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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## News Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 1, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Provost Earns Praise for Accreditation Work**

A vice provost for planning and assessment at Texas Tech University was commended for her involvement in removing Texas Tech from probation status in 2008 with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC).

The Core Curriculum Committee determined Valerie Paton demonstrated exceptional commitment to Texas Tech through her valuable contribution in removing the university from probation and her oversight of the SACSCOC fifth year interim report preparation this year, said Gary Elbow, chairperson of the committee.

Elbow said this recognition is merely a reflection of the deep respect the members of the committee have for Paton and her untiring effort on behalf of the university.

“Dr. Paton exhibited strong leadership skills by working out a structure that would facilitate our actually accomplishing what needed to be done to meet SACSCOC standards,” Elbow said. “She was able to motivate faculty to develop core curriculum learning outcomes and strategies to assess the extent to which students had achieved those outcomes. Her ability to draw faculty into the assessment process was essential to getting us off SACSCOC probation.”

The commendation states that Paton’s efforts had a determinative role in the removal of Texas Tech from SACSCOC probation and in initiating processes that are resulting in substantial improvements in the university’s Core Curriculum and General Education requirements.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 1, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu  
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### **Texas Tech Toxicologists Receive \$846,000 to Find Cause of Plummeting Quail Population**

Researchers at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech University recently received \$846,000 to fund three studies looking at diminishing bobwhite quail populations across the state.

The money is part of \$1.97 million allocated to Texas Tech as well as Texas A&M University by the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation to discover the culprit as to why these quail populations have dwindled to the lowest on record.

The three-year project is titled Operation Idiopathic Decline as a nod to the unknown reasons.

Though quail have been on the decline for the past 20 years, Ron Kendall, director of TIEHH and lead investigator for one of the three Texas Tech research projects, said last year saw the greatest decline yet.

"I'd say the fall quail population on the Rolling Plains of Texas – one of greatest quail hunting areas in the country – declined by as much as 80 to 90 percent last year," he said. "This is a huge drop. Ranchers contacted us and said they were finding dead birds, or weren't seeing quail like they had seen them before. This happened late last summer to a large degree.

"This decline in quail has a huge economic impact on this area. People come from all over the country to hunt quail here. They're a big economic boost for our state and particularly out here in West Texas. We don't know what's driving this. We just know the bottom fell out with quail populations in West Texas last year. For all small communities, this is a huge impact."

Because of an abundance of rain and food thanks to last year's El Nino weather event, Kendall said most scientists have ruled out the weather as the culprit.

"We think, at the end of the day, it's a disease or disease/contamination interface," he said. "So we'll be trying to find out what those contaminants are. The central receiving station for all the birds being examined will be right here at TIEHH."



Steve Presley, a zoonotic disease researcher in charge of the central receiving lab and disease studies at TIEHH, said researchers at Texas Tech had found evidence of West Nile virus and Newcastle disease virus in quail populations last year.

“With this funding, we’re going to expand the scope on our quail population screening for diseases spread by insects and ticks,” he said. “Diseases such as West Nile virus may compromise quail health enough that they don’t reproduce as well or can’t escape predators as well. We’re going to expand our research to determine if quail decline is related to arthropod-borne disease.”

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 5, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Hosts Global Lens 2011 Film Festival**

Award-winning world cinema series plans three-day showcase.

Against the backdrop of Argentina's mid-80s military regime, an overzealous young teacher develops an unusual obsession with one of her students after she is asked to keep a watchful "eye" over the happenings at an elite Buenos Aires private school.

Argentina's film "The Invisible Eye" begins Texas Tech University's presentation of The Global Film Initiative's Global Lens 2011 Film Festival at 7 p.m. July 15. The festival is a showcase of ten critically acclaimed narrative feature films to be screened at the College of Mass Communications through July 17.

The festival also includes films from Uruguay, Kyrgyzstan, Brazil, Georgia, India, China, Indonesia, Iran and Bosnia-Herzegovina. All screenings will take place in room 101 of the College of Mass Communications. Seating is available on a first come, first serve basis.

Global Lens is an annual touring film series launched in 2003 to support the distribution of cinematic words from around the world. This marks the third year the series will play at the College of Mass Communications. A detailed schedule of the screenings is as follows:

#### Saturday, July 16

- 12 p.m. – "A Useful Life" (Uruguay, 63 min.)
- 1 p.m. – "The Light Thief" (Kyrgyzstan, 80 min.)
- 3:15 p.m. – "The Tenants" (Brazil, 103 min.)
- 5:15 p.m. – "Street Days" (Georgia, 86 min.)
- 8 p.m. – "Soul of Sand" (India, 98 min.)

#### Sunday, July 17

- 1 p.m. "Belvedere" (Bosnia-Herzegovina, 90 min.)
- 3 p.m. – "Dooman River" (China, 89 min.)
- 5 p.m. – "Opera Jawa" (Indonesia, 120 min.)
- 8 p.m. – "The White Meadows" (Iran, 93 min.)

Global Lens 2011 includes the Uruguayan submission for the Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award, "A Useful Life" (Best Film, New Latin American Film Festival), along with critical favorites "Dooman River" (NETPAC Award, Pusan International Film

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Festival), “Soul of Sand” (Official Selection, Toronto International Film Festival), “The Light Thief” (FIPRESCI Award, Eurasia International Film Festival) and Iranian auteur Mohammad Rasoulof’s visually arresting film “The White Meadows” (Special Jury Award, Dubai International Film Festival).

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 5, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Summer Reading Program Showcases Food Expert**

The issue of the American paradox, where the more we worry about nutrition the less healthy we seem to be, is explored by author Michael Pollan in Texas Tech University's Summer Reading Program's new book: "In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto."

"This book was chosen because it allows the Texas Tech community to interact and discuss a common topic—in this case, our relationship with food. What we eat is one reflection of our histories and our cultures. We each have something to contribute about our food, health and environment," said Amy Murphy, managing director of the Center for Campus Life.

"In Defense of Food" shows how weight-loss obsessed Americans can escape the Western diet and, by doing so, most of the chronic diseases that the diet causes. The book teaches to distinguish healthy food from those "edible food-like substances."

The critical respect and universal appeal of Pollan's work makes this book a prime choice to help freshman students prepare for a rigorous academic career.

"The purpose of the Summer Reading Program is to set the expectation for the accomplishment of learning on their own time. It also gives them the opportunity to create connections with other students, university faculty and staff," Murphy said.

Pollan is an expert on the intersection between the human and natural worlds such as food, agriculture, gardens, drugs and architecture. His work has earned numerous awards, including the James Beard Award; the John Burroughs prize; the QPB New Vision; the 2000 Reuters-I.U.C.N. Global Award for Environmental Journalism; and the 2003 Humane Society of the United States' Genesis Award for his writing on animal agriculture.

In October, Pollan will speak at The Presidential Lecture & Performance Series. The author and food activist will discuss all aspects of his career in an autobiographical lecture titled "Out of the Garden and Onto the Plate: One Writer's Path." The event will be immediately followed by a book signing. Tickets are free for students and \$5 for the general public. For more information about ticket sales, visit [www.presidentialseries.ttu.edu](http://www.presidentialseries.ttu.edu).

“In Defense of Food: An Eater’s Manifesto”, as well as Pollan’s other books, is on sale at the Texas Tech bookstore.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 6, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Makes Its Mark on NASA**

Red Raiders have flown in space and taken seats at mission control.

As the space shuttle Atlantis sits on the launch pad at Cape Canaveral, Fla., awaiting its final voyage, Texas Tech University commemorates a relationship with NASA that spans nearly a half-century.

Atlantis is scheduled to launch July 8 for a 12-day resupply mission to the International Space Station. Four astronauts – Commander Chris Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley and mission specialists Sandy Magnus and Rex Walheim – will fly Atlantis on what is to be the grand finale of NASA's shuttle program.

They are among an elite group of brave individuals who have risked their lives to further the understanding of worlds beyond our own. And several Red Raiders, both past and present, have played a significant role in that quest for knowledge. They include:

- **Charles A. Bassett II** received a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering with honors from Texas Technological College in 1960. He was among the third group of astronauts named by NASA in October 1963, and selected to be the pilot of Gemini 9, alongside Elliott See. Both men were killed four months before launch when their T-38 trainer crashed into Building 101 at McDonnell Space Center in St. Louis. Building 101 was where all Gemini vehicles were assembled. They died within 500 feet of their spacecraft.

In November 1996, Texas Tech dedicated an electrical engineering research laboratory building in Bassett's honor. Among those in attendance that day was fellow Texas Tech graduate and future STS-107 Columbia commander Rick Husband.

