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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, glenys.young@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

Photo available upon request.

Chairman of Psychological Sciences Selected as Liberal Arts Dean at Mississippi

Lee Cohen leaves after 15-year career at Texas Tech.

Lee Cohen, a professor of psychology and chairman of the Texas Tech University [Department of Psychological Sciences](#), has accepted a position as the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Mississippi.

He plans to start his new job in August.

“Texas Tech has been my professional home for my entire career and moving away is bittersweet,” Cohen said. “My family and I will greatly miss our many friends and colleagues who have made living in Lubbock so special. I cannot think of a better place to have risen through the ranks and very much appreciate the strong support that my family and I have received from Texas Tech and the Lubbock community since our arrival. This said, we are also very much looking forward to this exciting new opportunity at the University of Mississippi.”

Since coming to Texas Tech in August of 2000, Cohen has served as the director of the nationally accredited doctoral program in clinical psychology for six years and as department chairman for four years. He received several university-wide honors, including the Chancellor’s Council Distinguished Teaching Award, the President’s Academic Achievement Award and the President’s Excellence in Teaching Award. He also was named an Integrated Scholar and was elected into the [Teaching Academy](#). As a researcher, he received more than \$1.5 million from funding agencies, including the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Drug Abuse.

“Lee Cohen has been a wonderful asset to the Department of Psychological Sciences and to Texas Tech,” said W. Brent Lindquist, dean of the [College of Arts & Sciences](#). “The department has benefitted greatly from his strategic vision and I will be looking for a chairperson who contributes to that vision. I wish Lee all the best in his new position. He will prove an asset to ‘Ole Miss.’”

A new chairperson for the department of psychological sciences has not yet been announced.

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



Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2015

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
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Experts Available as 2015 Hurricane Season Begins

Wind scientists and economist discuss damage and safety.

The six-month hurricane season begins June 1, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) expects fewer storms than normal for a third consecutive year. El Niño may be the reason.

Texas Tech University leads the nation in wind research. Texas Tech University has a number of researchers with extensive experience researching hurricanes such as Rita, Katrina and Ike and can speak as experts about various aspects of these devastating storms.

The [National Wind Institute \(NWI\)](#), as it is now known, combines the former Wind Science and Engineering (WiSE) research center, which created the first doctorate in wind science and engineering, with the Texas Wind Energy Institute (TWEI), creator of the only bachelor of science degree in wind energy. NWI strengthens the university's interdisciplinary approach to all things wind.

[John Schroeder](#), professor of atmospheric sciences, visited affected areas after both hurricanes Rita and Katrina to deploy instrumented towers that gather high-resolution storm data at a time when most conventional observation systems fail. Schroeder can offer insight into how hurricanes develop, move and react to various meteorological elements. He is an expert on hurricane winds and has been actively intercepting hurricanes since 1998.

Schroeder can be reached at (806) 834-5678 or john.schroeder@ttu.edu.

[Daan Liang](#), assistant professor of construction engineering technology and interim director of NWI, used satellite images and aerial photos along with ground survey results to investigate building damage caused by Hurricane. Liang used various probability models to study how the construction of buildings affects their vulnerability against severe windstorms. Recently, his research is focused on the advancement of remote sensing technology in documenting and assessing wind damages to residential structures. Liang can be reached at (806) 834-0383 or daan.liang@ttu.edu.

[Ernst Kiesling](#), research professor at NWI and executive director of the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA), recommends that homeowners who live above the flood plane in hurricane-prone areas buy a storm shelter for their home. As was seen in

-more-

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Houston preceding Hurricane Rita, evacuations are stressful and expensive. They often put immense strain on traffic corridors, leading to traffic jams and – in the case of Houston – fatalities. By using in-home shelters, some families who are not required to evacuate can remain where they are and ease the traffic flow. However, Kiesling urges buyers to look for a seal of the NSSA when they buy a safe room for their home, because not all shelters are verified to be fully compliant with current standards for storm shelters and to provide full protection from extreme winds. Kiesling has more than 35 years of experience in the design, standards-writing and quality control of storm shelters.

Kiesling can be reached at (806) 834-1931 or ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu.

[Larry Tanner](#), research associate in civil engineering, completed a six-month investigation working with the FEMA mitigation assessment team on the wind damage to residential structures from Hurricane Ike in Texas and Louisiana. He also was a member of the FEMA mitigation assessment team that studied Hurricane Katrina. He led a team that recorded wind and water damage along the coastline in Louisiana and Mississippi. Much of the damage done by Katrina, he said, resulted from structures being built below the base flood elevation, or the elevation that flood waters will rise to during a 100-year storm event (meaning the storm only has a 1 percent chance of happening in a year).

Tanner can be reached at (806) 834-2320 or larry.tanner@ttu.edu.

[Bradley Ewing](#), professor of operations management in the [Rawls College of Business](#), has studied the economic impact of hurricanes and tornadoes. He can speak to the impact of hurricanes and tornadoes in cities like Oklahoma City; Corpus Christi; Wilmington, North Carolina; Miami, Florida; and Nashville, Tennessee.

Ewing can be reached at (806) 834-3939 or bradley.ewing@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2015

CONTACT: Kari Abitbol, kari.abitbol@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Law Professor Donates Time, Effort for Book

The National Alliance on Mental Illness-Texas received a grant from the Texas Bar Foundation for a book Brian Shannon will draft

[Texas Tech University School of Law](#) Professor Brian Shannon will draft the fifth edition of a book on criminal procedure and mental illness thanks to a generous grant from the Texas Bar Foundation.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness-Texas (NAMI-Texas) has received a grant from the Texas Bar Foundation for the development, production and distribution of the fifth edition of the book, "Texas Criminal Procedure and the Offender with Mental Illness: An Analysis and Guide." The grant includes funds to support law student research assistance.

"I am delighted the Texas Bar Foundation has agreed to fund this education project once more. It has been great to collaborate over the years with NAMI-Texas," said Shannon, a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor and a recognized expert on mental health law who will draft the book on a pro bono basis. "I'm also very proud the books have been widely used by judges, prosecutors and attorneys in numerous cases across the state."

Since 1993, the Texas Bar Foundation has provided four grants to NAMI-Texas for four earlier editions of this detailed guide concerning Texas criminal procedure and offenders with mental illness. Shannon and the late Horn Professor Daniel Benson donated their time to research, write and produce all four editions of the book.

As with previous editions, NAMI-Texas will use grant funds to distribute free copies of the book to district and county court judges, criminal district attorneys, county attorneys, criminal defense attorneys, mental health consumer groups, family members of persons with mental illness, Texas libraries and many others. A free version of the new edition will be made available on the NAMI-Texas [website](#).

The publication and distribution of these books have been intended to promote justice by being an important educational tool. Many members of the practicing bench and bar, as well as the public in general, often are not well informed concerning the issues facing persons suffering from mental illness, particularly when those persons also are caught up in the criminal justice system.

Since its inception in 1965, the Texas Bar Foundation has awarded more than \$16 million in grants to law-related programs. Supported by members of the State Bar of Texas, the Texas Bar Foundation is the nation's largest charitably-funded bar foundation.

CONTACTS: Brian Shannon, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Law, Texas Tech School of Law, (806) 834-6366 or brian.shannon@ttu.edu; Ed Dickey, executive director, NAMI-Texas, (512) 693-2000 or executive.director@namitexas.org



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Police Chief Retires After 45 Years of Service

Ronald Seacrist served as the Texas Tech police chief for more than 10 years.

[Texas Tech University Police](#) Chief Ronald Seacrist began his retirement May 31 after serving 45 years in law enforcement and just over 10 years at Texas Tech.

Seacrist joined the Texas Tech police force in October 2004 after serving as police chief for the University of West Florida. In his 45 years of service, Seacrist has served for California State University-Northridge, the University of Texas-San Antonio, Valdosta State University, the University of Central Florida and Tulane University. Prior to working in university law enforcement, Seacrist served as an officer and sergeant for the Tampa Police Department in Florida.

"In the past 10 years Chief Seacrist has worked endlessly to keep our campus as safe as possible," said Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. "Our goal is to keep our campus safe and secure for our students, faculty and staff, and Chief Seacrist has played an important role in those efforts. After his many years of service, the Texas Tech community is grateful for his diligent and dedicated work."

While Texas Tech begins the search for its new police chief, Assistant Police Chief Kenny Evans will serve as the interim.

"After 45 years in law enforcement, I am looking forward to retiring and being able to spend time with my family," Seacrist said. "I have been chief of police at Texas Tech for the last 10 and a half years. I can honestly say that my time at Texas Tech has been my most rewarding time in law enforcement."

A retirement reception was held in his honor Tuesday (May 26) at the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center.

"The Texas Tech Police Department will greatly miss Ronald Seacrist as chief of police," Evans said. "During his tenure, he provided the necessary leadership and guidance to the police department to support the vision and mission of both Texas Tech University and the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The command staff he leaves behind

looks forward to working with university administrators in selecting the next chief of police to fill the big shoes he leaves behind.”

A Florida native, Seacrist chose law enforcement because it was a good fit for him after serving in the army, including a tour of duty in Vietnam.

Seacrist plans on moving to Valdosta, Georgia, after retirement because his son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren live there.

He said he intends to spend time with his family, doing some consulting and relaxing.

“The support of the university administration as well as the professionalism of the police department staff has made my job here the most rewarding of my career,” Seacrist said. “I will really miss every single person at the university, especially the police department.

“I wish each member of the police department success in their future endeavors.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, glenys.young@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Researcher Publishes Study of Reasons Behind Alcohol Abuse in Non-Heterosexual Women

Amelia E. Talley's study appears in the Journal of Health and Social Behavior.

Non-heterosexual women who feel a disconnect between who they are attracted to and how they identify themselves may have a higher risk of alcohol abuse, according to a new study led by Amelia E. Talley, an assistant professor in Texas Tech University's [Department of Psychological Sciences](#).

The study, titled "Longitudinal Associations among Discordant Sexual Orientation Dimensions and Hazardous Drinking in a Cohort of Sexual Minority Women," appears in the June issue of the Journal of Health and Social Behavior. It delves into the reasons behind higher rates of drinking in women who don't identify as heterosexual.

"There's a lot of research that shows people who are not heterosexual – that is, those who are bisexual, gay or lesbian – have higher levels of alcohol-use disorders, but it was not clear what explains that disparity aside from looking at the fact that they identify as non-heterosexual, which was not satisfying to me as a reason, per se," Talley said.

According to the cognitive dissonance theory, humans like to be consistent in their beliefs, attitudes and behaviors, and when they aren't, that difference causes discomfort.

"When you perform a role, for instance, if you identify as a college student, you know there are norms or expectations that go along with that role," Talley said. "People who know what their expected sexual identity entails might sometimes feel shame or a negative affect as a result of not performing or identifying in the way that is expected."

Similarly, the result can happen internally. If a woman finds herself behaving in a way that doesn't match up with how she views herself, that creates an internal conflict between how she behaves and how she thinks she should behave based on her sexual orientation.

"We presume such a discrepancy would be uncomfortable, which might lead to self-medicating: using drugs and alcohol to alleviate self-focus and take away negative affectivity by distracting themselves from these inconsistencies," Talley said. "We thought people would be more likely to report hazardous drinking, that is, drinking to intoxication, binge drinking and other negative consequences associated with drinking."

The study

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Data came from the Chicago Health and Life Experience of Women (CHLEW) study, which followed a group of self-identified lesbians from 2000-2010. That study was led by Tonda L. Hughes, who also was involved with Talley's study. In addition to Hughes, other authors were Frances Aranda, Bethany Everett and Timothy P. Johnson, all four from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

"From the CHLEW data, it is clear women tend to be more sexually fluid," Talley said. "There's a lot of movement with regard to sexual attractions and behaviors over a lifetime."

She gives the example of a woman who identifies as a lesbian because she typically is attracted to women, but later in life finds herself attracted to a man. Is she no longer a lesbian? Or is that man simply an exception in her mind?

"Does she change her identity according to her current partner? There are situations where there's room for these discrepancies to manifest naturally," Talley said. "We wanted to see if levels of discordance were correlated with the levels of hazardous drinking. There was evidence that higher levels of discordance between women's sexual identity and their attractions and behaviors may contribute to temporary increases in hazardous drinking."

The results were the same regardless of race, but age did make a difference.

"There was evidence that it could be more detrimental to acknowledge or report these discrepancies as you get older," Talley said. "People see you in a different light; you have to answer to friends and family or larger society about the changes you are exploring with regard to your sexual identity. It's difficult when you get older because of people's expectations that you should have your sexual orientation figured out. Younger women are afforded more wiggle room in regard to exploring their sexuality."

It's not until the individual reports the disparity between her identity and her behaviors or attractions that problematic alcohol use increases.

"When you acknowledge this type of discrepancy exists, it puts you at a subsequent greater risk for drinking," Talley said. "It's common for women to be sexually fluid, but there could be temporary risks associated with coping attempts to resolve shame or negative affect by engaging in distractive, maladaptive problematic alcohol use."

To those who may suggest drinking heavily leads women to engage in sexual behaviors that make them question their sexual identity, Talley said that's not what her study found.

"The people in this study knew they were lesbian women when they entered into the study," she said. "For samples of heterosexual women, perhaps drinking could catalyze same-sex sexual activities. It could be that path is different for heterosexual women, but we didn't have enough information to look at that in this sample."

The future



After more than two years spent on this study, Talley has no plans to stop any time soon.

“Currently, the only way to measure sexual orientation is with three standard questions: your sexual identity, who you are attracted to and who you engage in behaviors with,” Talley said. “Those are three distinct facets, with no established way to capture the sexual orientation self-concept as a whole. One of the goals I have going forward is to improve measurement in this area.”

Talley’s next step will be to examine similar questions in other data sets with more college-age women, the age at which sexual identity explorations are more common and discrepancies among facets are more likely. She hopes to be able to replicate the same results in those samples.

“Ultimately, I’m hoping to create a scale that gets at sexual orientation self-concept ambiguity, which measures people’s acknowledgement that various parts of their sexual orientation may not align,” Talley said. “The take-home point is the ambiguity appears to be what’s driving the higher rates of hazardous drinking. It would be great to have more open-mindedness within the larger society and get away from just assuming that identifying as a non-heterosexual puts you at higher risk to drink. I want to understand the mechanism: What is it about identifying as non-heterosexual that puts you at risk?”

Talley said she hopes people don’t misinterpret her study and assume sexual fluidity is a bad thing.

“But they should be aware that when reorganizing or rethinking their sexual self-concept, the inconsistencies they might notice are totally normative, but can also put them at temporary risk for these maladaptive coping behaviors,” she said. “If they notice these discrepancies and feel distressed, I hope they find resources to cope with it – something more adaptive than alcohol.”

CONTACT: Amelia E. Talley, assistant professor, Department of Psychological Sciences, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, amelia.talley@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 2, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, glenys.young@ttu.edu
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Master of Public Administration Program Hosts Open House

Admission is still available for the fall semester.

Texas Tech University will host an open house for anyone interested in its [Master of Public Administration](#) program from 5:30-7 p.m. Tuesday (June 9) in Holden Hall, Room 107.

The degree program's once-a-week classes are scheduled in the evening, so it works well for both part-time students who have day jobs and full-time students. Applicants with administrative work experience may have the entrance exam requirement waived.

Focus areas within the program are:

- Health care administration
- Public management
- Nonprofit management
- Environmental policy & administration

It is not too late to be admitted for the fall semester. Information about financial aid will be available at the open house. Refreshments will be served, and free parking is available in the Holden Hall parking lot, R-14. From the Broadway entrance, take the first right onto Akron Avenue, then the first left into the parking lot.

CONTACT: Era Ibarra, senior business assistant, Department of Political Science, College of Arts & Sciences, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-3729 or era.ibarra@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 2, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Professor To Testify Before House Committee on Agriculture

Darren Hudson will speak regarding a review of agricultural subsidies in foreign countries.

WHAT: Darren Hudson, a professor and chairman of [the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics](#) at Texas Tech University, will testify before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture.

WHEN: 10 a.m. EDT Wednesday (June 3)

WHERE: United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

WHO: Hudson will testify before the House Committee on Agriculture during a public hearing regarding the review of agricultural subsidies in foreign countries.

Hudson's expertise and research deals with agricultural policy and trade, economic development, marketing and consumer demand and behavioral economics.

Those interested can watch the committee proceedings [here](#).

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CONTACT: Darren Hudson, professor and chairman, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-0546 or darren.hudson@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 2, 2015

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

West Texas Mesonet Celebrates 15th Anniversary National Wind Institute event includes new website launch.

- WHAT:** Event to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the [West Texas Mesonet](#) and the launch of a new website.
- WHEN:** 2 p.m., Thursday (June 4)
3 p.m. optional tour of NWI facilities
- WHERE:** National Wind Institute, 1103 Fillmore Drive, Lubbock
- EVENT:** Texas Tech University President M. Duane Nellis and Senior Vice President for Research Robert V. Duncan will give remarks prior to tours.
- The media and the public are invited to attend, but space is limited.
Please RSVP to bryce.looney@ttu.edu.

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

CONTACT: Bryce Looney, unit coordinator, National Wind Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 787-5772 or bryce.looney@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 3, 2015

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

Public Invited to Art Show, Sale to Benefit Museum

At Art on the Llano Estacado, artist Paul Milosevich will be honored.

WHAT: The second annual Art on the Llano Estacado, an art show and sale sponsored by the [Museum of Texas Tech University Association](#).

The show will include a premier reception on Friday (June 5) with music, dinner, an open bar and approximately 40 artists on hand to discuss their work. Tickets are \$150 per person and can be purchased before noon Friday by calling (806) 742-2443.

The event Saturday (June 6) is open to the public, and there is no cost for entry. Pieces will be available for purchase both Friday and Saturday.

Paul Milosevich, a longtime [art](#) professor at Texas Tech, is the recipient of the 2015 Legacy Award. Milosevich has works in the public collections of the United States Golf Association, Disney Corporations, National Ranching Heritage Center, Nashville Songwriters' Hall of Fame, Museum of the Southwest, Pro Football Hall of Fame and Royal & Ancient Museum in Scotland.

For more information, go to www.artonthellanoestacado.com.

WHEN: Reception with artists and opening sale: 5:30 p.m. Friday (June 5)
Public exhibition and art sale: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (June 6)

WHERE: Helen Devitt Jones Auditorium and Sculpture Court, Museum of Texas Tech University, 3301 Fourth St.

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CONTACT: Jouana Stravlo, membership and support organization, Museum of Texas Tech University Association, (806) 742-2443 or jouana.stravlo@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 4, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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ELATE at Drexel® Names Two at Texas Tech Fellows for 2015-16

The program uses online instruction and classroom lessons to foster leadership effectiveness and initiative changes for women at various institutions.

Two members of the Texas Tech University [Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering](#) have been chosen for a unique fellow program that fosters leadership training and management skills to enhance the work done within the college.

Rattikorn Hewett, a professor and chairwoman of the [Department of Computer Science](#), and Zaida Gracia, the assistant academic dean for Central and South American projects and the director of special projects, were named Executive Leadership in Academic Technology and Engineering (ELATE at Drexel®) fellows for the 2015-16 academic year.

“This is a great opportunity for two members of the Whitacre College of Engineering team to learn about academic leadership from other female academic leaders,” Dean Al Sacco Jr. said. “They will learn about themselves, what works best for them in their respective roles, how to best prepare themselves for future leadership roles and will integrate them into a cohort of like-minded professionals. I expect, in return, Texas Tech will get even better leaders who understand the benefits and limitations in academic leadership. This is a very selective program and a testament to the quality of these two professionals, and is a recognition of their abilities to date and their potential.”

ELATE at Drexel® is a one-year program focusing on personal and professional leadership effectiveness, leading and managing change initiatives, using strategic finance and resource management to enhance organizational missions and creating a network of exceptional women who bring organizational perspectives and deep personal capacity to the institutions they serve.

The program selects faculty and staff members at various universities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and other disciplines. This year, Hewett and Gracia are among the fourth incoming class of ELATE fellows that includes 31 women from 22 different institutions across the country. Each was nominated by a dean or provost and is expected to contribute to institutional initiatives while expanding leadership skills.

