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Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 1, 2006

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

LAURO CAVAZOS SIGNS COPIES OF MEMOIR

Book Recounts Transition from King Ranch to Education Secretary

WHAT: Book signing

WHEN: 3-4:30 p.m. Thursday (Nov. 2)

WHERE: The Merket Alumni Center on the Texas Tech University campus (17th Street and University Avenue)

EVENT: Former secretary of education and Texas Tech president Dr. Lauro Cavazos will sign copies of his memoir, "A Kineño Remembers from the King Ranch to the White House."

His book recounts his childhood on the famous King Ranch and how those experiences influenced his later policies while in office.

Cavazos became the first Hispanic in the United States appointed to a Cabinet position in 1988, when then-vice president George H.W. Bush swore him in as secretary of education.

Prior to that, Cavazos served as president of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech Health Sciences Center for eight years. He was the first Hispanic and the first graduate of the university to serve in that post.

Copies of "A Kineño Remembers from the King Ranch to the White House" will be available for purchase and Cavazos will be present to sign autographs.

CONTACT: Dr. Elizabeth Haley, associate vice chancellor, Texas Tech University,
(806) 742-1638, ext. 239, or Elizabeth.haley@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 1, 2006

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

WINNERS OF TEXAS TECH PRESIDENT'S BOOK AWARDS TO EXPLAIN WRITING, PUBLICATION PROCESS IN FREE PANEL DISCUSSION

LUBBOCK – Three award-winning Texas Tech University authors will discuss the writing and publication process during the final fall installment of the Presidential Lecture & Performance Series.

The President's Book Award: A Panel Discussion begins at 3:30 p.m. Nov. 9 in the Matador Room of the Student Union Building on the Texas Tech campus.

Faculty authors Philip A. Dennis, Dorothy Chansky and William Wenthe will discuss their award-winning books and what it takes to be a writer and get published. The event is free and open to the public.

"Researchers, artists, writers, and scholars of the highest quality can be found among the faculty at Texas Tech University," said Mary Jane Hurst, performance series organizer and faculty assistant to the president. "This panel is comprised of the three authors whose books received the most recent President's Book Award at Texas Tech."

Panelists include:

- Dorothy Chansky – author of "Composing Ourselves: The Little Theatre Movement." In an era of giant Broadway shows competing against the new medium of film, some artists rebelled against the commercial aspects of theater in an effort to change it from an entertainment to a serious art form. The book chronicles the Little Theatre Movement from 1912 to 1925. During that time, theatre leaders created the foundation on which modern theater is practiced today.
- William Wenthe – author of "Not Till We Are Lost: Poems." The poems in this book are arranged after the movement suggested by a passage in Thoreau's "Walden." This provides the book's title and epigraph, which means "not until we have lost the world do we begin to find ourselves and realize where we are and the infinite extent of our relations." The lesson Wenthe writes in this collection focuses on losing some of the trappings of modern society to gain insights to inner life.



- Philip A. Dennis – author of “The Miskitu People of Awastara.” Based on two and a half years of field work, this book uses concepts from recent interpretive anthropology to portray the life among this indigenous tribe in Nicaragua. To give a sense of the humanity these people, Dennis describes the societal importance of family life, turtle fishing, health practices and storytelling to the inhabitants of Awastara village.

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CONTACT: Mary Jane Hurst, faculty assistant to the president, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2121 or maryjane.hurst@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 1, 2006

CONTACT: Michael Castellon, michaelcastellon@gmail.com

(806) 742-2136

APPRENTICE WINNER VISITS AS GUEST LECTURER

LUBBOCK – Randal D. Pinkett, winner of season four of the hit television show, "The Apprentice," will speak to business students on the Texas Tech campus.

The presentation is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in LH202 in the Rawls College of Business Administration building.

The lecture will be held during the information systems in business class. It is open to any interested business students.

Pinkett was one of 18 candidates chosen from among 1 million applicants to compete for the opportunity to run one of Donald Trump's companies. He is currently overseeing both renovation and information technology projects for Trump Entertainment Resorts in Atlantic City, N.J.

Prior to participating on "The Apprentice," Pinkett made history as the first African-American to receive a Rhodes Scholarship at Rutgers University.

Pinkett gained corporate experience as a Member of Technical Staff at General Electric, AT&T Bell Laboratories and Lucent Technologies. He holds five degrees including a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Rutgers University, which he completed while serving as captain of the men's track and field team as a high jumper and long jumper; a master's degree in computer science from the University of Oxford in England; a master's degree in electrical engineering; and a master's and doctorate degree in business administration from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Students who are interested in the lecture may contact the Rawls Career Management Center at (806) 742-4530 and reference the Pinkett Lecture.

Also, Pinkett will speak to Lubbock area business men and women at the November Chief Executives' Roundtable luncheon for the Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University. The luncheon provides funding for speaker venues for students of the college.

For more information on Pinkett's visit, or for more information on the CER program send an email inquiry to rawls_inquiry@ttu.edu.

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CONTACT: Randi Rives, PR/alumni relations, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, at (806) 742-3940, or randi.rives@ttu.edu.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 2, 2006

CONTACT: Erica Hoff, ericahoff@yahoo.com
(806) 742-2136

SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING TO BE TOPIC OF KEYNOTE

LUBBOCK – Bill VanPatten will speak at the inaugural Conference on Second Language Learning and Teaching, sponsored by the Texas Tech College of Education and Classical and Modern Languages and Literature's Department Nov. 3-4.

VanPatten is a nationally known authority on second language acquisition and he will give three keynote lectures on the topic during the graduate student conference. He has written numerous books, textbooks, journal articles and book chapters on second language acquisition.

The conference is open to any foreign language teachers, students preparing to teach foreign languages and graduate students.

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CONTACT: Andrew Farley, Classical & Modern Languages Bilingual Education, College of Education, Texas Tech University, at (806) 445-9739, or Andrew.farley@ttu.edu.

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Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 2, 2006

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

HUMAN SCIENCES TO CUT RIBBON ON TWO NEW CENTERS

Child Development, Addiction and Recovery Programs Benefit from New Space

- WHAT:** Building dedication ceremony
- WHEN:** 10 a.m. Friday (Nov. 3)
[Note: College and center representatives will be available for pre-event interviews beginning at 9:15 a.m., and media are invited to tour the new facilities at 9:30 a.m.]
- WHERE:** The College of Human Sciences Building (15th Street and Akron Avenue)
- EVENT:** The College of Human Sciences will hold a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony to celebrate completion of an \$8 million addition that will enhance the offerings of two already celebrated programs – the Christine DeVitt and Helen DeVitt Jones Child Development Research Center and the Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery.

Private donations paid for more than 90 percent of building costs for the new addition, which will allow both programs to significantly increase their programs. The facilities also will be better suited for facilitating research while providing a nurturing environment – a necessity both for early childhood education training and addiction recovery support.

Guests including Drug Enforcement Administration Administrator Karen Tandy and U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, will join Texas Tech University representatives in a dedication and ribbon cutting, followed by the unveiling of a Glenna Goodacre sculpture titled “Irish Madonna.”

The “Irish Madonna” statue, originally part of Goodacre’s massive Irish Memorial Project, was commissioned by W.B. Blankenship and his sons, Steve M., D. Bruce and Terry, and donated to the college in memory of his wife and their mother, Maxine Blankenship.

CONTACT: Keith Thomas, Coordinator of Development and External Relations, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3031, ext. 259, or k.thomas@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 2, 2006

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

TEXAS TECH HOSTS PEP RALLY

WHAT: Pep rally

WHEN: 6 p.m. Thursday (Nov. 2)

WHERE: The Will Rogers Statue (on Memorial Circle)

EVENT: Join Texas Tech University cheerleaders, pom squad, the Saddle Tramps, High Riders, and Goin' Band from Raiderland in a pep rally as the football team prepares to tackle Baylor.

Free hot dogs and lemonade provided.

The Saddle Tramps will begin their traditional wrapping of Will Rogers and the rest of campus immediately following the pep rally.

CONTACT: Stephanie Rhode, assistant director of Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-5433, or Stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 3, 2006

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

TEXAS TECH DEBATERS SCORE AT FIVE TOURNAMENTS IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER

LUBBOCK – After competing in three early-season tournaments this September, the Texas Tech Speech and Debate Team has placed among the top 20 parliamentary debate schools nationwide.