- **Bernard A. Harris**, a former member of the Texas Tech University Board of Regents, earned his medical degree from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine in 1982. Shortly after he completed a National Research Council Fellowship at NASA Ames Research Center, he joined Johnson Space Center as a clinical scientist and flight surgeon. Selected by NASA in



January 1990, Harris became an astronaut in July 1991. A veteran of two space flights, Harris logged more than 438 hours in space, as mission specialist aboard STS-55 Columbia (1993), and as payload commander on STS-63 Discovery (1995), at which time he also became the first African-American to walk in space. Harris left NASA in 1996.

"If it weren't for Texas Tech, I wouldn't have been an astronaut," Harris said. "From here, I could do all the things that I could only dream of as a kid."

In 1998, Harris created the Harris Foundation, a Houston-based, non-profit organization which supports programs that empower underserved individuals to recognize their potential and pursue their dreams. Texas Tech will host the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp in July for a second straight year.

- **Rick Husband** received a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Texas Tech in 1980. He was a pilot on STS-96 Discovery (1999), a 10 day mission which included the first docking with the International Space Station. He returned to space as crew commander of STS-107 Columbia (2003), a 16-day science and research mission. Husband and six crewmates perished when Columbia broke apart during re-entry over Texas, 16 minutes before scheduled landing.

Among his many talents, Husband sang with the university choir. He even took the time to email the choir during his last mission to let them know he was exercising in space to their CD.

It is also relevant to note that Husband's pilot aboard STS-107, William "Willie" McCool, also has ties to Texas Tech. His mother, Audrey McCool, is a Texas Tech alumna. And, McCool's father, Barent McCool, is an assistant professor in the Restaurant, Hotel and Institutional Management Program in the College of Human Sciences.

- **Paul S. Lockhart** earned a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics from Texas Tech in 1978 before being commissioned in 1981 to the United States Air Force. He was an F-16 test pilot when he was selected as an astronaut candidate in 1996, and later piloted two space flights aboard Endeavour in 2002, STS-111 and STS-113. Both were missions to the International Space Station.

Lockhart graduated in 2004 from the Royal College of Defence Studies in London and retired from the U.S. Air Force in 2007 and NASA in 2008. He currently works in the private sector.

- **Al Sacco Jr.** is the dean of the Edward E. Whitacre College of Engineering at Texas Tech. Before landing in Lubbock in 2010, Sacco flew as the payload



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

specialist aboard STS-73 Columbia (1995). The 16-day mission focused on materials science, biotechnology, combustion science and fluid mechanics contained within the pressurized Spacelab module.

Using his space flight experience, Sacco has since given more than 300 presentations to approximately 30,000 K-12 teachers and their students as a means to motivate students to consider careers in science and engineering. He is a fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and in 2004 was elected to the International Academy of Astronautics.

Those experiences for success are something Sacco strives to emulate in his current position.

“We were a community at NASA, and we put the objectives above our personal advancements,” he said. “The result was an environment where everyone loves to come to work, and where people feel valued while contributing to something special. If we can do that at Texas Tech, we will rocket to the top.”

- **Sally Davis** graduated from Texas Tech in 1980, with a degree in mathematics. She was a Russian interface officer (RIO) in the Shuttle-Mir program for Atlantis missions STS-71 (1995), STS-74 (1995) and STS-76 (1996), coordinating communications between Houston and the Russian Mission Control Center near Moscow. Davis also worked as a flight design manager, putting together the trajectory information required to do a flight. And she was a flight director for the International Space Station from 1996 through 2008.

“There’s nothing else like it in this world,” Davis said about watching a live launch. “My husband and I met our grown daughter in Florida, for the launch of STS-134 (Endeavour) at the end of April. There was no launch and we were all very disappointed, but we had a pretty nice weekend vacation.”

Currently, Davis is a shuttle systems safety manager, a position typically more intensive leading up to the flight, as opposed to the actual mission. For the final flight, she will be on the Mission Management Team in Houston, as the representative for the Space Shuttle Program’s Safety and Mission Assurance office.

- **Lucy Kranz** graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1981. She said she enjoyed her studies in public policy and the challenges of applying policy for good outcomes. “I use my education from Texas Tech every day that I come to work,” she said.

Kranz’s father, Gene Kranz, was the NASA flight director recognized for his efforts that helped save the Apollo 13 crew. He coined the phrase “failure is not an option.” Her father’s history as a pioneer in human space flight, combined with

her job at Kelly Air Force Base in the procurement department, gave her the desire to work for NASA. She was especially motivated by the idea that she could “participate in buying the space systems and hardware that put humans in space.”

Kranz’s current position is to manage the mission support to the Orion Project. The Orion Project’s objective is to design, develop, test and deliver a human-rated crew transportation vehicle capable of exploration beyond low Earth orbit.

- **Patricia R. DeLucia** is a professor in the psychology department; adjunct professor in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Nursing; and coordinator of the Human Factors Program, a multidisciplinary field concerned with what is known about people, their abilities, characteristics and limitations to the design of equipment they use, environments in which they function and jobs they perform.

DeLucia also serves on the NASA Johnson Space Center Human Research Program Space Human Factors and Engineering Standing Review Panel. In previous years, she worked on a funded project to study information integration in judgments of time-to-collision.

- **Ginger Kerrick** earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in physics from Texas Tech in 1991 and 1993, respectively. During her master’s studies, she worked as a summer intern and cooperative education student at Johnson Space Center. Kerrick’s first permanent assignment was as a Materials Research Engineer. She later became the first non-astronaut spacecraft communicator, and the first person of Hispanic heritage to lead Mission Control as flight director for the International Space Station.

“Texas Tech University not only provided me a well-rounded education, but the people I met there really helped build up my skills and truly supported me in my goal to work at NASA,” Kerrick said.

For the upcoming launch, Kerrick is on rotational assignment to the Extravehicular Activities (EVA) Office as their deputy manager. She will be scheduled to support some of the daily Mission Management Team (MMT) meetings for STS-135 on behalf of the EVA office.

Kerrick said this final mission is a source of great pride, because she will share the historic event with her mother, who has never seen a launch in person.

- **Joel Tumbiolo** earned his master’s degree in atmospheric sciences from Texas Tech in 1989. He became a meteorologist for the U.S. Air Force, which put him on the path that led to his current position at Cape Canaveral. Since 1991, Tumbiolo has led all weather support for both the space shuttles and expendable vehicles.



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Just before a vehicle blasts off, a NASA test director calls for a status check from all flight directors monitoring the various crucial systems. Tumbiolo is among those responding with a “go/no go for launch.”

Tumbiolo has been monitoring the skies in preparation for STS-135 ever since Atlantis rolled out from the vehicle assembly building. He will turn control over to Houston, once Atlantis clears the tower at lift off.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## News Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 7, 2011

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### **Mystery Science Theatre Meets Academia at Texas Tech**

A human and his plastic robots mocking “B-list” sci-fi films while trapped in space may not sound like a typical area of serious academic study.

However, two librarians at Texas Tech University have demonstrated the academic and cultural importance spurred on by popular cult television show, “Mystery Science Theatre 3000,” in their new book.

Texas Tech University film expert Rob Weiner and co-editor Shelley Barba recently released their new book “In the Peanut Gallery with Mystery Science Theater 3000: Essays on Film, Fandom, Technology and Culture of Riffing.”

Mystery Science Theatre 3000 (MST3K), an 11-year American comedy series, employs a creative way for viewers to enjoy typical “B-list” science-fiction films. Featuring a man and his robot sidekicks, held hostage on a space station by an evil scientist and forced to view a collection of “bad” movies, the series develops a new relationship between film and audience by providing a running commentary in which they humorously mock each film.

The essays in the book represent the first full-length scholarly analysis of MST3K. In addition to the essays, the book includes interviews with series creator Joel Hodgson and two of the series’ cast members, Kevin Murphy and Trace Beaulieu.

“I had noticed there are plenty of academic studies of shows and movies like ‘Twilight’, ‘Buffy the Vampire Slayer’, ‘The Watchmen’, ‘Star Trek’, ‘South Park’ and ‘Star Wars’, but nothing on MST3K,” Weiner said. “I invited metadata librarian Shelley Barba to co-edit on the project and Dr. Robert Peaslee to write the foreword. Both scholars are interested in how programs like MST3K intersect with media culture. The time was just right for this kind of volume.”

Weiner said he was surprised at how huge the culture of riffing had become. There are literally hundreds of alternative commentaries to movies that can be downloaded.

“They make riffing look easy, but the truth is they put a great deal of effort into the jokes. Comedy is one the hardest genres to write in and do it well,” Weiner said.