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Hewett has done extensive applied artificial intelligence research in the areas of cyber security, data analytics, automated software engineering and intelligent controls. She earned bachelor's degrees in pure mathematics and statistics from Flinders University in Australia, her master's from the University of South Wales, her doctorate in computer science from Iowa State University and a postdoctoral fellowship from Stanford. She has published more than 100 papers and has served on many journal editorial boards and conference program committees.

Hewett leads the Center for the Science and Engineering of Cyber Security and the Big Data cluster initiative. She was among the 10 percent of females who received their doctorate in computer science, and only 9 percent of female computer science professors were at full professor status when she was promoted.

"I am humbled to be selected among an extraordinary group of women," Hewett said. "Because this is an intensive and progressive yearlong program, I feel responsible to live up to the expectation to earn my title as what I do carries the name of Texas Tech. I am grateful to Dean Sacco for showing me, by example, the real meaning of a great leader and for giving me an opportunity of a lifetime. I look forward to being a part of this program that could be an experience paramount to my future as a leader of both my institution and my colleagues."

In her capacity at Texas Tech, Gracia works on international projects and collaborations with Latin American countries such as Puerto Rico, Colombia, Chile and Brazil. This includes signing of agreements for faculty exchanges, study abroad, joint research, dual degrees and graduate recruitment.

She came to Texas Tech with 25 years of experience as a mathematics professor at Sacred Heart University in Puerto Rico, where she led initiatives to increase minority and female representation in STEM, including federal grant-funded projects, teacher seminars, launching a science journalism program and the establishment of an annual science festival.

"I am honored to be a member of the 2015-16 ELATE class," Gracia said. "With this course I expect to fully grasp the concept of leadership, master its skills and put them to my best use at work. I expect to better understand the structure of a higher education institution, learn how to make the best use of the resources available and financial concepts directed to budget or other related issues. I am convinced the interaction between other women faculty at different institutions during the length of this course will be the most valuable resource. Working in group projects and sharing experiences will help me broaden my vision and integrate some of their best practices at work."

Hosted by Drexel University, the ELATE fellowship is part of the International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics inside the Institute for Women's Health and Leadership® at Drexel's College of Medicine.



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Those chosen as fellows will attend classroom lessons and activities, go through online instruction and discussion and apply those lessons to their jobs. The program begins in May and will conclude in March 2016 with a symposium on institutional change project developed in collaboration with the leadership of various institutions. There also will be three weeklong sessions to attend, the first in August.

“We are extremely excited to launch a new year of the ELATE program with this extraordinary group of women,” said Diane Magrane, executive director of Drexel’s International Center for Executive Leadership in Academics and ELATE fellowship director. “The deans and provosts that have committed to mentoring these women through this intensive yearlong process recognize the importance of developing diverse leaders within their institutions. This bodes well for the future of academic STEM leadership.”

To learn more about the ELATE at Drexel® program, visit its [website](#).

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

CONTACT: Amanda Adamson, executive associate to the dean, Whitacre College of Engineering, (806) 834-4408 or amanda.adamson@ttu.edu.



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Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 4, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
(806) 834-2555

Expert: Climate Change A Big Part of World Environment Day

Pitch

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) once again will sponsor [World Environment Day](#) on Friday (June 5). This year's theme focuses on how the responsible management of the planet's resources has an ultimate effect on the well-being of humanity, the environment and the world's economies. World Environment Day promotes ensuring the earth's future by living within the planet's ecological boundaries.

Jennifer Vanos, an assistant professor in atmospheric science at Texas Tech University, is a contributing scientist to the [Texas Tech University Climate Science Center](#), which conducts research to address the effects of climate change in a wide array of areas across the South Central U.S. Vanos can speak directly to the effects climate change has on human health.

Expert

Jennifer Vanos, assistant professor in atmospheric science and Texas Tech Climate Science Center faculty associate, (806) 834-3319 or jennifer.vanos@ttu.edu

Talking Points

- The reason climate change is important is not only because of the polar bears or people living on South Pacific islands. It's because climate change is affecting us in the places we live.
- One of the most important ways climate change affects us is through our health. It impacts the mosquitoes that carry infectious diseases like dengue fever and West Nile virus. Heat waves make our air pollution worse and stress our energy grid. Heavy downpours affect our water quality.
- The Climate Science Center is studying ways climate change affects West Texas to ensure we are prepared for a changing climate so our agriculture, our communities and our economy can continue to thrive.

Quotes

- "Here at Texas Tech within our Climate Science Center, we are studying the ways climate change affects us to ensure that we are prepared for a changing climate to allow us to understand, communicate and reduce the health impacts of climate change on our communities through various mechanisms."

- “There are many threats from climate change affecting people around the world now, with the most vulnerable populations – children, elderly, sick, poor, communities of color – also being the most negatively impacted. One of the most prominent examples of how climate change is affecting us is through our health.”
- “Our changing climate alters where and when we can grow various crops to feed our population, alters where the mosquitoes that carry infectious diseases like dengue fever, chikungunya and West Nile virus can survive and thrive, and changes the patterns of drought and heavy precipitation, which also affect water and air quality.”

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 4, 2015

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

Flooding in Central, South Texas Puts Layers of Climate, Economy on Display From infrastructure to climate change, the disaster impacts areas of daily life.

The month of May saw heavy, concentrated thunderstorms dump immense amounts of rain onto the Texas Hill Country and southeast Texas, causing historic flooding in both Austin and Houston.

The floods have caused several deaths and will undoubtedly result in millions of dollars in property damage throughout the state. Residents have been rescued from both their homes and vehicles.

“We were out of town until Tuesday and luckily missed it all,” said alumna Jill Sanders-Smith, who lives in the Briar Grove section of Houston just west of the Galleria, which sustained heavy flooding. “We were lucky our home wasn’t flooded. The neighborhood we lived in when we first bought a home flooded and a bunch of our old neighbors had several feet of floodwater. My husband’s parents’ house in Memorial had a few inches of water inside as well.”

While the cleanup begins, so will the questions. Could anything have been done to prevent this, and could it happen again?

Texas Tech University experts say simply increasing protection against a flood is not as simple as it sounds, and with the way the climate is changing, flooding of this magnitude may increase.

Improving infrastructure

The solution sounds simple. To prevent flooding just improve the infrastructure to where it can handle larger amounts of floodwaters. There’s only one problem – the cost.

“When you talk about protecting against natural disasters, the costs become huge,” said Ryan Williams, an assistant professor in the [Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics](#) who studies water resources and economics. “You could say Houston should just go ahead and increase taxpayer money to make sure it doesn’t happen again, and it is terrible that people have lost their lives and businesses have been shut down. But that doesn’t make economic sense.”

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Williams said simply increasing protection against flooding goes beyond just improving infrastructure. Land development near creeks, rivers and watersheds also has a tremendous effect, possibly even changing the direction water from rain runoff flows.

“As we build out space for people to live we use concrete, and as we do that it creates change in the dynamics of stormwater runoff,” Williams said. “It’s possible that water would naturally flow where it is flowing, or it’s possible we have, through manmade activities, changed the flow of water. “Maybe we’re causing part of the problem ourselves.”

As subdivisions are built, contractors could factor flood protection into the cost and protect against the worst-case scenario for the rain event that comes once in 100 years. But in ramping up that protection, the cost gets passed to consumers and into the price of the homes, and that could be something many home buyers aren’t willing to stomach.

“The amount of rain Texas received this month is an anomaly,” Williams said. “My guess is it is at least a once-in-50-years total rain event for the state. It’s just not economically feasible to build infrastructure for these rare, low-probability events.”

Soaked state

Steve Cobb, a meteorologist and an instructor of atmospheric science in the [Department of Geosciences](#), said this rain event reminds him of Tropical Storm Allison in 2001 which hit Houston and killed 23 people while causing \$9 billion in damage.

While he said this series of storms is not nearly of that magnitude, the amount of rain and the rate at which it came down was equivalent to some longer lasting Tropical rain event.

“They had two or three inches of rainfall in an hour and a half, or maybe more than that in a lesser period of time in some locations,” Cobb said. “When you get an intense rate of rain, the ground is not able to absorb it, and it runs off into these tributaries, creeks and streams and they become swollen.”

Cobb said a big factor in the flooding in both Austin and Houston was that the storms formed and moved repeatedly or very slowly over the same area. The continual rainfall quickly outpaced the ability of the natural streams and urban drainages to carry the water away resulting in significant flooding for the Hill Country and South Texas.

Luckily, Cobb said, the long-range forecast calls for a slow drying trend over the next two weeks which eventually will lower the potential for widespread thunderstorms that could further exacerbate the situation.

Changing climate

Speaking of exacerbating the problem, that’s where climate change could play a huge factor in the long-term situation.



While climate change didn't specifically cause the flooding, Texas Tech climate change expert Katharine Hayhoe, an associate professor in the [Department of Political Science](#) and director of the [Texas Tech Climate Science Center](#), said it is playing a role in the intensity of the storms and amounts of rain produced as well as affecting water runoff.

"As the atmosphere warms – and every season in Texas has been warming since the 1950s – more water evaporates from oceans, lakes, reservoirs and streams," Hayhoe wrote on her Facebook page. "When a storm comes along, there's more water vapor in the atmosphere available for that storm to pick up and dump. Heavy precipitation has increased as a result."

Hayhoe said there hasn't been much of a change in annual average rainfall for Texas, noting East Texas has gotten a little wetter and West Texas has gotten a bit drier, and the expectation is for that trend to continue. But that can also mask the fact that, throughout the U.S. and Texas, day-to-day precipitation is becoming more extreme.

"Just to be clear, science does not say climate change is causing the extreme rain and drought we're seeing across the U.S. today and in recent years," Hayhoe wrote. "Just like steroids make a baseball player stronger, climate change exacerbates many of our weather extremes, making them, on average, worse than they would have been naturally."

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CONTACT: Ryan Williams, assistant professor, Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, (806) 544-6504 or ryan.b.williams@ttu.edu; Steve Cobb, instructor of atmospheric science, Department of Geosciences, College of Arts and Sciences, (806) 834-1395, or steve.cobb@ttu.edu; Katharine Hayhoe, director, Texas Tech Climate Science Center and associate professor, Department of Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences, (806) 834-8665, or katharine.hayhoe@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 4, 2015

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

Texas Tech Researcher and Team Confirm Supernovae in ‘Empty Space’

Study provides clues about the formation and evolution of structures in the universe.

A Texas Tech University researcher and his team have used images from the Hubble Space Telescope to confirm three supernovae exploded in the emptiness of space after being flung from their galaxies millions or even billions of years earlier.

David J. Sand, an assistant professor in the [Texas Tech Department of Physics](#); Melissa Graham, University of California-Berkeley; Dennis Zaritsky, University of Arizona-Tucson; and Chris J. Pritchett, University of Victoria in British Columbia, Canada, will present their analysis of the three supernovae at a conference at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. Their paper also has been accepted by the *Astrophysical Journal*.

“The universe is made of billions of galaxies, and there appears to be darkness in between,” Sand said. “But it turns out to be more than that – there are stars between galaxies, they are just too faint to see individually. We undertook a big supernova survey to study these seemingly empty regions between galaxies because we want to know how many stars are there, too faint for us to see in typical observations. One way to light up those regions is to watch and look for a supernova. Then we compare that number in empty space to the number inside galaxies, and it tells you how many stars there are.”

While most supernovae are found inside galaxies containing hundreds of billions of stars, these lonely supernovae were found between galaxies in three large clusters of several thousand galaxies each. Any planets around these intracluster stars, which exploded in what are called Type Ia supernovae, were no doubt obliterated by the explosions.

The study confirms the discovery between 2008 and 2010 of three apparently hostless supernovae by the Multi-Epoch Nearby Cluster Survey conducted by the Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT). At that time, the CFHT was unable to rule out a faint galaxy hosting those supernovae, but the sensitivity and resolution of these images from the Hubble Space Telescope’s Advanced Camera for Surveys clearly showed the stars exploded in empty space, far from any galaxy. They belong to a population of solitary stars that exist in most galaxy clusters.

“When we found these supernovae, we thought maybe there was a tiny galaxy there we couldn’t see from the ground. But we got the Hubble Space Telescope and found there is literally nothing between these galaxies. There’s not a little tiny galaxy, just maybe a couple stars here and there,” Sand said. “It’s the first time we’ve really confirmed that.”

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Stars and supernovae normally exist within galaxies, but sometimes, when galaxies are clustered together, extreme gravitational forces will wrench away about 15 percent of the stars. The cluster's mass keeps the stars bound within the sparsely populated intracluster regions.

Once dispersed, these lonely stars are too faint to be seen individually unless they explode as supernovae. Sand and his research teammates are studying bright supernovae in intracluster space as tracers to determine the population of unseen stars. Such information provides clues about the formation and evolution of large scale structures in the universe.

"Supernovae are great signposts for the universe," Sand said. "Certain types of supernovae are like 60-watt light bulbs, all with the same intrinsic brightness, so they let us measure distances. In this situation, we are using supernovae to light up some of the lowest density regions of the universe. Without them these stellar backwaters may never be understood."

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 5, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, glenys.young@ttu.edu
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Free Market Institute Faculty Spread Ideas of Economic Freedom

Individuals participated in discussion panels in 16 Eastern European countries.

Three faculty members of Texas Tech University's [Free Market Institute](#) (FMI) traveled throughout Europe this spring as presenters for the 2015 Free Market Road Show (FMRS).

After co-hosting the inaugural Free Market Road Show event in the United States in November, titled "What Can the United States Learn from Europe? A Panel Discussion," the Free Market Institute joined more than 60 other organizations from around the world to co-sponsor the 2015 tour. During the course of the program, FMI faculty and staff participated in panel discussions and delivered presentations in 16 countries throughout Central and Eastern Europe.

"The Free Market Institute agreed to become a co-sponsor of the Free Market Road Show by providing speakers for discussion panels in 16 countries in Eastern Europe because the Free Market Road Show is the organization doing the most to spread the ideas of economic freedom across a region that desperately needs it," said Benjamin Powell, director of the Free Market Institute.

[Powell](#) is a professor of economics in the area of energy, economics and law in the [Jerry S. Rawls College of Business](#). He traveled with the FMRS from May 21–27 and participated in programs in Thessaloniki, Greece; Athens, Greece; Komotini, Greece; Mykonos, Greece and Budapest, Hungary.

"The Greek government is bankrupt because of its reckless spending," Powell said. "Meanwhile the unemployment rate is near 50 percent for people under 25 in some areas of Greece. Approximately 1,000 young people showed up to our event in Thessaloniki to learn how real austerity coupled with free market reforms could foster entrepreneurship and create jobs."

[Kathleen Sheehan](#) is a post-doctoral research associate with the Free Market Institute and an instructor of applied business economics in the Rawls College of Business. Sheehan traveled with the FMRS from April 20-29, participating in programs in Sofia, Bulgaria; Skopje, Macedonia; Pristina, Kosovo; Tirana, Albania; Podgorica, Montenegro; Zagreb, Croatia; Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Belgrade, Serbia.

[Adam Martin](#), a political economy research fellow with the Free Market Institute and assistant professor of agricultural and applied economics in the [College of Agricultural](#)

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[Sciences and Natural Resources](#), traveled with the road show from May 7–14. He participated in programs in Vilnius, Lithuania; Warsaw, Poland; Chisinau, Moldova; Kiev, Ukraine; Tbilisi, Georgia and Istanbul, Turkey.

“It is refreshing to hear young, well-trained academics from Texas Tech’s Free Market Institute speak at the Free Market Road Show,” said Barbara Kolm, FMRS executive director. “With their enthusiasm for free markets and entrepreneurship, they not only won the hearts and souls of the thousands of students in our audience but also critical journalists and politicians.

“Moreover, first rate research was presented in the debates by Kathleen Sheehan and Adam Martin. Ben Powell’s keynotes not only combined state of the art academic work but also intellectual leadership by promoting Texas Tech’s programs throughout all stops visited. We are proud to cooperate with the Free Market Institute and hope to continue this unique co-sponsor program in the next years.”

CONTACT: Benjamin Powell, director, Free Market Institute, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-3097 or benjamin.powell@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 5, 2015

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

Rawls College STEM MBA Student Receives Prestigious Scholarship

Nick Burns was awarded the scholarship based on his leadership, business and entrepreneurial skills.

Nick Burns, a student in the [Rawls College of Business STEM MBA](#) program, will be honored with the Silver and Black Give Back Scholarship, appointed by the Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation.

The endowed scholarship grants Burns a \$15,000 stipend to pursue his business goals. It was awarded to him based on his leadership skills, business acumen and entrepreneurial desire. Burns is one of 28 students who attend Texas universities to receive a scholarship. He will be honored Oct. 28 at the annual scholarship luncheon as well as during the Texas Business Hall of Fame 33rd Annual Induction Dinner in Houston.

“It’s a great honor to receive such a prestigious scholarship from the Texas Business Hall of Fame,” Burns said. “To have each school from Texas represented and for me to be recognized as Texas Tech University’s recipient is an incredible feeling. The lessons and new skills I’ve picked up at the Rawls College, along with this scholarship, will be useful in my future career and professional development.”

With the education he’s receiving at the Rawls College, coupled with his background experience, Burns is pursuing innovative solutions in Radio-Frequency Identification (RFID) technology. While in the STEM MBA program, he is learning how business principles can be effectively used in that industry. Most notably, he is co-owner of a technology start-up that focuses on integrating bio-metric sensors with RFID technology, while using Big Data Analytics for insight. Additionally, Burns is securing business partnerships to expand these efforts toward various markets.

Prior to joining the STEM MBA program, which he will complete in December, Burns served in the U.S. Army and Texas Army National Guard for five years as a combat engineer, which included conducting route clearance operations and disposal of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in Afghanistan. Amongst his many service honors, Burns was awarded the Texas National Guard Soldier of the Year in 2012. His service, leadership and dedication to his country were instrumental in receiving the Rawls

College's inaugural Rawls Endowed Military Scholarship, which helped fund his STEM MBA studies.

"Nick's interest in bringing technology to the marketplace makes him a perfect fit in the Texas Tech STEM MBA program," said Bill Pasewark, associate dean of Graduate Programs and Research. "The Texas Business Hall of Fame scholarship is evidence that the business community recognizes the same potential in Nick we see here at Texas Tech."

While in the program, Burns is working with the Texas Tech University System as a Programmer Analyst II in the Information Systems Department. Outside the classroom, Burns serves as president for the Rawls Graduate Association and is currently active in the Texas Tech [Military and Veterans Program](#).

Each year the Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation selects individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of a healthy, dynamic environment in Texas and to the state's overall economic well-being. Such individuals may be entrepreneurs, innovative business managers or inventors. To this date the Texas Business Hall of Fame has awarded more than \$3 million in scholarships to students. Information regarding the scholarship program can be found at www.texasbusiness.org.

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

CONTACT: Trevor Bell, communications manager, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-4651 or trevor.bell@ttu.edu.



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 5, 2015

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

Texas Tech Hosts Summer Programs for Youth, Community Departments provide on- and off-campus programs starting this month.

Several Texas Tech University departments are hosting summer camps for youth and the community starting this month. These camps range from art programs to college preparatory courses and allow students the opportunity to experience college life by living on campus or commuting daily. Students from throughout the state as well as internationally will attend.

Texas Tech summer camps:

[Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement:](#)

- [Upward Bound](#)
 - May 31-July 3: Bridge Residential Program
 - June 2-26: Non-Bridge Discover Outreach Program
 - June 2-30: Summer Non-Bridge Program
 - June 14-26: Non-Bridge Residential Collaboration with Medical School (JAMP). Upward Bound partnered with [Texas Tech Health Sciences Center School of Medicine](#).

For more information contact Sylvia Gonzales, associate director, Upward Bound, at (806) 742-3616 or sylvia.gonzales@ttu.edu.

- [The Institute for the Development and Enrichment of Advanced Learners \(IDEAL\):](#)
 - June 7-11: [Science: It's a Girl Thing I](#) (Residential)
 - June 14-18: [Science: It's a Girl Thing I](#) (Residential)
 - June 14-19: [Video Game Design Camp](#) (Residential)
 - June 28-July 3: [Run on the Wind](#) (Residential)
 - July 5-10: [Generation Tech](#) (Residential)
 - July 12-19: [Shake Hands with Your Future I](#) (Residential)
Shake Hands with Your Future Brazil I (invitation only and residential).
 - July 19-July 23: [Shake Hands with your Future II](#) (Residential)
Shake Hands with your Future Brazil II (invitation only and residential).