The team attended a tournament Sept. 16-17 in Cheyenne, Wyo., two more tournaments Sept. 22-24 in both Liberty, Mo., and San Marcos, a tournament Oct. 20-22 in Omaha, Nebraska, and a tournament Oct. 27-29 in Colorado Springs, CO.

During these tournaments, Tech debaters defeated teams that include Carroll College, Rice University, the University of Wyoming, the University of Utah, Willamette University, the United States Air Force Academy, the University of Missouri, the University of Notre Dame, Southern Illinois University, and Western Kentucky University. Tech finished in fourth place as a squad at both the Omaha and Colorado Springs tournaments.

“I could not be prouder of where we are at this point,” said Joe Gantt, instructor in Communication Studies and the director of the speech and debate program. “Our returning members have all had extremely impressive showings, and the newcomers to our team have already raised the bar for our expectations. We’re working hard, and the results bear that out.”

Standout debaters include:

Top of the Rockies in Cheyenne, Wyo.

- Vamsi Vemuru, a senior political science major from Odessa; Tim West, a senior communication studies major from Amarillo; Jacob Parks, a senior English and philosophy major from Midland; and Michael Mitchell, a junior electrical engineering and computer science major from Lamesa; advanced to the championship rounds of the varsity division of parliamentary debate, tying for 17th place out of 58 teams.
- In the junior varsity division of parliamentary debate, Nicole Brown, a freshman pre-law major from San Angelo, and Andy Reay, a junior

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

chemical engineering major from Albuquerque, finished in ninth place. Dustin Dempsey, a freshman political science major from San Angelo, and Sarah Saunders, a freshman political science major from Lubbock, placed 17th in the junior varsity parliamentary debate.

- Brown placed fourth and Reay placed 13th with individual honors out of 92 debaters.
- Brian Horton, a freshman political science major from San Angelo, won his first collegiate tournament in After-Dinner Speaking.

Show-Me Invitational in Liberty, Mo.

- Anthony Putnicki, a junior philosophy major from El Paso, and Kristen Owen, a junior economics major from Houston, placed second in the invitation-only Cardinal Classic Round Robin, cementing their place as one of the nation's elite debating teams.
- Putnicki and Owen placed fifth in the open debate tournament.
- Overall, Owen placed sixth and West placed 12th as best speaker of 112 debaters.

Hill Country Swing in San Marcos

- Erin Wyatt, a senior communication studies major from El Paso, advanced to the final rounds in Communication Analysis; and Amador Juarez, a senior communication studies major from Laredo, advanced to the final rounds of Dramatic Interpretation.

Nebraska Double-Up in Omaha, Neb.

- Putnicki and Owen were the top team in the tournament in preliminary competition, earning individual honors of fifth best speaker and eighth best speaker. They finished tied for ninth best team out of a field of 46.
- Putnicki placed first in Impromptu speaking, Juarez finished first in Program Oral Interpretation and Horton finished third in Informative Speaking, the top finishes among twelve TTU students who advanced to final rounds.

James A. "Al" Johnson Invitational in Colorado Springs, Colo.

- Putnicki and Owen continued their success by finishing 17th out of a field of 78 debate teams. Putnicki was named the 8th best speaker at the tournament out of 156 speakers.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

- Brown and Peter Wood, a freshman from Abilene, placed ninth in the junior varsity division of parliamentary debate, as Wood was named the 13th best speaker and Brown 18th.
- Horton placed second in Informative Speaking and third in After-Dinner Speaking.

The squad will participate at the Cameron Christmas Classic, to be held in Lawton, OK, Dec 1-3.

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CONTACT: Joseph J. Gantt, director of forensics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1328, joe.gantt@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 3, 2006

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

COLLEGE OF HUMAN SCIENCES CUTS RIBBON ON TWO NEW CENTERS

Child Development, Addiction and Recovery Programs Benefit from New Space

LUBBOCK – Texas Tech University's College of Human Sciences held a ribbon cutting ceremony Friday to dedicate an \$8 million addition that will enhance two already celebrated programs.

The new facilities will house both the Christine DeVitt and Helen DeVitt Jones Child Development Research Center and the Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery.

Texas Tech representatives and guests including Drug Enforcement Administration Administrator Karen Tandy and U.S. Rep. Randy Neugebauer, R-Lubbock, helped commemorate the new building with a dedication and ribbon cutting, followed by the unveiling of a Glenna Goodacre sculpture titled "Irish Madonna."

"Through the efforts of many, including individuals, families, foundations, and businesses from across Texas, generous donors made financial contributions to make this building a reality," said College of Human Sciences dean Dr. Linda Hoover, noting that private donations paid for more than 90 percent of building costs. "Everyone touched by these two centers and their programs joins me in expressing gratitude to those who made these new facilities possible."

Both programs will benefit from the additional space. The Child Development Research Center will be able to accept more than twice as many children into its program. The added space also will accommodate the program's rapid enrollment growth. More than 600 Human Development and Family Studies and Early Childhood lab students work with the center's children – double the number enrolled eight years ago. The building features observation rooms, innovative play areas and technology designed to enhance both research and child safety.

"These new facilities will help the Child Development Research Center fulfill its academic mission of providing laboratory experience for students and researchers," said

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center director Dr. Cathy Nathan. "They were designed in collaboration with our teachers to implement our programs more effectively."

The Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery will expand from 900-square-feet at its former location to approximately 17,000-square-feet. With an entire floor dedicated to the program's students, the new space features recreation, socialization, study and meditation areas important to the center's peer-to-peer recovery approach.

On a separate floor, research faculty, staff and graduate student offices are located adjacent to each other to encourage collaboration.

"These new facilities will allow our program to flourish," said center director Dr. Kitty Harris. "We have enjoyed phenomenal growth in the past few years as students from across the country select Texas Tech for the support they will receive. We will now be able to open our doors to more recovering students while improving the research we conduct on a subject that impacts many college campuses."

The "Irish Madonna" statue was commissioned by W.B. Blankenship and his sons, Steve M., D. Bruce and Terry, and donated to the college in memory of his wife and their mother, Maxine Blankenship.

The piece was originally cast as part of Goodacre's Irish Memorial Project, created in 2003 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Great Hunger, one of the most devastating tragedies in European history.

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CONTACT: Keith Thomas, Coordinator of Development and External Relations, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3031, ext. 259, or k.thomas@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 3, 2006

CONTACT: Gretchen Pressley, gretchen.m.pressley@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

TEXAS TECH STUDENTS RECEIVE INTERSCHOLASTIC SCHOLARSHIPS

LUBBOCK – From a pool of around 700 applications, 61 students from Texas Tech received Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships for their achievements in advanced levels of UIL competitions during high school.

Robert Martin from Dimmitt, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Martin received the Meadows and Panhandle scholarships for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

“These students are all intelligent, all team players,” said Elms. “They had to be involved in their school, they are interested in making the grade, and they are passionate about their subject.”

The criteria by which the Texas UIL foundation awards the scholarships includes a successful academic performance during high school, grade point average, high school rank, need for financial assistance, high college entrance scores, and the motivation to succeed through successful participation in UIL academic competitions.

“Academically, Texas Tech is bound to be better,” said Elms, regarding the scholarship students enrollment at Texas Tech. “Because these students challenge their teachers and challenge each other in the classroom. They are the kids we want at Tech.”

The UIL scholarship recipients were honored at a banquet at Texas Tech University on Oct. 23.

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CONTACT: Lynn Elms, director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech, can be reached at (806) 742-2350 or lynn.elms@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

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CONTACT: Gretchen Pressley, gretchen.m.pressley@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

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LUBBOCK – From a pool of around 700 applications, 61 students from Texas Tech received Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships for their achievements in advanced levels of UIL competitions during high school.

Brittany Cleere from Elm Mott, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Cleere received the Myers scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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(806) 742-2136

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Shawn McBrayer from Fairfield, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. McBrayer received the Gibby scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Gretchen Pressley, gretchen.m.pressley@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

TEXAS TECH STUDENTS RECEIVE INTERSCHOLASTIC SCHOLARSHIPS

LUBBOCK – From a pool of around 700 applications, 61 students from Texas Tech received Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships for their achievements in advanced levels of UIL competitions during high school.

Michael Simpson from Crosbyton, Texas, Jarrett Kirk from Floydada, Texas, and Daniel Houchin from Petersburg, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. All three students received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

“These students are all intelligent, all team players,” said Elms. “They had to be involved in their school, they are interested in making the grade, and they are passionate about their subject.”

