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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

CONTACT: Aleesa Ross, [alessa.ross@ttu.edu](mailto:alessa.ross@ttu.edu)  
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### **Public Relations Professor Honored by National Communication Association**

Research by King and his collaborators  
earns the Golden Anniversary Monograph Award.

The National Communication Association has awarded Andy J. King, an assistant professor in the [Department of Public Relations](#) at Texas Tech University, and his collaborators the prestigious Golden Anniversary Monograph Award for his research in the field of health communication.

“The project was completed a few years ago, but tracked behavioral data longitudinally, as the study tested how communicating information about colorectal cancer in a certain way influenced people adhering to colorectal cancer screening recommendations,” King said. “It took a total of about three years, which included designing the study and software used, carrying out the intervention and waiting to get the tracked data.”

Collaborating with King on the project were Jakob D. Jensen, Melinda M. Krakow and N. Jewel Samadder from the University of Utah; and Nick Carcioppo and Susan Morgan from the University of Miami.

They will be recognized as recipients of the 2015 Golden Anniversary Monograph Award at an annual ceremony held by the National Communication Association in November in Las Vegas.

King said the study looked at adherence to colorectal cancer screening recommendations from doctors through intervention among manufacturing workers and health care workers. After being exposed to narratives and other types of messages, respondents and their medical habits were studied via insurance claims for the next 18 months.

“Because of that, we were able to have behavioral outcomes linked to our intervention, and we found evidence that certain types of messages positively influenced people’s health behaviors,” King said.

In addition to this study, King is continuing work on health-related communication research related to cancer prevention and organ donation.

Trent Seltzer, chairman of the Department of Public Relations, described King as an excellent scholar and congratulated him on receiving this prestigious award.

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“Dr. King continues to build a reputation as one of the most outstanding and dynamic young scholars in our field,” Seltzer said.

King said, “Research is essential to being a better teacher. I’m a better teacher when I’m doing relevant research. Being a productive researcher is important to connecting with students in the classroom and preparing them for life after college.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

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### **Team of Texas Tech Engineering Students Take Top Honors at IAM3D Challenge**

The engineering students earned Best Overall Design honors for their prototype development in the area of low-temperature saltwater desalination.

A team of six Texas Tech University students from the [Department of Mechanical Engineering](#) recently captured top honors at the Innovative Additive Manufacturing 3D (IAM3D) Challenge in Boston.

The Texas Tech students – Jerred Tochtermann, Taylor Cychowski, Brock Tittle, Taylor McClung, Richard Reyna and team leader Shaun Foreman, earned Best Overall Design for their prototype in the international competition. Their prototype and research into low-temperature saltwater desalination has drawn interest from both the additive manufacturing industry as well as the U.S. Department of Defense due to its array of applications in high water stress.

“It’s a great honor to be recognized for our research efforts over the last year,” Foreman said. “We had a uniquely talented team this year and our adviser, Dr. Jeff Hanson, is hands-down one of the most devoted faculty members I’ve ever worked with. More than 3.4 million people died last year from lack of access to safe drinking water. Our desalination research has a real potential to save lives.”

More than 120 teams participated in the competition, which was created to allow students to design and display new, innovative products intended to solve real-world problems using three-dimensional (3D) printing technology.

The teams and their designs were judged on the product’s business case, innovation, feasibility and presentation.

The top 15 teams presented their designs during the 2015 American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) International Design and Engineering with Additive Manufacturing 3D Printing Conference, where the team from Texas Tech was chosen the winner.

“This is another example illustrating that our faculty and staff provide an outstanding education to our students, which in turn produces some of the best engineers in the country,” said Al Sacco Jr., dean of the [Whitacre College of Engineering](#).

It is the fifth international title the Whitacre College of Engineering has earned under the guidance of Hanson, who has served as the faculty adviser for the ASME competition since 2009.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

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### **Texas Tech Faculty Member Using Drones to Improve Storm Prediction**

The three-year project focuses on factors that affect severe weather development.

With the help of a National Science Foundation grant, a Texas Tech University faculty member is using drones to help predict severe storms.

Chris Weiss, an associate professor in the [Atmospheric Science Group](#), is teaming up with scientists from the University of Colorado and the University of Nebraska to study how temperature, humidity and other observations impact the development of storms. The project is being funded by a \$346,246 grant from the National Science Foundation.

“The short-term goals will be a better understanding of the fundamental predictability of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes,” Weiss said. “The hope is that there will be consistent signals of observables that correlate well with the likelihood of tornado production.”

The first part of the project focuses on how the evolution of severe storms is sensitive to specific aspects of prior states. In other words, if the temperature, humidity or other factors change by a small amount at a specific time, how does the storm evolve later? By knowing this sensitivity, the team can work backward from the result to determine which observations at the earlier time have the most impact on the outcome.

“We then take it a step further,” Weiss said. “Knowing the importance of specific observations at the earlier time, we use rapid observation platforms, like unmanned aircraft and mobile radar, to specifically observe these locations and obtain the critical measurements needed to get the best prediction of the phenomenon at the later time.”

Initially, idealized computer models of severe storms will help the team develop a framework from which to operate. At the conclusion of the project in three years, they will bring two mobile high-frequency Doppler radars from Texas Tech, unmanned aircraft platforms from the University of Colorado and assets from the University of Nebraska to carry out a demonstration of real-time adaptive sampling of severe storms.

“Ultimately, if this project is successful, we will have taken a large step toward the improved prediction of severe thunderstorms and provided the framework for a system by which we will be able to operationally make routine measurements of the atmosphere that we are certain will have the most impact on future tornado development,” Weiss said.

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The project is expected to start Jan. 1.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

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### **Texas Tech Mortar Board Chapter Selected for Gold Torch Award**

Award is presented annually to the most exceptional chapters of Mortar Board for excellence in scholarship, leadership and service.

Texas Tech University's [Mortar Board](#) chapter recently was awarded the Gold Torch Award at the 2015 Mortar Board National Conference, a distinction that recognizes the most exceptional Mortar Board chapters in the nation. Texas Tech, along with 35 other chapters, was selected based on excellence in all areas of chapter operations including scholarship, leadership and meaningful service.

Jane Hamblin, executive director of Mortar Board, said the Gold Torch chapters add considerably to Mortar Board's standing nationally.

"We're proud they are providing high-impact educational programs for their campus communities," Hamblin said. "That's what Mortar Board is all about."

Gracen Daniel, president of Texas Tech's Mortar Board chapter, said she loves being a part of Mortar Board because it is filled with service-driven leaders who are always striving to better themselves by serving others.

"Receiving this award means a lot for our chapter," Daniel said. "It's a recognition that our chapter has gone above and beyond the expectations and ideals held by Mortar Board, and we're really proud of that."

Mortar Board is the premier collegiate national honor society recognizing senior students for outstanding achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. The Texas Tech Forum Chapter of Mortar Board was established in 1957 and limits membership to 50 of the top seniors on campus. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, visit the Texas Tech Forum Chapter's [website](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

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### **Texas Tech School of Law Enacts Public Service Graduation Requirement**

Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman applauded the initiative as a crucial step in improving access to justice.

Texas Tech [School of Law](#) Dean Darby Dickerson was joined by Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman at a news conference Monday (Aug. 31) to announce the law school's new public service graduation requirement.

Beginning this fall, new law students must complete at least 30 public-service hours before graduation. Half of those hours must be earned through pro bono legal services and half through pro bono legal service or non-legal community service. Students are required to give at least 10 hours each year until the requirement is fulfilled.

"We know students who start giving back early see the benefit and give much more than required," Dickerson said.

The initiative also requires Texas Tech Law faculty to perform at least 10 hours of public service each academic year.

"We know there is tremendous unmet legal need around the state," Dickerson said. "We hope to help with that issue while allowing our students to see the true impact their skills and talents can have on the lives of individuals and to gain hands-on learning from practicing lawyers and judges."

Guzman, who serves as the Texas Supreme Court's liaison to the Texas Access to Justice Foundation and the Texas Access to Justice Commission, said the initiative will help to assist the 6 million Texans who lack equal access to justice.

"Texas Tech Law has taken a critical, commendable step by instilling public service in our future lawyers," Guzman said. "As a civilized society based on the rule of law, all our citizens must have access to justice, and lawyers have a professional responsibility to uphold this promise. By helping to increase access to the courts, Texas Tech students help ensure the poor experience the benefits of our exceptional legal system."

Guzman discussed the importance of serving, growing and adapting in a changing legal world as the featured speaker for the law school's Academy for Leadership in the Legal Profession, a program that equips students to become leaders in the legal profession, business and the community.

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Nick Goettsche, a third-year law student who serves as Student Bar Association president and chief justice of the [Texas Tech University Supreme Court](#), said, “I am proud to support this student-backed initiative. Texas Tech Law prides itself on grooming practice-ready graduates, and this public service requirement is an opportunity to do just that while improving the public’s image of our profession.”

Betty Balli Torres, executive director of the Texas Access to Justice Foundation in Austin, attended the news conference to support the new initiative.

“We applaud Texas Tech University School of Law and their leadership in making a commitment to equal justice for all,” Torres said. “The individuals and communities that will benefit from pro bono service will be changed for the better, as will the lives of the students.”

Texas Tech Law is the 42<sup>nd</sup> of 205 American Bar Association-approved law schools to launch a similar graduation requirement. The law school has a longstanding tradition of public service with seven live-client clinics that give approximately 17,000 hours of service each year, alumni who are distinguished public servants and individual student volunteers who have given more than 3,000 public service hours in the last year. Texas Tech Law also is home to the Caprock Regional Public Defender Office, the only combined full-time, in-house public defender’s office and law school clinic in the country.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 1, 2015

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### **Women's Studies, International Film Series Announce Fall 2015 Sexism | Cinema Lineup**

The series begins Sept. 2 with a showing of "Easy A."

- WHAT:** The Texas Tech University International Film Series, [Women's Studies Program](#), and [Risk Intervention & Safety Education](#) announce the fall lineup for the Sexism | Cinema series. The first showing is "Easy A."
- WHEN:** 6 p.m., Wednesday (Sept. 2)
- WHERE:** Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 120 W. Loop 289
- EVENT:** The film series features female protagonists and will discuss how sexism is embedded, endorsed and challenged in cinema, asking questions including "How much progress has been made?" and "How far do we have to go?" Films will be followed by a 30-minute discussion led by Texas Tech faculty members and guest speakers.

The fall lineup includes:

- Sept. 2: "Easy A"
- Oct. 7: "The Hours"
- Nov. 4: "Rosehill"
- Dec. 2: "A Girl Walks Home Alone at Night"

The event is open to the public and admission is \$3.

For more information on the International Film Series, visit its [website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 2, 2015

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### **Bayer CropScience, Texas Tech University Open Seeds Innovation Center**

The new facility will house the company's global cotton business operations while strengthening its collaboration with the university.

Texas Tech University's relationship with Bayer CropScience and its footprint in agricultural research and innovation continues to grow with the opening Wednesday (Sept. 2) of the Bayer CropScience Lubbock Seeds Innovation Center.

The center, located at 3316 Ninth St. on the north side of Marsha Sharp Freeway just south of the International Cultural Center, will host Bayer CropScience's global cotton business operations as well as state-of-the-art laboratories and research facilities, including a 50,000-square-foot greenhouse.

"Our relationship with Bayer CropScience continues to expand and is an example of a collaborative effort that keeps forging forward," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "The leadership at Bayer CropScience, the [College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources](#) and the [Office of the Vice President for Research](#) are a model for positive and rewarding academic and industry relationships."

The \$16 million, 100,000-square-foot complex is designed to boost seed research and innovation not only for cotton, but for Bayer's soybean and canola research as well. In addition to the laboratory and research space, the facility will include 50,000 square feet of office space that can support approximately 100 employees.

"The on-campus location of the Bayer Seeds Innovation Center will further increase scientific collaboration with Texas Tech and expand potential involvement of Bayer scientists in the Texas Tech academic community," said Michael Galyean, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. "We expect that the increased research and academic opportunities associated with a Bayer presence on campus will boost recruitment and retention of top-quality faculty members, post-doctoral scientists and graduate students while also attracting visiting scholars from around the globe."

The opening of the Lubbock Seeds Innovation Center is another significant milestone in the long-term collaboration between Texas Tech and Bayer CropScience. One of the nation's leading agricultural research companies, Bayer CropScience is dedicated to improving yields, protecting crops from disease and pests and maintaining a healthy environment through innovative solutions.

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The company's Lubbock location is dedicated to enhancing and ensuring the growth of the cotton industry through various products and solutions. Lubbock serves as Bayer CropScience's global cottonseed headquarters. Among the Bayer facilities around Lubbock are a seed processing plant and seed warehouse as well as quality control and research and development laboratories.

"In Texas, cotton is king, and we're proud to call West Texas home," said Jim Blome, president and CEO of Bayer CropScience. "What started as a small cotton business in 1998 with three employees has grown into our global cotton headquarters. Today, we celebrate the continued success and expansion of the Bayer CropScience presence in Lubbock with the grand opening of our Seeds Innovation Center."

The center will support research and innovation efforts regarding breeding, trait development and quality, health safety and environmental testing. Research efforts will focus on improving varieties of cotton, cotton variety traits, development of herbicide- and insect-tolerant traits and improved fiber and yield.

"As a proud Texas Tech Red Raider, this is an especially momentous day," said Mike Gilbert, Bayer CropScience's global head of breeding and trait development. "I get to see the culmination of two of my greatest passions – this great university and a great company committed to science and improving lives."

At capacity, the greenhouse can hold 7,500 full-size soybean plants or 30,000 mid-size cotton plants with precautions taken to minimize cross-contamination of plant pollen or processing errors. The greenhouse also will feature its own irrigation system.

"Our undergraduate students should benefit from increased opportunities to work in the new facility, along with the potential for student internships in collaborative research and applied field application programs," Galyean said.

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 2, 2015

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### **Texas Tech Granted \$1.1 Million for Student Support Services Program**

This is the first time the university has received this grant  
from the U.S. Department of Education.

Texas Tech University recently was awarded a \$1.1 million federal grant by the [U.S. Department of Education](#) (DOE) for a [Student Support Services](#) program. The program will serve enrolled students, in which two-thirds of them must be both low-income and first generation students and other students are some variation of low-income, first generation students or disabled.

This is the first time Texas Tech has received this grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

“Congratulations to our Institutional Diversity and Upward Bound staff for receiving a highly competitive grant,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “As we continually work toward increasing our retention rates and helping students complete their college education, this grant will provide the resources and tools to assist students academically and financially and motivate them to complete their college education no matter their backgrounds.”

The Student Support Services grant is one of eight [TRIO programs](#), which, according to the DOE, are federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. This particular grant is geared toward providing opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements and motivate students toward the completion of students' college education in hopes of increasing college retention and graduation rates of program participants.

Texas Tech will utilize this grant to provide enhanced academic tutoring, degree advising and financial aid identification and application services.

Texas Tech's [Upward Bound](#) director Jesse Jalomo, said the grant process is extremely competitive, especially because the DOE issues very few new awards.

“This will help many of our current students as well as future and potential students and help reinforce Texas Tech’s strategic priorities and mission,” he said. “It will be another great potential recruitment tool as well as provide another marker toward possibly attaining the Hispanic Serving Institution designation.”

The Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) designation was created by the [Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities](#), where the total enrollment for Hispanic undergraduate students is at least 25 percent. Only 10 percent of all higher education institutions nationwide serve as an HSI, and the designation can lead to more funding and opportunities to recruit and retain diverse students.

For the 2014-15 academic year, Texas Tech’s [Hispanic enrollment increased to 22 percent](#) with a record of 6,336 Hispanic undergraduate students.

“Texas Tech and the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement is thrilled to be awarded this inaugural \$1.1 million Student Support Services grant from the Department of Education,” said Juan Muñoz, senior vice president for [Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement](#) and vice provost for [Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs](#). “With these funds the university will be better positioned to support the academic aspirations of low-income, first generation and students with disabilities. These efforts also will positively impact Texas Tech’s goal of becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution.”

The \$1.1 million Student Support Services grant will be dispersed equally over five years with \$220,000 received annually by Texas Tech.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 3, 2015

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### **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual State Employee Charitable Campaign Begins at Texas Tech**

The university is working toward raising \$472,000 within the greater West Texas area.

Texas Tech University kicked off the 22<sup>nd</sup> annual State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) Wednesday (Sept. 2) with an event at Jones AT&T Stadium. Event attendees met with 28 different agencies that will benefit from donations made to the SECC.

“This is such an important campaign for our entire university to be a part of,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “The SECC supports so many agencies within our community and throughout the state, and supporting initiatives like this is a great tradition here at Texas Tech. The Red Raider community is willing to help those in need, and I take great pride in working with such generous faculty and staff.”

In 2014, Texas Tech raised more than \$469,000 and [raised the highest per capita gift from higher education institutions with at least 2,000 employees](#). The SECC as a whole raised more than \$9 million for more than 500 agencies. This year, the university and the Texas Tech University System is working toward raising \$540,000.

To participate in the SECC, Texas Tech employees will submit their pledge forms online and choose a donation amount, how many organizations they wish to support and make a one-time donation or enroll in payroll deduction. Paper pledge forms are available upon request.

According to the SECC [website](#), agencies that wish to participate must meet certain requirements such as:

- Recognized by the IRS as 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and registered with the Secretary of State.
- Audited or reviewed annually by an accountant in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.
- Provide direct or indirect health and human services.
- Spend no more than 25 percent of funds raised on administration and fundraising unless they qualify for a one-year exception due to special circumstances.

The SECC has donor levels employees can be a part of such as:

- Leadership Circle – \$1,000 or more
- Lone Star Gold Level – 1 percent of annual salary

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- Lone Star Red and Black Level – one hour of pay per month, calculated as .006 of an employee's annual salary.

Incentives are available for Texas Tech employees who participate, including an autographed Kliff Kingsbury football, an autographed Tubby Smith basketball, an autographed Candi Whitaker basketball and tickets to sporting and entertainment events on campus.

Wes Condray, Texas Tech and Texas Tech University System campaign coordinator, said the university as a whole has worked diligently to raise funds for many different causes and he wants the momentum to continue.

“I am more than excited about the 2015 State Employee Charitable Campaign,” he said. “Last year, the entire state was able to see how generous the greater West Texas area and more specifically, Texas Tech was as we were recognized for raising the highest total among higher education institutions with at least 2,000 employees. I want to keep that momentum going and look forward to December when we can celebrate once again the generosity of Texas Tech employees.

“I have no doubt that we will be able to meet and exceed our goal of \$540,000 for Texas Tech and the Texas Tech University System. I would like to encourage all to give as no gift is too small.

“If all state employees in our region gave just \$2 a month, we would raise more than \$2 million for charitable agencies.”

The SECC [website](#) has many available resources for everyone, including a brochure, a directory of charities, summary reports, campaign calendar and a campaign video.

For more information, visit Texas Tech's SECC [website](#).

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

**CONTACT: Wes Condray, campaign coordinator, State Employee Charitable Campaign, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2984 or [wes.condray@ttu.edu](mailto:wes.condray@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 3, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Personal Financial Planning Team Heading to National Competition**

Seniors Alex Garcia, Shelby Huber and Isaac Rodd are one of eight teams to qualify.

A team from Texas Tech University's [Department of Personal Financial Planning](#) is one of eight throughout the country selected to participate in a national competition at one of the industry's largest conferences.

Seniors Alex Garcia, Shelby Huber and Isaac Rodd will represent Texas Tech at the Financial Planning Association (FPA) Conference Sept. 26-28 in Boston. To qualify, they submitted a case study addressing a fictional family's financial issues. At the competition they will present their case study to a group of professionals and participate in a quiz bowl.

Although Texas Tech has sent a team to the competition almost every year since its inception, the university is looking for its first championship.

"There are definitely nerves," Huber said. "It's a big deal. We have a reputation to uphold as a university."

The students put together their case study for six weeks during the spring semester, then submitted it and left for summer internships. They found out in late July they had qualified for the competition in Boston and will spend the first weeks of the fall semester revising their comprehensive financial plan, preparing a presentation and studying for the competition.

Conference attendees will include professors from Texas Tech and other collegiate programs, including many Texas Tech alumni, financial planning professionals and other personal financial planning students.

"The Financial Planning Challenge is a wonderful opportunity for Alex, Shelby and Isaac to showcase what they are learning in the financial planning program at Texas Tech," said Vickie Hampton, department chairwoman. "They will represent the university well at the Financial Planning Association Conference. Of course, we would love to see them bring home the overall first-place prize, but we are very proud of them for being among the eight teams selected to compete in Boston."

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**CONTACT: Vickie Hampton, chairwoman, Department of Personal Financial Planning, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1824 or [vickie.hampton@ttu.edu](mailto:vickie.hampton@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 3, 2015

CONTACT: Emily Gardner, [emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu](mailto:emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Earns Best in the West Rating From The Princeton Review**

The university is one of only 125 colleges in the Western region to be recognized.

Texas Tech University was chosen as one of the best colleges in the west, according to the [“2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region”](#) feature compiled by The Princeton Review. Texas Tech was one of 649 colleges to receive the honor and was part of the 125 colleges recognized in the Western region.

“We are honored to be a part of The Princeton Review’s Best in the West list,” President M. Duane Nellis said. “We strive to serve our students in the best possible way, and to be included in this prestigious list is a testament to our efforts.”

The school was evaluated on its academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life, how green the university is and how interesting and accessible professors are using a scale of 60 to 99 based on institutional data, according to the [ratings criteria](#).

Texas Tech’s ratings from 60-99 were:

- Academic: 65
- Financial Aid: 66
- Professors Interesting: 69
- Professors Accessibility: 72
- Quality of Life: 78
- Admissions Selectivity: 82
- Green: 87
- Fire Safety: 95

Only schools that permitted The Princeton Review to independently survey students qualified for the rating, according to the rankings. Data from a survey of administrators, staff and college counselors and advisers also was taken into consideration. The ratings list comprises approximately 25 percent of the United States’ four-year institutions. The western region includes universities located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. The ratings also included schools in the Northeast, Southeast and Midwest.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 4, 2015

CONTACT: Trevor Bell, [trevor.bell@ttu.edu](mailto:trevor.bell@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-4651

### **Former Board of Regents Member Aids in Establishing Rawls College Professorship**

John Walker is a 1968 graduate of Texas Tech University who served three years on the Board of Regents.

Texas Tech University alumnus and former Board of Regents member John Walker donated \$400,000 to establish the John B. Walker Professorship in the [Rawls College of Business](#).

The professorship will be granted to a Rawls College faculty member who participates in cutting-edge research and supports professional development.

“This Professorship will help the Rawls College recruit and retain great professors, who will, in turn, attract great students,” Walker said. “Education is one of the most powerful things in the world, and I’m fortunate to have the ability to help make an impact.”

Walker is Chief Executive Officer of EnerVest, Ltd., based in Houston. EnerVest is one of the 25 largest oil and gas companies in the U.S. with more than 36,000 wells across 15 states, 6 million acres under lease and \$11 billion in assets under management.

He earned his bachelor’s degree in finance from Texas Tech in 1968, graduating cum laude. He served three years on the Texas Tech [Board of Regents](#) after he was appointed by former Gov. Rick Perry in 2012. In addition to his time on the Board of Regents, Walker has served as an emeritus member of the Rawls College’s advisory board.

Walker has a lifelong commitment to learning, and the newly established professorship will help ensure continued student success.

“John Walker’s beliefs are reflective of those we instill in our students: hard work, integrity and humility,” said Lance Nail, dean of the Rawls College of Business. “He is the model of what all Rawls students should strive to be, and this professorship is another example of his dedication to our college and Texas Tech University as a whole.”

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**CONTACT: Paul Herring, executive director of external relations, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1386 or [paul.herring@ttu.edu](mailto:paul.herring@ttu.edu).**

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 8, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Climate Science Center Hosting Second Science by the Glass Event**

Guest speaker John Zak will discuss climate change on national parks.

- WHAT: “Science by the Glass,” an informal discussion on climate change with Katharine Hayhoe, an assistant professor of political science at Texas Tech University and the director of the [Climate Science Center](#).
- WHEN: 5 p.m. Wednesday (Sept. 9)
- WHERE: The Lantern Tavern, 3502 Slide Road, Lubbock
- EVENT: Katharine Hayhoe is one of the world’s leading experts on climate science and climate change. The discussion, entitled “Science by the Glass,” will focus on why climate change remains such a divisive issue in the United States.

Wednesday’s topic will feature John Zak, co-director of the Climate Science Center and a professor and associate dean of research in the [College of Arts and Sciences](#), who will lead a discussion titled “How to Damage a National Park Without Really Trying: The Tale of Big Bend.

The discussion is open to the public and admission is free.

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**CONTACT: Emily Powell, communication and outreach coordinator, Climate Science Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-7673 or [emily.j.powell@ttu.edu](mailto:emily.j.powell@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 8, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **New Executive Director Named at the Museum of Texas Tech University**

New executive director brings 20 years of experience from around the world.

Gary Morgan has been named executive director of the [Museum of Texas Tech University](#). The announcement comes today (Sept. 8) from Texas Tech Provost Lawrence Schovanec.

Morgan previously was director of the Michigan State University Museum and has worked with museums and heritage organizations in Australia, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates and Malawi, Africa, and has worked extensively as a consultant.

A native of Australia, Morgan has held leadership roles in museums spanning the fine and decorative arts, history, anthropology, technology and the natural sciences.

“The museum makes significant contributions to the academic and outreach mission of Texas Tech University,” Schovanec said. “I’m delighted Dr. Morgan has agreed to serve as its executive director. His experience, credentials and engaging personality will be great assets in enhancing the impact and vitality of the museum and its connections with the university and the community.”

Morgan was selected following an international search. He is expected to begin his duties at the Museum of Texas Tech on Nov. 2.

“I am excited at the prospects of contributing to the future of the Museum of Texas Tech University and its role in advancing the interests of the university as a whole,” Morgan said. “The museum has a fine staff and strong scholarship, extraordinary collections and runs one of the best museum science programs in the country. Texas Tech is a dynamic and forward-thinking research university. The museum can serve a vital role in engaging the widest of communities with the very best of what the university is doing in research and outreach in Texas, across the U.S. and around the world.”

Morgan earned his doctorate in zoology from Monash University and undergraduate degrees from Queensland University, both in Australia. A biological scientist by training, Morgan has more than 50 academic publications, including two books.

The Museum of Texas Tech University holds collections in the arts, humanities and the sciences. Among its holdings are collections of western art, the works of famed illustrator N.C. Wyeth, 20th and 21st century art of Texas, New Mexico and Arizona and a vast

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collection of Southwestern Indian Art. The museum also is home to the [Moody Planetarium](#).

The [Natural Science Research Laboratory](#) is a division of the museum. Its collections are available to researchers at academic, scientific and government institutions around the world, including work into the development and spread of Hantavirus and other animal-borne diseases.

The [Lubbock Lake National Historical Landmark](#), an archeological site, is another division of the museum. It contains a complete cultural record from the Clovis Period, about 12,000 years ago, the longest continuous record of habitation in North America.

The faculty of the museum offer a master's degree with specializations in museum science and heritage management.

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 8, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech International Film Series to Host Second Film of Fall Lineup**

The series continues Sept. 10 with “Sweethearts of the Gridiron.”

**WHAT:** The Texas Tech University International Film Series will continue its fall lineup with a showing of “Sweethearts of the Gridiron.”

**WHEN:** 6:30 p.m. Thursday (Sept. 10)

**WHERE:** English/Philosophy building on Texas Tech campus, Room 001

**WHO:** The International Film Series at Texas Tech is curated by the faculty, staff and students of the university. The fall 2015 lineup runs from September through November and includes 17 film showings.

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



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 8, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Law to Host Induction of U.S. District Judge as Texas Legal Legend**

Mary Lou Robinson has served as the U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas for the past 37 years and has served as a judge since 1955.

**WHAT:** The State Bar of Texas will induct U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson as a Texas Legal Legend.

**WHEN:** Noon Friday (Sept. 11)

**WHERE:** Lanier Auditorium, [Texas Tech School of Law](#), 1802 Hartford Ave.

**WHO:** Mary Lou Robinson has served as a U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Texas since her appointment by President Jimmy Carter in 1979. Prior to her appointment, she was elected to the Court of Civil Appeals for the Seventh Supreme Judicial District in 1974 and served as Chief Justice of the court for two years (1977-78). From 1955 to 1958 she served as judge of the Potter County Court at Law before serving as a judge for the 108<sup>th</sup> District Court in Potter County from 1960 to 1972, earning re-election to the post three times.

