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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Wind Researchers Prepare for Nationwide Tornado Project

WHAT: Preparation and practice deployment for VORTEX2 project

WHEN: 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday (May 4) for media availability

WHERE: Building 250 at Reese Technology Center, located on 11th Drive toward the south end of the center.

EVENT: Texas Tech University wind researchers will take part in a collaborative nationwide project exploring the origins, structure and evolution of tornadoes.

The project, Verification Of Rotation in Tornadoes EXperiment2 (VORTEX2 or V2) runs from May 10 through June 13 in the central United States. The collaboration is the largest and most ambitious attempt to study tornadoes in history and will involve more than 50 scientists and 40 research vehicles, including 10 mobile radars.

Christopher Weiss, assistant professor of atmospheric science at Texas Tech, will lead a team of 18 faculty and students into the field for the project.

Texas Tech will bring two observing platforms to the VORTEX2 field phase. The first platform, named StickNet, represents an array of 24 durable tripoded observation stations, individually deployed in the path of tornado-producing storms to measure the temperature, pressure, humidity and wind. The second platform, one of the newly-constructed TTUKa mobile Doppler radars, will make remote measurements of the horizontal and vertical structure of tornado cyclones.

National media day begins at 10 a.m. May 8 at the National Weather Center located on the University of Oklahoma's Research Campus, 120 David L. Boren Blvd. in Norman. After a brief news conference, scientists from all participating agencies and universities will be available for interviews and all research vehicles will be on display.

For a complete list of participating scientists, and to learn more about the experiment, visit the V2 site <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/projects/vortex2/> and the official project Web site <http://www.vortex2.org/>.

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2009

CONTACT: Abby Tomlinson, abby.tomlinson@ttu.edu
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New Administrators Hired In College of Outreach and Distance Education

The Texas Tech University College of Outreach and Distance Education announces the hiring of two new administrators. Ethel Russell has been named high school principal of the Texas Tech Independent School District (TTUISD). Cary Sallee has been named the director of student services for the college. Both began their duties in April.

Russell has been a TTUISD counselor since December 2007. She came to Texas Tech from San Angelo where she had served as an assistant principal and interim principal. She received her bachelor's degree from Purdue University and her master's from Angelo State University.

Sallee comes to TTUISD from the AT&T call center, where he was a manager for nine years. He earned his bachelor's degree from Texas Tech.

A part of the College of Outreach and Distance Education TTUISD was established by the State Board of Education in 1993. It is an accredited elementary, middle and high school diploma program that operates entirely at a distance. In 2007-08 TTUISD averaged 1,419 full-time students throughout the year. A total of 1,536 students have graduated from the program as of this month.

The Student Services unit within the College of Outreach and Distance Education provides support services for K-12 and college non-semester-based, independent study distance students.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu

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Experts: Texas Tech Political Science Experts Can Discuss Souter's Retirement, Balance of Power on the Supreme Court

More than 18 years after his nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court by President George H.W. Bush, Justice David Hackett Souter will retire after the court recesses in June.

Three Texas Tech experts can comment on what most likely will happen next as the president decides on a nominee and the Senate moves to confirm.

Though originally believed to be a conservative-leaning judge, Souter proved fairly moderate in the beginning. Eventually, he was called a traitor by many Republicans for his increasingly leftist viewpoints. Now, some wonder who will fill his place on the court, and how the power will balance.

Mark McKenzie, an assistant professor of political science at Texas Tech with expertise on the Supreme Court, said Souter's decision to step down hardly comes as a surprise. Despite the fact Obama will most likely name a liberal nominee as Souter's replacement, the right-tilting court voting won't change much.

"I figured Souter would be the first to step down because there's been talk of him getting tired of Washington politics and wanting to step down for some time," he said. "I read something in The New York Times that Obama may choose Solicitor General Elena Kagan as Souter's replacement. I have no inside information on this, but I would guess Obama would be looking for a woman.

"However, the court still tilts right and will continue to do so after Souter leaves. I don't think the behavior of the court will change. You're going to continue to see a lot of 5-4 rulings, with Justice Anthony Kennedy serving as the swing vote."

Timothy Nokken, assistant professor of political science, has expertise in the Senate's justice confirmation practices. Whomever Obama chooses to nominate to replace Souter should have a fairly smooth Senate confirmation – that is, if they survive the media gauntlet first.

"Barring some sort of unforeseen scandal, I don't think there will be any sort of serious threats to the nominee," Nokken said. "Souter's retirement is not a departure that's going

to change the ideological balance of the court. If he was replacing Clarence Thomas or Sam Alito it would be a different story. But you've got a Democratic President and a Democratic Senate replacing a fairly liberal justice. There may be some Republican complaints, but nothing extraordinary such as filibustering or rejecting a nominee."

Craig A. Goodman is an assistant professor of political science with expertise in the Supreme Court, Congress and the president. He said that Arlen Specter's defection this week will play a role in Republican control of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"The defection of Senator Specter creates a vacancy for the Ranking Member on Judiciary and it will force the Republicans to address this within their conference as soon as possible because whoever assumes that position will play a critical role in leading the potential opposition," Goodman said. "Furthermore, the rules of the Judiciary Committee require at least one member of the minority to support bringing a matter to a vote. So the defection of Senator Specter could make that vote more challenging for Democrats to find.

"I expect that the process President Obama uses for choosing a nominee will be much more organized than it was when President Clinton had an opportunity to make his first appointment in 1993. The choice might inspire controversy, but the process will be much closer to the one President Bush utilized."

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Receives Patent for Decontamination Wipe Creation Process

The process used to create nonwoven toxic chemical decontamination wipes, such as Texas Tech University's Fibertect™, recently received a patent from the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Receiving the patent means the university has secured the intellectual property protection for the decontamination wipe's technology, said David Miller, vice chancellor of Texas Tech University System's Office of Technology Commercialization.

"This is an important milestone in the commercial development of the product and will aid our partner, Hobbs Bonded Fiber, in its marketing and sales efforts," Miller said.

"This is one example among the many novel technologies developed from Texas Tech's research initiatives."

Currently, the Fibertect™ wipe is under production by Hobbs Bonded Fibers of Waco and was invented by Seshadri Ramkumar, an associate professor of Environmental Toxicology at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH).

"The process for which the patent has been issued focuses on a multilayered wipe with a unique fabric structure, which can wipe liquid and vapor toxins," Ramkumar said. "Also, it lends itself to the use of cotton and other fibers, depending on the need. The wipe can be used on human skin and military equipment."

He was issued patent No. 7,516,525, titled Process for Making Chemical Protective Wipes and Such Wipes.

"This technology has been used successfully to develop products such as our nonwoven decontamination wipe, Fibertect™," said Ron Kendall, director of TIEHH. "The need for decontamination wipes, such as the kind we've created here at TIEHH, were a top priority for the Department of Defense. Years ago, we began the research, developed a product and met a top national security issue."

In December, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory performed an evaluation of several decontamination products including Fibertect™. Their results were published in the American Chemical Society's peer-reviewed journal, *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research*.

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The wipe that researchers tested features an activated carbon core sandwiched between an absorbent polyester layer on one side and absorbent cellulose on the other. After testing with mustard gas and other toxic chemicals, the results showed that the Texas Tech-created dry fabric out-performed 30 different decontamination products, including materials currently used in military decontamination kits.

The laboratory recommended Fibertect™ to be part of a prototype low-cost personal decontamination system.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Wind Researchers to Participate in Historic Tornado Project Federal field project uncovers the secrets of tornadoes.

Texas Tech University wind researchers will take part in a collaborative nationwide project exploring the origins, structure and evolution of tornadoes.

The project, Verification of Rotation in Tornadoes EXperiment2 (VORTEX2 or V2) will occur from May 10 through June 13 in the central United States. The collaboration is the largest and most ambitious attempt to study tornadoes in history and will involve more than 50 scientists and 40 research vehicles, including 10 mobile radars.

