texas Tech University recently was ranked No. 45 among four-year universities for the “100 Best Online Colleges for the 2014 Academic Year” by BestColleges.com.

“This is a wonderful recognition of our online presence,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “Moving forward, as we continue to build our online property, it’s important to remember we have a firm, successful foundation already in place. Texas Tech University will continue to enhance its online offerings and actively recruit and encourage students, both traditional and non-traditional, to pursue one of our many online degree programs.”

Schools considered for the ranking consist of universities that offer at least one fully online degree, according to the website. Schools’ acceptance, retention, graduation and enrollment rates were each considered as data points for the ranking.

“[Texas Tech Online & Distance Learning](#) allows students to earn web-based bachelor’s degree programs in general studies, horticulture/turfgrass science, multidisciplinary studies, and university studies,” the profile reads. “14 master’s degrees, concentrated in agriculture, education, engineering, and science, and seven doctoral degrees (five online, two blended) are also available. Additionally, Texas Tech offers 13 online graduate certificates in fields such as autism, fibers and biopolymers, gerontology, and wind energy.”

Melanie Hart, vice provost for online and distance learning said this accomplishment is a sign of things to come from Texas Tech.

“This is an exciting recognition for Texas Tech,” she said. “It indicates that Texas Tech is among the leaders in the nation for online educational opportunities. Although being in the top 50 is good, we have a number of plans in various stages of development that will hopefully allow us to move up on this and other lists in the very near future.”

Texas Tech is one of only two Texas schools listed in the top 50.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 13, 2014

CONTACT: Jaryn Jones Kilmer, [jaryn.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:jaryn.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

**TECHcelerator Demo Day to Showcase West Texas Start-up Companies**

- WHAT:** The [Office of Technology Commercialization](#) at the [Texas Tech University System](#) will host its first annual TECHcelerator [Demo Day](#), showcasing innovation start-ups from Texas Tech and the West Texas region.
- WHEN:** 3-6 p.m., Thursday (May 15)
- WHERE:** Rawls College of Business  
703 Flint Ave.  
Texas Tech University
- EVENT:** Student and professional entrepreneurs who participated in the four-month TECHcelerator program will present their business in the style of the reality television show, *Shark Tank*. Eight companies with products such as medical devices, cancer therapies, software solutions and new engineering technologies will participate in the event. Prizes will be awarded, and Jamie Rhodes, CEO of National NanoMaterials, will serve as the keynote speaker during the reception immediately following the presentations.

The event will be attended by venture capitalists, angel investors, local business leaders, alumni and other community stakeholders, as well as Texas Tech University System leadership.

**CONTACT: Jodey Arrington, vice chancellor for research & commercialization, Office of Research & Commercialization, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-4105, [jodey.arrington@ttu.edu](mailto:jodey.arrington@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 13, 2014

CONTACT: Megan Ketterer, [megan.ketterer@ttu.edu](mailto:megan.ketterer@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Vice Provost Coauthors Paris Book Festival Award**

A timely look at solutions for managing operations in difficult international environments won this year's Paris Book Festival award for non-fiction. Texas Tech University Vice Provost Tibor Nagy teamed with a colleague to write, "Managing Overseas Operations: Kiss Your Latte Goodbye."

Ambassador Nagy, Texas Tech vice provost for international affairs, and Ambassador Gregory Engle, Peace Corps director for Ethiopia, coauthored the volume, which gives practical advice to managers to prepare them for working in international environments. The two are friends for decades and both spent much of their careers as diplomats in a variety of places across the world.

"Managing Overseas Operations: Kiss Your Latte Goodbye" discusses what to look for when you're going abroad.

"Topics include how to establish operations, cultural and practical factors to get work done effectively, and then how to respond when bad things happen," Nagy said.

The nonfiction book is written for businesses, business classes, nongovernmental organizations, mission organizations and nonprofits sending people for the first time to developing countries across the world.

Nagy and Engle use their real world experience to provide anecdotes throughout the book. The book is organized to resemble one day's worth of meetings where the two colleagues alternate briefing the outgoing manager. Each chapter looks at a possible scenario for overseas, provides anecdotes and then outlines principles guiding managers toward successful outcomes in different cultures.

The book received the award for nonfiction by the Paris Book Festival, a competition where submitted works are judged by a panel of publishing industry experts looking for authors' passion for telling a story and the potential for the work to gain a worldwide audience.

The award ceremony is May 27 in Paris.

Office of Communications and Marketing

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Tibor Nagy, vice provost for international affairs, Office of the Provost, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0128 or [tibor.nagy@ttu.edu](mailto:tibor.nagy@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 13, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Top Graduate Juggles Family, Life and School**

Ivanka Boling, a single mother and nontraditional student, will graduate top of her class.

Ivanka Boling will graduate from the College of Human Sciences on Saturday with a 4.0 GPA. However, her journey to academic success at Texas Tech University had more distractions than many of her classmates.

Boling is a single mother of two and a non-traditional student. She immigrated from Bulgaria to the United States in 2000 and moved to Lubbock with her family in 2007. In 2010, the same year she became an American citizen, she said she felt compelled to return to school to earn her Bachelor's degree.

Although Boling attended a university in Bulgaria, most of her coursework did not transfer and she had to begin from scratch as an family and consumer science education (FCSE) major in the College of Human Sciences.

Despite caring for two children by herself and working part-time for a law firm, Boling graduated in four years and is just one of eight students in Human Sciences and the only one in her program with a 4.0.

Barbara N. Allison, associate professor in FCSE, said Boling is a role model.

"Ivanka is a remarkable young lady who aspired to be a family and consumer science teacher early on in her college program," Allison said. "Faced with many challenges as a single mother, she has successfully balanced family life with academic work and employment responsibilities to enable her to be a devoted mom and at the same time, an exemplary student."

Even though Boling said she has no regrets, her experience hasn't been easy.

"Deciding to go back to school was a huge decision for me, because of where I was in my life four years ago," Boling said. "My children had to learn how to be independent, and I had to balance everything with what time I had in my day."

She said Tyler, 11, and Emma, 7, helped their mother by independently taking care of their own homework and with housework and while Boling completed schoolwork.

In contrast to her professors in Bulgaria, Boling said she initially was overwhelmed by the help and support Texas Tech professors and academic advising staff provided.

“Loved every one of my professors,” Boling said. “They were all very helpful. During one semester when my kids were sick often, my professors were so understanding about missing class and making up assignments. I even brought my children to a test once!”

She said online coursework helped open her schedule a bit.

“I took at least one class per semester online,” Boling said. “I was able to work. If not for the online classes, I couldn’t have made it, financially.”

Prior to beginning at Texas Tech, Boling ran a small business where she created prom and formal wear. People often asked her how to sew, which prompted her interest in family and consumer sciences (FCS).

As a single mother juggling schoolwork and a job, she said the skills she will teach are reflective of the many tasks she does every day.

“Financial planning, sewing, nutrition: these are very important skills for life,” Boling said. “In our schools today, academics are highly emphasized but students don’t necessarily know how to balance everything. Life skills are so important for them to learn so that they can really understand the academic lessons. I think that’s what our program really helps students see—the application of their studies.”

Roxie V. Godfrey, assistant professor in FCSE and one of Boling’s professors, has no doubts about her future success as an educator.

“I had the opportunity of being Ivanka’s student-teaching supervisor and observed her passion for teaching,” Godfrey said. “Her lessons were creative and well-organized, her classroom inviting and her relationship with students approachable. Because of Ivanka’s unique background, she was sensitive to the needs of her students whether they were cultural, physical or emotional. Ivanka’s future students will be lucky to have her as their FCS teacher.”

Karen L. Alexander, program director for FCSE, had similar thoughts.

“As a faculty member, it’s exciting when you have a student who really understands the content of your course and sees all of the possibilities of applying teaching and learning concepts in her own classroom,” Alexander said of Boling. “She’s been a very positive role model for other students in our program.”



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Although her studies are finished, Boling will walk in Saturday's commencement ceremony and be recognized in the program as one of the college's top students.

Come August, Boling will become an FCS teacher for middle school here in Lubbock. Ultimately, she plans to return to school at some point to obtain a master's degree.

"Ivanka is a very focused and determined individual who has set high standards for herself," Allison said. "Her hard work and accomplishments are to be commended. She is a role model for other students and is respected by her professors. I, for one, am extremely happy for her as she heads toward a bright and promising future filled with many exciting opportunities."



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement Schedule

- WHAT:** Texas Tech University hosts spring graduation and law school hooding ceremonies.
- WHEN:**
- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Friday (May 16):   | <b>3 p.m.</b> College of Arts and Sciences<br><b>7 p.m.</b> Graduate School   |
| Saturday (May 17): | <b>9 a.m.</b> Rawls College of Business, Honors College, College of Media and Communication, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Wind Energy and the Office of the Provost (B.A. University Studies)<br><b>1:30 p.m.</b> College of Architecture, College of Education, College of Engineering, College of Human Sciences and College of Visual and Performing Arts<br><b>6 p.m.</b> School of Law hooding ceremony |
- WHERE:** All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena at 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue.
- EVENT:** Chancellor Kent R. Hance will speak at Friday and Saturday's ceremonies while Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott will speak at the Law School hooding ceremony.

Ceremonies can be viewed online at <http://www.ttu.edu/livestream>.

For more about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [www.media.ttu.edu](http://www.media.ttu.edu) and on Twitter @TexasTechMedia.

**CONTACT: Peggy Flores, commencement coordinator, Texas Tech University Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, (806) 742-7742 or [peggy.flores@ttu.edu](mailto:peggy.flores@ttu.edu).**

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 14, 2014

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

## **TTU System Regents to Meet May 15-16**

The Texas Tech University System [Board of Regents](#) will meet Thursday and Friday, May 15-16, in Lubbock, Texas. The meeting will be held on the [Texas Tech University](#) campus in the Matador Room (Room 227) in the Student Union Building, 15<sup>th</sup> St. and Akron Ave.

The agenda book, meeting materials and a link to the live webcast for the meeting are posted [online](#). Parking for news media is available in the R07 lot in between the Student Union Building and Administration Building.

Provided below is an abbreviated board agenda with approximate times and some highlighted items.

### **Thursday, May 15**

10 a.m. – Meeting of the Board

- Report from Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board Commissioner Raymund Paredes, Ph.D.

10:30 a.m. or TBD – Recess

10:30 a.m. – Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Carr Scholarship Foundation

10:45 a.m. – Finance and Administration Committee

10:55 a.m. – Academic, Clinical and Student Affairs Committee

- Consideration of a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in civil engineering to be offered at [Angelo State University](#)
- Consideration of creating the Department of Teacher Education in the [College of Education](#) at Texas Tech University
- Consideration of emeritus appointments at [Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center](#)

11:20 a.m. – Audit Committee

1:40 p.m. – Facilities Committee

- Consideration of a project to construct a new office building for the TTU System

2:45 p.m. or TBD – Meeting of the Board in open session

2:45 p.m. or TBD – Recess to executive session

5 p.m. – Meeting of the Board in open session, adjourn

### **Friday, May 16**

8:30 a.m. – Meeting of the Board of Regents in open session

- Chancellor [Kent Hance](#) to introduce first students in [Top Scholars program](#) attending Texas Tech University who received perfect scores on the SAT and ACT

9:30 a.m. – Recess to executive session

12:30 p.m. – Meeting of the Board in open session, adjourn

### **About the Texas Tech University System**

The Texas Tech University System is one of the top public university systems in the state of Texas, consisting of four component institutions and operating at 12 academic sites and centers. Headquartered in Lubbock, Texas, the TTU System has an annual operating budget of \$1.7 billion and approximately 17,000 employees focused on advancing higher education, health care, research and outreach.