Judge Robinson has earned numerous awards, including the Sandra Day O'Connor Award for Professional Excellence from the Texas Center for Legal Ethics and the Chief Justice Charles L. Reynolds Lifetime Achievement Award from the Amarillo Area Bar Association. She was named one of the 100 legal legends in Texas by Texas Lawyer magazine.

In addition, Judge Robinson has served as a federal liaison on the State Bar of Texas Board of Directors and as a former member of the Judicial Council of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Students attending the induction will be eligible for Academy for Leadership in the Legal Profession credit. Continuing Legal Education credit is pending.

The Texas Legal Legends program is a function of the litigation section of the State Bar of Texas. It serves to honor lawyers who have practiced in

Texas and use their legendary stories to enhance public perception of the importance of lawyers and the difference they make in society through serving others.

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# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Sept. 9, 2015

CONTACT: Emily Gardner, [emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu](mailto:emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Carlsbad Native Missi Currier Named Texas Tech Director of External Relations**

Currier is a Texas Tech alumna and has held several roles at the university.

Missi Currier was named Texas Tech University's Director of External Relations Sept. 2.

In her role as director of external relations, which is part of the [Office of the President](#), Currier will work with the president, university community, alumni and assist with outreach efforts.

Currier most recently served as a legislative coordinator for the [Texas Tech System](#) and directed the [Congressional Internship Program](#) at Texas Tech. She earned her bachelor's and master's degree in agricultural communications from Texas Tech.

Currier also has served as a Texas State Senator Robert Duncan Fellow at the Texas State Capitol and is an active Lubbock community member. She is a Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) board member, sits on the committee for the American Cancer Society Cattle Baron's Ball, and is a member of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals of Lubbock. She also is working toward earning a doctoral degree in agricultural communications and education.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 9, 2015

CONTACT: James Hodgins, [james.hodgins@ttu.edu](mailto:james.hodgins@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-4829

### **String Project Hosts Open House for Lubbock Elementary Students**

The Texas Tech String Project exists to teach younger students about music.

The Texas Tech University [String Project](#) will hold “TUNE-IN!,” an informational open house from 5-7 p.m. Sept. 15 in Room 010 of the Band Hall in the School of Music (18<sup>th</sup> and Boston) for interested Lubbock-area fourth-grade students and their parents.

The String Project is designed for students to receive instruction in stringed instruments at a reduced price. All instructors are music and music education majors at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Instruction is offered on the violin, viola, cello and bass.

At the open house, students and their parents will have the opportunity to try out instruments, hear a concert and register for the program. Instrument dealers will be present to size and rent instruments to students. There will be free pizza at the event.

The String Project was established in 2001 in part with the National String Project Consortium and the American String Teachers Association. The program was initially funded by a three-year grant from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education with matching contributions from Texas Tech. Now the program is funded by student fees and contributions from Texas Tech.

The deadline for fall registration is Sept. 18. Tuition is \$90 for the semester and includes instruction in group class two days a week, two private lessons and the official Texas Tech String Project T-shirt. Registration forms, tuition information and more can be found online at the String Project [website](#) or follow them on [Facebook](#).

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

**CONTACT: Blair Williams, director, Texas Tech University String Project, School of Music, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-2992 or [blair.williams@ttu.edu](mailto:blair.williams@ttu.edu).**



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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Honors College Welcomes New Students with Convocation and Sorting Ceremony**

New students are welcomed to the Honors College with a ceremony sorting them into one of four houses, each representing an ideological pillar of the college.

The [Honors College](#) at Texas Tech University held its annual Convocation and Sorting ceremony Wednesday (Sept. 9) evening at the United Supermarkets Arena.

The ceremony served as a welcoming of new students to the Honors College as well as a sorting process to place new students into one of four “houses” within the college. The four houses, Bell, Lawless, Haragan and Winer, are meant to represent knowledge, integrity, service and courage, respectively. These are the four pillars the Honors College was founded on, by which its community strives to live every day.

In addition, the houses recognize the vision and persistence of the four administrators who co-founded the Honors College at Texas Tech, each of whom has a house with their name. The four-house system aims to both welcome freshmen and inspire community, giving students a sense of belonging and inspiring inter-college competition.

Michael San Francisco, dean of the Honors College and founder of the house system, said the houses were formed with the cooperation and community of students in mind.

“Based on my experience with the house system at my high school in India, where we worked to accrue points for our houses based on performance in academics, athletics, theatre etc., I promoted the idea with the Honors College faculty and staff,” San Francisco said. “The virtual unanimous support has allowed us to develop four Houses around the Ideals of Honors: Knowledge, Integrity, Service and Courage. Each of these Houses is named for an individual who was important in the growth and development of the College in 1999.”

Sarah Timmons, senior academic adviser of the Honors College and staff head of Bell House, said the house system exists to create, build and strengthen the Honors College community.

“We hope that the House system gives our students a deeply-felt identity as Honors students and as members of their particular house,” Timmons said, “but also a place of belonging as part of the larger college community.”

Since the house system was introduced in 2014, each new member of the Honors College has been randomly sorted into a house upon entrance, and is then able to participate in service and social activities planned by house captains. Past activities have included the Winer House Tennis Tournament and various fundraisers for Bayless Elementary School.

“We want our students to see themselves as both members of a small community where they may find a sense of homecoming and as a part of something much larger than themselves,” Timmons said.

With each house representing one of the ideological pillars of the college, the Honors College hopes to create an encouraging and honorable environment in which students can succeed. San Francisco said the convocation and sorting ceremony represents a call to service, driven through knowledge, with courage and at all times with integrity.”

“Knowledge, integrity, service and courage,” Timmons said, “are the characteristics that embody the environment we hope to create here in Honors, and we encourage our students to carry these forward with them.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Named One of Best Online Colleges in Texas**

The Worldwide eLearning program at Texas Tech ranked 13<sup>th</sup> overall on a list of the best online colleges in the state.

Texas Tech University recently was named one of the best online colleges in Texas for the 2015-2016 school year. Texas Tech's [Worldwide eLearning](#) program, which makes it possible for students to pursue their education online, ranked 13<sup>th</sup> in the state of Texas and was first among Big 12 schools.

The annual [list](#) was created by Affordable Colleges Online, which made its rankings based on data from hundreds of colleges across the nation, all offering online bachelor's degrees. Those included on the list offer the most notable balances of academic rigor, student support and affordability for online learning.

According to a recent study by the Babson Survey Research Group, the online student population in the United States has increased to more than 7 million. The state of Texas offers the second most online degree programs of any state in the nation.

The Worldwide eLearning program at Texas Tech gives students the option to continue their education without having to reside in Lubbock. The program offers more than 30 bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs as well as more than 30 certification, preparation, minor and concentration programs. In addition, Worldwide eLearning provides six regional teaching sites across the state.

Justin Louder, assistant vice provost for Worldwide eLearning, said this ranking shows the dedication of the faculty and staff in proving they can deliver an excellent education online.

"By offering high-quality degrees to students, wherever they may be, Texas Tech demonstrates our commitment to meeting the needs of the 21st century learner," Louder said.

Louder feels the Worldwide eLearning curriculum offers unmatched opportunities for all students.

"We are proud that we offer more online or hybrid doctoral programs than any other university in the state," Louder said.

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The eLearning program at Texas Tech began in 1966 when five professors became “the flying professors” as part of a master’s of engineering program, delivering programs by closed circuit television. Today, Texas Tech Worldwide eLearning works with academic departments to develop high-quality online and distance education programs utilizing both asynchronous and synchronous communication technologies that allow students to get a Texas Tech University degree from anywhere.

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**CONTACT: Justin Louder, assistant vice provost, TTU Worldwide eLearning, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7227 or [justin.louder@ttu.edu](mailto:justin.louder@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech School of Law Welcomes ‘Undisclosed’ Podcast Host Rabia Chaudry**

Chaudry is an attorney with national security and countering violent extremism expertise who also co-created and hosts the podcast “Undisclosed: The State vs. Adnan Syed.”

**WHAT:** Attorney and New America Foundation international security fellow Rabia Chaudry will present “Undisclosed: Five Legal Lessons from the Case of Adnan Syed.”

**WHEN:** Noon Wednesday (Sept. 16)

**WHERE:** Lanier Auditorium, [Texas Tech School of Law](#), 1802 Hartford Ave.

**WHO:** Chaudry is a co-creator and host of the program “Undisclosed: The State vs. Adnan Syed,” a multi-part series that builds on NPR’s ‘Serial’ podcast. Both programs examined the trial of Adnan Syed, who was convicted for the 1999 murder of his former girlfriend, Hae Min Lee, and sentenced to life in prison. Questions raised by the podcasts, which reached millions of listeners around the world, led to newly discovered evidence that casts doubt on Syed’s conviction. Her lecture will cover the lessons learned from the Syed case.

At the New America Foundation, Chaudry heads the countering violent extremism (CVE) and community engagement project in partnership with Google and Facebook. She is a CVE consultant with experience in international CVE evaluation and advocate training in Pakistan where digital media and CVE intersect. Her focus is law enforcement, community engagement and recruitment by violent extremists through social media.

Chaudry also is the president and founder of the Safe Nation Collaborative, which trains law enforcement, correctional and homeland security officials on CVE and cultural competency and provides national security and CVE training to Muslim communities. Safe Nation has worked with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Department

of Justice, the National Counterterrorism Center and the Maryland State Police, among others.

In addition to her fellowship at the New America Foundation, Chaudry also is a fellow of the Truman National Security Project, the Shalom Hartman Institute and the American Muslim Civic Leadership Institute. She serves on the board of the American Civil Liberties Union in Maryland and has authored articles in Time, the Huffington Post and The Guardian.

Chaudry was invited to Texas Tech by visiting assistant professor Tracy Hresko Pearl, who is teaching an advanced criminal law course based on Serial and the Syed case.

Texas Tech law students who attend the lecture will earn credit through the Academy for Leadership in the Legal Profession. The lecture is open to the public and admission is free. In addition, there will be a question-and-answer session with Chaudry after the lecture.

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



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DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

CONTACT: James Hodgins, [james.hodgins@ttu.edu](mailto:james.hodgins@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-4829

### **Texas Tech School of Music Premieres New Opera**

“Breath of Life” tells the story of a Texas heart surgeon.

**WHAT:** The Texas Tech University [School of Music](#) presents the world premiere of “Breath of Life,” a new opera by J. Todd Frazier. “Breath of Life” was conceived by Frazier in response to watching his father, Dr. O. H. Frazier, perform a heart transplant procedure at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston. Informing the central themes of the work were interviews and conversations with Frazier and the recipient, Rev. Robert Browne. Inspired by real events, people and situations, the work responds to aspects of the procedure that defy science, challenge spiritual views and require “leaps of faith” from all involved.

The opera is open to the public and admission is free.

**WHEN:** 7:30 p.m. Thursday (Sept. 17) and Friday (Sept. 18)

**WHERE:** Hemmle Recital Hall at the Texas Tech School of Music

**WHO:** The principal cast includes

- Doctor: Gregory Brookes, Texas Tech assistant professor of voice
- Patient: Gerald Dolter, director of Texas Tech music theatre
- Patient’s wife: Rebecca Wascoe, Texas Tech assistant professor of voice,
- Donor: Desiree Soto
- Donor’s mother: Quinn Patrick Ankrum, Texas Tech assistant professor of voice
- Priest: Gustavo Steiner Neves
- Resident physician: Leslie Ratner

The stage director is Gerald Dolter, and the conductor is Benjamin Hawkinson.

Jefferson Todd Frazier is a composer, nonprofit arts leader and sixth-generation Texan. He is the director of Houston Methodist Hospital’s Center for Performing Arts Medicine, founder and first executive director

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of the American Festival for the Arts, co-founder of Houston Arts Partners and the former executive director of Young Audiences of Houston. He received his undergraduate and graduate training from The Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York, and The Juilliard School in New York City.

He has been honored by the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the Global Alliance for Arts and Healthcare, and serves as a director of the Texas Lyceum. He is a member of the Eastman School of Music's National Council, the City of Houston's Arts and Cultural Plan Advisory Committee, University of Texas Butler School of Music's Directors Council and U.S.-Japan Foundation's Leadership Program. On the occasion of the Juilliard School's 100th anniversary in 2006, Frazier was recognized as one of 100 distinguished alumni and profiled in the Juilliard Journal's "A Quiet Revolution: Juilliard Alumni and The Transformation of Education in America Through the Arts."

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**CONTACT: Gerald Dolter, director, music theatre program, School of Music, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-7191 or [gerald.dolter@ttu.edu](mailto:gerald.dolter@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

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

### **Texas Tech to Host Commemorating Events for the 14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11**

Events include a retreat ceremony at Memorial Circle and  
a chance to write letters to current service members.

- WHAT: Texas Tech honors 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11
- Operation Gratitude with the Honors College and House of Haragan
  - Retreat Ceremony
- WHEN: Friday (Sept. 11)
- Operation Gratitude: 1-3 p.m.
  - Retreat Ceremony: 4:45 p.m.
- WHERE: Texas Tech University
- Operation Gratitude: McClellan Hall Honors College Forum
  - Retreat Ceremony: Memorial Circle

To commemorate the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11, Texas Tech University will host two events to remember the life-changing day.

The Honors College, House of Haragan and the Military and Veterans Programs will provide a chance for students, faculty and staff to express their gratitude to current service members by writing letters to military men and women overseas. The event is a part of [Operation Gratitude](#), a program that sends 15,000-plus care packages annually to new recruits, veterans, first responders, wounded warriors, care givers and individually named service members deployed overseas.

The Texas Tech University Air Force ROTC and the Military and Veterans Programs also will host a retreat ceremony with 19 military officers from Cannon Air Force Base to honor those who lost their lives 14 years ago. Guests are invited to gather inside Memorial Circle at 4:45 to watch the 15-minute ceremony. A few words will be spoken before the flag is lowered and taken down for the day.

For more information about Operation Gratitude or the retreat ceremony, please contact the [Honors College](#), the [Military and Veterans Programs office](#) or Texas Tech's [Air Force ROTC](#).

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**CONTACT: C/Col. Benjamin Bryce, Air Force ROTC, Texas Tech University, (210) 878-7663 or [benjamin.bryce@ttu.edu](mailto:benjamin.bryce@ttu.edu); Heather Medley, assistant director, Honors College, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-8942 or [heather.medley@ttu.edu](mailto:heather.medley@ttu.edu); Debra Crosby, assistant director, Military and Veterans Programs, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-7324 or [deb.crosby@ttu.edu](mailto:deb.crosby@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 10, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's Marriage and Family Therapy Program Ranked 15<sup>th</sup> Nationally**

Texas Tech was included in a list of the 50 most affordable, accredited MFT programs in the country.

Texas Tech University's [Marriage and Family Therapy](#) (MFT) program in the [College of Human Sciences](#) recently named one of the 50 most affordable accredited MFT programs in the country. Texas Tech is ranked 15<sup>th</sup> on the list, which ranked [COAMFTE](#)-accredited programs according to their affordability based on graduate tuition and fees.

The [list](#) was created by [Best Counseling Degrees](#), a website focusing on providing expert information and resources for prospective students considering a degree in counseling and related fields. Texas Tech was selected among more than 100 COAMFTE-accredited family therapy degree programs across the nation.

Doug Smith, director of the MFT program at Texas Tech, said the program is proud to be recognized as being a strong value for students.

"We have a long history of preparing excellent marriage and family therapy clinicians and advanced researchers who have and will continue to shape the profession," Smith said.

Graduates of these programs must pass the national licensure exam and complete post master's supervised clinical hours to receive their degrees. Marriage and family therapists specialize in providing psychotherapy to couples and families, and recently were listed among the top 50 best jobs in America by [CNN Money](#).

David Ivey, a professor in the MFT program, said while the program's tuition rates are very reasonable, what really sets it apart is the quality and reputation of its curriculum, staff and students.

"We stand as a solid and very attractive area of study in comparison to our sister programs at other institutions," Ivey said. "Students within the program receive very strong training to support their development as researchers, educators and clinicians."

Texas Tech's marriage and family therapy doctoral degree program is one of the longest-standing accredited programs in the country, having been continuously COAMFTE-accredited since 1981. The program prepares graduates to be experts in research, clinical work and academic instruction and generally accepts only five to eight students each year.

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“We support a culture that embraces the value of our relationships with our students,” Ivey said. “That’s really what sets us apart.”

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**CONTACT: Douglas Smith, program director, Marriage and Family Therapy, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-7606 or [douglas.smith@ttu.edu](mailto:douglas.smith@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 11, 2015

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### **First Texas Tech Presidential Collaborative Research Initiative Funds 11 Projects**

Program brings together researchers from three Texas Tech University System campuses.

The first Texas Tech Presidential Collaborative Research Initiative has granted funding to 33 faculty members comprising 11 research groups from the Texas Tech University System.

Organized by Texas Tech University President M. Duane Nellis, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) President Dr. Tedd L. Mitchell, TTUHSC El Paso President Dr. Richard Lange, and Texas Tech University System Chancellor Robert Duncan, the program was designed to facilitate the development of new interdisciplinary investigative programs that would enhance close interactions among faculty with different types of research expertise and lead to new extra-mural funding.

"I appreciate Dr. Nellis, our other presidents and our vice presidents for research for how they came together on this initiative," Duncan said. "This is an outstanding response that will inspire collaborative research efforts across the system and a unique opportunity for world-class researchers to work together. It is another example of why these are such exciting times for the Texas Tech University System."

After more than 60 faculty teams submitted proposals, the chancellor and presidents decided to expand the program from four awards to 11.

"Many of the federal agencies whose grants will fund this program look for collaborative research projects that span various, often unrelated fields of study to try to solve real-world problems," Nellis said. "By bringing together the expertise of researchers from diverse backgrounds, the next major research breakthrough may be closer than we think."

"This system-wide effort underscores our dedication to provide a 'shot in the arm' to researchers in our system and drive collaboration with one another to perform cutting-edge research," Mitchell said.

The winning proposals represent a broad range of research areas from all three participating campuses. Topics include:

- New and more sensitive diagnostic tests and treatments for infectious diseases
- Developing strategies for improving muscle coordination after stroke
- Better methods for teaching speech and language

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- New treatment approaches for inflammatory bowel diseases and various cancers
- Development of improved diagnostics for Alzheimer's disease and depression

For a full list of winners, see [here](#).

"I'm pleased to see our TTUHSC El Paso experts among the innovative and accomplished researchers who participated in this very competitive, inaugural Texas Tech University System-wide collaborative grants program," Lange said. "I look forward to seeing the results of these research proposals and collaborative efforts."

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**CONTACT: Chris Cook, managing director, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [chris.cook@ttu.edu](mailto:chris.cook@ttu.edu); Mary Croyle, executive director, Office of Communications, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, (806) 743-2143 or [mary.croyle@ttuhsc.edu](mailto:mary.croyle@ttuhsc.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 11, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, [kleigh.sims@ttu.edu](mailto:kleigh.sims@ttu.edu)  
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### **Student Counseling Center Implements Suicide Prevention Program**

Texas Tech becomes the first university or entity in Texas  
to implement the web-based program.

According to the [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#) (AFSP), it's estimated that 15 percent of students suffer from depression and other mental disorders that put them at risk for suicide. Of this group, at least 10 percent of those students each year report they've seriously considered suicide.

With these statistics, the local AFSP representatives and Texas Tech University's [Student Counseling Center](#) decided to implement an anonymous Interactive Screening Program (ISP), created by AFSP, becoming the first university or entity in Texas to establish the program.

"The ISP represents an important first step for those students who may have reservations about coming in for counseling services," said Klint Hobbs, licensed psychologist in the Student Counseling Center. "The anonymous email dialogue with a therapist is intended to increase students' comfort with the counseling process. Students who engage in this dialogue should eventually be more willing to come to the counseling center for the face-to-face counseling they need."

The ISP is a web-based platform students can utilize to get professional help by answering a brief, confidential stress and depression questionnaire. The questionnaire incorporates the PHQ-9, a 9-item standardized depression screening scale, to better understand how at-risk each student is with depression and suicide. The questionnaire also includes questions about suicidal ideation and attempts, problems related to depression such as anger and anxiety, alcohol and drug abuse and eating disorder symptoms.

The ISP contains 35 questions and takes less than 10 minutes to complete. To maintain full anonymity, students are identified only with a self-assigned user ID.

Mariah Williams, unit coordinator for Texas Tech's [PEGASUS](#) program and chairwoman for AFSP's Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walk, came up with the idea to implement a program within the Lubbock area and Texas Tech after she noticed students needed resources throughout the year to encourage them to get help. After meeting with the Student Counseling Center's staff, they decided to work together in adding the ISP.



“Whenever I attended the first Out of the Darkness Walk, which was implemented by a Texas Tech mom in conjunction with AFSP, I found out she had lost her son to suicide a few weeks after he graduated from college,” she said. “Because of other obligations, I helped take over the walk that following fall. Once I started organizing the walk, I was meeting with moms and hearing their stories about how they had lost their kids to suicide.

“Just hearing their stories was heartbreaking, because they were asking, ‘was there something more my child could have received that would have prevented them from completing suicide,’ and that compelled me to do something more than just host an annual event. It had to be something throughout the year.”

Due to the high volume of students reaching out to the Student Counseling Center for one-on-one sessions, the ISP allows students to communicate with licensed counselors at Texas Tech remotely before making an appointment in person and waiting to get the help they need. The students and counselors can have an anonymous, one-on-one dialogue through the program, so the student doesn’t feel the pressure to release his or her identity but still receive the help he or she needs.

Sasha Soto, current president of Texas Tech’s WRECK the Stigma student organization – a student-led organization missioned to “wreck” the stigma surrounding mental illness and suicide – said the ISP will encourage students to get help from professionals instead of trying to fight suicide and depression on their own.

“The Interactive Screening Program is a really big step toward building a trusting relationship with mental health professionals and students,” she said. “Too often, students go untreated fearing they will fall victim to the stigma associated with mental illness. By maintaining an anonymous basis, students will be able to get the help they deserve free from shame and embarrassment.”

Williams said it usually takes years to get the ISP implemented due to the lack of funds and staff to run the program and service to students. She said Texas Tech is fortunate to already have the manpower to run the ISP and the funds from the AFSP Out of the Darkness Walk to support it.

“We hadn’t used the funds from the walk because we were waiting for a great opportunity like this,” she said. “As the months progressed and as we were trying to figure out what we could do here locally, we all came to the consensus the ISP would be the best thing for us to implement. Because of the support we have and the funds from the walks in previous years, we can make this effective this fall, and it is a great honor to be the first in Texas and the first university in the state to implement the ISP.

“We’re looking forward to lessening the statistics of depression and suicide among our student body here at Texas Tech.”

The ISP is undergoing its final touches before being released and open to all students later this fall.



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Currently, students can reach out to the Counseling Center for individual and couples counseling, find resources for veterans, self-help, parents and family and campus outreach and education programs. The center also offers the [MindSpa](#) for students, faculty and staff, where they can unwind and relax with massage chairs, meditate, play computer or Xbox 360 games or do yoga.

For more information about [AFSP](#), the [ISP](#), [WRECK the Stigma](#) or the [Student Counseling Center](#), visit their websites.

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**CONTACT: Mariah Williams, unit coordinator, PEGASUS, Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-4170 or [mariah.williams@ttu.edu](mailto:mariah.williams@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 11, 2015

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

### **Texas Tech Breaks Enrollment Record for Eighth-Straight Year**

The university is seeing a continual growth in many areas on campus.

For the eighth-straight year, Texas Tech University reported another enrollment record with 35,893 students for the fall semester, a 2.1 percent growth from fall 2014.

"The quality of our students keeps improving each semester," said Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. "This year we are seeing an increased growth among our diverse student population, international student enrollment, number of graduate students and an increased average of SAT scores among our freshman class. This is a testament to the work and effort Texas Tech has put in to create a strong research institution, and it is an exciting time to be a part of this university."

This semester, Texas Tech realized record numbers in overall enrollment, as well as international and graduate student attendance. Additionally, the colleges of Arts & Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Business, Education and Engineering all experienced record figures.

Texas Tech's record Hispanic enrollment accounts for just over 23 percent of the university's student body, leading Texas Tech closer to becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI), a highly-esteemed recognition through the Department of Education that offers grants to HSI designees for many academic and support uses.

"This is the largest number of students Texas Tech has seen," Nellis said. "Our staff and faculty are working nonstop to guarantee we are bringing in the best and brightest students, but also creating and maintaining the opportunities for them to succeed."

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



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 11, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Community Invited to Celebrate Mexico's Independence**

The Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center will host  
the traditional El Grito celebration Sept. 15.

WHAT: El Grito Celebration

WHEN: 9-11 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 15)

WHERE: Texas Tech University Student Union Building north plaza

WHO: Texas Tech University's [Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center](#) will celebrate Mexico's Independence Day this year with a celebration called El Grito, or "the cry." El Grito represents one of the most iconic Mexican celebrations and will honor the traditions of both Mexican-American and Hispanic populations with a variety of presentations exploring the culture and history of Mexico.

Along with being El Grito de Independencia for Mexico, Sept. 15 also is the Independence Day of Honduras, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua. The day kicks off Hispanic Heritage Month in the United States, which runs until Oct. 15.

Event attendees are encouraged to represent Mexico by wearing green, white and red and joining in the traditional celebratory shouting at 11 p.m. The event will include food, entertainment and a presentation.

El Grito Celebration is open to the public and admission is free.

Contact [crosscultural@ttu.edu](mailto:crosscultural@ttu.edu) for more information about El Grito or how to participate in this year's event. Facebook users may join the event page [here](#).

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**CONTACT: Ricky Sherfield, section coordinator, Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-8681 or [ricky.sherfield@ttu.edu](mailto:ricky.sherfield@ttu.edu).**



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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 14, 2015

CONTACT: Emily Gardner, [emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu](mailto:emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu)

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### **Museum of Texas Tech University Hosts Fossil Day Event**

The program is part of Saturday at the Museum.

- WHAT: Fossil Day at [Museum of Texas Tech University](#)
- WHEN: 1-4 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 19)
- WHERE: Helen DeVitt Jones Sculpture Court, Museum of Texas Tech, 3301 Fourth St.
- EVENT: Fossil Day is part of the Saturday at the Museum program. Participants will focus on learning about and viewing fossils and will have the opportunity to complete arts and crafts. The day is curated by the [education division](#) of the Museum of Texas Tech, and the registration page can be found [here](#).

The Museum of Texas Tech also will host several events in November and December:

- El Dia de los Muertos from 2-4 p.m. Nov. 1
- Science Made Simple from 1-4 p.m. Nov. 21
- Holiday at the Museum from 1-4 p.m. Dec. 5

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**CONTACT: Samantha Biffle, Moody Planetarium intern, Museum of Texas Tech, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-8839 or [samantha.biffle@ttu.edu](mailto:samantha.biffle@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 14, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Museum of Texas Tech University to Host Constitution Day Events**

A number of public events will be held this week to celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution.

Constitution Day will be observed Thursday (Sept. 17), exactly 228 years after the delegates to the Constitutional Convention met for the last time in 1787 to sign the document they had created. [The Museum of Texas Tech University](#) is hosting a number of events to observe this important day in American history, and community members are invited to attend and celebrate the Constitution.

Wednesday, Sept. 16

- 1 – 2 p.m. Public lecture at Museum of Texas Tech University: Kris Bex, president of [The Remnant Trust](#), will speak about The Remnant Trust's copies of the Constitution. Books will be provided for guests to view and touch.
- 5:30 – 7 p.m. Reception at Texas Tech [Southwest Collection](#): Hadley Arkes, a professor of jurisprudence and American institutions at Amherst College, will speak on the Constitution forged from a natural law perspective.

Thursday, Sept. 17

- 1:30 – 3 p.m. Public lecture at Museum of Texas Tech University: Hadley Arkes will speak about natural rights and the Constitution.

Friday, Sept. 18

- 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Public lecture at Museum of Texas Tech University: Richard Rosen, a professor at the [Texas Tech School of Law](#), will lecture on Constitutional law.

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**CONTACT: Tobin Brannan, events and operations coordinator, Museum of Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University (806) 834-8691 or [tobin.brannan@ttu.edu](mailto:tobin.brannan@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 14, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, [kleigh.sims@ttu.edu](mailto:kleigh.sims@ttu.edu)  
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### Texas Tech Celebrates Spanish Day

The national collegiate Hispanic honor society and other Hispanic organizations will host a forum to kick off Hispanic Heritage Month.