- July 26-30: IDEA Summer Camp (Residential)

For more information contact Isaac Flores, assistant director for IDEAL, at (806) 742-2420 or ike.flores@ttu.edu

- [Office of Community Engagement](#)

- June 21-26: RaiderLife (Residential)
- Aug. 8: [Back to School Fiesta](#)

For more information contact MariCruz Samarripas at maricruz.samarripas@ttu.edu.

- [Texas Tech Chess](#)

- July 13-17: [Summer Chess Camp I](#). Early bird pricing lasts until June 15. Registration available on site from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on July 13.
- Aug. 17-21: [Summer Chess Camp II](#). Early bird pricing available through July 17. On-site registration available from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Aug. 17.

For more information contact Peggy Flores, unit coordinator, Texas Tech Chess, at peggy.flores@ttu.edu.

- [Texas Tech UIL](#)

- July 5-11: [Summer Congress, Speech & Debate Camps](#) (Residential or Commuter). Registration closes June 15. For more information contact Lynn Elms or Billie Gonzalez at (806) 742-2350.
- July 5-18: [Summer Theatre & Technical Camps](#) (Residential or Commuter). For more information contact Karen Ray at (806) 742-2350.
- July 14-18: [Summer Math & Science Camp](#) (Residential or Commuter). For more information contact Jack Barton or Billie Gonzalez at (806) 742-2350.
- July 15-18: [Summer Journalism Camp](#) (Residential or Commuter). For more information contact Billie Gonzalez at (806) 742-2350.

[Museum of Texas Tech University:](#)

- June 9-11: Tie Dye. Ages 11-14
- June 9-12: Teen Drawing. Ages 13-18
- June 16-18: Antarctica. Ages 4-6
- June 16-18: Wizard Camp. Ages 11-14
- June 23-25: Terrariums. Ages 7-10
- June 23-26: Adult Drawing. Ages 18 and older
- July 7-9: Arts & Crafts. Ages 4-6
- July 7-9: Wizard Camp. Ages 7-10
- July 14-16: Tie Dye. Ages 11-14
- July 14-17: Teen Drawing. Ages 13-18
- July 21-23: Antarctica. Ages 4-6
- July 21-23: Wizard Camp. Ages 11-14
- July 21-24: Weather. Ages 11-14
- July 28-30: Terrariums. Ages 7-10



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To register for the camps, call (806) 742-2432, email museum.education@ttu.edu or stop by the museum. For more information on the camps, visit the [Texas Tech Today website](#) or the Museum of Texas Tech [website](#).

College of Human Sciences:

- June 22-26: [Chef Camp](#) hosted by the [Department of Hospitality and Retail Management](#) (Residential)
- June 22-26: Glue, Glitter and Glamour [Fashion Camp](#) hosted by the Department of Hospitality and Retail Management (Residential)
- June 22-26: Tau Rho Mu [Fashion Camp](#) hosted by the Department of Hospitality and Retail Management (Residential)

For more information on the College of Human Sciences summer programs, click [here](#) or call (806) 742-2390 for Chef Camp and (806) 742-2810 for Fashion Camp.

National Ranching Heritage Center (NRHC) and the International Cultural Center (ICC):

- All programs hosted from July 13-17 and can be registered for on the National Ranching Heritage Center [website](#). Course descriptions can be found [online](#).
 - Courses Hosted at the NRHC
 - Grades K-2: Wildlife on the Ranch, Plants, Seeds & Me, Pioneer Living and Texas Time Travel
 - Grades 3-5: Leatherworking, Western Movie Making, Ranch Drawing and Painting and Water Wranglers
 - Courses hosted at the ICC
 - Grades K-2: Culture through Art, Music around the World and Oh, the Places You'll Go...
 - Grades 3-5: Let's Talk! Communication through the Ages, Ellis Island: An Immigrant Experience, Worldly Wonders, They Live in a What?, Culture through Art, Music Around the World and Ellis Island: An Immigrant Experience

For more information visit the [Texas Tech Today website](#), or contact Julie Hodges at julie.hodges@ttu.edu.

Texas Tech ISD:

- TTUISD and Shake Hands with your Future Summer Camps
 - July 5-18 and July 19-Aug. 2 (Residential). Full-time TTUISD students from Brazil will participate.

For more information, contact Jared Lay, director of recruitment and camps at TTUISD, at jared.lay@ttu.edu.

Whitacre College of Engineering:

- June 14-19: [Engineering: Get into Real Learning](#) (Residential)
- The college also will help host Shake Hands with the Future, Science: It's a Girl Thing, Run on the Wind, Video Game Design and Summer Math Academy.

For more information call (806) 742-3451.

STEM Center for Outreach, Research & Education (STEM-CORE):

Office of Communications and Marketing

- June 1-11: [Summer Math Academy](#) hosted by the [Department of Mathematics and Statistics](#) and STEM-CORE
- June 8-12: [TTU/LISD Middle School STEM Challenge](#) hosted by STEM-CORE and Lubbock Independent School District at Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center
- July 17-Aug. 1: iSTEM hosted by STEM-CORE in partnership with the [College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources](#) and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics (Residential).

For more information contact Jessica Spott, senior project administrator for STEM Outreach, at (806) 834-3163 or jessica.spott@ttu.edu.

College of Education:

- June 8-26 and July 13-31: East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood ([ELPN](#)) Book Bus summer program to promote literacy in East Lubbock. The bus will be at eight East Lubbock locations.

For more information contact Janie Ramirez, outreach programs administrator, at janie.ramirez@ttu.edu.

- June 15-26: The Dunbar Future Leaders Summer Camp hosted by ELPN.
- For more information contact Robert Bleisch at robert.bleisch@ttu.edu.

Burkhart Center for Autism Education & Research:

- Camp Burkhardt:
 - June 8-12: Elementary Camp Burkhardt
 - June 22-26: Middle School Camp Burkhardt. [Registration](#) closes June 19.
 - July 6-10: High School Camp Burkhardt. [Registration](#) closes July 3.
- For more information contact Susan Voland at (806) 834-1331 or susan.voland@ttu.edu.

College of Arts & Sciences:

- Department of Mathematics & Statistics
 - June 2-July 17: [TexPrep](#). Students commute to the university for the duration of the program.

For more information contact Jim Brown, TexPREP assistant director, at (806) 834-6205 or james.f.brown@ttu.edu.

- Department of Health, Exercise & Sport Sciences
 - June 8-11: Camp Champion
 - June 15: South Plains Food Bank Orchard
 - June 16: South Plains Food Bank Farm

For more information contact Jeff Key, instructor, Department of Health, Exercise & Sport Sciences, at jeff.key@ttu.edu.

College of Visual & Performing Arts:

- School of Music
 - June 14-19: [Texas Tech Mariachi Camp](#) (Residential or Commuter)



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- June 14-20: [Texas Tech Tango Camp](#) (Residential or Commuter)
- June 23-27: [All-State Choir Camp](#) (Residential or Commuter) Registration deadline for those wanting to reside on campus: Monday (June 8)
Registration for those wanting to commute: June 19
- July 5-11: [Band and Orchestra Camp](#) (Residential) Registration deadline is Tuesday (June 9)

For more information contact the School of Music at (806) 742-2225.

- [School of Art](#)

- [Summer Discovery Art Program](#)
 - June 15-19: Program for middle school students
 - June 22-26: Program for high school students (Residential)

For more information contact the School of Art at (806) 742-3826.

June 14-20: Texas Tech Summer College Experience (Residential)

For more information contact Katie Langford at katie.langford@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2015

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

Bottle or Box? Texas Tech Student Wins Grant to Study Wine Packaging

Nicholas Johnston will research how millennials respond to traditional and less traditional wine containers.

A Texas Tech University doctoral student won a \$10,000 grant to study how millennials respond to the way in which wines are packaged.

Nicholas Johnston, who is starting his final year in the hospitality administration graduate program in the [Department of Hospitality and Retail Management](#), has studied consumer behavior for years, most recently in a research setting but for several years before that as a bartender. When he saw a request for proposals from the [Wine Market Council](#), a nonprofit group of growers, producers, importers and wholesalers, regarding how to market wine, he and associate professor Natalia Velikova, who also is associate director of the [Texas Wine Marketing Research Institute](#), put together a grant proposal to find out what kind of containers catches the millennial generation's dollars.

His idea was one of three finalists selected from throughout the country. After a conference call with the council's board of directors, his proposal was selected.

"Nicholas really stood out because of his expertise in research and strong interest in wine," said Jennifer Pagano, director of research for the Wine Market Council. "We were also encouraged by the commitment of his adviser, Dr. Velikova."

Johnston's proposal includes dividing millennials, who range from 21 to 38 years old, into two to three segments and conducting focus groups within those segments. He'll find out what appeals to these groups in terms of packaging, be it the traditional 750-milliliter bottle or less traditional bag-in-box wine or even aluminum cans.

He'll use the information from those focus groups to craft a survey to be distributed to millennials nationwide asking similar questions about how millennials view wine packaging.

"Previous research shows us that if you as a consumer are interested in buying wine, you would think that wine that was served in this bottle is better quality overall," he said.

Based on research he's already done and anecdotal evidence from time spent around wine, Johnston has a couple of hypotheses. He thinks millennials, particularly the younger half of the group, will find characteristics like portability attractive. Wine in a pouch will be a

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viable option. The older half of the generation he suspects will feel the 750-mL bottle is more authentic and that better wine comes in that sort of packaging.

However, he sees the alternative packaging appealing to those people in their mid-30s who already like a particular brand of wine.

“Because they are familiar with its quality, the packaging might become less important,” he said.

Focus groups will begin in early September, and Johnston will recruit participants from the Texas Tech and greater Lubbock communities. He plans to launch the online survey in early October and should have data by the end of the year. He’ll present his findings at one of the Wine Market Council’s conferences in early 2016.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for Nick, the department, the Texas Wine Marketing Research Institute and Texas Tech,” Velikova said. “The fact that a world-renowned California-based agency funded a graduate student from Texas Tech to conduct a nationwide study for them is truly remarkable.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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President Nellis Announces New Leadership for Texas Tech Public Media

Chris Cook will be the new managing director in addition to his current role.

Texas Tech University President M. Duane Nellis recently announced a change in leadership for [Texas Tech Public Media/KTTZ](#) after former director Robert Giovannetti accepted a position with [Texas Tech Athletics](#) as its new senior associate athletics director for external operations and strategic communications.

Chris Cook, managing director for Texas Tech's [Office of Communications & Marketing](#), will be the new Texas Tech Public Media/KTTZ managing director in addition to his current role.

"Public broadcasting is an important part of the education of our children, in addition to providing programs relevant to all ages," Nellis said. "I am confident in the direction KTTZ is headed and am excited about the future growth of the stations."

Cook has worked in the Office of Communications & Marketing for five years following an 11-year career with Texas Tech Athletics. As managing director, he coordinates strategic public relations and media efforts for the president, provost and vice presidents and serves as the university's primary spokesman and emergency response team public information officer.

Paul Hunton will serve as the interim station manager for KTTZ-TV and Clint Barrick will serve as the station manager for KTTZ-FM. Both have been with Texas Tech Public Media for several years.

"Paul and Clint have been champions of public media for quite some time, and Texas Tech Public Media is fortunate to continue moving forward under their leadership," Cook said. "I look forward to their guidance, thoughts and ideas as Texas Tech Public Media expands its reach across the region."

Giovannetti served as the Texas Tech Public Media managing director for almost two years with more than 25 years' experience in electronic media. Receiving both his bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas Tech, he has been Texas Tech's play-by-

play announcer for all athletics broadcasts on FOX Sports and the radio voice for Red Raider baseball.

Giovannetti began his new position with Texas Tech Athletics June 1.

“I’d like to thank Robert Giovannetti for his outstanding leadership and direction of KTTZ,” Nellis said. “He elevated the profile of KTTZ and saw the value in quality public broadcasting programs.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Marketing Staff Participates in 24-Hour CreateAthon

The staff members created pro bono marketing and advertising for local nonprofit organizations all in a day's work.

Three marketing staff members from Texas Tech University's [Office of Communications & Marketing](#) participated in a CreateAthon event in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where marketing professionals and students worked for 24 hours to provide creative and technical services for local nonprofit organizations.

The Texas Tech graphic designers who participated are Blake Ferguson, Rony Dixon and Melissa Padilla.

"I decided to be a part of CreateAthon because it was a great opportunity to use my skills and talent to help the community," Padilla said. "It is incredible that in 24 hours we worked with a group of strangers who all had different skills but all came together to help improve nonprofit organizations. Even though it was difficult to stay awake for 24 hours, it was worth it."

The CreateAthon began nationally in 2002. It has delivered more than 3,500 projects to more than 1,300 nonprofits and counting. The total amount of work donated is valued at \$20.5 million.

This was the first CreateAthon hosted in Albuquerque, and it had more than 100 participants in attendance. The nonprofits selected for the event were Casa Esperanza, Centro Savila, CLNKids, Inc., Crossroads for Women, Global 505 Coalition, Heading Home, Littlelobe, Inc., Mandy's Special Farm, Paws and Stripes, TIASO and Watermelon Mountain Ranch.

Ferguson, who participated in previous CreateAthons, worked with Crossroads for Women, an organization helping women transform their lives and break the cycle of incarceration and homelessness. Ferguson's group helped the organization with branding, created a new website and provided the organization with a basic communication plan and strategy to attract more donors and connect better with the community.

Office of Communications and Marketing

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“Being involved in this again was an opportunity I didn’t want to pass up,” Ferguson said. “I really believe in giving back, and using the skills we all have to do that is a great way. CreateAthon gives you the opportunity to help out those nonprofits that are already doing great things in their communities, but don’t have the money or knowledge to be able to have professionals design or advertising.”

Dixon, whose group worked with TIASO, an artist cooperative that provides resources to artists for community projects, said the CreateAthon seemed like a fun challenge. His group designed basic marketing tools, including a logo, a tagline, business cards, brochures and letterheads along with brand identity guidelines and marketing strategies.

“The idea of working through the night was exciting, and I had a little bit of nostalgia from my all-nighters as a student,” Dixon said. “At the end of it all, the nonprofit organizations were so happy and that always makes it worth it.”

Padilla’s group worked with CLNKids, Inc., a nonprofit focused on ending child homelessness through early childhood education, parental support and community involvement. Padilla worked on web graphics for the organization’s newly redesigned webpage and a brochure for future donors.

“We spend so much time as designers and marketers working for companies that can afford great creativity and strategy,” Ferguson said. “It feels good to be able to give that same type of work to people who really need it. It’s great feeling knowing what you are doing could help a shelter, for example, to be able to have professional material to help secure larger donors or new revenue streams in order to expand and help more people.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 10, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, heidi.toth@ttu.edu

(806) 742-2136

Texas Tech One of Four Finalists for APLU's Community Engagement Award

The four universities will compete for the \$20,000 prize, and the winner will be announced during APLU's annual meeting.

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), in partnership with the Engagement Scholarship Consortium (ESC), selected Texas Tech University as a regional recipient of the 2015 [W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship Award](#), putting the university in the running for a national award.

The selection committee highlighted the [East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood \(ELPN\) project](#), a collaboration between several colleges in the university and more than 75 regional partners to revitalize East Lubbock, an area plagued by poor school performance, poor health, crime, drugs, inadequate housing, high teen pregnancy rates and the highest rate of child abuse in the state.

Dean Scott Ridley of the [College of Education](#), which is leading the ELPN project, said the university is a model for others in how to use the available expertise to help a struggling community.

"Almost every educational, social, economic and legal ill faced by the residents of East Lubbock is an area of research expertise by someone at Texas Tech," he said. "The university has a tremendous collection of knowledge and people resources, and the scope of the university's collective engagement in East Lubbock is unprecedented among American universities.

"This award communicates that Texas Tech is moving toward the full actualization of what American universities can and should do."

ELPN, founded in 2013, is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education and aims to educate, support and advocate for children and parents in one of the poorest, most underserved neighborhoods in Texas. Programs focus on health, early learning, education and community and have included such projects as music lessons [from College of Visual & Performing Arts](#) students; increasing participation in Early Head Start from the [College of Human Sciences](#); Camp Champion, a four-day camp put on by the [Department of Health, Exercise & Sport Sciences](#); and school readiness programs from the College of Education.

As a regional winner, Texas Tech will compete for APLU's national C. Peter Magrath Community Engagement Scholarship Award against fellow regional winners University of Minnesota, University of New Hampshire and San Jose State University. The award is named for a longtime APLU president and recognizes the impact universities make in their communities, states and the nation as a whole.

"Part of a university's mission and significant priority is to make a positive contribution to its community, and the East Lubbock Promise Neighborhood project is doing just that," said President M. Duane Nellis of Texas Tech University. "It is wonderful to see faculty, students and the Lubbock community join together to help East Lubbock."

Earlier this year Texas Tech's [Office of Outreach & Engagement](#) sent out a campuswide call for proposals for the Kellogg and Magrath awards. There were many outstanding projects, director Birgit Green said, but ELPN rose to the top because of the project bringing together the vast, strong network of partner organizations, which are working together toward a common goal.

"The awards criteria are very strict and APLU and ESC only choose projects that show very strong community relationships and reciprocity between the university and the community," Green said. "ELPN's collaboration with organizations such as the East Lubbock Community Alliance, the Lubbock Independent School District, United Way, United Supermarkets, Covenant Health Systems and many more does that. Moreover, in spite of being just two years old, it is having significant impact on the community as well as the university – another criterion the winning project had to meet."

The regional winners will compete Sept. 30 at the 2015 ESC Conference at Penn State University in State College, Pennsylvania. The winning university will be presented with a sculpture and a \$20,000 prize during APLU's annual meeting Nov. 15-17 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The other three regional winners will receive \$5,000.

About the APLU

APLU is a research, policy and advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening and advancing the work of public universities in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. With a membership of 238 public research universities, land-grant institutions, state university systems and affiliated organizations, APLU's agenda is built on the three pillars of increasing degree completion and academic success, advancing scientific research and expanding engagement.

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Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 11, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu
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Famous Villain Actor Christopher Lee Dies at 93

Pitch

Christopher Lee, the English actor best known for portraying villains, died Sunday (June 7) at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London less than two weeks after celebrating his 93rd birthday. Lee starred as villains from Count Dracula in a sequence of Hammer Horror films to Saruman in the “Lord of the Rings” and “The Hobbit” trilogies. Rob Weiner, pop culture expert at Texas Tech, said Lee’s career was shaped by audiences enjoying his villainous characters.

Expert

Rob Weiner, librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 834-5126 or rob.weiner@ttu.edu

Quotes

- “Sir Christopher Lee had a career that spanned more than 7 decades, beginning with a fair amount of television in the early days.”
- “Lee had a 20-year run with Hammer Films, beginning in the 1950s. During that time, he played everything from Frankenstein to Count Dracula and The Mummy. Hammer Films were low-budget but looked high-quality. They may not be scary to modern audiences, but they have good stories. The writing still stands up.”
- “It wasn’t until he was in his 70s himself that his career really took off. It’s rare for an actor to have that kind of reawakening, but he simply loved working.”
- “He played everything from Sherlock Holmes to villains in the ‘Star Wars’ and ‘Lord of the Rings’ trilogies.”
- “Some might say Lee was typecast, but I think it was in a good way. People enjoyed him as a villain. It made his career.”
- “In his 90s, Lee became a heavy metal star and recorded a number of albums, including a few Christmas albums. And oddly enough, they’re quite good.”
- “The world is a little less awesome without Sir Christopher Lee.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 11, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech's Leisure Pool Ranked as One of the Nation's Best

This is the second time this year the \$8.4 million facility has been nationally recognized.

Texas Tech University's [leisure pool](#) at the [Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center](#) recently was recognized by [College Rank](#) for having one of the best campus pools in the nation.

Among the 30 schools chosen, Texas Tech was ranked No. 4 and was the highest-ranked school in the Big 12 Conference and the state.

The \$8.4 million facility was completed in May 2009 and is one of the largest in the nation. The facility features a 645-foot lazy river, an 8-lane lap pool, 25-person hot tub, diving well and a wet deck for tanning where students can relax. The facility stretches across two acres.