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Barba said co-editing the volume gave her new perspective and helped her see one of her favorite television shows in a whole new light.

This new book represents a great step forward in the serious consideration of riffing, a practice of both journalistic and theoretical importance, said Peaslee, assistant professor of electronic media and communications in the College of Mass Communications.

“Rob and Shelley’s collection brings into focus the degree to which MST3K was a text ahead of its time, foreshadowing our current ‘remix’ culture,” Peaslee said “If you don’t know MST3K, you should watch an episode, replace your head after laughing it off, and watch another one. Then read this book because there’s not another one out there that examines its topic more carefully and lovingly.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 8, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Researcher Receives Grant to Study Effects of Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill**

Texas Tech University researchers received a \$115,000 grant from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative in a joint research project with Tulane University to collect samples of a common bait fish a year after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

James A. Carr, a professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, serves as the lead investigator for the project. He said he and other researchers will collect the Gulf killifish, or *Fundulus grandis*, which serves as a sentinel species.

"The killifish is a species that's pretty ubiquitous throughout the Gulf coastline," Carr said. "It's important to go back one year after the Deepwater Horizon spill because the young fish hit hardest then are now reproductively mature and breeding. It's an important commercial fish in the fact it's a bait fish, but it's also kind of like the canary in the coal mine. If we see effects in this fish, there may be effects in other commercially important fish."

Carr's team will collect Gulf killifish at oil-impacted sites in southern Barataria Bay in Louisiana, as well as sites not hit by the oil spill in Southeast Texas. Though the researchers are only funded to collect the fish in this project, they will keep them frozen or preserved for future analyses.

Other investigators include Deborah Carr, research assistant professor at Texas Tech's Department of Biological Sciences; Ernest Smith, an associate professor of reproductive and developmental toxicology at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health; and Arunthavarani Thiyagarajah, a research associate professor in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at Tulane University.

The Texas Tech grant is one of 17 grants totaling \$1.5 million from the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 8, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Expert: If Looking for a Job, Keep a Clean Online Image**

More hiring managers are looking at personal social media sites to screen applicants.

The trend for Human Resources professionals to include Googling job applicants as part of the screening process is growing, said a Texas Tech University social media expert.

John Wirtz is an assistant professor of public relations in the College of Mass Communications and teaches a new class in social media. Wirtz said it's usually when they're moving beyond that first cut of applicants and are making decisions about further interviews or hiring someone that employers look to one's social media sites for insight to the person.

Cross-Tab Marketing, commissioned by Microsoft, found that about 75 percent of U.S. companies use online searching as part of the screening process, Wirtz said. Most frequently that included Googling candidates.

"So it means finding a balance between who you are publicly and recognizing that the days of simply putting on your best suit or skirt and handing over a polished resume as the complete application process are over – recognizing that with the new media, specifically social media 'revolution,' your face is out there all the time," he said.

Doug Buchanan agrees. The assistant vice president for Human Resources at Texas Tech says that after you are hired, the employer can only consider what you do, not who you are.

"Prior to being hired they can evaluate any information they are provided to determine what type of person you are," Buchanan said. "If they do this remotely, without you there to provide context, this information can misrepresent you and your intent. It is certainly their opportunity to mix personal and professional considerations to evaluate your 'fit' with their organization.

"Things targeted to a group of friends that have the larger context but are available to the general public without that context can be skewed to a strange point of view," Buchanan said. "Comments that represent a political or religious point of view can be evaluated not only for fit but for judgment in making these generally available. Again, there is danger in others interpreting your meaning without you there to defend or again place in proper context."

Danette Baker, mother of a recent college graduate, and now a nontraditional student herself, said long before she had even heard the term “digital footprint,” she was using Yahoo, Google and social networking sites to gather background information prior to job interviews — both as the interviewer and interviewee.

“Some of what I found amazed me probably because I grew up in the era of pen, paper and Polaroids. Once it was committed to paper, or film, you could never take it back.”

“As a mother of three, I have often heard the argument by today's generation that comments and photos on sites such as Facebook or Twitter should not be taken seriously. After all, they just capture a minute moment in time,” Baker said. “The problem however, is that your digital footprint does not necessarily retain that moment-in-time context, but instead allows the viewer to fill in the blanks based on what is there or not.”

Wirtz also believes there will be some pushback from people who argue for privacy, where federal and state agencies are asking the question, “should this stuff be private.”

“Like an employee who tweets or posts disparaging comments about her boss and gets fired for it – she does have a First Amendment right. So that is a gray area,” Wirtz said. “We’re kind of in a new era. People have always gone to the corner bar, or out with the girls, and talked about politics, or jobs or bosses – the difference is with social media, everyone is listening to the conversation.”

His advice to students is to be more aware of the types of things they post – from the drunk party pictures, to the crazy person on the beach, to the type of comments.

“At least regularly Googling your own name can give you an idea of what is out there.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 11, 2011

CONTACT: Norman Martin, [norman.martin@ttu.edu](mailto:norman.martin@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2808

### **Texas Tech Wins Australian International Meat Judging Contest**

Texas Tech University's meat judging team took first place honors at the Australian Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest (ICMJ) in Armidale, New South Wales, on Saturday (July 9). Overall, the team ranked first in beef, pork and lamb carcass judging, placings, grading and reasons/questions as well as second in retail cut identification.

The team earned the title of "World Champions," and all 13 members placed among the event's top 15 contestants. Jerra McMath, a senior from Estancia, N.M., was high individual. Drew Cashman, a sophomore from New Windsor, Md., was second high individual. The team, housed in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, won the annual contest by 433 points, beating 11 Australian and Japanese university competitors.

"This competition was a once-in-a-life-time experience," said Mark Miller, team coach and Texas Tech's San Antonio Livestock Show Distinguished Chair in meat science. "We certainly want to thank all those who helped and supported us over the years. They made all of this possible."

Team members competing in Australia included:

- Blaine Corliss, a junior from Estancia, N.M.
- Cody Helms, a senior from Cleburne
- Faith Jurek, a junior from Goldthwaite
- Mandy-Jo Laurent, a junior from Nacogdoches
- Andrea Nordman, a junior from Florence
- Craig Russell, a senior from Visalia, Calif.
- Zach Smith, a junior from Sweetwater
- Cody Sultenfuss, a junior from Little-River Academy
- Kaitlyn True, a junior from Plainview
- Amanda White, a senior from Garden City, Kan.
- Dakota Williams, a sophomore from Glenrose

Other coaches include Andrea Garmyn, a Texas Tech post-doctoral research associate; and Shanna Ward, an animal and food sciences graduate student.

Earlier this year the team won its seventh-consecutive first place award at the Houston Livestock Show's Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest. They were also first at the Southwestern Livestock Show's Meat Judging Contest in Fort Worth.

During the 2010 judging season, the team won six of seven national contests, making it one of the most successful teams since meat judging began at Texas Tech in 1938.

The goal of the Australian ICMJ contest is to expose and encourage students into careers in the meat industry; therefore, participants heard presentations from industry leaders in the global sector while competing.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 12, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Graduate School Honors High-Quality Theses and Dissertations**

Texas Tech University, acknowledged for its status as a research school, has been instrumental in many projects serving as the frontier for their industry.

Members of the Texas Tech Graduate School are responsible for a good portion of this important research. The school is proud to announce the 2011 awards, recognizing the quality of work students displayed in several theses and dissertations.

During odd-numbered years, the graduate school recognizes work in biological life sciences, humanities and fine arts. Even-numbered years recognize social sciences, mathematics, physical sciences and engineering.

The 2011 winners are:

#### **Biological Life Sciences**

- First place master's thesis – Eric Howell in the Department of Biological Sciences. "Chemotherapeutic Challenge of the Chernobyl Rodent *Apodemus flavicollis*."
- Second place master's thesis – Shawna Nations in the Department of Environmental Toxicology. "Acute and Developmental Toxicity of Metal Oxide Nanoparticles (ZnO, TiO<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, and CuO) in *Xenopus laevis*."
- First place doctoral dissertation – Adcharee Karnajapiboonwong in the Department of Environmental Toxicology. "Long-Term Fate of Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in the Environment."
- Second place doctoral dissertation – Colin Bell in the Department of Biological Sciences. "Soil Microbial Responses to Increased Precipitation in the Desert Grasslands of Big Bend National Park."

#### **Humanities/Fine Arts**

- First place master's thesis – Leslie Branson in the Department of Theatre and Dance. "And Footlights Lit the Path of the Righteous: Theatricality and Performance in the Second Great Awakening."
- Second place master's thesis – Cody Lass in the Department of History. "Read All About It: Nationalism During the American Revolution."