**WHAT:** “Diverse Perspectives of Spanish: A Panel of Non-Native Speakers” forum, hosted by Sigma Delta Pi, Unidos Por Un Mismo Idioma and other Hispanic organizations

**WHEN:** 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 15)

**WHERE:** Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Center, Room 153  
Texas Tech University Library

[Sigma Delta Pi](#), [Unidos Por Un Mismo Idioma](#) and other Hispanic organizations will celebrate Spanish Day with the “Diverse Perspectives of Spanish: A Panel of Non-Native Speakers” forum to kick off the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month.

Six panelists will attend the forum to speak about non-native speaking from a teacher’s perspective, learning Spanish for survival, how to sound like a native speaker and other various topics.

The panelists include:

- Gayle Jeffers, Sigma Delta Pi president and bilingual education doctoral student
- Spencer L. Key, bilingual education doctoral student
- Irina Mozuliova, [Classical and Modern Languages and Literature](#) doctoral candidate
- James Haney, Classical and Modern Languages and Literature student
- Sebastian Shaffer, Lubbock High School student
- Stephanie Tarigan, Lubbock High School student

Comfort Pratt, bilingual education and diversity studies and secondary education associate professor and Sigma Delta Pi adviser, will moderate the forum.

To RSVP, email Gayle Jeffers at [texastechsigmadeltapi@gmail.com](mailto:texastechsigmadeltapi@gmail.com).

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**CONTACT: Comfort Pratt, adviser, Sigma Delta Pi, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5710 or [c.pratt@ttu.edu](mailto:c.pratt@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 14, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **U.S. Poet Laureate to Speak at Celebrate Diversity Awards Banquet**

The annual event is Oct. 5 at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center.

The Texas Tech University [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement](#) will host U.S. Poet Laureate Juan Felipe Herrera as the keynote speaker for its fifth annual Celebrate Diversity Awards Banquet.

The banquet is scheduled for 7 p.m. Oct. 5 at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center on the Texas Tech campus.

“The annual Celebrate Diversity Awards Banquet provides us with an opportunity to honor individuals who are advancing diversity on the campus as well as in the community,” said Cory S. Powell, director of [Mentor Tech](#).

Herrera was appointed the nation’s 21<sup>st</sup> poet laureate earlier this year, becoming the first Mexican-American to hold the position. Herrera is the author of 30 books, including collections of poetry, prose, short stories, young-adult novels and picture books for children.

His collections of poetry include “Notes of the Assemblage” (City Lights, 2015); “Senegal Taxi” (University of Arizona, 2013); “Half of the World in Light: New and Selected Poems” (2008), a recipient of the PEN/Beyond Margins Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award; “187 Reasons Mexicanos Can’t Cross The Border: Undocuments 1971-2007” (City Lights, 2007); and “Crashboomlove: A Novel in Verse” (University of New Mexico, 1999), which received the Americas Award. In 2014, he released the nonfiction work “Portraits of Hispanic American Heroes” (Dial), which showcases 20 Hispanic and Latino American men and women who have made outstanding contributions to the arts, politics, science, humanitarianism and athletics.

His books of prose for children include: “SkateFate” (Rayo, 2011); “Calling The Doves” (Children’s Book, 2001), which won the Ezra Jack Keats Award; “Upside Down Boy” (2006), which was adapted into a musical for young audiences in New York City; and “Cinnamon Girl: Letters Found Inside a Cereal Box” (HarperCollins, 2005), which tells the tragedy of 9/11 through the eyes of a young Puerto Rican girl.

From 2012-2014, Herrera served as California’s poet laureate. In that capacity, Herrera created the i-Promise Joanna Project, an anti-bullying poetry project in honor of an elementary school girl who was bullied and killed in an afterschool fight in Long Beach.

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The first half asks students to send in poems about experiences and effects of bullying. The second half of the project is to take action in preventing bullying. Herrera hopes to collect the poems and publish it as a book in the future. Other projects included Answer Cancer with a Poem, Show Me Your Papers, and The Most Incredible and Biggest Poem on Unity in the World.

“Texas Tech is committed to diversity,” said Paul A. Frazier, associate vice president in the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement. “We are excited to welcome respected author and poet, Juan Felipe Herrera to campus as we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.”

Past speakers include renowned actors Edward James Olmos and Terrence Howard, CNN and HBO correspondent Soledad O’Brien, and John Quiñones, anchor of ABC’s “What Would You Do?”

General tickets are \$75 while VIP tickets are \$100. All proceeds benefit student scholarships. Sponsorship opportunities also are available. To purchase tickets, call (806) 742-8692 or visit [www.depts.ttu.edu/diversity.banquet.php](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/diversity.banquet.php) for more information.

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

**CONTACT: Cory S. Powell, director, Mentor Tech, Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-8692 or [cory.powell@ttu.edu](mailto:cory.powell@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

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DATE: Sept. 15, 2015

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

### **Texas Tech Recognized for Highly Esteemed Diversity Excellence Award**

The university is one of 91 national higher education institutions selected for the INSIGHT Into Diversity award.

For the fourth-consecutive year, Texas Tech University has received the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from [INSIGHT Into Diversity](#) magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The university is one of 91 national higher education institutions to be selected.

“The HEED award is such a well-respected recognition for Texas Tech to receive, and we are excited to be nationally recognized for our efforts,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “Texas Tech works hard to create a friendly environment that supports diversity and inclusion and this award directly reflects our initiatives in this area. I commend our faculty and staff for their commitments to our students and ensuring to include all students no matter their backgrounds.”

The [HEED](#) award recognizes colleges and universities that exhibit outstanding efforts and success in the area of diversity and inclusion and is the only national award recognizing institutions for its diversity efforts across campuses.

Texas Tech was selected based on its exemplary diversity and inclusion initiatives, and its ability to embrace a broad definition of diversity on campus, including race and ethnicity, gender, age, veteran status, people from the LGBT communities, people with disabilities and other areas of diversity among college students.

Juan Muñoz, senior vice president for Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement and vice provost for Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs, said this award is a testament to the hard work the university puts in toward diversity and inclusion.

“Texas Tech is very proud of its nationally recognized leadership in higher education inclusive excellence, equity and access,” he said. “The HEED award is becoming the gold standard by which to acknowledge colleges and universities that are changing the paradigms in higher education advancing excellence and diversity. Texas Tech

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University is honored, through this award, to remain a part of this national discourse and its resulting practices.”

Texas Tech’s [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement](#) has 11 different departments dedicated to various areas of diversity to develop students’ professional skills, individual creativity, personal excellence and social awareness.

Departments within the Division of Institutional Diversity include:

- Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center
- Institute for the Development and Enrichment of Advanced Learners (IDEAL)
- Mentor Tech
- Military and Veterans Programs
- Office of Academic Enrichment
- Office of Community Engagement
- Pioneers in Education: Generations Achieving Scholarship and Unprecedented Success (PEGASUS)
- Texas Tech Chess Program
- University Interscholastic League
- Upward Bound
- Women’s Studies Program

The university will be featured in the November 2015 issue of INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine along with the other institutions selected for the award.

For more information about the HEED award, visit the INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine’s website at <http://www.insightintodiversity.com/>.

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

**CONTACT: K’Leigh Sims, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [kleigh.sims@ttu.edu](mailto:kleigh.sims@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 15, 2015

CONTACT: Kaley Daniel, [kaley.daniel@ttu.edu](mailto:kaley.daniel@ttu.edu)

(806) 834-1040

### **Texas Tech University Press Joins Texas Tech University Libraries**

The partnership takes advantage of the natural synergies in the operations of both entities.

This summer, the [Texas Tech University Libraries](#) welcomed the addition of the [Texas Tech University Press](#) as a new service in the Libraries system.

Provost and Senior Vice President Lawrence Schovanec says the University Press, Texas Tech's publisher since 1971 and the eminent book publishing entity of West Texas, makes an important contribution to Texas Tech's national research university goals.

"The move of the University Press to the University Libraries takes advantage of natural synergies in the operations and roles of the Press and the Libraries," Schovanec said. "Also, merging the award-winning University Press with our University Libraries, which enjoy the prestige of membership in the Association of Research Libraries, present opportunities to enhance Texas Tech's status as a national research institution."

Dean of Libraries Bella Karr Gerlich says the University Press is an excellent publisher and very important to serving the university's broadest constituency throughout the state, the nation and the world.

"The Press advances the knowledge and preservation of research and scholarship by publishing books and journals in both print and electronic format," Gerlich said. "Their dissemination of scholarly contribution makes their service an indispensable component of the modern research university."

Courtney Burkholder, managing director for the University Press, is excited to become part of the Libraries system and in the potential growth opportunities for the Press that the move brings.

"Many of our fellow members in the Association of American University Presses have discovered this natural affinity and merged with their institution's library," Burkholder said. "Both the Press and the Libraries will benefit from this partnership, as will the campus community, the region and the world."

The University Press, a member of the Association of American University Presses since 1987, publishes 25 to 30 new titles each year. It has approximately 400 titles in print ranging from nonfiction titles in natural history and the natural sciences to works in costume and textile history and all aspects of the Great Plains and the American west, as

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well as fiction including young adult and children's titles, a mystery series and an annual poetry selection. The Press and the Libraries will join efforts to bring back the popular Literary Lubbock fundraising event, which gives opportunities to meet and visit with published authors.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 16, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Inaugural Arts Practice Research Conference Bringing Diverse Artists to Lubbock**

The conference is being held in conjunction with the annual Texas Association of Schools of Arts conference.

Arts educators from throughout the world are coming to Texas Tech University for a joint conference examining the creative process in a variety of art forms.

The [College of Visual & Performing Arts](#), the Roots Music Institute and [the Vernacular Music Center](#) are presenting the inaugural [Arts Practice Research: Scholarship, Pedagogy and the Creative Process](#) from Oct. 1-3, at the same time as the annual Texas Association of Schools of Arts conference, sponsored by the [School of Art](#) and the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts (LHUCA).

Christopher Smith, the Vernacular Music Center director and professor of musicology at Texas Tech, said the Arts Research Practice Conference is a unique conference that was founded at Texas Tech this year to consider the practice of making art and the scholarly discipline of investigating and putting the making of that art into proper context.

“Arts practice research investigates the practice of making art – not just technically how to do it, but more critically and analytically why an artist makes the particular choices she or he does,” Smith said. “Historically, this has been the job of historians and critics. APR as a field suggests that artists themselves, with the right critical apparatus and perspectives, have unique and insightful things to say about their own artistic choices.”

The joint conference will bring various types of artists together to exchange ideas and experience the arts opportunities Texas Tech has to offer. Art professor Carol Flueckiger, theatre professor Bill Gelber, Smith and former Texas Tech dance professor Nicole Wesley headed the committee that planned the conference.

This is the first conference of its type in North America, and Smith said attendees and presenters are coming from Ireland, the United Kingdom and throughout the United States.

Multidisciplinary artist Nick Cave will be the keynote speaker. Cave is a faculty member at the Art Institute of Chicago and a dancer, graphic artist, sculptor and performance artist. Smith called him a “marvelously articulate and engaging speaker” who has contextualized his artistic choices to diverse audiences.

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Texas Tech students may attend Cave's keynote address from 1-2 p.m. Oct. 2 in the ballroom of the Student Union Building.

The conference will end with a performance Saturday night entitled "Performance as Research as Performance." Wesley, Gelber, Flueckiger and Smith all have collaborative pieces as part of "Performance as Research as Performance" from 8-11 p.m. Saturday at LHUCA's Firehouse Theatre, 511 Ave. K.

Research as performance is the presentation of time-based creative work to a live audience, said Heather Warren-Crow, an assistant professor of art at Texas Tech. This performance will favor movement-based methods by local, regional and out-of-state practitioners and will include a question-and-answer session after the performances. Members of the public interested in how artists can change the way society views academic research may find it interesting, she said.

"There are two ways to think about this research," Warren-Crow said. "The first is the performance is a way of disseminating the research, of spreading the word – the performance is like a publication in the flesh. The second is the performance and its development are process-based research, a kind of lab experiment that is eventually written about in some fashion."

For more information on the conference, go to the [Arts Practice Research conference website](#).

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

**CONTACT: Christopher Smith, director, Vernacular Music Center, College of Visual & Performing Arts, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-8768 or [christopher-m.smith@ttu.edu](mailto:christopher-m.smith@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Sept. 16, 2015

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### **Texas Tech President Speaks to Accelerate Energy Productivity 2030 Summit**

Nellis focused on the university's expanding role in energy research.

Texas Tech University President M. Duane Nellis spoke about Texas Tech's expanding national energy research role during the Accelerate Energy Productivity 2030 Summit today (Sept. 16) in Washington, D.C.

Nellis focused on Texas Tech's work in areas such as pulsed power, wind energy, microgrids and cybersecurity.

"It was an honor to be included in this national dialogue as we work to create greater visibility for Texas Tech and build greater partnerships with industry and government entities," Nellis said.

The summit, which included a keynote address by U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, brought together representatives from government, major industry and selected universities. It was the culmination of a series of regional dialogues.

A major agenda item for the summit was the unveiling of a roadmap that details how the U.S. could double its energy production by 2030, a goal of President Barack Obama.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 17, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
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### **Burkhart Center for Autism Hosting Community Connections Event**

Individuals with disabilities and their families will be able to learn about opportunities with their service providers.

- WHAT: Community Connections event sponsored by [The Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research](#) at Texas Tech University
- WHEN: 10 a.m. Saturday (Sept. 19)
- WHERE: The Burkhart Center for Autism Education and Research, 2902 18<sup>th</sup> St., Lubbock
- EVENT: Community Connections allows individuals with disabilities and their families to connect with service providers in West Texas. Providers from a wide array of disciplines will be on hand to meet with families and answer questions about their services while sharing their experiences with other individuals with disabilities.

The event is open to the public and there is no charge. It is sponsored by the Burkhart Center and Texas Tech's [Skyviews Restaurant](#).

Childcare is available for children registered before Saturday. To register for childcare, email Heather Garcia at [heather.a.garcia@ttu.edu](mailto:heather.a.garcia@ttu.edu).

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

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 17, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
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### Filmmaker to Present “Language, Lies and Energy” at Energy Law Lecture Series

Mark Mathis produced the documentary “spOILed” to separate truth from rhetoric and outright lies about the country’s oil dependency.

- WHAT: Texas Tech University [School of Law](#) Energy Law Lecture Series featuring Mark Mathis
- WHEN: Noon Monday (Sept. 21)
- WHERE: Lanier Auditorium, Texas Tech School of Law, 1802 Hartford Ave.
- EVENT: The Energy Law Lecture Series, hosted by the Texas Tech School of Law, presents Mark Mathis as its first lecturer of the season. Mathis is a media analyst, president of Mathis Media LLC and producer of the documentary “spOILed.”

The documentary investigates the United States’ true dependence on oil and how lives would change should that flow be disrupted, slowed or shut off completely. It attempts to separate the truth from misinformation, distortions and lies that have been told about oil by politicians, the media and environmentalists.

A live webcast of the lecture can be seen [here](#).

Those attending the event are eligible for one hour of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit. Contact Corey Clem at [corey.clem@ttu.edu](mailto:corey.clem@ttu.edu) for details.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 17, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)  
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### **Presidential Lecture & Performance Series Presents 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season**

Broadcaster Cokie Roberts will discuss her perspectives as a Capitol insider in the first event.

Longtime political commentator Cokie Roberts will be the first speaker for the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary season of the Presidential Lecture & Performance series at Texas Tech University.

Roberts has spent 40 years in broadcasting, providing analysis for network news programming and NPR as well as co-anchoring the weekly ABC show "This Week." She has won three Emmys, has been inducted into the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame, and American Women in Radio and Television named her one of the 50 greatest women in the history of broadcasting.

Roberts will share an insider's view of Washington, D.C., at 7 p.m. Oct. 15 in the Allen Theatre of the Student Union Building.

Other shows planned for the season include:

- The 10-time Grammy Award-winning vocal jazz quartet The Manhattan Transfer will perform Nov. 13. Cheryl Bentyne, Alan Paul, Janis Siegel and Trist Curless were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 1998 and have topped the charts for decades with their melodic, jazz-infused vocals.
- The spring season will begin Feb. 12 with virtuoso violinists Wil B and Kev Marcus, who make up Black Violin. The duo uses violins to create a fusion of classical, jazz, hip-hop, blues and R&B music and were labeled one of the hottest bands at SXSW in 2013.
- Independent Music Award-winning singer Martha Redbone will perform March 4. She is known for blending music from her Native-American and African-American background with R&B grooves, blues and dashes of Appalachian folk music.
- April 1 will feature the Complexions Contemporary Ballet, the original dance company that intersects the lives of dancers from various artistic and cultural backgrounds. The ballet company mixes methods, styles and cultures to give audiences a blend of cutting-edge choreography and original music within the roots of classical dance.

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All events begin at 7 p.m. in the Allen Theatre. Tickets are \$18 per event or \$75 for the season. Members of the public can buy tickets by calling Select-A-Seat at (806) 770-2000 or going to the [website](#). Texas Tech students can receive one free ticket per event with a valid Texas Tech ID at the information desk in the SUB.

For more information visit the series' [website](#) or [Facebook page](#).

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**CONTACT: Jo Moore, director, Presidential Lecture & Performance Series, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5261 or [jo.moore@ttu.edu](mailto:jo.moore@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 18, 2015

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

### **Texas Tech Included in White House Initiative's Bright Spots in Hispanic Education**

Two university programs are recognized in a national online catalog created by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics.

In an effort to feature programs that invest in key education priorities for Hispanics, Texas Tech University's [Upward Bound](#) and [PEGASUS](#) programs recently were selected as Bright Spots in Hispanic Education by the [White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics](#) for its inaugural online catalog, featuring 230 programs nationally.

The announcement was made by the Initiative Tuesday (Sept. 15) at the launch of Hispanic Heritage Month and in honor of the Initiative's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Washington, D.C.

"What an honor this is for both Texas Tech and our Institutional Diversity programs," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "This, in addition to other awards Texas Tech has received for its diversity efforts, is a testament to the hard work our faculty and staff have put in to ensure Hispanic students can receive the resources they need, whether it be resources for first-generation students, preparation for secondary education, financial aid or assistance during their college careers.

"Congratulations to the Institutional Diversity staff for being recognized by the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics."

Upward Bound and PEGASUS (Pioneers in Education Generations Achieving Scholarship and Unprecedented Success), both within the [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Community Engagement](#), are first-generation student programs that provide preparation, assistance and mentorship to students from families with no higher educational background. The two programs were the only ones selected from the Lubbock or South Plains area.

Juan Muñoz, senior vice president for Institutional Diversity and vice provost for [Undergraduate Education and Student Affairs](#), said he is very proud of the unprecedented contributions the Division of Institutional Diversity has made in helping the university

reach its inclusive excellence and come closer to the Hispanic Serving Institution recognition the university has been working toward.

“While Texas Tech has long recognized it is indeed a bright spot in higher education,” he said, “it is further gratifying the White House has acknowledged our efforts to support students, specifically Hispanics, and as we continue to successfully educate the current and emerging demographics of the state.”

The Initiative was established in 1990 to address the educational disparities faced by the Hispanic community. With the Bright Spots, the Initiative seeks to leverage the programs to encourage collaboration between stakeholders focused on similar issues in sharing data-driven approaches, promising practices, peer advice and effective partnerships, ultimately resulting in increased support for the educational attainment of the Hispanic community throughout each person’s life.

To see a full list of all the Bright Spots, visit the Initiative’s [website](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 18, 2015

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(806) 834-4651

### **Texas Tech University Researchers Awarded VentureWell Research Grant**

The grant will support the work being done in  
high-technology innovations and commercialization.

A team of researchers at Texas Tech University was awarded a faculty research grant designed to further cooperation between business, engineering and education in autism research.

The project, entitled “Integrative E-learning course: Bringing together business, engineering, and Autism Spectrum Disorder Students,” is led by Kellilynn M. Frias, assistant professor in the [Area of Marketing](#) at the [Rawls College of Business](#); Tim Dallas, professor of electrical and computer engineering at the [Whitacre College of Engineering](#); and DeAnn Lechtenberger, director of technical assistance and community outreach for the [Burkhart Center for Autism Education & Research](#) in the [College of Education](#).

The grant was awarded by VentureWell, a non-profit network that helps young scientists launch ventures designed to improve life. The grant supports Frias’ work in high-technology innovations and commercialization, helping establish a new project-based course for engineering and business students in partnership with the Burkhart Center.

“The project will provide an opportunity for students across campus to work together to generate new ideas and products for the market,” Frias said. “I am excited to work with this diverse group of students and look forward to seeing their innovations come to life throughout the coming semesters. This grant provides us with a tremendous opportunity to showcase our talents at Texas Tech.”

The design of this learning experience will entail the creation of E-Teams – each composed of two business students, two engineering students and one Burkhart student – that will focus on technology innovations for and by people with Autism Spectrum Disorders. The student teams are designed to allow for the creative development of new technologies with the intention of pursuing commercialization avenues.

Each team will be faculty-mentored in the area of design and business strategy while the Burkhart Center will provide potential customer (e.g. children and families) data for market research during the technology development and market feedback portions of the course.

Each E-team also will have the opportunity to meet with administrators from the Small Business Development Center of West Texas and the university's [Office of Research Commercialization](#) for additional project innovation mentoring.

The Small Business Development Center of West Texas will provide instruction on business plans and avenues for funding while providing guest speakers from the local investor network. The Office of Research Commercialization will offer opportunities for students to participate in pitch competitions, technology accelerator programs and potential funding opportunities should the technologies progress beyond the class.

VentureWell includes a membership of nearly 200 colleges and universities from across the U.S., engaging thousands of undergraduate and graduate student entrepreneurs each year and is a leader in funding, training, coaching and early investment that brings student innovations to the world.

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

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### **International Film Series Hosts Second Showing for Filmmaker Retrospective**

“Solaris” can be seen at 7 p.m. Sept. 22.

- WHAT: The International Film Series at Texas Tech University presents “Solaris.”
- WHEN: 7 p.m., Tuesday (Sept. 22)
- WHERE: Alamo Drafthouse Cinema, 120 W. Loop 289
- EVENT: “Solaris” is the second film in the Fall 2015 Filmmaker Retrospective that focuses on Soviet filmmaker Andrei Tarkovsky. The film premiered in 1972 in the Soviet Union and follows cosmonaut and psychologist Kris Kelvin, who is dispatched to investigate mysterious transmissions from the three remaining residents of the Solaris space station.

Robert Bird, an associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Department of Cinema Media Studies at the University of Chicago, will attend the showing.

The International Film Series is partnered with [the Department of Classical & Modern Languages & Literatures](#) and Anthony Qualin, coordinator of the Russian Language and Area Studies program for the Filmmakers Retrospective, and is sponsored by the [Department of Journalism & Electronic Media](#) in the [College of Media & Communication](#) and [the Thomas Jay Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication](#).

For more information of the film or to buy tickets, click [here](#).

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

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### **National Ranching Heritage Center to Host ‘Hank the Cowdog’ Author**

John R. Erickson will hold two presentations to promote reading and bring his characters to life.

**WHAT:** “Hank the Cowdog” author John R. Erickson will bring to life the characters from his award-winning series in two presentations for both the public and students of Lubbock Christian School. Erickson will promote the joy of reading with his performances, which include reading selections from his books and performing songs from the series. Erickson’s books and audio will be available at the event.

The National Ranching Heritage Center will have seating for approximately 350 visitors and standing room only for an overflow crowd.

**WHEN:** 1 p.m. for Lubbock Christian School students and 5:30 p.m. for the public, Tuesday (Sept. 22)

**WHERE:** National Ranching Heritage Center patio, 3121 Fourth St.

**WHO:** John R. Erickson is an award-winning author from Perryton, Texas, who is best known for writing one of the nation’s most popular children’s series, “Hank the Cowdog,” a collection of 66 books that have sold more than 8 million copies worldwide.

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**CONTACT:** Sue Jones, coordinator of outreach and engagement, National Ranching Heritage Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-2646 or [sue.jones@ttu.edu](mailto:sue.jones@ttu.edu).



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

CONTACT: Emily Gardner, [emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu](mailto:emily.e.gardner@ttu.edu)  
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### Office of International Affairs Hosts ‘My Hometown’ Photo Exhibit Reception

The exhibit is available to view through Oct. 8.

- WHAT: The [Office of International Affairs](#) at Texas Tech University hosts a reception for the “My Hometown” photo exhibit.
- WHEN: 4-6 p.m., Tuesday (Sept. 22)
- WHERE: International Cultural Center Galleries, 601 Indiana Ave.
- EVENT: The “My Hometown” photo exhibit was created from submissions from Texas Tech international students. They were asked to submit their five best photos of their hometowns or countries. The subject matter was determined by students, who submitted pictures of landscapes, people, animals and architecture.

The reception celebrates the creativity and pride of the diverse group of photographers. The photographs will be on display from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday through Oct. 8. For a complete list of exhibit participants, visit the “My Hometown” [website](#).

The exhibit is funded in part by a grant from the CH Foundation.

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DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

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### **Texas Tech Band Program Celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

University symphonies and the Goin' Band will host performances to honor milestone.

**WHAT:** The Texas Tech University Bands are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a weekend of special performances. The Symphonic Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band will perform a 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert featuring alumni as guest conductors and soloists. The Goin' Band from Raiderland will perform a halftime show during the Texas Tech vs. TCU football game representing the eras under former directors Dean Killion, Keith Bearden and Christopher Anderson and current director Duane Hill.

**WHEN:** 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert – 7:30 p.m. Friday (Sept. 25)  
Goin' Band Performance – Saturday (Sept. 26) during halftime of the Texas Tech vs. TCU football game

**WHERE:** 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert – Hemmle Recital Hall  
Goin' Band Performance – Jones AT&T Stadium

**WHO:** Guest conductors for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary concert are Christopher Anderson, fine arts director of Lubbock Independent School District and associate director of bands at Texas Tech from 2003 to 2009, and Tamey Anglley, assistant director of bands at Stephen F. Austin State University and 2009 alumna of the Texas Tech School of Music. The guest soloist is Andy Smith from the Chicago Lyric Opera and 2010 alumnus of the Texas Tech School of Music.

The Goin' Band from Raiderland (originally The Matador Band) performed at the first Texas Tech football game in October 1925 and is the oldest student organization on campus. It was the first marching band to travel to an away football game. Today, the band boasts more than 400 members each season.

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

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

### **Texas Tech Hosting Film Screening, Q&A with Founders of End Rape on Campus**

The event is hosted by the RISE office, the Honors College  
and the Women's Studies Program.

**WHAT:** "Yes Means Yes: A Campus Climate Q&A with Annie and Andrea  
(founders of End Rape on Campus)" and film screening of "The Hunting  
Ground"

**WHEN:** Tuesday (Sept. 22)  
6 p.m. – film screening of "The Hunting Ground"  
8 p.m. – Q&A session with founders of End Rape on Campus

**WHERE:** Allen Theatre, Student Union Building, Texas Tech University

The [Risk Intervention and Safety Education](#) (RISE) office, [Honors College](#) and [Women's Studies Program](#) will welcome Annie Clark and Andrea Pino, former student activists and founders of the nonprofit organization [End Rape on Campus](#), for a Q&A session on how to address the complicated problem of sexual assault on college campuses.

Prior to the 8 p.m. Q&A session, a showing of "The Hunting Ground" will begin at 6 p.m. in the Allen Theatre. The film is a documentary about rape on college campuses, and Clark and Pino are featured.

The End Rape on Campus organization helps guide student survivors through the sexual assault reporting process and provides information about legal resources with the goals of justice, empowerment, education and reform.

The event is free with a valid Texas Tech ID.

For more information, visit the RISE [website](#).

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

**CONTACT: Keira Williams, assistant professor, Honors College, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-6003 or [keira.williams@ttu.edu](mailto:keira.williams@ttu.edu).**

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 21, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

**Texas Tech School of Law's Huffman Distinguished Lecture Series Welcomes  
Former General Counsel to the U.S. Defense Department**  
Stephen Preston also served as general counsel to the Central Intelligence Agency.

**WHAT:** Stephen Preston will present "Reflections of a Wartime General Counsel" as the 2015 speaker in the Texas Tech Law Review's Huffman Distinguished Lecture Series.