"Without the direct input of the Texas Tech student body, our recreational facilities would not be where they are today," said Peewee Roberson, managing director of Recreational Sports. "In the last 40 years, Texas Tech Recreational Sports has put in a strong effort to provide our students with facilities they want and need. We are honored to be included in this ranking and will continue to provide for our students."

The methodology of the ranking used subjective data such as reviews, a point system based on notable amenities and average temperatures by location, and also the amenities available to students.

This is the second time this year the leisure pool has been nationally ranked.

In February, Texas Tech was ranked 15th nationally for the [best extras on campus](#) and was the highest-ranked school in Texas.

Last year, the leisure pool was featured on [ABC News Nightline](#) for its "tricked-out" college campus alongside the University of Missouri, the University of Akron, the University of Texas-Austin and Drexel University.

The leisure pool is open to students, faculty, staff and family members and also offers family hours throughout the day and weekends.

During the summer, parents can register their children in the Youth Learn-to-Swim program where Texas Tech Rec Sports faculty will emphasize water safety while introducing the fundamentals of swimming, diving and other aquatic activities.

Registration is open to Texas Tech personnel as well as the Lubbock community. More information about the Learn-to-Swim program and a registration form are available on the Rec Sports [website](#).

The student recreation center also features an indoor facility that allows swimming year round. The facility has standard 25-yard lap lanes at varying depths and a large shallow area with a basketball hoop and is a popular spot for aerobics classes.

For more information about the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center or the leisure pool, visit the Rec Sports [website](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 12, 2015

CONTACT: Katelyn Perry, katelyn.perry@ttu.edu
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CB&I Donates \$1.6 Million Gift to Texas Tech for Additive Manufacturing Lab

The Mechanical Engineering machine shop will be renamed and outfitted with the latest technologies in additive manufacturing.

Students in the Texas Tech University [Department of Mechanical Engineering](#) will soon benefit from the latest technologies in additive manufacturing through the CB&I Advanced Prototyping and Manufacturing Laboratory made possible by a \$1.6 million gift from [CB&I](#).

“Investments in research and educational opportunities pay dividends in the future, and we truly appreciate the commitment of CB&I to our future engineers and leaders,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “Hands-on participation in research and the opportunity to actually put ideas to work provide a valuable learning experience for our students.”

Formerly known as the machine shop, the CB&I Advanced Prototyping and Manufacturing Laboratory will allow students the opportunity to develop the tactile and functional understanding of mechanical and theoretical principles that will make them better engineers. Students will have access to state-of-the-art technologies in additive manufacturing such as 3-D printing. Through additive manufacturing, people are brought closer to products and challenges are solved in new ways.

Along with the new equipment, the lab space will be upgraded to enhance student learning experience.

“Texas Tech’s engineering program has a strong track record of preparing its students for success,” said Philip K. Asherman, CB&I’s president and chief executive officer. “Through this partnership, we are helping build a learning environment that will foster engineering innovation and produce the future leaders of our industry.”

The Department of Mechanical Engineering is the largest in the [Whitacre College of Engineering](#) and is among the top U.S. programs in the awarding of mechanical engineering undergraduate degrees. As a leading educator of industry-ready mechanical engineers, Texas Tech prepares mechanical engineering students and graduates who have a reputation of high academic skills in engineering, math and science. Industry employers

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report that Red Raider engineers have the strong work ethic and emotional intelligence necessary in today's office environment and field atmosphere.

"This gift from CB&I will help the mechanical engineering department train the manufacturing engineers and innovative leaders of the future," said Al Sacco Jr., dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering. "It marks the beginning of a new phase in an existing fruitful partnership with CB&I, a company that has been hiring our students for many years."

About CB&I

CB&I (NYSE: CBI) is the most complete energy infrastructure-focused company in the world. With 125 years of experience and the expertise of approximately 54,000 employees, CB&I provides reliable solutions while maintaining a relentless focus on safety and an uncompromising standard of quality.

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Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 12, 2015

CONTACT: Cara Vandergriff, cara.vandergriff@ttu.edu
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The Grateful Dead to Perform Final Shows for 50th Anniversary

Pitch

The Grateful Dead will perform its “Fare Thee Well” shows this summer in celebration of the band’s 50th anniversary. Remaining members Bob Weir, Phil Lesh, Bill Kreutzmann and Mickey Hart will reunite for the final time for two shows at Levi’s Stadium in Santa Clara, California, on June 27-28 and three shows at Soldier Field in Chicago on July 3-5. All five shows, which sold out within an hour, will be visually broadcast-streamed online.

In addition, the band’s merchandising recently announced “Thirty Trips Around the Sun,” a 50th anniversary box set of 80 CDs with 30 complete, previously unissued shows, one from each year of the Grateful Dead’s touring career.

Rob Weiner, librarian at Texas Tech University, has written several works on The Grateful Dead. His projects include an article in the magazine Celebrating 50 Years of the Grateful Dead, pieces in the books “If the Head Fits Wear It: Contemporary Art and the Grateful Dead” and “Studying the Dead,” as well as three books on the band: “The Grateful Dead and the Deadheads: An Annotated Bibliography,” “Perspectives on the Grateful Dead: Critical Writings” and “The Storyteller Speaks: Rare and Different Fictions of the Grateful Dead.” Additionally, Weiner founded the Grateful Dead area at the Southwestern Popular Culture Association in 1988.

Expert

Rob Weiner, librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 834-5126 or rob.weiner@ttu.edu

Quotes

- “There are only five shows and that’s it. While the former members will probably continue to perform on their own, this is the last time the core four will perform together. It is the hottest ticket on the planet right now. They were being offered on StubHub at one time for \$100,000.”
- “It’s a celebration of 50 years of Grateful Dead music. They’re doing this for the fans. They only added the two extra shows in California because the demand was so high. They don’t need to tour; they’re all nearly in their 70s, and they really don’t owe anything to anybody, so the fact that they’re doing these concerts says a lot.”
- “At 80 discs, this is a box set that covers every single year of the band’s existence. From 1966 to 1995 we have recordings every single year, which blows your mind. The Dead

played something like 500 different songs in their 30-year history. And no two songs were ever played the same way. It's unparalleled."

- "The Grateful Dead were the biggest American rock band in the history of popular culture, and that's not a false statement. The Grateful Dead are an American institution."
- "There's certainly something fundamentally American that is the Grateful Dead. The Dead exemplifies the American experience. There's no greater band that represents America than the Grateful Dead."
- "The Grateful Dead's actual music comes straight from America's heartland as well. Everything about it is America at its finest: blues, folk, traditional ballads, pop ballads, classic rock n' roll, jazz, avant-garde classical, country and everything in between including their original material. Their lyrics tell stories about characters that are as American as apple pie and baseball."

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 15, 2015

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Texas Tech Newest Member of National Science Foundation's I-Corps Node

Texas Tech University has been named the fourth member of the southwest node of the National Science Foundation (NSF) [Innovation Corps](#) (I-Corps), joining The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University and Rice University to foster entrepreneurship that will lead to the commercialization of technology previously supported by NSF-funded research.

"It is wonderful to see Texas Tech partner with UT, TAMU and Rice to run the southwest node of the Innovation Corps," said Robert V. Duncan, vice president for research at Texas Tech. "This is one of the most progressive research programs in the U.S., since it encourages both excellent innovation and the proper translation into the marketplace so that these innovations and discoveries provide great improvements for the quality of life for all our citizens and others throughout the world."

Because of the necessity for a flexible schedule and the intense focus on commercialization activity, teaching faculty members typically are not chosen as I-Corps faculty. [Eli Velasquez](#), Texas Tech's director of venture development, will be the university's first representative to become NSF certified as I-Corps faculty. [David Snow](#), associate managing director and intellectual property manager in the [Office of Research Commercialization](#), will become certified next year.

"Being part of the NSF Southwest I-Corps Node means we have the stamp of approval from a major national organization to deploy a program that is changing how we innovate at universities," Velasquez said. "Our integration as a formal partner enables us to serve as an anchor institution for West Texas and puts us in the same company as Stanford, Caltech, Georgia Tech, Michigan, Johns Hopkins and Columbia."

In its new role, Texas Tech will support the teaching and training of national I-Corps teams and coordinate regional I-Corps meetings across the Southwest, serving I-Corps teams from across the country, Velasquez said. He will be responsible for training others to teach the program to national teams, Texas Tech students and faculty.

"I'm proud to have Eli Velasquez and David Snow serve as I-Corps faculty who will take the reins and increase Texas Tech's visibility as a respected research institution," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "I believe this is an important step for the university."

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Heath Naquin, executive director for the node, said, “It is with great pleasure that we welcome Texas Tech as an official partner in the NSF Southwest I-Corps Node. With the addition of Texas Tech, the NSF Southwest I-Corps Node now includes all major university systems in the state and will be looking to apply I-Corps methodology, process and learning across the state to increase commercialization outputs from fundamental research. We greatly appreciate the support of Dr. Duncan and the entire Texas Tech team and look forward to a long and impactful partnership throughout the region.”

Texas Tech’s relationship with the National Science Foundation has taken some big steps forward this year with several joint events, including [NSF Day](#), which was hosted by the [Office of the President](#) and the [Office of the Vice President for Research](#), and [Demo Day](#), organized by the Office of Research Commercialization and the [Kinetic Accelerator](#), [Innovated by Texas Tech](#) program. Demo Day included a keynote address from Rathindra “Babu” DasGupta, national program director for I-Corps.

“The National Science Foundation is affirming our capacity for innovation and entrepreneurship across multiple facets – students, faculty, external mentors, industry and investors,” Velasquez said. “We now have a seat at the table to help shape research, innovation and entrepreneurial policy at the national level. This opens the doors for our faculty to access more resources, and potentially funding, from the NSF. It’s a win-win all around.”

I-Corps is a set of activities and programs that prepares scientists and engineers to extend their focus beyond the laboratory and broadens the impact of select, NSF-funded, basic-research projects. While knowledge gained from NSF-supported basic research frequently advances a particular field of science or engineering, some results also show immediate potential for broader applicability and impact in the commercial world. Such results may be translated through I-Corps into technologies with near-term benefits for the economy and society.

Combining experience and guidance from established entrepreneurs with a targeted curriculum, I-Corps is a public-private partnership program that teaches grant recipients to identify valuable product opportunities that can emerge from academic research and offers entrepreneurship training to student participants.

Texas Tech’s has five past and active I-Corps grants, the first of which was awarded in 2013. Recipients are [Luciano Castillo](#), professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering; [Akbar Siami-Namin](#), assistant professor, Department of Computer Science; [Changzhi Li](#), assistant professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; [Ranadip Pal](#), assistant professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; and [Siva Vanapalli](#), assistant professor, Department of Chemical Engineering.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 16, 2015

CONTACT: Glenys Young, glenys.young@ttu.edu
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150th Anniversary of Juneteenth an Opportunity for Reflection

The observance celebrates the day slaves were freed after the Civil War.

Most people in the United States honor July 4 as the day their forefathers gained their independence. But not everyone.

Karlos K. Hill, an assistant professor in the Texas Tech University [Department of History](#), says some people within the African-American community also remember June 19.

“If you understand history of America, it’s possible the Fourth of July doesn’t mean the same thing to African-Americans as it would to the whites who were never enslaved,” Hill said. “African-Americans are just as American as any other racial group, but in the history of the country, when American colonists broke away from Great Britain, African-Americans were enslaved and remained enslaved. It didn’t make much difference for them. It didn’t change their everyday lives.

“A holiday like Juneteenth has a special meaning because it’s an observance in which African-Americans became free, just like when American colonists declared freedom from the British in 1776.”

Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19, commemorates the day in 1865 when Union Gen. Gordon Grainger rode into Galveston and read Executive Order No. 3 from President Abraham Lincoln, which granted freedom to all slaves. The Emancipation Proclamation, which went into effect Jan. 1, 1863, gave freedom to slaves in Confederate states, including Texas. Slaves in Union states were not freed until the ratification of the 13th amendment in December 1865.

“The Juneteenth celebration is really about the enslaved people in Texas who were kept in slavery after the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect,” Hill said. “Many slaveholders ignored the proclamation and continued to hold people in bondage in the South. By the war’s end, slaves in Texas were still being held in bondage, and it was only in June 1865 that a union general came to Texas and forced those slaveholders still holding people in bondage to relinquish their hold on them.”

The 150th anniversary of Juneteenth comes amid a year of celebrations. 2015 is also the sesquicentennial of the 13th amendment and the end of the Civil War, and the 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, which prohibited racial discrimination in voting.

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“It forces us to reflect on where we’ve been and perhaps where we’re going,” Hill said. “African-Americans have spent more time – in terms of decades – in bondage than out of bondage. That’s 250 years in slavery, roughly 150 years of freedom, and at least 100 of those we had Jim Crow laws, segregation and lynching. These are the kinds of things we can reflect upon.”

Hill said recent events like those in Ferguson, Missouri, or McKinney, Texas, show the country has not made much distance from its past.

“Thinking about the McKinney, Texas, incident or other incidents in which police officers have shot or assaulted unarmed black people, these incidents are creating racial turmoil, strife and confusion in many ways,” Hill said. “I’m not sure observances like Juneteenth or the ending of the Civil War, or the Voting Rights Act do anything substantive for us. On one hand, it shows we’re not that far removed from the years in which racial segregation and voting disenfranchisement was the law of the land in the South. When we observe those holidays, we should be humbled that we’re not that far from the time when it was legal to discriminate against black people, when it was legal to enslave them.”

Hill and Miguel A. Levario, an associate professor in the Department of History, have started a podcast called “[Tapestry: A Conversation About Race and Culture](#).” They have recorded 12 episodes since January, each focusing on issues related to race and culture.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 16, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, heidi.toth@ttu.edu
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Ken Davis Chorale to Perform Special Concert at Texas Tech

The chorale is composed of former Texas Tech choir students.

- WHAT:** The Ken Davis Chorale will perform at Texas Tech University. The group, which is composed of former Texas Tech University choir students, performs only twice a year. This will be the chorale's first concert in Lubbock. Its members travel from throughout the world to be a part of each performance.
- The concert will include pieces by Franz Joseph Haydn, Johannes Brahms, Felix Mendelssohn and Stephen Paulus.
- Tickets purchased [online](#) are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and \$5 for students. Tickets purchased at the door are \$20 for adults.
- WHEN:** 3 p.m. Saturday (June 20)
- WHERE:** Hemmle Recital Hall, Room 101, School of Music, 18th Street and Boston Avenue
- WHO:** The [Ken Davis Chorale](#) is made up of singers who attended Texas Tech University between 1989 and 2000, when Ken Davis was the choral director. During that time, the University Choir received numerous awards and invitations to perform through the region. Former choir members formed the Dallas-based Ken Davis Chorale to continue performing. Last summer the group was a featured choir at the Texas Choral Directors Association in San Antonio.

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Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 16, 2015

CONTACT: Karin Slyker, karin.slyker@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Deploys Team to Intercept Tropical Storm Bill

Wind scientists and economist can discuss damage and safety.

Tropical Storm Bill made landfall Tuesday approximately 90 miles southwest of Houston. The National Hurricane Center said sustained winds were recorded at 60 mph. Heavy rain is expected to bring widespread flooding to a state already experiencing its wettest Spring in recorded history.

The [Texas Tech University Hurricane Research Team](#) (TTUHRT) is dedicated to mitigating the effects of landfalling hurricanes on life and property, and arrived in the area Monday. The group includes faculty and students ready to brave the storm and deploy StickNet probes to gather data. The [team](#) will provide status updates and pictures on [Facebook](#), as time allows.

Texas Tech's [National Wind Institute \(NWI\)](#) also has a number of researchers with extensive experience studying hurricanes such as Rita, Katrina and Ike, and can speak as experts about various aspects of these devastating storms.

[John Schroeder](#), professor of atmospheric sciences, visited affected areas after both hurricanes Rita and Katrina to deploy instrumented towers that gather high-resolution storm data at a time when most conventional observation systems fail. Schroeder can offer insight into how hurricanes develop, move and react to various meteorological elements. He is an expert on hurricane winds and has been actively intercepting hurricanes since 1998.

Schroeder can be reached at (806) 834-5678 or john.schroeder@ttu.edu.

[Daan Liang](#), assistant professor of construction engineering technology and interim director of NWI, used satellite images and aerial photos along with ground survey results to investigate building damage caused by Hurricane Katrina. Liang used various probability models to study how the construction of buildings affects their vulnerability against severe windstorms. Recently, his research is focused on the advancement of remote sensing technology in documenting and assessing wind damage to residential structures.

Liang can be reached at (806) 834-0383 or daan.liang@ttu.edu.

[Ernst Kiesling](#), research professor at NWI and executive director of the National Storm Shelter Association (NSSA), recommends homeowners who live above the flood plane

-more-

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in hurricane-prone areas buy a storm shelter for their home. As was seen in Houston preceding Hurricane Rita, evacuations are stressful and expensive. They often put immense strain on traffic corridors, leading to traffic jams and – in the case of Houston – fatalities. By using in-home shelters, some families who are not required to evacuate can remain where they are and ease the traffic flow. However, Kiesling urges buyers to look for a NSSA seal when they buy a safe room for their home, because not all shelters are verified to be fully compliant with current standards for storm shelters and provide full protection from extreme winds. Kiesling has more than 35 years of experience in the design, standards-writing and quality control of storm shelters. Kiesling can be reached at (806) 834-1931 or ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu.

[Larry Tanner](#), research associate in civil engineering, completed a six-month investigation working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency mitigation assessment team on the wind damage to residential structures from Hurricane Ike in Texas and Louisiana. He also was a member of the FEMA mitigation assessment team that studied Hurricane Katrina. He led a team that recorded wind and water damage along the coastline in Louisiana and Mississippi. Much of the damage done by Katrina, he said, resulted from structures being built below the base flood elevation, or the elevation flood waters will rise to during a 100-year storm event (meaning the storm only has a 1 percent chance of happening in a year). Tanner can be reached at (806) 834-2320 or larry.tanner@ttu.edu.

[Bradley Ewing](#), professor of operations management in the [Rawls College of Business](#), has studied the economic impact of hurricanes and tornadoes. He can speak to the impact of hurricanes and tornadoes in cities like Oklahoma City; Corpus Christi; Wilmington, North Carolina; Miami, Florida; and Nashville, Tennessee. Ewing can be reached at (806) 834-3939 or bradley.ewing@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 17, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech Students to Participate in National Tibetan Innovation Challenge

Five students will compete as a team against other national universities in presenting a business plan for the Tibetan diaspora community.

Five Texas Tech University students from different areas of study will compete together in the [Tibetan Innovation Challenge](#) (TIC) July 10-11 at the University of Rochester in New York City, where they will present a business plan in front of a panel of judges to help improve the lives of Tibetan refugees in India.

Tibet, located northeast of the Himalayas, was taken over by China in 1950, causing Tibetans to suppress their culture and heritage and adopt the views and ideals of the Chinese. For safety reasons, many Tibetans left their homes near the Himalayas and fled to India and Nepal where they now reside with no homeland to call their own.

In an effort to preserve the Tibetan culture, Texas Tech students Saba Nafees, Benjamin Jarvis, Stephanie DeLeon, Tailor Brown and Caleb Fisher will present their business plan as finalists in front of a panel of judges, competing against the University of Rochester, Syracuse University, Case Western Reserve University, the UCLA Anderson School of Management and the University of Maryland.

Nafees, a mathematical biology doctoral student from Pakistan and vice president of Graduate Affairs for Texas Tech [Student Government Association](#), wanted to compete in the event when she learned about Tibet's history.

"I was watching a film with my father about the Tibetan culture and history, and it made me realize I really wanted to help these people," Nafees said. "Growing up in Pakistan, we had products from Tibet and I generally knew about the country, but I didn't actually realize what life was like for them. A week later I stumbled across the Tibetan Innovation Challenge put together by the University of Rochester, and I immediately wanted to get involved."

Nafees contacted Jarvis, DeLeon, Brown and Fisher about the challenge, and they agreed to join in the competition.

Within three days, the team submitted the initial business proposal for the TIC and was the last university accepted for the event. Texas Tech is considered the wild card among the group of universities selected.

The TIC was founded in response to the Dalai Lama's concern for the outflow of young Tibetans leaving their communities in search of employment. The new intercollegiate social entrepreneurship business plan contest hopes to empower Tibetans to take control of their economic futures.