In 2013, the TTU System's endowment passed \$1 billion, total research expenditures were approximately \$200 million and total enrollment exceeded 44,000 students. Whether it's contributing billions of dollars annually in economic impact or being the only system in Texas to house an academic institution, law school, and medical school at the same location, the TTU System continues to prove that anything is possible.

**CONTACT: Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, or [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 15, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Graduate Inspired to Give Back, Leave Legacy**

Saba Nafees graduates this weekend, but Texas Tech holds a special place in her heart.

Despite graduating in three short years, Saba Nafees leaves a legacy for her time as an Honors College student.

Nafees, who emigrated to the U.S. with her family from Pakistan in 2004, said that Texas Tech University was where she was meant to be.

“My experience here has been nothing short of phenomenal,” she said. “I know that your college education is really what you put into it; that’s the case with anything you put your passions toward. But here at Texas Tech I have had professors who are at the top of their field. Not only has the academic experience been amazing, but everyone here is so friendly and down-to-earth.”

Before coming to Texas Tech, Nafees lived with her family in the Dallas area. She said she chose Texas Tech over the University of Texas and Texas A&M. As an Honors College student, she received a freshman grant that provided her full first-year tuition. Since 2011, she has been involved at many different levels in the Honors College and with the university in general.

As an undergraduate research student in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) at Texas Tech (part of the Center for the Integration of STEM Education & Research), Nafees pursued research in mathematical biology, which combines her love of medicine and mathematics.

“I am the ultimate nerd,” she said.

Nafees will graduate with a bachelor’s degree in mathematics, and will continue her graduate studies at Texas Tech before applying to medical school. In addition to undergraduate research and coursework, Nafees is involved with Student Government Association and founded the Mathematics Ambassador program, which recruits high school students interested in studying math to Texas Tech.

In February, Nafees spoke at the inaugural TEDxTexasTechUniversity conference. Her presentation, "[A romantic country woman.](#)" focused on her experience as a student in Pakistan and the U.S.

Initially approached about the TEDx conference by Cathy Duran, assistant vice provost for student affairs; and Aliza Wong, associate professor in the Department of History, Nafees said she was reluctant about speaking and didn't think she had a story to tell. Duran and Wong, however, thought differently.

"It has been a privilege getting to know Saba – she is truly an exceptional person, who cares so much for other people and the state of the world," Duran said. "I have learned so much from her, and I know others have too. She is so smart and hardworking, and always puts the needs of others before thinking of herself. She is an inspiring speaker: demonstrating courage and passion, and encouraging everyone to broaden their perspectives."

Nafees said the TEDx experience brought her recognition and opportunities that still surprise her months later.

"It seems like maybe I was supposed to do that," Nafees said. "It was a life changing event. Many people have come up to me or reached out and offered to help with the immigration process. I thought that was really precious."

Looking back on her time in Pakistan, Nafees said it is sometimes difficult to reconcile her experiences with the current state of the country. She said her education there, which was very intense, stood in stark contrast to the education of many children her age living in poverty and destitution.

"I don't think that even today I fully realize the extent to which things are going badly in my country and across the globe," Nafees said. "I thought that coming to America would end all the problems, and I would forget all the poverty-stricken people back home, but thanks to education system here they have helped me open my eyes to what's going on across the globe."

Nafees is driven by a motivation to make things better—both in Pakistan and everywhere she can.

"The way I look at it is that I have the utmost hope that one day things will become better," she said. "At least I can help by working hard, taking the opportunities that I have been given to me here at Texas Tech and in this country to move forward and do the best I can for America and for Pakistan and even beyond. Hopefully people like me will follow and I can learn from people that are already helping. We can all provide some hope for the future, because it does seem bad right now, actually."



As part of her experience with HHMI, Nafees will travel to Haiti and Guatemala with Texas Tech alumnus Dr. Gary Fish, who completes medical mission trips to impoverished areas.

Although she has yet to return to Pakistan, Nafees said her goal is to return and give back to her mother country.

“It’s important not to forget your roots and your heritage,” Nafees said. “I think America is a land of immigrants. It’s true that for many a lot of time has passed to the point where they don’t remember or know their countries of heritage. For me, at least, it’s still quite new.”

Nafees said the journey through her undergraduate career has been incredible. Like Duran, Honors College Dean Michael San Francisco said Nafees leaves a lasting impression at Texas Tech.

“Saba is a shining example of a gracious, thoughtful, caring and intelligent person,” San Francisco said. “She has a positive attitude that transcends the ordinary. Her ability to face challenges with grace, and work toward solutions, is an inspiration to me.”

Nafees speaks just as highly of her mentors as they do of her.

“Graduating hasn’t quite hit me yet, but I just have such a tremendous amount of gratitude for Texas Tech and for everyone here,” Nafees said. “I don’t know what I would do without the administration, faculty and staff here. Even if their title is ‘president’ or ‘vice-president,’ they are my mentors and they inspire me. Without them I wouldn’t have made it this far.”

Nafees said she would like to create a scholarship fund one day to encourage students like herself to pursue their education at Texas Tech.

“I have survived on scholarship money this entire time,” Nafees said. “It’s thanks to those donors who keep giving back that I can have an education. I want to be like them.”

Nafees will continue to be Texas Tech’s biggest cheerleader as she continues on with her master’s degree. She will begin the medical school admissions process this year, and she hopes to pursue an M.D./Ph.D.

“My thoughts are just gratitude and honor that I’ve had the chance to be here at Texas Tech,” Nafees said. “Texas Tech continues onward its journey to even more success. Now we’re getting toward that goal faster than ever.”



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 15, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **In Memory of Ophelia Powell-Malone, Texas Tech's First African-American Graduate**

Ophelia Powell-Malone graduated 50 years ago, but her legacy lives on.

In the spring of 1964, Ophelia Powell-Malone received her degree from Texas Tech University. None of her fellow graduates looked like her, but on that day Ophelia blazed a trail.

Ophelia was the first African-American to receive a baccalaureate from Texas Tech. She received a degree in home economics with a concentration in home nursing and health care.

“She was independent, and when her mind was made up, her mind was made up,” Maurice Powell said of his late sister. “She truly believed that anyone can make anything of themselves if they want to succeed. She wanted to prove to others that if she could graduate in spite of her conditions, then anyone can.”

Texas Tech became integrated in 1961 after several federal court cases ruled students could not be denied admission on the basis of their race. Despite resistance—a Daily Toreador article from February 1955 reports that during a student debate, 35 percent of the student/faculty audience was against integration—the Texas Tech Board of Directors voted to consider all applicants to the university equally.

“The number of those who will not object [to integration] is likely to be far greater than one might think,” Avalanche-Journal columnist Chas. A. Guy stated at the time. “Most people—including some of those who are the hottest against all forms of integration—realize that it already has come in many places, including much of Texas, and that before long, it will be universal. In short, butting one’s head against a brick wall in this, as well as in other incidences, is never an inviting activity.”

Maurice said his family, along with supportive administrators, faculty and students, helped to make his sister’s dream possible.

Ophelia wanted to be a nurse all her life. Maurice recalled one day during his childhood when his sister came back to the family home in Littlefield from Texas Tech in her white nurse's uniform.

"I am a nurse and they cannot take that away from me," she said. "I'm going to show it everywhere I go. I am a nurse."

Ophelia was born near Austin in 1931. She graduated from Anderson High School and studied at Huston-Tillotson College before transferring to Texas Tech. Upon graduation from Texas Tech, she worked in Coldspring and Hobbs, N.M., in the public schools, at Langston University as a dietician, and in nursing homes in Houston and Lubbock.

Ophelia had one son, Leslie K. Malone. She passed away Sept. 2, 1979, at the age of 48, but her legacy lives on.

The Lauro Cavazos & Ophelia Powell-Malone Mentoring Program (Mentor Tech) is named in part for Ophelia. Cory Powell (who is not related to the Ophelia Powell-Malone family) is the co-founder and director of the program as well as a Texas Tech alumnus. He said Ophelia's impact on students in the program as well as the university cannot be overstated.

"It is important that we recognize that we owe Ophelia Powell-Malone for proving that it was possible for people like me—a first-generation college student and African-American coming from an urban background—to graduate from college and succeed in my career," Cory said. "There were no services like Mentor Tech when she was here, but she made it. We can now help students traverse the path that must have been so scary for her."

Mentor Tech seeks to enhance the quality of the educational experience of students from underrepresented populations through programs, services, advocacy, and campus and community involvement. The program pairs students with faculty and staff members to assist them in their academic, social and cultural adjustments to Texas Tech.

More than 2,100 students have been served through the program. In the last eight years, nearly 800 Mentor Tech participants have graduated from Texas Tech and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The program's participating student average retention rate (86 percent) is higher than the university's overall rate, and the program has awarded close to \$100,000 in scholarships since its inception.

Cory said Ophelia's older brother William donated the first funds to establish scholarships for Texas Tech students in honor of his sister. Although William passed away last year, his son Darrell said Ophelia would be incredibly happy and proud to see Mentor Tech flourishing.

"To have a program like this, certainly, is not just a step but a leap forward in progress, ensuring that students not only get in but that they get in and graduate with a sense of



purpose and service not only to their community and to their nation,” Darrell said. “Ultimately, that is the direction of the program and it’s what my parents and aunt did with their lives.”

Darrell said his parents, William and Doris, believed in education: William ultimately served as dean of students at Jarvis Christian College in Hawkins after a long career in science education, and Doris served as a school counselor for Houston, Lubbock, Nacogdoches and Levelland school districts. Doris followed Ophelia as one of the first African-American graduates from Texas Tech when she received a master’s degree in education. She passed away in 2010.

“My mother took the tools that she learned at Texas Tech and used that to go into the homes of students and help counsel them and steer them on a path to excellence by encouraging them to remain in school and stay focused on education,” Darrell said. “She would not have had that opportunity if it weren’t for Texas Tech and for the opportunity that Ophelia helped create. I am profoundly grateful.”

Today, Texas Tech has increased its recruitment and retention of underrepresented students through programs like Mentor Tech. In 2012, the [Education Trust published a study](#) that analyzed college enrollment data from 2004-2010. Texas Tech was recognized for closing the graduation gap between Hispanic and white students, and was ranked ninth in the “Top 25 Gainers in Black Student Graduation Rates among Public Institutions, 2004-2010,” increasing its graduation rate among African-Americans by more than 18 percentage points.

President M. Duane Nellis said Ophelia’s success paved the way for progress at Texas Tech.

“We have pride for each and every one of our graduates,” Nellis said. “Ophelia Powell-Malone, through her efforts and successes both as a student and in her career, serves as a shining example that from here, it’s possible.”

Darrell said that in terms of diversity in higher education, the education system still has ways to go. In spite of this, he said Ophelia would be pleased that programs like Mentor Tech exist to help students overcome difficulties like she encountered in her education.

“If she were alive today, I think Ophelia would be profoundly honored that the university has made efforts for students of all colors to succeed, especially through Mentor Tech,” Darrell said. “My aunt would certainly recognize that when she was going to school that opportunity would not have necessarily have been there for her, although there were certainly people who helped and encouraged her along the way.”