**WHEN:** Noon Friday (Sept. 25)

**WHERE:** Lanier Auditorium, [Texas Tech School of Law](#), 1802 Hartford Ave.

**WHO:** Preston is the former principal deputy general counsel to the Department of Defense and former general counsel to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He has also served as a deputy assistant attorney general for the Department of Justice and general counsel to the United States Navy. He stepped down from his post in the Defense Department in June.

Before his military service, Preston spent several years in private practice after earning a degree from Harvard Law.

His lecture will expound on several significant law-related projects during his time with the Department of Defense, discuss broad observations about his time with the Defense Department and CIA and lessons he has learned from his experiences.

Those attending the event will receive one hour of Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 22, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Aliza Wong Wins Excellence in Advising Award from Mortar Board**

Texas Tech's Mortar Board chapter adviser was recognized for her outstanding leadership, mentorship and spirit of service.

Aliza Wong, adviser of the Forum chapter of [Mortar Board](#) at Texas Tech University, was recently awarded the Excellence in Advising Award from Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society.

The award recognized only four advisers nationwide who have provided exceptional support to help their Mortar Board chapter achieve its goals. Its recipients have served as role models to their chapters by demonstrating constant leadership, mentorship and spirit of service.

Wong was selected out of more than 300 advisers of Mortar Board chapters across the nation, and said though she was honored and humbled to be selected by the organization, she was even more touched her students nominated her for the award.

"It was wonderful to have been selected by the national organization," Wong said, "but to be quite honest, the fact that my students took the time, energy and focus to nominate me, to write on my behalf, is the part that most touched me."

Wong is currently associate dean of the [Honors College](#) as well as an associate professor of history and director of European studies. She took over the senior adviser role of Texas Tech's chapter in 2012 and quickly established herself as a resource, mentor and friend to all its members.

Wong said working with the members of the Forum chapter at Texas Tech has been one of the most rewarding experiences of her career.

"Working with Mortar Board for the past three years has been an incredible experience and I have been so incredibly humbled by the generosity, leadership, intelligence and sincerity of the top 50 seniors at Texas Tech," Wong said. "I've loved watching these students discover their potential, understand the ways in which their education has made them even more able to change the world, and feel the joy of seeing beyond themselves by performing service."

Wong's chapter members say she is someone who continually works to help members establish realistic goals and objectives, as well as encourages them to be responsible for

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their own progress and success. Her talents as an honored and dedicated teacher have helped her excel in assisting the chapter with challenges and making sure members are receiving the education and opportunities that will make them outstanding graduates of Texas Tech.

“I have been incredibly fortunate to have worked with some amazing students and with some incredible Mortar Board presidents,” Wong said. “I’m not sure I deserve the award, but I can tell you I believe my students deserve the award.”

Mortar Board is the premier national honor society recognizing college seniors for outstanding achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. The Texas Tech Forum Chapter of Mortar Board was established in 1957 and limits membership to 50 of the top seniors on campus. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, visit the Texas Tech Forum Chapter’s [website](#).

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

**CONTACT: Aliza Wong, associate dean, Honors College, Texas Tech University,** (806) 834-3051 or [aliza.wong@ttu.edu](mailto:aliza.wong@ttu.edu).



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# News release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 22, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Cross-Disciplinary Exhibit to Make World Debut at Texas Tech School of Art**

Artist Philip Monaghan and poet David Trinidad both will be in Lubbock to discuss the inner workings of their collaborative project.

Pop culture and poetry meet visual art in an exhibit making its world debut at the Texas Tech University [School of Art](#) Oct. 2.

Artist and Texas Tech alumnus Philip Monaghan is returning to Lubbock to present his latest paintings in an exhibit titled “‘Why Are You Doing This To Me?’ Philip Monaghan and David Trinidad” at the Landmark Gallery. The exhibit is a visual statement of Trinidad’s poem “The Late Show,” which includes scenes from a number of women’s films from the 1950s and 1960s. The poem is a tribute to the time Trinidad spent watching these movies with his mother. Monaghan’s paintings invoke the campiness, horror and emotion of each scene, as well as bringing to life his experiences watching the same movies.

Director of Landmark Arts Joe Arredondo said the exhibit was an excellent opportunity for the university to examine cross-disciplinary art and invite the audience into a discussion about the art, including the movies themselves along with the paintings and poetry.

Monaghan, whose works will be displayed at his alma mater for the first time since his graduation 40 years ago, said he is excited to share these works in this venue and in this time period, which is far removed from when the movies were made. Many of the women depicted represented feminism before feminism was a movement, and their contribution is lost, he said.

“The discipline that was instilled in me at Texas Tech is a very big part of my life, and that’s a big reason why I wanted to come back and do something here,” he said.

Monaghan will be in residence from Sept. 27 to Oct. 3 and is available for interviews during that time. Additionally, the opening week of the exhibit at Texas Tech includes a number of special events that are open to the public.

- RECEPTION: Monaghan and Trinidad will attend the exhibit's opening reception, which takes place from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 3 in the Art building foyer.
- READING: Trinidad will do a poetry reading of his newer work and possibly poems from "The Late Show" at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 1 in Room 001 of the English building, hosted by the [Department of English's](#) creative writing program.
- DISCUSSION: Kristi Humphries, assistant professor in critical studies and artistic practice, will moderate a panel discussion with Monaghan and Trinidad from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Oct. 2 in the Student Union Building ballroom. The discussion is part of the [Arts Research Practice Conference](#).

"Why Are You Doing This To Me?" Philip Monaghan and David Trinidad" opens Oct. 2 and runs through Dec. 13 in the School of Art's Landmark Gallery. It will include a continuously running video recording of Trinidad reading "The Late Show." The exhibit is slated to open in New York City in 2016 and other cities the following year.

#### **Who are the artists?**

[Philip Monaghan](#) graduated from Texas Tech in 1976 with a degree in fine arts. From there he went to graduate school in New York City and worked in graphic design, art direction and marketing, creating imagery for iconic brands of the day. He returned to painting about 10 years ago. Read more about his life here.

[David Trinidad](#) has written 13 books of poetry and edited or collaborated on a number of others. He won a Lambda Literary Award and numerous other awards. He is a professor of creative writing and poetry at Columbia College Chicago.

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**CONTACT: Joe Arredondo, director of landmark arts, School of Art, College of Visual & Performing Arts, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1947 or [joe.arredondo@ttu.edu](mailto:joe.arredondo@ttu.edu).**

# Expert Pitch

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 22, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### Expert: Blockchain Technology for Banks Faces Some Challenges

#### Pitch

Last week, nine of the world's leading banks announced they were joining forces with New York-based financial technology firm R3 to create a framework using blockchain technology in the markets. Goldman Sachs, Barclays, JP Morgan, BBVA and the Royal Bank of Scotland are just a few of the banks collaborating on blockchain technology, which underpins Bitcoin, a controversial, web-based technology that allows for transactions between people or companies without needing an intermediary.

Catherine Christopher is an assistant professor in the Texas Tech University [School of Law](#) and is available to speak on the subject. Her research focuses primarily on emerging technologies in the banking industry, including bitcoin and mobile banking. She has banking law at Texas Tech and international banking law as a visiting professor at Vytautas Magnus University in Lithuania.

#### Expert

Catherine Christopher, assistant professor, Texas Tech University School of Law, (806) 834-7331 or [catherine.christopher@ttu.edu](mailto:catherine.christopher@ttu.edu)

#### Talking Points

- The blockchain acts as huge, decentralized ledger of every bitcoin transaction made verified and shared by a global network of computers, making it almost tamper-proof. It also could allow for other information to be shared without being verified by a centralized third party.
- In order for the technology to work in banking, however, Christopher said some fundamental divides between the philosophies of Bitcoin and the banking industry must be reconciled: Anonymity versus know-your-customer; decentralization versus centralized clearinghouses; crowdsourcing versus managerial oversight.

#### Quotes

- "This announcement doesn't mean that banks are going to start accepting bitcoin. Rather, the banks are exploring whether the technology that powers Bitcoin can be applicable to commercial banking transactions."
- "Instead of having a centralized bookkeeper, blockchain transactions are verified and recorded by computer consensus. Once a transaction is confirmed, it is broadcast to the network and is effectively set in stone."
- "A ledger can keep track of anything. Bitcoin's blockchain was originally designed to track ownership and transactions of units of the bitcoin currency, but the banks that are

part of this consortium are experimenting with whether a blockchain can keep track of other things, such as national currencies, commercial paper, contractual obligations, you name it.”

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 23, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **College of Arts & Sciences to Unveil New Dean's Circle Recognition Walls** Walls to honor Dean's Advisory Council members.

**WHAT:** The Texas Tech University [College of Arts & Sciences](#) will unveil two walls featuring photographs of the newly established Dean's Advisory Council. The two 38-feet high by 14-feet wide walls are visible from the basement through the second floor.

**WHEN:** 1:30 p.m. Friday (Sept. 25)

**WHERE:** Holden Hall, on the northeast corner of Memorial Circle. The ceremony will take place on the first floor in front of Room 104.

**WHO:** Texas Tech University System Chancellor Robert Duncan, President M. Duane Nellis, Provost Lawrence Schovanec, other administrators, deans, department chairs, faculty and members of the Dean's Advisory Council will be in attendance.

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**CONTACT:** Toni Salama, senior editor, Office of the Dean, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-2761 or [toni.salama@ttu.edu](mailto:toni.salama@ttu.edu).





TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 23, 2015

CONTACT: Aleesa Ross, [aleesa.ross@ttu.edu](mailto:aleesa.ross@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-0348

### **College of Media & Communication Students Named Finalists for National Awards**

This is the first year for the student-run media organizations to enter these contests.

Students in the Texas Tech University [College of Media & Communication](#) producing content with [MCTV](#), [KTXF-FM](#) and [The Hub@TTU](#) have been named finalists in the list of 2015 production awards from the College Broadcaster's Inc. (CBI) and the South Central Broadcasting Society.

Finalists in the 2015 CBI national production awards include MCTV for best video special broadcast, The Hub@TTU for best student media website and KTXF-FM for best station imaging.

MCTV, a weekly newscast showcasing anchoring, reporting and production skills of Media & Communication students, received a nomination for its February story "2015 LIVE SGA Executive Candidate Forum" at Texas Tech.

Josh Robinson, media production manager for the college, is in charge of editing, directing and producing MCTV's weekly newscasts. He said this is the first year any student production units from the college have submitted entries to CBI's national competition.

"Both The Hub and MCTV have been finalists in other contests in the last few years," Robinson said. "Most of those contests have been regional-based. To have any content from either group listed as finalists in a national competition is a huge deal for MCTV, The Hub and the College of Media & Communication."

The MCTV Newscast also is a finalist in the news program category of the South Central Broadcasting Society's competition. Three students were named as finalists in the competition: Carly Smith and Laura Duclos for best television talent and Sarah Self-Walbrick for audio podcast.

Smith, who graduated in the spring with a bachelor's degree in electronic media and communications, was nominated for on camera weather talent. Duclos, a junior journalism major, was nominated for on camera talent.

"I'm involved with MCTV because I know I'm learning things and gaining experience that I wouldn't be able to get in a classroom," Duclos said. "I'm definitely a doer and helping out with MCTV is all about being hands-on and also learning by a lot of trial and error."

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Self-Walbrick, a graduate student in mass communications and The Hub's graduate managing director, interned with KTTZ in the spring. One of the packages she did for the station, titled "John Denver at Texas Tech," led to her award nomination.

"I am very proud of how it turned out, and it is an honor to see other people found it as interesting as I did," Self-Walbrick said. "The story ended up being shared by a Texas history page on Facebook called 'Traces of Texas,' which helped get thousands of views. It is one of the most viewed stories of my career and one of my favorites as well."

The Hub@TTU, a multimedia student-run publication, provides students with a hub of information, entertainment and news. As a finalist for best student media website, Robinson said the Hub's nomination was especially significant.

"The Hub is used to showcase all aspects of what we are producing here in the college," Robinson said. "Everything from video production to photography, from journalistic writing to social media analysis, that contest really gives us a chance to show off what our students can do."

Self-Walbrick added, "The best thing about being an online media outlet is the freedom to tell a story how we want."

"The Hub@TTU is striving to have more multimedia elements, and being a finalist in the CBI National Student Publication Awards encourages us to do even more."

Robinson said the three nominations are an impressive accomplishment considering the competition and that this is the first time the college has submitted entries.

"Sometimes students have a tendency of not seeing how good of a job they are doing, and they doubt the quality of their work," Robinson said. "But when they do submit entries and become finalists or win awards, it's always rewarding to see their faces light up knowing they actually are better than they think."

Derrick Ginter, general manager of KTXT-FM, said nominations for the student-run radio station as well as MCTV and The Hub are proof the educational opportunities available at both Texas Tech and the College of Media & Communication are both valuable and exemplary.

"For Texas Tech to have finalists in three categories in our first year of competition is excellent. It speaks very highly of our students and their work," Ginter said. "The competition is quite stiff, so having students contending in these categories is an awesome achievement."

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**CONTACT: Aleesa Ross, director, Center for Student Success, Outreach and Engagement, College of Media & Communication, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0348 or [aleesa.ross@ttu.edu](mailto:aleesa.ross@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 23, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Lubbock Lake Landmark Hosts Third Annual Hike 4 Health**

The event focuses on the importance of outdoor activity and nature appreciation.

**WHAT:** The [Lubbock Lake Landmark](#) and [Nature Rocks Caprock](#) are hosting the third annual Hike 4 Health this week to encourage outdoor activity and the appreciation of nature. This community-wide event emphasizes health education and the importance of preserving our natural resources by providing learners of all ages with a multitude of outdoor activities and indoor conversations designed to teach the community about local stewardship and conservation. Among the organizations participating are the [Science Spectrum](#), the Texas Tech University [Association of Natural Resource Scientists](#) and the [Llano Estacado Audubon Society](#). The event is come-and-go, open to the public and admission is free.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday (Sept. 26)

**WHERE:** Lubbock Lake Landmark, 2401 Landmark Dr.

**WHO:** The Lubbock Lake Landmark is an archaeological preserve containing evidence of peoples on the Southern High Plains for almost 12,000 years. The Landmark is a unit of the [Museum of Texas Tech University](#) and a National Historic Landmark. The Lubbock Lake Landmark provides leadership through preservation, research and education, and reveals and preserves the cultural and natural heritages of both Texas and the nation.

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**CONTACT:** Landmark Education, Lubbock Lake Landmark, Museum of Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1116 or [landmark.education@ttu.edu](mailto:landmark.education@ttu.edu)



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Sept. 23, 2015

CONTACT: Aleesa Ross, [aleesa.ross@ttu.edu](mailto:aleesa.ross@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-0348

### **Media & Communication Graduate to be Featured on Reality Television Program** Christina Gutierrez graduated from Texas Tech University in May.

Christina Gutierrez, a graduate of the [College of Media & Communication](#) at Texas Tech University, will be featured on the new ABC Family series “Job or No Job,” a reality television show that follows her going through the process of seeking a job after college.

The show follows one young adult per episode as he or she pursues a career through a series of interviews, meeting with “Job Genius” Jane Buckingham in between to discuss tips and tricks related to the interview process, adjusting to a new city and entering the job market.

The episode featuring Gutierrez will air at 1 p.m. Oct. 1 on ABC Family.

Gutierrez graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in advertising and said appearing on a television show after college was the furthest thing from her mind. However, she said it was an opportunity that came up at just the right time.

Growing up in El Paso, Gutierrez was involved with the church she attended, Abundant Living Faith Center. While in college, she became involved with a local church, Experience Life, and said she always pictured herself moving back to El Paso and pursuing a career that revolved around her home church.

Things did not work out as planned, and on the same day Gutierrez learned her church wouldn’t be hiring when she graduated, she also found out about the casting call for “Job or No Job.”

“I sent them less than a paragraph and told them who I was, where I went to school and what I wanted to do,” Gutierrez said.

After going through a series of interviews and evaluations, Gutierrez was selected as a contestant two weeks before she graduated.

While at Texas Tech, Gutierrez was a member of Bullet Advertising, the college’s advertising student competition team, and she participated in the team’s Mary Kay campaign in 2013-2014. Shannon Bichard, chairwoman of the [Department of Advertising](#), said Gutierrez was both a great student and a great asset to the team.

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“Christy was an amazing student, and she was always willing to challenge herself to achieve greatness,” Bichard said. “I appreciated her work ethic and creative ability – she was truly an asset to the team.”

The episode of “Job or No Job” featuring Gutierrez began filming in July, and she flew to New York for five days to interview with three major advertising agencies: Deutsch Inc., Hirshorn Zuckerman Design Group, and Catch 24 Advertising and Design, Inc.

“One thing I learned from this whole experience is it’s so important to just be yourself,” Gutierrez said. “You only need one person to say yes to you, and it’s more important to find somewhere where you’re going to be happy and you’re going to thrive, than it is to just have a job and to be content with having the title.”

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**CONTACT: Aleesa Ross, director, Center for Student Success, Outreach and Engagement, College of Media & Communication, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0348 or [aleesa.ross@ttu.edu](mailto:aleesa.ross@ttu.edu).**



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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 24, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **College of Architecture to Receive Signification Donation**

The announcement is scheduled for Friday morning.

- WHAT: Texas Tech University officials will announce a significant gift to the [College of Architecture](#).
- WHEN: 10:30 a.m. Friday (Sept. 25)
- WHERE: First floor gallery, College of Architecture, 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Flint Avenue
- WHO: President M. Duane Nellis; Andrew Vernoooy, dean of the College of Architecture; and the donor will make remarks.

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**CONTACT: Glenys Young, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 24, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Free Market Institute Hosts Ron Paul for Public Lecture**

The former Congressman will speak about the importance of freedom.

Texas Tech University [Free Market Institute](#) will host a public lecture by former U.S. Rep. and presidential candidate Ron Paul from 5:30-7 p.m. Oct. 8 in the Student Union Building's Allen Theatre.

The lecture, titled "Markets vs. Government: The Importance of Freedom," is open to the public and admission is free. It is part of the Free Market Institute's public speaker series.

"We're thrilled to host a public lecture on campus by Ron Paul," said Benjamin Powell, director of the Free Market Institute. "Dr. Paul has done more than anyone else in the last decade to introduce more people, particularly students and young adults, to ideas about free markets and liberty."

Paul enjoys a national reputation as the premier advocate for liberty and is the leading spokesman for limited constitutional government, low taxes, free markets and a return to sound monetary policies based on commodity-backed currency.

Since his retirement from Congress in 2013, Paul has continued to work for limited constitutional government through organizations he founded, including the Foundation for Rational Economics and Education, Campaign for Liberty, and Liberty PAC.

He is the author of several best-selling books. His most recent work, "The School Revolution: A New Answer for Our Broken Education System," offers a provocative look at how Americans need to change their thinking about the education system in order to fix its problems.

Doors will open at 5 p.m. and books will be available for purchase. Free parking will be available in the R11 lot, south of the Music Building, on a first-come, first-served basis. Park and Pay stations will be available in parking lot R03, located west of R11.

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**CONTACT: Benjamin Powell, director, Free Market Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7138 or [free.market@ttu.edu](mailto:free.market@ttu.edu).**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 24, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, [george.watson@ttu.edu](mailto:george.watson@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech School of Law Hosting Homicide Interrogation Expert**

Jim Trainum is a veteran investigator who is well-versed in interrogation techniques and consults with departments across the country on their practices.

- WHAT:** A lecture titled “Confession Contamination and Statement Reliability Evaluation” by Jim Trainum, a veteran homicide detective who is an expert on investigative and interrogation techniques and how to avoid obtaining wrongful confessions.
- WHEN:** Noon Monday (Sept. 28)
- WHERE:** Lanier Auditorium, [Texas Tech School of Law](#), 1802 Hartford Ave.
- WHO:** Jim Trainum spent 19 of his 27 years with the Washington, D.C., police department as a homicide detective, where he also worked on several local and federal task forces and joint projects. He is a frequent presenter at universities, police academies, prosecutor’s offices, legislative bodies and conferences on topics such as cold case investigative techniques, criminal profiling, avoiding investigative mistakes, interrogation videotaping, police reform and false confessions.

He has twice authored pieces regarding obtaining false confessions or contaminating the interrogation process, stemming mostly from his own circumstances in obtaining a false confession during a 1994 investigation, which he later worked tirelessly to have overturned.

Trainum works with Texas State University and the Quattrone Center for the Fair Administration of Justice, which researches reviews of investigative failures. He is a member of the International Homicide Investigators Association and the Homicide Research Group. He has received the Ethics in Law Enforcement Award, an honorary professional associate professorship from Marymount University, and the 2009 Champion of Justice Award from The Innocence Project.

The lecture is open to the public and admission is free.

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**CONTACT: Kari Abitbol, director of communications, Texas Tech School of Law,**  
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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 25, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

*Photos available upon request.*

### **College of Architecture Receives \$1.5 Million Endowed Chair in Urban Design**

The gift from architect Mark E. Humphreys  
will support urban planning and community design.

Texas Tech University officials announced today (Sept. 25) a \$1.5 million gift to the [College of Architecture](#) from Mark E. Humphreys. The gift will establish the Mark E. Humphreys AIA Chair in Urban Design to permanently support a faculty position and that individual's research.

"The generosity of university friends like Mr. Humphreys enables Texas Tech University to continue elevating its standard of teaching and research," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "Investments in our colleges and our research are investments in the future of our students. The impact of this gift will greatly benefit those who walk through the doors of our architecture program."

A member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Humphreys is founder and CEO of Humphreys & Partners Architects. Headquartered in Dallas, the international firm specializes in multifamily architectural services and created The Big House design concept for multifamily apartments.

A 1978 graduate of the Texas Tech College of Architecture, Humphreys has a long history of supporting the college, recruiting at the college's annual career fair and serving as a guest lecturer. He previously established a scholarship endowment at Texas Tech in the name of Humphreys & Partners Architects.

"I am honored and humbled to receive such respected accolades in my profession. I am in such venerated company and I look forward to witnessing the students at Texas Tech's College of Architecture benefit from the resources that the Mark E. Humphreys AIA Chair in Urban Design will afford them," Humphreys said. "As a student, I attended an urban architecture design class. At the time, the classes were not yet a curriculum favorite; it was a unique experience and I am thrilled to contribute to such a cutting-edge program. Humphreys & Partners would not have succeeded without the Texas Tech architecture program."

The urban design program at Texas Tech focuses on revitalizing urban areas to create more people-friendly environments and encourage economic development. Faculty and students in urban design are best known for their participation in Urban Tech, a program

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that teaches architecture students to help local governments and civic organizations redesign municipal areas through laboratory experiences and public exhibitions. Through its community outreach, the program developed plans last year for the High Cotton Center, a facility for Lubbock's homeless population.

The endowed chair supports teaching and research at a time when Texas Tech is building on its reputation as a national research university. Adding to the gift's potential impact, \$1 million of the gift is eligible for state matching funds through the Texas Research Incentive Program.

"Gifts like these have a transformative impact on the academic reputation of a college," said Andrew Vernooy, dean of the College of Architecture. "Endowed chairs enable us to recruit and retain world-class faculty, and in turn, this enriches the classroom experience and helps bring top students to our university."

This is the second endowed chair to be created in the College of Architecture.

Humphreys also donated additional funds to create a graduate fellowship in the name of Dudley Thompson, a former interim dean of the College of Architecture. The fellowship's first recipient is Ivan Garcia, a graduate student from El Paso.

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**CONTACT: Glenys Young, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 25, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, [glenys.young@ttu.edu](mailto:glenys.young@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

*Photos available upon request.*

### **College of Arts & Sciences Honors Newly Established Dean's Circle**

Two recognition walls feature photographs of advisory council members.

The Texas Tech University [College of Arts & Sciences](#) unveiled its Dean's Circle Recognition Walls in Holden Hall today (Sept. 25) honoring members of its newly established advisory council.

"I am extremely grateful to each of these alumni and friends of Texas Tech University's College of Arts & Sciences who have responded to my request to join the Dean's Circle and give their time to assisting me in furthering Arts & Sciences to be a college deserving of a nationally recognized research university," said W. Brent Lindquist, dean of the college. "The mission of the Dean's Circle is to create innovative opportunities through professional expertise and financial assistance to support the scholarly vision of the college."

Dean's Circle members are:

- Isaac Albarado
- Heather Anderson
- Joe Barlow
- Dick Brooks, president
- Raif Calvert
- Jerry Goolsby
- Jack Helton
- James Pipkin
- Susan Pittman
- Jesse Pruitt, vice president
- Eduardo Rodriguez
- Jay Vollet
- Lucy Vollet
- Kristie White
- Matt Williams
- Gerald Woolam

"I continue to be so impressed by the quality of our alumni base," President M. Duane Nellis said. "These people who are part of this inaugural Dean's Circle are truly a group of very distinguished alumni who have proven themselves as real leaders in the various ways

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in which they have had success in their careers, post-Texas Tech University, and we are so proud of them. Their achievements serve as an inspiration to all of us and particularly to our students.”

The two 38-feet high by 14-feet wide walls feature photographs of the Dean’s Circle members and are visible from the basement through the second floor of Holden Hall.

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 25, 2015

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(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Libraries to Host Tarahumara Presentation**

The event will feature a presentation, slideshow and display of artifacts related to the indigenous Tarahumara of Mexico.

- WHAT:** As part of Hispanic Heritage Month, [Texas Tech University Libraries](#) will host a reception and presentation on “The Indigenous Tarahumara of Mexico.”
- WHEN:** 3:30 to 5 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 29)
- WHERE:** University Library’s Croslin Room
- WHO:** The event will feature a presentation, slideshow and display of artifacts related to the indigenous Tarahumara of northern Mexico. Presenters are faculty members David Marshall, archivist at the Southwest Collection, Carlos Villalobos, associate professor of Range and Wildlife Management, and Ted Holder, retired CEO of Breedlove Foods, Inc. who conducted charitable work among the Tarahumara for 15 years.

The slideshow will include highlights from a collection of 25,000 Tarahumara images preserved at the Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library. Refreshments will be served.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 28, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Doctoral Student, Alumna Win National Financial Planning Awards**

David Blanchett and Kristin Fang were recognized at a conference in Boston.

An alumna and student in the [Department of Personal Financial Planning](#) at Texas Tech University won national awards at the Financial Planning Association conference in Boston this weekend.

Doctoral student David Blanchett received the Montgomery-Warschauer Research Award for the second consecutive year, and alumna Danqin (Kristin) Fang received the FPA Diversity Scholarship.

Blanchett, a certified financial planner and chartered financial analyst, won for his May 2014 Journal of Financial Planning article “[Exploring the Retirement Consumption Puzzle](#).” He and professor Michael Finke were co-winners of the award in 2014.

Blanchett, who learned in April he had earned this award, said he enjoyed being at the conference with other financial planners and was honored to receive this award from his peers.

Fang, who earned a master’s degree in personal financial planning in 2013, was one of two recipients of the diversity scholarship, awarded to students or professionals who promote diversity in financial planning by raising awareness of the profession, serving diverse communities or creating opportunities for diverse communities in the profession.

Fang is a certified financial planner who has worked toward diversifying adviser groups in the industry so the unique needs and cultures of all clients can be met. She is a financial analyst at Evensky & Katz/Foldes Financial in Miami.

Professor Vickie Hampton, chairwoman of the department, was pleased to see Texas Tech so well-represented at the national level.

“The financial planning faculty members are so proud of the way our PFP students and alumni are becoming leaders in the profession,” Hampton said.

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**CONTACT: Vickie Hampton, chairwoman, Department of Personal Financial Planning, College of Human Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1824 or [vickie.hampton@ttu.edu](mailto:vickie.hampton@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 28, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Goin' Band to Host Bone Marrow Registration Drive for Community**

The two-day drive is part of a competition with Baylor designed to increase awareness of the need for bone marrow donors.

The [Goin' Band from Raiderland](#) has one more week to beat Baylor University in a friendly competition to register potential bone marrow donors.

Texas Tech University's marching band started Banding Together to be the Match the first week of school with a drive to register all the band members with Be The Match, an international bone marrow registry.

On Wednesday and Thursday (Sept. 30 and Oct. 1), members of the Lubbock and Texas Tech communities can register as potential donors. Registration will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Canyon Room of the Student Union Building and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday in the Lubbock Room of the SUB.

"We are extremely excited about the campuswide bone marrow registration drive this week," said Duane Hill, director of the Goin' Band. "This is a very easy way to compete against Baylor off the field while having the opportunity to save a life. It's a win-win situation. We had a great response for the Goin' Band drive and we hope to get students and Texas Tech faculty and staff on board for the campus drive this week."