"To see how these people lost their homeland, and how now they're facing being refugees in countries that are not theirs and falling victim to being out-competed in different markets is sad," Brown said. "They're losing their heritage, their traditions; they have no money, no resources, and how can you continue your heritage if you have no resources? Because of this, I jumped at this opportunity."

Each team member had a specific role in the planning aspect for the challenge. Nafees, who also is a [One Young World ambassador](#), helped mold the business plan with her entrepreneurship skills and international perspective. Jarvis, a Texas Tech graduate and entrepreneur with a master's degree in mass communications, and Fisher, MBA student and external vice president of the Texas Tech Student Government Association, provided experience with media, marketing and business-thinking skills. DeLeon and Brown, both Texas Tech graduates with a bachelor's of science in biology, did in-depth research for the business plan as their undergraduate careers consisted mainly of research.

At the national finals of the TIC, high-profile Tibetans, some of whom will be included in the judging panel, will select the winning team. Once the winning team and business plan are chosen, the plans will be provided to the Tibetan community to form new business ventures for Tibetan refugees. The winning team will have the opportunity to travel to India at a later date to meet the people implementing their business plan.

"It's cool coming from the wild card perspective because we will be competing at such a prestigious level," Fisher said. "The students, faculty, staff and leadership here at Texas Tech represent something really unique and awesome, and ultimately it shows we really work hard for our achievements."

"We're Red Raiders. We work hard and even though we might be the wild card in this, we're going to do this to the best of our ability."

All five students also will get a chance to meet the Dalai Lama while at the TIC.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 18, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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Llano River Field Station Receives UCOWR Education and Public Service Award

The station is a part of the Texas Tech University Center at Junction, a dedicated research and educational facility on the banks of the South Llano River.

The Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR) has given the Llano River Field Station the UCOWR Education and Public Service Award for 2015.

The [Llano River Field Station](#) (LRFS) is the strategic arm of the [Texas Tech University Center at Junction](#), providing academic, research and service opportunities in the Texas Hill Country and Edward Plateau. Researchers collaborate on studying and solving the issues of the region and beyond, including watershed, range science and environmental education and public engagement.

Tom Arsuffi, a professor and director of the LRFS, credited the collaboration of the staff, which includes the Texas Tech University Center at Junction director of operations Robert Stubblefield and assistant director Karen Lopez, with the station's success in providing a multitude of quality scholarly and educational opportunities.

“One of our mantras is, ‘it takes a village,’” Arsuffi said. “This award is not just for the Llano River Field Station, it is for our entire community of agencies, K-12 schools, Texas Tech University colleges, departments and many others with which we work and partner. It validates that we are making a difference in water, natural resources and environmental education.”

The award was during the annual conference presented by UCOWR, the National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) and the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Sciences, Inc. (CUAHSI), in Henderson, Nevada. The award recognizes individuals, groups or institutions that have contributed to increasing the public awareness of water resources development, use and management in the natural, biological and social sciences.

As the largest inland field station in Texas, it is bisected by the headwaters of the South Llano River and located in a vast (25-plus counties) and biologically diverse area of the state, allowing undergraduate and graduate students from several universities to conduct research on the local watershed and riverbank habitats. Research is conducted throughout

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the region while courses from several Texas Tech departments and colleges are offered during the spring, intersession and summer semesters.

Located in the TTU Center at Junction's Lantana Lab and Jupiter House on the banks of the South Llano River, the station allows undergraduate and graduate students from several universities to conduct research on the local watershed and riverbank habitats. Research is conducted at the Walter Buck Wildlife Management Center while courses from the biology department are offered during the spring, intersession and summer semesters.

The TTU Center at Junction provides classrooms, laboratories and living and dining facilities for both undergraduate and graduate students who are conducting research or taking classes at the facility.

"Texas Tech has a robust presence around the state, including our site in Junction," Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. "Dr. Arsuffi's research of water issues and management has not only been beneficial to the education of our students, but also to the surrounding area in the Hill Country. His work directly impacts the environment and provides positive solutions to a variety of issues facing the area."

Among the current projects conducted and under development at the LRFS is the Upper Llano Watershed Protection Plan, the Texas Water Symposium, Discovery Point Trail and Outdoor School. The station's K-12 Outdoor School is recognized as a Texas Exemplar Program and has had remarkable quantitative success and impacts demonstrated by student performance on statewide standardized tests, national awards and publications. Since its inception, the Outdoor School has provided professional development and education in science and nature to more than 20,000 students and parents as well as teachers in more than 65 Texas school districts.

LRFS is a partner with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's Guadalupe Bass Restoration Project, a watershed approach aimed at understanding and protecting the state fish of Texas.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 18, 2015

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Texas Tech Student is Advocate for West Nile Prevention

Kylie Boyd was the first minor in Texas to contract the disease in 2011.

Due to recent rainfall, the Lubbock and South Plains area has experienced an increase in mosquitos that looks to only be growing as the summer progresses. With these pests comes not only a burden on outdoor activities, but the threat of contracting a harmful, mosquito-borne disease, West Nile virus.

West Nile virus, one of the most prevalent mosquito-transmitted diseases, first appeared in Texas in 2002 and has since become endemic, with around 2,200 human cases reported in the state from 2002-2011. In 2012, a record outbreak of West Nile hit Texas, leading to around 1,900 cases reported and 89 deaths in that year alone. The state's first case of West Nile Virus for 2015 was confirmed May 21 in Houston.

Kylie Boyd, a Texas Tech student from Friona, Texas, was the first minor in Texas to contract West Nile virus when she was diagnosed in 2011.

"I guess I just got bit by a mosquito in my barn," Boyd said. "I was a sophomore in high school when I was diagnosed. It took doctors around three months and a ton of tests to finally figure out what was wrong."

Of the 27 or 28 mosquito species found in this area, about five can transmit West Nile virus. The infection, though it often shows no symptoms, can cause fever, headaches, fatigue, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting and rash. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about one in five infected people will develop a fever with other symptoms. Less than 1 percent of West Nile cases are severe, but those that are can result in a serious neurological disease.

Boyd is now a strong advocate of mosquito control and says she regularly exercises special precautions to avoid being infected again.

"My new motto is bug spray, bug spray and more bug spray," Boyd said. "It only takes a few seconds to prevent a lifetime of struggle."

Boyd also recommends having yards professionally sprayed, especially with all the recent rainfall.

“I wish I had taken the 10 seconds to apply bug spray the day I got bit,” Boyd said. “But now all I can do is promote prevention to others and hope we learn more about this horrible virus.”

Boyd said the symptoms she experienced mimicked Lyme disease, which is what eventually led doctors to test her for West Nile.

“The blood test came back positive,” Boyd said, “and we were devastated to find out the doctors had no cure or really much knowledge on the virus. We didn’t know what the next step was. It was just a waiting game.”

The symptoms Boyd experienced included excessive sleeping, severe nose bleeds, seizures, weight loss, low blood pressure and a high resting heart rate.

“Symptoms are very different for everyone, which makes the virus difficult to diagnose,” Boyd said.

The worst symptom Boyd experienced was the excessive sleep. After regularly sleeping a minimum of 15 hours a day, her doctors decided to put her on narcolepsy medication to try to keep her awake.

“For the short periods of time I was awake, life was still extremely hazy,” Boyd said. “Out of everything, all the sleep hindered my life the most.”

Boyd said what frightened her most about her diagnosis was the publicity it got around the community.

“My case was called into the state and appeared on many news stations,” Boyd said. “They’d say, ‘minor diagnosed with West Nile.’ It scared me to see how scared everyone else was.”

Boyd said her doctors didn’t know whether she would get worse or better, but over time she noticed her symptoms improving. She still has to deal with many lasting effects of West Nile, however, including a weakened immune system and lower energy levels.

“It took around a year to finally be able to return to my normal routine,” Boyd said. “Although I don’t think my body will ever recover fully. I still sleep more than the average 20-year-old, but I try to avoid medication and look for natural energy boosters when my body allows.”

Boyd now must receive weekly B12 shots to help her weak immune system fend off everyday infections.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

There is currently no vaccine to protect against West Nile virus, so the best way to prevent contracting the disease is to exercise mosquito control. Eliminate standing pools of water where mosquitos breed, keep grass cut short and use products such as DEET mosquito repellent and window screens. Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants to cover exposed skin and avoid being outdoors between dusk and dawn, when mosquitos are most active.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 19, 2015

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Investigation Closed After 2010 Laboratory Explosion

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board accepts Texas Tech's changes to improve lab safety.

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) has closed its investigation into a 2010 explosion that severely injured a graduate student in the Texas Tech University [Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry](#).

"The academic community at Texas Tech has taken on the challenge to develop a strong positive safety culture," said Alice Young, associate vice president for [research](#). "Staff, students, faculty and administrators have worked to change our expectations about the safety needs of our work and about how we act on those needs."

Following its investigation, the CSB made two specific recommendations for changes needed at Texas Tech:

- Expand the overall safety plan for labs, studios and research sites to include physical safety hazards and to ensure that all members of the Texas Tech community are aware of the safety plan.
- Create a near-miss reporting system to understand any risks of the work being done at Texas Tech.

Young said many campus groups have worked on these changes, especially the faculty-led Institutional Laboratory Safety Committee (ILSC), which made its most recent report to the CSB in April. On June 1, the CSB investigation board voted to accept that work and changed the status of its recommendations to "closed – acceptable action."

"President M. Duane Nellis and his senior leadership members are taking an active role in these changes," Young said. "Of particular importance, President Nellis has asked all members of the Texas Tech community to learn about and use our safety plan, which, though still called the TTU [Chemical Hygiene Plan](#) or CHP, now covers the wide range of hazards we need to understand to do our work."

Another result of Texas Tech's safety effort was Young's [appointment](#) in May to the Task Force on Laboratory Safety, created by the [Association of Public & Land-grant Universities](#).

"The Chemical Safety Board's action is the result of a focused and deliberate effort by many people across all of Texas Tech's departments and offices," said Robert V. Duncan,

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senior vice president of research at Texas Tech. “Our efforts have resulted in an improved culture of safety awareness across campus and a commitment to operate safely in our studios and laboratories. I greatly appreciate the excellent leadership from everyone who has made this possible.”

The explosion, which happened Jan. 7, 2010, involved the handling of a high-energy metal compound that suddenly detonated. Texas Tech had entered into an agreement with Northeastern University, which holds a contract from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to study the high-energy materials. More information is available [here](#).

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 19, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech, Kansas State Enter into Collaborative Agreement in Beef Industry The Beef Cattle Institute is a widely respected educational and research organization.

Texas Tech University and Kansas State University have entered an agreement to bring Texas Tech into the Beef Cattle Institute (BCI), which fosters collaboration to deal with issues relating to the beef industry.

Established in 2007 under the leadership of Dan Thomson, a Texas Tech alumnus, in the Kansas State College of Veterinary Medicine, the Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State has become one of the premier collaborative centers anywhere in the world for research, education and outreach in the beef industry. Texas Tech and Kansas State are leaders in providing the beef industry, from producers to retailers, with the people and tools needed to succeed both today and into the future, making this collaboration a natural fit.

“An integrated approach between our schools is a smart use of our resources so that collectively, we can better serve the beef industry that provides significant economic infrastructure for our schools and our states,” said Thomson, the Jones Professor of Production Medicine and Epidemiology and BCI director. “I look forward to growing opportunities for our faculty and students together through research, outreach and educational opportunities.”

By adding expertise from Texas Tech’s [College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources](#), these universities hope to take the BCI to another level of success, deliver far-reaching solutions for the beef industry, provide expanded opportunities for students and faculty and better serve the interests of our citizens.

“This partnership not only strengthens the collaborative research between our two universities, but also elevates the national profiles of each,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis said. “Texas Tech and Kansas State boast some of the world’s leading researchers in the beef industry and their joint efforts will benefit not only the universities, but also the public for years to come.”

Texas Tech and Kansas State have a shared vision for the service to the beef industry, its many and varied stakeholders and the citizens that benefit from the beef industry from consumers of beef to employees of allied businesses. Moreover, a large proportion of

U.S. beef cattle are fattened between Lubbock, Texas, and Manhattan, Kansas, generating substantial regional and national revenues.

“We are excited to partner with Texas Tech University and share a multidisciplinary vision to solving real-world issues the beef industry faces,” said Kirk Schulz, president of Kansas State University. “Such valuable and service-oriented collaborations are a crucial part of our land-grant mission and will help Kansas State University become a Top-50 public research university by 2025.”

Beef from the region is exported around the world, so Texas Tech’s involvement in the Beef Cattle Institute will have a global impact.

“This relationship with the Beef Cattle Institute at Kansas State is an important step forward in our continuing efforts to serve the livestock industry and grow expertise in a research focus area of animal health, nutrition and welfare,” said Michael Galyean, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. “Linkage to the BCI will benefit faculty and students at both institutions.”

The BCI’s goal is to provide students and beef producers with the highest quality and most up-to-date education, research and outreach available. The hope is to increase the value of a student’s education through work in the BCI as well as increasing training for those in the beef industry.

“Through collaboration with Texas Tech University, Kansas State University and its College of Veterinary Medicine are poised to better address challenges facing the beef industry and its constituents,” said Tammy Beckham, incoming dean of the Kansas State’s College of Veterinary Medicine. “This partnership opens new avenues for education, research and outreach for faculty and students both within the college and across the university as well as nationally.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 22, 2015

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Texas Tech's Fit 4 Fun Kid's Triathlon Open for Registration Rec Sports prepares for fun summer events for children.

Registration is open for the 2015 Fit 4 Fun Kid's Triathlon hosted by Texas Tech University's [Rec Sports](#). Beginning at 7:30 a.m. July 11, kids will test their endurance at the Robert H. Ewalt Student Recreation Center, located on Main Street just east of Indiana Avenue.

This event begins with a swim at the leisure pool, transitioning into a bike ride and ends with a run around the recreation center. Age groups will compete in different distances.

Seven- to 10-year-olds will swim 100 yards, bike 2.4 miles and run one mile, and 11- to 14-year-olds will swim 200 yards, bike 3.2 miles and run 1.5 miles. Participants and their families will get free access to the leisure pool after the triathlon until 2 p.m.

Rec Sports will host a free preparation workshop on July 6 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the recreation center for participants.

The cost is \$20 for the first child and \$15 for each additional child from the same family. Packet pickup will be from 4 to 8 p.m. July 10 with last-chance registration available at the Fit/Well office inside the recreation center. All participants must pick up numbers and packets. There will be no race-day packet pickup.

Participants can register [online](#), mail the registration form or submit through the Fit/Well office at the recreation center. For more information about the Fit 4 Fun Kid's Triathlon and preparation tips visit the triathlon [webpage](#) or contact the Fit/Well office at (806) 742-3828.

The Fit 4 Fun Kid's Triathlon is sponsored by the [Covenant Body Mind Initiative](#) and the Covenant Health System.

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 23, 2015

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Karp, Ponnusamy Receive Prestigious 100 Inspiring Women in STEM Award

The award, presented by INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, recognizes the work by individuals in STEM and who serve as inspirations to others.

Two women at Texas Tech University have been honored for their efforts to enhance participation on individual STEM field while inspiring others to pursue careers in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Tanja Karp, an associate professor in the [Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering](#), and Logeswari Ponnusamy, a doctoral student in Environmental Toxicology at [The Institute of Environmental and Human Health \(TIEHH\)](#), were named to the list of 100 Inspiring Women in STEM Award by [INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine](#).

The award recognizes 100 women who inspire a new generation of women to consider careers in the STEM fields through their work and achievements. They do so through mentoring, research and teaching.

“The growth of STEM programs requires individuals in these fields who can not only inspire generations of students but who can draw from all areas of society to enhance the quality of education,” Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis. “Dr. Karp and Logeswari exemplify the qualities Texas Tech seeks in its faculty and students.”

INSIGHT Into Diversity has been a leader in promoting diversity both in education and the workplace for the past 40 years, connecting employees with businesses and institutions that embrace a diverse and motivated workforce. Through articles on recent diversity trends and relevant news, interviews with leaders and diversity experts, it strives toward a goal of a more inclusive culture both in business and academia.

Karp, a faculty member at Texas Tech since 2000, is focused on engineering education and increasing interests for STEM disciplines in K-12 through robotics. Each year she organizes the [Get Excited About Robotics \(GEAR\)](#) competition which brings in approximately 700 elementary and middle school students from across the region and allows first-year engineering students the opportunity to work on their skills while mentoring local students.

“I am extremely thankful to my colleague Richard Gale, who felt my work was deserving of nomination,” Karp said. “Through this award, national recognition is given to the Texas Tech University K-12 robotics pipeline for students in West Texas that my colleagues and I have developed and grown during the last 10 years. I would not have been successful if it were not for the network of teachers, colleagues and students who shared my enthusiasm and vision and significantly contributed to the success of the program.”

Karp is a member of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and a faculty adviser for the [Texas Tech student chapter of SWE](#).

“I am pleased but not surprised for the recognition for Dr. Karp as a role model for all students, men and women alike,” said Al Sacco, dean of the Whitacre College of Engineering. “Dr. Karp is a dedicated, passionate educator who seeks every opportunity to excite, motivate and inspire all students. I am very proud to call Dr. Karp my colleague. She is a fantastic role model for all engineering faculty and our female engineering students, in particular.”

Ponnusamy is working in the laboratory of Kamaleshwar Singh, an assistant professor of environmental genomics and molecular carcinogenesis in The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH). In addition to her mentoring others in the STEM areas, she has used her experiences growing up in a rural area of India to pursue a career in cancer research while spreading scientific literacy.

Her current research is on the molecular mechanisms associated with the development of resistance to chemotherapeutic drugs, specifically in the treatment of breast cancer.

“I am extremely honored to receive the INSIGHT into Diversity STEM national recognition as an early career researcher in STEM,” Ponnusamy said. “This award is the recognition of my efforts in moving forward in the right direction of pursuing my dream of inspiring the younger generation. It motivates me to move further to contribute something meaningful to the community. Receiving this honor as a student of Texas Tech University means so much to me.”

She also is an associate council member for the American Association for Cancer Research, serves on the membership committee of Women Graduates USA and is on the global outreach and advisory board for the online Global Education Conference Network that advocates for boundary-free education.

“As an international woman student, Logeswari’s motivation to pursue advanced education in a global platform by breaking cultural barriers inspires and empowers school children and young women,” Singh said. “She deserves this recognition.”

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CONTACT: Tanja Karp, associate professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Whitacre College of Engineering, (806) 742-1245 or tanja.karp@ttu.edu; Logeswari Ponnusamy, graduate student and research assistant, The Institute of Environmental and Human Health, logeswari.ponnusamy@ttu.edu.



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 23, 2015

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

Texas Tech Nationally Ranked for its Social Media Presence The university is ranked No. 24 for its performance on Facebook.

In a recent ranking by [Engagement Labs](#), Texas Tech University was ranked as one of the top 50 universities and colleges on Facebook and Twitter.

Ranked 24th, Texas Tech was honored for its performance on [Facebook](#) and was ranked higher than other prominent schools such as Vanderbilt University, Brown University, Yale University and Stanford University.

Allison Matherly, Texas Tech's coordinator of digital engagement who oversees the university's social media, said Texas Tech's social media presence is important for creating and maintaining relationships within the Red Raider community.

"Texas Tech's social media channels provide an important avenue for open dialogue with the Red Raider community and allows them to connect directly with the university," she said. "Our Facebook page is a large part of our social media presence, and it helps us build relationships while listening and engaging with our audience.

"We're very excited to be recognized as one of the top university Facebook pages in the country."

Last year, [CollegeAtlas.org](#) recognized Texas Tech as one of the [Most Influential Colleges in Social Media](#). Texas Tech was ranked 29th overall, No. 10 for Most Influential College on Instagram, No. 12 for Most Influential College on Twitter and 17th for Most Influential College on Google+.

Taking advantage of Texas Tech's social media presence, a recruiting campaign with [Snapchat](#) was created as a part of the university's popular #IAmARedRaider campaign.

The recent Snapchat campaign invited admitted students to send a selfie via Snapchat to Texas Tech. Matherly would then add Red Raider graphics to the selfies, such as a Double T or Raider Red mustache, and return it to the student, again via Snapchat. More than 400 students responded to the campaign, which was a successful initiative, according to Matherly.

