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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 1, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Law Presents Scholarship to Timothy Cole Family
Scholarship honors man wrongfully convicted, posthumously exonerated.

WHAT: Scholarship presentation and reception for donors and the family of Timothy Cole.

WHEN: 3 p.m. Wednesday (Dec. 2)

WHERE: Law School Forum

EVENT: Timothy Cole, wrongfully convicted in 1986 of a Lubbock rape, was the first Texas man exonerated after death for a crime he did not commit. Cole died in prison while serving a 25-year sentence.

In memory of Cole, four attorneys have created a \$100,000 scholarship to be awarded to law students interested in public service. Kevin Glasheen, Noe Valles and Chad Inderman (Texas Tech law alumni, classes of 1988, 1993 and 2004 respectively) and Jeff Blackburn contributed to the scholarship fund.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 1, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Ornament Now Available

The official Texas Tech University 2009 ornament is now available for purchase.

The 13th Texas Tech University ornament honors the official class ring. The ring, which celebrates its 10th anniversary, is a universal symbol of academic achievement. Its iconic images of the Double T, Masked Rider, Administration Bell Tower and the University Seal are faithfully reproduced in the ornament.

A new ornament is designed each year and depicts something unique to Texas Tech. Past designs have featured the Masked Rider, the Double T and the Administration Building bell tower. The ornaments are sold year-round.

To purchase this year's ornament, or the whole set, visit www.ornaments.ttu.edu or contact the Office of the President at (806) 742-2121. The ornament sells for \$20 plus shipping and tax.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 2, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Law Teams Place in Pair of National Competitions

Texas Tech University's School of Law competition teams garnered second-place wins in two national contests of legal skills, which are runners-up to national championships.

In November's national competition, one moot court team took the second-place spot in the Illinois Appellate Lawyers National Moot Court Competition in Chicago. Another moot court team finished second in the nation at Pepperdine's National Entertainment Law Moot Court Competition in Malibu, Calif.

"I congratulate our talented students for these exceptional results and for representing Texas Tech law so extremely well," said Walt Huffman, dean of the Texas Tech School of Law. "And, of course, a very hearty handshake for our equally talented and hardworking coaches is most appropriate – and thanks also to all of the faculty and staff who devoted their time and effort to helping these teams prepare."

In Chicago, the team of second-year law students Kate Cross of Amarillo, Jason Jordan of Olney Springs, Colo. and Clint Buck of Boerne defeated Cardozo Law School, University of Illinois, and the University of Houston en route to the national finals, where it lost by a point to Chicago-Kent, which has won two consecutive championships at the National Moot Court Competition. As well as the runner-up trophy, the team brought home the Second-Best Brief Award for Clint Buck, the brief writer.

The team's coach, Rob Sherwin said the team's finish was especially satisfying because the competition was judged entirely by appellate lawyers and appellate judges. "That is yet another indication that Texas Tech law is teaching its students real-world skills to prepare them for the practice of law," Sherwin said.

Natalie Roetzel, executive director of the Innocence Project of Texas, along with Rickie Cayton, recent Texas Tech Law School graduate and newly licensed attorney, are assistant coaches for the team.

At the Pepperdine contest, the team of Alexis Butler, a second-year law student from Austin, Skyler Stuckey, a second-year law student from Keller, and Justin Raines, a third-year law student and brief writer from Brownsville, also took the national runner up spot. En route to the finals, the Texas Tech trio defeated Cardozo, Loyola-Los Angeles, Texas Wesleyan University, South Dakota and George Mason. The team is also coached by Sherwin.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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Sherwin now has taken three moot court teams to national competitions this academic year, and the teams have finished first, second and second.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 3, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech History Professor's New Book Takes First Scholarly Look at Role of Junior Officers in Vietnam

Only a few months after 2nd Lt. William Calley apologized for his role in the My Lai Massacre during the Vietnam War, a new book by a Texas Tech University history professor attempts to set the record straight on the role of junior officers during the conflict.

"Not a Gentleman's War: An Inside View of Junior Officers in the Vietnam War" focuses on the role of platoon leaders, said author and Vietnam combat veteran Ron Milam. Also, it debunks the conventional wisdom created by the investigation of the massacre and anti-war movement propaganda that junior officers were poorly trained, unmotivated and guilty of atrocious behavior.

The book is published by the University of North Carolina Press.

"It is the only scholarly book on junior officers in the Vietnam War," Milam said. "After I'd been out of Vietnam for a while, I was shocked at what I was reading about the issues with junior officers. Most of these books were written between 1978 and 1983. I was amazed at the blame being placed on junior officers for America's loss. As I was reading all this, I thought, 'I don't remember that.' So, I started digging."

On March 16, 1968, American soldiers attacked the hamlet of My Lai and killed between 400 and 500 non-combatant civilians. Those killed included women, children and babies, and many of the victims were beaten, sexually assaulted and mutilated.

The incident became public about 18 months later. As an investigation progressed, Calley became a main focus. His education and leadership abilities came into question. Prior to his service, he had dropped out of Palm Beach Junior College for unsatisfactory grades. Investigators found that though he passed his Armed Forces Qualifications tests, his evaluations found him "average." Also, he had been recommended for a rear echelon position rather than the infantry.

Initially, 26 U.S. soldiers were criminally charged for their roles in the My Lai Massacre. Only Calley was convicted.

The massacre became ammunition for the anti-war movement that was rapidly gaining momentum back in the United States. Protesters generally painted junior officers and soldiers as inept or baby-killers. However, they also believed soldiers should not be held responsible for their actions because society sent them there.