Christopher Weiss, assistant professor of atmospheric science at Texas Tech, will lead a team of 18 faculty and students into the field for the project. The assignment will last for two spring seasons.

“Data collected from V2 will help researchers understand how tornadoes form and how the large-scale environment of thunderstorms is related to tornado formation,” said Louis Wicker, research meteorologist with NOAA’s National Severe Storms Laboratory and V2 co-principal investigator.

Texas Tech will bring two observing platforms to the VORTEX2 field phase. The first platform, named StickNet, represents an array of 24 durable tripoded observation stations, individually deployed in the path of tornado-producing storms to measure the temperature, pressure, humidity and wind. The second platform, one of the newly-constructed TTUKa mobile Doppler radars, will make remote measurements of the horizontal and vertical structure of tornado cyclones.

“When the project begins, we will travel wherever conditions are most favorable for tornadoes, anywhere from Texas to South Dakota,” Weiss said. “We will generally have a feel for regions of interest the day before the event, but will not have a specific target until the morning of the potential event.”

Scientists will sample the environment of supercell thunderstorms – violent thunderstorms capable of producing damaging winds, large hail and tornadoes – that form over more than 900 miles of the central Great Plains. Areas of focus include southern South Dakota, western Iowa, eastern Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, the Texas

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panhandle and western Oklahoma. The V2 Operations Center will be at the National Weather Center in Norman, Okla.

V2 is a \$10.5 million program funded by NOAA and the National Science Foundation, 10 universities and three non-profit organizations.

The original VORTEX program, operated in the central Great Plains during 1994 and 1995, documented the entire life cycle of a tornado for the first time in history. Recent improvements in National Weather Service severe weather warning statistics may be partly due to the application of VORTEX findings. V2 will build on the progress made during VORTEX and further improve tornado warnings and short-term severe weather forecasts.

Other scientists and students throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia that will work with the V2 program include the Center for Severe Weather Research, Rasmussen Systems, NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory, OU/NOAA Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies, NSF-sponsored National Centers for Atmospheric Research, Penn State University, University of Oklahoma, Lyndon State College, University of Colorado, Purdue University, North Carolina State University, University of Illinois, University of Massachusetts, University of Nebraska, Environment Canada and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

Preliminary results from V2 are scheduled for presentation at Penn State University during fall 2009. At that time, organizers will begin planning details of the second phase of V2 scheduled for May 1 - June 15, 2010.

For a complete list of participating scientists, and to learn more about the experiment, visit the V2 site <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/projects/vortex2/> and the official project Web site <http://www.vortex2.org/>.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech's Autism Center Names Interim Director

Texas Tech University officials announced today (May 1) an interim director for the Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research in the College of Education.

Janice Magness, who has served since August 2007 as the program director of the Burkhart Center's Collin Burkhart Transition Academy, will fill the position and provide ongoing service in the Transition Academy.

Sheryl Santos, dean of the College of Education, said she is confident that Magness will continue the successful legacy of the center.

"Under Janice's dedicated leadership, the Burkhart Center will continue to be a shining star in our region, bringing much needed services, hope and optimism to students with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and their families, and to the professionals who serve them."

A graduate of Texas Tech and a lifelong educator with more than 30 years of classroom experience, Magness spent the last 18 years of her public school career as a content mastery teacher with Lubbock Independent School District. During those years in special education, she worked primarily with autistic students.

The Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research was established in 2005. The center provides services for individuals with ASD, their families and the professionals who work with them to improve their quality of life as well as a variety of resources in the areas of adult transitions, technical assistance in implementing evidence-based interventions for children and community outreach services.

The center also supports master's and doctoral students with scholarships, fellowships and opportunities to work with individuals on the spectrum. Additionally, the center has infused the undergraduate teacher preparation program with specific instruction for intervening with children with ASD and hands-on field placements in both inclusionary and special education classrooms that include individuals on the spectrum.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Staff Members Honored For Superior Service

Eighteen Texas Tech University staff members were honored today (May 4) with Quality Service Awards.

The awards, established in 1990, recognize those who provide excellent customer service in the performance of their jobs.

"Texas Tech prides itself on being a friendly place," said Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech University. "These men and women are true examples of what we mean by quality service. They, and their colleagues across the campus, are the backbone of our university. I am delighted we could recognize a few of our superb staff members for their work over the past year."

One staff member received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence and a \$1,500 check. Seventeen individuals received the President's Quality Service Award and a \$500 check. Winners were nominated for the awards and selected by a committee. Nominees are judged on a number of criteria based on outstanding customer service.

Scott Hall, assistant managing director, IT Help Central, won the Chancellor's Award for Excellence.

Winning the President's Quality Service Award are: Vickie Craig, Budget and Resource Planning and Management; Rebecca Contreras, Financial Accounting and Reporting; Danny Louis Fox, Physical Plant; Sandra Olive, Department of Psychology; Neal Nordstrom, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics; Jeannine McCoy, Department of Natural Resources Management; Robby Carlson, Department of Plant and Soil Science; Lou Ann Hillhouse, Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute; Dawn Moreno, College of Mass Communications; Pat Wright, College of Outreach and Distance Education; Karin Senft, Office of International Affairs; Tina Sansom, Teaching, Learning and Technology Center; Reginald Grant, Hospitality Services; Wendoli L. Flores, Institutional Advancement; Bradley R. Martin, Office of the Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance; Walter James, Environmental Health and Safety; and Michael Kennon, Environmental Health and Safety.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
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Karen Hughes, Karl Rove, Scott Pelley Address Spring Graduates

[Editor's note: Pelley will be available for interviews following the 9 a.m. May 9 ceremony – at approximately noon – in the United Spirit Arena's Visiting Locker Room B, near the Media Room]

Two former White House aides and a national journalist will speak May 8-9 at Texas Tech University commencement ceremonies.

Ambassador Karen P. Hughes, former counselor to President George W. Bush and under secretary of state, will speak Friday (May 8) at 4 p.m. undergraduate ceremony and a 7 p.m. Graduate School ceremony.

Scott Pelley, a correspondent for 60 Minutes since 2004, will speak at two Saturday commencement ceremonies.

Karl Rove, former deputy chief of staff and senior advisor to Bush, will speak Saturday at the School of Law Hooding Ceremony. The ceremony begins at 6 p.m. Saturday. Texas Sen. Jeff Wentworth, himself a School of Law graduate, will introduce Rove.

More than 3,100 students will receive diplomas during the five ceremonies held at the United Spirit Arena.

Commencement exercises for students in the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Jerry S. Rawls College of Business and College of Mass Communications will take place at 4 p.m. May 8. The Graduate School Ceremony follows at 7 p.m.

Students in the College of Arts and Sciences as well as students receiving university studies degrees and Honors College students who majored in natural history, humanities and honors arts and letters will celebrate commencement at 9 a.m. Saturday (May 9).

The Edward E. Whitacre College of Engineering and Colleges of Architecture, Education, Human Sciences and Visual and Performing Arts will host exercises beginning at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

About the speakers

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Hughes served as counselor to President Bush from 2001-2002 and as under secretary of state for public diplomacy and public affairs from 2005-2007. Prior to that she served as director of communications in the Texas Governor's Office and directed communications during then –Gov. Bush's successful campaign for Texas governor in 1994 and his campaign for re-election in 1998.

She currently serves as global vice chair of public relations and communications firm Burson-Marsteller.

Rove served as senior advisor to Bush from 2000–2007 and deputy chief of staff from 2004–2007. At the White House he oversaw the Offices of Strategic Initiatives, Political Affairs, Public Liaison, and Intergovernmental Affairs and was Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, coordinating the White House policymaking process.

Before he became known as the architect of Bush's 2000 and 2004 campaigns, he was president of Karl Rove + Company, an Austin-based public affairs firm that worked for Republican candidates, non-partisan causes, and non-profit groups. His clients included more than 75 Republican U.S. Senate, congressional and gubernatorial candidates in 24 states, as well as the Moderate Party of Sweden.