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“If you look at how these students are using the platform, it’s to post silly selfies with their friends or to share a cool experience they are having,” she said. “It was a great fit for us to make one-on-one connections with individuals, which is exactly what we wanted to accomplish.”

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 24, 2015

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

Texas Tech to Remember Fallen Victims of South Carolina Shooting

The Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center will
host a candlelight vigil at Memorial Circle

WHAT: South Carolina Candlelight Vigil

WHEN: 8:30 p.m. Thursday (June 25)

WHERE: Memorial Circle, Texas Tech University

EVENT: Texas Tech students, faculty and staff will come together with the [Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center](#) (CCAAC) to remember the victims of the recent Charleston, South Carolina shooting that tragically claimed nine lives. All from the Lubbock community are invited to join the vigil.

The CCAAC is a part of Texas Tech's [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity, & Community Engagement](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 25, 2015

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

Raider Red Meats Schedules Annual Barbecue and Ribeye Championship

The event is sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbecue Society.

The annual Raider Red Meats BBQ & Ribeye Championship will be held Aug. 28-29, giving cooks locally and nationwide the opportunity to square off against each other.

The cook-off will take place on the southwest side of the [Department of Animal and Food Sciences](#) building in the C12 and C14 parking lots.

“We were excited about the event’s success last year,” said Tate Corliss, Meat Lab manager and director of Raider Red Meats. “This is becoming a great tradition for Texas Tech and Raider Red Meats.”

Cooks from across the nation are invited to compete in four meat divisions – chicken, pork, ribs and brisket. The entry fee is \$225 per team and covers all categories. Early registration ends July 15, and registration forms and additional information are available at www.raiderredmeats.com.

Check-in and setup begins at noon on Friday, Aug. 28. Judging will follow on Saturday, Aug. 29, with winners announced following the judging.

Those wishing to serve as a judge for the event on Saturday can apply to do so at the Red Raider Meats [website](#). Sponsorship opportunities also are available. Any additional questions regarding judging or sponsorship can be directed to Taelar Childers at taelar.childers@ttu.edu.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY™

Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 26, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
(806) 834-2555

Expert Available to Discuss Supreme Court Decision on Affordable Care Act

Pitch

In one of the biggest legal victories of President Barack Obama's time in office, the Supreme Court of the United States, by a 6-3 vote, upheld his signature legislation, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), or Obamacare, from a challenge regarding the legality of tax credits offered through the health care plan.

Opponents to the law argued in *King v. Burwell* the wording of the act made tax credits available only to customers who purchased policies through "an exchange established by the state" where customers reside. That would have forced anyone who purchased a plan through the federal exchange ineligible for those tax credits and would have likely forced them to drop their insurance plan through the ACA. Only 16 states and the District of Columbia have health care exchanges.

Richard Murphy, the AT&T Professor of Law in the Texas Tech University School of Law, is available to speak about the ruling and its ramifications. Murphy is a co-editor of an administrative law casebook and co-chair of the Judicial Review Committee of the American Bar Association's Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Session. He also clerked for the Honorable Stephen S. Trott in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Expert

Richard Murphy, AT&T Professor of Law, (806) 834-3654 or richard.murphy@ttu.edu

Talking Points

- More than 6 million Americans have signed up for health care through the Affordable Care Act's federal marketplace, HealthCare.Gov. The subsidies offered through that plan reduce premiums for more than 70 percent of participants.
- The Court's ruling upholds the idea that tax credits will remain available for Americans living not only in the 16 states that offer health care exchanges but for those in the other 34 states who acquired their health care through the federal exchange.
- Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for himself in the majority, joined by justices Anthony Kennedy, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. Justice Antonin Scalia wrote the dissent, joined by Clarence Thomas and Samuel Alito.

Quotes

- “The Court's 6-3 decision in *King v. Burwell*, authored by the Chief Justice, recognizes the ACA depends on three major provisions working together,” Murphy said. “Insurance companies can't discriminate based on pre-existing conditions; everybody has to get health insurance; and those who can't afford it will be helped through subsidies.”
- “Chief Justice Roberts explained that, contrary to the plaintiffs' contentions, Congress expected all three of these provisions to apply equally to persons buying insurance on state-run exchanges or on federally-run exchanges,” Murphy said. “So Californians and Texans, for example, are equally eligible for ACA subsidies.”
- “Congress passed the Affordable Care Act to improve health insurance markets, not to destroy them,” Chief Justice John Roberts wrote in the majority opinion. “If at all possible, we must interpret the Act in a way that is consistent with the former, and avoids the latter.”
- “We should start calling this law SCOTUScare,” said Justice Antonin Scalia, referring to the two times the Court has now rejected challenges to the law.

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Expert Pitch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 26, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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Expert: Supreme Court Ruling on Same-Sex Marriage About Guaranteed Equality

Pitch

On Friday, the Supreme Court of the United States handed down a landmark decision in one of the most controversial and highly debated cases it has ever heard – same-sex marriage. The court ruled by a 5-4 vote that states cannot ban same-sex marriage, making the union legal in all 50 states.

Coming just a day after the Court upheld the Affordable Care Act, the decision comes after several lower courts overturned state bans on gay marriage only to be overruled by a federal appeals court. The Supreme Court sided with gay couples who challenged the ban, either to be able to marry, to have their out-of-state marriage legally recognized or to change birth or death certificates with their marriage status.

Richard Rosen, the Glenn D. West Endowed Professor at the Texas Tech [School of Law](#), is available for comment on the Supreme Court's decision. He has expertise in constitutional law and litigation with the federal government.

Expert

Rick Rosen, Glenn D. West Endowed Professor of Law, (806) 834-7585 or richard.rosen@ttu.edu

Talking Points

- There are 13 states, including Texas, that still have bans on same-sex marriage, basing their arguments on religious precedence that marriage is between one man and one woman.
- The case before the court, *Obergefell v. Hodges*, determined whether states have the right to ban same-sex marriage or refuse to recognize same-sex marriages from other states where it is legal.
- The case came down to whether same-sex marriage is protected under the 14th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which prohibits states from denying any person in its jurisdiction equal protection of the law.
- Plaintiffs in the case argue they should receive equal access to the constitutional right to marriage and that same-sex marriage does not damage traditional marriages. The states, meanwhile, contend the legality of marriage is a state issue and taking that away is an infringement of liberty. Plus, they argue same-sex marriage would damage the institution of marriage.

- Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote for the majority, joined by justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor and Elena Kagan. Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Antonin Scalia each wrote the dissents.

Quotes

- From the opinion: “The Fourteenth Amendment requires a state to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-state.”
- “No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice and family,” Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote for the majority. “In forming a marital union, two people become something greater than they once were ... Their hope is not to be condemned to live in loneliness, excluded from one of civilization’s oldest institutions. They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right.”
- “The substance of today’s decree is not of immense personal importance to me,” Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the dissent. “But what really astounds is the hubris reflected in today’s judicial putsch.”

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Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 26, 2015

CONTACT: Trevor Bell, trevor.bell@ttu.edu
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Rawls College of Business Schedules Groundbreaking for Phase II of Building
President M. Duane Nellis and Dean Lance Nail will deliver remarks during the event.

- WHAT: Groundbreaking on Phase II of the Rawls College of Business building
- WHEN: 10-11 a.m. Wednesday (July 1)
- WHERE: Rawls College of Business, 703 Flint Ave., west of Drive of Champions and R23 parking lot
- EVENT: With a \$15 million expansion approved by the Texas Tech University Board of Regents, the [Rawls College of Business](#) will break ground on construction for the building's new west wing. Rawls College Dean Lance Nail, Senior Associate Dean Debbie Laverie, Texas Tech President M. Duane Nellis, and Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning & Construction Michael Molina will speak at the ceremony about the addition's impact for students and the university.

The event is open to the public, and video, photo and interview opportunities will be available for the media.

The new three-story, approximately 38,000-square-foot wing will house four new classrooms, a state-of-the-art testing center for student exams, a behavioral research lab and a multi-purpose space for events, guest speakers and student engagement. The new wing will add more faculty and doctoral student offices, a new office for study abroad, private study rooms for students, a conference room for student organizations, seminar rooms for doctoral students, "think tank" rooms with white boards and an outdoor courtyard.

The new wing will match the building's architecture and design. The expansion was designed by Parkhill, Smith and Cooper, who designed the original building, while Lee Lewis Construction, who constructed the original building, is contracting the expansion. Construction is set to be complete by fall 2016.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 26, 2015

CONTACT: George Watson, george.watson@ttu.edu
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Texas Tech School of Law Alumni Honored at State Bar of Texas Annual Meeting The moot court team reached the finals of the TYLA State Competition.

Several Texas Tech University [School of Law](#) alumni were honored last week at the State Bar of Texas's meeting in San Antonio.

W. Mark Lanier (Class of 1984), a lead donor for the Law School's Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development Center, received the Ronald D. Secrest Outstanding Trial Lawyer Award during the Texas Bar Foundation's annual dinner. The award recognizes a trial lawyer who has demonstrated high ethical and moral standards and exceptional professional conduct, thus enhancing the image of the trial lawyer.

Judy Crowder Parker (Class of 1985), presiding judge of Lubbock County Court at Law No. 3, was honored with the 2015 Judge Merrill Hartman Pro Bono Judge Award during the Bar Leaders Recognition Luncheon. The award is given to a judge, sitting or retired, who provides outstanding pro bono service. Parker is the second Texas Tech alumna to receive the award in as many years, joining Kem Thompson Frost, a 1983 graduate and Chief Justice of the 14th Court of Appeals in Houston.

At the Texas Young Lawyers Association (TYLA) annual meeting and reception, C. Barrett Thomas (Class of 2008) was sworn in as the TYLA president for 2015-16. Priscilla D. Camacho (Class of 2005) was sworn in as chairwoman, succeeding Texas Tech alumnus Dustin Howell (Class of 2008). Also at the reception, Amber James (Class of 2008) earned a TYLA President's Award of Merit, while Laura Pratt (Class of 2009) received the TYLA Commitment to Service Award.

Three of the Law School's most recent graduates helped lead Texas Tech to a second-place finish in the 2015 TYLA State Moot Court Competition, narrowly losing the final round to the South Texas College of Law. Lauren Welch, Katherine Handy Calhoun and Drew Robertson, all of whom graduated in May, argued in the championship round before the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals. Calhoun is Texas Tech's first three-time national advocacy champion, making her one of the most decorated advocates in the history of the Law School.

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“We are incredibly proud of our alumni who were honored last week at the State Bar of Texas annual meeting,” said Darby Dickerson, dean of Texas Tech University School of Law. “Our graduates have established a strong track record of excellence and service. They are leaders in the profession and their communities. They give back without expecting recognition. The fact that others see the true value in what they do is icing on the cake.”

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 26, 2015

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Texas Tech, Lubbock Community Show Support for Charleston

The Cross-Cultural Advancement Center hosted a candlelight vigil Thursday to honor lives tragically lost in South Carolina.

About 70 people attended the South Carolina Candlelight Vigil the Texas Tech University [Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center](#) (CCAAC) hosted Thursday in honor of the lives lost in the Charleston, South Carolina, shooting. They also were invited to write messages of support that will later be sent to Charleston community members.

“The vigil was truly a special event, and we were happy to have the community come together to support the families in Charleston and remember the nine lives that were lost,” said Ricky Sherfield, section coordinator at the CCAAC. “Collectively, we are honored to play a part in putting this together, and we plan to regroup and strategize what else we can do. Several individuals at the vigil left special messages for the families, and our goal is to send those notes to the city so they know we support them and let them know they will continue to be in our thoughts.”

The vigil began with soft music playing in the background and a short welcome. Representatives of Texas Tech and the Lubbock community spoke, including Kim Burdine, a staff psychologist at the [Student Counseling Center](#) and liaison to CCAAC; Chris Moore, project manager at Texas Tech; Margaret Randle, a retired principal for Lubbock Independent School District; and Brandale Randolph, East Lubbock project leader. Candles were lit around Memorial Circle and next to pictures of each of the nine victims.

The vigil was hosted at Memorial Circle. Students, faculty, staff and the Lubbock community were invited to attend.

The CCAAC is part of Texas Tech’s [Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement](#).

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2015

CONTACT: Heidi Toth, heidi.toth@ttu.edu
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Former Professor Receives High Honor for Work With Blind Children

Alan Koenig, who died of cancer a decade ago, joins Helen Keller and other outstanding educators in the Hall of Fame.

Alan Koenig, a former administrator and educator at Texas Tech University, is one of two people who will be inducted into the [Hall of Fame for Leaders and Legends in the Blindness Field](#) in 2015.

Koenig, who died of cancer in 2005, was co-director of what is now the [Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities](#), housed in the [College of Education](#). The criteria for nomination, according to the American Printing House for the Blind, is making significant contributions to improve the lives of those who are blind or visually impaired, focusing on practice, research, leadership and direct service.

“It is impossible to adequately describe the impact Alan Koenig had on my life and the lives of countless professionals and children with visual impairments and their families,” Cay Holbrook, a professor of education at the University of British Columbia, wrote in her nominating letter. “Alan was a kind, generous, intelligent man who shared his considerable expertise every day with others in an attempt to help better the lives of children, youth and adults who are blind or visually impaired.

“His influence continues today and will continue for generations to come.”

Koenig revolutionized the way educational teams approach decision-making regarding whether a student with low vision should begin reading and writing in braille, print or a combination of both. Prior to his landmark work on Learning Media Assessment (LMA), teachers and parents struggled with the decision of which language to learn first. LMA provides teachers and parents a guide for gathering information and using that information to support ongoing educational decisions.

This development improved literacy rates for children with visual impairments, said Nora Griffin-Shirley, a professor and director of the Sowell Center. Prior to this assessment, blind people were taught braille and people with vision, even impaired vision, were taught print.

Being able to read in print, however, did not mean children could read well. A child with visual impairment may be able to see size 50 font, but with such a large font only a few words could fit on each page. Even though the child can see the words, he or she cannot

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comprehend what's on the page, causing reduced literacy. The LMA found an objective way to measure who should read print, braille or both based on comprehension and speed.

"Years ago, there was a push for children who had some vision to use their vision as much as possible," Griffin-Shirley said. "Part of the LMA is to see how functional that vision is. In order for the child to succeed academically, what needs to be done because of that?"

Creating the assessment wasn't Koenig's only contribution. In her nomination letter, Holbrook detailed the contributions he made in teaching, research and service. He encouraged teachers of students with visual impairment to change how they teach students to ensure the best results. He authored dozens of papers, articles and books related to teaching children with visual impairment. His research continually pushed forward the thinking in this field, both Holbrook and Griffin-Shirley said.

The Hall of Fame is dedicated to preserving the tradition of excellence manifested by specific individuals through the history of outstanding services provided to people who are blind or visually impaired in North America. Koenig joins Sir Francis Joseph Campbell in the class of 2015. Campbell began his career as interim superintendent of the Tennessee School for the Blind in 1850 before becoming principal of the Royal Normal College and Academy of Music for the Blind in London until his retirement in 1912. There are 54 honorees in the Hall of Fame, including Helen Keller.

This award is the highest honor in their field, Griffin-Shirley said.

"Koenig had accomplished so much in a short period of time in education for children with visual impairments," she said of her friend. "It would have been just exciting to be involved in looking at where to go from there."

About the Sowell Center

The Virginia Murray Sowell Center for Research and Education in Sensory Disabilities is part of Texas Tech's College of Education. The center offers educational programs in orientation and mobility, visual impairment, dual sensory impairment and deaf or hard of hearing.

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 29, 2015

CONTACT: K'Leigh Sims, kleigh.sims@ttu.edu
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University Student Housing Collects Donation Items for Flood Relief in Texas The items were donated to the Salvation Army.

After several treacherous rainfalls in Texas this year caused many towns and homes to flood, Texas Tech University's [Student Housing](#) collected items for relief in a donation drive June 4-15.

"Outreach and service are important ways University Student Housing staff practice servant leadership and give back to our community," said D'aun Green, senior associate managing director of housing. "We highly encourage our staff members and students living with us to give of their time, talents and resources to help others."

Items such as cleaning supplies, tools, toiletry items, diapers, baby formula, bulk food items, clothing and blankets were donated to the [Lubbock branch of the Salvation Army](#) to be deployed to teams in affected areas, such as the Houston and Dallas communities.

Shannon Suddeth, community relations and development director with the Salvation Army in Lubbock, said the items donated were very appreciated.

"We really appreciate all the work Texas Tech does and provides for us," she said. "The items University Student Housing collected were used for the Texas floods and they collected a wide array of goods. We're excited and very thankful for their donation."

An entire vanload was donated by University Student Housing and was sent to the affected areas last week (June 21-27).

"Having experienced a bit of flooding here in Lubbock, and knowing the impact on our community, we knew we wanted to help the Salvation Army provide the needed items to those who have been adversely affected by the flooding all over the state," Green said. "These types of experiences bring us closer together as a department and remind us how fortunate we really are."

"We appreciate those who gave and we hope the items provided will give hope and healing to those who have lost so much."

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Web Only

95 Percent of Architecture Students Study Abroad

Organizers say the experience broadens their horizons with worldwide perspective.

By Glenys Young

Each year, the Texas Tech University [College of Architecture](#) takes dozens of students to Verona, Italy; Paris, France; Seville, Spain; or Seoul, South Korea, to expand their horizons and give them a different understanding of design.

“It changes your life if you can see the building you’re studying in a book,” said Maria Perbellini, who is with the group in Verona. “You experience it visually and physically. To experience the space is enriching for a designer. Walking through European cities, you get an experience you miss in the United States.”

That’s why 95 percent of architecture students choose to study abroad.

“The biggest benefit is students experience life in a different culture and can compare it to their experiences in the United States,” said Clifton Ellis, associate dean of academics and director of study abroad for the College of Architecture, in an email from Paris. “This experience broadens their perspective not only on architecture, but on the ways other cultures have built and maintained a vibrant public life in the city.”

That’s the goal of the program – to give architecture students the knowledge and tools they will need in their future careers.

“I’ve learned to understand the big picture on a scale I could never have imagined,” Christopher Verette, a senior architecture major from San Antonio, emailed from Paris. “I’ve experienced new ways of thought and practice that pertain to architecture, but also an emotional understanding of the daily lifestyle differences of Europe in general. This has benefited me tremendously in being open to simply thinking differently. In architecture, this is key to an ever-developing world. There’s really no better way to know about how a different society functions until you too have functioned in its culture. This in turn will help me become a better architect in knowing how a society works and how that relates to an architectural level.”

The culture of Europe, especially in the public spaces, is dramatically different from the United States, Ellis said. Experiencing those differences will help students as they work to improve this country.

“As we know, American cities are now seeking to rebuild their downtowns, to provide mixed-use amenities, increase density, provide alternative transportation, and basically recapture that public sphere that was lost during the great urban renewal projects of the 1950s and 1960s, all of which failed,” Ellis said.

The course for which most students study abroad is Design in the Urban Context, an intensive six-week design studio required for College of Architecture graduates. Each city has a specific site where students are required to design a public place: a piazza in Italy, a plaza in Spain, etc.

“Students live in the city for six weeks and are given assignments that require them to explore the city and discover its unique urban environment and public life,” Ellis said. “The students have assignments that require them to study the city at the micro and macro level, and these assignments are then references from which the students draw inspiration in their own designs for public space.”

The students also take day trips to major architectural works outside the host cities. For the students in Paris, that means visits to Versailles, the Place des Victoires-Nationaux (National Victories Square) and La Grande Arche de la Défense, among others.

“Although these design studios are intense in their academic requirements and students are closely supervised, student evaluations indicate the experience is transformative for them as architects and as citizens of the world,” Ellis said.

Students going abroad rank their desired destinations and then a lottery matches students with the location they will study. Ellis is proud to say all students have received either their first or second choice.

Because the course is required, the college has options in Guanajuato, Mexico, or Denver, Colorado, for the 5 percent of students who don’t go abroad.

“We offer the same studio in the fall of each year for those students who cannot afford or who choose not to participate in study abroad,” Ellis said. “The Mexico studio will have a similar impact. The U.S. studio has the same academic requirements, but obviously lacks the cultural experience of study abroad. Nevertheless, the students spend 10 days in a U.S. city that is known for its success in revitalizing its public spaces, so the major goal of the studio — learning how to design a public space that helps make public life more vigorous — is accomplished.”