“Mentors can play a significant role in students’ success or failure because often they are driven by sheer willpower as well as their intellectual capabilities. Sometimes students fall by the wayside simply because personal issues begin to interfere with their academic life. The fact that Mentor Tech is there and able to help students navigate issues, remain

calm and understand they aren't facing issues alone is an indication that the university has made great strides in providing assistance to students of color and to all students."

For Cory, who has grown close to Ophelia's family throughout the years, remembering her not only helps to recognize Texas Tech's past, but also gives students today an example for how to go forward in their lives.

"I feel very blessed to have known people who could tell me what things were like for African-Americans before my time at Texas Tech, to have my own experiences, and to be able to contribute to the students today and for future generations by making things better for them," Cory said. "I am hopeful that students today can learn and lead by Ophelia's example."



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Expert Pitch

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 15, 2014

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

## **Pop-culture Expert: Godzilla Roars Back to Theaters**

### **Pitch**

The movie “Godzilla” is set to make its world-wide debut this weekend, as a reboot of the science fiction monster film franchise of the same name.

Texas Tech pop-culture expert Rob Weiner says it is the latest film in the young adult genre, of which most have a common theme.

### **Expert**

Rob Weiner, associate librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 834-5126 office, (806) 780-8775 mobile, or [rob.weiner@ttu.edu](mailto:rob.weiner@ttu.edu).

### **Quotes**

- “The first film is often seen as the Japanese response to the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the testing of the H-bomb. Therefore Godzilla is often seen as a metaphor for dealing with our fears of atomic power.”
- “The 1954 Godzilla film was inspired in part by a 1952 successful re-release of the 1933 King Kong and the 1953 Beast of 50,000 Fathoms.”
- “Due to bad dubbing and changing tastes, Godzilla films became campy. However, it was never looked down upon in Japan. It was part of their culture.”
- “The process of wearing monster suits is sometimes referred to as suitmation and is an art-form in and of itself.”
- “Throughout his film career, Godzilla has worn a number of hats, from villain and a creature of terrible destruction - to hero and friend to children.”



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 15, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, callie.jones@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Celebrates Spring Commencement**

Thousands of students will graduate Friday and Saturday (May 16-17) during five Texas Tech University commencement ceremonies at the United Spirit Arena.

Commencement exercises for the College of Arts & Sciences begin at 3 p.m. Friday. The Graduate School follows at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, the Rawls College of Business, Honors College, College of Media and Communication, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Wind Energy and the Office of the Provost (B.A. University Studies) will begin their ceremony at 9 a.m. The Colleges of Architecture, Education, Engineering, Human Sciences and Visual and Performing Arts will begin commencement exercises at 1:30 p.m. The School of Law will wrap up the weekend with its hooding ceremony at 6 p.m.

All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena (18<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue).

Chancellor Kent R. Hance will speak at Friday and Saturday's ceremonies while Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott will speak at the Law School hooding ceremony.

#### **About Kent R. Hance**

Hance became chancellor of the Texas Tech University System in December 2006, which was comprised of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Since then, the System has doubled in size, growing from two universities to four with the addition of Angelo State University and creation of Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso.

Under Hance's leadership, the TTU System has set records in enrollment, research and degrees awarded. Hance, who announced his retirement for later in 2014, completed a billion-dollar capital campaign nearly a year early.

He is a former Texas state senator, Texas Railroad Commission chairman and U.S. congressman. In 1981, Hance authored President Reagan's tax bill, which remains the largest tax cut in American history. As a congressman, Hance served on the Ways & Means, Agriculture and Science & Technology Committees.

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

Before his political career, Hance was a faculty member at Texas Tech University for five years. In 1973, Hance was recognized as an Outstanding Professor. Additionally, he has taught a leadership seminar class while serving as chancellor and will continue to teach this course as chancellor emeritus.

He is a founding partner of his Austin-based law firm, Hance Scarborough, LLP. A native of Dimmitt, Hance received his Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from Texas Tech University in 1965 and his law degree from the University of Texas in 1968.

### **About Greg Abbott**

Attorney General Abbott oversees more than 700 attorneys who represent the State of Texas. He personally has appeared in courtrooms around the state and obtained indictments against criminals charged with offenses ranging from attempted aggravated assault of a child to capital murder.

His public service career began in Houston as a state trial judge in the 129<sup>th</sup> District Court. In 1995, then-Gov. George W. Bush appointed Abbott to the Texas Supreme Court. Twice elected to the Texas Supreme Court, Abbott earned numerous awards, including “Jurist of the Year” from the Texas Review of Law & Politics and Appellate Specialists; and “Appellate Judge of the Year” from the Texas Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Attorney General Abbott has held leadership positions in numerous community organizations and served as the Honorary State Chairman of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Texas in 2004.

A native Texan, Attorney General Abbott graduated with a B.B.A. in Finance from the University of Texas and received his J.D. from Vanderbilt University, after attending Texas Tech University School of Law his first year. Shortly after graduating from law school, he was partially paralyzed by a falling tree while jogging. He and his wife Cecilia have been married for 32 years and live in Austin with their daughter, Audrey.

### **Honored students**

Outstanding students, selected based on all-around achievement, will carry banners representing their respective colleges.

The following students are banner bearers:

Layne Brice Norton, an agricultural and applied economics major from Carlesbad, N.M., College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources; Tate Brailen Hill, an architecture major from Borger, College of Architecture; Sarah Marie Riegler, a history major from Katy, College of Arts & Sciences; Weston Oliver Williams, a finance major from The Colony, Rawls College of Business; Tiffany D. Neal, a multidisciplinary studies major from Waxahachie, College of Education; Jay Nunley, a chemical engineering major from Joshua, Whitacre College of Engineering; Miryam Doris Venegas Anaya, a biology doctoral student from Panama City, Republic of Panama, Graduate School; Suzanne Alkul, a biochemistry major from Lubbock, Clara Bush, an environment and the humanities major from Celina, and Cord Scorgie, a mechanical engineering and math major from



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Lubbock, Honors College; Megan Renee Falconer, an early childhood major from Carrollton, and Cynthia Renee Sacco, a nutrition major from Fort Worth, College of Human Sciences; Alicia Rose Keene, a journalism major from Austin, College of Media & Communication; Ethan Gary Rowell, a university studies major from Waco, University Studies; and Catherine Anne Swindle, a music performance major from Lubbock, College of Visual & Performing Arts.

The highest ranking fall graduates for each college include:

- College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources: Keith Eugene Frazer, a horticultural and turfgrass sciences major from Cottage Grove, Minn.; Layne Brice Norton, an agricultural and applied economics major from Carlsbad, N.M. and Taylor Renee Powell, an animal sciences major from Henrietta.
- College of Architecture: Tate Brailen Hill, an architecture major from Borger.
- College of Arts & Sciences: Dhruv Gajendra-Desai Bhakta, a biochemistry from Houston; Nikolajs Konstantins Birze, a cell and molecular biology major from Denton; Jonathan Michael Clark, a physics major from Dumas; Crosby Mitchell Culp, a general studies major from Lubbock; Sydney Marie Dunnam, a psychology major from Monahans; Camille Louise Gavin, an exercise and sport sciences major from Albuquerque, N.M.; Hayley Marie Guzman, a psychology major from Kingwood; Stephanie Rene Hermanson, an exercise and sport sciences major from Midland; Trevor Bryan Hill, a communication studies major from Lubbock; Loren Palmina Hughes, a Spanish major from Coppell; Michael Aaron Ibarra a biology major from El Paso; Bridget Lindsley Key, a biochemistry major from Albuquerque, N.M.; Brittany Dawn Lancaster, a psychology major from Lubbock; Dana Michelle Layer, a biochemistry major from Albuquerque, N.M.; Ciara Nicole Luna, a general studies major from Orlando, Fla.; Justin Steven Miller, a classics major from El Paso; Hannah Nha Pham, a biology major from Sugar Land; Taylor Nicole Polk, an exercise and sport sciences major from Slaton; Sarah Elizabeth Steindl, an English major from Spring; Tabitha Kay Threatt, a cell and molecular biology from Hutto; Cameron Mark Waters, a biology major from Clovis, N.M.; Roy Robert Whittenburg, a philosophy and Spanish major and Rachel Elizabeth Wilson, a general studies major from Sherman.
- Rawls College of Business: Stephanie Margaret Greider, an accounting major from Flower Mound; Aubree Star Harris, a marketing and management major from Highland Village; Lia Marie Heers, an accounting major from Muenster; Kelly K. Lynch, an accounting major from Kerrville; Torgen Shane Martinson, an accounting major from Austin; Morgan Lee Pruitt, an accounting major from Midland; Jake A. Strickland, an accounting major from Snyder and Brooklyn Joy Witte, an accounting major from Burleson.
- College of Education: Eleanor Louise Ashley, a multidisciplinary studies major from Carlsbad; Joy R. Forbes, a multidisciplinary studies major from Lubbock; Sawsan Ali Hajmahmoud, a multidisciplinary studies major from Dallas; Katy Loeung, a

multidisciplinary studies major from Grand Prairie; Lindsay Rachel Macek, a multidisciplinary studies major from Kingsland; Tiffany D. Neal, a multidisciplinary studies major from Waxahachie and Rhonda Jean Rose, a multidisciplinary studies major from Burleson.

- Whitacre College of Engineering: Daniel Deryk Benham, a petroleum engineering major from Odessa; Joanna Marie Gatlin, an electrical engineering major from San Angelo; Ryan Andrew Glenn, a mechanical engineering major from Tatum, N.M.; George Liberty Mutual, a petroleum engineering major from Nairobi, Kenya; Jay Stephen Nunley, a chemical engineering major from Joshua; Cord Landon Scorgie, a mechanical engineering major from Lubbock and Nicholas Scott Sheridan, a mechanical engineering major.
- College of Human Sciences: Ivanka Krasimirova Boling, a family and consumer sciences major from Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria; Megan Renee Falconer, an early childhood major from Carrollton; Laura Anne Gray, a human development and family studies major from Southlake; Jamie Nicole Haarmeyer, a restaurant, hotel and institutional management major from Richardson; Cynthia Renee Sacco, a nutrition major from Fort Worth; Tiffany Rhiana Sallee, an early childhood major from Lubbock; Bre'anna Monique Wilson, a human development and family studies major from Glidden and Mackenzi Jo Wilson, a human development and family studies major from Abilene.
- Honors College: Erin Van Pelt, an honors arts and letters major from Las Cruces, N.M.
- College of Media & Communication: Alicia Rose Keene, a journalism major from Austin and Chelsea Poe, a public relations major from Fort Worth.
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Kelsei Noel Fortenberry, a music performance major from Lubbock.
- University Studies: Ethan Gary Rowell, a university studies major from Waco.
- University Studies (Wind Energy): Scott Carey Noulis, a wind energy major from Fort Worth.

### **Additional Information**

Receptions for the colleges will be held immediately following the ceremonies. Receptions will be located as follows:

- College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources: Atrium, Animal and Food Sciences Building
- College of Architecture: College of Architecture Gallery
- College of Arts & Sciences: Room 104 in Holden Hall
- Rawls College of Business: McCoy Atrium



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

- College of Education: second floor lobby, College of Education
- Whitacre College of Engineering: Frazier Alumni Pavilion
- College of Human Sciences: El Centro, Human Sciences Building
- College of Media & Communication: Frazier Alumni Pavilion
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Holden Hall Rotunda
- Office of the Provost (University Studies): Matador Room, Student Union Building
- Office of the Provost (Wind Energy): Room 107 of the National Wind Institute

### **Additional Information**

Ceremonies can be viewed online at [www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream](http://www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream).

