



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Office of Communications and Marketing

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May through August 2012

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

CONTACT: Celeste Villarreal, [celeste.villarreal@ttu.edu](mailto:celeste.villarreal@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-3990, ext. 249 or (512) 968-6957

### **Texas Tech Law Announces New Board of Barristers Executive Committee**

Texas Tech University School of Law announced the new executive committee for the Board of Barristers, the law school's premiere advocacy organization that conducts intra-school competitions in mock trial, moot court and negotiations. Members are selected from advanced students who demonstrated competence in advocacy competitions and are interested in assisting other students improve their skills.

Brian Sullivan ('13) will serve as chairman of the 2012–2013 Board of Barristers. Sullivan is a fourth generation Austinite. He graduated magna cum laude from Stephen F. Austin State University in 2009 with a bachelor of arts in communication studies and sociology. During his senior year, Sullivan served as the university's student body president. At Texas Tech Law, he served as a member of the Texas Young Lawyers Association National Trial Competition team, an associate member of the Board of Barristers, and community service chairman of the Volunteer Law Students Association. He is a contributing staff writer for the Texas Bank Lawyer and volunteers with Hospice of Lubbock. A trained mediator, Sullivan is pursuing a J.D./M.B.A. dual degree and has additional interests in becoming a motivational speaker.

Reagan Marble ('13) will serve as vice chair of judges. Marble is a native of Jourdan, Texas. He graduated from Baylor University in 2009 with a bachelor of arts in political science. After college, Marble worked for his family's cattle business before coming to Lubbock to attend law school. At Texas Tech Law, he served as a legal intern for a Lubbock renewable energy development company, Group NIRE, competed on two national moot court teams and serves as the vice-chair of the Law Student Division of the State Bar of Texas.

Jared Mallowney ('13) will serve as vice chair of trial advocacy. Originally from Sunnyvale, Mallowney earned his bachelor of arts in psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. At Texas Tech Law, he focuses on both intellectual property and litigation. In November 2011, he won the regional championship of the American Bar Association Arbitration Competition and ultimately won the national championship in January. Mallowney also serves as the president of the Intellectual Property Student Association.

Neal Spradlin ('13) will serve as vice chair of appellate advocacy. Spradlin was born outside Cleveland, Ohio, but grew up in Rockwall, Texas. He graduated magna cum laude from Austin College while earning his bachelor of arts in political science and sociology. At Texas Tech Law, he is a member of the Phi Delta Phi honors legal fraternity and serves as the vice president of the

Business and Bankruptcy Law Association. He is seeking a J.D./M.B.A. and desires to practice business litigation and transactions.

Jobe Jackson ('13) will serve as vice chair of negotiations. Originally from San Antonio, Jackson graduated summa cum laude with a bachelor of arts in religion from Hampden-Sydney College. In addition to competing in all of the Board of Barristers competitions, Jackson also serves as a staff editor for the Estate Planning and Community Property Law Journal. He is interested in practicing civil litigation.

Jessica Haseltine ('13) will serve as vice chair of administration. Haseltine is from Abilene and received her bachelor of science in composite interdisciplinary studies from Abilene Christian University and a master of science in environmental management from Hardin-Simmons University. At Texas Tech Law, she served as an officer in several student organizations and was the founding president of the Involved Students Association. She is a registered patent agent and currently works for Texas Tech's Office of Technology Commercialization. Haseltine is also concurrently pursuing a Masters of Library Science at Texas Woman's University.

More information about Texas Tech University School of Law may be found at [www.law.ttu.edu](http://www.law.ttu.edu).

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

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

CONTACT: Jorge Cruz, [jorge.cruz@ttu.edu](mailto:jorge.cruz@ttu.edu)  
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### High School Students Receive Generation Texas Scholarships

The South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council will award college scholarships to 50 high school students from the South Plains region as part of the Generation Texas initiative.

Generation TX is a statewide grassroots movement of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) aimed at closing the gaps and creating a generation of college and career readiness.

Earlier this year Texas Tech's College of Education, in collaboration with the South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council, was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the THECB to implement this region's version of the initiative.

The scholarship is for \$1,000 or \$2,000 if the student attends Texas Tech or South Plains College.