Milam said the My Lai Massacre and the protesters' use of the event as anti-war propaganda appears to have blurred the facts about the training, capabilities and educational background of junior officers. However, he found military records told a different story.

"I wanted to find out what the Army was saying about leadership during the war," Milam said. "Well, they were saying very positive things. Some accused the Army of lowering its standards, but they never lowered their academic standards during Vietnam. Calley made it through, and we slipped up on him."

So what happened after the war to cause such ill-regard for junior officers as a whole? Milam said he noticed a classic case of finger-pointing and buck-passing from higher-ranking officers who were writing books that laid blame on junior officers for problems during combat. This further solidified bad public opinion on the junior officers' roles in the war effort.

"The best answer I could come up with was that Lt. Calley became the poster boy for junior officers," he said. "Those who were accusing junior officers for all these atrocities and problems with the war were field-grade officers such as lieutenant colonels and colonels. These men were not typically as close to the combat action as lieutenants and could not appreciate the contribution junior officers were making to the war effort."

"My goal with the book was to describe what kind of war this was and create that environment. This was a different kind of war for these men than World War II was for their dads. Generally speaking, they did a good job."

For a review copy of the book, please contact publicist Laura Gribbin at (919) 962-0585, or lagribbi@email.unc.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 4, 2009

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Texas Tech Law Teams Log Wins, Bring Traveling Trophy Home

Texas Tech University's School of Law moot court teams earned wins in two regional competitions in November.

At the American Bar Association (ABA) Regional Legal Negotiations contest in mid-November in Houston, three Texas Tech law teams advanced to the finals, one of which will move on to national competition.

At the Region 10 rounds of the National Moot Court competition hosted later in the month at the Texas Tech School of Law, a team of third-year law students went undefeated, beating all the law schools of Texas and Oklahoma, racking up best oralist and best brief wins, and bringing home the traveling trophy that originated at Texas Tech.

In the final round of the legal negotiations competition, the team of second-year law students Matt Hardin of Weatherford and Amanda Apolinar of San Antonio took first place with perfect scores; the second-year-law team of Michael Martinez of Brownfield and Allyson Bazan of Lubbock tied for second, and the second-year-law team of Calli Bailey of Coppel and Marisa Dunagan of Midland tied for fourth.

In the final round Martinez and Bazan won the Regional Legal Negotiations Championship, guaranteeing them an invitation to the national championship rounds in February. Law professors Nancy Soonpaa and Wendy Humphrey coach the teams.

On home turf at the moot court contest, third-year law students Chris Taylor of Fort Worth, Courtney Wheeler of Platteville, Wis., and John Beck of Bedford, took first place, earning a berth to the national finals in February in New York and bringing home the Allison Cup. The team also swept the individual awards as well, with Beck's brief winning the Best Brief award, and Wheeler being named Best Oralist. The team is coached by Rob Sherwin, director of advocacy programs.

The trophy, the Alvin R. Allison Cup, was donated to the regional competition in 1975 by "Friends of the Texas Tech Board of Barristers" in honor of Levelland attorney Al Allison, often referred to as the "Father of the Texas Tech School of Law."

"At least for the next year, the gorgeous traveling trophy will be housed where it truly belongs," said Walt Huffman, dean of the Texas Tech School of Law.

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“It hasn't been in our trophy case since 1996, when Tiffany Gurkin, Melissa Williams and Mike Yanof brought it home.”

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

CONTACT: Casey Carson, director of alumni relations, Texas Tech University School of Law, (806) 742-3990 ext. 315, or casey.carson@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 8, 2009

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Texas Tech Signs Agreements With Chinese University To Promote Academic Trade

Texas Tech University recently signed two new partnership agreements with China's Lanzhou University that promote academic trade and open the doors for Chinese students to study in the United States.

Provost Bob Smith, representing President Guy Bailey, signed the agreements at 10 a.m. Tuesday (Dec. 8), with Xuhong Zhou, president of Lanzhou University.

The signing comes at the end of a three-day visit by a seven member Chinese delegation composed of Lanzhou University deans and administrators.

"The visit by Lanzhou University's president to Lubbock shows how much Lanzhou values our partnership and supports our joint interest in expanding ties even further," said Ambassador Tibor Nagy, vice provost for international affairs. "China's increasing global influence and keen interest in developing its academic institutions to the highest global standards presents huge opportunities for Texas Tech. By expanding our exchange programs in China, we also strengthen our international name recognition and reputation. This will attract more highly qualified Chinese students and researchers to Texas Tech."

Administrators signed a general agreement for Lanzhou University to send its students to Texas Tech for semester- or year-long studies. Also, they signed a memorandum of understanding between Lanzhou University and Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to create a graduate student exchange agreement.

"We've had an undergraduate exchange agreement with Lanzhou University for about five years now," said Norman Hopper, associate dean of academic and student programs in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. "We're going to try to set up a graduate exchange, so we're pledging to work together to work out the details. Since we live in a similar environment in West Texas, our courses will be applicable to the environment that students will encounter in China, and vice-versa."

Lanzhou is Texas Tech's oldest partner institution in China, with the relationship going back almost a decade, having been pioneered by Horn Professor Vivien Allen of Plant and Soil Sciences, and Ronald Sosebee of the Department of Natural Resources Management.

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Lanzhou is a city of about 3.3 million in China's interior. It is situated in a semi-arid agricultural region looking to benefit from wind energy and water-saving technologies.

In addition to maintaining an active exchange program, Lanzhou would serve as Texas Tech's Chinese partner institution if Lubbock decides to host a Confucius Institute – China's global project to promote Chinese language and culture.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 8, 2009

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Texas Tech Using Remote Sensing Technology to Improve Peanut Crops

The economic wallop of Texas peanut products is getting an aerial boost this season from Texas Tech University.