Jones AT&T stadium will be open for graduates to take photos with family members and friends from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Friday. Graduates may enter through the top of home tunnel on the southwest side by Gate 1. Graduates and their visitors can park in the C1 lot west of the stadium.

For more information about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

**CONTACT: Peggy Flores, commencement coordinator, Texas Tech University**  
**Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, (806) 742-7742**  
or [peggy.flores@ttu.edu](mailto:peggy.flores@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2014

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

### Chancellor Kent Hance to Announce Top Scholars

**WHAT:** Chancellor [Kent Hance](#) to announce and introduce two top scholars during the Board of Regents meeting.

**WHEN:** 8:30 a.m., Friday (May 16)

**WHERE:** Matador Room (Room 227), Student Union Building  
15<sup>th</sup> St. and Akron Ave., Texas Tech University

**EVENT:** Chancellor Hance will recognize two students who received perfect scores on their college admissions exams and will be attending [Texas Tech University](#) in the fall of 2014. This is the first time under Hance's leadership for Texas Tech to recruit a student with 1600 on the SAT and 36 on the ACT. The two students are part of Hance's [Top Scholars program](#), which was established in 2007 to advance recruitment efforts and the overall academic quality.

Hance and scholars will be available to the media directly following the recognition.

**CONTACT:** Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Statement

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 14, 2014

CONTACT: Randy Sanders, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

**Statement from Mickey Long, Chairman, Texas Tech University System Board of Regents**

There were separate interviews conducted with chancellor candidates on Wednesday outside of Lubbock. The interviews were not posted and conducted as open meetings because all aspects of the Regents' participation in the interviews, including air and ground transportation as well as the interviews themselves, were structured in such a way that there never was a quorum of the Board together for any deliberations.

Discussions by Regents of the candidates are reserved for executive sessions during the posted Board meetings set for Thursday and Friday.

The interviews were structured and conducted in this manner specifically to protect the confidentiality of the candidates, which is allowed under Section 552.123, Texas Government Code.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 16, 2014

CONTACT: K'Leigh Bedingfield, kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Publication Named Best of the Best**

Olympian turned stuntman's memoir is awarded as a book to know about.

For the third year in a row, a Texas Tech University Press publication was named a "Best of the Best from the University Presses: Books You Should Know About."

"Cowboy Stuntman: From Olympic Gold to the Silver Screen," by Dean Smith with Mike Cox, is among 11 titles published by university presses worldwide to receive this honor.

The Best of the Best books will be presented by a panel of public and secondary school librarians during a program at the American Library Association's annual meeting in June. Librarians reviewed and evaluated approximately 350 titles published by members of the Association of American University Presses to create the list.

"Cowboy Stuntman" is the memoir of Smith, who won an Olympic gold medal in track and field and later became a film stuntman, doubling actors such as Michael Landon, Steve Martin, Maureen O'Hara, Robert Redford and Roy Rogers.

The Olympian-turned-cowboy stuntman was born in Breckenridge, Texas and attended Graham High School. He won the state championship for 100-yard dash in high school and went to the University of Texas, where he played football and was All-American in track. After playing for the Los Angeles Rams in the NFL for a short time, a friend introduced him to James Garner, who helped him land his first stunt job. Smith appeared in more than 140 movies during his stunting career.

Now at the age of 82, Smith has earned several titles such as Olympian, football player, stuntman, cancer survivor, family man and now author. He resides on his Texas ranch with his wife, Debby, and son, Finis.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Jada Rankin, marketing coordinator, Texas Tech University Press, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-2106, or jada.rankin@ttu.edu.**

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Statement

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 19, 2014

CONTACT: Randy Sanders, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

**Statement from Chancellor Kent Hance**

I'm delighted that the Board of Regents selected my friend, Bob Duncan, to be the next chancellor. He is an outstanding choice. Senator Duncan has worked tirelessly for all of Texas and has always been willing to help the Texas Tech University System. I think he will do a great job.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Monday, May 19, 2014

CONTACT: Randy Sanders, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)  
806-742-0057

### **TTU System Regents Name Sen. Robert Duncan Sole Finalist for Chancellor**

LUBBOCK—The [Texas Tech University System Board of Regents](#) today (May 19) announced that Texas Sen. Robert Duncan has been named the sole finalist for the position of chancellor.

“After conducting a nationwide search and considering several outstanding candidates for the position,” said [Larry Anders](#), vice chairman of the Board of Regents and chairman of the [chancellor search committee](#), “the committee recognized that Sen. Duncan has the vision and leadership skills we need for our great system to continue moving upward. We look forward to his leadership as each of our universities in the Texas Tech University System continues to grow and thrive.”

“To be able to serve the great universities in the Texas Tech University System is a tremendous honor for me and my family,” Duncan said after learning of his selection. “I love the people of West Texas and will devote all of my energy to continue to grow the reputations for excellence of all of the universities in the system. I am deeply indebted to the Board of Regents for this opportunity.”

“Although we looked nationally for candidates to fill this very important position, we are delighted that our selection has strong personal ties to this area and university,” said [Mickey Long](#), chairman of the Board of Regents. “Texas Tech is fortunate to have someone of Sen. Duncan’s stature and reputation willing to step forward to lead our system. He has had a tremendous legal and political career. I look forward to him continuing the advances we have made the past several years.”

Now that Duncan has been named the sole finalist for the chancellor position, state law requires that 21 days must pass before final action can be taken by the Board of Regents on his employment. Duncan’s start date as chancellor is expected to be July 1.

Duncan, 60, is a lifelong West Texan. Before calling Lubbock home, he was raised in Vernon, Texas. He is the only son of five children born to Frank L. Duncan and Robena Formby Duncan.

While completing his undergraduate degree at [Texas Tech University](#), he served as student body president. Duncan went on to receive his law degree from the [Texas Tech University School of Law](#).

He was elected to District 84 in the [Texas House of Representatives](#) in 1992. In 1996, he won a special election to the [Texas Senate](#). During his more than two decades in the Texas Legislature, Duncan crafted major legislation impacting water rights; health care transparency and affordability; the integrity of public investment funds; public and higher education; eminent domain; and the efficiency and effectiveness of our civil justice system.

Duncan served on the Senate Finance Committee during each legislative session since 1999. He also served on the budget conference committee, which develops the final appropriations bill.

Duncan has served as chairman of the State Affairs Committee since 2004. He was elected and served as president pro tempore of the Texas Senate during the 81st Legislative Session. Duncan also has been a member of the Natural Resources Committee, the Committee on Higher Education and the Education Committee.

Duncan's efforts in the Texas Senate have been highlighted by honors based on his work ethic, legislative accomplishments and leadership. Texas Monthly frequently has named him among the state's 10 best legislators. It also has listed him as a "Texas Super Lawyer" for his professional reputation in the private sector as a partner at Crenshaw, Dupree and Milam in Lubbock.

Duncan is married to the former Terri Patterson. He has two children, Lindsey Pike, a public school teacher and counselor, and Matthew, a recent graduate of Texas Tech University. Mrs. Duncan also has two children, Justin Patterson of Austin and Clayton Patterson, a recent graduate of Texas Tech University. All of their children are Texas Tech University graduates.

Duncan succeeds Kent R. Hance, who has served as chancellor since December 2006 and has agreed to continue to serve the TTU System as chancellor emeritus.

### **About the Texas Tech University System**

The Texas Tech University System is one of the top public university systems in the state of Texas, consisting of four component institutions—[Texas Tech University](#), [Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center](#), [Angelo State University](#) and [Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso](#)—and operating at 12 academic sites and centers. Headquartered in Lubbock, Texas, the TTU System has an annual operating budget of \$1.7 billion and approximately 17,000 employees focused on advancing higher education, health care, research and outreach.

In 2013, the TTU System's endowment passed \$1 billion, total research expenditures were approximately \$200 million and total enrollment exceeded 44,000 students.



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Whether it's contributing billions of dollars annually in economic impact or being the only system in Texas to house an academic institution, law school, and medical school at the same location, the TTU System continues to prove that anything is possible.

**CONTACT: Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 20, 2014

CONTACT: K'Leigh Bedingfield, kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Named Champion of Diversity**

The American Association for Affirmative Action awards the university for promoting diversity.

In a striving effort to create an inclusive culture on campus, Texas Tech University recently was applauded for its efforts by receiving the Champion of Diversity award by [The American Association for Affirmative Action \(AAAA\)](#).

The association awards organizations or corporations for their outstanding achievements in promoting diversity and equity in the workforce.

“It is important to our mission as a national research university to foster a diverse environment for our students,” said Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. “The opportunity to interact, share ideas and creative scholarship, and conduct research side-by-side with students and faculty from different cultures and backgrounds is invaluable in the constant evolving world that awaits our graduates.”

The national not-for-profit association consists of professionals who work together to manage and promote affirmative action, equal opportunity, diversity and other human resource programs. Founded in 1974, the association’s main purpose is to strongly oppose federal or state action that could potentially eliminate equal opportunities for minorities and women. Texas Tech has recognized and upheld the same standards for its students, faculty and staff.

Texas Tech’s Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement embraces lifelong success for each and everyone on campus, including minorities and women. Programs such as Mentor Tech, Military & Veterans Program, Women’s Studies, IDEAL, and several other programs under this division help create an inclusive culture on campus and promote affirmative action, equal opportunity and diversity.

“Texas Tech is increasingly becoming recognized as a national research university, while maintaining the highest standards of equity, excellence and opportunity for all members of the campus community,” said Juan Muñoz, senior vice president for Institutional Diversity Equity, and Community Engagement and vice provost for Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs. “The award from AAAA further affirms the university’s

national visibility as a leader in inclusive excellence. The Champion of Diversity award underscores the spirit of the university's motto, that regardless of one's background, 'From here, it's possible.'"

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 20, 2014

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

### **Texas Tech Researchers receive \$300,000 NIH Grant to Study Auxiliary Benefits of Drug Treatment**

Two Texas Tech University researchers recently received a \$300,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health's National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) to find out how drug treatment affects other aspects of a person's life.

Jennifer Brown, an assistant professor of psychology, and Michael Eriksen, an assistant professor of finance, will use data already collected by NIDA to analyze outcomes across multiple studies to test for the potential benefits of substance abuse treatments to reduce HIV risk.

Emory University's Jessica Sales, an associate research professor, and Gene Brody, a research professor, also will participate on the two-year grant.

"We are researching the benefits of individuals undergoing substance-use treatment on other aspects of their lives, including the prevention of HIV," Brown said. "It is common for substance use researchers to focus on the benefits of interventions to reduce substance use, whereas HIV researchers place less emphasis on the benefits of their interventions to reduce substance use. Our hope is that this study will lay the groundwork for future researchers to design interventions that can address multiple health problems."

Brown, the principal investigator on the study, will combine the data from 15 previous NIDA studies (6,896 participants), which would have had to be separately analyzed only a couple of years ago. A clinical health psychologist with an expertise in HIV risk prevention, she will translate how substance-use interventions may have positive effects on other health behaviors, including reduction in HIV risk.