Pelley is a Texas Tech graduate and served as correspondent for 60 Minutes II and as chief White House correspondent for CBS Evening News prior to his current position.

Wentworth is serving his sixth term in the Texas Senate, where he was president pro tem in 2004-2005 and where he was inaugurated as Governor of Texas for a Day on Nov.20, 2004.

Ceremonies will be streamed live at the following site:
<http://streaming.net.ttu.edu/commencement.htm>



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 4, 2009

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Texas Tech Names Interim Dean of Whitacre College of Engineering

[Editor's note: A photo is available on request.]

Texas Tech University announced today (May 4) that Jon C. Strauss will be the interim dean of the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering, effective June 15.

Strauss is president emeritus of Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, Calif. Now retired, he is a member of the Registry for College and University Presidents, a nonprofit organization which engages former university presidents interested in service in interim leadership roles.

Texas Tech Provost Bob Smith said finding an interim dean through the registry was a winning situation for the university.

"Academicians who are listed in the registry are seasoned veterans in higher education," Smith said. "They are retired but still have the desire to serve in shorter-term leadership positions.

"With his tremendous background, I know Jon will give inspiration and guidance to the engineering and university communities, especially in cutting edge areas of research, with particular emphasis on sustainable energy."

Texas Tech President Guy Bailey agreed that Strauss will help lead the college forward.

"Dr. Strauss will provide us the extraordinary opportunity to continue the momentum that we have built with Pam Eibeck," Bailey said.

Smith said that the national search effort for a permanent dean will begin during the next academic year.

Strauss earned his doctoral degree in electrical engineering from the Carnegie Institute of Technology, his master's in physics from the University of Pittsburgh and his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Wisconsin.

Preceding his tenure as president of Harvey Mudd, which began in 1997, Strauss held various teaching and administrative positions at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute,

Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute, the University of Southern California, the University of Pennsylvania and Washington University.

A member of the National Science Board, Strauss has published and spoken extensively, consulted for a wide variety of colleges, universities and corporations, and served on the boards of a number of corporations and professional and community organizations.

Pamela Eibeck, dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering since 2004, has accepted the position of president of the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

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CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech Univeristy, (806) 742-2136 or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 5, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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High Achieving Advisors Honored By Texas Tech

Texas Tech University named the winners of the annual President's Excellence in Academic Advising Award today (May 5).

Individual awards went to Ann Bush from the Academic Advising Services office in the College of Human Sciences and to Kay F. Arellano from the Department of Natural Resources Management in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

"I applaud the hard work and dedication to our students shown by Ann and Kay," said Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech. "Helping students achieve the appropriate course load for each semester is vital to ensuring that they graduate in a timely manner. It is a big job, and a vital one for our students."

The President's Excellence in Academic Advising Award was created and first offered in the spring of 2006 to emphasize the importance of academic advising.

"These two advisors are wonderful examples of the impressive work being done to help our students succeed," said Bob Smith, provost of Texas Tech. "Advisors play an important role at Texas Tech and I want to express my gratitude to Ann and Kay and all of the excellent advisors we have here."

Arellano's academic advising philosophy centers on making time for, informing and encouraging students. She believes in putting students first before other work and in focusing on each individual student.

One faculty member writes of Arellano, "She nicely juggles the needs of all while maintaining a quality-first standard that sets our department above the rest. She seems to see the seeds of potential in many students long before their faculty do and nurtures those seeds into what have become some of the most successful graduates."

In a letter of support for Arellano's nomination, one student wrote, "Coming from a small ranching and oil community, Texas Tech seemed as big and busy as New York City. I can still remember how scared and overwhelmed I was during orientation. I questioned my decision to go to Tech, wondering if it was the right place for me, and that was when I met my advisor. She was so warm and inviting. She made me feel as if she earnestly cared about my future there and wanted to help me succeed."

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For Bush, academic advising is not just a process of scheduling classes toward a particular degree objective. Rather, advising is a process of empowering the students to understand themselves, set attainable goals for college and guide them toward making informed choices that lead to graduation.

A colleague wrote of Bush's nomination, "If I had to summarize her in one statement it would be, 'doing what is best for the student within the guidelines of the university.' She has a thorough understanding of the academic part of the student's life, but an even higher intuitive understanding of those elements necessary for the student to be in harmony with their academic experience."

One student described the impact of Bush's advising philosophy, "As a student I have met many staff members who treated me like I was just one of 25,000 students on campus, no different from most. This advisor however, communicated and engaged with me as if I was the only one. The time spent advising me, talking to me and encouraging me are some of the most memorable times of college. She made me feel like someone knew my individual potential and didn't view me as just another body to shuffle in and out of the office. She is the sole reason I am a Texas Tech graduate and why I returned for my Ph.D. She is an example of the university's quality and a reason to give back to Tech time and time again."

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 5, 2009

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Ranch Horse Team Finishes Undefeated Season with National Title

Texas Tech University's Ranch Horse Team clenched the American Stock Horse Association (ASHA) national championship at Texas Tech Equestrian Center in Lubbock.

The win culminated an undefeated season and eight individual class national champions to go along with the team's crown.

"We're blessed and honored to be named the first-ever national champion Ranch Horse Team at the inaugural ASHA National Championship Collegiate Stock Horse Show," said Texas Tech Coach Kris Wilson. "Our students worked very hard all year long from tryouts to the championship. They deserve every bit of recognition they're getting." The Texas Tech teams included:

Texas Tech Red:

- Dusty Burson, an animal science major from Silverton
- Kara Kraich, an animal science major from Akron, Colo.
- Jay Ray Sagaser, an animal science major from Cotton Center
- Adam Schwalm, an animal science major from Plano
- Tyler Theiszen, an animal science major from McCook, Neb.
- Krystal Towle, an art major from Sanger

Texas Tech Black:

- Will Boedeker, a history major from Quitaque
- Zack Burson, an animal science major from Silverton
- Cooper Cogdell, an animal science major from Silverton
- Luke England, an animal science major from Wingate
- Ashley Hartzog, an animal science major from Farwell
- Jennifer Richards, a psychology major from Rosenberg

Tech's eight individual national champions were:

- Limited Non-Pro Pleasure: Robert Rivers, an animal science major from Elgin
- Non-Pro Pleasure: Jenn Richards
- Non-Pro Reining: Krystal Towle
- Limited Non-Pro Cowhorse: Kara Kraich
- Novice Cowhorse: Luke England

- Non-Pro Cowhorse: Tyler Theiszen
- Novice Trail: Dusty Burson
- Non-Pro Trail: Jay Ray Sagaser

In addition to the Red Raiders' championship victory, the Texas Tech (Black) Team placed third, just behind reserve national Champion New Mexico State University. Texas A&M University, Sam Houston State University, Clarendon College (Green), Stephen F. Austin University, Laramie County Community College, and Clarendon College (White) rounded out the standings in the team competition. Tarleton State University and Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture also sent individual participants to the championships, but did not field a full team.

CONTACT: Kris Wilson, coach, Texas Tech University Ranch Horse Team and Assistant Professor, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, (806) 742-2805 ext. 236, or k.wilson@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 6, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Hill Country Graduates

A celebration honoring students of the Hill Country sites of Texas Tech University at Fredericksburg, Highland Lakes and Junction was held this week at the Pedernales Electric Cooperative building in Johnson City.

This year marked the 100th student to graduate from the Masters of Education in Educational Leadership program offered by Texas Tech University at the Hill Country sites.

Fourteen teachers graduated this year with certifications allowing them to be school administrators. Many former graduates of the program are now principals and assistant principals throughout the Hill Country. Four students earned a Bachelor of General Studies degree.

For more information on programs offered at TTU at Fredericksburg call (830) 990-2717.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 6, 2009

CONTACT: Keli Tarp, keli.tarp@noaa.gov
(405) 325-6933

Texas Tech Wind Researchers Participate in VORTEX2 National Media Day NOAA Media Briefing: Tornado Scientists Take to the Field.