Researchers are using a special airborne multispectral remote sensing system on an experimental peanut crop in nearby Brownfield, a small farming community. The hi-tech gear is used to estimate the plant's biophysical characteristics, including ground cover, leaf area, biomass and yield.

"Improved monitoring of peanut crops could one day help growers have a healthier crop through improved irrigation practices and pinpoint application of fungicides," said Stephan Maas, a Texas Tech professor of agricultural microclimatology with joint appointment with Texas AgriLife Research. Maas is a participant in the project, along with Texas Tech Postdoctoral Research Associate Nithya Rajan.

Remote sensing describes the science of identifying, observing and measuring an object without making direct contact with it. The process involves the detection and measurement of light in different wavelengths reflected by the object.

In this instance, the remote sensing system contains high-resolution digital cameras fitted with narrow band-pass filters that allow the cameras to acquire imagery in specific wavelengths of light related to plant growth. The cameras are carried by a single-engine Cessna 172 aircraft operated by Plainview-based South Plains Precision Ag Inc.

It's the first year Texas Tech remote sensing experts and peanut breeding specialists from New Mexico State University have used the method on peanuts and, so far, both are excited about the results.

"Development of relationships between biophysical characteristics and remote sensing data could allow routine monitoring of peanut crop growth and yield potential in producers' fields," said Naveen Puppala, a peanut breeder with New Mexico State University's Agricultural Science Center at Clovis. "With more research on remote sensing, it will help the growers to identify the correct time to irrigate their crops."

Digital data taken from Texas Tech's remote sensing imagery has already been used to calculate vegetation values – including what's technically called the normalized difference vegetation index and the perpendicular vegetation index – for the peanut canopies growing in test plots. The two indicators are used to measure the peanut plant's growth and leaf canopy density.

“Growing the most cost efficient peanut possible is vital to the survival of Texas peanut production,” said Shelly Nutt, executive director at the Texas Peanut Producers Board. “Maximizing irrigation efficiency is key to peanut production profitability.”

Georgia leads the nation in peanut production, followed by the next-largest grower, Texas. Last year's peanut production was record breaking with the largest crop on record along with the highest average yield on record. Total U.S. peanut production for 2008 was estimated at 5.1 billion pounds.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 9, 2009

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Texas Tech Scientist Available to Discuss Climate Change Concerns Relevant to COP 15 Conference

As the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 15) continues through Dec. 18 in Copenhagen, Denmark, a prominent climate researcher at Texas Tech University is available to discuss consequences of unchecked climate change for the United States and information directly relevant to international climate treaty discussions taking place.

Katharine Hayhoe, a National Academy of Sciences committee member on greenhouse gas stabilization targets and co-author of "A Climate for Change: Global Warming Facts for Faith-Based Decisions," is a research associate professor in the Department of Geosciences. She can discuss climatic and economic questions related to global warming and greenhouse gas emissions.

Also, she can provide answers to common questions, such as "how do we know global warming is even occurring," and "how do we know humans are causing global warming, not the sun or natural cycles of the Earth?"

"Climate change is one of the major issues facing us today," Hayhoe said. "It is encouraging to see global leaders discussing the ways climate change may affect us and how we can contribute toward a solution."

To avoid the most severe effects of climate change, the world must stabilize the concentration of heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere at no more than 450 parts per million by 2050, she said.

This 450-parts-per-million limit aims to avoid a temperature increase exceeding 3.5 degrees Fahrenheit in a global average temperature above pre-industrial levels – a temperature-change benchmark which work by Hayhoe and other scientists indicates could wreak increasing havoc on the environment as it is exceeded.

"If we wait until 2020 to start emission reductions, we'll have to cut twice as fast than if we start in 2010 to meet the same target," she said.

Hayhoe has authored a number of studies that examine how climate change will affect the planet, including the U.S. Global Change Research Program's 2009 report on climate impacts in the United States. Her work has been featured in more than 200 newspapers

and media outlets around the world, including USA Today, the BBC, Discovery Channel, National Geographic and Sports Illustrated.

Hayhoe also contributed to the Nobel Prize-winning United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 2007.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 9, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Chancellor Wins State Leadership Award

[EDITOR'S NOTE: For an interview with Chancellor Hance, please contact Russ Bookbinder, vice chancellor for communications and marketing, at (806) 742-0012.]

Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, is the 2009-2010 winner of the Outstanding Texas State Leader Award from the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute.

The award will be presented at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 16 on the floor of the Texas House of Representatives as the culminating event of the 25th anniversary of the Texas Leadership Forum.

"I am honored and most grateful to receive this award," Hance said. "I appreciate the time and effort put forth by those who participated in the selection process. My life and my passion have been devoted to serving the people of Texas. I love and will always love Texas."

Hance was nominated not only for his work as chancellor, but also for his previous service as a Texas Senator, U.S. Congressman and Texas Railroad Commissioner.

"Chancellor Kent Hance was chosen by a statewide panel of judges to receive the Shepperd Institute's prestigious Outstanding Texas Leader Award," said Robert Burns, director of the Shepperd Public Leadership Institute. "This coveted award not only honors those currently serving the state, but also it is designed to inspire other Texans to follow the exceptional public service example of the recipient. The chancellor has a remarkable record of achievement as a strong and effective Texas leader. He has shown extraordinary skill and tenacity in business, government, education and law. The Shepperd Institute is very proud to bestow its highest honor on Kent Hance, chancellor of Texas Tech."