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- First place doctoral dissertation – Stephanie Eckroth in the Department of English. “Anonymity, Celebrity and Authorship, 1780-1823.”
- Second place doctoral dissertation – John Southard in the Department of History. “The Marine Corps Way: Combined Action Platoons in the Vietnam War.”

Students are nominated by their faculty members for the awards. First place thesis winners receive \$1,000, while second place theses receive \$500. Students winning first place dissertations receive \$1,500, while second place receives \$750. Nominating faculty members whose students receive first place also receive a stipend. All monetary awards are made possible by the Helen Jones Foundation.

In addition to these awards, the graduate school will nominate first place dissertation award winners to the Council of Graduate Schools as part of its annual competition to recognize an outstanding dissertation that represents original work and makes unusually significant contributions to the discipline.

For more information on these awards visit the graduate school website at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/grdschInfo/supportDocs/ThesisDissertationAwards.pdf>.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 13, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [john.w.davis@ttu.edu](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Receives Grant to Continue Counterterrorism Research**

The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech recently received a \$1.1 million research award from the U.S. Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command to continue funding the Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt Jr. National Program for Countermeasures to Biological and Chemical Threats.

Ron Kendall, director of TIEHH, said this was the first funding cycle of a new 3-year contract for the program, which was chartered at Texas Tech in 1999.

"This will allow us to continue our work in countermeasures to chemical and biological threats – in other words, counterterrorism measures," Kendall said. "The program has enjoyed a lot of success in working with the Army in the last several years, publishing more than 100 scientific publications, a major textbook and critical patents such as the Fibertect® decontamination wipe."

This additional support allows researchers at TIEHH, Texas Tech and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center to further expand and leverage technologies that Zumwalt researchers have developed.

"Our scientific team at TTU works very closely with the Edgewood Center of the U.S. Army and identifying the research areas that they need and the country needs to be ready for chemical and biological threats," Kendall said.

As research coordinator for the Zumwalt program, Steve Presley screens and determines which research priorities the program should have. Since its inception, the program has received about \$24 million in funding, he said.

"Currently, the program has about nine long-term projects, such as developing sensor capabilities to detect chemical or biological agents in the environment," Presley said. "That's a long way to go from basic research to take it to applied detection of chemical and biological agents where you can determine exactly what you're dealing with. This funding helps us continue these long-term projects."

The program focuses on three areas – high-performance computer modeling and simulation of how toxic agents may move in the environment, development of personal protection items such as the Fibertect® wipe, and development of threat detection equipment.

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“One of the objectives that the Army’s Research, Development and Engineering Command encourages is for us to take these technologies we develop for military applications and make them commercially viable where they can transfer to the civilian population for responders on the domestic side,” Presley said. “The post-9/11 world has kind of matured, and there are always newer threats. It’s always evolving. One role that the Zumwalt program plays is to help the military adapt to the changing threat landscape.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 13, 2011

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### **International Textiles Conference Announced**

The 2011 International Textile Conference, "Advances in Textiles, Machinery, Nonwovens and Technical Textiles" (ATNT 2011) will take place from Dec. 15-17 in Coimbatore, India.

Seshadri Ramkumar, an associate professor at Texas Tech University, and J. Srinivasan, a professor at Kumaraguru College of Technology, have organized the event, which will take place at the Kumaraguru College in Coimbatore.

The ATNT conference originated in 2004 at Texas Tech University and now attracts more than 200 people worldwide. The convention allows leading scientists and industrialists to connect on one platform.

For more information visit [www.atnt2011.com](http://www.atnt2011.com).

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-more-

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 13, 2011

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
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### **New Alliance Aimed at Helping Texas Tech Minority Doctorate Students**

In a region growing with minorities, education catering to each specific demographic is of increasing importance.

In an effort to serve its populations, Texas Tech University, in conjunction with Rice University and five other southwestern research universities, will form a next-generation alliance, aimed to increase the number of underrepresented minority (URM) students who pursue science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) doctorate degrees.

The Southwest is home to a growing number of minorities and currently houses the nation's largest growing Hispanic population and a significant number of African Americans and Native Americans.

The universities in the Southwest Regional Alliance represent thousands of URM STEM undergraduates. Through the collaboration of faculty and administration from the various schools, students will be provided with experience and expertise that will be shared across the alliance.

Provost Bob Smith, chief academic officer for the university, serves as a member of this new alliance team.

"We are thrilled with the opportunity to join the Southwest Regional Alliance," Smith said. "It is critical that underrepresented minorities be encouraged and supported in the pursuit of STEM doctorates."

The next-generation alliance should result in significantly increased numbers of URM who enter academic positions as members of the professoriate, said Juan Munoz, vice president of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement.

"These potential faculty members will be among the vanguard of educators preparing the next-generation of college and university students," Munoz said. "This partnership once again illustrates Texas Tech University's visibility as a national leader on issues of institutional equity, diversity, and access."

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 15, 2011

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### **Personal Financial Planning Graduate Presents Research to NYSE**

New study argues S&P 500 index companies could be overvalued.

A 2010 graduate of the doctoral program in Personal Financial Planning at Texas Tech University was invited to present research from his doctoral dissertation at the New York Stock Exchange during the annual board meeting of the Journal of Indexes last month.

David Nanigian's research, titled "The Impact of Passive Investing on Corporate Valuations," finds that periods of high investment into S&P 500 index mutual funds led to temporary increases in the prices of stock in the index.

"David's article is the first to show a direct relation between large monthly flows into S&P 500 index funds and a simultaneous increase in valuation of stocks in the S&P relative to similar stocks outside the index," said Michael Finke, co-author and faculty advisor on the dissertation research. "This is important because it raises the possibility that passive index fund investing may eventually lead to stock prices that don't accurately reflect the value of the company. While previous research and many investment advisors recommend the use of passive mutual fund investments, David's research suggests that too much of a good thing may eventually lead to disappointing investment performance if S&P stocks become overvalued."

Finke notes that, "the golden age of index investing has led many investors to avoid costly, under-performing mutual funds. However, too much index fund money flowing into a limited number of stocks may push prices beyond their true worth. Choosing broader indexes may be a better solution for investors in the future."

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 18, 2011

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### **Graduate Student Creates Snake Identification iPhone Application**

Jeremy Weaver's love for snakes began at Texas Tech. Now he's trying to share his passion through the iPhone.

Weaver, a Texas Tech graduate student, recently created a unique iPhone application spurred from an interest in snakes that began during his undergraduate career in the Department of Biological Sciences.

Currently ranked in the top 25 of paid-reference applications in the Apple App Store, TX Snakes allows users to narrow their snake search through many categories, such as the entire state, region, county, pattern, venomous, non-venomous and whether the snake has a rattle or not.

"TX Snakes features a range of browsing and searching capabilities that allow a young snake enthusiast to an experienced herpetologist identify virtually any snake encountered in Texas and view species information and photos," Weaver said.

Upon entering the application, a user sees a screen with questions pertaining to such things as rattle, pattern and region. Once the user selects one of the options, snake names and photos appear on the screen, from which the snake can be identified.

Weaver said his love for reptiles began with his membership in the Texas Tech University/ Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) as well as his undergraduate research in herpetology with Lou Densmore, a professor in the biology department and faculty director of TTU/HHMI.

Now a graduate student, Weaver noticed a need for snake identification and decided to fill it.

"After review of all the other reptile applications available, I noticed they focused more on providing information about snakes, but didn't really focus on identification," Weaver said. "Since I live in Texas and catch snakes in Texas, this state was an easy choice to begin building apps that had the qualities I saw lacking from others."

Densmore described Weaver's snake application as a public service.



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“This is a way for Jeremy to reach a large number of people with information about snakes,” Densmore said. “It informs them about how to recognize the venomous versus non-venomous snakes, and also teaches them about the importance of these animals in helping to control rodents.”

Densmore said the application showcases Weaver’s unique knowledge and capability in both technology and herpetology,

Weaver said his education at Texas Tech well-prepared him for this endeavor.

“The research opportunities afforded to me have allowed me to explore many facets of science,” Weaver said. “Without my education here at Texas Tech, in the classroom and with mentors and colleagues, I would not have possessed the skills needed to successfully design and publish an app of this caliber.”

In addition to TX Snakes, Weaver also built a snake application for Oklahoma, titled OK Snakes. His newest application for Kansas, KS Snakes will be completed soon. The applications do not require a cell phone signal once downloaded, and, therefore, can be used from any location.

Both TX and OK Snakes are available for 99 cents in the Apple App Store.

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# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 19, 2011

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(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Law Expert Available to Discuss Hasan Arraignment**

Former Ft. Hood JAG is the Army's appointed expert on military process in this case.

Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan faces the death penalty in the military court-martial on 13 counts of premeditated murder and 32 counts of attempted premeditated murder in connection with the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting rampage at Fort Hood.

Richard Rosen, a Texas Tech University School of Law professor and military law expert, is available for interviews regarding the process. The Staff Judge Advocate and Public Affairs Office at Fort Hood also will refer general inquiries about the process to Rosen.

Rosen was Staff Judge Advocate of III Armored Corps at Fort Hood from 1999-2001. He also had a previous assignment as Staff Judge Advocate of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division at Fort Hood from 1992-1994.

For an interview with Rosen, contact him at [richard.rosen@ttu.edu](mailto:richard.rosen@ttu.edu); or contact Leslie Cranford at Texas Tech's Office of Communications and Marketing at (806) 742-2136; or Tina Dechausay at the Texas Tech School of Law at (806) 742-3990 ext. 260.

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# Advisory

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 20, 2011

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

### **Area Students “Suit Up” for Science Camp Adventure**

Interactive program provides math and science fun to middle school students

**WHAT:** Area middle school students are hanging up their beach towels and swim gear to become space suit technicians during an out-of-this-world adventure. ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp at Texas Tech University is a two-week experience that transports students beyond summer doldrums for hands-on learning exercises, including field excursions, team-based competitions and challenging activities to strengthen critical-thinking skills.

Campers will create space suit design samples using household materials and face off in a friendly competition to test their suit’s durability. In addition, they will learn about rewarding career opportunities from ExxonMobil engineers and scientists and hear an inspiring message from camp founder Dr. Bernard Harris.

**WHO:**

- Dr. Bernard A. Harris Jr., the first African-American to walk in space
- Leticia A. Rodriguez, ExxonMobil
- 48 middle school youth from Lubbock area  
(Including Abernathy ISD, Brownfield ISD, Frenship ISD, Idalou ISD, Lorenzo ISD, Lubbock ISD, New Home ISD, Olton ISD, Petersburg ISD, Plainview ISD, Roosevelt ISD and Wellman-Union ISD)

**WHEN:** **Welcome and Activity:**  
9:00 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Thursday (July 21) at Frazier Alumni Pavilion

#### **Best Media Opportunities:**

10:10 a.m. – 11:10 a.m. Campers creating space suit design samples and using an impact test stand to determine if their design could withstand the force of micrometeoroids.

11:10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Group photos at Jones AT&T Stadium

**WHY:** For students to have the ability and skills to pursue degrees in science, technology, engineering and math, or STEM, encouragement and support in middle school and beyond are essential. Additionally, according to the National Society of Black Engineers, only 4 percent of minorities graduate from high school with the requisite math and sciences courses they need to study engineering. To help prepare youth for excellence in college and beyond, veteran astronaut Dr. Bernard A. Harris Jr. and ExxonMobil have partnered for six consecutive years to bring 25 all-expenses-paid math and science camps to underrepresented students across the country.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 20, 2011

CONTACT: John Davis, [john.w.davis@ttu.edu](mailto:john.w.davis@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Toxicologists Find Deepwater Horizon Crude Less Toxic to Bird Eggs After Weathering at Sea**

After collecting weathered crude oil from the Gulf of Mexico following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, researchers at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech University have reported that only 8 to 9 percent coverage on the shells of fertilized mallard duck eggs resulted in a 50 percent mortality rate.

However, scientists also reported the amount of time the oil remained at sea and exposed to weather had a significant effect on its toxicity to the fertilized duck eggs, said Phil Smith, an associate professor at TIEHH. They published their findings in *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, the peer-reviewed flagship journal of Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC).

"If you can imagine a duck egg with about 10 percent of its surface area coated with this particular substance we found in the Gulf, you would expect about half of the bird embryos to die, according to our study," Smith said.

Because the timing of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill coincided with nesting periods for large numbers of Gulf Coast birds, Smith said researchers were interested in discovering the toxicity of the crude oil that was floating offshore and coated about 600 miles of beaches and marshlands.

Using a standardized method for examining the oil's toxicity, 160 eggs were treated with varying amounts of crude oil collected off the coast of Alabama about a month after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

"These kinds of studies have been conducted for about 40 or 50 years," he said. "It's not a novel or unique method for evaluating the toxicity of any kind of crude oil. What is novel about our approach is we went out to the Gulf and collected crude oil that was available during the spill. This method allowed for a realistic exposure scenario among bird eggs on the Gulf Coast during that time period. In that respect it's somewhat unique."

When compared to the toxicity of fresh crude oil from the ground, Smith found the weathered crude oil in the study ranged from 1.7 to 24 times less toxic than fresh crude oil.

“By the time that oil made it through dispersant and was transported to the coast, it had degraded significantly,” Smith said. “Birds that were exposed to oil in the Gulf may have transported it back to their nests and subsequently exposed incubating eggs in nests. The weathering process made it less toxic to bird embryos. That doesn’t discount the fact that the weathered oil was a significant physical hazard to the adult birds, but that wasn’t the focus of our study.”

Smith said about 61 percent of the treated eggs died. Among those that hatched, the researchers found no significant differences in deformities or malformations when compared to the control group.

“This study provided toxicity values for this particular oil to assist in risk and damage evaluations and reaffirmed that weathered crude oil is less toxic than fresh crude oil,” Smith said. “Recent evidence in fish studies points to potential developmental effects that could result in reduced fitness traits that do not become manifest until later in life. Aside from acute lethality, it would seem important to evaluate potential for developmental or latent effects in birds exposed while still in the egg.”

Watch Smith’s interview [here](#).

For a copy of the report, contact John Davis.

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## News Release

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 21, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Researcher Receives NIH Grant to Study Better Ways to Make Pharmaceuticals**

A Texas Tech University chemistry researcher received a four-year, \$1.06 million grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study more effective methods for creating compounds used in pharmaceuticals.

Guigen Li, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, will use the grant to discover faster, more cost-effective ways to sterilize the compounds used to make pharmaceutical drugs.

The new experimental purification concept that Li helped create, called GAP chemistry, means Group Assistant Purification and could speed up drug production in the future as well as cut costs.

"The current way of purifying takes a lot of time and money," Li said. "Sometimes it can take more time to purify the compounds used to make the drugs than it does to manufacture the actual drugs. Discovering a new purification technique could have a huge impact on drug synthesis as well as make drug discovery faster and more cost-effective."

Organic synthesis of pharmaceuticals has been around for more than 100 years, Li said, and traditionally utilizes time-consuming chromatography and recrystallization. The GAP concept encourages chemists to search for more efficient reagents and related reactions to minimize use of energy, materials and manpower.

Also with GAP chemistry, the materials used to purify the drugs can be recovered and reused.

This is Li's fourth NIH grant that he's received since he began working at Texas Tech in 1997. In that time, he has trained 18 graduate students and 60 undergraduates. About 20 undergraduates have co-authored research publications with Li.

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# News Release



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 21, 2011

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### **Area Youth Conquer Summer “Brain Drain” with Science Adventure** Texas Tech University hosts summer science camp for middle school students.

Area middle school students are curing the summer “brain drain” this year with a heavy dose of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fun at the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp hosted by Texas Tech University. The hands-on program offers students an exciting way to beat the heat as they design space suits, build rockets and more, while experiencing life on a college campus.

“Summer learning opportunities are crucial to continued academic success,” said Dr. Bernard A. Harris Jr., veteran astronaut and camp founder. “In partnership with the ExxonMobil Foundation, we are able to offer students a tremendous opportunity to hone the math, science, communications and leadership skills needed to realize their full potential. Our goal is to inspire them to reach beyond the classroom and pursue careers in critical technology fields.”

For the sixth consecutive year, the ExxonMobil Foundation has partnered with Harris and his nonprofit organization, The Harris Foundation, to provide residential camps to underrepresented and underserved middle school students at 25 universities across the country. This is the second year Texas Tech has had the honor of participating in the program. The camp runs July 21-29.

“ExxonMobil is committed to inspiring the next generation of creative thinkers and innovators who will be critical to our nation’s economic success,” said Suzanne McCarron, president of the ExxonMobil Foundation. “By partnering with Dr. Harris, we are able to provide talented young students with hands-on experiences that could lead them to a career in math, science, engineering or technology.”

During today’s “Space Day” event, 48 local students were treated to a visit by Harris where they heard about his inspirational journey to become the first African American to walk in space and the extreme elements he encountered during his historic spacewalk.