The criteria by which the Texas UIL foundation awards the scholarships includes a successful academic performance during high school, grade point average, high school rank, need for financial assistance, high college entrance scores, and the motivation to succeed through successful participation in UIL academic competitions.

“Academically, Texas Tech is bound to be better,” said Elms, regarding the scholarship students enrollment at Texas Tech. “Because these students challenge their teachers and challenge each other in the classroom. They are the kids we want at Tech.”

The UIL scholarship recipients were honored at a banquet at Texas Tech University on Oct. 23.

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Tyler Bednar, Katie Gully and Megan Niehues from Garden City, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. All three of the students received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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Anthony Anderson from Grand Prairie, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Anderson received the Ray von Rosenberg scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Amanda Cruse from Happy, Texas, and Rachael Richardson from Vega, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Cruse received the Abell-Hanger scholarship and Richardson received the Brown scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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Boyce Travis from Harker Heights, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Travis received the Wright scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Micah Myers from Henrietta, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Myers received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Nicole Hannemann from Hondo, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Hannemann received the Clark scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Hannah Beavers from Kerrville, Texas, and Whitney Boyce from Vanderpool, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Beavers received the Houston Endowment scholarship and Boyce received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Stephen Bell, Kirby Benson, Nicholas Daniel and Jeremy White from Lubbock, Texas, Matthew Dowdy and Kami Forsman from Idalou, Texas, and Keeley Bramblett from Post, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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Niclas Green and Shawndec Nichols from Muleshoe, Texas, and Robert Martin from Dimmitt, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Green received the Abell-Hanger scholarship, Shawndec received the Panhandle scholarship, and Martin received the Meadows and Panhandle scholarships for academic success in high school.

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Natalie Walker from Dalhart, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Walker received the Accounting and Panhandle scholarships for academic success in high school.

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Samantha Myatt from Clarendon, Texas, and Stephen Howard from Hedley, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Myatt and Stephen both received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

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Darcy Melton from Castroville, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Melton received the Myers scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Kevin McBride from Bridgeport, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. McBride received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Jose Perez from Borger, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Perez received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for his academic success in high school.

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Joshua Albritton from Argyle, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Albritton received the King scholarship for his academic success in high school.

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William Waller from Albany, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Waller received the King scholarship for his academic success in high school.

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Cameron Decker and Landon Vasek from Abilene, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Decker received the Abell-Hanger scholarship and Vasek received the Campbell scholarship for their academic success in high school.

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CONTACT: Gretchen Pressley, gretchen.m.pressley@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

TEXAS TECH STUDENTS RECEIVE INTERSCHOLASTIC SCHOLARSHIPS

LUBBOCK – From a pool of around 700 applications, 61 students from Texas Tech received Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarships for their achievements in advanced levels of UIL competitions during high school.

Daniel Sweeney from Tolar, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Sweeney received the Spalding scholarship for academic success in high school.

To be eligible, each student had to advance to the state competition level in UIL sometime during their high school career, said Lynn Elms, the director of the University Interscholastic League at Texas Tech. The average scholarship awarded is about \$5,000.

“These students are all intelligent, all team players,” said Elms. “They had to be involved in their school, they are interested in making the grade, and they are passionate about their subject.”

The criteria by which the Texas UIL foundation awards the scholarships includes a successful academic performance during high school, grade point average, high school rank, need for financial assistance, high college entrance scores, and the motivation to succeed through successful participation in UIL academic competitions.

“Academically, Texas Tech is bound to be better,” said Elms, regarding the scholarship students enrollment at Texas Tech. “Because these students challenge their teachers and challenge each other in the classroom. They are the kids we want at Tech.”

The UIL scholarship recipients were honored at a banquet at Texas Tech University on Oct. 23.

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Kristi McCaleb from Utopia, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. McCaleb received the Spalding scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Dustin Stidger from Weatherford, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Stidger received the TILF Diamond scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Anthony Arguijo from Whiteface, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Arguijo received the CH Special scholarship for academic success in high school.

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John Hutchens from Rankin, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Hutchens received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Katherine Marshall and Kirsten Singleton from Salado, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Marshall received the Spalding scholarship and Singleton received the King scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Jessica Bump from San Antonio, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Bump received the Accounting scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Kellen Carl from Seminole, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Carl received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Brittany Chan from Spring, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Chan received the Stark scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Kirk Canada from Stanton, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Canada received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Jenna Acker from Nazareth, Texas, and Andrew McCaslin from Tulia, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Both students received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Amy McCarthy and Ryan Skidmore from Paris, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. McCarthy received the SW Emblem scholarship and Skidmore received the Wright scholarship for academic success in high school.

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David Alldredge, Brandon Hise, and Kerry Sisson from Plains, Texas, are some of the scholarship winners for 2006. Alldredge received the Spalding scholarship, Hise received the King scholarship, and Sisson received the Abell-Hanger scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Robert Polasek Jr. from Portland, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Polasek received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Jennifer Waldo from Quanah, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Waldo received the Jones scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Rachel Rouse from Mt Vernon, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Rouse received the Wall scholarship for academic success in high school.

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Malcom Martin from Lindsay, Texas, is one of the scholarship winners for 2006. Martin received the Welch scholarship for academic success in high school.

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

TEXAS TECH PROFESSOR HONORED FOR DEVELOPING SOFTWARE LANGUAGE

LUBBOCK – The world's leading professional electrical engineering association honored Texas Tech University computer science professor Dr. Daniel Cooke with its Technical Achievement Award for a computer language used in developing NASA's new Crew Exploration Vehicle.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Computer Society honored Cooke during its President's Awards Banquet in San Diego, Calif. The certificate and \$2,000 honorarium recognizes outstanding and innovative contributions to the fields of computer and information science and engineering or computer technology within the last 15 years.

Cooke was selected for his advances in computer language research leading to a language called SequenceL. NASA engineers used the language as they worked with Texas Tech computer scientists on guidance, navigation and control systems for the Crew Exploration Vehicle – a manned spacecraft capable of ferrying astronauts and scientists on extended space missions, is scheduled to go into use after the existing shuttle fleet is retired.

NASA engineers also used the SequenceL language to develop abort software on NASA's current shuttles. The decision-making software is intended to aid the crew and flight controllers in determining the safest abort decision should a failure occur in flight.

A project currently underway involves using SequenceL to prototype the requirements for the Orion Crew Exploration's Abort Executive.

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CONTACT: Daniel Cooke, Professor, Department of Computer Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3527, or daniel.cooke@ttu.edu.



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DATE: Nov. 7, 2006

CONTACT: Erica Hoff, ericahoff@yahoo.com
(806) 742-2136

**TEXAS TECH PARENTS ASSOCIATION RECOGNIZES THE 2006
OUTSTANDING PARENTS**

Lubbock - During Texas Tech Universities Family Weekend several outstanding parents were honored by the Texas Tech Parents Association for their service and contributions to Texas Tech.

The outstanding parents were recognized on the field during the pre-game ceremonies prior to the Tech vs. Baylor game on Saturday as well at other events during the weekend.

The honor of co-volunteer of the year was shared by Rubye Melton of San Antonio and Allen Mullins of Arlington. Both individuals volunteer their time to Tech Parents events which are held throughout the year, including Tech Parents Leadership Conference, the spring scholarship breakfast and new student orientation.

Tom and Pam Sellers of Sulphur Springs were recognized as parents of the year. The Sellers have been lifetime members of Tech Parents since 2000. Pam serves as scholarship chairperson and Tom serves as board treasurer for Tech Parents. Both parents are active long time members of Chancellor's Council and Texas Tech Alumni Association.

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CONTACT: Christine Self, coordinator of programs and events, Parent Relations, Texas Tech University, at (806) 742-3630, or christine.self@ttu.edu



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 8, 2006

CONTACT: Kathryn Faucher, kathryn.r.faucher@ttu.edu
(806) 742-2136

**SOCIETY OF PETROLEUM ENGINEERS RECOGNIZES
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY ORGANIZATION**

LUBBOCK – The Texas Tech University chapter of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) won the Outstanding International SPE student chapter at the society's Annual Technical Conference & Exhibition (ATCE).

The award recognizes SPE student chapters for exceptional merit during the 2005-2006 school year. Chapters are judged based on reports detailing their activities throughout the year in categories including community service, field trips, social events and presentations.