The John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute was founded to provide Texans an education about leadership, ethics and public service. The institute's goal is to develop a well-rounded leadership program to improve Texans' personal leadership skills, develop their sense of community responsibility, and educate them on the importance of ethics and public service.

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The judging panel for the Outstanding Texas Leader Award selects a winner based on proven leadership, exhibition of character and demonstration of high ethical standards. Consideration is also given to the scope and significance of the award winner's accomplishments as a volunteer, elected official, educator, philanthropist, business or religious leader in community or state affairs.

Former winners include former Lt. Governors Bob Bullock and Bill Hobby, Gov. Rick Perry, and former Gov. Preston Smith.

The Outstanding Texas Leader Award was created to honor former Texas Attorney General John Ben Shepperd's belief that it is the duty of every Texan to contribute to his or her community and state. The award is presented each year at the Texas Leadership Forum, the flagship event of the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute. For more information about the award ceremony, the institute or to reserve tickets, contact the John Ben Shepperd Public Leadership Institute at (432) 552-2850 or on the Web at www.theinstitute.us.com

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 10, 2009

CONTACT: Jessica Benham, jessica.benham@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Judging Teams Strive for Excellence Beyond Competitions

Ryan Rathmann, Texas Tech University's livestock judging coach, emphasizes the bigger picture that extends beyond claiming consecutive national championship titles.

Rathmann, who has won six national championships – one for every year he has been a coach – has a selfless attitude when it comes to coaching and inspiring his students.

Although Rathmann attributes his success to luck, anyone can see that it's a lot more than just luck that's earned him the title of the winningest coach in livestock judging history.

"It's a satisfying accomplishment," he said. "But, it's more satisfying to know that all of the students I've coached over the years have had a positive experience and have accomplished something they'll remember for the rest of their lives."

Texas Tech benefits from the team's success through both recruiting and the national exposure it receives.

"Success begets Success," Rathmann said. "It's a lot easier to recruit when you have a successful program. But, that is something we've earned."

Texas Tech's meat judging team is also known for excelling and developing skills in students that will help them succeed later in life.

Mark Miller, professor and San Antonio Livestock Show Distinguished Chair in Meat Science and coach of Texas Tech's meat judging team, said it's very humbling to have such a successful program, which he says is possible because of the hard work of the students.

"I am honored to be at Texas Tech and to get to work with such great students," Miller said. "I feel a tremendous amount of pride and excitement about the team's accomplishments."

Developing Skills

Miller said being a member of these judging teams helps students develop skills that will help them down the road in their personal and professional lives.

“The program is not about winning,” he said. “It’s about developing skills in students that they can take with them and use to help them get a job and be successful both personally and professionally.”

Rathmann said livestock judging is extremely effective in developing public speaking skills and rational decision making skills and helps students learn how to excel in a competitive environment.

Aside from the various skills students develop, they are also able to build connections in their fields, which can later lead to careers.

“Through traveling across the country while on the judging teams, students gain exposure to different types of production systems and to a network of people, which they benefit from both professionally and personally,” Rathmann said.

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Mark Miller, San Antonio Livestock Show Distinguished Chair in Meat Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2805 or MFMRRRAIDER@aol.com.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 10, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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**Announcement of Texas Tech Chancellor's Council Distinguished
Teaching and Research Awards**

WHO: Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance

WHAT: Announcement of the 2009 winners of the Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards, the highest honor given to faculty by the system.

WHEN: 10:30 a.m. Friday, (Dec. 11)

WHERE: Board of Regents meeting room, 2nd floor of the Administration Building,
Texas Tech campus

EVENT: The annual awards recognize an outstanding professor and researcher at Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

The Chancellor's Council provides funding for student scholarships, faculty incentives and other programs.

Each winner will receive a \$10,000 cash award and a medallion.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 11, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Two Texas Tech Law Teams Co-champions at ABA Regionals

Two Texas Tech University School of Law arbitration teams won final rounds in the American Bar Association (ABA) Arbitration Regional Championships.

Under new ABA Revised Rules for Arbitration, there were actually two final rounds with the winner of each round being declared the champion of the regional round, so each team won both its semi-final round and final round at the regional competition in November at the University of Missouri School of Law in Columbia.

“This is our fourth consecutive regional arbitration championship and the second consecutive time to qualify two teams for the national championships,” said Walt Huffman, dean of Texas Tech’s School of Law. “We congratulate team coaches and adjunct professors Murray Hensley and Shery Kime-Goodwin for this repeat dual championship, as well as the members of the co-championship teams for their talent, for their hard work, and for representing us so very well.”

Team Red includes third-year law students Sam Ackels of Dallas, Matt Butler of Crawford, Paul Miller of Round Rock and Courtney Stamper of Pinehurst.

Team Black includes second-year law students Derek Feibel of Plano, Shanna Herzog of Alvin, Hayley John of Huntsville, Mo., and Alex Yarbrough of Amherst.

With the dominant performance in the ABA arbitration regional competition, Texas Tech Law teams have swept the championships in all three ABA regional student advocacy skills competitions: arbitration (co-champions); legal negotiations (top two teams); and moot court (team championship and both individual awards).

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 11, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Hosts Sibling Weekend

Texas Tech University will host Sibling Weekend Feb. 19-21, 2010.

Originating from Parent and Family Relations, Sibling Weekend 2010 is an event designed to be a fun, educational and spirit-filled weekend for Texas Tech students and their siblings between the ages of 8-15.

"One of the aims of Sibling Weekend is to let brothers and sisters of Texas Tech students know that Texas Tech is a place for them, too," said Ken Gassiot, associate director in Parent and Family Relations. "The Texas Tech family is comprised of many people; alumni, students, staff, faculty and many others. Younger brothers and sisters share in the collegiate experience just as parents and other family members do and their involvement in our community is essential. We are working to create an experience that is truly unique and special for all participants."