Campers were then given the opportunity to become space suit engineers for the day. Students were tasked with designing and creating a space suit swatch capable of absorbing the impact of space debris. Using household items to mimic essential protective materials, students assembled a test sample to submit for friendly competition. Using an “impact tester” to imitate the rigors faced during spacewalks, students were able to test the durability of their sample.

The demand for workers with strong math and science skills is significant as eight out of 10 of the fastest-growing occupations in the nation are in STEM fields, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. The camp program aims to fill this critical need by offering a curriculum that features hands-on experiments, team competitions and field excursions to help students build essential skills. Campers receive quality instruction from local educators and hear from ExxonMobil engineers about the exciting and rewarding aspects of their profession.

“We have seen this experience positively impact youth in our community, and look forward to witnessing our students’ dramatic growth as they gain valuable knowledge and a passion for math and science this summer,” said Beccy Hambright, executive camp director and program manager for Texas Tech’s T-STEM Center. “At Texas Tech University, we understand the important role STEM programs such as these play in preparing students for the high-tech careers of tomorrow.”

For more information, please visit the ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp website, [www.theharrisfoundation.org](http://www.theharrisfoundation.org).

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

**CONTACT: Beccy Hambright, executive camp director, T-STEM Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742- 3451, or [beccy.hambright@ttu.edu](mailto:beccy.hambright@ttu.edu); Jana Winter, camp program director, T-STEM Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742- 3451, or [jana.winter@ttu.edu](mailto:jana.winter@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 22, 2011

CONTACT: Norman Martin, [norman.martin@ttu.edu](mailto:norman.martin@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2808

### **Texas Tech Researchers Fight Brutal Drought with Web-based Tools for Farmers**

In the battle against the state's prolonged and brutal drought, Texas Tech University agricultural researchers have released two new farmer-friendly computer tools that save scarce irrigation water and boost bottom lines for parched producers.

The internet-based programs are being offered free of charge through the Texas Alliance for Water Conservation, and take direct aim at improved irrigation scheduling and resource allocation. Both were developed to specifically target the needs of irrigated farmers in the West Texas and Panhandle regions.

"They're designed to help producers make the most out of an irrigation regime, while remaining conscious of water resources," said Justin Weinheimer, a research associate in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics.

At the heart of the irrigation scheduling tool is a basic understanding of what scientists call evapotranspiration or, more simply, the loss of water from the soil both by evaporation and by transpiration from growing plants.

Specifically, it allows farmers to keep track of soil moisture on a field-by-field basis for irrigated cotton, corn, sorghum and wheat, using real time weather data from more than four dozen Texas Tech Mesonet weather stations spread across the plains. This network of automated stations collects a wide variety of temperature and moisture levels every 15 minutes.

"The tool allows a producer to customize irrigation scheduling based on field-level irrigation efficiency, soil moisture readings, and other agronomic and irrigation characteristics," Weinheimer said. A checkbook-style water balance then enables the farmer to determine when and how much water to apply.

The second web-based tool from the Texas Tech team is a resource allocation analyzer. Put simply, the economic-decision aid is designed for use in the planning season to determine which crops will maximize the profit potential of a given field.

The resource allocation tool projects crops, yield goals, irrigation requirements and acreage designations on a field-by-field basis, Weinheimer said. That ability allows producers to maximize the revenue potential given the irrigation capabilities of the field.

“It works on the major commodities produced in this region and differs from other like-tools in that it is farmer friendly, requiring minimal producer input, yet providing realistic outlooks for producers to consider,” Weinheimer said.

In Texas, virtually no part of the state has been untouched by the drought. City dwellers along with farmers and ranchers have been besieged by excessive heat and high winds. Last month, the United States Department of Agriculture designated all 254 counties in Texas natural disaster areas, qualifying them for varying levels of federal relief.

Even if weather patterns shift and relief-giving rain comes, losses are likely to head past \$3 billion in Texas, state agricultural officials said.

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**CONTACT: Justin Weinheimer, research associate, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, Texas Tech University** at (806) 742-1921 ext. 270, or [justin.a.weinheimer@ttu.edu](mailto:justin.a.weinheimer@ttu.edu).

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 25, 2011

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

### **Texas Tech Law Expert: Jeffs Trial Much More Than Meets the Eye**

Religious freedom, search-and-seizure, attorney issues only a few of the other themes on trial.

With jury selection underway in the Warren Jeffs trial, a Texas Tech University School of Law expert said that the case is much more than illegal sexual relations with a child. Jeffs, the leader of the polygamy-sanctioning Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (FLDS), is charged with two counts of sexual assault of a child.

Patrick Metze, a Texas Tech University School of Law professor and director of the school's Criminal Defense Clinic, the Caprock Regional Public Defender Clinic and the Capital Punishment Clinic, is available for interviews regarding the trial.

"The case involves overtones of religious freedom and over-reaching by the state of Texas in the initial search of the FLDS compound and seizure of all the children located on the compound on an unverified phone tip," Metze said. "There is a complicated search warrant question which is before the appellate courts right now which might well affect all the other cases and in particular the trial of Mr. Jeffs. Further, the punishments of the men involved progressively have been less harsh as the trials go on."

Metze said that although the current trial involves one of the primary leaders of the group, he wonders if it will be possible to secure a jury who has not made up its mind already on the guilt or innocence of the defendant; or if found guilty, what punishment he should receive.

"Then you have the issue of whether the judge has become too closely associated with the civil and criminal cases and may have lost her perspective and objectivity," Metze said. "Mr. Jeffs' defense team has tried to have the judge recuse herself, but those efforts have been denied."

Additionally, Metze said, the judge has refused to let attorneys off the case even though the defendant has fired them.

"To what extent can the court require an attorney to participate in the defense over the defendant's wishes when the defendant is paying for the representation, and to what extent are the attorneys ethically bound to obey the wishes of their former client?" Metze said.

Contact Metze at (806) 742-3787, ext. 225 or at [patrick.metze@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.metze@ttu.edu).

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 25, 2011

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

### **Troubled Teen Receives Wild Card Invitation to Chess Tournament** Texas Tech Hosts 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan Polgar Girls Invitational

**WHAT:** Opening and closing ceremonies for Susan Polgar Girls Invitational

**WHEN:** 9:30 a.m. Wednesday (July 27)  
1:30 p.m. Friday (July 29)

**WHERE:** Jerry S. Rawls College of Business rotunda

**EVENT:** Susan Polgar will host the eighth annual Girls Invitational, which is the most prestigious all-girls chess championship in the U.S. The top-rated girl from each state is invited to Texas Tech for three days of intensive training, followed by three days of tournament play.

Polgar, the first woman to earn the grandmaster title, also issues “wild card” invitations to talented girls without experience in competition. This year, Dyhemia Young, a San Francisco-area teen in foster care, was selected to participate, but it took a detective in the missing-persons unit to track her down. A story telling of the search for Young was recently published in the Los Angeles Times.

Young is available for media interviews. Contact Paul Truong at (806) 742-7742, or [paul.truong@ttu.edu](mailto:paul.truong@ttu.edu).

In addition to the championship, competitors will compete for \$120,000 in prizes and scholarships.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 25, 2011

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

### **Center for Study of Addiction and Recovery Commended in Washington, D.C.** Texas Tech program cited in 2011 National Drug Control Strategy.

When it comes to drug control policy, the U.S. government typically has focused its attention on addiction, crime and punishment. However, the Office of National Drug Control Policy recently added “recovery” to its annual report, citing the Texas Tech Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery (CSAR) as the model for collegiate recovery programs.

According to a recent study, 44 percent of full-time college students reported binge drinking in the month prior to the study. Another 20 percent admitted they had used marijuana or other illicit drugs, including pills or medicine.

CSAR provides peer-based support, 12-step support, and academic services for more than 80 students in recovery from drug and alcohol addictions, as well as eating disorders.

“We have come a long way in a short time,” said Kitty Harris, director of the center. “We have produced enough positive results that the White House had no choice, but to stop and take notice.”

Harris is now working with officials in Washington, D.C., to come up with new drug policy based on the findings at CSAR. The highly successful program is now replicated at 21 campuses nationwide, with several more scheduled to open in the fall.

“Ours has been a program of attraction, rather than promotion,” Harris said. “We have never approached a campus about replicating our program. They have always come to us.”

A recent article in the publication “Inside Higher Ed” called CSAR “the gold standard of campus recovery programs.”

“Our program is proof that a grass-roots effort, and a little hard work, can really pay off,” Harris said. “And the rewards are priceless.”

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



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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 26, 2011

CONTACT: Lori Cortez, lori.e.cortez@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

### **Barbecue Tips to Last through Labor Day**

The days still are hot, with temperatures reaching 100 degrees regularly, meaning time still remains for outdoor activities and enjoying the sunshine. For people who want to fire up the grill there is time to take a chance at grilling mom's famous shrimp shish kabobs or grandma's delicious smoked brisket.