Through Saturday, students and community members can register at [www.bethematch.org](http://www.bethematch.org) and include the promo code "ttuband" to give the Goin' Band credit for the potential donor. The winner will be announced at halftime during the football game Saturday at AT&T Stadium in Arlington.

Registered donors must be between 18 and 44 years old and generally in good health. Participants will have their cheeks swabbed to provide a DNA sample, which determines compatibility between donor and recipient, and donors are added to the registry.

Anita Gonzales, the community event representative for Cook Children's Health Care System, who planned the drive with Hill, thanked both Hill and the band for their leadership.

"They are giving back to the community and saving lives," she said. "Way to go, Goin' Band!"

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To keep up with the drive, follow the Goin' Band on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

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**CONTACT: Duane Hill, associate director of bands, School of Music, College of Visual & Performing Arts, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-5107 or [duane.hill@ttu.edu](mailto:duane.hill@ttu.edu) or Anita Gonzales, community event representative, Cook Children's Health Care System, (915) 422-4455 or [anita.gonzales@cookchildrens.org](mailto:anita.gonzales@cookchildrens.org).**



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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 28, 2015

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### **Mindy Brashears to Testify Before House Committee on Agriculture**

Brashears, who is a food safety expert, will testify in a public hearing before the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research.

Mindy Brashears, a professor in food microbiology and food safety in the [Department of Animal and Food Sciences](#) at Texas Tech University's [College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources](#), will testify before the House Committee on Agriculture on Tuesday (Sept. 29) in Washington, D.C.

Brashears, who also is the director of [the International Center for Food Industry Excellence](#), will testify before the Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research at 9 a.m. CDT. The purpose of the testimony is to highlight achievement in research innovations by agricultural colleges and universities throughout the U.S.

She is a faculty member in the [Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy](#) in [the Texas Tech School of Law](#). Her research focuses on food safety issues both before and after harvest.

Brashears is the third faculty member from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to give testimony before Congress in the last four months.

Earlier this month, David Weindorf, an associate dean for research and the chairman of pedology in the [Department of Plant and Soil Sciences](#), testified before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs oversight committee regarding the release of toxic waste by the Environmental Protection Agency into the Gold King Mine in Colorado.

In June, Darren Hudson, a professor and chairman of the [Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics](#), testified before the House Committee on Agriculture regarding a review of agricultural subsidies in foreign countries.

"Certainly we are very proud of these three faculty members and the work they are doing," said Michael Galyean, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. "Their testimonies before Congress reflect well on their own expertise and reputations, but also on the national and international stature of so many of our programs in the college."

A live link to Brashears' testimony can be found [here](#).

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 28, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)

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**MEDIA:** At 10 a.m. Oct. 1, a number of children and adults will be taking a self-guided tour of the National Ranching Heritage Center historical park using the new app. Media are welcome to get video and still footage of the group, and group members will be available to talk to reporters. Staff members also will be on hand for interviews. The event will be at the NRHC, 3121 4<sup>th</sup> St., and will last 30-45 minutes.

### **National Ranching Heritage Center Debuts Grant-Funded App**

The app is designed in the same way as apps for internationally renowned museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim.

The [National Ranching Heritage Center \(NRHC\)](#) at Texas Tech University has introduced an app for mobile devices that will allow visitors to take self-guided tours, learn more about objects in the museum and plan their visit to one of the nation's premier museum for ranching heritage.

The app is designed to make an NRHC visit fun for all ages. It includes a GPS-enabled tour of the historical park and provides information on the 49 structures. Visitors can access as much information as they would like as well as determine their location in the 27-acre park. It also has interactive games such as a history quiz and scavenger hunt for older children and a "critter count" for younger children who may want to count the lizards, jackrabbits and other animals they see in the park.

The app is available on the App Store and Google Play and is free to download.

The app has many of the same features as apps from world-class museums like the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Guggenheim Museums and Foundation in New York City. Julie Hodges, Helen Devitt Jones director of education, said planning for the app started in March 2014. The goal was to better meet visitors' needs by going where many visitors already were – smartphones and tablets.

"As usage of digital platforms increase among consumers, NRHC and other cultural institutions are working to find ways to meet the evolving needs and expectations of their audiences," Hodges said. "By meeting these needs and expectations we can create a more interactive experience, attract new visitors and provide supplementary information about artifacts, historic structures and exhibitions."

The app also has a postcard feature with branded frames so visitors can get a fun picture of themselves to upload to social media and share with friends and family.

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The app is helpful before and after a visit to the NRHC as well. Visitors can join the Ranching Heritage Association, view upcoming events on the interactive calendar and find nearby restaurants, hotels and other points of interest.

“Technology is a powerful educational tool,” Hodges said. “Children have a natural affinity for it. Countless studies and scholarly articles argue that integrating technology into learning is central to creating the meaningful learning opportunities that will engage and motivate youth.”

The NRHC received a grant from the Amon G. Carter Foundation to develop the app and a grant from the South Plains Foundation for the purchase of 20 iPads for school groups visiting the center.

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**CONTACT: Julie Hodges, Helen Devitt Jones director of education, National Ranching Heritage Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-0498 or [julie.hodges@ttu.edu](mailto:julie.hodges@ttu.edu).**



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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 28, 2015

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**MEDIA – 12:30 p.m. is the best time for interviews with directors and new sign-ups.**

### **Nationally Ranked St. Jude Up ‘til Dawn Team to Host Recruitment Event**

Texas Tech’s groups just passed halfway mark to \$50,000 fundraising goal.

- WHAT:** Texas Tech University’s teams for St. Jude Up ‘til Dawn will host a National Recruitment Day event.
- WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday (Sept. 29)
- WHERE:** Free Speech Area between the Student Union Building and the University Library. Parking is available on the east side of the Student Union Building.
- EVENT:** Texas Tech’s group, [still ranked](#) No. 2 nationally, has a goal of recruiting 100 new people during the event. It recently passed the halfway mark toward its goal of raising \$50,000 by Nov. 6.

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital works to find cures to childhood cancers. Research done there has helped push the survival rate for childhood cancer from less than 20 percent in 1962 to more than 80 percent today, according to its [website](#).

September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Pizza and Coca-Cola products will be available throughout the event, and there will be periodic Amazon and 5-Hour Energy giveaways.

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**CONTACT:** Amy Cunningham, public relations director, St. Jude Up ‘til Dawn, Texas Tech University, (832) 488-0176 or [amy.cunningham@ttu.edu](mailto:amy.cunningham@ttu.edu).



# Expert Pitch

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 29, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)

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### **Experts: Malnutrition a Crisis Due To Lack of Priorities, Wasted Resources**

One third of people on Earth suffer from malnutrition, with the spectrum running from not having enough food to not getting sufficient nutrients from food to being overweight or obese, according to the second annual [Global Nutrition Report](#), released in late September.

Those findings are not a surprise, said two Texas Tech University scientists who have studied global nutrition and seen its effects on people and societies in dozens of countries. Mary Murimi and Wilna (pronounced Vil-nah) Oldewage-Theron see malnutrition in all its forms in every country, ranging from African nations to Indian slums to cities in the United States. They are not surprised by how little is being done about the malnutrition crisis, which both attributed not to a lack of resources but to a lack of priorities among a country's leaders.

Murimi consulted on malnutrition in her native Kenya before coming to Texas Tech. She watched as families harvest mangoes, greens and eggs on their small farms, sold them at the market and used the money to buy white bread, sugar, flour and soda. She also worked in Louisiana, where she focused on the obesity and overweight aspect of the malnutrition spectrum, and has studied malnutrition in other African countries.

Oldewage-Theron spent 18 years in her native South Africa doing community nutrition and education. She went into rural and frequently poor communities and assessed their nutritional needs, then suggested solutions to the community leaders, including supplements, nutrition education, gardening and other ways to deal with food insecurity.

**Mary Murimi**, professor of nutritional sciences, (806) 834-1812 or [mary.murimi@ttu.edu](mailto:mary.murimi@ttu.edu)

- Although she is not surprised at the rate of malnutrition in general, she is surprised a country like Kenya, which is technologically advanced and has a well-educated population and a good economy, is one of the 34 countries with the highest rate of malnutrition.
- "I realized malnutrition is poverty supplemented by a lack of knowledge."
- Often a country's leaders do not prioritize malnutrition or nutrition adequacy for all members of the country, so resources are expended elsewhere. For example, she has met people so poor they don't have permanent housing or sufficient clothing or food, but they have cell phones.
- In addition to lack of priority by policymakers, "the voices of the malnourished children are silent. Leaders are not encountering the faces of malnutrition on a daily basis."

- Lack of infrastructure in developing countries can contribute to malnutrition among vulnerable groups. For example, in rural parts of the world, with poor roads and no irrigation, food can neither be grown nor easily trucked in. In the deserts of Kenya, the roads are too bad for distributors to truck in food, and they can't grow anything because there is no water. These conditions contribute to malnutrition, but strategic policies could address that problem through constructing all-weather roads and providing incentives for food distribution to marginalized areas.
- "We used to think of obesity was a disease of the affluent. We're finding now it's more in poor society, and that is because of food insecurity survival. When a mother doesn't have enough food, she gets what's affordable, which often is food in nutrients and higher in calories."

**Wilna Oldewage-Theron**, professor of nutritional sciences, (806) 834-0567 or [wilhelmina.theron@ttu.edu](mailto:wilhelmina.theron@ttu.edu)

- Although some developing countries do suffer from a lack of resources, including knowledge, capital and human resources, many have enough natural resources to make strides in reducing malnutrition. In Africa, where Oldewage-Theron has done most of her work, many countries are plagued with natural disasters and human conflict that reduce agricultural opportunities and lead to greater food insecurity
- Malnutrition is not always visible. A starving or obese child can be categorized, but nutrition deficiencies caused by eating calorie-dense, nutrient-deficient foods such as cereal-based or junk food, is noticeable primarily in behavior, which an untrained person may not recognize.
- "There is enough food in the world for everybody."
- There is a significant amount of food wasted in every country. In the United States and other developed countries, most food is wasted at the consumer level; it goes bad in people's refrigerators. In developing countries, more food is spoiled at the production and processing level because they lack infrastructure like cold storage, roads to transport goods to markets and processing plants.
- Obesity and being overweight also contribute to malnutrition because of the negative effects these conditions have on a person's health. Additionally, it is not uncommon to see an overweight or obese person who experiences "undernutrition" because he or she is not getting sufficient nutrients from food.

### **Highlights from the report**

- "Good nutrition signals the realization of people's rights to food and health. ... Without good nutrition, human beings cannot achieve their full potential. When people's nutrition status improves, it helps break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, generates broad-based economic growth and leads to a host of benefits for individuals, families, communities and countries."
- "Malnutrition takes many forms: children and adults who are skin and bone, children who do not grow properly, people who suffer because their diets are imbalanced, and people who are obese or suffer from nutrition-related noncommunicable diseases. ... Nearly half of all countries face multiple serious burdens of malnutrition such as poor child growth, micronutrient deficiency and adult overweight."

- According to the World Health Organization, 1.9 billion adults are overweight or obese, 42 million children are overweight, 161 million children 5 years or younger are too short, and 51 million children don't weigh enough. One in 12 adults has Type 2 diabetes.
- Countries that have made progress have created a political environment conducive to nutrition-improving actions, made committed investments in high-impact, cost-effective nutrition interventions and adopted policies in a wide range of economic and social sectors expected to contribute to nutrition advancement.

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# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 29, 2015

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### **Museum to Host Exhibit for Southwestern Artist Known for Unorthodox Art**

Helenn Rumpel, who worked in Santa Fe, combined painting, fibers and found objects to create what she called creative stitchery.

**WHAT:** An exhibit of art work by Helenn Rumpel opens Friday (Oct. 2) at the [Museum of Texas Tech University](#).

The exhibit includes 60 works of art that span four decades. The works include paintings, ceramics and creative stitchery. Her works seek to bridge the worlds of fiber and painting, combining vibrant colors and energetic textures through the use of yarns, buttons, beads, fabrics and found objects. The subject matter of these unusual works of art range from landscapes of the English countryside to celebrations of onion-domed Orthodox churches in Eastern Europe.

**WHEN:** The exhibit is open from Oct. 2 to Dec. 20. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday for the First Friday Art Trail. Regular hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday.

**WHERE:** Museum of Texas Tech University, 3301 4<sup>th</sup> St.

**WHO:** Rumpel, who died in 2014, was a Santa Fe, New Mexico-based artist who became famous for what she called “creative stitchery,” which reflects a dynamic and unorthodox approach to making images. She is one of the few artists who have worked in this medium.

Her work explores landscapes, villages and architecture from New Mexico, Great Britain, the Mediterranean coast and Eastern Europe. It has been widely collected among West Texas art patrons, many of whom have lent works to the museum for this exhibit.

Starting in the 1970s Rumpel exhibited her works at the historic Baker Gallery in downtown Lubbock and has done several exhibitions in Lubbock. The [Southwest Collection/Special Collections Library](#) has an archive of her materials.

For more information about this exhibit and upcoming museum events, go to the [museum catalog](#). There will be a private reception on Oct. 10 for members of the [Museum of Texas Tech University Association](#).

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**CONTACT: Peter Briggs, Helen Devitt Jones curator of Art, Museum of Texas Tech University, (806) 834-4255 or [peter.briggs@ttu.edu](mailto:peter.briggs@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 29, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, [cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu](mailto:cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Library Launches Enhanced Version of Occam's Reader, Invites Other Libraries to Join**

Occam's Reader is the first library-developed system allowing  
the Interlibrary Loan of eBooks.

Texas Tech University Libraries is launching the latest version of Occam's Reader, the first library-developed system to allow the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) of eBooks between academic libraries. The system is designed to provide secure temporary access to an electronic book.

The new version is being used by libraries throughout the country this fall and is open via subscription to other libraries that would like to participate.

Enhanced features of the system, which first launched in 2014, include:

- Supports both ILLiad and non-ILLiad libraries
- Refined discovery layer
- Development of a secure request transmission system
- Enhanced image conversion process
- Improved statistical tracking for requests
- Includes "Recommend for Purchase" button
- Incorporates thumbnail slider for easier browsing
- Supports responsive design for eBook viewer for mobile and tablet devices
- Includes touch navigation (for touchscreen devices)

Ryan Litsey, program co-developer and associate librarian at Texas Tech, said Occam's Reader is designed to work with the needs of both publishers and libraries, continuing the long-standing tradition of Interlibrary Loan.

"By developing an interface that works within libraries' already implemented ILL programs, we believe the software provides a seamless integration, allowing libraries an efficient and effective tool for addressing the growing trend of reading books electronically," Litsey said.

The yearly subscription fee for Occam's Reader is \$500. For additional information, contact Ryan Litsey at [libraries.occams.reader@ttu.edu](mailto:libraries.occams.reader@ttu.edu) or visit [www.Occamsreader.org/viewerdemo](http://www.Occamsreader.org/viewerdemo).

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 30, 2015

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(806) 742-2136

### **Autumn Fest Returning to Texas Tech and South Plains Community**

Hosted by the Office of the President, the festival will include live music, art, food and local vendors.

After a successful event last year, Texas Tech University's [Office of the President](#) is bringing back Autumn Fest this year, open to the public and appropriate for all ages.

The festival is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 11 on campus at Memorial Circle and will include live, local music, food, entertainment, art and local vendors selling their works.

"After a success last year, we are excited to host an event for the South Plains community that is perfect for a family outing and for all ages to enjoy," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "Whenever we were in the beginning stages of Autumn Fest, our goal was to strengthen the ties between the Texas Tech and local community and also familiarize our students with the local businesses and arts scene. This has been a great opportunity for both community members and students, and I am looking forward to how well this year's event will be."

Some products featured will be art of all different styles – glass, paintings, print, pottery, metal yard art, carvings and photography – handmade crafts, clothing, accessories, jewelry, home décor, household products such as salves, creams, soap, sprays, lotions and bath blends, local food of all sorts, including organic items, and much more.

Food also will be served at Autumn Fest including:

- Sandwiches
- Snow cones
- Street tacos, burritos, tortas
- Loaded potatoes
- Nachos
- Frito pie
- French fries
- Kettle corn
- Homemade lemonade



Activities will be available for kids such as nature-based crafts, science demonstrations, face painting, chess demonstration, inflatable activities and more.

Open parking will be available to the community, except for the R-08 lot (reserved for vendors) located west of Memorial Circle by the Science, Chemistry and Mathematical Sciences buildings.

For more information about Autumn Fest, visit its [website](#) or contact [autumnfest@ttu.edu](mailto:autumnfest@ttu.edu).

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Sept. 30, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, [heidi.toth@ttu.edu](mailto:heidi.toth@ttu.edu)

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### **Financial Planning Association Honors Texas Tech Alumni, Professor**

The Dallas-Fort Worth chapter recognizes four financial planners from its 800-plus membership each year.

The Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the Financial Planning Association will honor two Texas Tech University alumni and the founder of the [university's personal financial planning program](#) at its annual meeting.

- Bill Gustafson will receive the Chairman's Award, which is presented to a person or organization making significant contributions to the mission of the DFW chapter and financial planning.
- Tyler Russell, class of 2007, will receive the Young Guns Award, which is given to an up-and-coming planner age 30 or younger who is making significant contributions to the profession and organization.
- Dan Mauck, class of 1994, will receive the Honor Award, which recognizes planners who have a lifelong commitment to the financial planning profession and the DFW chapter of the FPA.

Melisa Hall, executive director of FPA DFW, said all three have made significant contributions to the organization and community through their work in financial planning.

Gustafson, who started the financial planning program at Texas Tech in 1987, is the senior director of the [Center for Financial Responsibility](#). He is on the board of directors of the Academy for Financial Services, the International Foundation for Retirement Education and the New Mexico Project for Financial Literacy and has received multiple awards from Texas Tech and the [College of Human Sciences](#).

Being selected is an honor, he said. Although Texas Tech's program has contributed to the DFW chapter, the chapter was instrumental in getting Texas Tech's program off the ground 30 years ago.

"It's always humbling when you get awarded something you feel is deserved of a big team," Gustafson said. "I'm so honored to receive something from these people because they really, really mean something to me."

Mauck is a senior financial adviser at Clintsman Financial Planning. He has been recognized on D Magazine's Best Financial Planners in Dallas list every year since 2004 and was named a Dallas Five Star Wealth Manager by Texas Monthly four times. The

Office of Communications and Marketing

*An EEO/Affirmative Action Institution*

College of Human Sciences and the Department of Personal Financial Planning have honored him with distinguished alumni awards. He also has been in chapter leadership for more than a decade, including founding and leading the merit-based scholarship program to incentivize young professionals to acquire the Certified Financial Planner certification.

“Undoubtedly, the decision to pursue financial planning as a career was life-changing for me,” Mauck said. “It would not have been nearly as rewarding – or perhaps even possible – without the academic rigor, faculty support and camaraderie for which Texas Tech PFP is now internationally known.”

“Our growing alumni network is having real impact on the profession, underlining the importance and value of a Texas Tech PFP degree,” Mauck said. “It’s not only evidence of academic achievement, but is fast becoming the hallmark of technical competence, integrity and professionalism within the field of financial planning.”

Russell is a wealth manager with Carter Financial Management. He is on the investment advisory committee and co-chair of Carter Education Partners, which hosts an annual investment conference and seminars throughout the year. He’s become heavily involved in the FPA and other professional organizations since moving to Dallas, a schedule he picked up at Texas Tech.

Russell was nominated multiple times for this award, which he said indicated his competitors in the Metroplex felt he deserved the recognition.

“It feels good there is enough respect between competitors to receive that nomination,” he said. “Though there are a lot of Texas Tech financial planners within the organization, so it’s kind of a friendly competitiveness.”

The Dallas-Fort Worth chapter of the FPA is one of the top 10 chapters in the country and is part of the National FPA Alliance Forum. Texas Tech’s personal financial planning program is a corporate partner with the chapter and is heavily involved in the annual career day. Several of the members of the chapter’s board of directors are alumni.

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

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# Web Only

## **90 Years Old, Still Goin' Strong – Band Remains Popular Texas Tech Tradition**

The Goin' Band from Raiderland is one of several bands that make up the program at Texas Tech.

By Heidi Toth

Half a century ago 18-year-old Keith Bearden, a recent graduate of Hale Center High School, put on his uniform, picked up his trumpet and marched into the stadium for the first time as a member of the Goin' Band from Raiderland.

In 1999, freshman Duane Hill put on his uniform, picked up his saxophone and marched into the stadium for the first time with the Goin' Band. Every Saturday during football season he saw Bearden, then the director of the band, and thought, "I want to be right where he is."

In 2003, after more than 20 years as director of the Texas Tech marching band, when Bearden climbed off the ladder for the last time, Hill was his drum major.

In 2015, 90 years after the first time the Goin' Band took the field, Hill is on the ladder, the sixth director of the greatest band in the land. Bearden is in the stands, watching with pride the band he directed for a quarter of its existence.

Once or twice this season he may borrow the baton from Hill, an exchange Hill is happy to make.

"That nostalgia just comes back," Bearden said of the time he gets to spend with the band. "It's a special part of everyone's life who was ever in it, and it'll always be."

### **How the band got goin'**

Since Texas Tech opened its doors it's had a band. The first director, Harry Lemaire, served as Teddy Roosevelt's bandmaster in the San Juan Hill campaign of the Spanish-American War and was friends with John Philip Sousa. He composed "The Matador Song."

In 1934 D.O. "Prof" Wiley took over, establishing the service organization chapters of [Kappa Kappa Psi](#) and the founding chapter of [Tau Beta Sigma](#). Texas Tech's Alpha Omicron chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, a band fraternity, celebrated its 77<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, while band sorority Tau Beta Sigma came about in the early 1940s as an increasing number of women went to college and joined the band. Several women at Texas Tech actually led the charge to get the sorority recognized as a sister organization to Kappa Kappa Psi and helped other Texas institutions open chapters.

After a 25-year run, Dean Killion replaced Wiley, known as the Father of Texas bands. Bearden, who marched under Killion, said popular marching styles changed through the decades. During Killion's directorship bands moved from the military-style marching of the 1950s to the precision drills like creating shapes in the 1960s to Drum Corps International free-form shows of the 1970s. Killion's legacy was in the precision drills, his successor said.

"The general public, I think, still enjoys the traditional shows where they're making big patterns," Bearden said. "I think it's the energy and the sound and the showmanship, it really creates interest in the band not necessarily the patterns they're making."

Bearden, director from 1981 to 2003, returns every year to direct a few practice drills and occasionally directs the big-time performances. By the time he arrived, high school bands were improving so much he could hear a noticeable difference in the quality of the music from week to week.

In 1999, under Bearden's direction, the John Philip Sousa Foundation awarded the Sudler Trophy, the highest honor for collegiate marching bands, to the Goin' Band.

He also saw lifelong friendships arise, romances blossom and future generations of Goin' Band members don the uniform. Both of his sons have gone through the band and his granddaughter, a freshman who plays the French horn, started this year.

Christopher Anderson, who is the director of fine arts at the Lubbock Independent School District, was director from 2003 to 2009, and Hill, who came back to Texas Tech for his master's degree after several years of teaching, holds the baton today. When Anderson left, Hill was given a trial period of sorts and showed himself to be a good fit for the job.

"There was never a question of my desire to be here, but I wasn't sure if the timing would work out," he said. "Goin' Band has a tradition of long-tenured directors, so to have the opportunity to accept this job when offered was too good to pass up."

### **The band program today**

Director of bands Sarah McKoin came to Texas Tech a decade ago, and she remembered how excited everyone was for the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Now that the 90<sup>th</sup> has rolled around, they wanted to have some fun. It starts with a traditions halftime show at the Texas Tech vs. TCU football game on Saturday with the band planning drills from the Killion, Bearden and Anderson eras.

Since many alumni return for football games, particularly this one, they decided to make it a weekend to celebrate band tradition. On Friday night, the wind ensemble and symphonic band will do a concert with Anderson and 2009 alumna Tamey Angley, now a professor at Stephen F. Austin University, conducting. Guest soloist Andy Smith of the Chicago Lyric Opera, a tuba player, graduated in 2010.

"There's a lot of tradition that goes all the way back to Dean Killion," she said.

The Goin' Band memberships consists of about a quarter music majors, while the rest are music enthusiasts majoring in just about every major Texas Tech offers. The university has



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five concert bands, two jazz bands and a pep band in addition to the marching band; most of those students are music majors. McKoin said the program has grown significantly through the years as the Goin' Band and its directors have marched Texas Tech into the national spotlight.

It is a different experience than can be found anywhere else.

“They’re good. They’re really good,” McKoin said. “I think they’re entertaining. I went to Michigan State for my undergraduate and did my doctorate at UT, and those are great bands, too, and have great traditions, but there’s just something about Lubbock – I noticed it when came and interviewed – it is a big deal. I can’t put my finger on it, but the Goin’ Band’s impact on campus culture, on instrumental music education and performance in Texas is unparalleled.

“From the DNA of the university they have a band that was popular, and it’s continued to increase its excellence and is a huge part of what we do here.”

Both McKoin and Hill, though they are enjoying the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, also are looking forward to the century mark in 10 years.

“The Goin’ Band is special because of the students who dedicate their time, energy and musicianship to the university,” Hill said. “They are a snapshot of what Texas Tech has to offer, so I will continue to advocate on their behalf to ensure they have an enjoyable experience with our program.”





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# Web Only

## **CDRC Participates in Make a Hat Day**

Teachers and college students helped children ages 2-5 create and wear hats.

By Emily Gardner

Texas Tech University's [Child Development Research Center](#) (CDRC) in the [College of Human Sciences](#) participated in Make a Hat Day today (Sept. 15). Make a Hat Day allows students to design, make and wear a hat while showcasing their personalities. The event is often utilized by preschool, kindergarten and elementary school teachers and students. The CDRC had children, ages 2-5, split up into groups of 7-9 children during small-group time. The kids used materials, including markers, stickers and craft materials, to create their hats and were helped by CRDC teachers and college students. After making the hats, the kids were allowed to wear the hats on the playground.



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## **Comic Book Day: Where Art and Literature Meet History**

Texas Tech librarian Rob Weiner discusses his fascination with comics and their importance in American pop culture history.

By Cara Vandergriff

A day dedicated to good triumphing over evil and saving the damsel (or dude) in distress, Comic Book Day, observed this year on Sept. 25, is all about enjoying a good comic.

Comic books, which were first popularized in the United States in the 1930s, are publications of comic art made up of sequential panels representing scenes. The first comic book appeared in the U.S. in 1933, a publication of “Famous Funnies” that was a reprinting of earlier newspaper humor comic strips, a term which led to the coining of the name “comic book.”

Rob Weiner, pop culture expert and humanities librarian at Texas Tech University, said comic books are prominent in society because of their unique form.

“Comic book day is a celebration of a unique artistic and literary form,” Weiner said. “It uses both art and text to tell a story. It’s actually an extremely sophisticated medium, and you really have to exercise both sides of your brain to interpret both images and language.”

Though the modern comic book didn’t appear in the U.S. until the 1930s, it had predecessors dating back many generations.

“Keep in mind the comic strip goes all the way back to the 1890s,” Weiner said. “They were publishing those in book form at least in the 1900s, and those were the first graphic novels. What we think of as the comic book today, certainly historians date that to the 1930s, but there were prototypes way before that.”

Weiner said though comics often have a reputation of being only for children or “rotten for your brain,” enjoying comic books is actually an active and engaging pastime.

“It’s sequential art,” Weiner said. “You have to make connections between panels and it’s more active than many other storytelling mediums. It’s very different than watching a film or even reading a novel.”

American comics gained popularity after the 1938 publication of “Action Comics,” which included the debut of the prominent character Superman. This publication was followed by a period of high sales and a superhero boom that lasted until the end of World War II and became known as “the Golden Age of Comic Books.” This era introduced a number of popular characters including Batman, Captain America, Wonder Woman and Captain Marvel.

“Although not all comics are about superheroes, that’s certainly one of the pivotal points and often what’s associated with comics,” Weiner said. “Superheroes lost a great deal of popularity after the war, but they never completely died out.”

Comic books thrived during WWII, serving both as entertainment and morale-boosters for the war effort.

“With Hitler and the Nazis and the Fascists, that gave us a real enemy to fight,” Weiner said. “I think that was a very potent thing to tap into during that time because everybody was for the war.”

Weiner said his personal fascination with the Golden Age of comics is due to an interest in its cover art.