The primary goal of the weekend is to encourage siblings to come to Texas Tech to spend time with their brother or sister who is a current student, and to participate in a range of fun activities throughout the weekend.

"Our hope is that the younger siblings who participate will create even stronger bonds with their brother or sister who is at Texas Tech and get a sense of what it is like to be a Red Raider," Gassiot said.

The cost is \$45 per participant. This includes all meals, men's basketball tickets for the University of Texas game, official Sibling Weekend t-shirt, Double T drawstring bag and more. See the full schedule, additional details and the registration form at www.parent.ttu.edu.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 11, 2009

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, sally.post@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Chancellor's Council Announces Distinguished Teaching, Research Awards

The highest awards given by the Texas Tech University System to faculty members at its member institutions were announced today (Dec. 11) by Chancellor Kent Hance.

The annual Texas Tech University System Chancellor's Council Distinguished Teaching and Research Awards go to two faculty members from Texas Tech University, the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Angelo State University.

The Distinguished Research Awards go to Seshadri Ramkumar, associate professor of environmental toxicology at the Institute of Environmental and Human Health and Afzal Siddiqui, associate academic dean in the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at the Health Sciences Center.

The Distinguished Teaching Awards go to Edward Anderson, professor of mechanical engineering at Texas Tech and Alyce Ashcraft, associate professor in the Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing.

Winners from Angelo State were announced and honored at a general faculty meeting in April. Ellen Moreland, of the Department of Mathematics, received the Distinguished Teaching Award and Arnoldo DeLeon of the Department of History, received the Distinguished Research Award.

"These outstanding faculty members exemplify the quality and character of the professors in the Texas Tech University System," said Hance. "Their passion and dedication to academics and research is unmatched and is apparent through their hard work and numerous achievements. It is my pleasure to once again award these honors to such deserving faculty members."

This is the ninth year for the Chancellor's Council to present the awards. The winners each receive a plaque and a \$10,000 cash award. The Chancellor's Council raises funds for student scholarships, faculty recruitment and support, and other programs.

Anderson joined Texas Tech in 1986 as chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering. He has held the Ray Butler Distinguished Educator in the Whitacre College of Engineering and has served as director of Texas Tech Teaching, Learning and Office of Communications and Marketing

Technology Center. He is known for using the latest technology to develop new and innovative teaching techniques and has received more than \$400,000 in National Science Foundation funding related to computer-based instruction and engineering education. Among his many honors, Anderson was named the 2005 State of Texas Piper Professor and in 2003 received the National Award for Excellence in Distance Education from the U.S. Distance Learning Association and the Institute for Telecommunications. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Iowa State University and his doctorate from Purdue.

Ashcraft joined the Health Sciences Center in 2001. She is currently an associate professor and coordinator of the Traditional Undergraduate Program in the Anita Thigpen Perry School of Nursing. Ashcraft's teaching consistently receives high marks from undergraduate and graduate students alike, earning her an Outstanding Faculty of the Year Award from the Student Senate in spring 2008, and the Innovation Award and Young Investigators Award from the School of Nursing. She earned her bachelor's degree from Texas Women's University, her master's from the University of Texas at Arlington and her doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin.

Ramkumar came to Texas Tech in 1999 and joined the Institute of Environmental and Human Health in 2002. His research has led to the development of Fibertect – a patented nonwoven decontamination wipe. The product was found to outperform other products in tests conducted by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Ramkumar's nonwoven fabric work has received international publicity. He has received almost \$4 million in external funding for his research. He has received the Technical Textiles Accomplishments Award, an international award presented for nonwovens research, Lubbock's Top Twenty Under 40 Award in 2007, the Scientist of the Year award from the Lubbock Chapter of the Achievement Rewards for College Scientists and the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce's Innovation in Technology Award. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Anna University in India and his doctorate from the University of Leeds, England. He originally designed and developed the INDO-US collaborative conference, "Advances in Textiles, Machinery, Nonwovens and Technical Textiles-ATNT" which is held every year in South India since 2004.

Siddiqui joined the Health Sciences Center Department of Internal Medicine in Amarillo in 2000 as the holder of the Amarillo Endowed Professorship. He joined the Departments of Microbiology and Immunology and Internal Medicine on the Lubbock campus in 2007. He currently is a professor and the associate academic dean for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. He is internationally known for his research on parasite immunology, particularly in the area of developing vaccines to fight infectious diseases. Siddiqui currently has funded research support from the Thrasher Research Fund and the National Institutes of Health totaling about \$2 million. He has previously won the Dean's and President's Research Awards from the School of Medicine and TTUHSC. He earned degrees from Aligarh University in India and his doctorate from the University of Western Ontario in Canada. His professional training is from the Centers for Disease Control and Harvard School of Public Health.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Ellen D. Moreland joined Angelo State University in 1988 and is currently a senior instructor of mathematics. She also has received the 2009 Texas Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. Since she designed the Mathematics Department's capstone course at ASU more than a decade ago, 100 percent of the ASU students completing the high school mathematics certification program have passed the state certification exam on the first try. By contrast, the statewide average is approximately 65 percent. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in mathematics from Clarkson College of Technology in Potsdam, N.Y.