Eriksen, a co-investigator on the study, is an economist with statistical expertise in working with large or "big" data, which was only possible given the recent gains in computing power of the last couple of years. Eriksen will conduct the statistical analysis of the study and assist Brown in assessing the cost-effectiveness of substance-use treatments' previously unrecognized health benefits.

“There have been a number of studies examining the intersection of substance abuse and HIV risk,” he said. “However, this will be the first study using a dataset that combines data from 15 different substance-use treatment trials to examine the interventions simultaneously. The practice of combining multiple trials was only recently possible given the gains in computing power and memory.”

Brown and Eriksen have collaborated on several previous studies and publications, including a recent study examining how interventions to prevent HIV also affect other aspects of mental health.

Robert V. Duncan, vice president of research at Texas Tech, said he is excited to receive this important award from the NIH.

“I congratulate Professor Brown, Professor Eriksen and this extended research team on their success,” he said. “This builds upon two great strengths at Texas Tech, namely our interdisciplinary research collaborations, and our innovations in Big Data. These are essential aspects of our emergence as a major national-scale research university.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Jennifer Brown, assistant professor of psychology, Department of Psychology, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0197 or [jennifer.brown@ttu.edu](mailto:jennifer.brown@ttu.edu);**  
**Michael Eriksen, assistant professor of finance, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-7095 or [mike.eriksen@ttu.edu](mailto:mike.eriksen@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 21, 2014

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

### **Texas Tech Commended Among 2014 Best Online Programs for Veterans** Whitacre College of Engineering ranked second for online graduate program.

Texas Tech University recently was ranked second among “[Best Online Graduate Engineering Programs for Veterans](#)” by U.S. News & World Report. The rankings, now in their second year, were designed to help veterans identify high-quality online degree programs that suit their educational needs.

“Veterans and active-duty service members face unique challenges as students, from transitioning between bases and grappling with deployment to balancing work and family life upon return,” said Robert Morse, director of data research for U.S. News.

The [rankings methodology](#) requires participation in four key programs, including that they are certified for the GI Bill; participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program or public institutions that charge in-state tuition for all out-of-state veterans; affiliated with schools that are members of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium; and offer at least one course in the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) catalog.

“I am very pleased that the efforts of our faculty and staff are being recognized for the quality online programs they provide.” said Al Sacco Jr., dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering. “It is especially satisfying that we are recognized for helping to educate our nation’s veterans who have served and our serving our country. Texas Tech appreciates the service of these men and women, and this recognition emphasizes that we are truly a veteran friendly educational institution.”

All schools evaluated in this ranking must have been awarded a numerical rank in the overall [2014 U.S. News Best Online Programs](#) rankings, which were released earlier this year. Those programs were assessed for various factors, including affordability, faculty credentials, student services and reputation.

“[TTU Worldwide eLearning](#) allows students to earn web-based bachelor’s degree programs in general studies, horticulture/turfgrass science, multidisciplinary studies, and university studies,” the profile reads. “14 master’s degrees, concentrated in agriculture, education, engineering, and science, and seven doctoral degrees (five online, two

blended) are also available. Additionally, Texas Tech offers 13 online graduate certificates in fields such as autism, fibers and biopolymers, gerontology, and wind energy.”

Justin Louder, assistant vice provost for TTU Worldwide eLearning, said this ranking is a great achievement for Texas Tech.

“This ranking shows not only Texas Tech’s commitment to high quality online programs but also to our veterans,” Louder said. “The online engineering programs that Whitacre offers are highly sought after and allow students from all over the world to complete their graduate education at Texas Tech.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Justin Louder, assistant vice provost and director of TTU Worldwide eLearning, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1505 or [justin.louder@ttu.edu](mailto:justin.louder@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 21, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Professor: Expect Food Prices to Rise this Summer**

Mindy Brashears appeared on “Lou Dobbs Tonight” to discuss food supply issues.

Americans typically spend a relatively small amount of their disposable income on food, but that trend likely will change this summer, a Texas Tech University food expert told FOX Business on Tuesday night.

Appearing on “Lou Dobbs Tonight,” Mindy Brashers, professor of food microbiology and food safety, and director of the International Center for Food Industry Excellence, said that Americans should expect food prices to rise because of the current drought and other issues.

In the last year, the U.S. pork supply has decreased by about 10 percent due to the Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea virus (PEDv). Meanwhile, the drought in California continues to drive up prices on beef, vegetables and fruit. Over the weekend, nearly 2 million pounds of ground beef were recalled by a Michigan packing plant.

“(The ground beef recall) in and of itself doesn’t necessarily have an impact on our prices because if you put it into context, last year, in the month preceding Memorial Day, there was 191 million pounds of ground beef sold,” Brashears said. “But if you combine that with other factors, such as the PEDv virus in pork, and the drought conditions in cattle; yes, that does have an impact on our food supply and has caused the price to increase over the past several months.”

At the moment, Brashears explained, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the National Pork Board are working to identify how PEDv has remained virulent and how to control it going forward.

“They are confirming cases, doing epidemiological studies, investigating the means by which the virus has spread,” she said.

The epidemic could end “hopefully within the next few months.”

Brashears also explained that the beef herd is at its lowest levels since the 1940s, thanks, in part, to the California drought.

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

As far as how these factors will affect the average U.S. consumer going into the summer, Brashears said that thanks to the diversity of the food supply, other options are available to help curb the impact of rising food costs for certain foods.

“We are fortunate in the U.S. in that we spend a relatively small amount of our disposable income on our food, but that is going to change this summer,” Brashears said.

“Fortunately we do have a very diverse food supply; specifically going back to the beef itself, people who are accustomed to eating steaks may have to choose lower-cost cuts, ground beef, other types of products.”

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Mindy Brashears, professor, Meat Science & Muscle Biology, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2469 or [mindy.brashears@ttu.edu](mailto:mindy.brashears@ttu.edu).**



# Expert Pitch

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 22, 2014

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

## **Pop-culture Expert Looks Back on the Origin of X-Men**

### **Pitch**

The movie “X-Men – Days of Future Past” will make its present-day debut this Friday.

Texas Tech pop-culture expert Rob Weiner says that with Bryan Singer returning as director, anticipation is high for this film to become a summer blockbuster.

### **Expert**

Rob Weiner, associate librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 834-5126 office, (806) 780-8775 mobile, or [rob.weiner@ttu.edu](mailto:rob.weiner@ttu.edu).

### **Talking Points**

- X-Men was created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby in 1963. Lee originally wanted to call the comic “The Mutants,” but changed it to X-Men, which stands for “extra power.”
- X-Men is one of the most racially diverse teams in all of comics especially in the 1970s.
- The X-Men movie series in 2000 launched the wave of superhero movies that we currently see today.
- X-Men have been sometimes been called “children of the atom.”

### **Quotes**

- “Unlike other superheroes, the characters of the X-Men universe are born with their powers and have often been used a metaphor for civil rights, race, gender and discrimination of all kinds.”
- “The original 1960s X-Men comic was one of the worst selling books, but when the series was re-launched in the 1970s, it became one of the most popular comics in history.”
- “The original ‘X-Men: Days of Future Past’ storyline was only in comic issues #141-142, published in 1981 by Chris Claremont and John Byrne. The original story took place in the then-future of 2013, and featured mutants in internment camps put there by mutant hunting Sentinels. The storyline also was featured in the 1990s animated series.”
- “The partnership of writer Chris Claremont and artist John Byrne is legendary. However, it was writer Len Wein and artist Dave Cockrum who wrote the ‘Giant-Size X-Men #1’ featuring Wolverine, that launched the 1970s X-Men.”



# Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 27, 2014

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-0057

**Lubbock Chorale to Perform at Hance Chapel**

WHAT: The Lubbock Chorale will perform traditional hymns.

WHEN: 5–6 p.m., Saturday (May 31)

WHERE: Kent R. Hance Chapel  
17<sup>th</sup> St. & University Ave., Texas Tech University

EVENT: Chancellor Kent Hance will host the Lubbock Chorale for an hour of traditional hymns. Join us at the Kent R. Hance Chapel on the Texas Tech University campus. The event is free and open to the public.

-30-

**CONTACT: Randy Sanders, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057**  
or [randy.sanders@ttu.edu](mailto:randy.sanders@ttu.edu)



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 27, 2014

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

### **National Hurricane Preparedness Week: Experts Available to Discuss 2014 Season** NOAA predicts near-normal to below-normal season for Atlantic.

The first hurricane of 2014, Hurricane Amanda, became the strongest May eastern Pacific hurricane on record Sunday morning, as peak winds approached that of a Category 5 storm. By Monday evening it dipped to Category 2 but, unexpectedly, regained strength Tuesday to return to Category 3. Forecasters expect Amanda to weaken to a tropical storm by Thursday.

The six-month hurricane season begins June 1, and while the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) expects a normal to above-normal season in the Pacific Ocean, the outlook for the Atlantic is expected to be near-normal to below-normal, and El Niño may be the reason.

Texas Tech University leads the nation in wind research. 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.

The National Wind Institute (NWI), as it is now known, combines the former Wind Science and Engineering (WiSE) research center, which created the first doctorate in wind science and engineering, with the Texas Wind Energy Institute (TWEI), creator of the only Bachelor of Science degree in wind energy. NWI strengthens the university's interdisciplinary approach to all things wind.

**John Schroeder**, professor of atmospheric sciences and director of NWI, visited effected 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) 834-5678 or [john.schroeder@ttu.edu](mailto:john.schroeder@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.

-more-

Office of Communications and Marketing

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) 834-0383 or [daan.liang@ttu.edu](mailto:daan.liang@ttu.edu).

**Ernst Kiesling**, research professor at NWI and executive director of the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA), 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 NSSA 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 35 years of experience in the design, standards-writing and quality control of storm shelters.

Kiesling can be reached at (806) 834-1931 or [ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu](mailto:ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu).

**Larry Tanner**, research associate in civil engineering, 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) 834-2320 or [larry.tanner@ttu.edu](mailto:larry.tanner@ttu.edu).

**Bradley Ewing**, professor of operations management in the Rawls College of Business, has studied the economic impact of hurricanes and tornadoes. He can speak to the impact of hurricanes and tornadoes in cities like Oklahoma City; Corpus Christi; Wilmington, N.C.; Miami; and Nashville, Tenn.

Ewing can be reached at (806) 834-3939 or [bradley.ewing@ttu.edu](mailto:bradley.ewing@ttu.edu).



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 29, 2014

CONTACT: K'Leigh Bedingfield, kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **ExxonMobile Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp Coming to Texas Tech** Free camp hosted by Texas Tech's IDEAL is open for middle school students.

As part of the university-wide effort to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, the [Institute for the Development and Enrichment of Advanced Learners \(IDEAL\)](#) invites students to apply for the [ExxonMobile Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp](#).

Hosted by Texas Tech University, this year's camp theme is "Mind Blown," and participants will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in curriculum that focuses on the impact of wind energy across the globe during this 10-day residential summer science academy.

Created by [The Harris Foundation](#), the prestigious camp is free for middle school students entering the sixth, seventh and eighth grades to give them the opportunity to immerse themselves in STEM field learning. Participants will live on campus, meet students from across the region and will be provided with hands-on learning and top quality research.

The camp will begin July 6 and continue through July 17 on Texas Tech's campus in Lubbock, Texas. Applicants can contact [IDEAL](#) for more information. The application deadline is Friday (May 30).