“I’m fascinated with the Golden Age,” Weiner said. “I think the covers of all the comics are very interesting color-wise. Whether the comic is fighting Nazis or exploring outer space, they’re all exciting to look at.”

Over time, the comic book industry evolved into the Silver Age from the mid-1950s to 1970, the Bronze Age from 1970 to 1985 and the Modern Age from the mid-1980s to present. Comics have since expanded to include a wide variety of genres such as animals, westerns, romance, humor and more.

“What I love about the comic industry is you can find things to give a 3-year-old or an 80-year-old, because there’s material that spans all age groups,” Weiner said. “We’re in a good period right now because you can find anything for any taste or in any kind of narrative.”

Weiner said comics are important to American pop culture history because they help us understand things like the interests, lifestyle and morals of past generations.

“Comics help us understand who we were at a given point, just like anything in pop culture does,” Weiner said. “Comics are a form of social history that help us understand who we were and what some of our morals were at any given time. We can glimpse into certain styles of art and storytelling from our past.”

Weiner thinks people should read comics because they combine literature with art and serve as an important part of both American and world culture.

“Comic books are a unique part of history,” Weiner said, “and I’m glad we have a day celebrating that.”



# Web Only

## **Fine Arts Alumnus Returns to Texas Tech to Debut Unique Exhibit**

Philip Monaghan worked as a graphic designer and marketing executive before returning to his first love – painting.

By Heidi Toth

Andy Warhol once gifted fellow artist Philip Monaghan with a signed bottle of Marilyn Merlot.

The wine, named for iconic actress Marilyn Monroe, joined her perfume and a signed Marilyn print from Warhol on Monaghan's shelf.

"They were just kind of funny things," said Monaghan, an alumnus of Texas Tech University who calls Warhol a friend. "He had a very ironic sense of humor."

Monaghan is full of stories about Warhol, the salons in New York City and Milan and growing up in Houston with its rich artistic history. He does not leave out his alma mater either. He remembers walking into the fine arts program at Texas Tech and being told to forget everything he knew about making art.

"I learned very quickly everything I knew up to that point was being erased and it was time to start completely over," he said. "We received a really far-ranging kind of approach. "Everybody I know who has continued in the arts refers back to that period and says it was a very important time in their lives."

He's made a living first as a graphic designer, an art director and a marketer, crisscrossing the globe, creating imagery for iconic brands and working the arts scene. But he never lost his love of fine art, and when he burned out on the corporate world in the early 2000s, he hearkened back to his roots, opened a studio and started painting again.

Monaghan will return to Lubbock this year with a number of new paintings for the debut of his exhibit "'Why Are You Doing This To Me?' Philip Monaghan and David Trinidad." The show is a collection of original paintings all based on a poem by Trinidad, a well-known poet and longtime friend.

It's a different sort of collaborative experience, both for the artists and the viewers, and one Monaghan hopes sends the message he wants to share.

"I want them to understand the idea of collaboration," Monaghan said. "I also want them to come away with a sense of the sadness that we find ourselves in when situations in our lives sometimes seem insurmountable. Maybe there is hope of learning from other people's struggles."

## **Texas Tech and beyond**

Decades removed from his time in the Texas Tech [School of Art](#), three lessons stand out for Monaghan. The first is the need to let go of everything he knew and start over. The second was his need to describe a work of art – his own or someone else's – with some academic acumen.

The third taught him what being an artist really meant.

"I learned the concept of what you are working on was more important than the product," he said. "That was a very big part of discipline – not to fall in love with the work but to fall in love with the process of doing the work."

"The discipline that was instilled in me at Texas Tech is a very big part of my life, and that's a big reason why I wanted to come back and do something there," he said.

When he finished his master's program at the Pratt Institute in New York City, he found a job as an art director in a boutique agency. While he loved fine art, he said, he needed to eat, so he went corporate.

That job led him to opportunities to work in New York and Milan, Italy, as an art director, then he got a job at Limited Brands, which owned brands like Express, Bath and Body Works and Victoria's Secret. He eventually moved from creative director to vice president of marketing despite having no background in it. He spent the next several years creating brand identities still seen today.

"Someone has to create that imagery, and that someone was me," he said of these themes. "There was some success in the brands I worked on. I love walking through a mall and seeing work I contributed to 20 years ago still being used."

About a decade ago, tired of corporate life, Monaghan returned to fine art. He wanted to work in a studio again and create art not for the sake of selling a product but just for its own sake. He traveled, renovated a house and settled on a 30-year-old commission as a way to get back into the art world.

## **The show**

While exploring the 1970s New York art scene, a poet friend, Tim Dlugos, asked Monaghan to create a visual statement of his seminal poem "Gilligan's Island," which was slated for an exhibit at New York University. He wanted the art to stand alongside the poetry.

Dlugos died of AIDS in 1990, and the show never happened. Monaghan, however, never forgot his friend's request.

"I carried the thought through the years that one day I would like to fulfill that commission," he said.

He reached out to his friend's estate for permission to use the poem. David Trinidad, the estate's executor, was cooperative and gave Monaghan all the support he needed to make



the long-delayed show happen, and in 2011, two decades after his friend's death, 54 paintings that told the story of "Gilligan's Island" debuted at NYU.

The relationship between Trinidad and Monaghan didn't end at that point, however. Trinidad also is a poet who made a name for himself through structured poetry that reflected popular culture. One such example was an entire book of haikus describing every episode of the 1960s TV series "Peyton Place."

Another of his works is a poem called "The Late Show," based on late-night movies of the 1950s and '60s, which Trinidad watched with his mother. The 46 lines of the poem present scenes from 19 different films in which a woman finds herself in a Hollywood predicament – being a jilted lover, having an alcoholic husband, not having enough money.

The most iconic is a line Doris Day speaks in "Midnight Lace," when she answers the phone and a voice on the other end tells her he's going to murder her. "Why are you doing this to me?" she cries into the phone, before dropping the receiver and running around the house in a panic – and a negligee.

"It's so campy and so Hollywood, but the interpretation of these circumstances can go deeper, and you understand how horrifying this would be," Monaghan said.

The poem highlights the nature of victimhood women of this time embodied on the big screen. It also has undertones of what the gay community experienced 50 years ago, including a line from "The Children's Hour," in which Shirley MacLaine's character confesses her love for Audrey Hepburn's character, which is not reciprocated. At the end of the movie, MacLaine's character killed herself.

"This exhibition affords us an excellent opportunity for cross-disciplinary programming," said Joe Arredondo, director of [landmark arts](#). "Along with the exhibition of paintings, we will be able to collaborate with the English department in the presentation of poetry reading by David Trinidad and staging a film series of some of the films from David's poem and Philip's paintings."

As both Trinidad and Monaghan are gay, reflections about the movies they watched with their mothers provided a deeper understanding of the world at large and their place in it. Monaghan attributed at least part of his coming out process to these films. They helped him understand who he was back when being gay wasn't part of normal conversation.

"There is so much hope now, and I hope people will feel some of that as well," he said.

Monaghan's paintings bring to life the campiness and almost cartoonish angst Trinidad highlights in his poems, along with the courage of these early feminists who weren't always seen as feminists.

## **Being a Red Raider**

Although “‘Why Are You Doing This To Me?’ Philip Monaghan and David Trinidad” will be exhibited in New York City in 2016 and other cities the following year, it’s debuting at Texas Tech. Although the South Plains Mall was part of his marketing route, this will be the first time since he graduated that Monaghan’s works of art will be on display at his alma mater.

It started with Carol Edwards, former dean of the [College of Visual & Performing Arts](#). When she went to New York City, Edwards looked up alumni and visited them. Through her, Monaghan met dozens of other Red Raiders who’d moved to New York to be part of the art world. One of those is Grant Billingsley, who earned his master’s degree of fine arts at Texas Tech and now assists Monaghan in his studio.

“I never dreamed there were so many people from Texas Tech in New York,” Monaghan said. “We Texas Tech people have to stick together when we get out into the world.”

The exhibition will be in the Landmark Gallery at the School of Art from Oct. 2 to Dec. 13, and Monaghan and Trinidad both will attend an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. Oct. 3.



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## **Fulbright Scholar Achieves Dream of Studying in the U.S.**

Arwa Aljawadi received her master's in nutritional sciences as part of the Fulbright program.

By Emily Gardner

After a year and a half of working on an application, participating in interviews and taking exams, Arwa Aljawadi was finally able to achieve her dream of studying in the United States, something she had been dreaming about since she was 15 years old.

That was several years ago.

"Fulbright is the most prestigious scholarship you can get and an honor that stays with you forever," she said. "Once a Fulbright, always a Fulbright. Besides the great educational opportunity I was awarded, it was an amazing way to develop and focus on mutual understandings between the U.S. and the Middle East, and it's a great cultural experience."

Aljawadi said the moment she found out the Fulbright program had been reopened in Iraq, she immediately applied.

She earned her master's degree in [nutritional sciences](#) at Texas Tech University as a Fulbright scholar, then went on to pursue a doctoral degree in the same department. When she set out to become a Fulbright scholar, Aljawadi said the goal was to earn a master's degree in interdisciplinary studies in biotechnology, but she realized she wanted to study cancer, so she chose nutritional biochemistry. Her current doctoral research involves studying breast cancer in post-menopausal women who also suffer from obesity.

"I found it really interesting that obesity is a complex disease and not only a lifestyle problem, and that it plays a significant role in the development of many diseases including cancer," she said. "It was a hard transition between majors, I was an engineering student in Iraq, but I'm happy I did it."

Aljawadi said her trip to the United States was the first time she had ever traveled outside Iraq, and she did it alone – without her family, who was supportive of her Fulbright journey. The process taught Aljawadi many things: it resulted in her becoming more self-dependent and self-confident and helped her figure out how to push herself beyond her limits, but the thing she misses most is her family.

"Unfortunately, now Iraq is going through a tough war with terrorism," she said. "Thousands of people have lost loved ones, homes and the simple life they used to have, including my family. It's heartbreaking, so I'm really hoping this war with terrorism will come to an end and people will have their normal lives back and live in peace."



Aljawadi had never heard of Texas Tech before the Fulbright team had let her know that's where she would attend, but she said she was really excited after she received the admission and looked up the university.

"Many individuals made my transition to Texas Tech easy and welcoming," Aljawadi said. "Stephanie Cloninger and Alexa Smith ([International Cultural Center](#)) both helped me from the moment I arrived, as did Naima Moustaid-Moussa and Debra Reed in nutritional sciences. Joseph Pearce and Ayad Zein from the Department of State were like a family to me and helped me from the moment I arrived."

During her time as a scholar, Aljawadi has met many people, including Christopher Hill, the U.S. ambassador to Iraq, whom she met in 2009 at the Fulbright award reception at the U.S. embassy in Bagdad.

Naima Moustaid-Moussa, a professor in the [College of Human Sciences](#), director of the [Obesity Research Cluster](#) and Aljawadi's adviser, also was a Fulbright scholar, but she was a faculty member when she participated. She said in the time Aljawadi has been at Texas Tech, she has immersed herself in the American and West Texas culture along with her graduate studies.

"What is common about the Fulbright experience is that it's primarily designed to enhance the cultural understanding along with academic learning," Moustaid-Moussa said. "Over the past three years I worked with Arwa, she has made outstanding progress in her research and has embraced the new environment and transitioned very well into Texas Tech and our program. She has already completed her master's degree and is now a doctoral candidate working on her dissertation research."

Moustaid-Moussa said without the Fulbright scholarship, Aljawadi probably would not be pursuing the work she is doing now and wouldn't have been able to experience American life and culture firsthand. The scholarship and coming to the U.S. has opened the door for additional career and life options, both in academia and industry.

"Fulbright is a life-changing experience," Aljawadi said. "It's a very competitive scholarship, but it offers a great educational opportunity where everything is covered by the Department of State. I have met amazing people and fellow Fulbright scholars from across the world and made new friendships. I also attended enriching seminars organized by the Fulbright alumni and traveled and visited places I've always dreamed about."

## **Sidebar**

### **What is your favorite spot on campus?**

"Memorial Circle."

### **What is your favorite Texas Tech memory?**

"My graduation. Even though my family was not able to attend my graduation, I was able to feel how proud they were of me."

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



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“Carol of Lights and ‘Guns Up’ because it reminds me of my father. He loved Texas and one of his hobbies was collecting guns so ‘Guns up!’”

**What is your favorite experience at Texas Tech?**

“Diversity Week. It’s a great experience to encourage and accept our differences.”

**What is your favorite thing about Texas Tech/Lubbock?**

“I love our campus. It’s so big and beautiful. My favorite thing about Lubbock is the sky. It’s so beautiful and it’s different from any other place that I’ve been to.”



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## Geology Can Rock Your World

Collect Rocks Day focuses on the hobby that is a lifelong passion for some.

By Glenys Young

Cal Barnes, a professor of geology in the Texas Tech University [Department of Geosciences](#), says he's been interested in rocks for as long as he can remember.

"My first interest was throwing rocks into water, the usual kid stuff," he laughed. "I started collecting, probably when I was 8 or 9 years old. At first you're interested in colors and patterns and things like that."

Barnes grew up around the gravel farm roads of Eastern Nebraska, where gravel comes out of pits along the Platte River.

"The gravel there is very diverse, very interesting from a kid's standpoint: everything from fossils to petrified wood, agates and pieces of the Rocky Mountains that have come downstream," he said. "As kids we would go down to the gravel pits on weekends and sift through the leftover material. We'd walk out with these big rocks. You couldn't do that these days because of safety issues, people would have a conniption. But I wound up with as many samples, as many rocks as my pockets would hold."

Family vacations to Minnesota expanded Barnes' horizons, showing him gravels full of Lake Superior agate, which he wasn't familiar with. As he learned more about rocks, he expanded his skills, too, with a new interest in lapidary: amateur rock-cutting and polishing.

"As my mother would say, I have all these rocks; I should do something with them," he laughed. "So I did that for a while. But ultimately you get interested in mineral specimens, so when I started seriously collecting I began collecting minerals."

Still collecting rocks while he was in college, Barnes changed his major to geology after realizing his initial choice of electrical engineering was not what he wanted to do.

"I thought of geology as a hobby, which is reasonable," he said, "but the switch came very easily so I've stuck with it ever since."

Some people don't understand what all can be gained from the study of rocks, Barnes said.

"There are the economic issues that are important for most people," he explained. "Oil and gas come from rocks, so from an energy perspective, with the exception of renewable energies – wind and hydropower and so on – oil and gas and coal are all extracted from geologic materials. And so, our economy, our society is dependent on that."

“And then, although a lot of people don’t think about it, everything we touch on a daily basis has a geologic origin. Concrete comes from sand, gravel and limestone. Your cell phone wouldn’t work without the rare earth elements in it. We think about buildings made of wood, but the tree has to grow in something. Soil is a geologic material. Purely from an economic and societal standpoint, geology is extraordinarily important.”

That doesn’t even factor in knowledge about our world that can be gained.

“Earth has a 4.5-billion-year history and one of the things geologists enjoy doing is trying to unravel that history, and in order to do that, we have to study the rocks because they’re the only things that tell us anything about the history,” he said. “If we’re interested in learning the age of a sample or we’re interested in the pressures and temperatures under which the rock crystallized, those are all things that are actually embedded in the minerals that make up the rock. We’re like historians – our goal is to take all of these different lines of information and then construct a geologic history and push that history as far back into the past as we can.”

After decades of studying rocks and minerals, Barnes said he still gathers anywhere from dozens to hundreds of rock samples each summer during field research. Because he deals with so many, he doesn’t have one that he considers his favorite.

“I do have a number of samples I will show to people and try to make them jealous,” he laughed. “This piece is opal, and some of it is gem-quality. So when the appropriate person is in the room, I will hand them that and say ‘here’s a little bit of gem opal’ and with any luck they’ll be jealous. I have a lot of specimens around, but mostly they’re things I use for teaching or illustration or things like that. My job now is to get other people interested in rocks: they don’t have to collect them, but it’s nice for them to have an interest.”

From his roots throwing rocks into water, Barnes has progressed into the deepest questions of geology.

“For most professional geologists, we’re not only interested in the history, we’re interested in the way the history developed: the geologic process,” he said. “There’s a lot of geologic information out there – some people would say trivia – that we all need to know as geologists. But at some point, that becomes less interesting than understanding the hows and whys of how things happen.”

For anyone interested in learning about rocks or minerals, Barnes said many resources are available in Lubbock.

“If someone is interested in looking at rocks or minerals as something that’s pretty or decorative, then the best thing they could do is join a group,” he said. “For example, Lubbock has the Lubbock Gem and Mineral Society. Go to one of their meetings and see what people do in terms of collecting and lapidary – they have a show every year where people display the kinds of things they do. Many of them are very serious amateur geologists or amateur mineralogists or whatever. You can learn a lot from them.



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“If you’re interested in more of the geologic history and geologic process, once you get past watching Nova programs and so on, it’s worth taking a class or two,” he added. “In Lubbock, of course, that’s easily done. We teach a number of classes that non-major geologists can take.”

His best advice to new rock collectors is just to follow where their interests lead them.

“From a former collector’s standpoint,” Barnes said, “if people find that sort of thing interesting, and as long as they follow the rules – don’t trespass, don’t collect in national parks and so on – it’s a lot of fun and you’re bound to learn something you didn’t know.”

# Web Only

## Homecoming Memories: A Texas Tech Tradition

Texas Tech students, faculty and alumni recount their favorite homecoming traditions and memories.

By K'Leigh Sims

It's that time of year again when the Texas Tech University campus becomes a sea of red and black, ballots are counted for king and queen nominees, students are finishing up parade floats and Texas Tech fans near and far travel to the great city of Lubbock, Texas to celebrate a favored tradition: Texas Tech homecoming.

In anticipation of homecoming week, Texas Tech students, faculty and alumni recounted their favorite traditions and memories during the fun-filled time and what they are looking forward to this year.

Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis

- **Favorite memory:** I always enjoy the homecoming parade, but also the special opportunity to welcome so many of our alumni back to campus.
- **Favorite tradition:** The excitement of all the pageantry related to the numerous special events makes it a wonderful weekend.
- **This year:** I want the Red Raiders to win the football game against Iowa State.

Zach Bohls, former Raider Red (2010-2013) and Saddle Tramp alumni, class of 2013

- **Favorite memory:** I love the bonfire each year hosted by the Saddle Tramps. They do one heck of a job. I was a Saddle Tramp for four years and I got to build the bonfire each year from 5 a.m. until 7 p.m. It was the most exhausting and hard, working experience of my life but so rewarding to see it in action.
- **Favorite tradition:** I don't have a favorite tradition per se; I love them all. There are so many to choose from, which is great. The victory bells and the campus itself to name a few are historic to me. Also hearing "Raider Power!" at Jones AT&T Stadium would get even an Aggie excited.
- **This year:** I loved having alumni visit and getting to see everyone continue the many traditions they experienced when they were students. It gave me a good vision of what it might look like when I came back as an alum. I look forward to seeing my Red Raider family. It's been a long overdue visit. I miss Texas Tech. It will always be my home. Getting to see Raider Red alumni and Saddle Tramps is always a treat as well. We are doing a fundraiser homecoming weekend for a statue of Raider Red that should be very fun and I am looking forward to seeing the support we get.

Holton Westbrook, student body president and 2014 homecoming king, class of 2016

- **Favorite memory:** My favorite homecoming memory would have to be the time I was selected as homecoming king. As part of a family that is passionate about football, Texas Tech University and Texas traditions, it is easy to see homecoming is a big part of the fall. Being able to represent my organization at such a high level was humbling in itself and being around such an elite group of homecoming candidates made it even more rewarding. I will never forget getting to be in the parade, seeing the bonfire and talking with alumni from years past about how it felt and what it meant to be a Red Raider. Being blessed with the opportunity to represent the Lubbock community, the student body and the Texas Tech tradition that means so much to our campus was a memory I will remember for the rest of my life.
- **Favorite tradition:** Homecoming is a fun time of year because it merges so many aspects of the campus and Lubbock community to welcome in the fall season. Alumni, students and community members alike have an opportunity to join together to create and reminisce underneath the Double-T, which means so much to each of us, all of which happens around the atmosphere of college football. Does it get any better than that?
- **This year:** Attending my final homecoming of my undergraduate years gives me mixed emotions of nostalgia and excitement. I'm looking forward to hanging out and making memories with those mentors and friends I have been blessed to meet the past four years while also soaking in the last few football games I have left of my college experience. While I'm resting on these thoughts, I also have the unique opportunity to pass down this year's homecoming crown to my successor. I can't wait to share this once-in-a-lifetime experience with another Red Raider and be the hand that sees this unique experience live on. Being a small part of Texas Tech's history has been a humbling experience and getting to watch this continue for yet another year in Raiderland is something that cannot be touched anywhere else across the country.

Bonnie Ohlig, Texas Tech alumna and former Pom Squad member (2004-2005, 2007-2009), class of 2009

- **Favorite memory:** The Friday night bonfire. It's a way to come together the night before and experience something that only happens once a year.
- **Favorite tradition:** Homecoming was always a fun time for me because my entire family attended Texas Tech. We attend the bonfire, parade and all the tailgating in the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center. They would come into town every year and it has been a tradition since my sister started attending Texas Tech in 2002.
- **This year:** I am looking forward to cheering on the field with my sister once again. We were on the Texas Tech Pom Squad together for a few years and it's always my favorite time to get back on the field and cheer together once again. I also love to see my niece and nephew all dressed up in their Texas Tech gear because we all know you have to start them off early.

Bill Dean, Texas Tech alumnus, director of Student Publications, associate professor in the [College of Media and Communication](#) and executive vice president for the [Texas Tech Alumni Association](#), class of 1961

- **Favorite memory:** The most memorable homecoming was 1976. A huge snowstorm hit Lubbock. The parade was canceled. The football game was pushed back several hours while graders removed the snow from the surface. The first half went reasonably well and then it

started to snow again in the second half. We beat Southern Methodist University but it was a mess.

- **Favorite tradition:** As alumni director it is always a fun time to see and visit with the many alumni who return. It also is a sad time when we remember, at the Techsan Memorial, those alumni who passed away in the past year.
- **This year:** I look forward to seeing old friends, and of course, the Texas Tech Alumni Association hosts a board meeting, the Top Techsan Luncheon, where we honor staff members who serve above and beyond, and the Matador Dinner where this year we will present a Distinguished Service award to Gerald Dolter, a professor in the School of Music, and the Cavazos award to Jerry Rawls.

Sydney Webster, Texas Tech Feature Twirler (2013 to present), class of 2017

- **Favorite memory:** As the Texas Tech Feature Twirler, my favorite homecoming memory is the pep rally and bonfire from my freshman year. We participate in the homecoming parade every year and get to twirl at the bonfire, and that was such a fun experience my first year, because the crowd was so excited and involved. It was my first time twirling a fire baton, too, so it was overall an extremely exciting and thrilling night.
- **Favorite tradition:** Homecoming is such a fun time of year for every student, but being a part of the parade is such an honor. We prepare for this months in advance, so it's so much fun to finally perform in front of such a lively crowd. The fans are so great and supportive, it's just a great time in general.
- **This year:** This upcoming year, I am looking forward to the actual homecoming game. The spirit squads do such a great job getting the students hyped up before the game and through all of the homecoming events, so the actual game will be such a blast. Plus, beating Iowa State would make a perfect ending to homecoming.

Stacy Stockard, 43<sup>rd</sup> Masked Rider (2004-2005) and marketing coordinator for Texas Tech's [Transportation and Parking Services](#), class of 2005

- **Favorite memory:** When I served as Masked Rider, we celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program during homecoming weekend. All of our former riders came in for a reunion, swapped stories, served as grand marshals of the homecoming parade and were recognized on the field before the game. I learned so much history about our program and got to know former riders I had only heard stories about. It was an unforgettable experience and we beat Nebraska 70-10!
- **Favorite tradition:** Homecoming is a great opportunity to come back to campus, see what's new and catch up with former classmates and professors. I love having friends come to visit for homecoming and giving them a campus tour to see what's changed since their time as students. Campus gets more beautiful every year.
- **This year:** I'm a proud alumna of the [College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources](#), and I always look forward to the departmental reunions Friday night and CASNR homecoming breakfast Saturday morning. Nothing beats getting to catch up with old friends and see what students, faculty and staff members have accomplished since last year.

Rodney Blackshear, former Texas Tech wide receiver (1987-1991), class of 1991



- **Favorite memory:** My favorite homecoming memory was seeing all of the former Texas Tech greats on campus attending the bonfire when I was a captain my senior year and was asked to address the crowd.
- **Favorite tradition:** The bonfire, because it showed the true spirit of what it was all about to be a Red Raider.
- **This year:** I most look forward to, first of all, a Texas Tech victory and the atmosphere of the tailgates. I also look forward to being around my former teammates and catching up on each other's lives.

Keith Bearden, Texas Tech alumnus and Goin' Band member and former director, class of 1969

- **Favorite memory:** My favorite and funniest memory of homecoming was when I was a student member in the Goin' Band. Dean Killion, our director, would march the band over to the front of the Student Union Building to vote for the band representative. Our candidate won homecoming queen two years in a row!
- **Favorite tradition:** When I was a student at Texas Tech, homecoming was always a great time to visit with alumni who had returned, and the annual Goin' Band alumni banquet.
- **This year:** I always look forward to the game, the parade and the Goin' Band. My two sons marched with the band and my granddaughter is a current member.

Rodney Allison, former Texas Tech quarterback for Red Raider football (1974-1977) and executive director of the Double-T Varsity Club, class of 1980

- **Favorite memory:** 1976 – We had a 1950s pep rally the night before homecoming. We all went and everyone dressed up in 1950s gear. It was a lot of fun and really neat. The 1976 bonfire was a great memory also. The homecoming game that season also really sticks out to me – a great memory as well.
- **Favorite tradition:** It was always a great time of year to see the school spirit across campus and to see all of the alumni returning to Lubbock. Homecoming is always a special time in Raiderland.
- **This year:** In my current position, we have a variety of all our athletics alums returning to campus for homecoming. With the significance of homecoming, it is always nice to have our former athletes want to return for that weekend.

Chris Snead, Texas Tech alumnus, associate vice president of the Texas Tech Alumni Association, [Saddle Tramps](#) sponsor, Spirit Coordinating committee member and Raider Red committee member, class of 1993

- **Favorite memory:** My first memory of homecoming was my freshman year attending the bonfire in 1987. Back then it was way out on the west end of campus near where the West Village residence hall is today. We were playing Arkansas for some reason, and I still don't know why, since we had an awful Tulsa on the schedule the next week. Regardless, at the time, it was the biggest bonfire I had ever seen and at the top of it was an outhouse with a Razorback on it. That always struck me as "pretty cool!"

- **Favorite tradition:** Now that I work at the Alumni Association, I enjoy getting to welcome home those alumni who have not been on the campus for a long time. I love to hear them talk about how much the campus has changed and then immediately say, “Let’s take a tour,” and put them in my truck and drive them around to all of the new facilities.
- **This year:** My daughter is a freshman in the Goin’ Band and this will be her first homecoming bonfire. I hope she will have memories that she will recall in 20 years the way I do today.



# Web Only

## **Human Resources About Giving Employees Tools to Succeed**

In hiring, training, benefits and more, administrators say they want to help.

By Glenys Young

Those in charge of the Texas Tech University [Human Resources](#) department don't want it to be thought of as a big stop sign.

"I think overall it's important that the campus sees us as a collaborative partner and not a roadblock – sometimes people associate human resources with the process police or those types of things," said Jodie Billingsley, assistant vice president of human resources and payroll services. "While it is very important that we monitor and achieve compliance, there's a right way to do it. It can be extremely challenging, but I feel like our relationships are really good on campus so if we have to say no, it's only after we've exhausted every possible solution."

With 37 employees in five focus areas, Human Resources offers exactly what its name states: tools for the people employed in the Texas Tech community. From hiring the best candidate for open positions on campus, to coaching employees to be successful, to all the nitty gritty details about benefits, retirement and pay, Human Resources is there to help.

"Individuals have many different perceptions about Human Resources; some people are very experienced with working with us and some people aren't," said Todd Phillips, associate managing director of talent management. "I think some employees may have the perception that 'you only go to Human Resources if there's a problem.' And we want employees to understand, this is a place you can come for solutions.