Recipients of the South Plains Generation TX Scholarship include:

**Amherst:** Landon Patterson; **Lubbock Coronado:** Brooklyn Carpenter, Sarah Diaz, Lane Luna, Priscilla Ortiz; **Dawson:** Seth Mahan; **Denver City:** Juan Escalante; **Lubbock Estacado:** Brianna Berrillo, Davon Harewood, Raymond Rios, Porcha Young; **Floydada:** Imelda Resendiz; **Frenship:** Kandra Jones, Catherine Vu; **Lamesa:** Payton Wesley; **Levelland:** Paxton Pugh, Marcela Sanchez; **Littlefield:** Brittney Smith; **Lubbock High:** Isaac Aguilera, Andrea Campos, Nima Eskandari, Chris Lopez, Elizabeth Margrave, Jon Edward Meacham, Isaac Pena, Analicia Robles; **Lubbock Cooper:** Ashley Ruiz; **Meadow:** Adrian Soto; **Lubbock Monterey:** Kelsey Coffern, Justin Esquivel, Marcus Moreno, Mia Perkins, Haley Webster; **New Deal:** Kelsie Gillman; **Olton:** Lucero Gomez, Jolie Moyer; **Plainview:** Channing Snipes; **Post:** Shirley Araiza; **Ralls:** Mary Barrientos, Mavrick Hansen; **Roosevelt:** Dina Pedroza; **Ropes:** Kortney Glenn; **Shallowater:** John Striednig; **Slaton:** Kaleb Heinrich; **Smyer:** Nikki Gholson; **Southland:** Kelcee Lewis; **Sudan:** Joaquin Azua, Mitchell Edwards; **Tahoka:** Zachariah Garcia; **Whiteface:** Christopher Homer.

For more information, please visit [www.SouthPlainsGenTX.org](http://www.SouthPlainsGenTX.org).

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

**CONTACT: Janie Ramirez, executive director of the South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council and outreach programs administrator, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 459 or [Janie.ramirez@ttu.edu](mailto:Janie.ramirez@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

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### **Texas Tech Professors Receive Prestigious National Science Foundation Award**

Texas Tech University Professors Brian Ancell, Hamed Rad-Mohsenian and Siva Vanapalli were awarded the five-year 2012 National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award and grant sums totaling nearly \$1.5 million for their research and career development plans.

CAREER awards are the most prestigious awards available for junior faculty. The grant program recognizes and supports the early career development of faculty exhibiting exemplary teaching and scholarship through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of both within the context of their organization's mission.

Ancell, assistant professor of atmospheric science, titled his work "Quantifying Inadvertent Weather Modification and Education through Museum Programs." His project will focus on examining the effects human activities such as urban development, agricultural practices, and wind/solar power development have on high-impact weather events on a variety of scales and includes collaboration with the Museum of Texas Tech University. Ancell was awarded \$721,883.

Vanapalli, assistant professor of chemical engineering, proposed research focusing on the fundamental understanding of the traffic and parking of tiny water drops in networks of microchannels that will ultimately yield inexpensive miniaturized devices for rapid screening applications in medicine, biology and materials science. His proposal is titled "Collective Hydrodynamics of Confined Drops in Microfluidic Parking Networks." Vanapalli received \$400,000 toward his research.

Rad-Mohsenian, assistant professor of electrical engineering, will investigate the application of dynamic game theory to demand-side power consumption management through his project "Self-Organizing Demand Side Management for Smart Grid: A Dynamic Game-Theoretic Framework." He also received \$400,000.

Bob Smith, Texas Tech provost and senior vice president, said NSF Career Awards are among the most competitive grants in the United States.

“Having three recipients at Texas Tech in one year is quite a testimony to the excellence of the representative faculty members and the climate that is evolving here at Tech for the highest quality research,” Smith said.

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

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TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
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### **Texas Tech Alumnus Receives Tony Award Nomination**

Texas Tech University alumnus and Broadway performer Garrett Sorenson's production "Master Class" received a 2012 Tony nomination for "Best Revival of a Play" Tuesday (May 1).

The production captures the story of Maria Callas (Tyne Daly) and the master classes she gave at Julliard during 1971 and 1972. Sorenson's character, Tony Candolino, plays the tenor who sings in Callas' master class.