"Through this camp, we hope to help students recognize their potential and prepare them for the evolving world in STEM fields," said Isaac Flores, interim assistant director for IDEAL. "Students should be excited about the energy, innovation and creativity that they will experience and participate in throughout the duration of this camp."

Founder Bernard Harris created the foundation to "empower individuals...to recognize their potential and pursue their dreams."

Harris, an alumnus of Texas Tech's Health Sciences Center and former Board of Regents member, is an important advocate for the STEM fields. Widely known as the first African-American to walk in space, Harris worked as an astronaut at NASA for ten years, clocking in more than 438 hours and over 7.2 million miles traveled in space. Harris also

has experience in the medical field, working at the Mayo Clinic, Internal Medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch, NASA and Baylor College of Medicine. Harris received his medical degree from Texas Tech's Health Sciences Center.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Mari Samarripas, section coordinator, Office of Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7017 or [maricruz.samarripas@ttu.edu](mailto:maricruz.samarripas@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 29, 2014

CONTACT: K'Leigh Bedingfield, [kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu](mailto:kleigh.bedingfield@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Invites Students to Outdoor Summer Science Academy** Applications are now open for free educational camp in Junction, Texas.

Texas Tech University's [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement](#) has announced that applications are now available for the 2014 [Texas Tech University Outdoor Summer Science Academy](#) (TTUOSSA). Hosted in Junction, Texas, students beginning the seventh, eighth and ninth grades in the fall of 2014 can apply to attend this free camp.

TTUOSSA is a five-day residential summer science academy in which students will advance their skills in science, technology, engineering and math through hands-on activities. In addition to living on Texas Tech's Junction campus and finding their passion in STEM fields, academy participants also will improve their social skills as they develop friendships with students from all over the region. All participants receive room, board and tuition as well as transportation to and from Junction for free.

"The Texas Tech Outdoor Science Academy is a unique and innovative way to engage students in fields that are imperative to our nation's future growth," said Heather Martinez, director of Texas Tech's Office of Community Engagement. "We are excited to be able to offer this amazing learning experience that is sure to empower students and provide them with skills that will enable their future success."

The summer science academy begins June 29 and continues through July 3. Those who want to apply can contact the [Office of Community Engagement](#) by phone or email. The application deadline is June 6.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Mari Samarripas, section coordinator, Office of Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7017 or [maricruz.samarripas@ttu.edu](mailto:maricruz.samarripas@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 30, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Graduate School Announces Fellowship Program**

The program has awarded 28 fellowships to participating students.

The Texas Tech University Graduate School has announced the inaugural recipients of the Doctoral Dissertation Completion Fellowship Program. Nearly 30 graduate students will receive funding during the 2014-15 academic year.

Designed to increase the completion rate of doctoral students and enhance recruitment of new students, the Doctoral Dissertation Completion Fellowship Program provides funding that allows students to dedicate all their time to completing their dissertation during the upcoming academic year.

“The demand for doctoral degree holders is increasing because they drive innovation and creative endeavors in all fields,” said Mark Sheridan, vice provost for Graduate Affairs and dean of the Graduate School. “This fellowship program will enable Texas Tech to move doctoral degree recipients into the workforce more quickly to meet this demand and to contribute to the economic vitality of the region, the state and the nation.”

The following students were selected for the program’s inaugural year:

- Ataollah Arvani, electrical engineering
- Roya Baghi, chemistry
- Cibele Caio, biology
- Carly Finseth, technical communication and rhetoric
- Zijian Gong, mass communications
- Saad Md Haider, electrical engineering
- Thomas Halverson, physics
- Yunli Hu, chemistry
- Chun-Chia Huang, biology
- Yuriko Ikeda, Spanish
- Michael Kanyi, agricultural education
- Andrew Keese, English literature
- Christine Kitano, English
- Amy Kuczynski, zoology
- Xun Liu, educational psychology
- Nathan Madsen, music
- Jena McCollum, mechanical engineering
- Nichte Ordonez-Garza, zoology

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

- Olga Pahom, English literature
- Austin Privett, chemistry
- Trideep Rajale, chemistry
- Benjamin Slate, theatre arts
- Jacob Stephens, electrical engineering
- Laura Elena Valentin-Rivera, Spanish
- Susana Villanueva Eguia Lis, Spanish
- William Wang, chemical engineering
- Heath Wing, Spanish
- Xin Zhang, chemical engineering
- Kun Zhang, industrial engineering

Participants were selected based on the quality of their research summary, credentials, likelihood of completing their dissertation within 12 months, quality of training environment and mentoring plan, and the impact of the award on increasing the number of doctoral students. Students were each endorsed by their department or program chairs.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Donna Rogers, unit manager for development, Graduate School, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-4079 or [donna.rogers@ttu.edu](mailto:donna.rogers@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 30, 2014

CONTACT: Callie Jones, [callie.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:callie.jones@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Named Top College in Social Media**

The university ranked in the top 30 in a variety of social media platforms.

Texas Tech University's social media presence has been ranked among the top in the country, according to [CollegeAtlas.org](http://CollegeAtlas.org).

The website ranks colleges according to individual social media platforms as well as overall social media influence and engagement. Texas Tech came in at No. 29 Most Influential College in Social Media, No. 10 for Most Influential College on Instagram, No. 12 Most Influential College on Twitter and No. 17 Most Influential College on Google+.

The rankings were developed using data including Facebook "likes" and ratings, tweeting frequency and the number of followers on each social media platform.

Allison Matherly is Texas Tech's coordinator of digital engagement in the Office of Communications & Marketing. She oversees each of the university's social media platforms.

"Texas Tech's social media provides an avenue for students, alumni, prospective students and fans to connect with the university," Matherly said. "We strive to build relationships while listening and engaging with our audiences. Our recent 'I Am A Red Raider' campaign has put the storytelling into the hands of Red Raiders everywhere, allowing for them to take ownership of our social media platforms in a whole new way."

CollegeAtlas.org aims to provide comprehensive and unbiased information about universities, degrees and academic programs. The website publishes rankings that help students make important higher education decisions. According to General Manager Brandon Neish, social media helps the website measure difficult-to-quantify, yet important, aspects of higher education such as collegiate experiences and alumni impact.

"In recent years, social media rapidly emerged as an essential source of communication and information for our audience, especially prospective students," said Chris Cook, managing director for the Office of Communications & Marketing. "It is important that we continue to support an open dialogue with our audiences, while exploring new uses of

social media channels. Congratulations to Allison and her team for keeping Texas Tech out front.”

A complete list of top social media performers as well as methodology and infographics can be found at <http://www.collegeatlas.org/top-colleges-in-social-media-main.html>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at [Texas Tech Today Media Resources](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

**CONTACT: Allison Matherly, coordinator of Digital Engagement, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [allison.matherly@ttu.edu](mailto:allison.matherly@ttu.edu).**

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	
<b>Web Stories and Features</b>	
<b>2014</b>	
<b>May</b>	
<b>Title</b>	<b>Writer</b>
A Survivor's Story	John Davis
Camp Counselor Learns to be a Leader	Lauren Kozlovsky
Getting to know Michael San Francisco	Patrick Gonzales
Mother and Son Share a Special Bond and Talent	Grace Acuña
Red Raider Alumnus Dreams Become Reality	Megan Ketterer
Red Raider Camp Counselor Learns to Lead	Megan Ketterer
Texas Tech Head Chess Coach Competes in U.S. Championship	Lauren Kozlovsky
Texas Tech University Press Names New Director	K'Leigh Bedingfield

## **A Survivor's Story**

### **How a Texas Tech Alumnus Endured Being a Special Prisoner of the Japanese Imperial Army Kempei Tai**

By John Davis

Sleep didn't come easy.

While the world began to heal from years of war, Fiske Hanley II returned to his hometown of Fort Worth to do some healing of his own – physically and mentally. Despite months without treatment, American military doctors worked to repair the 30 to 40 shrapnel wounds from anti-aircraft fire that downed his plane over a Japanese rice paddy in 1945.

In his mind, however, the wounds stayed fresh, and horrors borne of his time as a Special Prisoner of the Japanese came alive at nighttime. Hanley was plagued by thoughts of getting shot down, and then locked up in an overcrowded, lice-ridden 5-by-9-foot dungeon at Kempei Tai headquarters in downtown Tokyo across the moat from the imperial palace. He became one of a very few who survived on half-rations for regular prisoners while the real threat of execution overshadowed each passing moment.

The Japanese labeled Hanley a Special Prisoner because he had served as crewman aboard a B-29 Superfortress – a plane used to firebomb Tokyo and other cities. Special Prisoners were considered especially abhorrent by the Japanese for killing innocent women and children during these incendiary raids. During his capture, Hanley awaited trial and certain execution and endured relentless inquisition and beatings for six months before his liberation.

His experience under the control of the dreaded Kempei Tai, the secret military police arm of the Imperial Japanese Army, made regular POWs' experiences look like a vacation. He watched 62 of the 64 B-29 incarcerated crew members "disappear."

For some reason, though, death never came for him.

Afterward, the war might have been over, but his experiences swirled inside his brain in the lonely hours of the night.

Then, he took out his college typewriter from his days at Texas Tech and started to exorcise his demons. Page by page, he wrote down his experience. By writing, he said, he managed to let his own personal horror go.

"As I typed, I was happy," he said. "It was all gone. I didn't talk about it, and I lived."

Hanley's book, "Accused American War Criminal" published by Texas Tech University Press, explains the war in the Pacific theater and captures his experience as a Special Prisoner. Hanley

said he wanted to share his personal exorcism to show readers a very real side of the experience of war.

“After I retired in 1989, I got around to writing the book,” Hanley said. “I just felt the world needed to know about this. Readers will find out that war is not good. You fight a war, you fight to win. That’s what {Gen. Curtis} LeMay did. We sure killed a lot of Japanese people.”

The book was originally published in hardcover by Eakin Press in Austin about 15 years ago. Texas Tech University Press’ publication is the first paperback edition.

“Mr. Hanley’s story is important because being held as a Special Prisoner was much worse than a ‘regular’ Prisoner of War, and so few Special Prisoners survived the ordeal,” said Jada Rankin, marketing coordinator for Texas Tech University Press. “The fact that Fiske Hanley did survive and, at 94, is still living, is exceptional. Also, he’s one of the oldest-living Texas Tech alumni.”

Hanley recently visited Lubbock to promote his book and sat down to tell us his story.

### **Born to Fly**

From his earliest memories, Hanley said he wanted to fly airplanes. Born in 1920 in Brownwood to C.W. and Esther Hanley, his family moved to Wichita Falls soon after, then to Fort Worth in 1930. His father worked as an oil executive for Gulf.

“Probably Lindbergh and people like him inspired me,” Hanley said. “I spent every penny I could on model airplanes. I won a national gas model event in Detroit in 1937, setting a world record. It still stands. No one every broke it because they changed the rules. My airplane got a good wind.”

He graduated in 1938 from Paschal High School, then attended North Texas Agricultural College (which would become University of North Texas at Arlington) to earn an associate’s degree in aeronautical engineering before coming up to Lubbock in 1940 to earn a bachelors degree in the new aeronautical engineering degree offered at Texas Tech in 1943.

“I got the notice from the draft board in the fall of 1942,” Hanley said. “‘Greetings, you have been selected to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces.’ I passed the physical, all that. I decided I wanted to graduate before this happened. When I signed up as an aviation cadet, they guaranteed me I would be allowed to graduate. Then I would go to aviation cadet school and be an engineering officer.”