WHAT: VORTEX2 Media Day

WHEN: 10 a.m. CDT Friday (May 8)

WHERE: National Weather Center
120 David L. Boren Blvd., Norman, Okla.

Media Call-in Number: 1-866-648-0234 (passcode: 1983854)

EVENT: The media briefing will include an overview presentation, display of field equipment and interview opportunities with lead researchers. Presenters include Kevin Kelleher, NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory; Brad Smull, National Science Foundation; Joshua Wurman, Center for Severe Weather Research; and Erik Rasmussen, Rasmussen Systems.

The collaborative nationwide project, Verification of the Origins of Rotation in Tornadoes EXperiment2 (VORTEX2), exploring the origins, structure and evolution of tornadoes will occur from May 10 through June 13 in the central U.S. It is the largest and most ambitious attempt to study tornadoes in history, involving nearly 100 scientists and 40 research vehicles, including 10 mobile radars.

Christopher Weiss, assistant professor of atmospheric science at Texas Tech, will lead a team of 18 faculty and students into the field for the project.

Texas Tech brings two observing platforms to the VORTEX2 field phase. The first platform, named StickNet, represents an array of 24 durable tripoded observation stations, individually deployed in the path of tornado-producing storms to measure the temperature, pressure, humidity and wind. The second platform, one of the newly-constructed TTUKa mobile Doppler radars, will make remote measurements of the horizontal and vertical structure of tornado cyclones.

The original VORTEX program, operated in the central Great Plains during 1994 and 1995, documented the entire life cycle of a tornado for the first time in history. VORTEX2 will build on that progress and further improve tornado warnings and short-term severe weather forecasts.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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Read the full story.

BONUS FEATURES:

To download broadcast-quality interviews with the researchers or high-resolution photos:

Windows:

1. Go to My Computer
2. At the address bar at the top, copy and paste the ftp address <ftp://129.118.56.46>
3. Type in username: **media**, password: **matador23**
4. Open the Vortex2 folder. The files should show up now and you can drag and drop to your desktop as needed.

Mac:

1. When you are at your desktop, click on **Go** at the top and then **Connect to Server...**
2. Copy and paste <ftp://129.118.56.46>
3. Type in username: **media**, password: **matador23**
4. Open the Vortex2 folder. The files should show up now and you can drag and drop to your desktop as needed.

Visit the NOAA project Web site at <http://www.nssl.noaa.gov/projects/vortex2> and the official project Web site at <http://www.vortex2.org>.

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 6, 2009

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech University Announces Spring Commencement, Reception Locations

More than 3,100 students will receive diplomas May 8-9 during the five ceremonies held at the United Spirit Arena.

Commencement exercises for students in the College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Jerry S. Rawls College of Business and College of Mass Communications will take place at 4 p.m. May 8. The Graduate School ceremony follows at 7 p.m.

Students in the College of Arts & Sciences as well as students receiving university studies degrees and Honors College students who majored in natural history, humanities and honors arts and letters will celebrate commencement at 9 a.m. Saturday (May 9).

The Edward E. Whitacre College of Engineering and Colleges of Architecture, Education, Human Sciences and Visual & Performing Arts will host exercises beginning at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The School of Law Hooding Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Honored students

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

The following students are banner bearers: Jenna Jones, an agricultural communications major from Slaton; College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; Kelly Hitchings, an architecture major from San Antonio, College of Architecture; Erica Michelle Lux, a psychology from Cedar Hill, College of Arts & Sciences; Erica Gray, an energy commerce major from Colleyville, Rawls College of Business; Ashley Ramsey, a multidisciplinary studies major from Lubbock, College of Education; Todd Buckingham, a civil engineering major from San Antonio, Whitacre College of Engineering; Noveen Fatima, an accounting and Spanish major from Clovis, N.M., Eric Braden, a natural history and humanities major from Katy, and Valerie Estes, a music performance major from Midland, Honors College; Morgan Marino, a nutritional sciences major from Lubbock, College of Human Sciences; Chaille Steed, an advertising major from Carrollton, College of Mass Communications; Renea Grobe, a general studies major from Fredericksburg, Isaac Martinez, an architecture major from El Paso, the College of Outreach & Distance Education; Tiffany Greathouse, a music major from Carlsbad, N.M., College of Visual & Performing Arts.

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The highest ranking May graduates for each college include:

- College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources: Bryan Bernhard, an animal science major from Seguin; Judd Gardner, an animal science major from Estancia, N.M.; Carolyn John, an agricultural communications major from Dallas; Allison Rogers, an animal science major from Kaufman; Chance Williams, an animal science major from Quemado, N.M.
- College of Architecture: Kelly Hitchings, an architecture major from El Paso; and Lisa Zucchini, an architecture major from El Paso.
- College of Arts & Sciences: Jana Abeln, a Spanish major from Richardson; Aaron Adcock, a math major from Heath, Ohio; Nicholas Bergfeld, a biochemistry and psychology major from Lubbock; Brittany Yuo-Keng Chan, a psychology and general studies major from Houston; Alysha Cooper, a psychology major from Wylie; Melissa Edwards, a psychology major from Lubbock; Kyrstin Eklund, a health, exercise and sport sciences major from Albuquerque, N.M.; Amanda Evans, a psychology major from Las Cruces, N.M.; Ryan Gibbs, an English major from Lubbock; Lindsay Gibson, a health, exercise and sport sciences major from Katy; Kathleen Hudgins, an English major from Lubbock; Allison Hundt, an exercise and sport sciences major from Lindsay; Rachel McIntosh, an exercise and sport sciences major from Amarillo; Bradley Phillips, an English major from Lubbock; Christopher Sader, a psychology major from Andrews; Katie Schmidt, an English major from Spring; Matthew Shadrick, a political science major from El Paso; Anne Shepherd, an English major from Killeen; and Mehr Singh, a history major from Lubbock
- Rawls College of Business: Erica Gray, an energy commerce major from Colleyville.
- College of Education: Ashley Ramsey, a multidisciplinary studies major from Lubbock.
- Whitacre College of Engineering: Aaron Adcock, an electrical engineering major from Heath, Ohio; Todd Buckingham, a civil engineering major from San Antonio; Nicole Davis, a petroleum engineering major from Midland; Kevin McBride, a chemical engineering major from Bridgeport; Adam Siegel, an engineering technology major with a construction option from Littleton, Colo.; Adam Stroud, a mechanical engineering major; and David Trujillo, a chemical engineering major from Dallas.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

- College of Human Sciences: Tiffany Whitt, an early childhood major from Lubbock; Kristin Eskew, a human development and family studies major from Robinson; Margaret Griesdorn, a human development and family studies major from Lubbock; Morgan McKay, a human development and family studies major from Corpus Christi; Alisa Alsharif, a human development and family studies major from Houston; Morgan Marino, a nutritional sciences major from Lubbock; and Marcie Mills, a nutritional sciences major from Lubbock.
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Valerie Estes,, a music performance major from Midland; Tiffany Greathouse, a music major from Carlsbad, N.M.; Zachary Hughes, an art history major from Lubbock.

Receptions

Receptions for the colleges follow their respective ceremonies. Reception locations are: College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources in the atrium of the Animal Science Building; College of Architecture in the Architecture Gallery; College of Arts and Sciences in the foyer area of room 104 in Holden Hall; Rawls College of Business in the Rotunda of the Business Administration Building; College of Education in the second floor foyer of the Education Building; Whitacre College of Engineering in the Engineering Center; College of Human Sciences in the El Centro room of the Human Sciences Building; College of Mass Communications: no reception – diplomas will be distributed in room 113 of the Mass Communications Building after the ceremony; College of Visual & Performing Arts in the Hemmle Hall foyer; the School of Law, Merket Alumni Center.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 6, 2009

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

New Symposium Presents Viticulture, Enology Research to Aid Texas Wine Industry

Texas Tech University and the Texas AgriLife Extension Service will co-sponsor a new symposium to present ways current and ongoing viticulture and enology research can benefit Texas grape growing and winemaking industries.