It only takes one wrong move or a simple mistake, however, to send the world's greatest backyard cook to the emergency room. With the Lubbock County burn ban still in effect, the Lubbock Commissioner's Court reported outdoor grilling is permissible while in the city. A water hose or fire extinguisher should be on hand, and avoiding dry grass is encouraged, as well as grills with lids to contain the fire.

Kari Spivey, a graduate research assistant in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University, likes to grill everything from beef to fruit. She has competed in many barbecue contests since she moved to Texas, and was a member of the Meat Science graduate student team that competed in the Hub City BBQ Cook-Off.

Spivey said over the years she has developed guidelines every griller should follow.

For a safe and successful barbecue:

- Be aware of the hot and cold spots on the grill to avoid uneven cooking.
- Light the grill and let it warm up before putting the food onto the grill.
- Shut the lid so food will cook faster.
- Be aware of "flare-ups" which are caused by grease dropping down to the burner of the grill. Move food away from these areas.
- Food takes longer to cook with charcoal.

Spivey also said to allow plenty of time for lighter fluid to burn off, so the food won't taste of it. Monitoring the fire is pertinent as well, since charcoal is harder to control if the fire gets out of hand. Lastly, always remember to let coals burn out completely before removing them from the grill.

From a food safety perspective, when handling raw meat it is important to be aware of cleanliness and the separation of different foods, said Sara Gragg, a research assistant in Animal and Food Sciences at Texas Tech.

“Your hands must be washed with soap and hot water immediately after handling raw meat,” Gragg said. “It’s important to remember that any microorganisms present on the surface of the meat will be transferred to your hands, and then to any subsequent surface that your hands will touch: cabinets, plates, and other surfaces.”

“As well, all raw meat should be kept separate from cooked meat, vegetables or other sides so that cross contamination does not occur. Food should not come together until all of it is fully cooked,” Gragg said.

Below are internal temperatures for safe consumption:

- Steak: 145 degrees
- Lamb: 145 degrees for medium rare
- Lamb chops: 160 degrees
- Veal: 150 degrees
- Pork: 160 degrees
- Chicken breast: 170 degrees
- All other chicken: 180 degrees
- Ground beef: 160 degrees
- Whole fish: 155 degrees

“You can grill everything from meat to vegetables to fruit and even bread, and I encourage people to try new things, but safety is always number one,” Spivey said. “For high-quality products I also suggest Red Raider Meats. It’s a personal favorite.”

Red Raider Meats sells many grilling favorites such as steak, bratwurst, loin chops and beef prime rib at Cowamongus on the Texas Tech campus, as well as United Supermarkets and through its new home-delivery service. For more information on prices or online ordering visit [http://www.depts.ttu.edu/meatscience/orders/fourthofjuly\\_11.pdf](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/meatscience/orders/fourthofjuly_11.pdf).

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**CONTACT: Sara Gragg, research assistant, Department of Animal and Food Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2805 or [sara.morrissey@ttu.edu](mailto:sara.morrissey@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 26, 2011

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

### **Ovations and Concessions Department Seeks Non-Profit Organizations**

After a successful year of fundraising in 2010, the Texas Tech University Ovations Food Services Concessions department currently is accepting applications from interested non-profit organizations for the upcoming school year.

Last year a total of 28 non-profit organizations worked behind the counter of football, basketball, concerts, and baseball concession stands to raise money. The opportunities not only raised approximately \$180,000 for the organizations, but helped to promote positive community involvement.

“Ovations and concessions has been a great benefit to our ministry. It is one of our major sources of revenue,” said Cullen Manny, youth minister for Living Abundantly Ministries in Lubbock. “Working the athletic events does three great things for us: raises money, teaches my youth valuable job and life skills, and gives us a chance to network and let others know about who we are and what we do.”

Interested organizations should contact Ken Armes, concessions manager, or Lori Emerson, concession assistant at (806) 742-7381.

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**CONTACT: Lori Emerson, concession assistant, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7381, or [lori.emerson@ttu.edu](mailto:lori.emerson@ttu.edu).**

-more-



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 27, 2011

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

### **Texas Tech Cheer Claims Best All-Around at College Camp**

Raider Red earns highest marks for mascots.

Texas Tech University's cheerleading squad is one of the best in the nation, earning the title "Best All-Around Collegiate Squad" and a rare Gold Paid Bid to the national cheer competition in April 2012 at Daytona Beach, Fla.

The 32-member squad just returned from the July 22-24 National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) College Summer Camp at Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Raider Red, Texas Tech's costumed public relations mascot, earned top honors as Most Collegiate Mascot, an honor bestowed by the other mascots in attendance, and was selected as an All-American Mascot.

In cheer competition the team took second place in the Rally Routine, Large Co-Ed category and second place for its Game Day Routine. Eleven team members were named NCA All-American Collegiate Cheerleaders, including Chelsea Ballow of Mansfield; Anthony Brown from Garden City, Kan.; Jordyn Capehart from Allen; Coleigh Cheatham of Aledo; Jenn Friedrich of Roseville, Calif.; Brooke Littlejohn of Cleburne; Laura Perley of Plano; Alex Pulido from Del Rio; Marissa Taylor of Farmersville; Taylor Thomas from Lubbock; and Corey Vaughan of Lewisville.

"The All-American is the only individual award given out at camp, so for 11 members to earn the award was outstanding," said Bruce Bills, spirit coordinator in the Center for Campus Life.

"The Gold Paid Bid is a high honor, too," Bills said. "Only six Gold Bids were awarded at this camp, and there were 28 teams in attendance."

**CONTACT: Stephanie Rhode, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433 or [stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu](mailto:stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 27, 2011

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### **Advanced Wind Energy Test Facility Moving to Texas Tech University**

Sandia National Laboratories is moving its wind energy test facility to Texas Tech University.

Texas Tech, Sandia National Laboratories and Group NIRE will operate a facility that will primarily perform research and development (R&D) work in turbine-to-turbine interactions and will evaluate innovative rotor technologies. The facility is expected to be operational sometime in the spring of 2012. The parties will finalize their contractual relationships over the next few months.

"We have been looking to expand our federal collaborations in wind energy and this is the first such opportunity for Texas Tech University. I could not be more proud of our work to establish this collaborative partnership," said Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance. "This adds further value to our recent Emerging Technology Fund award from the State of Texas in wind energy. Texas Tech is on the move!"

Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech said, "This is wonderful news for Texas Tech to be able to host a national laboratory R&D facility here that allows for long term R&D collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy. This is a great opportunity for our faculty and our students."

The site, to be located at Texas Tech's 67-acre wind science and engineering research facility at Reese Technology Center, includes an initial installation of two wind turbines and three anemometer towers, with the potential to expand to nine or more wind turbines, which will allow researchers to examine how individual turbines and whole wind farms can be more productive and collaborative.

"This a fabulous opportunity for Texas Tech University and all that we do in wind energy," said Taylor Eighmy, Texas Tech's vice president for research. "It is very special indeed to have a long-term, collaborative research and development partner like Sandia National Laboratories. The impact of this facility and collaboration will be immense for us. We look forward to a long and beneficial relationship with our federal partner."

The work builds on Texas Tech's more than 40-year history in wind science research.

“This is an exciting project for Texas Tech,” said John Schroeder, director of Texas Tech’s Wind Science and Engineering Research Center (WISE). “The combination of capabilities offered by Sandia National Laboratories, Group NIRE and Texas Tech provides a powerful partnership for future wind energy research and technology transfer. We look forward to working closely with our partners to bring the facility online later this year.”

Potential wind farm and wind research sites fall into classes of one through five, with class five winds being the preferred wind for research and for harvesting energy. However, only a small percentage of available sites are class five. Winds vary year-round and change seasonally, so the site needed to be carefully characterized to ensure year-round quality wind for rapid evaluation of technologies.

“We looked for a location that not only had a great wind resource, but also had a true commitment to wind energy; the partnership with Texas Tech does just that,” said Jon White, Sandia project lead.

Group NIRE will provide direct pathways for technology transfer to industry and install additional megawatt-scale wind turbines at an adjacent site for testing and collaboration.

Group NIRE is a clean energy company providing project development, finance and consulting services. It is currently developing wind projects in six states and working with several international renewable energy component manufacturers to commercialize new products and technologies.

The Department of Energy’s Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is funding Sandia’s work. Sandia National Laboratories is a multi-program laboratory with main facilities in Albuquerque, N.M., and Livermore, Calif. Sandia has major R&D responsibilities in national security, energy and environmental technologies, and economic competitiveness.