"Finding out that a project you worked on and loved has been recognized in such a big way is very gratifying," Sorenson said. "And I have to say that without people like Jack Gillas and Karl Dent in the Texas Tech School of Music, it never would have happened."

Sorenson said Dent, a Texas Tech music professor, was the first person to tell him he needed to take his talent to New York.

"Master Class" ran on Broadway July 7 through Sept. 4, 2011, and then began traveling.

"We finished our London West End run of 'Master Class' last Saturday night," Sorenson said. "It's a very bittersweet thing to end a show that I spent so many months on: wonderful friends, wonderful memories. But, I was ready to go home to Kentucky."

The 66<sup>th</sup> annual Tony Awards will air live from New York's Beacon Theatre on CBS at 7 p.m. June 10.

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

**CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, associate director, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 1, 2012

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(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's Phi Beta Kappa Chapter Inducts 70 Students**

Texas Tech University's Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa inducted 70 students into the distinguished honor society.

Former Sen. Robert Krueger, once the U.S. Ambassador to Burundi and Botswana and current visiting lecturer at Texas Tech, served as the keynote speaker.

Chancellor Kent Hance, Provost Bob Smith and Vice Provost Rob Stewart provided welcoming remarks.

Phi Beta Kappa has been in continuous existence since its founding in 1776 and is considered one of the nation's leading advocates for excellence in education, particularly in the liberal arts and sciences. The society has chapters at only 10 percent of U.S. universities. Only three public universities in the state of Texas have been granted the right to host chapters.

"Having a Phi Beta Kappa chapter tells prospective faculty that Texas Tech is an institution whose commitment to excellence is proven and established," Bailey said. "For our students, it means that every degree we grant is enhanced in value. It means permanent association with the very best in American education."

Recipients are:

Lesley Noelle Abraham, a cell and molecular biology major; Landon Kirk Akins, a political science major; Erika Allen, a biology major; Justin Ayankola, a biology major; Carrie Bradshaw, an exercise and sport sciences major; Valerie Brooker, a biology major; Wade Hunter Brown, a chemistry major; Rebecca Ruth Buie, a cell and molecular biology major; Samuel Lamas Bushong, a mathematics major; Catherine Rebecca Cage, a mathematics major; Michael L. Conner, a chemistry major; Allison Leslie Caudill, a psychology major; Joshua Shane Dees, a Spanish major; Natalie Nicole DeLeon, a psychology major; Akash T. Desai, a biology major; Gabriella Maria Dominguez, a political science major; Brittney Ferguson, a psychology major; Erin Michele Fitzgerald, a mathematics major; Nicholas J. Flora, an exercise and sport sciences major; Christopher L. Forbus, a communication studies major; and Erin Foster, an exercise and sport Sciences major.



Megan Galindo, a biology major; Alexandra Gardner, a chemistry major; Isela Gonzalez, a social work major; Meera J. Gudavalli, a biology major; Nick Grimberg a sociology major; Arianna Jael Hankins, a biochemistry major; Melanie Rae Helms, a psychology major; Joseph Patrick Herbert, a cell and molecular biology major; Jeremy Andrew Herrera, a German major; Megan Elizabeth Jares, a geosciences major; Allison Marie Jones, an English major; Eileen C. Judkins, a chemistry major; Jacqueline K. Kafka, an English major; Mark Allen Kennedy, a biology major; and Terry Knight, an anthropology major.

Isamar Marmolejo, a sociology major; Marylyn Liswyn Mathew, a cell and molecular biology major; Lauren Michelle McVay, a Spanish major; Mary Moellering, a cell and molecular biology major; Zachary Ryan Monreal, a political science major; Bryan David Munson, an English major; Lauren Elizabeth Myhre, an English major; Julia Adele Nielsen, a biology major; Kristin Olson, an economics major; Kealey Parkin, a Russian language and area studies major; Daniel Puckett, a biology major; Daniel Rakes, an economics major; Sriyutha Reddy, a biology major; Kimberly M. Reynolds, a psychology major; Rebecca Redcorn, a mathematics major; John D. Reinhard, a biology major; Calvin L. Renteria, a biochemistry major; Sarah Elizabeth Rocha, a social work major; and Dylan W. Rutherford, a biology major.