Viticulture is the science of grape growing and enology is the study of winemaking.

The first Texas Viticulture and Enology Research Symposium will take place June 2-3 at the Granbury Resort Conference Center, 621 E. Pearl St. in Granbury.

The symposium will bring together researchers and students from Texas Tech and Texas A&M University to discuss topics including vineyard economics, wine marketing, sensory evaluations of Texas wines, the cancer-fighting affects of Texas wines, deficit irrigation, grape variety adaption and infestations of grape berry moths.

Presentations will conclude with summaries explaining how to apply research in vineyard or winery operations.

"Our primary audience is vineyard owners and wine producers, but we also hope to draw in other researchers as well as those who simply have an interest in grapes and wine," said Ed Hellman, a Texas Tech professor of viticulture with a joint appointment at Texas Agrilife Extension.

Keynote speakers include Peter Cousins, a grape rootstock breeder and geneticist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service who will deliver a viticulture address, and Patricia Howe, research enologist, winemaker and owner of Patricia Howe Wines & Consulting who will deliver an enology address.

"This symposium will be a great opportunity for those involved in the Texas wine industry to hear from scientists and respected speakers who will give an in-state and out-of-state perspective on current research in viticulture and enology," he said. "And Granbury's new conference facility and the town's geographically central location make it an ideal location for the first symposium."

Symposium and hotel registration is open, but attendees are requested to book their rooms early to receive a special discount rate available through May 9. For symposium and hotel information, go to: http://winegrapes.tamu.edu/meetings/TX_Research_Symposium.pdf

To register for the symposium online, go to: <http://agrilifevents.tamu.edu/> and search using the keyword "viticulture."

A pre-symposium dinner will be held at Barking Rocks Winery in Granbury, with registration for the dinner separate from the symposium. For information and to register for the dinner, go to: http://winegrapes.tamu.edu/meetings/Dinner_Registration.pdf.

For more information about the town of Granbury and the Granbury Resort Conference Center, go to: <http://www.granburytx.com/Home.aspx>

Symposium registrants also will automatically be entered for a drawing to win a complete registration package to the 2010 Texas Wine & Grape Growers Association annual conference in Dallas, a value of up to \$500. The prize is courtesy of the association.

CONTACT: Ed Hellman, professor of viticulture, Department of Plant and Soil Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 746-6101, or ed.hellman@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 8, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Expansion of Merket Alumni Center

WHO: Texas Tech Alumni Associate

WHAT: Hard Hats and Hot Dogs groundbreaking for the Alumni Association expansion project

WHEN: Tuesday (May 12) 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m., groundbreaking at 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Merket Alumni Association on the Texas Tech Campus

EVENT: Groundbreaking for the Peggy and Bill Dean Expansion to the Merket Alumni Center.

The expansion will nearly double the present Merket Alumni Center by adding 10,694 square feet. A new second entrance into Merket Alumni Center will open into the Peggy and Bill Dean Grand Reception Hall. Three new banquet/meeting rooms will be constructed on the west end of the building. Other features include a new serving kitchen with storage; a new circulation, staging and planning office; a bride's room and new restrooms. The existing kitchen will be remodeled into an office suite for the association's marketing department. A second courtyard will be built to the east, featuring a gazebo and landscaping.

First built in 1995 as an addition to the original Texas Tech president's home, Merket Alumni Center now hosts more than 800 events annually and is in high demand for weddings and receptions year round.

Free hot dogs, chips and soft drinks will be available for all attending.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 8, 2009

CONTACT: David P. McClure, david.mcclure@ttu.edu
(806) 742-0012

Texas Tech University Partners in \$28 Million Department of Energy Project

Texas Tech University has been named as a research partner on the Pantex Renewable Energy Project in President Obama's \$9.9 billion Energy Department budget that was released by the White House yesterday (May 7).

The budget includes funding for the Pantex Renewable Energy Project, with initial funding proposed at \$28 million. The project will create a wind farm for the Pantex plant, located 17 miles northeast of Amarillo. The energy produced from this wind farm will support the energy needs at the Pantex plant and, at the same time, create the nation's largest collaborative research wind farm for Texas Tech and the Department of Energy's ongoing research on wind power generation.

Texas Tech is working with a broad coalition of partners to develop and support this project including the Department of Energy, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), B&W Pantex, the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL), and The Wind Alliance.

"The decision to include this project in the president's budget is a serious commitment by the administration to move our country forward in renewable energy," said Andy Swift, director of the Wind Science and Engineering Center at Texas Tech. "The use of a large scale wind farm for research and for workforce development is absolutely critical in providing answers to many of the key challenges facing the wind power industry."

"Texas Tech is honored to have been recognized by the Department of Energy for our wind science and engineering expertise," said Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. "We want to thank the Department of Energy, the National Renewable Energy Lab and members of our congressional delegation for their ongoing support of our research and training efforts. Not only will this help achieve the president's national energy policy goal of 25 percent renewable energy by 2025, but it further validates the State of Texas as the leader in wind energy."

The Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center is an established multi-disciplinary research center with world-recognized faculty and staff and wind measurement and analysis facilities. It offers the only doctorate degree in Wind Science and Engineering in the nation. Texas Tech is one of the few research organizations in the United States to offer both a functional workforce educational program along with advanced research degrees for future

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engineers and scientists in the wind energy sector. Because of its location in the wind corridor, Texas Tech is uniquely positioned to advance the nation's wind energy agenda.

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CONTACTS:

David Miller, vice chancellor, Texas Tech University System's Office of Technology Commercialization, (806) 252-5578, or david.l.miller@ttu.edu.

Andy Swift, director Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Center, (806) 239-0555, or andy.swift@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 11, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Biodefense Law Center Nets Five-Year Funding

Texas Tech University's Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy in the School of Law will once again receive a five-year grant from the National Institutes of Health and the Western Regional Center of Excellence (WRCE), despite recent WRCE budget cuts which affected other universities.

The biodefense center received funding in 2004 to act as the Law, Policy and Ethics Core for the WRCE for the previous five years and will continue that role through 2014 with the second grant.

Established in 2002, the center conducts cutting-edge research that is valuable to the security of the nation as the need to counter bioterrorism increases. Directed by Vickie Sutton, the Center for Biodefense works to establish standards for law and raise public policy issues in biodefense.

"I am particularly pleased with the confidence shown in us to continue the research, education and service that we are doing in biodefense and biosecurity law benefiting not only the WRCE but other research centers of excellence throughout the U.S.," said Sutton. "The grant money will continue to aid the center in conducting research in the areas of biodefense, public health preparedness, biosecurity and biosafety law."

Nearly \$256,000, which will be used to maintain daily operation and research, comes to the Center for Biodefense at Texas Tech through a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID).

"Receiving an NIH/NIAID grant is certainly a distinction not only for the law school but for the entire University," said Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech University.

As the Law, Policy and Ethics Core for the WRCE, the biodefense center will provide legal counsel on policies and regulations in the areas of publications, primate testing, vaccine approval processes, human subject testing and intellectual property.

"The Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy has been a unique resource for law students," said Walt Huffman, dean of the Texas Tech School of Law. "I am pleased to see this continuing benefit from the funding for awarding law students Center Fellowships."

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Recently, the Biodefense Center at Texas Tech opened a biosecurity and biosafety law hotline for researchers, safety officers and lawyers. It also has conducted regional and national surveys regarding biodefense research and compliance with the Select Agent Regulations. It is the only law school center in the U.S. to be funded by NIH and NIAID through the biodefense research program.

The WRCE is an organization of 32 institutions, including 24 universities in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. It was created to establish a strong infrastructure for research and development in the field of bioterrorism, specializing in generating new diagnostic methods and vaccines.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

CONTACT: Brie Sherwin, assistant director, Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy, School of Law, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3787 ext. 319, or brie.sherwin@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 11, 2009

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Texas Tech's College of Outreach & Distance Ed Names New Assistant Dean

Texas Tech University's College of Outreach & Distance Education announced Monday (May 11) that Berhl Robertson has been chosen as the assistant dean for the kindergarten-through-12th-grade program, effective June 8.