Past study abroad students have experienced Montreal, Berlin, Chile, Nicaragua and Prague.

“Every year it depends on the faculty and the interest in new places,” Perbellini said.

Verette’s experiences in Europe have permanently changed him.

“There really is no turning back at this point,” he said. “The experiences I’ve gained through studying abroad have been immeasurable. It is reflected in the care of my studio work, the care of other people and why I even want to be an architect in the first place. I believe these experiences abroad are what have pushed me further in my goals to help the world.



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“I’ve realized that architecture is far more than making a place for people to eat, sleep or shop, but a way to enhance the way a society lives and feels in that place down to its economic and cultural functions. In my opinion architecture really isn’t a career. If done correctly, it’s a life choice that is done solely for the people to function beautifully and live in happiness.”



Web Only

Alumna Writes Book, Designs Ideal Life

Becky Smith graduated from the Rawls College of Business in 1990.

By Emily Gardner

A son, a divorce and 30 years as a Lubbock native is what brought [Becky Lynn Smith](#) to Texas Tech University. Through the next 27 years, her journey led her to earn a degree, become a systems analyst, a business coach and now author, releasing her book “Designing Your Ideal Life: Create Your Blueprint for Success and Happiness” in January.

“[Designing Your Ideal Life](#)” started after Smith wrote a chapter in a book called “Share Your Message with the World.” At the release party for the book, Dennis Welch, Smith’s book publicist and long-time friend, pulled her aside and asked when Smith would come out with her own book. The next thing he knew, he had a phone call from Smith, who had written the “Designing Your Ideal Life” manuscript.

“‘Designing Your Ideal Life’ was the advice I wish I’d received when I first started out in life,” Smith said. “I really didn’t have a plan for my life and I don’t think very many people do. As a business coach, I saw many entrepreneurs struggle to balance all of these things and often sacrificed their life to make a business or career successful, or they are in a career they don’t love and feel stuck. They have no belief they can take action to change their circumstances. I wrote the book to help all those people to know they can move forward and achieve what they really want.”

In the book, Smith discusses finding the one thing someone was meant to do with their life. She focuses on what makes a person happy while still taking into account real-life problems, including finances. A companion workbook also is available to help readers discover what they are meant to do and how to achieve it. In addition, Smith plans to host workshops with more hands-on training.

Smith started at Texas Tech in January 1988 as a nontraditional student. She majored in [management information systems](#) and graduated from the [Rawls College of Business](#) in December 1990, completing her coursework in three years and finishing at the top of her class, all while working and taking care of her son.

“I lived in Lubbock the first 30 years of my life,” Smith said. “At the time I decided to go to college, Texas Tech was the closest choice and, being a Lubbock native, it was always a dream of mine to attend the university, but I didn’t really have the opportunity to attend before my divorce. Having a world-class institution like Texas Tech so close and available was truly a blessing.”

After Smith left Texas Tech, she became a systems analyst for Exxon in Houston, where she worked for eight years. During that time she also received her MBA from the University of Houston in 1998. Smith worked her way from systems analyst to project manager to IT executive while working at various companies, including Amoco and AIM Investments. She also became a business coach for two years before taking another full-time job, starting her doctoral degree and becoming a published author.

“She obviously developed the tools she needed to go out and do really well in the world at Texas Tech,” said Welch, president and CEO of [Articulate](#). “She was successful before she ever got to MBA school and I would suggest, in a general way, she obviously came out of Texas Tech with not only graduating at the top of her class, but getting the things she needed to get out and be successful. The fact she had quite a resume by the time she got to work on her master’s degree, I think a good part of that is attributable to what she learned at Texas Tech.”

Welch and Smith met as a result of the University of Houston’s MBA program in 1995. They formed a study team to help each other get through their three-year program and have remained in touch since they graduated in 1998. Welch said Smith is humble, down to earth and credited her as the smartest person he’s ever met. When Smith graduated with her MBA in 1998 he felt there was no telling what she would accomplish.

“What Becky has done, first of all her humility and her willingness to be introspective and look in the mirror and go, ‘What am I supposed to be doing here?’” Welch said, “I think all of that has contributed to where she is today, and her intellectual horsepower is what made her really great at it.”

Smith said she was a closet entrepreneur for years while she dabbled in activities on a part-time basis. She credits her business background with her ability to connect with corporate types as well as business owners by speaking their language and understanding where different people are coming from.

She didn’t set out to become a writer, though she thinks being a writer is what she should be doing. Smith said she can reach more people through writing than she can through speaking or being a business coach. Smith never recognized writing as a talent, since it always came easier for her – she even tested out of her English courses in college.

“Sometimes the things we are really good at are right under our noses and we don’t recognize them as a talent,” she said. “Other people may, but we don’t, and I think it’s difficult for people to understand sometimes what they’re really good at. My book helps them figure that out.”

Smith said one of the things she learned from her journey was that self-awareness is the key to success and having an ideal life. It also means people must focus on their overall life, including health, finances and time management, not just a successful career, all of which Smith learned through her journey after graduating from Texas Tech.

Smith now is working on her doctoral degree in leadership and organizational management from Grand Canyon University, which should be completed in early 2016. Her coursework already is finished and she just needs to complete her dissertation, which Smith said is the



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next book she would publish. She currently is a Huffington Post contributor and recently was interviewed for a story in Inc. Magazine.

“Graduating from Texas Tech, I left Lubbock, moved to Houston and started a brand new career as a systems analyst, which opened the door for the success I enjoyed and basically set up a lot of what I write about in the book,” Smith said. “Having that degree meant I was able to provide for my son and truly changed my life. If I can do it, anybody can do it. That’s kind of the message. If I can start over at that age and compete with kids coming out of high school, anybody can.”

Spotlight Questions:

What is your favorite memory at Texas Tech?

“Graduating at the top of the class and getting to carry the flag during the graduation procession was pretty darn cool.”

What is your favorite spot on campus?

“I’ll give you two answers. The first one is any parking spot. I can remember driving around looking for a place to park because I was a nontraditional student and was working and trying to go to school at the same time. Of course back then it was called the College of Business, it wasn’t yet the Rawls College. And then of course I love the Will Rogers statue.”

What is your favorite Texas Tech Tradition?

“I’m a horse lover so I have to say the Masked Rider is my favorite tradition.”

What is your favorite thing about being a Red Raider?

“I grew up in Lubbock so being a Red Raider helps keep me connected. And the thing I love about being a Red Raider is that I get to connect with other Red Raiders across the country. We’re all over the place and it’s really awesome when we have that connection with people.”

What is your favorite Texas Tech item that you own?

“A leather Texas Tech jacket that has a picture of Raider Red on it.”

What is your favorite Texas Tech memory?

“My most vivid memory was as a senior in the College of Business and I was in the information systems and quantitative sciences program. We went to see Paul Cheney, who was the director of that program at the time. There were four of us who could graduate in December 1990 if they rearranged the order of two classes offered during the summer session. We explained that to him, he picked up the phone and made the change immediately. I learned from that experience that one individual can affect change; we just have to believe we can and take action. As a result, there were four of us who were able to graduate in December versus May and that made the difference in having multiple job offers versus no job offers because the economy made a downturn at that point. That was pretty awesome.”



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Design Professors Create Sensory Clothing for Children with Autism

Kristi Gaines and Su Shin found a gap in research related to clothing designed specifically to help children with autism cope with their environments.

By Heidi Toth

For children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), life may seem easier in a bubble – no sudden temperature changes, no irritating noises, no one else touching them.

Two Texas Tech University design professors, while not creating an autism bubble, have designed a line of sensory clothing for children with ASD that controls some of those factors in their environment. They hope it will make life a little easier for these children and their families.

Su Shin, associate professor in apparel design and manufacturing, is leading the project, called “Sensory clothing design for children with ASD,” which the [College of Human Sciences](#) funded. She researches clothing design and manufacturing in the industry aspect, including fit and sizing issues in mass production. Her expertise in children's clothing design for long years brings about the needs of clothing design for children with ASD.

She partnered with Kristi Gaines, an interior design professor who used her experience with creating environments, including environments designed for people with ASD. While many do not think of clothing as part of the environment, she called it “near environment” rather than “built environment.” Together, they come up with ways to design, create and test different clothes.

“Although limited therapeutic clothing exists, it looks like therapy clothing,” Gaines said. “The goal of this project was to create clothing designed to accommodate more sensory issues while looking like typical clothing.”

With this in mind the two professors and their undergraduate research assistants, Rachel Ruhman and Taylor Dawson, spent the last year testing designs, fabrics and features in different items of clothing to meet the needs of their target audience.

“We thought my knowledge in children’s wear and her knowledge in autism related to environment design might help to find a solution for children with ASD,” Shin said.

The results look like standard articles of clothing; hoodies, skirts, pants and T-shirts make up the wardrobe. However, each has innovative features to appeal to people with ASD. A vest comes equipped with an air pump to control pressure, while another has “fidgets,” or textured tabs in the pockets to help a person with ASD calm himself. One of the hoodies has sound-proofing around the ears so the wearer can block out environmental noise.

They also received feedback about what worked and what didn't. Wool, for example, didn't. Shin said children with ASD tend to be sensitive to high temperatures and thus start sweating, which causes the wool to get and stay wet. Organic bamboo fabric was the most popular option because it absorbs moisture in the air, which provides a cooling effect.

Both professors said the area still needs research, but they're pleased they found some things that worked and some things to mark off the list. They will do a second survey of the clothing design, and based on the feedback from students and parents, they'll continue developing sensory clothes.

They also are looking for other grants to continue funding this research and students who are interested both in design and autism spectrum disorder research.



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Flooding Can Have Long-Lasting Impact on Health, Environment

From chemical exposure and mold to mosquitos, problems don't stop when the rain does.

By Glenys Young

Flooding of the magnitude recently seen in Houston and Austin has washed away homes, damaged property and even claimed lives, but those aren't the only ways floodwater can be harmful.

Todd Anderson, a professor in Texas Tech University's [Institute of Environmental and Human Health](#), said it's not only the power of the water that can be dangerous, it's also what could be in it.

"In a typical rain event, roads and curbs are used for drainage, so things that are on the road or things that are on lawns and other places are going to run off if there's enough rain," Anderson said. "Anything that would be there naturally or applied to those surfaces is going to eventually end up in the water."

That could include fertilizers, lawn chemicals, oil and grease from the road and more.

"When you apply your brakes, things come off the brake pads a little at a time. All of that is on the road surface," Anderson said. "It ends up in the ditch or the curb. Brake pads contain asbestos, zinc, copper and other types of metals. A lot of those things, including the petroleum products, are naturally occurring. They're used in a lot of products. But that doesn't mean they're potentially less toxic."

Of course, negative effects from coming in contact with the water are not likely to be immediate.

"Unless it's something catastrophic, acute impacts from chemical constituents are not a problem. Most of those are long term," Anderson said. "That water is dirty, by a variety of definitions. It's not like if you go in the water you're going to fall down dead, but you're going to get an infection probably. You may have other sorts of issues, especially long term, because of being in that environment. Unless there's a waste pond that flooded because of rain and you're coming in contact with that; in that case, there are potentially immediate consequences."

The important thing to understand is the threat doesn't go away when the water recedes.

"Flooding tends to redistribute things, and sediment gets left behind when the water recedes," Anderson said. "In some cases, those sediments were contaminated and moved from one place to another. For instance, waste sites have fences up to keep people out, but

suddenly there's redistribution. After the water recedes, you potentially have contaminants in places you didn't expect."

Another risk after flooding is mold.

"Normally we don't have mold issues in West Texas because it's so dry," Anderson said, "but if you get wood or sheetrock wet, you can end up with various kinds of mold, and some of them are bad."

[David C. Straus](#), who retired in 2013 as a professor of microbiology and immunology at the [Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center](#), said mold can be a major health issue.

"If one of these houses flooded and mold grew, mold fills the air with its spores and people inhale it," Straus said. "It causes respiratory problems, wheezing, sneezing, shortness of breath and inflammation of the lungs. That's the most immediate danger."

When a house floods and building materials – particularly carpeting and sheetrock – get wet, mold starts to grow immediately, Straus said, but it usually takes four to five days before the colony is large enough to be seen with the naked eye.

"Sheetrock can stay wet for weeks or even months," Straus said. "What people can and should do is get the material dry immediately, which is very difficult, or just tear it out."

This is why after natural disasters, the sight of people ripping out carpet and sheetrock and throwing it in the front yard is so prevalent, he said. It's potentially a very expensive problem.

"There are probably 100,000 species of mold. Some are very dangerous, some not so dangerous, but you can't tell what type it is," Straus said. "All mold should be removed."

One of the post-flooding threats may not be seen for several weeks, but once it appears it will be obvious.

"With the floodwaters in Houston, Dallas and off the Caprock, mosquito numbers are going to be big this year," said Steve Presley, a professor in the Texas Tech University [Institute of Environmental and Human Health](#). "Coming out of the drought, they haven't been a big issue for the last several years. They're more just pests right now, but as the season progresses West Nile virus will become more of a concern."

Mosquitos may also carry a variety of other diseases, including St. Louis encephalitis virus, dengue fever, chikungunya virus and malaria.

While there are a variety of things a person can do to avoid mosquitos, it may be more difficult to avoid floodwaters, especially when rain continues to fall on already saturated ground. Unfortunately, the only way to avoid the threat of flooding is to avoid the flooding altogether.

"There's not much else to do other than avoid it," Anderson said. "Risk is a function of exposure and effect. So if you eliminate exposure, there is no risk."



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Fourth Generation Red Raider's Resume: President's Select, SGA, Cancer Survivor

Barclay White, who starts law school in the fall, was undergoing treatment for cancer when he started his freshman year at Texas Tech.

By Heidi Toth

At Barclay White's first day of freshman orientation at Texas Tech University, a counselor asked the group of incoming Red Raiders to share an interesting fact about themselves.

White had an easy answer and a hard answer. He went for the easy answer. They may be the Class of 2015, but these were strangers then.

"I have an identical twin," he told the other incoming students.

"Oh, is he here?"

"Yeah, we just look different because he has hair," White told them. "And someone goes, 'why don't you have hair?'"

Now came the hard answer.

"Uh, because I have cancer," the 18-year-old said.

White laughs as he tells the story, remembering how the students scooted away from him as if he was contagious. He reminisces fondly about the handicapped placard he had on his car for most of his freshman year at Texas Tech and unabashedly confesses to using his illness to score sympathy points both with young women and his parents.

Four years ago White, a fourth-generation Red Raider, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkins lymphoma a month before graduating from Frenship High School.

Today White is working at Texas Tech and preparing for law school in the fall. He graduated with a degree in agricultural economics in December before spending the spring semester in Washington, D.C., working with U.S. Rep. Mike Conaway, R-Midland. His hair is back, his sense of humor is unmarred and the cancer is gone. So is his fear.

"It definitely gave me a drive to make the most of every day," he said. "Where some students freak out about a grade or whatever, I feel like after going through all that, especially when thinking I could die at 18 years old, you really learn how to take certain things with a grain of salt and learn how to prioritize what really matters."

Diagnosis and treatment

On Good Friday in 2011 White walked into his family doctor's office. He wasn't concerned.

"I went to the doctor for a persistent cough and it turned out to be a massive tumor in my chest," he said.

That news jump-started the worst few weeks in his young life. His doctors didn't know exactly what that tumor in his lung was. Their normal tests weren't coming back with the results anyone expected. There was talk of cracking his chest open.

"Those days were hard because the signals that kept being sent back showed this could be something they haven't seen before and they might not be able to cure it," he said.

After a procedure that included lowering one lung and removing a rib, his doctors got a sample of the tumor. When they learned it was non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, it was comparatively good news, White said. This was treatable.

He started his first round of chemotherapy soon after the diagnosis. He had six rounds, spaced three weeks apart. The first rounds, which took his hair, happened right before orientation. The last round was in the middle of September. He had scans throughout the treatment, each one showing the news they all wanted to hear – the chemo was working.

He also experienced support from all avenues. White's family physician, Dr. Michael Robertson, had been friends with his parents for decades; he was in the room when White and his twin Bryce were born. Robertson baptized White. White's parents worked for him. And he'd found the tumor.

It wasn't just that Robertson was a friend, though. While doing a bloodwork lab in medical school at Texas Tech, Robertson found abnormalities in his blood sample and eventually diagnosed his own leukemia.

"It was such a cool thing having him because he had been through having cancer when you're young and he knew of the emotional burdens it places on you," Barclay said. "It was great that he was able to walk me through it."

The good news came in other forms, too. With his immune system nonexistent during the chemo, he lived at home instead of in a residence hall his freshman year. He decided he wanted a roommate anyway – a four-legged one.

"I got a dog that summer," he said. "My parents didn't want me to have a dog. I begged them: (putting on his saddest face) 'But Mom, Dad, I have cancer.'"

"They would be like, 'Don't do that to us!' Looking back, I was definitely a toot."

Becoming part of the Red Raider family

White's worst moment was the day he had a needle biopsy of the tumor. A doctor stuck a large needle between his ribs and extracted a chunk of tumor, which would tell them what was growing in his lung and how to treat it.



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But it didn't. The tumor had gotten so big that it was pushing up against its chest and cutting off its own blood supply, leaving a raft of dead tissue that couldn't be diagnosed.

That day also was the day Mark Miller walked into White's room. Miller, a professor of [animal and food sciences](#) at Texas Tech, would be White's professor years later. White would sit next to Miller's son in his first college class. That day, however, Miller was just there to pray with White. They'd never met before Miller walked into the room. He'd heard from a friend about this young man fighting cancer.

"I was praying for him and his healing, and God spoke to me and asked me to go to the hospital and pray over him and his healing," Miller said. "I was asked to tell him that he was going to be OK and that he would be healed."

He returned to the hospital a few more times, bearing beef jerky and the department's well wishes.

White had another helpful run-in at [COWamongus](#), the department's restaurant. He, his mom and his sister were eating lunch one summer day when they saw Sam Jackson, one of the college's advisers. White's fall schedule was set, but his chemo stretched into September and he worried about being able to keep up. The three approached Jackson, who finished his lunch and invited them to his office, both to redo White's schedule, making it more manageable, and to assure him that yes, he thought White could handle it.

"That was really cool, the department I started in, that being the first glimpse of it," he said.

He also became a member of President's Select, a group of student ambassadors who help in recruiting and building relationships with alumni and guests. His sister was in President's Select when he started, and she introduced Guy Bailey, president of Texas Tech at the time, to her twin brothers. Bailey encouraged both to apply.

"Dr. Bailey said he wanted to give me something to look forward to and to be excited about, because I wasn't completely sure if I could start college going through the illness," he said.

Being involved with such an accomplished group of people who looked at him with respect because of what he'd been through helped get him through that difficult first year, Barclay said. He was bald and had gained weight because of the steroids he had to take, but the other President's Select students helped him gain confidence in what he was doing.

"I didn't look like myself, I didn't feel like myself, but being around those students who were so encouraging really helped," he said.

In the middle of October, with midterms looming and fall break beckoning, White went to the hospital for another scan. All the cancer cells in his body were gone.

“I remember it being a huge relief,” he said. Even though it was the news he expected, hearing it lifted a weight from his mind. “I didn’t realize how fatigued and tired I was from before.”

Barclay White, cancer survivor

At 18, White had accomplished something huge and frightening. In comparison to cancer, many other things seemed manageable.

Armed with that perspective, he was elected president of [President’s Select](#), was appointed to the [Student Government Association](#) executive cabinet, joined [Agri-Techsans](#), a recruiting organization for the [College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources](#) and went to Washington, D.C., as an intern for Rep. Conaway, who is chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture.

He’s gotten to explore different career paths, switching majors from agricultural science to agricultural economics and now preparing for law school. He might be a lawyer, he said, or he might go into politics or business. He’s also thought about international agriculture, working for the World Trade Organization or helping farmers in South America.

While a member of President’s Select in 2012, he met homecoming queen Katherine McBee, and the two are still dating three years later. While he gets ready for law school he’s working in the Texas Tech [University Counsel Office](#) with Ronald Phillips, who earned a bachelor’s degree in agricultural economics before going to the Texas Tech [School of Law](#). White looks at him as a mentor.