Arnoldo De León is the C.J. "Red" Davidson Professor of History at Angelo State University. He joined the faculty in 1973. His historical research has re-shaped contemporary understanding of Texas history, particularly as it relates to Mexican Americans. He is the author of 15 books and monographs as well as the editor of 11 more. His book, "They Called Them Greasers: Anglo Attitudes toward Mexicans in Texas, 1821-1900," is considered by many scholars to be one of the top 10 books ever written on Texas history. He has been referred to by his peers as the "Dean of Tejano Studies." De León holds his bachelor's degree from ASU and his master's and doctoral degrees from TCU, all in history.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 14, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech University to Honor Graduates

[Editor's note: A student from your area is included in this release.]

Texas Tech University will award diplomas to 2,064 students during graduation exercises Dec. 18 and 19.

The commencement speaker for all ceremonies is Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance.

Texas Tech's Graduate School will hold its commencement ceremony at 4 p.m. Friday (Dec. 18) in the United Spirit Arena, 1701 Indiana Ave., in Lubbock. The ceremony is free and open to the public; parking also is free.

Undergraduate commencement ceremonies are scheduled for 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 19), in the United Spirit Arena.

The morning ceremony includes students in the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Human Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering and the Rawls College of Business.

The afternoon observance includes the Colleges of Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Mass Communications, Education and University Studies.

The Texas Tech School of Law hooding ceremony is at 5 p.m. Saturday in the Student Union Building's Allen Theater. The speaker is Glenn West, class of 1978, who is a partner at Weil Gotshal and Manges in Dallas. He is a 2008 distinguished alumnus of the Law School.

Outstanding students will carry banners representing their respective colleges. Administrators selected the banner bearers based on all-around achievement.

The banner bearers are:

- Kristen Farrington Hillger, agricultural and applied economics, San Antonio, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources
- Micah Ross Henry, architecture, Midland, College of Architecture
- Darci Dianne Barney, microbiology and mathematics, Lubbock, College of Arts and Sciences
- Leslee Dayne Schneider, multidisciplinary studies, Bosque Farms, N.M., College of Education

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- Amanda Rae Gordon, mechanical engineering, San Antonio, Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering
- Katy L. Taylor, nutritional science, Midland (morning ceremony), and Kelly O'Neill, political science, Dallas (afternoon ceremony), Honors College
- Holly Leigh Erica Lambert, human development and family studies, Amarillo, College of Human Sciences
- Ashley Nicole Hoptay, public relations/business, Plano, College of Mass Communications
- Katy Wright, honors studies, Colleyville, College of Outreach and Distance Education
- Alyssa Kelly Boren, international business/Spanish minor, Amarillo, Rawls College of Business
- Kristen Margaret Briggs, general studies, Lubbock, College of Visual and Performing Arts

Selected to carry the banner for the Graduate School is Robert C. Schaller from Lubbock, who this semester receives his doctor of philosophy in Mass Communications.

Also recognized during commencement exercises will be bachelor's degree candidates with the highest grade-point-averages in their respective colleges. Highest ranking December graduates for each college are:

- Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources: Hillger
- Architecture: Henry
- Arts and Sciences: Juliet Yassamin Azarani, political science, Lake Dallas; Michael Benjamin Henderson, social work, Lubbock; Ruiyang Jiang, biochemistry, Tianjin, China; Bonnie Jean Krejci, English, Denton; and Tiffany Nicole Parrish, psychology and sociology, Largo Vista
- Education: Schneider
- Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering: Gordon
- Human Sciences: Lambert, and Christopher Grady McLain, human development and family studies, Vernon
- Mass Communications: Hoptay; Jessica Elaine Benham, public relations, San Angelo; and Elizabeth Dean Elliott, journalism, Temple
- Rawls College of Business: Boren; Hoptay; Ashley D. Ahlgren, accounting, Richland, Wash.; Benjamin Bahlmann, accounting, Houston; Erin D'Ann Dipprey, accounting, Hale Center; Andrew Thomas Silverthorn, accounting, El Paso; Brant E. Wischnewsky, accounting/music minor, Tomball; and James A. Davis, management, Cypress
- Outreach and Distance Education: Wright
- Visual and Performing Arts: Briggs

For more information on commencement or college receptions, visit [Texas Tech's commencement Web site](#), or call (806) 742-7742.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec 15, 2009

CONTACT: Erin Hawes, erin.hawes@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Paintball Team Ranks Top in the Nation

The Texas Tech University student-organized Paintball Team is on a roll recently after excelling in two competitions.

The Texas Tech group, split into two teams, placed first and fourth at the University of North Texas Open in November in Allen and placed fourth and sixth at the University of Texas Open in October in San Marcos.

After the University of Texas Open, organization president Cameron Culver, said improvement was a must for the University of North Texas Open.

"We knew that our next event was only three weeks away so we only had two weekends of practice leading up to it," Culver said. "We wanted both teams to do better."

Culver said nobody expected the second line to win first place in the open.

"We were really proud after our second team received first place," he said.

After these two competitions, the Texas Tech students' team currently ranks fourth in the nation out of 71 teams.

Members of the paintball team include:

- Cameron Culver – Allen
- Chase Reeves – Grandview
- Brandon Griffin – Grandview
- Boback Parsaei – League City
- Brian Honekamp – Tomball
- Jared Sheldon – Kingwood
- Eddie Falcon – Andrews
- Nathan Edwards – Keller
- Raul Mazariegos – Garland
- Kade Thetford – Arlington
- Clark Gulsby – Houston
- Hutton Evans – Big Spring

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- Travis Boltz – Sugar Land
- Mitchell Marshall – Longview
- Allen Chambers – Colleyville
- Kyle Pace – Fort Worth
- Alan Aragon – Richardson
- Austen Brown – Richardson
- Justin Reese – Lubbock
- Alex Yoang - Lubbock

CONTACT: Ken Gassiot, associate director, Parent and Family Relations, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3630 or ken.gassiot@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 15, 2009

CONTACT: Erin Hawes, erin.hawes@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

When to Resign: A Little Advice from Mencius

While Johnny Paycheck's song "Take This Job and Shove it" may hold some tempting advice, a philosophy professor at Texas Tech University said people should look at ancient Chinese philosopher Mencius's theory on resignation.