As assistant dean, Robertson will oversee the Texas Tech University Independent School District, Special Projects, Student Services and Curriculum and Production.

"I am extremely honored to have been selected as the assistant dean for the College of Outreach & Distance Education and look forward to working with Dr. Matt Baker in growing the program and making it the best in the nation," Robertson said. "I see tremendous potential within the kindergarten-through-12th-grade program at Texas Tech and can't wait to get started."

Matt Baker, dean of the College of Outreach & Distance Education, said that Robertson was selected based upon his track record of academic excellence and high expectations for all students, and his vision for kindergarten-through-12th-grade education.

"Texas Tech is fortunate to have Dr. Robertson join our leadership team in the College of Outreach & Distance Education," he said.

Robertson serves on the Legislative Committee of the Texas Association of School Administrators and was appointed by Sen. Robert Duncan as a member of the Senate School Finance Advisory Committee.

In 2008, the Roosevelt Independent School District, where he served as superintendent, was named "one of the best high schools in America" by U.S. News & World Report. This year, researchers at Texas A&M University named Roosevelt as Texas' top school district in 2007 for serving Latino students. In 2003, Robertson was selected as the Region 17 Superintendent of the Year.

At Texas Tech, Robertson earned his bachelor's degree in 1985, his master's degree in 1993 and his doctorate in education in 2005. He began his career as a high school agriculture teacher in 1989 for R.I.S.D. In 1996, he became superintendent for Southland

Independent School District, and then returned in January 2000 to serve as superintendent of R.I.S.D.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 11, 2009

CONTACT: Norman Martin, norman.martin@ttu.edu
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Agriculture Professor Named President of International Association

David Lawver, an agricultural educator and Fulbright Grant award winner from Texas Tech University, was selected president of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education.

"This position calls for a combination of intellectual depth and experience," said John Burns, dean of Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. "AIAEE is fortunate to have a person like David Lawver, who brings together these traits in one individual."

Lawver's three-year term begins May 24 at the conclusion of the group's annual conference in Puerto Rico. The theme of the meeting is "25 Years of Strengthening International Agricultural and Extension Education."

"It is an honor to be chosen by my peers from around the world to lead the organization," Lawver said. "I hope to encourage more participation by agricultural and extension educators from underrepresented countries."

Lawver, a professor in Texas Tech's Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, also recently received a Fulbright Grant from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars. He will teach extension methods during the fall semester at Egerton University near the east African provincial capital of Nakuru, Kenya.

Lawver joined the faculty in 1989 and became a professor in 2000. Prior to coming to the South Plains, he served as an assistant professor in agricultural education at Texas A&I University. He also worked as an agricultural science teacher in the Missouri communities of Higginsville, Bronaugh and Granby.

A native of Carl Junction, Mo., Lawver earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural education and vocational technical education from the University of Missouri. His doctorate in agricultural and extension education is from Mississippi State University. He currently serves on the managing editing board of the Journal of Agricultural Education.

The AIAEE was established in 1984 to provide a professional association for agricultural and extension educators who share the common goal of strengthening agricultural and extension education programs and institutions worldwide.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 11, 2009

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
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Swine Flu Measures in Mexico Will Hit Only U.S. Trade Sector Generating a Surplus

Emergency measures implemented in Mexico to halt the spread of H1N1 influenza will most likely sicken the only U.S. trade sector still generating a surplus in the downturned economy, say two Texas Tech University agricultural economists.

A report by by Jaime Málaga, an assistant professor in the Texas Tech Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and Pablo Martinez-Mejia, a post-doctorate research associate with the department's Center for North American Studies, found that the disease formerly known as Swine Flu likely will hammer exports of agricultural products such as corn, soybeans, sorghum, beef, poultry and pork to the U.S.' second-largest trade partner outside Canada.

"We know that the impact of the 'swine' flu crisis in Mexico will be important for the U.S. exporters," researchers noted. "The magnitude of the effects will depend on how long the Mexican measures continue and how the Mexican domestic and tourist consumers react."

The U.S. exported more than \$16 billion in agricultural and food products to its southern neighbor in 2008 and, if recent history is an indication, it was poised to surpass that amount in 2009 – U.S. agricultural exports to Mexico have quadrupled since 2004, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture reports.

Yet Mexico's GDP already was expected to drop by more than 7 percent during the first quarter of 2009 before H1N1 prompted the Mexican government to implement emergency measures such as shuttering thousands of restaurants and cutting off tourist travel to popular destinations.

Researchers predict these measures could shave another 1 percent off of Mexico's GDP if they continue for just another two weeks.

"The impact on the food distributions sector has been disastrous, particularly for the suppliers of high-value food products demanded by resorts and restaurants which purchase high quality products imported from the U.S.," researchers wrote.

The most obvious victim of this is the U.S. pork industry.

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Even though eating the meat doesn't transmit H1N1, consumers have shied away from pork dishes, curbing what started as a promising year for the industry after Mexico imported \$228 million in pork products from the U.S. in January and February – a 20 percent increase over the same period last year, according to estimates by the USDA's Economic Research Service.

But slumping pork demand also will dampen exports of related products such as corn and soybeans, which are commonly used as pig feed.

The researchers recommend coordinated policy efforts between the two NAFTA partners to protect the agricultural sectors in both countries.

To download a copy of the report, visit http://today.ttu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/mexican_flu_impacts.doc.

CONTACT: Jaime Málaga, assistant professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-0261 ext. 241, or jaime.malaga@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 12, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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VORTEX2 Caravan Headed to Texas Panhandle

WHAT: VORTEX2 Tornado Research Project

WHEN: Today (May 12)

WHERE: More than 100 scientists and crew in up to 40 science and support vehicles are headed toward the Lubbock area today, +/- 100 miles.

EVENT: Local media will be able to meet up with the VORTEX2 teams at specific locations in the Texas Panhandle.

Also, live streaming video is available daily from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. CDT, and during instances of actual tornadic activity, at http://www.weather.com/tv/programs/vortex2/streaming.html?from=tv_program_promo3&from=tv_program_promo3

To find out specific VORTEX2 locations, please contact:

Susan Cobb, media coordinator, VORTEX2, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Public Affairs, (303) 513-7849, or Keli Tarp, NOAA Weather Partners, National Weather Center, (405) 325-6933.

-30 -

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 12, 2009

CONTACT: Renée Underwood, Ru1390@yahoo.com

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Alumni Association Breaks Ground on New Merket Center Addition

Texas Tech Alumni Association (TTAA) broke ground today (May 12) on the Peggy and Bill Dean Expansion to Merket Alumni Center.

Scheduled to be completed in spring 2010, the expansion project will nearly double the present Merket Alumni Center by adding 10,694 square feet. A new, second entrance into the facility will open into the Peggy and Bill Dean Grand Reception Hall. Three new banquet/meeting rooms will be constructed on the west end of the building.

TTAA President Barbara McKenzie applauds the early support for the project.

"Despite the current economic conditions, many individuals, businesses and foundations have already pledged their support to make this much-needed expansion possible," she said. "Confident that we are on track to raise the rest of our goal, our national board has elected to begin construction now."

Campaign fundraising chairperson Nelda Laney announced that the Building on Tradition capital drive that began last October has raised \$2,357,110 to date toward the \$4 million project budget.

McKenzie and her husband, Mickey, of Sulphur Springs have provided the largest single gift. The new ballroom, which seats up to 600, will be named in their honor.

Other features in the addition include a new serving kitchen with storage; a new circulation, staging and planning office; a bride's room and new restrooms. The existing kitchen will be remodeled into an office suite for the association's marketing department. Two memorial groves will be planted on the grounds, and a second courtyard will be built to the east, featuring an outdoor gazebo.

Joe D. McKay of JDMA, Inc. is the architect for the project, Lee Lewis Construction, Inc. has been named general contractor, and Ogallala Construction Management will serve as project manager.