“Barclay serves as an inspiration for everyone that has met him,” Phillips said. “He has faced adversities in his life and has always done so with an unbelievably positive attitude and an undeniable will to succeed. We can all learn important life lessons from this young man.”

Q&A

Why did you choose Texas Tech?

Texas Tech is a tradition for my family. Both of my parents, my two siblings, three of my grandparents and one of my great-grandparents attended Texas Tech.

What has been your favorite memory at Texas Tech?

Working with CASNR’s 50+ reunion. Meeting Red Raiders from the early days of Texas Tech was very insightful. They had a lot of knowledge of what the campus looked like back in the day and loved to share it.

Who is your favorite professor? Why?

Dr. Darren Hudson. In classes of 60 or more he knew almost every student by name and what their interests were. He knew how to challenge us and make the subjects he taught exciting.

What is your favorite spot on campus?

I really like the Broadway entrance right off University Avenue. The new trees, the fountain, [Will Rogers on Soapsuds](#) in the background and the seal make such a majestic look for the campus.



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What is your favorite Texas Tech tradition?

The running of the Masked Rider at football games. I love when the smoke completely covers the horse and rider and then they come rushing out mid-run.

What do you love most about being a Red Raider?

I love when you see Red Raiders outside of Lubbock, or Texas for that matter. When I interned in Washington, D.C., Red Raiders would yell across the street, stick their guns-up out of their taxi windows and strike up a conversation like they had known me for years. It really feels like one big family.



Web Only

Teaching, Authoring Books Allows Pasewarks to Develop Special Relationships

Both father and son have taught business at Texas Tech,
but their relationship goes way beyond their profession.

By George Watson

Sharing the same name, profession and co-authorship has created a unique father-son relationship for Bill Pasewark Sr. and Bill Pasewark Jr.

We've done so many things together," Pasewark Jr. said. "We've got a great relationship."

From teaching business at Texas Tech University to co-authoring about 20 books and manuals on computer business systems, the Pasewarks have a special bond, one forged after neither had long-term plans to come to – or stay in – Lubbock. It just worked out that way.

Now, the name Pasewark is synonymous with business education at Texas Tech. Pasewark Sr. taught business at Texas Tech from 1956 to 1982 when the college was located in the Administration Building. Pasewark Jr. has taught in the [Rawls College of Business](#) since 2000 and is the Webster Professor of Business and the associate dean of graduate programs and research.

"We have a lot in common to talk about," said the 90-year-old Pasewark Sr. "Then, of course, the textbooks we wrote together, that was really a binding experience."

Finding roots in Lubbock

Bill Pasewark Sr. was barely into his teaching career after earning his doctorate from New York University when the opportunity came to fill in for a Texas Tech professor who was spending a year in Turkey.

"My senior professor at NYU thought it would be a good move to get out of New York City and see what the rest of the world is like," Pasewark Sr. said. "Also, my wife had a lot of boyfriends on campus. After we got married, I sure wasn't going to hang around campus with all those guys!"

The Pasewarks were married in March and moved to Lubbock in August. Oh, and by the way, they were expecting their first child, who they named Bill Jr. but only after Pasewark's students suggested some local town names for the child – Tahoka Pasewark or Idalou Pasewark for a girl, Muleshoe Pasewark for a boy – in order to "Texanize" their teacher.

Somewhere in those early stages of living in Lubbock, it became apparent they weren't going to leave anytime soon.

"We just looked at each other one day and agreed Lubbock would be a great place to raise children," Pasewark Sr., said. "The friendliness of the people, the climate, the opportunity at Texas Tech – you could just sense that Texas Tech was going to grow."

Six children later, the Pasewarks' roots in Lubbock became permanent. Four of their six children graduated from Texas Tech. Bill Pasewark Jr., however, went elsewhere.

After earning his doctorate from Texas A&M University, Pasewark Jr. taught at the University of Georgia and the University of Houston, never intending to come back to his hometown.

So what brought him back? In a way, his parents.

"Every time I came to visit my parents, I'd go over to Texas Tech and talk to the faculty I knew," Pasewark Jr. said. "One day they asked me if I wanted to interview with Texas Tech for a job. I first came here as a visiting professor to see what it was like. We were here about two months and my wife, who didn't grow up in Lubbock, said, 'If they offer you a job here you need to take it. We're having a good time here.'"

"When we lived in Houston I would go to about half a soccer game and thought I was being a great dad. Here in Lubbock, I got to coach basketball and got to be a Boy Scout leader. It was an excellent experience for my sons, and so that was a big draw."

A special relationship

Though the Pasewarks didn't teach business at Texas Tech at the same time, their common professional experience heightened their relationship as father and son.

But it started much sooner than that. When Pasewark Jr. was growing up, his parents would frequently entertain faculty and students at their house on 11th Street, and he had a front-row seat on how to build relationships. Pasewark Sr. credits his wife with being the foundation for the family.

"One of the things my father always did well was work with students one-on-one," Pasewark Jr. said. "That translates even to having students over to our house. I remember as a child having foreign students over for Thanksgiving and I thought if I could teach, this is the way to do it. Establishing a good relationship with each student individually is something that he was very good at and I admired."

Pasewark said his father also taught him how to be a good father, and that philosophy can be applied to the classroom: Be kind, but firm.

"Another principle I developed in later years that's the secret to being a good teacher," Pasewark Sr. said, "is to love your subject, love your students and do your best to bring them together."



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Pasewark Sr., however, is quick to point out his son has far exceeded in his career what the elder Pasewark accomplished.

“I am proud of him for following in my footsteps,” Pasewark Sr. said. “Bill has such a natural talent for working with people. He’s progressed much further than I did in almost every phase of education.”

Pasewark Jr. said he’s been lucky to witness firsthand the growth of Texas Tech his father anticipated when he arrived in 1956.

It’s all been enhanced by the special bond between father and son the Pasewarks have built.

“A lot of people move away from their parents and I lucked out in that I got to move back to where my parents are and spend time with them,” Pasewark Jr. said. “How many children can have their 90-year-old parents over for dinner on a frequent basis? It’s a special experience for me and a privilege.

“With so many families that break up these days, having parents who stay together and parents who genuinely care for their children, especially when there’s six of them, that’s something that’s really special. I’m proud of both of my parents and feel very lucky to be their son.”



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Texas Tech Graduate on Front Line of Statistical Analysis in Hockey

Michael Peterson's work helped turn the Tampa Bay Lightning into a Stanley Cup finalist.

By George Watson

As an undergraduate and graduate student at Texas Tech University, hockey was about the furthest thing from Michael Peterson's mind, both as a sports fan and when considering how to combine his love of sports and career plans.

Turns out, though, Peterson might just end up being a pioneer in the sport.

As the Tampa Bay Lightning open the 2015 Stanley Cup playoffs Wednesday (June 3) against the Chicago Blackhawks, Peterson will see the hard work he and the rest of the organization put into producing a team just four wins away from capturing one of the most coveted prizes in sports. He'll also be able to see how a growing trend of statistical analytics in hockey helped put together this year's club.

"It's difficult to say how much I played a part in it because there's a lot of people who all provided their input," said Peterson, who earned dual bachelor's degrees in Mathematics and Computer Science from Texas Tech in 2005 and his master's degree in Mathematics 2007. "Scouts, management, coaches, player development, that all goes into it. I can't say how much I specifically contributed, but I definitely provided my input as much as I've been able to do in my position. That's what analytics can provide and that has developed over the years."

Call it the Moneypuck, in essence the Moneyball of hockey. While it is commonly known and used in baseball, it is still in its infancy in hockey, and when all is said and done, Peterson could become the father of statistical analysis in hockey personnel decisions.

Baseball background

Peterson has always been a big sports fan, and in his time at Texas Tech tried to mesh his love of sports and statistical analysis. He was a regular at Red Raider baseball games and for a short time used analytics to help the football program. Baseball, however, was always his favorite sport, and no other sport lends itself more to the use of statistical analysis.

"I learned a lot through my computer science classes that taught me a lot about programming and coding that I use on a daily basis now as far as retrieving statistics," Peterson said. "Also, my time in the math department working with Dr. Chris Monico as an adviser, I enjoyed working with math. Everything grew my interest in it."

Peterson left Texas Tech to pursue an MBA at the University of Central Florida, and while there he did some consulting work for the Cleveland Indians and Tampa Bay Rays. But it was an internship that set his career course on the fast track.

That internship was with the Lightning, who was looking for someone to do statistical analysis. But, Peterson said, it was an open-ended internship in terms of looking for someone who had fresh ideas about approaching the game, inspired partly by what former Oakland Athletics general manager Billy Beane had created, a movement that became Moneyball.

After completing the internship, Lightning administrators approached Peterson about his vision for a full-time statistical analysis position. After giving them his vision for the position, he was hired on a full-time basis. He said at the time only one other team had someone performing any type of statistical analysis, but that person was more of a scout, making him, essentially, a pioneer in his sport.

“It was basically, ‘what can you do, how can you help us, what ideas or new ways and approaches of looking at things do you have?’” Peterson said. “It was very forward-thinking for an organization to be that open-minded. Other organizations today still don’t want anything to do with it and see no value in it. The Lightning were very forward-thinking at the time, now six years ago, to have this vision.”

New Way of Thinking

Not only is statistical analysis still in its infant stage in hockey, but using the method to evaluate players and performance takes a whole new approach.

In baseball, evaluating performance is easy. Batter vs. pitcher. Batter vs. defense. Even though there are nine players on the field, baseball is a 1-on-1 oriented sport.

Hockey, on the other hand, is more of a fluid sport where it’s 5-on-5 for most of the time with thousands of possible outcomes, Peterson said.

“It’s difficult to draw direct parallels between the sports,” Peterson said. “It is essentially starting over, starting from the ground up and trying to piece together certain events or situations and see how they interact with each other. Everything depends on who you’re playing with and who you’re playing against.

“If you take a guy and put him on another team and you don’t know who his teammates are, you can still anticipate what you will get from a player in baseball. In hockey, you do that, you just don’t know. It depends on who gets you the puck or who receives the puck or who is the playmaker.”

Slowly, but surely, the use of statistical analysis in hockey is growing. Peterson said last summer six or seven teams hired statistical analysts, and the Toronto Maple Leafs have a whole department dedicated to it.

“Last year in the hockey analytics community it was kind of the summer of analytics,” Peterson said. “Last summer it grew, but I would say there are still maybe a third to half of



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the league that don't have anyone in that type of position. Over the next several years, every team will have one at some point. Teams are investing resources and money into it."

Depending on the success of the Lightning over the next two weeks, that push toward statistical analysis could be accelerated. And when it becomes widespread over the sport, a Texas Tech graduate will be one of its pioneers.

"I just wanted to try to explore new areas," Peterson said. "It's been exciting to be a part of that and we'll continue to investigate new areas."



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Two Human Sciences Students Represent Texas Tech at Leadership Camp

The camp is geared toward cultivating leaders in the family and consumer science professions.

By Heidi Toth

Two Texas Tech University students spent a week in the nation's capital learning how to become better leaders.

Haley Raymond, an [interior design](#) major from Plainview, and Jessica Wiklund, a [nutrition and dietetics](#) major from Carrollton, attended the Leadership Honors Bootcamp in Washington, D.C., for five days in May. Both were nominated by faculty or staff in the [College of Human Sciences](#).

The purpose of the camp is to prepare students from family and consumer science programs throughout the nation to be leaders in future jobs, service organizations and other ventures. Thirteen women spent the week attending seminars, learning leadership styles, touring D.C. and making friends.

"I had the opportunity to share my story with many of the participants, and I got to hear many of their stories," Raymond said. "It was reassuring knowing I could open up to people in such a short amount of time. It was a major example of why you shouldn't judge someone without knowing them because we all have stories and experiences that have made us who we are."

Cindy Villegas, the [College of Human Sciences Ambassadors](#) adviser, coordinated the trip and nominated Wiklund, who is the organization's public relations officer. She said this was the second year the college sent students to the boot camp, which includes providing a scholarship to pay a portion of the registration fees.

"We feel it is worth sending our students to enhance their leadership skills," she said.

Both women were selected because of previously demonstrated leadership, Wiklund with the ambassadors program and Raymond as director of philanthropy for Zeta Tau Alpha and philanthropy liaison for Texas Tech's [Panhellenic Council](#).

About the camp

The Leadership Honors Bootcamp, which began in 2004, was created to strengthen the leadership in family and consumer science programs, said camp director Nancy White. It encourages colleges to send high-achieving students, with the expectation that they will return to campus and immediately apply those lessons.

It's a grueling five days of seminars, discussions, projects and learning intended to shine a light on professions often overlooked.

"The field itself really needs visibility and awareness to keep it going," she said.

This year only women attended, although that's unusual, White said. They generally see more women, and the family and consumer science fields tend to attract more women, but every year a few men have attended. Having all women did change the dynamic this year, she said, which made the conversations, particularly around skills like self-advocacy and conflict resolution, different from past years.

"What I saw as the greatest difference is the boosting of self-esteem and their confidence level," she said. "We want them to be able to get in a group and say how they feel about something that's not the opinion of the group and feeling comfortable about it.

"It's almost like the unclassroom. It's very experiential."

The students learn about leadership styles and how to work with others who have different styles as well as communication skills, leading with empathy and conflict resolution, a skill with which many struggle.

Wiklund said she appreciated the different types of leadership skills taught, including empathetic communication, team building, being open to and adapting to change and more. It wasn't what she expected out of a leadership camp, she said.

"We all took in the information we were learning throughout the week and began applying it to our lives," she said. "You could easily see that all these girls had leadership qualities and wanted to make them even stronger."

Raymond agreed, saying one of her most valuable experiences was the focus on her style.

"It was beneficial seeing what kind of leader I am, how I can become a better leader and which roles I need to take on in different groups," she said.

They also learned about group dynamics and relationship building. Both women said they became close to the others in their group despite having only five days to get to know each other.

"All these strangers I met the first day became my 12 new best friends by the fifth day," Wiklund said.



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Weiner to Teach James Bond Pop Culture Class

The course, which is offered through the Honors College, begins in August.

By Emily Gardner

From zombies to superheroes to a [panel about the Joker](#), Rob Weiner, humanities and popular culture librarian, has caused Texas Tech University students to think about popular culture in a different way. He will be doing this again in the fall, except this time students have the opportunity to examine James Bond in Icons of Popular Culture, an upper-level seminar offered through the [Honors College](#).

“The course is designed to be a revolving class to look at different icons in popular culture, whether music, film, art or literature, and of course Bond fits all those things,” Weiner said. “Bond has become one of the most iconic characters in our culture and has been able to change with the times and yet remain Bondian.”

Weiner said the idea for the class was the result of students asking him to teach an upper-level honors seminar. A number of topics were suggested for the class, but James Bond eventually won. Weiner has taught two classes about James Bond previously through the [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute](#), has co-edited a book about James Bond, “James Bond in World and Popular Culture: The Films are not Enough” and written the foreword in “James Bond and Popular Culture” edited by Michele Brittany, all of which were reasons Weiner decided on Bond as the course topic. Having “Spectre,” the latest installment in the Bond franchise, set for release in November solidified Weiner’s reasoning.

The class has continued to gain popularity aside from the students who suggested Weiner create the course. Heather Medley, Honors College assistant director, said the course is full and has a long waiting list.

“Offering courses like this to students reinforces the strong belief that learning is and should be engaging and fun,” Medley said. “It provides students with a chance to access classic theories in economics, finance, literature and more through the world they know.”

Weiner describes the class as all-inclusive and multidisciplinary. It will focus on Bond as an art form, including topics about the literary, visual and fine arts. Students will be asked to read Ian Fleming novels, watch James Bond movies and read post-Fleming works. The course also will cover the origins of the British spy novel through reading and discussing “The Thirty-Nine Steps” by John Buchan. Because Weiner is a comics studies scholar, he said the class will look at James Bond adaptations in sequential art. Weiner plans to facilitate a class field trip to see “Spectre” once it is released and have discussions centered on the 24th Bond film.

During the duration of the class, students will be asked to examine poster art, dance and the opening sequences and the music behind the films. The class also focuses on gender issues, including what it means to be Bond Girl, contributing to Weiner's goal of having a well-rounded focus.

"I believe in a well-rounded approach where students are exposed to a wide variety of material," Weiner said. "That way they have a deeper and richer understanding of the subject matter."

James Bond has been around for more than 60 years and has risen and fallen in popularity during that time. In the 1960s, the franchise became part of the three Bs: Beatles, Batman and Bond.

Successful Bond films have a formula, Weiner said, including chase scenes, exotic locations, expensive cars, gadgets and technology ahead of its time, outlandish stunts, a unique and interesting villain, and they are fun to watch, all of which culminates in Bond saving the world. This formula and how each film is unique in spite of it keep the franchise successful.

"From film to film some are greater than others, but all of them have unique characteristics that make them interesting despite the formula," he said. "Going to see a Bond film is often a family affair now, or it's a date night. Everybody has their favorite Bond, from your grandmother who loved Sean Connery to a millennial who loves Daniel Craig, to a Gen-Xer like me who loves Roger Moore."

The films, especially those featuring Daniel Craig, who caused controversy when cast as Bond, have returned to their roots in Fleming's novels while still creating a progressive trend through an "edgy" Bond.

Weiner would even argue the franchise is more relevant now than it was in the Cold War era, especially as a result of the terrorism the world is facing.

"We need Bond now more than ever because you don't know who the enemy is," Weiner said. "We need somebody who is going to have the world's interest and Bond does not compromise. It's always going to be for England, for the free world. You can take him prisoner and you can torture him, which has happened. Bond will do whatever it takes to make sure the world is not going to be blown up by a terrorist."

But the progressiveness doesn't stop there. Weiner lists examples from "Skyfall," the last James Bond movie, where "M" went into the field with Bond and people were questioning Bond's abilities.

Weiner's class will focus on the progressive and regressive nature of the Bond films and mythos as well, he said, causing students to discuss why parts of the Bond mythos are not progressive, why something would be considered racist or misogynistic, and asking how these items can be critiqued.

"The important thing in all of this, which I want for my students, is to have an open and honest debate about these things, and that they come away with an understanding of the



different facets of James Bond from all different artistic aspects,” Weiner said. “I hope their lives in some way are richer for it and that they learn to think critically about popular culture texts.”

Sidebar: Rob Weiner Discusses James Bond’s Future

James Bond has been a fixture in society for more than 60 years, and Rob Weiner believes he will remain a popular culture icon at least as long as the Broccoli family controls the film franchise, but that’s part of the discussion.

“Once the Broccoli family gets bought out, I don’t know what will happen,” Weiner said. “Of course the novels have gone on without Ian Fleming and some have been very good. Now, are they as good as the original Ian Fleming novels? No, but people debate that.”

Fans and critics debate which film and which Bond they like most and least, Weiner said. The speculation about who will become the next James Bond after Daniel Craig also has become part of the debate, with many actors, including Damian Lewis and his red hair and Idris Elba, who would be the first black Bond, suggested as replacements.

Weiner doesn’t mind a change from the Bond norm, he said, because what matters to him the most is a good story and that the actor is able to portray Bond staples, including the accent, charm, having the ability to play cards and fight, and carrying the character with dignity.

“I do think the Bond films, while not perfect, have slowly been getting more progressive in some ways,” Weiner said. “I think if they get somebody like Idris that’s very telling. The proof would be how successful the film would be, but I would applaud Eon Productions if they would do that. I think it’s time we mixed up everything. We live in a multiracial, multigender society and we need to accept that, but it’s also important to talk about why things aren’t that way in an open and honest discussion.”



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Wildflowers in Full Bloom at Lubbock Lake Landmark

It's a sea of purple, staff members say, that is worth a visit.

By Heidi Toth

[Lubbock Lake Landmark](#) is going purple.

The wildflowers – American basketflower, to be precise – are blooming at the wildlife preserve in west Lubbock. It's the perfect time to visit, staff members say.

Scott Trevey, the foreman at the landmark, has watched over these flowers since September, when they bloomed into little rosettes. They overwinter, he said, so he knew the bumper crop was coming. He didn't know how well the winter and spring moisture would help the flowers grow.

He estimated the fields will be in full bloom for the next 45 to 60 days. Each plant has several rosettes, and while the first ones are blooming now others will bloom as the season continues.