Before finishing at Texas Tech, Hanley said he hadn’t heard any information about when or where to show up after he graduated. So, the morning after graduation, he borrowed his parents’ Dodge sedan and drove to the recruitment offices to find out what he should do next.

“When do I get called,” Hanley remembered asking the sergeant behind the desk.

“Here are your orders. Here is your train ticket. Go get on the train,” the sergeant replied.

“Well, I had my family’s car, Sergeant. how are they going to get it?”

“Don’t worry. They’ll find it.”

So, Hanley boarded the train bound for Boca Raton, Florida, to join his cadet class and train for three months.

**“This is the Army, Mr. Jones...”**

At the Boca Raton Club, Hanley learned how to march, dress and behave in basic training. Three months later, he went to Yale University for six months and was commissioned a Second lieutenant maintenance officer, but was ordered to train as a B-29 flight engineer because he had received a civilian pilot license at Texas Tech.

Hanley was chosen to train on the Boeing B-29 Superfortress, a four-engine heavy bomber labeled the largest aircraft in service during World War II. High-tech for its time, the planes featured pressurized cabins, electronic fire-control and remote-controlled machine-gun turrets. Initially designed as a high-altitude strategic bomber aircraft, these attacks proved disappointing until the military began using the planes extensively in low-altitude nighttime incendiary bombing missions.

The planes were used near the end of World War II, and carried out a massive incendiary bombing of Tokyo on March 9, 1945, later estimated to be the single most destructive bombing raid in history. On Aug. 6, 1945, the B-29 bomber “Enola Gay” flew into history after it dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima.

From Yale University, a few graduate engineering officers left for Seattle for three months basic training on B-29s, then went for more education as flight engineers at Lowry Field in Denver. However, with almost all B-29s involved in active duty, crews settled for training on B-24 and B-17 bombers. In the fall of 1944, Hanley left for Nebraska and met his 11-man combat crew for more training over the cornfields.

“The B-24s and B-17s were smaller airplanes,” he said. “They didn’t have a flight engineer station. There was a special station in a B-29 for flight engineers. They had many complicated instruments and controls. So, we got the feel of flying, feathering engines, so on. It was good training. The B-29, when we finally got to fly on them, was an entirely different kind of bird. Terrible, unproven engines. Experimental engines. R-3350s. Bad airplane. Lost a lot of them. Fires. Engines going bad. The airplane shaking itself bad. But the B-29 did what it was supposed to do and ended the war.”

**Final Mission**

In Hawaii, Hanley visited with fellow Texas Tech graduate on the general's staff who told Hanley he would be based on Tinian in the Marianas and about Operation Olympic – the October 1945 invasion of the Japanese island of Kyushu, and Operation Coronet – the March 1946 invasion of Tokyo.

Before going to Tinian, however, Hanley, a second lieutenant, and his crew were ordered to leave their B-29 in Saipan because so many bombers had already been lost.

“They took our B-29,” he said. “They flew us three miles over to Tinian on a war-weary B-24. Got there on Jan. 12, 1945, and began fighting the Japanese.”

It didn't take Hanley and others on the crew to figure out just how dangerous flying B-29s had become. Before his last mission, his crew was the last of three officer crews in his Quonset hut, showing the high attrition rate. Before the crews could go home, they had to fly 35 missions. Most were lost before the war ended.

On their seventh mission, March 27, 1945, Hanley and his crew dropped 12 1,000-pound naval mines in the major Japanese waterway of Shimonoseki Strait. The crew thought themselves lucky on this mission since it involved flying over water with little to no risk of attack from anti-aircraft or fighters. The mines had to be dropped with precision since they had to be swept before U.S. Forces could invade Japan's homeland on April 1.

This was not a cinch mission. The U.S. won't admit the Japanese ever broke the American code, but Kempei Tai intelligence officers told Hanley they knew of the Okinawa invasion beforehand. Plus, they knew the total American plan for the upcoming invasion of the Japanese homeland.

“Major units of Japanese fleet were right down under us in this major waterway,” Hanley said. “The Japanese battleship Yamato, one of the heaviest and most powerfully armed battleships ever constructed, was suddenly right under us when we were accurately dropping these mines. That's when one of the search lights from the big battleship caught us. All the other ships zeroed in. I've never seen a B-29 at night that got so illuminated survive. We were stuck. I tried to keep the engines running. Our plane was totally on fire – all four engines. That was it. Only two of us got out. The co-pilot and I sitting back to back.”

Hanley and co-pilot Al Andrews bailed out and parachuted down over a rice paddy. Hanley had placed a small metal shield underneath the flight engineer's seat that protected him from taking a direct hit from anti-aircraft fire, but a second shell exploded nearby and badly wounded him. On landing, an angry mob of civilians, incensed with earlier incendiary bombing of Tokyo, tried to kill both men. A Japanese police officer intervened, and it would be the third time in one night Hanley escaped death.

Andrews, the only married crewman aboard, also managed to survive the war.

“A Japanese policeman saved me,” he said. “The mob knocked him down several times, but he saved me. The rest of it is in my book. Not good. We were not POWs. We were Special Prisoners to be tried and executed for killing innocent women and children. Most of the B-29 crews got killed. I didn’t. For some reason.”

## **Captured**

Hanley soon learned that Special Prisoners had special rules – including no medical attention. No one attended to his flak wounds. In fact, some Kempei Tai officers purposely infected his wounds. Special prisoners got one half rations for regular POWs – a ball of rice about the size of a golf ball. Special Prisoners weren’t covered under the Geneva Convention’s rules on POWs, and Special Prisoners got beaten at will with rifle butts and bamboo sticks called kendo clubs.

Across a moat in front of the Emperor’s Palace, he lived in squalor in the Kempei Tai’s building with nine other prisoners in a fetid cell. Bathing wasn’t allowed. One latrine serviced all prisoners. He survived for five months.

“The Bataan Death March people got twice as much food to eat as we did,” Hanley said. “Anybody badly wounded died. We were not prisoners not of the regular Japanese Army, but of the Kempei Tai, the Japanese equivalent of Hitler’s Gestapo. Only one out of 29 B-29 crewmen shot down over Japan came back. So I survived. The Good Lord. Only reason. I don’t know why I survived.”

Most Special Prisoners were continually interrogated, and the Kempei Tai questioned flight engineers the most, believing they knew the most information.

“In early April, there were 64 American B-29 prisoners. Sixty-two of them were taken out and supposedly sent to the ‘nice place.’ The 62 prisoners did not come back. They were massacred. A B-29 raid set this special Kempei Tai prison in a suburb of Tokyo on fire, and the Japanese killed all those that tried to get out. They were massacred. I didn’t know that until after the war. I wondered what happened to them.

“Time after time I missed being liquidated.”

For six months, Hanley endured interrogations and beatings. The atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki put an end to the war with the Japanese, Emperor Hirohito surrendered on Aug. 14, but Hanley didn’t know anything about these events.

On Aug. 15, all remaining 40 or 50 prisoners were handcuffed, blindfolded, secured with ropes around the neck and put on trucks. Soldiers drove them through burned-out Tokyo. Despite a blindfold, Hanley could see total destruction everywhere and a body of water that turned out to be Tokyo Bay. Prisoners were then imprisoned in Camp Omori – a regular Japanese prison camp on Tokyo Bay and much better facility than the Kempei Tai headquarters downtown.

“I thought I was back in the Boca Raton Club in Florida,” Hanley said. “It was so nice compared to the Kempeis had done to us. I weighed 70 pounds, down from 160 pounds. So the war is over. I’m in hog heaven again. I was there about two weeks after the emperor spoke. Admiral Halsey moved his Third Fleet into Tokyo Bay. On Aug. 2’ Gen. MacArthur said no prisoners can be released until he signed the peace treaty. Admiral Halsey said ‘baloney’ and some other words. ‘Those are our people in Camp Omori. Go get them.’ On Aug. 29, we were liberated. I was taken out to the hospital ship, the U.S.S. Benevolence, and checked over, wounds treated for the first time and saved. So, I’m alive and liberated.”

From nearby ships, Hanley and other liberated prisoners watched MacArthur sign the peace treaty on the U.S.S. Missouri. Eventually, he ended up at Brooke General Hospital in San Antonio, where he continued treatment and to convalesce. After his final leave and separation from the army, he went to work for Convair, and flew as a flight engineer on the B-36. He trained Air Force crews on the B-36 peacemaker bomber.

“The human body is wonderful,” he said. “Doctors don’t understand me. Here I am 94 years young and healthy. I’m a survivor. It’s an experience I survived. As a result of that, I probably enjoy life more than anyone. I don’t let thing bother me. If problems can’t be fixed, I dismiss them. My lifestyle is probably very different from others.”



# Web Only

## **Camp Counselor Learns to be a Leader By Lauren Kozlovsky**

Casey Amis might not have wanted to attend Red Raider Camp (RRC) when his mother signed him up but without RRC, he wouldn't be the leader he is today.

“At first I was unsure about attending the camp because I wanted to spend my last summer with my high school friends,” Amis said. “It ended up being the best decision of my college career because it helped shape me into the person I am today and taught me to be a leader.”

Amis attended RRC in 2007 as an incoming freshman majoring in general studies at Texas Tech University. He returned the following year as a camp counselor.

“While working as a counselor, I was able to share the excitement Texas Tech brought me,” he said. “The experience I had at RRC had a profound effect on my involvement at Texas Tech and continues today as an alumnus.”

The 2011 Texas Tech graduate currently is a corporate pilot for RVR Aviation. He credits RRC for helping him get involved at Texas Tech. Along with being a camp counselor, he joined Saddle Tramps, the College of Human Sciences recruiters and Raiders Pilot Association. He held officer positions in those organizations.

“It was a great opportunity that sets a solid foundation for my years at Texas Tech,” Amis said. “It was the best decision to go to camp not only to meet life-long friends, but also learn the history and traditions of Texas Tech.”



# Web Only

## **Getting to know Michael San Francisco**

Longtime faculty member speaks about his new role as dean of the Honors College.

By Patrick Gonzales

[Michael San Francisco](#) was appointed dean of the Honors College in December of 2013, and began his new role Jan. 1.

San Francisco joined Texas Tech as an assistant professor in biological sciences in 1990 and was promoted to full professor in 2004. He also is an adjunct/joint professor at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in the Department of Immunology and Molecular Microbiology. He earned his bachelor's degree in 1977 in India before attending Boston University, earning his master's in biochemical ecology in 1980 and doctorate in biology-microbiology in 1984. He did post-doctoral research at the University of Maryland in biochemistry and molecular biology (1984-1987) and subsequently at Ohio State University (1987-1990) in biotechnology.

A past associate dean in the Honors College, San Francisco also is a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences.

### **Why did you want to be dean of the honors college?**

At the university I believe that a faculty member's role should be good and centered. The Honors College provided me the opportunity to take a leadership role in a student-centered environment, where we can engage those students, who are really motivated, who want a challenging environment in their lives. We have a great, dedicated faculty and staff, and I thought we could team up and make something happen for them. I thought the Honors College is the perfect place for them. I had served as associate dean in Honors College in 2008 for a short period, so I had some sense of what goes on in the college.