First built in 1995 as an addition to the original President's Home, Merket Alumni Center now hosts more than 800 events annually and is in high demand for weddings and receptions year round.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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Several naming opportunities remain available for donors to the project, as well as brick pavers, bronze markers, marble pavers and granite benches for varying giving levels.

Complete details about the project are available at www.MarketExpansion.com, or by contacting Jim Douglass at jim.douglass@ttu.edu or (806) 742-3641 or Renée Underwood, Texas Tech Alumni Association National Board member and marketing chairman for Building on Tradition Capital Campaign at Ru1390@yahoo.com or (806) 928-0463.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Names College of Education Interim Dean

Texas Tech University announced today (May 14) that Charles P. Ruch will serve as interim dean of the College of Education, effective June 1.

Ruch (pronounced “rook”) is the retired president of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. He is a member of the Registry for College and University Presidents, a nonprofit organization which engages former university presidents interested in service in interim leadership roles. He will not be a candidate for the permanent dean’s position.

Texas Tech Provost Bob Smith said finding an interim dean through the registry was a winning situation for the university.

“Dr. Ruch brings to Texas Tech a wealth of higher education leadership experience,” said Bob Smith, Texas Tech provost. “It is a great advantage for Texas Tech to be able to draw on the resources of the registry to bring strong, proven leaders in to fill our short-term needs.”

This is the second interim position Texas Tech has filled using the registry. Last week, Jon C. Strauss, president emeritus of Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, Calif., was named interim dean of the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering.

A national search for a permanent dean will begin in the next academic year.

“We have excellent faculty and staff in the College of Education,” said Guy Bailey, Texas Tech president. “Dr. Ruch will help us continue to move forward while we search for a replacement for Dean Sheryl Santos.”

Prior to his tenure at the South Dakota School of Mines, Ruch was president of Boise State University for 10 years. He also served as provost and vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College of Education at Virginia Commonwealth University.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from College of Wooster and his master’s and doctorate from Northwestern University. He also holds a certificate from the Harvard Institute for Educational Management.

Ruch was appointed by President George W. Bush as a trustee of the Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation and by the Secretary of Energy to the National Coal Council. He has published widely and participated in numerous national higher education associations including the American Council on Education's Task Force on Teacher Education.

Santos will step down as dean of the College of Education June 1 after serving as dean since July 2003. She will take a one-year sabbatical before returning in the fall 2010 semester to a faculty position.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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Contact: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Athletics Media Relations Office Heisman Campaign Wins National Award

The Texas Tech University Athletics Media Relations Office has won a national Telly Award for its Heisman campaign for Graham Harrell and Michael Crabtree.

The campaign, "Pass or Catch 2008" played off of the year's heated presidential campaign. The center of the campaign was a Web site www.passorcatch2008.com, which had more than 73,000 visitors from 91 countries.

The campaign drew national media attention from coast to coast and was featured extensively on ESPN, College Gameday, ABC broadcasts of Texas Tech football games, and several national sports television and radio shows.

"The purpose in crafting something like this is to create awareness, and I think we did that," said Chris Cook, Texas Tech associate director of athletics/media relations. "The biggest factors in its success were Graham and Michael having the seasons they did and the program completing one of the most memorable seasons in school history."

The campaign, aimed at Heisman voters across the country, focused on the Red Raiders' two stars: quarterback Graham Harrell and receiver Michael Crabtree. Harrell finished fourth in the Heisman voting and Crabtree fifth. The Web site featured each player's statistics and "vote for me" style videos. It was supported by a mailing of "campaign" buttons and other paraphernalia, including note pads, campaign signs and bumper stickers.

"The most impressive thing about it was watching the development of what began as a simple idea and it taking off overnight," Cook said. "There a several people that hit the ground running to create what it eventually became, and they are to be commended."

The team that created the Web site was led by Blayne Beal, associate media relations director. Kirk Heard wrote and directed the video spots with editing and videography support from Andrew Gamel, both from the Texas Tech Sports Broadcasting office. Katie Schneider, in the Tech athletics marketing office, created the Web site template. Lisa Low and Ryan Pharis developed the Web site and Artie Limmer and Joey Hernandez provided the photography, all from the Office of Communications and Marketing. Steve Pitts provided the narration for the videos.

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The Telly awards honor the best in local, regional and cable television commercials and programs, as well as video and film productions and work created for the Web. More than 14,000 entrants in several different categories were received this year from advertising agencies, production companies, television and cable stations and corporations around the world.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

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CONTACT: Chris Cook, associate athletic director and sports information director, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2770, or chris.cook@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 18, 2009

CONTACT: Michelle Hamman, michelle.hamman@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Duo Recognized for Support of Women in Science

Faculty and staff members honored for outstanding efforts.

The West Texas Association of Women in Science will recognize a Texas Tech University faculty member and a staff member for their outstanding support of women in science at the association's 2009 award ceremony at noon May 29 in TTUHSC ACB120.

Martha Hise, director of the Institute for the Development and Enrichment of Advanced Learners (IDEAL), will be recognized by the organization as the Outstanding Woman Leader (O.W.L.) in Science for 2009. Todd Anderson, a professor in the Department of Environmental Toxicology and The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) earns the Champion of Women (C.O.W.) in Science award.

The West Texas Association for Women in Science created the awards to recognize individuals who support and promote women in science. Individuals are nominated by association members and honorees are selected by an awards committee composed of Texas Tech students, staff and faculty.

One of Hise's projects through IDEAL is the Science: It's a Girl Thing summer camp for girls entering grades five through 11. The program addresses the shortage and need for women scientists and introduces under-served girls to a university experience.

Anderson has received the Chancellor's Distinguished Research Award and the President's Excellence in Teaching Award. Also he has been honored with fellowships from the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the U.S. Department of Energy.

The association was founded in 2008 with the mission to actively support and encourage women of all ages and career choices, and have adopted the vision and mission of the national Association of Women in Science.

CONTACT: Kendra Rumbaugh, vice president, WT-AWIS; assistant professor, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, (806) 743-2460 ext. 264, or kendra.rumbaugh@ttuhsc.edu.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 21, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu

Phone: (806) 742-2136

Texas Tech Receives Workforce Commission Grant University will promote high-tech youth career initiatives.

Texas Tech University has received a \$241,449 grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) as part of the Texas Youth in Technology (TYT) Strategic Workforce Development initiative.

Supported with federal Workforce Investment Act Statewide Activity Funds, the workforce development strategy supports job-growth opportunities that align with Gov. Rick Perry's Texas Industry Cluster Initiative.

"Educating our youth in advanced skills is one of the greatest tools we have to continue positioning Texas as a national and global economic leader," Perry said. "Through support from the Texas Workforce Commission, these initiatives provide the foundation for future high-tech workforce success."

Through its participation in TYT, Texas Tech has clear-cut goals for supporting the governor's initiatives and Texas employers. The funds will be used to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to tomorrow's workforce.

"Texas Tech already has a strong history of promoting STEM learning to secondary students", said Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech. "This grant will allow us to build the educational pipeline and further engage students into fields that will strengthen the economic future of Texas."

With Texas Tech's workforce development initiative, engineering students and movable laboratories will provide outreach to high school students and community colleges, in addition to acting as peer mentors for students in introductory engineering classes. Qualifying distance education engineering students will be awarded scholarships.

TYT and resulting projects will establish programs to increase post-secondary enrollments, retention and graduates in engineering and computer science. Working with the Texas Engineering and Technical Consortium (TETC), the grant program also will increase collaboration among Texas employers, institutions of higher education and collegiate engineering and science departments.

Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering

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TWC has awarded 11 TYT grants totaling \$2,410,764 million. In addition to Texas Tech, recipients include: Prairie View A&M University, Richland College (Dallas County Community College District), Sam Houston State University, San Jacinto College, Southern Methodist University, University of Texas at Arlington, University of Texas at Austin, University of Texas at Dallas, University of Houston and University of North Texas.