Thomas A. Schaeffer, a biology major; Ashley Nicole Seal, a history major; Kara Shelton, a social Work major; Kelcie Silva a psychology major; Rebecca Quinn Smith, an English major; Ruben Solis, a cell and molecular biology major; Kyle Burten Stitle, a biochemistry major; Sowmya Sunkara, a psychology major; Rahel Tekola, a political science major; Phillip E. Wainwright, a psychology major; Michaela M. Wallace, a biology major; Stephanie Denise Weinfuss, a sociology major; Lauren Eva Wheeler, an exercise and sport sciences major; Phillip Whitehead, a psychology major; and Joshua Alan Wilson, a biochemistry major.

**CONTACT: Jennifer Snead, assistant professor of English and Phi Beta Kappa secretary, [jennifer.snead@ttu.edu](mailto:jennifer.snead@ttu.edu).**





TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 2, 2012

CONTACT: Jorge Cruz, [jorge.cruz@ttu.edu](mailto:jorge.cruz@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### South Plains Generation Texas Hosts College Signing Day

- WHAT:** Texas Tech University's South Plains Generation Texas hosts College Signing Day
- WHEN:** 10 a.m.-noon Friday (May 4)
- WHERE:** City Bank Coliseum, Texas Tech Campus, Fourth Street and University Avenue
- EVENT:** Texas Tech's College of Education and the South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council hosts College Signing Day to celebrate the achievements of college going high school seniors by having them sign their commitment letters to colleges.

The event will include motivational speakers, live musical entertainment by the local band Page 9, a college and career fair featuring notable alumni groups and recognition of the recipients of the South Plains GenTX Scholarship.

The event is open to the public, and high school seniors and juniors are strongly encouraged to attend the event.

Generation TX is a statewide grassroots movement of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) aimed at closing the gaps and creating a generation of college and career readiness.

Earlier this year Texas Tech's College of Education, in collaboration with the South Plains Closing the Gaps P-20 Council, was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the THECB to implement this region's version of the initiative.

For more information, please visit [www.SouthPlainsGenTX.org](http://www.SouthPlainsGenTX.org).

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**CONTACT: Janie Ramirez, outreach programs administrator, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext.459 or [janie.ramirez@ttu.edu](mailto:janie.ramirez@ttu.edu).**

Office of Communications and Marketing

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# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 2, 2012

CONTACT: Clay Fuchs, [clay.fuchs@ttu.edu](mailto:clay.fuchs@ttu.edu)

(806) 742-2136

### **Speak Up! Public Speaking Contest at Texas Tech**

Texas Tech University public speaking and business and professional communication classes are putting the skills that they have learned this semester into practice.

The Department of Communication Studies will host the revived "SpeakUp!" public speaking competition at 3:30 p.m. May 7 in the Mass Communications Building. The final round of the competition is open to the public and will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday May 8 in the Allen Theatre.

"Students from our COMS 2300 and COMS 3358 courses will compete for the top persuasive speech," said Delia Anderson-O'Steen, the assistant course director for business and professional communication. "This public speaking contest gives students in these courses the opportunity to advocate for issues that they care about and see who is the best speaker across all of our 44 sections."

Each course section nominates its best speaker to compete in the contest, following the persuasive speech rounds. From the 44 selected, eight will be named finalists.

First, second, and third place winners will receive \$300, \$200 and \$100, respectively. Bedford St. Martins, the publisher of the COMS 2300 textbook, is donating the cash prizes for the top three speakers. The five finalists who do not place will receive a Barnes & Noble gift card donated by the bookstore.

**CONTACT: Delia Anderson-O'Steen, instructor/assistant course director for Business & Professional Communication, Department of Communication Studies, Texas Tech University (806) 742-3911, or [delia.j.anderson@ttu.edu](mailto:delia.j.anderson@ttu.edu)**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 3, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Students from Amphibian Lab Clean Lubbock's Amphibian Habitats for Save the Frogs Day**

On April 28, more than 35 volunteers organized by the Bernal Lab in Biological Sciences at Texas Tech University cleaned three large playa lakes to help protect this critical environment for frogs and toads.

This effort was part of Texas Tech's contribution to celebrate the Fourth Annual Save the Frogs Day, an event to raise awareness of the amphibian population worldwide decline.