According to Mencius, Howard Curzer, professor of philosophy at Texas Tech, said one should resign if their advice will not be taken or if their position would lead them to act wrongly. He concentrated on Mencius' theory of resignation if one's job does not allow him or her to effectively help others.

"Paycheck is talking about resigning a job because it is exploitive and unpleasant," he said, "These are good reasons to quit, of course, but they are basically concerned with one's own happiness."

Curzer presented a paper titled "Take Your Job and Shove it: Mencius on Resigning and the Doctrine of the Mean" at the Humanities Society in Montana.

He said that though Paycheck's song discusses resignation due to insults from one's boss, Mencius believed this is not a legitimate reason to quit, although it may lead to one's advice becoming futile.

He said if contemplating quitting, people should ask themselves if any good comes from their work. If over time, a person sees no good is being done, no one is listening, or the company they work for is selling a worthless product, it's time to leave.

"But sometimes people in high-level jobs are blocked from helping others by inefficiency and/or corruption in the system or ruler," he said. "In such cases, Confucius and Mencius thought that one should resign and look for other ways to help people rather than waste one's time continuing on in the job."

CONTACT: Howard Curzer, professor, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3277, or howard.curzer@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 16, 2009

CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, leslie.cranford@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Commencement to Honor Graduates

WHAT: Fall 2009 commencement

WHEN: 4 p.m. Friday (Dec. 18) Graduate School
9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Saturday (Dec. 19)

WHERE: United Spirit Arena, 1701 Indiana Ave. in Lubbock

The ceremony can be viewed live online at
<http://www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream/>.

EVENT: Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, will speak at Texas Tech's commencement ceremonies.

More than 2,060 students will receive diplomas during the event.

The morning ceremony includes students in the Colleges of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Human Sciences, Visual and Performing Arts, the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering and the Rawls College of Business.

The afternoon observance includes the Colleges of Architecture, Arts and Sciences, Mass Communications, Education and University Studies.

The Texas Tech School of Law hooding ceremony is at 5 p.m. Saturday in the Student Union Building's Allen Theatre. The speaker is Glenn West, class of 1978, who is a partner at Weil Gotshal and Manges in Dallas. He is a 2008 distinguished alumnus of the Law School.

For more information on commencement or college receptions, visit [Texas Tech's commencement Web site](#), or call (806) 742-7742.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 17, 2009

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Texas Tech's Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Receives Top Honors from National Society

Only three years after receiving its charter, Texas Tech University's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa received the highest possible rating for 2008-2009 from the national Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's most prestigious academic honor society.

Lambda of Texas, the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Texas Tech, was one of only 22 chapters to receive the rating. The chapter now will be considered for the Exemplary Chapter Award that will be presented to three chapters at the 2012 Triennial Council meeting in Palm Beach, Fla.

"This outstanding ranking exemplifies the quality and character of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter at Texas Tech," said Texas Tech University President Guy Bailey. "The chapter's passion and dedication to academics is apparent through its hard work and numerous achievements."

The recognition of Texas Tech's chapter is based on such factors as the strong presence of Phi Beta Kappa on campus, its high standards and success in student selection, activities and the hosting of speakers and events, the chapter's Web site and exemplary collaboration with the regional Phi Beta Kappa alumni association.

The chapter's annual report for 2008-2009 was prepared by Mary Jane Hurst, professor of English and founding president of Lambda of Texas.

"In short, the chapter received this recognition because of its commitment to excellence," Hurst said. "This means that not only is Texas Tech University among the top 10 percent of all colleges and universities with respect to its liberal arts and sciences programs, but that its Phi Beta Kappa chapter is one of the very best in the country. I think it is probably unusual for a young chapter, especially at a large school, to receive a top ranking."

In addition to Hurst, the officers for 2008-2009 included Vice President Edward Quitevis, professor of chemistry; Secretary Daniel Hurst, professor of pediatric neurology; Historian Carl Seaquist, associate professor of mathematics and statistics; and Treasurer Alison Myhra, professor of law.

Rick Rosen, current Lambda of Texas chapter president and vice dean of the School of Law, said the chapter also was helped by its close relationship with Phi Beta Kappa's

regional alumni association, the Phi Beta Kappa Alumni Association of West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, led by its president, Alice White.

“Only the nation’s finest colleges and universities ever receive a Phi Beta Kappa chapter,” Rosen said. “To be ranked among the top 10 percent of chapters of these elite institutions is a remarkable achievement and reflects the strength of commitment of both the chapter’s members and Texas Tech University.”

Out of thousands of institutions of higher education in the United States, only 280 have been granted the right to shelter Phi Beta Kappa chapters. That’s fewer than 10 percent of U.S. institutions. As one of 22 chapters with a ranking of 1, Lambda of Texas is thus ranked in the top 10 percent of all chapters.

Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776. Texas Tech received its Phi Beta Kappa charter in 2006 and is one of only three public universities in Texas with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

CONTACT: Mary Jane Hurst, founding president and professor of English, Department of English, Texas Tech University, maryjane.hurst@ttu.edu. Rick Rosen, current Phi Beta Kappa president and vice dean of the School of Law, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-, or richard.rosen@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 17, 2009

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Judging Teams Quietly Create Dynasty Away From Spotlight

Beyond the gridiron and hardcourt that claim the lion's share of college media attention, teams of Texas Tech University agriculture students have quietly built one of the nation's most dominant dynasty programs.