The Texas Tech student chapter has been nominated as one of the top six finalists for seven consecutive years; this is its third year to win. No other student chapter has been nominated as many consecutive years or won as many years as the Texas Tech student chapter.

The highly merited award is based on the involvement of the chapter's involvement in community service projects – such as blood drives, habitat for humanity, can food drives, adopt a highway and the Ronald McDonald House – as well as social events, field trips and guest presentations.

Texas Tech's student chapter has more than 300 members. The majority of members are pursuing a petroleum engineering degree; however, the program is open to any student who will work in the petroleum industry. These include geologists, and mechanical and chemical engineers.

For more information about Texas Tech University Society of Petroleum Engineers student chapter, visit the Web site, www.spettu.com.

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CONTACT: Jason Kincaid, SPE student chapter president, Texas Tech University, jlkincaid@hotmail.com



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 10, 2006

CONTACT: Norman Martin, Norman.martin@ttu.edu

(806) 742-4108

TEXAS TECH HONORS AGRICULTURALISTS AT PIG ROAST

LUBBOCK – Three South Plains residents were honored Thursday (Nov. 9) for their leadership and contributions to agriculture by Texas Tech University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Each received this year's 2006 Gerald W. Thomas Outstanding Agriculturalists Award during a special ceremony at the college's 79th annual Pig Roast in the Lubbock Memorial Civic Center Banquet Hall. The Pig Roast honors the college's scholarship donors and recipients, as well as intercollegiate judging teams.

Outstanding producer Rickey Bearden of Plains received the annual honor for agricultural production, while cattle industry executive Ross Wilson of Amarillo was named for his work in agribusiness. Jaroy Moore, resident director of research at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Lubbock, was selected for his years of public service.

Marvin Cepica, dean of Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, presented the awards. The annual Outstanding Agriculturalists award, established in 1969, was initiated in honor of Gerald W. Thomas, who served as dean of Texas Tech's College of Agricultural Sciences from 1958 to 1970.

Bearden, a third-generation farmer, produces cotton, milo and blacked-eyed peas on 6,000 acres near Plains. He has held numerous leadership positions including Chairman of the National Cotton Council Crop Insurance Task Force, Southwest Board member of the American Cotton Producers and past president of the Plains Cotton Growers Inc.

Wilson is president and CEO of Texas Cattle Feeders Association, an organization that represents cattle feeders in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. The three-state area produces 7 million fed cattle, raised for beef production; almost 32 percent of the fed cattle produced in the nation. Wilson serves as co-chairman of the Texas Agricultural Council and is on the board of the International Stockmen's Education Foundation.

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Office of Communications and Marketing

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Jaroy Moore, a native of Brady, received his bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from Texas A&M University. His research focus has centered on irrigation, salinity, cotton and new crops. His administrative leadership at research centers at El Paso and Lubbock has led to increased research cooperation and more joint faculty appointments among Texas Tech, Texas A&M and the USDA's Agricultural Research Service.

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CONTACT: Meredith Campbell, coordinator of student and career development, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2808; meredith.campbell@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 10, 2006

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

NEW ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH NAMED

LUBBOCK – Dean Smith, vice president for research at Texas Tech University, has named Karlene Hoo to fill a newly created associate vice president for research post.

Hoo, a chemical engineering professor and former associate dean for research in the College of Engineering, will act as a liaison with faculty – overseeing grant applications, coordinating research start-up packages and heading a research council comprised of associate research deans from TTU colleges.

“It is important that our office has someone who can interact directly with the faculty,” Smith said. “Dr. Hoo, as a faculty member herself, is well suited to fill this role. She has been very successful as the associate dean of research for the College of Engineering, and I know she will bring the same energy and capability to this position.”

Hoo received her doctorate in chemical engineering from University of Notre Dame. She served two years as associate dean of research for the College of Engineering prior to her current position. More than 50 peer reviewed journals have published her research, which focuses on varied interests such as cardiovascular devices, fundamental modeling, optimization and control of chemical and biochemical processes, design for energy efficiency and multivariate statistical analysis.

Hoo will continue to teach and conduct research, and said she intends to maintain an open-door policy to facilitate conversation with faculty members as she works to meet a number of goals, including increasing collaborative research with Texas Tech Health Sciences Center.

“Good ideas do not start in my office,” Hoo said. “They start on the faculty side, and the faculty can talk to our office about how to grow those ideas. I am here to enable their achievements.”

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CONTACT: Karlene Hoo, associate vice president for research, Office for the Vice President of Research, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3905, or karlene.hoo@ttu.edu.



Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Nov. 10, 2006

CONTACT: Cory Chandler, cory.chandler@ttu.edu

WATCH RUBE GOLDBERG MACHINES DEFY COMMON SENSE

WHAT: Rube Goldberg machine competition

WHEN: Noon to 3:50 p.m. Friday (Nov. 10)

WHERE: Civil Engineering Building, room 205

EVENT: In his now-infamous cartoons, Rube Goldberg devised nonsensical devices that used complicated machinery to complete simple tasks. The devices employ vast, intricate machinery.

Texas Tech civil engineering students will take their own crack at devising "Rube Goldberg" machines. Some 150 Texas Tech civil engineering students, comprising 40 teams, will present machines developed to place a solid wood cube onto a tall pedestal.

The machines must consist of at least two moving parts and incorporate at least eight steps in the process.

CONTACT: **Phillip Nash, research associate, Department of Civil Engineering, College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2783, ext. 231 or phil.nash@ttu.edu**



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 13, 2006

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

**KENT HANCE OFFICIALLY NAMED CHANCELLOR OF THE
TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

LUBBOCK – The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents today (Nov. 13) has named Kent R. Hance as its chancellor.

Hance, who is the system's third chancellor, will begin his duties on Dec. 1.

"As a graduate of Texas Tech, I can think of no higher honor than to be selected for this position," said Hance. "The education I received at Texas Tech was the foundation for much of my success. My goal is to continue the quality growth at both of our universities. I can't wait to get to work."

A major focus for Hance will be fundraising for scholarships, professorships and endowments as well as capital contributions. He will also work to enhance Texas Tech's funding from both the state and federal government.

"We are excited to have a person of Kent's qualifications to lead our system," said L. Frederick Francis, chairman of the board. "His dedication to Texas Tech is evident by his willingness to put his own successful career on hold to come serve the universities he loves. We have much work ahead of us but with Kent Hance at the helm, Texas Tech's future is bright."

Hance, a native of Dimmitt, graduated from Texas Tech in 1965 with a bachelor's of business administration degree. He earned his law degree from the University of Texas in 1968. Hance returned to Lubbock to practice law and teach business law at Texas Tech. He won election to the Texas State Senate in 1974 and the U.S. Congress in 1979 and served as a member of the Texas Railroad Commission from 1987-1990. Until his appointment as chancellor, he was an attorney with the firm of Hance Scarborough Wright Woodward & Weisbart.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 14, 2006

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

Texas Tech Kicks Off Native American Heritage Month

- WHAT:** Native American Sacred Smudging Ceremony and Round Dance
- WHEN:** 11:30 a.m. Tuesday (Nov. 14)
- WHERE:** Texas Tech University Student Union Building
- EVENT:** Jacob Galvan, a Mescalero Apache from Lubbock, will host the smudging ceremony to help Texas Tech kick off its celebration of National Native American Heritage Month.

The public is invited to participate in the ceremony, which is a ritualistic blessing to cleanse or purify a person, object or place with smoke from sacred plants and herbal resins.

Opening ceremonies also will include a traditional round dance, a Native American custom in which participants in a large circle move in rhythm to drumming in an expression of friendship and respect. Participants will receive a friendship bracelet as a "token of the mutual appreciation and respect for individual humanity."

CONTACT: Jobi Martinez, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2192, or jobi.martinez@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 14, 2006

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

Texas Tech Celebrates Native American Heritage Month

Texas Tech University will help celebrate National Native American Heritage Month with a weeklong slate of activities.

Jacob Galvan, a Mescalero Apache from Lubbock, will host the smudging ceremony 11:30 a.m. Tuesday (Nov. 14) at the Texas Tech Student Union Building to help Texas Tech kick off its celebration of National Native American Heritage Month.

The public is invited to participate in the ceremony, which is a ritualistic blessing to cleanse or purify a person, object or place with smoke from sacred plants and herbal resins.