Graduate student Lynne Beaty wanted this year's event to directly help the animals around Lubbock. In the city, the playa lakes offer a critical resource where frogs and toads breed.

Unfortunately many playa lakes have substantial amounts of trash that can affect their ability to survive and breed. However, volunteers found a Texas toad and bullfrog even during the hours that frogs and toads are less likely to be active.

"Our efforts drew the attention of several park visitors, who greatly appreciated all we were doing to improve the quality of Lubbock playas," Beaty said. "We ended up removing 58 30-gallon and 22 13-gallon bags of garbage from our target playas."

Amphibian populations throughout the world have been declining at unprecedented rates, and nearly one-third of the world's amphibian species are threatened with extinction. Up to 200 species have completely disappeared in recent years.

Amphibians are faced with an onslaught of environmental problems, including climate change, pollution, infectious diseases, habitat loss, invasive species and over-harvesting for the pet and food trades.

Save The Frogs Day events were held in at least 38 countries, including Canada, Colombia, Nepal, South Africa, Australia, and the United States with Lubbock being represented by Texas Tech University through this event organized by the Bernal lab in Biology.

Ximena Bernal, assistant professor of biology, said the event was a great success.

“We have helped improve the quality of the habitat for the frogs and toads in our area,” Bernal said. “I am proud of the strong support from volunteers and the students in my lab who contributed with this worthwhile effort.”

Last year, Texas Tech University’s students, faculty and staff set a world record during the Arbor Day celebrations on April 29 for the most people in one place wearing frog masks, according to the World Records Academy.

About 700 people donned the froggy faces for the coinciding Save the Frogs Day, organized by the Bernal lab in the Department of Biological Sciences. The lab studies amphibian behavior to understand the factors that help some species flourish while others disappear.

**CONTACT: Ximena Bernal, assistant professor of biology, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2710 ext 273, or [ximena.bernal@ttu.edu](mailto:ximena.bernal@ttu.edu).**



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 3, 2012

CONTACT: Clay Fuchs, clay.fuchs@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

**Dallas-Area High School Students Selected to Attend  
Texas Tech Leadership Institute**

Texas Tech University and local Dallas area high schools announced the 2012 class of students selected to participate in the university's leadership institute, Camp L.E.A.D. (Leadership Education and Development). Of the 50 available spots, 11 Dallas-area students representing five schools were chosen out of a pool of applicants to attend the prestigious program, June 3-6, in Lubbock.

"Camp L.E.A.D. provides high school students with a unique and unforgettable experience, and it is a privilege for Texas Tech to help shape the lives of such a fine group of students," said Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. "Leadership is key to success, and we at Texas Tech believe it is important to mentor future generations in this vital area."

Established in 2011, Camp L.E.A.D. is designed to build the character of each student through engaging lessons that focus on teamwork, effective communication and influencing tactics. The summer program provides students with a foundation for continued leadership, exploration and development.

Students will participate in a variety of activities during the camp which include individual personal strengths assessments, lessons on understanding their individual strengths, recognizing the uniqueness of others and group dynamics. The students will also participate in team-building exercises such as a ropes course to enhance the students understanding of trust and unity.

The select group of local, high-achieving students who have been chosen to attend Camp L.E.A.D. are rising sophomores, entering their junior year of high school.

"Congratulations to the top 50 students chosen for the 2012 Camp L.E.A.D. summer program," said Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director. "This year's selection process was highly competitive, as we had many outstanding applications submitted. We once again congratulate those who were chosen and look forward to welcoming each of the students to our beautiful campus."

Students also will interact with a specialized instructor and successful business and civic leaders through the duration of the camp. All scheduled activities and lodging for the students are



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

located on the Texas Tech campus, and the associated costs are underwritten by private donations.

The following 2012 Camp L.E.A.D. participants were nominated by their school counselors and selected by a panel of Texas Tech representatives based on their high achievement, well-rounded involvement at their local high school, as well as their leadership potential:

### **List of schools and students**

#### **Allen High School**

Grant Gunn

Christine Roe

#### **Frisco High School**

Palance Harris

Jazmine Johnke

Rudolfo Zevallos

Denise Zheng

#### **Hebron High School**

Brynn Putnam

Quinn Woelffer

#### **Rockwall High School**

Jason Hazen

#### **School for the Talented and Gifted at the Yvonne A. Ewell Townview Magnet Center**

Emanuel Cortes

Raahil Sha

**CONTACT: Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7060 or [ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 3, 2012

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(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Names 2012-2013 Pom Squad**

Nine members will be returning, with seven new dancers joining.