### **What are your goals as dean?**

I think front and center would be to make the Honors College an integral part of the vasculature of the university, and I use the term vasculature because I think it means I want it to be a part of the sustaining capability of the university, not just a part of it. And so, I think because of the students and the students being so important to our total mission and us being a university, which is all about the students, I think the Honors College is perfect for that role. I think once we make ourselves so integrated into the university culture then we grow outside. We can do both things simultaneously, but that's my first mission.

### **Why have you decided to stay at Tech? What made you stay here?**

It's funny. I almost didn't apply to Texas Tech. In 1990 I was a post-doctoral fellow at Ohio State University, had two kids and my wife was a post-doc as well. One day I was

looking in a trade journal science magazine for jobs and in the back I saw this thing that says Microbiologist, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas. I looked at my wife Susan and I said, "Where's Lubbock?" and she goes, "I don't know," and out comes the Rand McNally and we looked at it and I said, "Oh my, should I even apply?" But then we did anyway and I found this community to be fascinatingly friendly. Our kids grew up here, the people are really cool and it's easy to get in and out of Lubbock. People complain but you can fly right now from Dallas to Houston and then Denver so it's really not that bad.

**Where are you from originally?**

I was born in Salon, Sri Lanka, a little island. My mother is from there. My father is from Gola in India, an old Portugese colony. Hence our name, San Francisco, is Portuguese. We lived in Salon for six years then I moved to India in 1962 and then went to school over there. Got my bachelor's degree in agriculture and then in 1977 when I finished I had the opportunity to apply for graduate school and jobs in India, so I did both.

**What is your favorite thing about Texas Tech? What's your favorite Red Raider tradition?**

My favorite Red Raider, Texas Tech tradition, my goodness, that's a tough question. I do support the smaller sports. So I support tennis and soccer, and I figure they wouldn't miss me at a football game. If I don't show up to a tennis match the coach will notice. So, to me that's great. I love that environment. I love that. Oh my goodness, tradition, you know the Carol of Lights is something that comes to comes to mind.



# Web Only

## **Mother and Son Share a Special Bond and Talent**

A Texas Tech University student recently published book with his mother.

By Grace Acuña

Alex Brankner said he always had a passion for telling stories—a passion that must run in his family.

Brankner, a junior biochemistry major from Austin, recently published his first novel, and his co-author happens to be Sherri Hubby, his mother.

“About two years ago, my mom asked me to look over a few chapters of her book,” Brankner said. “I have a talent in being able to develop a good storyline and make characters come to life, so naturally I began helping.”

Their fictional novel, “Tainted Blood,” follows a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) investigator as she uncovers the wrong doings in a blood bank.

Hubby, who worked for the FDA for nine years, said she thought the public might be interested to see what exactly takes place during these inspections. She said she wasn’t surprised when her son offered suggestions.

“He has always had a wonderful vocabulary and a very creative streak in him,” Hubby said. “So what we would do is I would write something, and then Alex would actually come in and make it really conversational and think about character development.”

Hubby said the book was a true collaboration and that Brankner taught her as much as she taught him.

Writing is not the only interest Brankner shares with his mother. He also hopes to one day work for the FDA.

“I find my mom’s past career with the FDA as a field investigator fascinating,” he said. “I like hearing her stories about how affidavits are administered and could be used in a court of law.”

The pair currently is working on a sequel to “Tainted Blood” and another book featuring mother-in-law stories.

“Texas Tech has a great reputation for developing individuals and preparing them for a great future,” Brankner said. “I have been able to develop the knowledge, skill set, and ability which have already helped me be successful.”

Brankner and his mom recently had a book signing at Barnes & Noble in the SUB. “Tainted Blood” is available for purchase at any [Barnes & Noble](#) or on [Amazon](#).



# Web Only

## **Red Raider Alumnus Dreams Become Reality By Megan Ketterer**

For Brian Anderson, a career in the nation's capital began with a congressional internship.

Anderson, a Texas Tech University alumnus, started his career with a congressional internship shortly after graduation. Four years later he still lives in DC where he is currently working as a data analyst at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Anderson said his education at Texas Tech gave him the confidence to work hard and dedicate himself, which boosted his "staying power" while working in the nation's capital.

"Once you come to D.C. you realize everyone here has a great degree, from a top school, with a stellar grade point average, speaks another language and has studied abroad," he said. "Being a congressional intern helps you stand out just a little bit more in a city of high-achievers. I had to work very hard and the temptation to give up and go home crossed my mind more than once."

During Anderson's internship, many things were going on in Washington, including a presidential and congressional election.

"As an intern in a Democratic-Latino office I had the privilege of attending the Congressional Hispanic Caucus where President Obama was the keynote speaker," he said. "I got to shake the President's hand. That was a very memorable experience and I was a little starstruck."

However, not all his time as an intern was so rosy. That year the Democratic Party lost their majority in the House of Representatives to the Republican Party. Anderson was an intern for Congressman Charlie Gonzalez, a democrat from San Antonio. After the election, over 2,000 democrat staffers lost their jobs and there was a hiring freeze and budget cuts across the entire federal government. The city came to a screeching halt. Finding a full-time job was near impossible. But Anderson was persistent and continued living in the city – sleeping on hardwood floors, blowup mattresses, and couches.

Just over a year after arriving in DC, Anderson's persistence paid off when he accepted an offer to work at the IMF. As a data analyst, his job there is to review national economic data for member-countries so that IMF economists can use this data to conduct global economic surveillance and provide customized and independent policy advice to national governments.

According to the IMF's official website, the institution is a sister organization to the United Nations and the World Bank, all three of which were founded in 1944 in response to the Great Depression and World War II. Today the IMF has 188 member countries and manages a fund of more than \$750 billion. Its mandate is to promote international monetary cooperation and exchange rate stability, offer economic policy advice and technical assistance to national governments, and to provide loans to member countries in financial crises or to assist with poverty reduction.

"The IMF is essential," he said. "Without it, who knows what would have happened in the wake of the global financial crisis."

Today, Anderson is taking on more responsibilities in his job with external sector statistics, including international reserves data and balance of payments statistics, which record the debits and credits of an economy. Last year he had the opportunity to travel to the island nation of Tuvalu, a Polynesian country in the South Pacific Ocean. While there he went through more than 3,000 expenditure accounts in the federal government's budget and categorized them into international standards. This improved the government's ability to analyze their budget, freed up their time to work on other things and made their budgetary data comparable with other countries.

Anderson recently returned to Lubbock to talk to students not only about life in Washington but also about finding your passion and working hard to achieve your goals.

"Dream those big dreams and go after them," Anderson said. "Be smart about it though. Be strategic. And know that you are great."

**What is your favorite spot on Texas Tech campus?**

Everywhere on a bike.

**What is your favorite Texas Tech tradition?**

The Texas Tech fight song.

**What do you love most about being a Red Raider?**

I love how much I learned; from architecture to business and economics to international studies. I had an amazing education and that makes me proud to be a Red Raider.

**What is one word you would use to describe yourself?**

Passionate.

**What is your favorite Texas Tech memorabilia?**

Texas Tech holiday ornament.

**What advice would you give to current Texas Tech students?**

Love yourself. Practice loving who you are and inoculate yourself from needing approval from others. Feedback is a good tool but it's not good to be dependent on it. Part of



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

becoming an adult is learning to strive to be your best self without needing a reward or letter grade. Only then can you rid yourself of the anxiety of the then and there and succeed in the here and now. Keep your head down and work ethic up. You will be proud of your abilities—and wonder why you ever doubted yourself.



# Web Only

## **Red Raider Camp Counselor Learns to Lead By Megan Ketterer**

Stephanie Malone got her first taste for Texas Tech University at Red Raider Camp (RRC) in 2006.

After being a camper, Malone decided to come back and staff in the summers of 2007 and 2008 before graduating.

The 2009 Texas Tech graduate currently teaches kindergarten at Preston Smith Elementary in Lubbock, but she learned how to teach and lead from being a counselor at RRC.

“It taught me to have fun while teaching,” she said. “Teaching history and tradition is more than just reading. It is important to make it really fun and relatable. It was a really inspirational time for me.”

Malone said being a RRC counselor taught her to take care of small things, manage groups and prepare activities for larger groups. Being in Junction is where Texas Tech starts to feel like a home, she said.

“It’s a really personalized experience,” she said. “It’s raw, it’s real. You get to make friends and you get to know people who have already been there.”



# Web Only

## **Texas Tech Head Chess Coach Competes in U.S. Championship By Lauren Kozlovsky**

Texas Tech University's head chess coach Alex Onischuk currently is competing in the 2014 U.S. Championship. The event is held through May 20 at the Chess Club and Scholastic Center of St. Louis.

"Coach Alex continues to be a world-wide magnet to Texas Tech for the millions who follow the chess scene," Chess Program Director Al Lawrence said.

Onischuk has been listed on the top 100 players in the world for the past 17 years and has won more than 20 major tournaments. Some of Onischuk's accomplishments include: becoming a grandmaster at the age of 18 in 1994, winning the U.S. Championship in 2006, becoming head coach of Texas Tech's chess program in 2012 and leading the Red Raiders to compete in the national collegiate championship playoff, the Final Four of College Chess, in 2014.

The U.S. championship invites an elite group of twelve players to compete for the U.S. title. Each player plays one game against each competitor for a total of 11 games. Total game points determine the winner. The U.S. Women's Championship is being held concurrently at the same location. At stake in the U.S. Championships is more than \$250,000 in prizes.

Onischuk placed third in last year's U.S. Championship. For real-time coverage from the U.S. Championship, visit <http://uschesschamps.com/>.

The Texas Tech University Chess Program—part of the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & and Community Engagement—offers outreach programs to more than a dozen area schools and can provide teaching materials and other assistance on request.

## **Texas Tech University Press Names New Director**

### **By K'Leigh Bedingfield**

Immersed in the publishing business for 20 years, Courtney Burkholder is now taking the lead as the new director for Texas Tech University Press (TTUP). The new director is no newcomer to Raiderland though, as she worked for the publishing office in 2004 to 2006 as a sales and marketing manager.

"I'm excited to be back at Texas Tech, and I'm looking forward to all the books we have coming out in the near future," Burkholder said.

Throughout her publishing career, she has worked in Nebraska, Oregon and Texas for university presses and also a publishing company for K-12 books. After receiving her anthropology degree from the University of Nebraska, Burkholder quickly broke into the publishing business for the university's press due to their strong publishing of anthropology books.

"It was an entry-level job, so I applied and got the job," Burkholder said. "I've been in the publishing business ever since and have loved every minute of it."

Now here at Texas Tech, she looks forward to the variety of books that will be published this year. While many of the books fall under Vietnam archives, costume studies, natural sciences, and Jewish studies and literature, Burkholder plans to expand TTUP's publishing categories. New categories include Texas Tech's strong suit, wind and water studies, and also regional music.

As the new director, she also looks forward to seeking out new authors and manuscripts, helping scholarly works get published, raise the awareness of TTUP, and provide high-quality and interesting works through the publishing office.

Vice Provost Peggy Miller, who oversees Burkholder's position, believes her qualification will continue to improve TTUP.

"Texas Tech is so very fortunate to have Courtney Burkholder join our team," Miller said. "Professionally, Courtney comes to Texas Tech with significant experience in new media for scholarly presses, in marketing and in international sales development."

"In addition, she has earned a national reputation for insight, creativity and excellence in the work she has done in the publishing field. Personally, she has also brought amazing energy and enthusiasm."