Opening ceremonies also will include a traditional round dance, a Native American custom in which participants in a large circle move in rhythm to drumming in an expression of friendship and respect. Participants will receive a friendship bracelet as a "token of the mutual appreciation and respect for individual humanity."

On Wednesday (Nov. 15), nationally known Cherokee film star Wes Studi, of "Dances with Wolves" fame will speak beginning at 7 p.m. in the Allen Theatre of the Student Union. A reception following the reception will take place at the Southwest Collection north of the Texas Tech Library.

Activities will wrap up at 7 p.m. Friday (Nov. 17) as the Native American Indian Heritage Film Festival features "The Fast Runner" in the Student Union's Escondido theatre.

A Native American Art Exhibit, showcasing paintings and pottery from the Texas Tech Southwest Collection's private holding, will be on display throughout the week at the Student Union building

CONTACT: Jobi Martinez, assistant director, Center for Campus Life, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2192, or jobi.martinez@ttu.edu.

Date: November 14, 2006

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post

sally.post@ttu.edu, (806) 742-2136

KTXT-TV Hosts One-Day Pledge Drive

A tribute to the late Jesse "Guitar" Taylor will have its world premiere Dec. 9 on KTXT-TV Channel 5, the South Plains Public Broadcasting station during a "StoryTellers and MusicMakers" marathon from 7-11 p.m. The Jesse Taylor program will air about 7:50 p.m.

The marathon will be the centerpiece of a one-day pledge drive beginning at 5 p.m.

Taylor played with the Joe Ely Band in the 1970s and 80s, and was renowned for his energetic and passionate performances. He died March 7, 2006. His family recently donated his archives to the Southwest Collection at Texas Tech University.

Kenny Maines, host of the "StoryTellers and MusicMakers" series, is scheduled to appear, along with performers Megan Laurie, Dan Crump and Cary Banks to assist the station in its fundraising efforts.

The 13-part series debuted in September 2006 and features interviews with and performances by Andy Wilkinson, Misty, D.G. Flewellyn, John Sprott and others. It is the only local production airing in the Lubbock area that focuses on music and its impact on the South Plains and the rest of the world.

"StoryTellers and MusicMakers" is a joint production between KTXT-TV and the Creative Arts Department of South Plains College in Levelland.

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CONTACT: Michelle Dillard, KTXT-TV program manager, at (806) 742-1991ext. 228 or michelle.dillard@ttu.edu



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 15, 2006

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

Astronaut to Speak at Texas Tech

WHAT: Astronaut Joseph M. Acaba will speak at Texas Tech and local schools

WHEN: **Nov. 16** at 5:30 p.m. in Room 001 of the Education building on the Texas Tech campus

Nov. 17 at 9 a.m. at Estacado High School, at 10:15 a.m. at Harwell Elementary School at 1:30 p.m. at Dunbar Middle School

Nov. 17 at 4 p.m. in Room 205 of the Industrial Engineering Building on the Texas Tech campus. This presentation is hosted by the college of Engineering's Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers in conjunction with the National Society of Black Engineers and the Society of Women Engineers.

EVENT: Acaba is coming to Texas Tech at the invitation of the Texas Tech University Office of Institutional Diversity. He was selected as an educator astronaut in May 2004 and finished his astronaut candidate training in February 2006. Acaba has been assigned to the Hardware Integration Team in the Space Station Branch working on issues with the European Space Agency hardware. He will perform technical assignments until he is assigned to a space shuttle flight.

"Mr. Acaba has been invited to speak at Texas Tech University and area schools to underscore the importance of education, and specifically K-12 development in math and science fields," said Juan Munoz, special assistant to the president on institutional diversity and associate vice provost at Texas Tech. "As a state leader in the preparation of math and science teachers, Texas Tech University is ideally situated to prepare the next generation of highly accomplished students and teachers and shape their inevitable contributions to the country's preeminence in space and science discovery."

CONTACT: Juan S. Munoz, special assistant to the president at (806) 742-2121.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 15, 2006

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

Texas Tech Names New Technology Transfer Director

Susanne Moore will become the managing director of technology transfer and intellectual property for Texas Tech University on Nov. 20.

Moore currently is an attorney in the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Office of General Counsel in the professional liability division.

"Susanne is a patent attorney and will be extremely helpful to all faculty members who are working through the copyright and patent process," said Dean Smith, vice president of research at Texas Tech University. "Technology transfer can create an impact on our local and state economy. It's vital that we have someone with Susanne's skills to help our faculty bring their discoveries into the marketplace."

The Office of Technology Transfer and Intellectual Property is charged with assisting faculty members who have developed new products or technology to bring those innovations to the marketplace. Moore's office is a shared service between Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center.

"The HSC is very pleased to have Susanne appointed to this position. As we further develop our research programs, there will undoubtedly be opportunities for entrepreneurial faculty to spin-off new technologies. Susanne's background in patent law is the type of expertise needed to facilitate these important endeavors," said Roderick Nairn, dean of the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and executive vice president for academic affairs at the Health Sciences Center.

Moore, who has been working in the office part-time for about a year, will focus on the faculty and staff.

"I want our inventors to know they can count on this office to help them maneuver through the legal issues of applying for patents and copyrights," she said. "For the first time, this office will now be able to perform a portion of the patenting work in-house which will enable us to increase the volume of patents filed yearly. There are many innovative disclosures currently being submitted to our office and I am excited to help inventors at both universities take these technologies to the patent office and to the marketplace."

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Moore has been with the Health Sciences Center general council since 2002. She is a registered nurse, earning her nursing degree from the University of Texas at Tyler and a graduate of the Texas Tech School of Law.

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CONTACT: Dean Smith, vice president for research at Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3905 or via e-mail at dean.smith@ttu.edu ; Roderick Nairn, executive vice president for academic affairs at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, (806) 743-2905 or via e-mail at roderick.nairn@ttuhsc.edu or Susanne Moore, (806) 742- 4105 or via e-mail at susanne.moore@ttuhsc.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 15, 2006

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

(806) 742-2136

PALEONTOLOGIST FINDS EVIDENCE THAT METEORITE STRIKE NEAR BOMBAY MAY HAVE WIPE OUT DINOSAURS INDIA'S SHIVA CRATER REVEALS POSSIBLE REASONS FOR EXTINCTION

LUBBOCK – Imagine a meteorite more than 25 miles wide hurtling toward Earth at 36,000 miles per hour. The impact would create mass extinctions, perpetual night for more than a year, tsunamis and massive volcanic activity.

This scenario is more than just fiction, said Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech University. In fact, the exact scenario played out 65 million years ago near present-day Bombay, India, and could be the smoking gun that ended the dinosaurs' reign on Earth.

Though many scientists attributed the dinosaur extinction to the Chicxulub Crater off the coast of Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, Princeton University scientists recently refuted this theory because evidence showed that meteor struck 300,000 years before the demise of dinosaurs.

However, Chatterjee and his colleagues recently published further evidence from the Indian impact site, known as the Shiva Crater, which suggests the meteorite struck at the same time as the mass extinction and created enough catastrophic force to destroy 70 percent of Earth's plant and animal communities on land and in the seas.

For the past 10 years, Chatterjee has used geophysical evidence and core samples collected by oil companies to reconstruct the Shiva Crater – a massive 300-mile-wide pock mark with peaks as high as Mount Everest. Though the actual crater is covered by more than five miles of sediment, Chatterjee says the geological evidence he collected allowed him to map out the crater.

Also, the impact might be connected with massive volcanic activity on the Indian Continent, he said. This sudden activity, known as the Deccan Trap, resulted in half a million cubic miles of lava flooding the western part of India in a short amount of time. The greatest lava event coincides with the meteorite.

"The Shiva impact made the western coast of India seismically active and caused the plate movement separating India from the Seychelles Island," Chatterjee said, adding that the meteorite probably led to the sudden northward acceleration of the Indian plate,



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

then a continent located south of the equator, to collide with Asia and form the Himalayas.

“The Shiva projectile was about 25 miles across,” Chatterjee said. “With a meteorite of this magnitude, it would create a huge crater as soon as it hit the surface. Rocks would be vaporized and send dust and debris into the air that would block out the sun.”

The fallout from the meteorite, which Chatterjee calculated to have 10,000 times more force than the detonation of the world’s entire nuclear arsenal, would place the world into perpetual night for more than a year. Red-hot rock would rain from the skies, sparking massive global forest fires and causing acid rain that would kill shelled organisms in the oceans and cause massive collapse of the food chain.