"A lot of times, we'll ask 'what would you like to have happen? What is the result you would like to see?' And then we'll try to work toward getting there," Phillips added. "So whether it's an employee, a supervisor or whomever, let us know what's going on and what you'd like to see happen and we'll work on that. It's not something that you have to come to HR and all of a sudden there's a full-blown investigation. Everybody thinks we're so focused on compliance, but not necessarily. What we are all really focused on is making our employees successful."

## **Compensation and operations**

When a campus department is looking to hire a new employee, the first area in Human Resources to interact with is compensation and operations.

"In compensation and operations, we start out working with the department to make sure they have the right positions in their organizational structure they need to fulfill the

business needs of their department,” said Lacey Ellis, associate managing director of compensation and operations.

From there, the talent acquisition area recruits for that position and helps the department make a good hire. The new hire paperwork then comes back to compensation and operations to determine how much the department will pay the new employee and where that money will come from.

“We make sure departments follow the rules, university policies as well as federal rules,” Ellis said. “We have a lot of things we have to be compliant with and we want to make it easy for the departments, as easy as we can, for them to be compliant so we can keep our grant funding.”

### **Talent acquisition**

Talent acquisition is the area in charge of recruiting new hires and working with applicants from the time they apply until they are hired and onboarded.

“In our talent acquisition area, we focus on strategic hiring: How do we hire the right people in the right positions instead of having positions that are continually turning over?” Billingsley said. “And we look for those trends. If that’s happening, we reach out to those departments and ask if we can help with their next hire to see if we can work through the process together.”

Another way Human Resources helps departments is by visiting with the top applicants when departments are making strategic hires.

“Use us as the resource when you’ve narrowed down your top applicants to explain the university’s benefits so there are no surprises when they arrive,” Billingsley said. “That’s definitely one of the ways we can assist in the process.”

### **Benefits and retirement**

One thing almost all new employees want to know about is their benefits, and Texas Tech has a whole area of Human Resources dedicated to it. From insurance and retirement to holidays and leave time, they can help employees shape their plans to best suit their situations.

### **Talent management**

Once new employees are in the door, they are most likely to interact with talent management, which has a two-fold focus: employee development and employee relations.

“The development side is our training section, whether it’s leadership training, communication skills, team building with a group, or a change of management,” Phillips said. “We work with organizations and help them work through their specific situations. Employee recognition is an important part of that as well, so we encourage our departments to nominate employees for distinguished staff awards. We recognize employees for their years of service during a Length of Service ceremony as well. We also



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have service excellence awards which recognize employees any time of year who are doing an excellent job and supervisors want to reward their effort.”

Talent management also manages employee leave and special accommodations.

“Helping our employees who are experiencing difficulties in life such as a medical condition, whether it’s their own or a family member’s, or if they have a disability, or helping managers who have an employee who may have a disability and they need some assistance in accomplishing their job, we manage all those functions as well,” Phillips said. “We help the departments and the employees work together.”

### **HR systems**

The final focus area, HR systems, is about developing, communicating and executing appropriate solutions to meet the university’s needs related to HR reporting, learning management and information verification.

“We work on efficiencies, trying to make all of our processes efficient,” said Candice Rice, associate managing director of HR systems. “We’re moving away from paper and trying to automate as many processes as we can. Any time we can automate a process and make it more efficient for our campus that’s a big initiative for us.”

HR systems manages the university’s learning management system, which can host training programs for the Texas Tech campus.

### **Putting it all together**

“Although we are focused in different areas, HR is like a giant game of Jenga: you don’t necessarily touch one piece without affecting all the others,” Phillips said. “In HR, we come from very diverse backgrounds that include private industry, the government sector and the military. We bring with us many different experiences and approaches, which I believe has made us an effective team and successful in what we’re doing, in trying to establish the culture.”

And Billingsley said in many cases, people do reach out to Human Resources.

“Employees and managers come to us for advice: ‘how do I work with my manager better?’ or those types of things. Those types of things can be in complete confidence,” she said. “It never leaves the office. And then they go back and usually it helps them. With our resources, we are able to work with both the employee and the manager, individually or together, depending upon what the situation requires.”

While Human Resources can help with specific problems, it also can help point the way for general questions.

“I think we’re a good place to come when you’re not sure where to go,” Phillips said. “We may not know, but we’ll help you find out. We do have a lot of contacts with other resources, whether it’s the Employee Assistance Program that runs out of the Health Sciences Center or whether it’s maybe the [Student Counseling Center](#) or student enrollment or [Student Business Services](#). We have a lot of employees that are also students here: Title IX issues, working with the dean of students and the Title IX officer, the general counsel and such. It’s a good place to come when you don’t know where to go.”

Billingsley said because Human Resources is involved in both the hiring and termination processes, there is a lot of pressure to maintain the positive way people – employees past, present or future, or just the general public – see the university.

“We’re the first department employees interact with when they’re coming in and we’re the last they interact with when they’re going out, so regardless of the reason they are leaving, it’s a requirement to treat each employee with compassion and just be very sensitive to their situations,” she said. “I think it’s extremely important, anytime we interact with someone, to leave them with a positive impression.”



# Web Only

## **Jaclyn Cañas-Carrell Wants to Help Others Follow in Her Footsteps**

Faculty member's Hispanic heritage is a big part of her desire to help students succeed.

By Glenys Young

Jaclyn Cañas-Carrell holds many positions: associate professor of analytical toxicology and environmental chemistry in the Texas Tech University [Department of Environmental Toxicology](#) and the [Institute of Environmental and Human Health](#) (TIEHH); faculty adviser to the Texas Tech chapter of the [Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science](#) (SACNAS); associate director of the university's [STEM Center for Outreach, Research and Education](#); wife, mother, sister, daughter and granddaughter.

But for the proud third-generation Mexican-American, the role closest to her heart is that of mentor.

“When I got my Ph.D., I did not realize I was a number – that it was such a significant accomplishment for a Hispanic female to finish a STEM degree with a Ph.D.,” Cañas-Carrell said. “The minute I looked into that and saw the numbers were so low and realized I had earned the Ph.D. without many major hurdles other than what a typical grad student goes through, nothing related to my heritage, I instantly felt like I had to give back to other Hispanics and to help other Hispanics earn those post-graduate degrees, to become Dr. So-and-so. That instantly became a passion of mine.”

Rocio Rodriguez, who graduated in May with bachelor's degrees in microbiology and anthropology, has worked with Cañas-Carrell in SACNAS since 2010.

“She was a role model right from the start,” Rodriguez said. “Her personal story speaks leaps and bounds of her character and love for research in STEM. Her excitement levels for advocating and supporting underrepresented minorities and first-generation college students is maintained at sky-high levels throughout the year. It's amazing watching all she does throughout the year, over five years, and it's impossible to not also be enthused with STEM education and research.”

Cañas-Carrell was born and raised in El Paso after her parents moved from South Texas. Her grandparents, who worked as migrant farmers, traveled back and forth from Texas to California each summer and fall to pick crops – a life in which her father was raised.

“It was never a question in my family whether or not I was going to college because my parents are both college-educated, but my grandparents, the furthest any of them went was maybe eighth grade,” she explained. “So to finish a high school degree was important, to go to college was important, and then to get a Ph.D. I feel like I was given that opportunity because of all my grandparents did and suffered and the lives they had that made it

possible for my parents to go to college and then for me to achieve even more than just a bachelor's degree."

Even with the parental support she enjoyed, Cañas-Carrell said her decision to take the route laid out before her was influenced heavily by her brother.

"I give my oldest brother a lot of credit because when he first got out of high school, he was like, 'I'm not going to go to college,'" she said. "He spent a semester just working and quickly realized it wasn't fun and he didn't make very good money, so he went back to school. I think if he had not gone, we might have all followed suit."

So now she works to be the example for her students that her brother was for her. It's not always an easy task.

"A lot of our students are first-generation college students," she said. "Some of them have parents who didn't go to college but support them 100 percent. And then we have some students who have parents who didn't go to college so they don't understand it and just tell them they're wasting time and need to get a job. Or, 'you can go to school but you're going to have to support yourself,' and so those students really just need the moral support of 'you can make this happen, you can do this, I see the potential in you.'"

Cañas-Carrell said these are the most frustrating situations for two reasons: first, because family is so important both to her and to the students, and second, because these situations are out of her control.

"If a student is struggling in a class, we can say 'OK, we've got to get you tutoring.' I can advise them on 'maybe you should drop that class' or 'you need to retake that' or 'don't take this before you take that' – those kinds of things are easy," she said. "But the family thing, all I can do is tell them I understand. 'These are some ways you can try to attack it or deal with it or overcome it,' but in the end, they have to be the one to make the decision to either stand up to their family or not. Some of our students have said 'I've got to move away or else I'll never get out.' It's tough when you see a really good student who just gets trapped in a family situation that doesn't allow them to flourish or grow."

Even with the stress and frustrations of those situations, she knows her role is important.

"When I became a faculty member, I sought out service opportunities that allowed me to work with students who were Hispanic or even just underrepresented students in general," she said. "Being the faculty adviser for the SACNAS chapter was really important to me. When the opportunity came around to apply for funding that could support students like that, I jumped on the chance and said, 'I'm there whatever I can do to help,' and before I knew it I was leading it and then we got the funding. It's a huge passion of mine and so I really focus my energy on it. Whatever I do, besides the teaching that I have to do or the lab research that I have going on, is focused on trying to help underrepresented students to make it through college and then hopefully push them to go on for either a master's or a Ph.D."

And she admits she has been successful.





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“The program I run is going into its seventh year, and we have students who are finishing bachelor’s degrees, going on to get Ph.D.s,” she smiled proudly. “I’ve seen a lot of students in the SACNAS chapter who started out as little freshmen with me, and I’ve watched them grow into these amazing young adults who are going off to graduate school. So I feel like I’ve been successful in helping a lot of students, even if I’m just there to encourage them they can do it. A lot of them have told me it’s huge for them, just to have somebody support them.”

Cañas-Carrell wrote multiple letters of support to help Rodriguez, who applied to various academic conferences as a student.

“It felt great having an adviser who celebrated your victories and supported me through my rejections,” Rodriguez said. “She does this for every SACNAS student. It’s amazing how much dedication she has to us and our success. I admire her not only for her work ethic and integrity in her personal achievements and goals, but also for helping us achieve ours.”

That’s a role Cañas-Carrell intends to fill as long as she’s able.



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## **Personal Financial Planning Team Heading to National Competition**

Seniors Alex Garcia, Shelby Huber and Isaac Rodd are one of eight teams to qualify.

By Heidi Toth

A team from Texas Tech University's [Department of Personal Financial Planning](#) is one of eight throughout the country selected to participate in a national competition at one of the industry's largest conferences.

To qualify for the competition, held at the Financial Planning Association's semiannual conference Sept. 26-28 in Boston, seniors Alex Garcia, Shelby Huber and Isaac Rodd compiled a case study based on a fictional family's financial questions. They submitted their plan on May 15, then dispersed across the country for internships. They found out in late July their case study was accepted for the final stages of competition.

All three said they were confident they would make the final round, but it was still nice to get the phone call.

"We put a lot of time into it, but it was still a lot and nothing we've ever done before because none of us had taken a Capstone course yet," said Huber, who is from Keller. "That's kind of the end of your degree."

The team has a lot on the line for this competition. Conference attendees include their faculty, Texas Tech alumni now at other universities and professionals seeking potential hires.

They also want to be the first team from Texas Tech to win this competition. Red Raiders have won every other major competition in the world of personal finance and finished second in this particular contest, but have yet to win.

"There are definitely nerves," Huber said. "It's a big deal. We have a reputation to uphold as a university."

### **Qualifying for Boston**

FPA representatives contacted professor John Salter about the competition, and he presented it to a class. Enough students showed interest that they took an online vote to see which three would participate. Huber, Garcia and Rodd came out on top.

They were happy about it but admitted the process was a lot of hard work. They couldn't consult with any professors or use financial planning software they learned in class and their internships. They had to use Microsoft Excel, which the students had used in class, but not to build a comprehensive financial plan.

Adding to the difficulty, the students had no actual family sitting in front of them needing help. They couldn't ask questions, measure priorities or offer ideas to solve an issue before creating a plan. They had to make assumptions, explain why they made those assumptions and provide alternatives.

"I don't know that there were deliberate curveballs," Garcia, who is from Austin, said. "The information was sometimes vague."

PFP chairwoman Vickie Hampton, who is the co-adviser along with Salter, wasn't surprised when they got the call, either.

"The Financial Planning Challenge is a wonderful opportunity for Alex, Shelby and Isaac to showcase what they are learning in the financial planning program at Texas Tech," Hampton said. "They will represent the university well at the Financial Planning Association Conference. Of course, we would love to see them bring home the overall first-place prize, but we are very proud of them for being among the eight teams selected to compete in Boston."

### **Preparing for the conference**

Team members have less than a month to prepare for the competition. A big chunk of that preparation is preparing for the presentation, which should mimic the format of a financial planning professional talking to a family. They also will go through the judges' feedback on their case study and make changes.

"There are a few things we're going to tweak," Garcia said. "Not a complete overhaul."

From there they plan and rehearse their presentation and review facts for the quiz bowl, which they called a fun addition to the contest. The information will come from the Certified Financial Planner curriculum they study in class.

"It's pretty cool," said Rodd, who is from Tucson. He and Huber took first place in a similar contest earlier this year, so he's confident about the quiz bowl portion.

There's some pressure on the team. Advisers from Garcia's internship will be there as will a number of their professors. Anyone can come in and watch the presentation, so they could end up presenting to dozens of people.

Outside of the competition aspect, they're looking forward to the opportunities to network with potential future employers and coworkers. Professionals from throughout the country attend this conference, and they're looking forward to introducing themselves and their skills.

They also want to meet their peers and learn what students are doing in other programs.

"It'll be nice to network with students, too, because in the future they could be our coworkers," Garcia said.



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## **Sigma Delta Pi Honors Hispanic Heritage, Teaches Spanish Without Classroom Pressures**

The honor society has been part of Texas Tech University for more than 70 years.

By Emily Gardner

[Sigma Delta Pi](#), the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, has had a chapter on the Texas Tech University campus since Feb. 14, 1944. For more than 70 years, the chapter has honored Hispanic heritage among members and through involvement in the Lubbock and Texas Tech communities.

“Hispanic Heritage Month is important because that is when we recognize and celebrate the historical, cultural, linguistic and literary heritage and presence of people of Hispanic descent as well as the contributions they have made in North America,” said Sigma Delta Pi adviser Comfort Pratt.

In 2013, the organization worked with all Hispanic organizations on campus and in Lubbock and the [Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center](#) to establish a citywide Spanish Day, said Pratt, who also is an associate professor in bilingual education. The date chosen was Sept. 15, which also kicks off National Hispanic Heritage Month.

In the two years following the establishment of Spanish Day, Sigma Delta Pi has continued to use this as its kick-off event for Hispanic Heritage Month. This year, Pratt said they had the Spanish Day celebration and hosted the “Diverse Perspectives of Spanish: A Panel of Non-Native Speakers” at the [Teaching, Learning and Professional Development Center](#). The panel consisted of six speakers, including graduate and undergraduate students, high school students and a high school teacher.

“Specifically for Hispanic Heritage Month, we focus on the academic aspects of Hispanic heritage to bring more knowledge to the community,” Pratt said. “Our forums and other events are therefore very academic.”

Throughout the month Sigma Delta Pi plans to host a poetry recital, film festival and school visits. The poetry recital was hosted Sept. 25, and the film festival is broken up into two parts each occurring from 4-6 p.m. in Room 152 of the [College of Education](#) building: part one on Oct. 9 and part two on Oct. 16.

Three schools are selected each year to participate in Viaje fantástico or fantastic journey, which was established 11 years ago in honor of Columbus Day, Pratt said. This year, those schools are Roscoe Wilson Elementary, Ramirez Charter School and Hutchinson Middle School. A group of Sigma Delta Pi members will visit each school to talk about the importance of attending college and learning Spanish, share personal stories about college

and how Spanish has helped them, and ask students what they want to do before explaining how college and learning Spanish can help them achieve their goals. The group will be at Roscoe Wilson at 10 a.m. Thursday (Oct. 1), Ramirez Charter School at 10 a.m. Oct. 8, and Hutchinson Middle School at 10 a.m. Oct. 15.

“We call it Viaje fantástico because, as we explain to the children, learning Spanish is like going on a fantastic journey that will take you to many amazing places, like how Columbus and his crew embarked on a journey that took them to discover the New World,” Pratt said.

Although the organization hosts events specifically for Hispanic Heritage Month, the honor society really honors Hispanic heritage throughout the year, especially in the Lubbock community. Sigma Delta Pi hosts an annual Spanish spelling bee for schools in Lubbock, Lubbock-Cooper and Frenship Independent School districts.

Each school hosts an internal competition to select their top five students. These students then advance to the championship, which is hosted in the [Office of International Affairs](#) auditorium. The top-three finishers receive a plaque and a cash prize and the winning school also receives a plaque. The competition is open to third through eighth graders. Approximately 300 students participate each year and 65 of those advance to the championship.

“We established the spelling bee competition in order to help students learn how to spell in Spanish,” Pratt said. “A lot of our college students struggle to write in Spanish. Since we started the competition, the children have learned to spell very well, and it gets more and more difficult to eliminate them as the years go by.”

Annual poetry competitions, art exhibits, a Spanish discussion table and bilingual readings in schools and libraries also are hosted, and the organization creates content monthly for Spanish Corner in “Latino Lubbock Magazine.”

The honor society is comprised of 55 members who were selected based on the nomination procedure, which focuses on students with a desire to promote the Spanish language and cultures of the Hispanic world. These students also must have 18 Spanish credit hours, including at least three hours of Hispanic literature or culture and civilization at the junior level and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2. Graduate students must have the same GPA, but must have completed at least six Spanish credit hours.

Gayle Jeffers, a doctoral student in bilingual education from St. Christopher and Nevis, has been a member of the organization for five years and has held the position of president and secretary. She said Sigma Delta Pi has had a substantial impact on all aspects of her life, including academically, professionally and socially.

“As a bilingual, I see the world through more than one lens,” she said. “Through membership in Sigma Delta Pi, I’ve gained knowledge of the Hispanic culture much more than I would have in a classroom environment. Through immersion in the art, literature and history of this dynamic population using bilingual reading programs, Spanish Day, Ciclo de Cine, tertulias and Spanish tutoring services along with a full spectrum of other volunteer services and programs, Sigma Delta Pi is designed to provide students of all



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Spanish speaking levels with an opportunity to learn, practice and use their Spanish. Our organization allows students to practice and maintain their Spanish without the pressures of a classroom.”

Sigma Delta Pi is a national honor society and a member of the Association of College Honor Societies. For more information, visit

<http://ttusigmadeltpi.wix.com/texastechuniversity>.



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## **Texas Tech Celebrates Constitution Day**

The Remnant Trust is home to several versions of the United States Constitution.

By Emily Gardner

The Constitution of the United States was adopted on Sept. 17, 1787, and the United States continues to remember that day as Constitution Day. Texas Tech University is home to several first editions of the Constitution, which are part of [The Remnant Trust](#). Fourteen documents, including the first editions, versions of the Articles of Confederation, The Federalist and the Magna Carta, will be displayed as part of a two-week Constitution exhibit at the [Museum of Texas Tech University](#).

The documents are:

- “A Defence of the Constitutions of Government of the United States of America” by John Adams (1788)
- “Commentaries on the Law” by William Blackstone (1771) First American Edition
- “The Federalist” (1802) Second Edition
- “Commentary and Review of Montesquieu’s Spirit of Laws” by Thomas Jefferson (1811)
- “Magna Carta” (1576)
- “The Constitutions of the Several Independent States of America” (1781) First Edition
- “Journals, Acts and proceedings of the Convention assembled at Philadelphia Monday, May 14 and dissolved Monday September 17, 1787, which formed the Constitution of the United States.” (1819)
- “Articles of Confederation” (1789) First Book Edition
- “Secret Proceedings and Debates of the Federal Convention” by Robert Yates (1821)
- “Declaration of Rights” by Gazette of the United States Newspaper (1789)
- “The Gentleman’s Magazine containing the first British Printing of the U.S. Constitution” by The Gentleman’s Magazine (1787) First Edition
- “The Constitution of the United States of America: As proposed by the Convention held at Philadelphia” (1799)
- “Acts passed as a Congress of the United States of America, begun and held at the city of New York, on Wednesday the Fourth of March, in the Year 1789” (1791)
- “An Address From the General Court, to the People of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts” by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (1786)



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## **Texas Tech Installs Two Public Art Sculptures**

The two sculptures were added to campus before the fall semester started.

By Emily Gardner

From Greek mythology to science, the new public art on campus covers various topics.

The Texas Tech University System [Public Art program](#) recently installed several pieces of art across campus as part of several projects.

“Agave Dreams” was installed near the Biology Building on July 30 as part of the 1 percent Public for Art fund from the Biology Life Safety project. The sculpture was created by artist Julian Voss-Andreae, who was selected in 2014 through the call for artists and the finalist interviews. He started working on the sculpture during Fall 2014 and it is the first piece he was commissioned for by Texas Tech.

Voss-Andreae said he started the design work in June 2014 and fabrication began in February 2015.

“It is a great honor to contribute to Texas Tech’s amazing public art collection,” Voss-Andreae said.

“Agave Dreams” is a female figure welded from more than 1,000 laser-cut steel triangles using 3-D scanning, cutting-edge algorithms from computer graphics and software custom designed by Voss-Andreae and used as design tools. The figure is depicted as kneeling on the earth with outstretched hands touching the ground, sheltering an agave plant between the hands, according to the artist.

The sculpture is 10 feet tall and colored blue to represent the sky and water, said Emily Wilkinson, public art director. The sculpture appears to bless a live agave outside the Biology Building and is incorporated with other plants at the site, providing a central approach to viewing nature.

“The sculpture is one of the newest additions to the Texas Tech University System’s Public Art Collection, one of the top 10 ranked public art programs in the nation,” Wilkinson said. “This piece is a unique addition to a varied collection, showing that each piece is specific to its location, but also contributes to the overall outstanding quality of the public art collection.”

“Zeus or Poseidon of Artemision” was installed on the west side of the Texas Tech University Library Aug. 12 as part of the Campus Beautification project. The sculpture was donated to the Texas Tech Public Art Collection in 2013 by Ronald and Susan



Welborn in honor of Glenn and Rene Wade, who both graduated from Texas Tech in 1983. The base and installation costs were funded by the 1 percent public art money in the campus beautification project budget.

The Welborns first met the Wades through the oil and gas industry, in which the two families both participate. The Welborns and Wades have gotten to know each other through the industry, and Welborn said they wanted to honor the couple by donating a piece of art in their names.

The Welborns, who reside in Fort Worth and also are in the ranching business, have donated art before, although this is the first time they have donated to Texas Tech, and Welborn said it will not be the last.

“The people at Texas Tech that have graduated and the people I knew at Texas Tech are what we call solid citizens in the ranching business,” Welborn said. “They are caring people that look out for their neighbors. Texas Tech is like going home every day.”

Karen Holden, director of development, first discovered that the Welborns were interested in donating the statue in August 2013. Holden and Erin Vaden, the previous public art manager, viewed the sculpture later that fall, and the donation was gifted in late December 2013.

The sculpture embodies beauty, control and strength, and it was created during the beginning of the classical period for Greek sculpture, Wilkinson said.

The statue on campus is a cast that was created in 1992 in Italy, she said. Its location was determined because the west side of the Library is part of the Campus Beautification project, but the location also was chosen because there is a statue of Prometheus located on the east side of the building. As a result, the placement provides balance.

“Thought to represent the mightiest of the Olympian gods Zeus, or less likely Poseidon, this monumental bronze sculpture was found in two pieces at the bottom of the sea off the Cape of Artemision in the 1920s,” Wilkinson said. “Zeus is the militant protector ready for action and would have originally been holding a thunderbolt. The statue most likely was created as a votive for a temple dedicated to Zeus. In presenting such works as offerings, the Greeks attempted to appease their gods, earning divine assistance or favor in return.”

The Public Art program installed two other sculptures during the summer, at Bayer CropScience and Bayer Plant Science. Facilities Planning and Construction, which oversees the Public Art program, also is working on public art for the Innovation Hub and Research Park, the new addition to the Rawls College of Business Building, the Human Sciences Life Safety project, the Maddox Engineering Research Center and the new System Office Building.

### **About Julian Voss-Andreae**

Voss-Andreae is a German-American sculptor based in Portland, Oregon. He has been commissioned for works at several other U.S. universities, and his background in science often is reflected in the sculptures he creates. Other works include “Spannungsfeld” and



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protein sculptures: “Synergy” and “Angel of the West.” For more information, visit his [website](#).

**About Ronald and Susan Welborn**

The Welborns participate in the ranching and oil and gas industries and live in Fort Worth. The family has been collecting original molds for Michelangelo’s art since the early 2000s and has donated Michelangelo busts to several sites, including cathedrals in New York and a church in Fort Worth.



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## **Texas Tech Interns Describe Inspirational Visit from Pope Francis**

Several students who are spending the semester working on Capitol Hill attended the event at the West Lawn as Pope Francis blessed the crowd after speaking to Congress.

By Heidi Toth

Katie Lingafelter's alarm went off at 4 a.m. on Thursday.

She was one of half-dozen congressional interns from Texas Tech University who put on their suits and dresses and headed to the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol where, hours later, Pope Francis walked out onto a balcony and greeted the crowd of thousands.

It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, several of the interns said.

"I think this particular pope, Pope Francis, is able to resonate with our generation beyond denominational boundaries," said Lingafelter, an energy commerce major from Hobbs, New Mexico, who is interning in Congressman Joe Barton's office. "I am not Catholic; however, I really admire and am inspired by Pope Francis because he is so progressive in regard to many social issues, much like our generation.

"He is bringing to light the accepting and forgiving nature that faith and the church are supposed to have."

Several other students joined Lingafelter in the early morning trip to the West Lawn. Jared Vander-Dussen, a political science major who is an intern for Sen. Ted Cruz, said the group arrived on the West Lawn just before 6 a.m. They laid down a sheet on the grass, in view of one of the many jumbo screens set up around the area, and watched Pope Francis address the joint session of Congress. The pope didn't shy away from controversial tactics.

"Pope Francis is very political, making statements on issues that are affecting our country, such as immigration and the death penalty," Vander-Dussen said.

Even though he knew the pope was coming, Vander-Dussen didn't think he would have a chance of seeing him until a few days before the papal visit. The administrative assistant in Cruz's office asked if he wanted a ticket to go, and realizing he'd probably never have the chance to see the pope again, he said yes. Although the West Lawn of the Capitol is large, the group garnered a spot close enough for a good view of Pope Francis, who addressed the people outside shortly after 11 a.m. Thursday.

Lingafelter said she was inspired by much of what the pope did during his time in Washington, including visiting a group of homeless people during lunch and greeting the masses who crowded his routes. She also appreciated that he made some of his speeches in English, although he isn't fluent. She attributed it to his desire to connect with all people.

“The pope took the time to come and pray for the entire crowd,” she said. “He also was extremely invested in the huge crowds who came to see him. He kissed babies, prayed over the sickly, hugged followers and greeted the people in ways most politicians would never take the time to do.

“It is honestly amazing that so many individuals respect and admire the pope, regardless of their opinions or religion. His demeanor, which radiates even from a distance, brings together so many people.”

Lyric Kilpatrick, an agricultural communications major from Moody who is interning for Rep. Randy Neugebauer, said she enjoyed meeting other people who had come to the West Lawn to see the pope as well. All of them wanted the chance to experience this moment in history.

“Pope Francis spoke knowledgeably on all political topics that are being dealt with in our government today, and he truly had a way with words,” she said. “He knew how to speak about the policies and topics without stating them and still made his stance known. This experience will always be the one thing I’ll remember most about my time on Capitol Hill.”

One other Texas Tech intern attended as well. Erin Wallace, a social work major from Austin who is interning for Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee, was raised Catholic and hoped to see the pope. She’s admired Pope Francis since he became the head of the Roman Catholic Church because of his ability to connect to all types of people and spread hope to people, both Catholic and non-Catholic, worldwide.

However, Wallace was scheduled to work all day. Her getting to attend was a lucky break. Instead of normal office work, Jackson Lee assigned her to go with some of the congresswoman’s guests to ensure they were taken care of at the papal visit.

She described quiet moments of pure joy as the thousands of people listened, intermixed with overwhelming emotions when people screamed and cried.