Judging, academic and show teams in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources have claimed nearly 15 national championships since 2007 – many of them repeats – and more than 80 titles since the Livestock Judging Team claimed Texas Tech's first in 1934.

For instance, in November the Agronomy Club and Livestock Judging Team both claimed their third consecutive national titles. The Meat Judging Team filled out Texas Tech's trophy case even further with its own national win – the team's eighth since 1989.

This type of success brings national exposure and can boost recruiting for an agriculture program competing against the heftier purses of land-grant universities such as Texas A&M University and Oklahoma State University.

Some 130 prospective high school students indicated this year that they were interested joining Texas Tech's judging program.

"Success begets success," said Ryan Rathmann, Texas Tech's livestock judging coach who has won six national championships – one for every year he's coached. "It's a lot easier to recruit when you have a successful program. But, that is something we've earned."

The experience of serving on the teams also helps the students, developing public speaking and decisionmaking skills and networks that could help them land jobs later.

"The program is not about winning," said Mark Miller, coach of Texas Tech's Meat Judging Team. "It's about developing skills in students that they can take with them and use to help them get a job and be successful both personally and professionally."

CONTACT: Craig Bednarz, professor of crop physiology with joint appointment with Texas AgriLife Research, Department of Plant and Soil Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1631 or craig.bednarz@ttu.edu

Mark Miller, San Antonio Livestock Show Distinguished Chair in Meat Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2805 or MFMRRRAIDER@aol.com.

Ryan Rathmann, assistant professor and livestock judging coach, Animal and Foods Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2805 or ryan.rathmann@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 21, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech University in Abilene Adjusts Offerings to Meet Student Needs

Due to changing student needs, officials at Texas Tech University at Abilene announced Monday (Dec. 21) that the branch will no longer offer classes with face-to-face instruction for master's degrees in computer science and software engineering, or the doctoral degree in computer science.

However, students still will be able to access credit hours for a master's degree in software engineering and several other master's degree programs through Texas Tech's University College, formerly the College of Outreach and Distance Education.

Joseph Urban, chairman of the Department of Computer Science, said the site currently serves 11 students and houses five faculty members and three full-time staff members. In addition to teaching class in Abilene, the five faculty members have taught Texas Tech computer science graduate and undergraduate students in Lubbock through the distance-learning link.

"We will develop individual degree plans to ensure that the students currently enrolled in Abilene will have the opportunity to complete their degrees in a timely fashion," Urban said. "Our faculty members will return to Lubbock. The Master of Science in Software Engineering degree program is still available in Abilene through the distance-learning program."

Along with the master's in software engineering, Abilene's distance-learning programs will include:

- a master's degree in systems and engineering management
- a master's degree in software engineering
- a master's degree with any departmental option in the engineering college
- a graduate certificate in wind energy with either managerial or technical track

For Texas Tech administrators, this was a very hard decision, said Matt Baker, dean of University College.

"We explored what was economically feasible with the primary goal of serving our students," Baker said. "We feel it is ultimately the right one for the people of the Abilene community and the greater Texas Tech community."

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Texas Tech University, the Development Corporation of Abilene (DCOA) and Abilene Independent School District's first class of its New Tech High School have a contractual agreement to operate out of the downtown site, located at 302 Pine St. Texas Tech is committed to this agreement through the end of the AISD school year.

In addition, this decision will not impact Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center operations, which have shared space in the Abilene facility.

Texas Tech University at Abilene is a teaching facility and research site that opened in 2002 as a partnership between the DCOA, the city of Abilene, local foundations and Texas Tech.

CONTACT: Matt Baker, dean of University College, (806) 742-7202 ext. 254 or matt.baker@ttu.edu. Joseph Urban, chairman of the Department of Computer Science, (806) 742-3527, or joseph.urban@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 22, 2009

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu
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Governor Appoints Texas Tech Professor to Brazos River Authority Board

Gov. Rick Perry announced Tuesday (Dec. 22) the appointment of Texas Tech University associate professor Michel "Todd" Brashears to the Brazos River Authority Board of Directors.

The authority is responsible for developing and conserving the surface water resources of the Brazos River Basin.

Brashears, in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, will serve a term to expire Feb. 1, 2015.

Brashears is vice president of the Southern Region of the American Association of Agricultural Education, and a member of the National American Association for Agricultural Education, International Association of Food Protection, North American College Teachers of Agriculture and Association of Leadership Educators.

He received a bachelor's degree from Texas Tech University, a master's degree in agricultural education from Oklahoma State University, and a doctorate of agricultural education from Texas Tech University.

CONTACT: Todd Brashears, associate professor, Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2816, or todd.brashears@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Dec. 23, 2009

CONTACT: John Davis, john.w.davis@ttu.edu
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**Texas Tech's TIEHH Director Selected to Serve on Governor's Selection Committee
for 2010 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards**

The director of The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech University has been chosen to serve on the Governor's Blue Ribbon Committee for the 2010 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards.

The awards are coordinated by the governor's office and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Ron Kendall will serve on the selection committee, which is charged to review the top finalists in 11 categories.

"The opportunity to serve on the governor's blue ribbon committee for selection of the highest environmental award in the state of Texas is a great honor, particularly from the perspective of recognition of Texas Tech's environmental programs," Kendall said.

Last May, TIEHH was selected to receive the 2009 Texas Environmental Excellence Award in the area of education.

CONTACT: Ron Kendall, director, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, Texas Tech University, (806) 885-4567, or ron.kendall@ttu.edu.