“Anything bigger than 25 pounds was wiped out,” he said. “Animals that lived in the river water, such as crocodiles and alligators, survived, but most animals on land and in the oceans were the main victims.”

The peer-reviewed study was published by Special Publications at the Natural Science Research Laboratory of Museum of Texas Tech University. Access the .pdf file for the Shiva Crater report [here](#).

CONTACT: Dr. Sankar Chatterjee, curator of paleontology at the Museum of Texas Tech and Horn professor of Geosciences, (806) 742-1986, sankar.chatterjee@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 16, 2006

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

EXPERTS AVAILABLE AS HOLIDAY SEASON APPROACHES

LUBBOCK – 'Tis the season for holiday stories. Texas Tech University experts can speak on a range of seasonal topics. Learn which wines, toys and books to buy. Get tips on keeping the checkbook in the black. Host a party in style – and be stylishly dressed. And learn how to keep recovering drug and alcohol addicts from succumbing to holiday pressures.

Stimulating Learning

Playing with educational toys helps promote preschooler's emotional development because the play context is one in which emotions can be discussed in a non-threatening manner,, says **Malinda J. Colwell, associate professor and director of Texas Tech University's Child Development Program**. Colwell can talk about the benefits of rough and tumble toys, pretend play toys and children's books on the emotional development of preschoolers. Colwell can be reached at (806) 742-3000, ext. 268, or malinda.colwell@ttu.edu.

Holidays and Children's Books

Children's holiday books have a way of weaving themselves into the spirit and traditions of our cultures, from the classic poem *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *The Hanukkah Goblins* to *Seven Candles for Kwanzaa*. Two professors are available to speak on the culture, tradition and history of holiday children's books; hot new books for this holiday season; and buying tips for parents: **Kathryn Ann Button, an associate professor of education**, (806) 742-1997, or kathryn.button@ttu.edu. Or **Rene Saldana, assistant professor of education**, at (806) 742-1998, or rene.saldana@ttu.edu.

Staying Solvent

Sure, the impulse is to buy, buy, buy. But don't spend New Year's Day suffering through a bankbook hangover. **Vickie Hampton, program coordinator for Texas Tech's Personal Financial Planning program**, can be reached at (806) 742-5050, or vickie.hampton@ttu.edu. **Bill Gustafson, an associate professor of personal financial planning**, can be reached at (806) 742-5050, or bill.gustafson@ttu.edu.

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Red Wines Reign

The heartier fare favored during winter dining prompts many people to switch to red wines as temperatures drop, says **Tim Dodd, director of Texas Tech University's Wine Marketing Research Institute**. Dodd can talk about how wine sales should enjoy a healthy boost as holiday festivities continue through the New Year. He can be reached at (806) 742-3068, ext. 227, or tim.dodd@ttu.edu.

Wine Parties and Tastings

"There are many unique and fun things you can do with wine parties or tastings," says **Tim Dodd, director of Texas Tech's Wine Marketing Research Institute**. Hosts can serve wine using themes – such as color, country or region – or serve wines to compliment certain foods. Dodd suggests giving "blind" tastings. Also, keep the gathering small and limit sampling quantities. Dodd can be reached at (806) 742-3068, ext. 227, or tim.dodd@ttu.edu.

Clothing Etiquette

In today's casual business and social climate, picking an outfit for a holiday event can be confusing. **Valerie Hlavaty, an instructor in the Department of Nutrition, Hospitality and Retailing**, can give basic tips on how to differentiate between "formal," "semiformal," "business casual," and other designations that could appear on an invitation. She can be reached at (806) 742-3068, or valerie.hlavaty@ttu.edu.

Holiday Tips for Recovering Addicts

The holidays can be fraught with anxiety, depression and excessive indulgences of every stripe. For these reasons, the season can be especially perilous for those recovering from addictive disorders. **Kitty Harris, director of Texas Tech's Center for the Study of Addiction and Recovery**, can give tips for remaining sober. These include anticipating pitfalls, keeping realistic expectations and drawing on support networks. Harris can be reached at (806) 742-2891, or kitty.harris@ttu.edu.

Host Liability

Planning a holiday party? **Mitzi Lauderdale, J.D., an assistant professor in hospitality administration**, can speak about Texas laws governing the liability of party hosts when they serve drinks. She can be reached at (806) 742-3068, ext. 296, or mitzi.lauderdale@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 16, 2006

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

Architectural Studio Program Recognized

Texas Tech University's College of Architecture is one of six programs honored by the nation's architectural regulatory board for creatively integrating architectural practice and education in an academic setting.

The National Council of Architecture Registration Boards for Creative Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy recognized the college's Practicum+Studio program for its innovative partnership, which offers students access to firms in relatively distant urban centers.

The program, ongoing since 2001, provides professional experience to students, who also attend a studio hosted by a local firm in Dallas, Houston or El Paso. Students work 32 hours each week at a firm and then also meet for a weekly studio.

The prize jury, comprised of the council's Practice Education Committee as well as the heads of six architectural programs, noted Texas Tech's success at offering students an opportunity to tackle complex urban construction despite the fact that it is 350 miles from the nearest urban center.

"I am excited to see this dynamic program recognized for its success in meeting our goal of forging a unique relationship with the architecture profession," said College of Architecture Dean Andrew Vernooy. "Our mission statement emphasizes addressing the future of architecture practice, and this program keeps the college attached to this issue by keeping us close to our professional partners."

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CONTACT: Andrew Vernooy, dean, College of Architecture, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3136, or andrew.vernooy@ttu.edu.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 16 2006

CONTACT: Michael Castellon, michaelcastellon@gmail.com
(806) 742-2136

**FUTURE OF WATER TO BE TOPIC
OF EXPERT PANEL, MEDIA Q&A**

WHAT: "The Future of Water: What Lies Ahead and Who Owns It?" panel discussion featuring Texas-based agriculture and water policy experts

WHEN: 10 a.m. Friday (Nov. 17)

WHERE: Senate Room, Student Union Building, Texas Tech University

EVENT: A panel of experts in agriculture, water policy and water management will discuss and take questions from members of the Lubbock community and media regarding the future of water resources.

The expert panel will include

- Jim Conkwright, High Plains Underground Water Conservation District #1
- Dan Krieg, West Texas farmer
- Bob Stewart, Dryland Agriculture Institute
- Lynn Sherman, Winstead Consulting Group
- Richard Lowerre, Lowerre & Frederick
- Mary Frances Agnello, TTU Department of Education
- Ken Rainwater, TTU Water Resources Center
- Gabriel Eckstein, TTU Center for Water Law and Policy

The event is hosted in conjunction with the 2006 International Conference entitled Water in Arid and Semiarid Lands: Innovative Approaches and Informed Decision Making, which celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the International Center of Arid and Semiarid Land Studies (ICASALS) at Texas Tech University.

CONTACT: Katie Banks, water initiative publicist, (806) 742.2801 ext. 248, or
katherine.j.banks@ttu.edu



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 16, 2006

CONTACT: Michael Castellon, michaelcastellon@gmail.com
(806) 742-2136

**RESTITUTION OF STOLEN, LOOTED ART
TO BE TOPIC OF SYMPOSIUM**

- WHAT: "Looted Art: Legal & Ethical Issues Related to the International
Restitution of Stolen Cultural Property" Symposium
- WHEN: 9 a.m. to noon, Friday (Nov. 17)
- WHERE: The Museum of Texas Tech University Auditorium, 3301 Fourth St.
- EVENT: Experts from New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C., will discuss
the legal and ethical issues facing museum curators, art dealers, collectors,
scholars and legal experts.

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



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 17, 2006

CONTACT: Michael Castellon, michaelcastellon@gmail.com
(806) 742-2136

**LEGAL, ETHICAL DILEMMAS INVOLVING
LOOTED ART DISCUSSED AT SYMPOSIUM**

LUBBOCK – During World War II, European Jews, in the clutch of the Nazi stranglehold, often were forced to sell valuable artwork at bargain basement prices, often to benefit Europe's ruling classes. Many of these pieces, some of which are cultural icons, now sit in the world's finest museums. These forced sales shattered the cultural identity of Jews across the world.

Seventy years later, determining ownership of those pieces is a muddled and complex process, often involving loose translation of international law and tracking generations of sketchy bills of sale. The pain and injustice of these cultural ransacks are still being felt today.