“I felt very lucky just to be in his presence and see him bless the crowd, myself included,” Wallace said. “The atmosphere of the whole event was truly heart-warming. For a few moments in the Capitol and on the lawn, there were no political parties and no judgment, only a group of open hearts and open minds.

“It was a beautiful thing to sit outside and soak up the warm sun and feel the palpable love of people from all over the world joined together in celebration.”

### **About the congressional internship program**

Texas Tech offers internships to graduate and undergraduate students. Interns spend a semester in Washington, D.C., living at the Tech House across the street from the U.S. Capitol and working with a legislator or committee on Capitol Hill. Students get a scholarship to help pay for their time in D.C. For more information about applying, visit the [Government & Public Service Internship Program](#). There is a similar program for students in the [College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources](#).



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## **Texas Tech Researcher Studying Wind Ramp Events on Turbine Farms**

The goal of Miao He's research, funded by the National Science Foundation and the Energy Reliability Council of Texas, is to mitigate power loss from sudden wind changes.

By George Watson

Wind always seems to be the one thing, no matter the season, the South Plains has in abundance. Because of that, wind turbines rise prominently above the horizon all across West Texas, making the region one of the leading producers of wind power.

But while the presence of wind is consistent, the speed and direction of those winds seem to change quickly, especially when weather-related events roll through. Those occurrences, called wind ramp events, not only affect people and property on the ground, but also the efficiency of those wind turbines.

It is that efficiency that Miao He, an assistant professor in the Texas Tech University [Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering](#), is studying in an effort to maintain wind power reliability when sudden changes in wind speeds and direction occur.

"My research focus is on how to predict changes in wind 10 to 30 minutes ahead of that change so that wind farm operators and power system operators can be prepared for these events," He said. "There are a lot of signatures we can use from real-time measurements from wind farms to tell when this wind ramp event is going to happen and how significant a drop or increase it will be. It's sort of prediction quantification."

To help with his research, He received two large grants totaling more than \$618,000. He received \$318,610 from the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT), and \$299,960 from the National Science Foundation (NSF).

He will develop data analytics tools to measure sensory data from wind farms, focusing on developing algorithms and software tools to detect wind ramp events as well as extracting real-time data information to help wind farm operators determine how much to increase or decrease power output from wind turbines depending on the disruptiveness of the wind ramp event.

### **Wind Farm Power Output**

West Texas has become a significant producer of wind power. But the turbines are also greatly affected by changes in weather or wind ramp events.

"In the NSF-funded project we focus on one of the dominant events that wind ramp events are caused by, which are weather fronts," He said. "Weather fronts are events that, ahead of them and behind the fronts, wind speeds and weather conditions are totally different."

They can cause a sudden change of wind power. Even extreme weather conditions like icing can cause wind power ramp events on wind farms.”

Maintaining the level of output from wind turbines in the face of wind changes is critical to the reliability of regional power grids. That makes measuring power reduction or increase from wind ramp events paramount to maintaining that output.

He’s research will involve utilizing sensors on wind turbines able to measure the changes in weather and wind. Together with data that show how much the event in question reduces or increases power output from wind turbines, He hopes to develop an algorithm that can tell wind farm operators how much to increase or decrease turbine output on one end of the farm to compensate for the power loss or increase on the other end.

Using signal processing tools and data mining technology, He said the first step is to discover the signature of a specific wind ramp event, such as its direction and magnitude. Then the goal is to determine which region of the wind farm will first incur the wind power reduction, followed by technology to estimate how fast the event will move through the wind farm.

“That information will be critical in determining in the next 10 minutes, which area the front will cover and how much reduction will be induced,” He said. “We need to detect these events as early as possible and quantify them so that the power system generator and the wind farm generator can adjust accordingly.”

### **Other factors**

Wind ramp events, though, are not the only reasons for power reduction or increase with wind farms.

Another factor is what is called sub-synchronous interaction, which involves power loss in transmission from wind farms to power stations. Because most large wind turbine farms are built in remote, rural areas, they require lengthy transmission lines to reach power stations, and there is a subsequent amount of energy that is lost in that transmission.

He said a fundamental technology to reduce the amount of power lost is to deploy capacitors at different locations along the line so that the aggregate transmission is near capacity. However, motors in wind turbines can appear inductive, and this can cause oscillation of current in the transmission lines which limits power transfer.

One goal of the study funded by NSF is to find a way to reduce this oscillation and subsequent loss of power. He said the amount of power lost is not large, but it is enough to warrant studies on ways of reducing it.

“It is a fairly new event and people have been looking at how to mitigate these events,” He said. “We need to mitigate these events so more power can be transferred from wind farms through long transmission lines.”

He is hopeful the project can be finished and the detection algorithms can be tested and developed and in the marketplace within three to five years. The ultimate objective of the study, He said, is to build an online data analytics tool to integrate into the control rooms



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of wind farm operators and power system operators to aid in decision making during wind ramp events.

“The goal of the project is to deliver the algorithm and support tools for power system operators and wind farm operators to handle these wind power events,” He said.





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## **Texas Tech Researchers Head Study on Impact of Public Access Areas on Rivers**

The team in the Department of Natural Resources Management received a grant from Texas Parks and Wildlife with hopes of opening additional access areas.

By George Watson

Heading to the local lake or to a state park with a lake is almost a given for most Texans. Water recreation is a major part of the state's economy and culture.

What might not be as commonly known, however, are the recreational possibilities provided by the more than 191,000 miles of Texas rivers and streams, from which most people in the state live within a mile of. Through recent initiatives like the Texas Paddling Trails Program and the River Access and Conservation Area Program (RACA), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) has encouraged recreational access to rivers and streams.

Access to those areas, however, remains limited, mostly because access points to those rivers and streams sit on privately owned properties. Programs like RACA have opened up previously inaccessible reaches of rivers to anglers. However, very little data exists on how much those public access points are used and how much that access affects the water and wildlife both within the stream and habitat along the banks.

Thanks to a provision in the most recently passed farm bill and an almost \$250,000 grant from TPWD, a group of Texas Tech researchers in the [Department of Natural Resources Management](#) with the [Cooperative Research Unit](#) hopes to quantify those effects with the goal of opening up even more public access areas across the state.

"The TPWD is prioritizing increasing access to river sites for paddling and fishing areas, primarily," said Tim Grabowski, a research assistant professor at Texas Tech University who is heading up the study. "The grant calls for us to develop a way to monitor these impacts of this increased access and have the baseline data necessary to provide landowners with answers of what to expect if they participate in the program. This is critical for the TPWD biologist who makes the initial contact with the landowner and has to field those questions."

### **Starting the study**

The RACA was funded by a grant in 2011 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program that established seven new river access areas along the banks of the Brazos, Colorado, Guadalupe and Neches rivers. Earlier this year, additional funding for the program allowed for establishment of at least 10 additional river access areas.

These 10 new sites will be chosen after consideration of several factors – high quality riverine and riparian habitats, high recreational potential, areas currently with limited access, allow for upstream or downstream connections to other river access areas and where long-term leases with landowners can be negotiated (preferably 10 years or more).

Grabowski said work to determine the new sites began in August with the selection of a new research associate who will work closely with TPWD. Initial sites have been identified on the Brazos, Guadalupe and Colorado rivers as well as the Nueces, Neches and Sabine rivers, and TPWD is in the process of securing leases.

“Most of these sites are on the main stem of rivers,” Grabowski said. “One of our priorities is to gain access to reaches between existing access points in order to make Texas rivers more accessible to fishermen, kayakers and canoers. For example, securing public access leases on a long stretch of river between a bridge and a public boat ramp will create access points so people could pull out or put in and create a long corridor of accessible habitat for recreation.”

These access points, Grabowski points out, are not for the fishermen with large, glistening bass boats with 200-horsepower engines. But he hopes it will open up a resource to a large group of individuals who he says have been somewhat underrepresented in fisheries in Texas but who make up a significant portion of the anglers in the state.

Once the new sites have been determined, the Texas Tech team and TPWD will work to identify and implement the best management practices, which can include fine-tuning management strategies to reduce erosion, improve water quality, restore and preserve native plant life, ensure functional riparian zones and support habitats for fish and other aquatic life.

Also, infrastructure construction, such as parking, river access trails, signage and informative kiosks will be supported through the program.

“Generally it depends on what the land is used for that will dictate what the best management practices are,” Grabowski said.

### **Preservation with recreation**

The goal of the study is to not only open up more access points to Texas rivers and streams, but ensure that doing so preserves the ecological balance of the area while also protecting the water in the river, which serves numerous purposes.

“Unfortunately, a lot of people view rivers as drainage ditches or a way to move water from one property to another,” Grabowski said. “In terms of benefits for people who have river access, access to fresh water is just one of many. In general, public rivers and streams are important sources of fresh water for everybody in Texas, but the biological organisms supported by rivers and streams include a lot of species found nowhere else in the world and perform important ecosystem services.

“Fresh water in rivers makes it down to the coast and fuels a lot of productivity that both commercial and recreational fishers depend on. So from a financial standpoint, it is significant. Some of my colleagues here at Texas Tech just completed a study down in the



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Edwards Plateau rivers and streams that shows fishermen contribute something like \$70 million a year to the local economy. Those are the sort of things that bring added value through time.”

Grabowski said the current research will focus on four key components. The first is the fish, primarily the amount of sport fish present in the area, their composition, population and how best to ensure species conservation. The second is assessing the coverage of riparian vegetation, i.e., the vegetation along the banks of the river. The third is assessing how many people use the area, what it is used for and how often, for which they will utilize game trail cameras. The fourth is landowner perspective regarding parking and traffic.

“It’s just a lot of counting and crunching numbers in order to determine how much effort needs to be put into monitoring these sites to ensure their sustainable use,” Grabowski said.

“How do we design a study that is statistically justifiable? We’re working on developing the method to get an in-depth look at what is going on at sites where we expect impact will occur.”

Grabowski expects the results to show the environmental and biological impacts at river access points to be minimal. His hope is it will be insignificant enough to convince more landowners to join the RACA program and continue to allow access to the state’s beautiful natural resources.

“In the grand scheme of things, 95 percent of land in Texas is privately owned, and that makes it difficult for most people to get access to natural resources for recreational purposes,” Grabowski said. “There can be long stretches of rivers where the public realistically does not have access because you can paddle only so far in a day, and if you don’t camp out on the bank, it can make for a long dark drift down the river.

“Our hope is to establish the protocol to be handed off to the state and the research continues on past the duration of the study.”



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## **Texas Tech Theater Professor Reminisces About Broadway, Teaching**

Dean Nolen discusses “Mamma Mia!” memories from auditions  
to how he was affected by 9/11.

By Emily Gardner

The first time Dean Nolen was in New York for “Mamma Mia!” he was rehearsing for his Broadway debut in October during Sept. 11, 2001. The next time, he arrives in New York on the 14th anniversary of 9/11 to attend the final showing of this production of “Mamma Mia!”

“It was a life-altering day for all of us, certainly a mark in history,” the head of the acting and directing program at Texas Tech University said. “So ‘Mamma Mia!’ left a very large, personal connection with me just by virtue of the fact that we were there and working on the show. We all thought ‘Wow, this is really such a serious experience we’re going through here in New York City.’”

“It didn’t take us long to realize what we were offering in this show was a way to escape the horrors of 9/11 and make audiences feel good despite an event so devastating to so many. I think it became clear to us we could not live in fear, we had to move forward and live our lives. I think that’s what all Americans started feeling. That was the reasoning behind us picking up with rehearsals Sept. 12 and moving forward.”

Nolen, an assistant professor of acting in the [School of Theatre & Dance](#), said had he not been rehearsing for the show, he wasn’t sure what he would have done. He remembers nurses coming to see the show three or four times after it opened. The cast could always tell when there was a dignitary in the audience because of the increased number of secret service agents that were present in and around the theater.

Nolen tells a story about former Secretary of State Colin Powell attending the show and sitting next to Donny Osmond. That was the same night the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, also was in attendance.

“It was a very bizarre evening seeing that combination of people,” he said. “Prime Minister Netanyahu was standing up in front of his seat dancing. Then Secretary Powell came down the aisle and shook his tail feathers right in front of the stage with all the other folks who came running down the aisles. It was a celebration.”

And the celebration has continued for 14 years, with sold-out performances and lines of people waiting outside to meet the cast, Nolen said, before making its Broadway exit Saturday night (Sept. 12). Nolen was invited back to New York for the final performance of this production and will be in attendance, with several other original cast members.

Participating in “Mamma Mia!” was a positive experience for Nolen, the cast and the audience. He thinks there could be a revival in later years or with a new generation, but at this time, it was time to let go of this Broadway production.

“It’ll be a beautiful moment,” Nolen said. “I think the show is such a loving portrait of family, of an unconventional family, of relationships between mother, daughter and best friends, and there’s a wonderful adult component to the show. It met a great need for people who needed to enjoy and strictly be entertained and moved. Was it the most earth-shattering, Pulitzer Prize of dramatic moments in the history of the theater? No. Was it designed to be that? No. It was meant to be what it has been, and that is a feel-good, moving piece of musical theater.”

Nolen originated the role of Harry Bright in the Broadway production of “Mamma Mia!” He got a call from his agent about auditioning but was a little hesitant because although he was familiar with ABBA, they weren’t his favorite band growing up in the 1970s. Nolen said he eventually relented and attended a week of auditions and call backs before landing the part.

“I had never done a musical that was based on pop songs, or a pop group,” he said. “I’d only done musicals that were written as musical theater pieces, so this was a new experience. Still to this day, when I hear ‘Dancing Queen’ I’m absolutely thrown back to the stage at the Winter Garden Theatre.”

Nolen, who auditioned for the part about a year after he graduated from Yale School of Drama with his master’s of fine arts degree in acting, co-starred in the production for more than a year before leaving to work on “Omnium Gatherum,” a play directed by former Yale classmate Will Frears.

“I love musical theater, it is something that I teach and that I absolutely love, but I also, as an actor, needed to work on a really strong, dramatic piece as well,” Nolen said. “‘Omnium Gatherum’ ended up being short-listed for the Pulitzer Prize, so it was a really exciting adventure, and believe it or not, during an ‘Omnium Gatherum’ rehearsal the blackout occurred in New York City – the big 2003 blackout on the east coast. I lived between New York and LA for many years, so my love and loyalty for the city runs deep and I will always be a New Yorker at heart. Although, I always seem to be there when something major happens.”

Nolen received his bachelor’s degree in theater and music from Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, where he also was the artistic director and an assistant professor of theatre before coming to Texas Tech, where he is beginning his second year.

Mark Charney, the director of the School of Theatre & Dance, said Nolen is one of the new hires who represents the future of Theatre & Dance while having respect for the past and tradition.

“At Texas Tech, we try to practice both scholarly and creative, professional and academic, and Dean is the perfect mix,” Charney said. “He has tons of great experience but knows



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how to translate it to the classroom. Originating a role is important, too, because Dean can explain just how that occurs, and he can watch as others take on the role.”

Charney said Nolen is one of the program’s best teachers, which was evident in the way he coached Texas Tech’s Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival acting auditionees.

“He’s a patient but very demanding coach, and he makes sure all our students have chosen audition pieces that play to their strengths,” Charney said. “Because he has so much experience he can actually find the pieces that best suit students in the professional world. He also is one of our best ranked teachers. Students love his honesty and how well he integrates his experience into his lesson plans, and I love how much he knows about both the academic and professional world.”

Nolen will perform in Europe this summer and direct a production at the Pegasus Theatre in Dallas in the next year. He also is writing a television script for a pilot of a television series and will continue to teach.

“I will always be an actor. It is who I am, it is my craft,” Nolen said. “I think all actors also should be teachers. I think there is part of us that needs to pass on our craft so I’m a teaching artist, and I act and direct. I still do work as a professional artist. At the same time, I’m so fortunate to teach and share my own experience and what I happen to love about the theater with a new generation who are also as passionate as I am.

“I’m lucky as an actor to be able to teach as well because it informs my own work as I’m working with other young actors. I make sure they know we are all actors together, that I understand their plights, where they’re at since I’ve been there myself. So it’s a thrill and an honor to be able to teach. I find that I continue to learn as much about my own work as I do teaching it to others. It’s a win-win situation.”



# Web Only

## **Thomas Jay Harris Institute Crucial in Research, Education of Hispanic Media**

The Institute in the College of Media & Communication has played a key role in understanding and disseminating information related to media use by Latinos.

By George Watson

Hearing the term “Hispanic-related media” might evoke images of television networks Telemundo or Univision, but not much else.

The general perception is Hispanic-related media references only to news or entertainment outlets that speak Spanish. The reality is, however, Hispanic media goes far beyond that.

Recent research by the Texas State Demographer’s Office showed Hispanics will become the state’s largest racial/ethnic group by 2019 and will be the majority group by 2040.

Spreading knowledge of Hispanic/Latino communication from around the world through research, education and community outreach is the goal of the [Thomas Jay Harris Institute for Hispanic and International Communication](#) in Texas Tech University’s [College of Media & Communication](#).

Founded in 2006 and later named for the former editor of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal whose financial support was instrumental in its growth, the Institute promotes research and education in the areas of international communication. That includes not only Spanish language media, but any media that focuses on Hispanic and Latino issues in any language.

“(Former Dean) Jerry Hudson was very instrumental in launching this initiative,” said Kent Wilkinson, regents professor in Hispanic and international communication. “We were fortunate to get the gift from Thomas Jay Harris’ Estate. Harris was very devoted to Texas Tech and to helping students have international experiences because they were important in his own life.”

### **Hispanic media function**

Wilkinson said Hispanic and Latino media are used differently than other forms of media. The main purpose, he said, is to stay connected to Hispanic and Latino heritage.

“It tends to be used by people in order to maintain their ethnic identity in a way to connect to other Hispanics and Latinos within the U.S. and also in their country of origin,” Wilkinson said. “It doesn’t matter if they’ve been in the country a few months or a few years or have been here for generations. It’s a way to keep that connection going.”

To do that, Wilkinson said Hispanic/Latino media tend to be more entertainment-oriented than on news and information. That is especially true nowadays, he added, thanks to a

trend where the Hispanic/Latino community is growing more from births within the U.S. than through the perceived influx of immigration.

“We have generations growing up very much socialized in the U.S. and going to English-speaking schools and being socialized more as Americans,” Wilkinson said, “but they are dealing with the cultural identity and connections to their country of origin. It is an interesting challenge for media companies.”

To help the media meet that challenge, the Harris Institute conducts tremendous research into how Hispanics and Latinos use media, whether it’s in English, Spanish or bilingual.

Wilkinson touted the Institute’s diversity among its faculty and students both within the college and in other colleges as well, and that has helped drive one research project where faculty examined content of international newspapers and how they covered the 2012 presidential elections. They examined coverage from the month before the election in newspapers in seven different languages from eight different countries, a project Wilkinson said was only feasible because of the Institute’s diversity.

Another study currently underway involves what is called a uses and gratification study. The project examines how young adults in four different countries – United States (Texas specifically), Mexico, Colombia and Chile – use their smartphones to stay informed.

“It’s very important in showing us how they use these devices, but particularly this young demographic that is of interest to industry and politicians,” Wilkinson said. “We’re able to understand more clearly what the relationship is with a smartphone in different countries.”

And speaking of politics, Hispanics and Latinos have become a large focus in the early part of the 2016 presidential race, in particular with the attention paid to illegal immigration.

At a recent campaign news conference, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump had a confrontation with Univision anchor Jorge Ramos about Trump’s disparaging remarks about Latinos crossing the border into the U.S. illegally.

Wilkinson said the confrontation raised several issues that he discussed with his special topics class: When does a journalist stop becoming an objective news person and becomes an advocate for ethnicity? Does he have the responsibility to become that advocate? What would Trump’s relationship with Mexican leaders be given his comments?

“It’s interesting to see the way that played out and what the role of journalists will be in trying to get clear answers on perspectives or points of view,” Wilkinson said. “I think immigration will be one of a number of issues as we go along.”

### **Cross-discipline focus**

The Harris Institute promotes education of Hispanic/Latino media through a number of measures – coursework, research, funding lectures, conferences and other events related to Hispanic and Latino media, collaboration with other departments at Texas Tech and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, recruitment and retention of students to study Hispanic and international media as well as faculty and student international exchanges.





One initiative that exemplifies that, Wilkinson said, is the organization of the Texas Tech Hispanic/Latino Researchers' symposium Oct. 7. The idea is to bring together faculty and students who conduct Hispanic and Latino-oriented research in all disciplines and all colleges to share their work and organize as a group. With Texas Tech's push toward becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution status, the university can attract more attractive for grants, making Texas Tech more competitive with other universities performing similar research.

Wilkinson also lauded the university's Quality Enhancement Program (QEP) to promote communication in a global society, saying it fits perfectly with the focus of both the College of Media & Communication and the Harris Institute.

"It's all sort of coming together and giving us more support and momentum," Wilkinson said.

### **International Journal of Hispanic Media**

In September of 2014, the Harris Institute's status grew in stature when it took over stewardship of the [International Journal of Hispanic Media](#) and Wilkinson was named its editor.

Formerly known as the Journal of Spanish Language Media, the Journal focuses on bilingual and English-language media that targets Hispanic audiences in the U.S. while maintaining an international focus. The Journal publishes a wide range of articles showcasing quality research that promotes Hispanic media.

"It gives us more visibility as a place where important work on Hispanic media is being conducted," Wilkinson said of the Journal. "It is an international journal so some of it comes from other Latino countries, but much of it is from the U.S. We want to have that international focus but also recognize that we're not only talking about Spanish-language media as was the case 15 or 20 years ago where Latinos were defined by language."

Wilkinson pointed out that in the 201 and 2014 July television sweeps periods, Univision beat all other media, including traditional media. Several factors, most notably the World Cup, played a role in that. But new English-language channels are being developed geared toward Hispanic audiences, and the Journal's goal is to keep the public informed from an academic perspective as these changes occur.

An advisory board helps the Journal in terms of making it interesting to people in the industry and distribute information not only within academic circles but outside the industry as well.

"We're finding that more and more people of different disciplines see the importance of media and persuasion in communication," Wilkinson said. "We'll be attracting more and more participation and attention as we move forward."

With an eye toward the future, the Journal will continue to be an integral part of the overall mission of the Harris Institute. As the Hispanic and Latino community continues to grow, its influence in the fabric of society will do the same.

“As this group gains more prominence, we need to have a clearer understanding of their political attitudes and behaviors as well as their media use,” Wilkinson said. “In fact, researchers affiliated with the Harris Institute are currently analyzing results from a statewide survey of Texas Hispanics’ media use and political preferences, a topic that Wilkinson considers quite important going forward.”



# Web Only

## **Working Parents Day Profile – Courtney Meyers**

Texas Tech professor Courtney Meyers talks about her experience being a working parent and how her husband being a stay-at-home father has helped her career.

By Cara Vandergriff

Working Parents Day, observed this year on Sept. 16, is a day dedicated to parents who work hard both at home and on the job to provide for their families. Being a parent is demanding, especially when it involves balancing a full-time job, and many parents have to make sacrifices for both their careers and their children.

Courtney Meyers, an associate professor of [agricultural education and communications](#) at Texas Tech University, is all too familiar with the trials and tribulations that come with being a working parent. Courtney and her husband Daniel have two daughters, Isabel, 7, and Amelia, 4, and are embarking on the parenting adventure in a less traditional way: with Courtney working full-time while Daniel is a stay-at-home dad.

Courtney was born in Kansas, where she earned her bachelor's degree in agricultural communications and journalism from Kansas State University. She continued on to earn her master's from the University of Arkansas and her Ph.D. from the University of Florida.

"I met my husband at Kansas State University where we earned our undergrad degrees," Courtney said. "When I finished my master's at the University of Arkansas, we got married and moved to Florida."

Courtney received her Ph.D. from the University of Florida in Gainesville, which soon led to a job offer from Texas Tech.

"I think Daniel knew when he left his job to go to Florida with me that my goal to pursue a Ph.D. would probably lead to a better paying position than he had," Courtney said. "He knew what he was getting into when he married me."

When Courtney and Daniel moved to Lubbock in 2008, their daughter Isabel was only 6 weeks old.

"At the time, we thought it would be best to just wait to find childcare until we were more settled in Lubbock and could do some research," Courtney said. "But now it's seven years later and my husband is still staying at home with our kids."

After staying home with Isabel for a while after the move, Daniel said he couldn't imagine leaving her.

“It really was a Godsend that he did that,” Courtney said. “My first year of teaching was a blur; I was so sleep deprived and trying to figure out a new university system and new classes and new advising responsibilities, but I never had to worry about the girls being taken care of because he was always there.”

With the requirements of Courtney’s job often being very time-consuming, she said Daniel being at home has helped give her peace of mind when she’s away from home.

“I don’t have to worry about taking off time if the girls are sick, and when I travel I know that someone’s at home taking care of them so I don’t have to worry about finding other childcare,” Courtney said. “Our younger daughter goes to speech therapy sometimes up to six times a week, so it’s been a blessing that he’s been able to take her to that.”

Courtney said though they considered hiring childcare so Daniel could go back to work, the cost didn’t seem like much of an increase compared to the benefits of having someone at home for Isabel and Amelia.

“Daniel grew up with a stay-at-home mom, so he had that model and that idea of what it was like to come home after school to someone who’s there and could pick you up and drop you off and do all those things,” Courtney said. “It’s nice that he had that role model growing up and now he gets to be that person.”

Though Daniel is one of very few stay-at-home dads in his daughters’ schools, Courtney said his family has been supportive of his decision, despite the nontraditional stigma still attached to the role.

“I think the trend is there, more and more, that as women perhaps become the higher earners in the household, more men are becoming comfortable with the idea of staying home,” Courtney said. “He’s never bored. I think if I stayed home I would waste time, but he’s always got housework, he’s remodeled most of our house, he’ll go shopping and cook and keep everything organized.”

Courtney said she’s proud of Daniel, and knows a lot of her success at Texas Tech is due to his willingness to take care of things at home.

“It takes a strong individual to do what he’s done and stay home with our girls,” Courtney said. “I’m really thankful he’s OK with that.”

Courtney began at Texas Tech as an assistant professor in agricultural communications and has since been recognized for her teaching and research abilities. She has co-authored a number of award-winning research papers, serves as a co-sponsor for the Texas Tech chapter of [Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow](#), and is currently serving a two-year term as Research Director for the [Association for Communication Excellence](#).

Courtney said having children hasn’t slowed down her career, but has actually helped her excel as a teacher.

“I’m starting to recognize unique differences in my own children and appreciate that about them, and that extends to the way I treat students,” Courtney said. “By recognizing that



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students come from very diverse backgrounds and have different strengths, I've learned that just because a student may not be good in one area doesn't mean they won't be good in another. I think being a parent has made me a more well-rounded teacher."

Along with helping her better appreciate her students' differences, Courtney said becoming a parent also has helped her better prioritize her time at work and home.

"I think having children perhaps makes you reprioritize where you spend your time," Courtney said. "The time I spend at work, I really try to focus on work, and when I'm home, I try to focus on being at home."

Courtney said one of the biggest things she's learned from being a working parent is how important balance is.

"When I get home in the evenings, I don't check my phone until they go to bed," Courtney said. "If I do, there might be something I need to deal with, and then that takes away from my time with them. Also, more and more, I spend less time working on the weekends than I used to. I really try not to do that, and rather use the weekends as uninterrupted time with them."

Though she sometimes wishes her schedule was less busy, Courtney said she has learned to make the best use of the time she does have with her daughters by allotting time for them that no one else can interrupt.

"Just little things like driving my oldest to school in the mornings lets us spend just a few minutes together," Courtney said. "As long as I have things on my calendar that are theirs, nobody can interrupt that time."

Courtney said as a working parent, it's important to know when to ask for help and to remember that perfection isn't expected.

"I read a quote once that there's no one way to be a perfect mom, but there's hundreds of ways to be a good one," Courtney said. "I think not putting this pressure on myself that everything is going to be perfect all the time really helps. As a working parent, I have to forgive myself because there are just some things I can't make it to. There's always going to be some school programs or parent teacher conferences or volunteering in the classroom that I just can't get to. So learning to forgive myself when I can't do everything is really important."

Courtney said all working parents have to devise their own system, and everyone is unique in the way they balance their responsibilities. Courtney said parenting is a team effort, and with the help of her supportive husband and a good work/home balance, she's figuring out what it takes to be both a professor and a mother.

“I’m very proud of my title as associate professor,” Courtney said. “I’ve worked very hard to get that. But what I’m more proud of are my titles of mother and wife. That’s what’s most important to me.”