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**CONTACT: Taylor Eighmy, vice president for research, Texas Tech University,**  
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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 27, 2011

CONTACT: Renée Underwood, ru1390@yahoo.com  
(806) 928-0463

### NOTICE OF PRESS CONFERENCE

#### **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and Texas Tech Alumni Association to Announce Merger and “New Beginnings” Event**

- WHAT:** Announcement by representatives of the Texas Tech Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and Texas Tech Alumni Association (TTAA) that the two organizations have merged their operations.
- WHEN:** Noon, Wednesday (Aug. 3)
- WHERE:** Merket Alumni Center, 17<sup>th</sup> Street and University Avenue
- EVENT:** Press kits, including invitations to the Aug. 16 “New Beginnings” kickoff event and the OLLI Fall 2011 course catalog, will be distributed. Following brief remarks, members of the press are invited to join OLLI staff and advisory board members and TTAA staff and board members for a complimentary and informal box lunch.
- If you are able to stay for lunch after the briefing, please reserve your box lunch(es) by contacting Emma Carrasco at (806) 742-OLLI (6554), or by email at [olli@ttu.edu](mailto:olli@ttu.edu) by 5 p.m. Monday (Aug. 1).

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**CONTACT: Renée Underwood, marketing chair, Texas Tech Alumni Association National Board of Directors, at (806) 928-0463 or [ru1390@yahoo.com](mailto:ru1390@yahoo.com).**





TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: July 28, 2011

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

### **Texas Tech's Fibertect® Appears on New Innovations Timesaver List In National Guard Magazine**

Fibertect®, a decontamination technology developed by researchers at Texas Tech University, was one of seven new innovations featured in National Guard magazine that already is proving its worth to improve National Guard response time to domestic incidents.

The July cover article, "New Gear," described how the Georgia Guard tested Fibertect® and found that it cut down on time used to set up decontamination shower tents and scrub affected people with water and decontamination solutions. When fashioned into a mitt, Fibertect® could be used to quickly wipe away contaminants.

"To be recognized as an innovative product for our national defense is a milestone in our chemical countermeasures research at Texas Tech," said inventor Seshadri Ramkumar, an associate professor of environmental toxicology at The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (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. The uses for Fibertect® continue to expand."

Using the Fibertect® decontamination mitts, Georgia's CERFP members reported the dry decontamination removed 80 to 90 percent of contaminants they were likely to encounter in the field, the article stated. CERFP stands for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and High Yield Explosive Enhanced Response Force Packages.

After testing, one sergeant with the Georgia Guard urged the National Guard Bureau to add Fibertect® to the CERFP's equipment inventory.

Currently, the Fibertect® wipe is under production by Hobbs Bonded Fibers of Waco and distributed by First Line Technology in Chantilly, Va. The wipe tested features an activated carbon core sandwiched between absorbent layers.

"This recognition provides validation that Fibertect® is a decontamination platform that has the potential to replace current technologies, which are expensive to maintain and deploy," said Amit Kapoor, president of First Line Technology. "Fibertect®, however, is an affordable solution proven effective in response to decontamination disasters and this

recognition from National Guard Magazine shows that Fibertect® has the potential to help countless organizations protect their communities.”

To read the article, go to this [website](#).

**CONTACT: Seshadri Ramkumar, manager of the Nonwoven and Advanced Materials Laboratory, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health at Texas Tech University, (806) 445-1925, or [s.ramkumar@ttu.edu](mailto:s.ramkumar@ttu.edu); Amit Kapoor, president, First Line Technology, (703) 955-7510 or [akapoor@firstlinetech.com](mailto:akapoor@firstlinetech.com)**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 28, 2011

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Professor Honored for Her Writing**

Biography on Texas Chicana artist claims top prize at international book awards.

A Texas Tech University professor recently was awarded first place at the 2011 International Latino Book Awards for her biography on a Chicana artist with Texas ties.

Constance Cortez, an associate professor in the School of Art, wrote the book, "Carmen Lomas Garza," as part of the series "A Ver: Revisioning Art History" conducted by UCLA's Chicano Art Research Center.

Cortez claimed top prize in the Best Arts Book (English) category.

"I am so very honored to have received this award," she said. "In writing this book, I hoped to contribute to the growing body of literature on Chicana/o artists. I was incredibly fortunate because Texas Tech was very supportive of my efforts."

The Garza biography is 144 pages and includes 77 color illustrations of her work. Born in Kingsville in 1948, much of Garza's art reflects her experiences growing up in South Texas, especially the relationship between family and community. Cortez, born and raised in Dallas, said she could easily relate. That made writing the book an enlightening process.

"Her childhood experiences, illustrated in much of her art, resonate with me — catching horned toads, the texture of mesquite, hot summer days and tamaladas (family gatherings in which tamales are made)," Cortez said. "What came as a surprise is how writing the book became a journey that was very personal. I feel I grew both as a scholar and as a person."

Cortez has written and edited four books, and currently is working on an encyclopedia entry that looks at the interface between Chicana/o literature and art, and an article for a journal in Mexico on Chicana muralists. For her next book project she is researching other Chicana artists in Texas, with hopes of drawing more attention to their work.

"As one of the handful of established art historians working on Chicano and Latino art, Connie was always on our short list for the series," said Chon Noriega, professor and director of UCLA's Chicano Studies Research Center, and "A Ver" series editor. "Connie did amazing research on this project, including several interviews with the artist, and the book provides a wonderfully written account of a major Chicana artist."

Cortez also plays a key role in helping bring diversity to Texas Tech. She's been teaching courses in Colonial Art of Mexico & Peru, 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century Mexican Art and Contemporary Chicana/o Art since joining the university in 2003.

"Diversity is part of who we are as Americans," she said. "We should celebrate this diversity. If everyone were the same, what a boring world it would be."

The Garza biography can be purchased on Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and a variety of other online stores.

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

**CONTACT: Constance Cortez, associate professor, School of Art, Texas Tech University** (806) 742-3825, or [c.cortez@ttu.edu](mailto:c.cortez@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: July 28, 2011

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### **Texas Tech Rodeo Hosts Alumni Reunion**

- WHAT:** The Annual Texas Tech Rodeo Alumni's Old Timer Rodeo Association Reunion.
- WHEN:** Friday and Saturday (July 29-30)
- WHERE:** Texas Tech Equestrian Center (one mile west of 50<sup>th</sup> Street and Upland Ave.)
- EVENT:** Texas Tech rodeo alumni and families gather each year for rodeo and roping events. Friday night features team roping at 7 p.m. Saturday morning events, which start at 9 a.m., include several family rodeo events. The two-day event which is free and open to the public, will raise approximately \$2,000 for the Texas Tech rodeo team this year.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

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### **Texas Tech International Affairs Chronicles the Dog Days of Summer** Canine art on display through early September.

For the second year, Texas Tech University's International Cultural Center (ICC) has acknowledged the dog days of summer with an exhibition of photographs showing dogs in all their diversity.

"Such an exhibit is perfectly suited for the ICC, since of the 150-plus breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club, only twelve originated in the United States," said Jane Bell, ICC senior director. "Of course, the mutt – which the AKC classifies as All-American – is probably the quintessential American "breed" since, like many of us, mutts claim a proud lineage that includes genetic input from a variety of ancestors."

Photographs included in the exhibit are by the following: Paul Aguilar, Amelia Blanton, Fran Bohannon, John Chinn, James Clinich, Sarah Collins, Amanda DeMarree, Dennice Delucio, Kathrin Dodds, Bailey Eiland, Charles Elliot, Russ Erbe, Sandy Fortenberry, Margaret Freeman, Ilker Goksen, Jennifer Holman, Rebecca Holman, Tiffany Holmes, Sandra Huston, Shelley Jennings, Craig Kelley, Tom Kiefer, Brett Longley, Carly Marshall, Kasey McBeath, Ann McDonald, Heather Modery, Adair Murillo, Zack Nader, Angie Newsome, Liz Inskip-Paulk, David Pike, April Pilley, Thelma Pilley, Cranston Reid, Mac Rowley, Cait Ryan, David Stalcup, Christena Stephens, Ashton Thornhill, Heather Turner, Barbara Werden, Judith Wilmington, Bill Wright, Margaret Vugrin and Steven Vugrin.

An opening reception is scheduled for 5-6:30 p.m. Friday (July 29) at the ICC, Sixth Street and Indiana Avenue. The photographs will be on display Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. in summer and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in fall, through Sept. 9.

The exhibition is made possible, in part, by a grant from The CH Foundation. For more information call (806) 742-2974 ext. 232.

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

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