On Friday, the The Museum of Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University School of Law hosted a half-day symposium titled "Looted Art: Legal & Ethical Issues Related to the International Restitution of Stolen Cultural Property" in an attempt to bring to light the difficulties faced by victims of the illicit international art market, to include theft victims, museum curators, scholars, and art collectors and dealers.

International experts from Los Angeles, New York and Washington, D.C., Donald Burris, Lloyd Goldenberg, Lawrence Kaye, and Marc Masurovsky, discussed their involvement in the illicit international trade in valuable artworks as well as their involvement in national and international complex litigation in cases involving stolen and illegally exported cultural property.

"There is an incredibly complex set of issues when we consider the ethical, moral and legal implications of determining proper ownership of art and cultural icons that throughout history have been stolen and looted," said Marilyn Phelan, the Paul Whitfield Horn professor of law who moderated the symposium. "For that reason, it is important to learn in an interdisciplinary discussion with experts the right thing to do."

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 20, 2006

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PLAYING MIND GAMES

Toys can be Fun – and Mentally Stimulating, Says a Texas Tech Researcher

This time of year, store shelves are bursting with bright new baubles and trinkets. Gadgets and gizmos of every stripe beckon for children's affection. So how do parents, slogging through crowded aisles, know which ones should take up residence under the Christmas tree?

Malinda Colwell, an associate professor and director of the Child Development Program in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Texas Tech University, gives a few tips for toys that will stimulate learning while keeping the little ones entertained.

Rough-and-tumble toys — or toys such as soft bats and balls that promote physical play — could be a great way to help children learn how to regulate their emotions, Colwell says.

Pretend play toys, like dolls, cars, puppets, and play kitchen sets, also are a good option; they help promote children's emotional development because they allow children to make up scenarios and work out how to deal with emotions, Colwell says.

And don't forget books, which provide models of characters expressing their emotions and, therefore, are an important component in children's emotional development, Colwell says.

Colwell encourages parents to play with their children. This helps promote preschooler's emotional development because the play context is one in which emotions can be discussed in a non-threatening manner, she says.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

DATE: Nov. 27, 2006

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Annual Carol of Lights Celebration Lights Up Texas Tech

[Editor's note: Television live trucks may park along the Engineering Key in front of the Mass Communications Building, facing north, or on the Engineering Key in front of Holden Hall, facing north.]

More than 25,000 orange, red and white lights will light up 13 buildings around Texas Tech University at the culmination of the annual Carol of Lights ceremony on Friday, [Dec. 1].

The 48th annual ceremony, with a theme of "In the Moment," starts at 6:30 p.m. with the traditional carillon concert. At 7 p.m., the Saddle Tramps Torch Light Processional begins at the university seal at the Broadway entrance and follows the luminarias around Memorial Circle to the Science Quadrangle.

The Texas Tech Trombone Choir, directed by Jim Decker, will accompany the Texas Tech University combined choirs, directed by John Dickson. Gerald Dolter, a professor at the School of Music, will sing "O Holy Night," followed by comments from student organizations and dignitaries. This year, audience members will receive glow sticks to add to the light display as the lights are turned on across campus.

The evening continues with a carol concert at 8 p.m. in the Hemmle Recital Hall, featuring the University Singers and University Choir. Tickets are available at the door and through Select-A-Seat. The price is \$13 for adults, \$10.50 for senior citizens and \$10 for students. Proceeds benefit the scholarship fund of the Texas Tech University College of Visual and Performing Arts.

The grounds maintenance crew from the Texas Tech physical plant started hanging holiday lights in late September in preparation for the festivities. The Carol of Lights board has been planning the ceremony since April.

Alpha Phi Omega and Chi Rho fraternities will place 3,000 luminarias around Memorial Circle. Members of the Women's Service Organization will decorate a 20-foot fresh pine wreath hung by the grounds maintenance crews.

The Texas Tech University Residence Halls Association sponsors the Carol of Lights celebration.

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Office of Communications and Marketing

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 27, 2006

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TIEHH to Receive \$850,000 in Federal Funding to Study High-Energy Explosives

LUBBOCK – The Institute of Environmental and Human Health at Texas Tech University will receive \$850,536 in federal funding to help researchers continue studying the impact of high-energy explosives on the environment.

Congressman Randy Neugebauer will announce the funding at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Lecture Room at TIEHH, located at Reese Technology Center.

“This outstanding support that Congressman Neugebauer has facilitated for TIEHH’s continued research on residues from high-energy explosives, particularly as related to U.S. Department of Defense Live Fire Training Ranges, will assist the Department of Defense in maintaining mission readiness while at the same time limiting impact to the environment,” said Ron Kendall, director of TIEHH.

The money comes from the Department of Defense's Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program. Funding for the research and development of new technology in part came as a result of allocations that Neugebauer secured in the FY06 Department of Defense appropriations bill.

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Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 27, 2006

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Former Baghdad Embassy Head to Speak at Ambassadorial Dinner

- WHAT: Ambassadorial Dinner
- WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Wednesday (Nov. 29)
- WHERE: The Hall of Nations in Texas Tech University's International Cultural Center
- EVENT: Gregory W. Engle, diplomat-in-residence at the University of Texas' Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, will speak about his experiences heading the U.S. Embassy in Iraq and give advice for those interested in filling a foreign post.

Engle served thirteen months as management counselor of the embassy in Baghdad prior to his appointment this year at the LBJ School of Public Affairs. He holds a minister-counselor rank in the Foreign Service and, prior to arrival in Iraq, was the U.S. ambassador to the Togolese Republic.

Engle will speak about his time in Iraq and experiences working in the State Department. He also will give tips for entering the Foreign Service or the United States' Diplomatic Corps.

Tickets are \$15 for the dinner, hosted by Students for Global Affairs, the Study Abroad Association and the International Business Organization. The event is open to the public. Tickets can be purchased Nov. 27-29 at the International Cultural Center and at Texas Tech's free speech zone (west of the Student Union Building).

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 27, 2006

CONTACT: Michael Castellon, michaelcastellon@gmail.com
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**FIRST IN THE NATION: TTU LIBRARIES
ACQUIRE HIGH-SPEED BOOK SCANNER**

LUBBOCK – The Texas Tech Libraries' has announced the purchase of a state-of-the-art book scanner that will drastically change the way personnel archive the world's information.

The BookScan APT 2400, manufactured by Kirtas Technologies Inc., a leading provider of digital scanning solutions, was funded in part with a \$130,000 grant from the Lubbock-based Helen Jones Foundation.

It is the first of its kind to be purchased by a university in the United States.

The \$200,000 piece of equipment allows personnel to scan case-bound books in minutes instead of hours, speeding up the digitization process – one of the library's objectives in its push to provide access to scholarly works via the Internet.

"The average individual scans books at a rate of about 100 pages per hour," said Greg Barnes, digital projects coordinator at Texas Tech Libraries. "The Kirtas scanner cradles the book, automatically turns the pages and captures text and high-resolution images, graphics, photos, charts and engravings exactly. The machine's proprietary software then cleans up the images and the integrated OCR makes the images more usable by adding full-text search capability. The process is more delicate than the touch of a human hand."

The robotic Kirtas scanner turns book pages with a vacuum head, delivering puffs of air that lift and separate pages. Books are secured on a cradle that uses laser technology to maintain focus for dual, 16-megapixel cameras that capture high-resolution page images in color. Because it uses picture technology rather than scanning technology it operates faster than it's scanning counterpart, said Barnes.

Library faculty, staff and students will be trained to put the scanner to work on a growing list of digitization projects that will bolster Texas Tech's online resources for students, faculty and researchers. Starting with more than 14,000 thesis and dissertations dating back to 1928, the bound documents will be digitized and formatted with high quality imaging, two pages at a time, and up to 2,400 pages per hour. The machine also includes optical character recognition (OCR) capability to enable full text searching.

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“The impact of this machinery is both dramatic and immediate,” said Donald Dyal, Ph.D, dean of libraries. “Of course, it makes it much less tedious for people who must now turn each page to scan a volume. Do the math and you can see the benefits in labor costs and time. But, the larger implication is that it allows us to ramp up our efforts to preserve materials quickly and to make them readily available to patrons via the online catalog—beefing up Texas Tech’s position as a major player in the propagation of scholarly works across the globe. The Helen Jones Foundation clearly saw the value of this new capability and we are grateful for that.”