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CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or leslie.cranford@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 26, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Rawls College Hosts First Event in New Cowboy Stadium

WHO: Texas Tech University Rawls College of Business

WHAT: Annual North Texas Scholarship Breakfast

WHEN: 7 a.m. May 28

WHERE: Dallas Cowboy Stadium

EVENT: This will be the first public event in the new Cowboy Stadium. Jerry Jones, Cowboy's owner, will speak.

The college began holding scholarship events in Dallas in 1984. Since then more than \$1 million has been raised to fund scholarships for students in the Rawls College of Business Administration.

Find Texas Tech news, experts and story ideas at www.media.ttu.edu.

CONTACT: Andrea Long Tirey, Rawls College of Business, (806) 742-1785 ext. 231, or andrea.long@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Researcher Available to Discuss Climate Change, Projections

The report from the Global Humanitarian Forum warns that more than 300 million people are already seriously affected by the gradual warming of the earth and that number is set to double by 2030.

A prominent Texas Tech University climate researcher can discuss how global climate change will affect the United States during the coming century. Also, she can discuss the current global warming legislation pending in Congress and how the choices made now will shape future patterns of climate change.

Katharine Hayhoe, a research associate professor at the Department of Geosciences at Texas Tech, said that though global climate change is happening now, making immediate changes in the United States' current emissions can dramatically reduce the impacts we can expect down the road. By taking steps now to reduce emissions, the result will be much like the old adage: An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

Most recently, Hayhoe worked with the University of California, Berkeley, on a project that modeled how climate change would affect the global wildfire patterns. Also, she has led large research teams that have assessed the potential impacts of climate change on the Northeastern part of the U.S., the state of California and the city of Chicago's people, ecosystems, water resources and economy.

Hayhoe served as a reviewer and contributor to the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's massive international analysis of the impact of human activities on Earth's climate. The IPCC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 together with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

CONTACT: Katharine Hayhoe, associate professor, Department of Geosciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 392-1900, or katharine.hayhoe@ttu.edu



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2009

CONTACT: David McClure, david.mcclure@ttu.edu
(806) 742-0012

**Gov. Perry Appoints Texas Tech University Student to
Higher Education Coordinating Board**

Texas Gov. Rick Perry today (May 29) appointed Heather A. Morris as student representative to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Morris, a graduate student in public administration, is the first student from Texas Tech University to serve on the Coordinating Board. She earned a bachelor's degree in English from Texas Tech in 2003 and taught high school English in Crosbyton, Texas before returning to pursue her graduate degree. In addition to her graduate student status, Morris is a full-time staff member in the Office of Research Services at Texas Tech.

"I am extremely honored to be selected to serve on the Higher Education Coordinating Board," Morris said. "I am very excited about representing university students as we set higher education policy for the state."

"We are very proud of Heather and know she will add value to the work of the Higher Education Coordinating Board," said Chancellor Kent Hance.

Per statute, the Governor appoints one student in Texas to serve on the nine-member governing board for a one-year term. Morris replaces Charles "Trey" Lewis, III from the University of Houston Law Center.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2009

CONTACT: David McClure, david.mcclure@ttu.edu

(806) 742-0012

Gov. Perry Appoints Student Regent for Texas Tech University System

Texas Gov. Rick Perry today (May 29) appointed Kyle Miller as the Texas Tech University System Student Regent.

Miller, a second-year medical student who also is pursuing a master's degree in business administration, is the second student from the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to serve on the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents. The Plainview native earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Texas Tech in 2007.

"I am extremely honored to be selected to serve as the student regent," Miller said. "I am very excited about representing the students of all three of our institutions and being their voice on the board."

"We look forward to having Kyle join us on the board," said Larry Anders, chairman of the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents. "Our experience has been that student regents lend a unique perspective to the issues that come before the board."

"Students are our first priority at Texas Tech," said Chancellor Kent Hance. "Having a student regent gives our students a voice in the decision making process. I look forward to working with Kyle."

By law, the student regent rotates between Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Angelo State University and serves a one-year term. Miller replaces Texas Tech University law student Kelli Stumbo, who was appointed in 2008.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2009

CONTACT: Sean Cleveland, sean.cleveland@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Wind Turbine Conference Set for June

[Editor's Note: The website address for online registration for the conference is www.larc.ttu.edu/wind_conference]

The influences of wind power development on wildlife in Texas, along with the legal implications of locating wind farms specifically here in West Texas, highlight a two-day conference on the future of wind turbine farms at Texas Tech University.

The meeting, which will be held June 12-13 in the Lanier Auditorium of Texas Tech's School of Law, is hosted by the university's Department of Landscape Architecture, Department of Natural Resources Management and the School of Law.

Participants will examine a widely disparate range of issues facing the wind turbine industry in anticipation of what most experts expect to be its explosive growth over the next decade. Texas, in particular, has emerged as a significant potential site for the expansion of its already extensive wind power capacity.

In addition to examining the complex legal issues facing the industry, speakers also will address environmental impacts pertaining to animals, water and sound, and will consider the industry's public administration and management implications.

Case Van Dam, a professor of mechanical and aeronautical engineering at the University of California, Davis and the director of the California Wind Energy Collaborative, will deliver the conference's keynote presentation, Site Engineering for Wind Projects: A Californian Perspective, at a luncheon on June 12.

Van Dam's current research focuses on wind power engineering, aerodynamic drag, high-lift aerodynamics and design, and active control of aerodynamic loads.

The conference's remaining presentations on June 12 include:

- Michael Borshuk, Texas Tech University, Department of English, Cool Jazz, Western Literature, and Wind Power: A Metaphor for Energy
- Lucia Barbato, associate director, Center for Geospatial Technology, Wind Power and Desalinization in West Texas

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- Andy Swift, Director, Texas Tech University, Wind Sciences/Engineering Research Center, Wind Turbine Farm Trends 2009-2010
- Louis Mills, Texas Tech University, Department of Landscape Architecture, "Wind Farms, Scenic Management on the Coast – An Australian and Texan Viewpoint"
- Warren Ballard and Matt Butler, Texas Tech University, Department of Natural Resources Management, The Prairie Chicken Perspectives of Wind Farms
- Kathy Boydston, Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife, "Criteria for Project Review"
- Mike Slattery, Texas Christian University, Wind Research Project TCU/NEXTERA Energy; TCU-Oxford NEXTERA Energy Wind Research Initiative
- Clint Boal, Texas Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Influences of Wind Power Development on Wildlife in Texas: Look Before You Leap
- Dwain Rogers, Renewable Energy Texas GLO, The GLO Response to Wind Farm Siting in West Texas
- Skelly Holmbeck, NEXTERA Energy (formerly Florida Power and Light), Wind Industry Perspectives of the Environmental Approval Process.
- Vickie Sutton, Texas Tech University, School of Law, Legal Implications of Wind Farm Siting in West Texas
- James Payne, Legal Aspects from Sweetwater, Texas
- Tom Longoria, Texas State University, Local Government Response to Wind Farms
- H. Alan Carmichael, with Wetsel and Carmichael, a Sweetwater-based law firm, Trends in Wind Energy Leases

The State Energy Conservation Office has reported that Texas is currently the U.S.' top wind producer and is the first state to achieve the one gigawatt milestone generated by its wind installations in a single year. Furthermore, in addition to being the site of three of the five largest wind farms in the nation, officials at the American Wind Energy Association predict that two-thirds of the nation's wind energy growth will occur in Texas.

Indeed, the state already holds the record for the world's largest wind farm, Horse Hollow Wind Energy Center, which spreads across approximately 47,000 acres in Taylor and Nolan counties near Abilene. Two other sites within two hundred miles of Lubbock figure prominently in the effort to harvest the region's strong prevailing wind, as well.

Sweetwater, for example, has perhaps the greatest concentration of wind farm turbine projects in the world and pending wind farms financed by T. Boone Pickens in nearby Amarillo are expected to dwarf the state's current capacity.

CONTACT: Louis Mills, Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture, Texas Tech University at (806) 742-2858 or louis.mills@ttu.edu.