The digital initiative began in 2004 when administrators saw the need to replicate physical holdings for preservation purposes and to make out of copyright materials accessible to offsite patrons such as Texas Tech distance learning students.

As a founding member of the Texas Digital Library (TDL), which includes Texas, Texas A&M, and the University of Houston libraries, Texas Tech’s library system is making its institutional archives available electronically through the consortium. As TDL membership grows, the state’s public and private university’s are ensuring that the unique collections of member schools are widely available to anyone with a web browser. Digital categories called Metadata are added to each item, allowing searching by keywords, contributors, added titles, and other significant access points.

“We want this machine to be running 24-hours a day—seven days a week,” said Dyal. “The less downtime the better; there is certainly enough work out there to keep it humming.”

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 27, 2006

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**ROAST WILL HONOR OUTBOUND LAW PROFESSOR,
OIL AND GAS EXPERT**

LUBBOCK – To honor professor Bruce Kramer for his contributions to academic excellence at Texas Tech School of Law, the class of 2008 is hosting the Bruce Kramer Commemorative Roast, a fundraising event that will benefit the Texas Tech Law School Foundation.

After 32 years of teaching at Texas Tech School of Law, Kramer will retire at the end of this semester. Kramer is a nationally recognized expert in the field of oil and gas law and property law and has co-authored the leading text on Oil and Gas Law.

The event is set for 7 p.m. at the Lubbock Club on Friday (Dec. 1).

“It was most appropriate for law students to host this event because it is Tech Law students who have benefited most from professor Kramer’s expertise and dedication,” said Walter Huffman, dean of the Texas Tech Law School.

“We have a great program lined up with speakers ranging from professors to students and alumni, so it should be a great time,” said Student Senator Andrew Vaughn, one of the co-chairs of the event.

Sponsors of the roast include the Lanier Law Firm, Rio Petroleum, Inc., the law firm of Cotton, Bledsoe, Tighe, and Dawson, the Lubbock Firm Mullin, Hoard and Brown, and the New Mexico Oil Conservation Commission.

Those interested in purchasing tickets for this event or making a contribution to the fundraiser can contact either Andrew Vaughn or Joshua Henderson at andrew.vaughn@ttu.edu or joshua.henderson@ttu.edu, or by calling (806) 445-3287.

Tickets for the event cost \$40.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 29, 2006

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Researchers Develop Model for More Attractive Coastlines Model Coastal Zoning Ordinance to Aid Texas Seaside Community Growth

Researchers at Texas Tech University report that they have identified a missing element in most of the state's current coastal zoning laws. While filled to the brim with the nuts and bolts of cumbersome construction regulation, there's apparently little to see in terms of scenic quality.

So small, in fact, that the researchers are now writing a model coastal zoning ordinance to aid these fast-growing Texas seaside communities.

How good an area looks, or what's technically called aesthetic quality, is part of a nationwide effort aimed at improving coastal zone resources. That effort gained traction 10 years ago here in Texas with the approval of the massive NOAA Coastal Zone Management Plan.

"In that plan there is absolutely no mention of scenic quality," said Louis Mills, an assistant professor in Texas Tech's Department of Landscape Architecture. "The problem was there weren't any benchmarks at the time. They had no priorities or comparisons between scenic resources and wildlife values."

The first task for Mills and his research team was to determine just what the people of Texas preferred in terms of scenic landscape quality. Using photographs and sketches of coastal scenes showing landscapes with varying rate of development from none to highly cluttered, some 500 survey respondents were asked to rate their preferences.

"As you would expect, the most natural scenes with sand beaches were preferred," he said. "And that was true across all age, gender, education and income groups." Next Mills reviewed coastal land and building statutes, looking at zoning and construction codes to determine if aesthetics and scenic quality were mentioned. In most cases there was little or nothing on the books.

"In some instances, the codes called for a landscape plan, but didn't say what needed to be in the plan," he said. "There weren't any specifics such as percentage of tree coverage or what types of trees are acceptable."

As a result, the Texas Tech researchers are writing a model coastal zoning ordinance that will provide coastal communities with a more consistent set of land use controls that include protection of scenic resources. The model ordinance defines traditional types of land use, density, minimum lot requirements and zoning controls.

In addition, it will have protections for scenic quality, such as regulations for landscape planting and screening requirements and protection of existing vegetation, as well as architectural control, protection of historical structures and height and density limitations. Other considerations include building setbacks, dune restoration and litter removal.

“Right now the statutes to protect scenic quality have no teeth in them,” Mills said. One of the rare exceptions is the state’s real property tax assessment for scenic easements, he said.

Today, the Texas Gulf coast is a mixed bag of rules and regulations. The 370-mile shoreline covers 18 counties, numerous municipalities, as well as state and federal lands.

There are laws on the books to protect the state’s scenic resources, such as the Texas Coastal Dune Protection Program, which provides a 1,000-foot protection line. On the other hand, laws such as the Texas Open Beaches Act of 1959 have resulted in poor scenic quality, as well as environmental, litter and erosion problems, Mills said.

In the future, Mills said, there will be a growing need for public acquisition or regulation of high quality coastal areas that protect scenic quality. “Based on our evaluation of scenic ratings, these areas will be habitats that are undeveloped and in a natural protected state,” he said. “It’s also important to remember that high scenic values are directly and positively related to tourism demand.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

DATE: Nov. 29, 2006

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Texas Tech Alumnus known as “The Father of Russian Real Estate” Visits Lubbock

- WHO:** Gerald Gaige, an alumnus of Texas Tech and the “Father of Russian Real Estate”
- WHAT:** Media availability
- WHEN:** Gaige is available for interviews on Friday (Dec. 1). He can be reached at Gerald.gaige@ru.ey.com or at the Hawthorne Suites at (806) 765-8900. Another interview opportunity with Gaige is on Saturday (Dec. 2) at 11 a.m. in the Visitor’s Center at West Hall.
- WHY:** Prior to the breakup of the Soviet Union, private real estate ownership in the USSR did not exist. Today Russia is one of the most active commercial real estate markets in the world, thanks in large part to a Texas Tech graduate who is now known as “the Father of Russian Real Estate.”

Gerald Gaige is the Ernst & Young international partner leading the Real Estate Advisory Services practice, the Business Valuation group, in Russia and the CIS countries. Beginning in 1994, he directed the largest urban land privatization project in Russia, creating the legal basis and practical mechanism for the development of urban commercial land markets. In addition, he co-authored the text used by the Russian government in establishing the procedures for commercial land privatization in Russia.

Gaige witnessed first-hand the dissolution of the Soviet Union and was prominently interviewed by the Russian media for his analysis of the situation.

His translator and partner, Larissa Afanasyeva, will accompany Gaige from Russia.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Nov. 30, 2006

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Psychologist Busts Holiday Myths, Urban Legends

High suicide rates and family conflict will make holiday headlines in the media this year, just as in year's past.

However, David Rudd, chairman of the Department of Psychology at Texas Tech says both topics are an urban legend created by repetition that isn't supported by factual data.

"Every year, the media do stories on these topics," Rudd said. "High holiday suicide rates and family conflict horror stories really are just urban myths. If it gets repeated enough, people start to believe it. But, there's really no empirical data that suggests that these two issues are as big as they're portrayed by the media."

When it comes to suicide rates during the winter holidays, Rudd said they're at the lowest point for the year. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that suicide is most common in the spring and least common in the winter. But a study from the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania found about half of all "holiday blues" stories in 2000 directly attributed suicide to the holidays. Also, several studies have found fewer psychiatric admissions and emergency room visits during the holidays, including other holidays during the year.

The general belief is that the holidays are actually characterized by greater cohesion and emotional support rather than conflict, and the extra support makes a difference, Rudd said. Holidays are characterized by increased frequency of family gatherings and a general sense of hopefulness about the coming year. Also, the increased awareness of the potential for problems translates to added community support.

Though many people complain that family conflict is an inevitable part of the holidays, Rudd said that serious conflict that results in domestic violence and injury rarely rears its head.

"Some people may say 'Yes, I have conflict with my family over the holidays,' but the data show that most people are on their best behavior during the holidays," he said. "It's kind of like a funeral. You don't have a lot of family conflict during a funeral because it's a special occasion, and most people comply with the social pressure to behave."



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

“If we look at this from a different perspective, data on community violence and injury evidence lower rates during the winter months, with peaks during the summer months and early fall.”

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