The Texas Tech University Spirit Program has named the 16-member pom squad for the 2012-2013 season.

A total of 68 dancers completed the preliminary audition process, with 34 named as finalists for the 16 available slots.

Erin Harold, who came to Texas Tech in April as the new pom coach, posted all of the audition material to a private YouTube account and sent the links to the candidates one week prior to the preliminary auditions. The prelim round consisted of fight song/chant, audition routine and individual technique.

Named for next year's squad are Brittany Brossman, a junior from Houston; Kelsey Buckner, a junior from Rowlett; Kathleen Busch, a senior from Plano; Jackie Choi, a junior from Carrollton; Courtney Craig, a freshman from Flower Mound; Lexie-Paige Dierker, a freshman from Allen; Kristen Graham, a sophomore from Austin; Rachel Graham, a sophomore from Austin; Nailah Jones, a freshman from Houston; LaShey Lanford, a senior from Allen; Peyton Ratliff, a junior from Victoria; Kortani Rettig, a junior from Mesquite; Kelsey Schneider, a sophomore from Katy; Dawn Stecklein, a freshman from Flower Mound; Christa Widjaja, a freshman from Carrollton; and Sydney Wilson, a sophomore from Lubbock.

Finals consisted of across-the-floor combinations that were taught on the spot and then performed, individual interview, and then a call-back for some individuals at which they had to do the audition dance and fight song again.

"We were extremely overwhelmed with the talent at the pom squad audition this year," Harold said. "It was very close for every spot on this year's team, and we had to make some tough decisions. I am so excited about the squad that we have chosen, and look forward to working with them this season."

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**CONTACT: Erin Harold, Texas Tech pom coach, (806) 742-5433 or [erin.harold@ttu.edu](mailto:erin.harold@ttu.edu); or Stephanie Rhode, Spirit Program supervisor, (806) 742-5433 or [stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu](mailto:stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu).**





# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 3, 2012

CONTACT: Clay Fuchs, [clay.fuchs@ttu.edu](mailto:clay.fuchs@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **San Antonio-Area High School Students Selected to Attend Texas Tech Leadership Institute**

Texas Tech University and local San Antonio area high schools announced the 2012 class of students selected to participate in the university's leadership institute, Camp L.E.A.D. (Leadership Education and Development). Of the 50 available spots, 39 San Antonio-area students representing 17 schools were chosen out of a pool of applicants to attend the prestigious program June 3-6, in Lubbock.

"Camp L.E.A.D. provides high school students with a unique and unforgettable experience, and it is a privilege for Texas Tech to help shape the lives of such a fine group of students," said Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. "Leadership is key to success, and we at Texas Tech believe it is important to mentor future generations in this vital area."

Established in 2011, Camp L.E.A.D. is designed to build the character of each student through engaging lessons that focus on teamwork, effective communication and influencing tactics. The summer program provides students with a foundation for their continued leadership, explorations and development.

Students will participate in a variety of activities during the camp which include individual personal strengths assessments, lessons on understanding their individual strengths, recognizing the uniqueness of others and group dynamics. The students will also participate in team-building exercises such as a ropes course to enhance the students understanding of trust and unity.

The select group of local, high-achieving students who have been chosen to attend Camp L.E.A.D. are rising sophomores, entering their junior year of high school.

"Congratulations to the top 50 students chosen for the 2012 Camp L.E.A.D. summer program," said Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director. "This year's selection process was highly competitive, as we had many outstanding applications submitted. We once again congratulate those who were chosen and look forward to welcoming each of the students to our beautiful campus."

Students also will interact with a specialized instructor and successful business and civic leaders through the duration of the camp. All scheduled activities and lodging for the students are located on the Texas Tech campus, and the associated costs are underwritten by private donations.





## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

The following 2012 Camp L.E.A.D. participants were nominated by their school counselors and selected by a panel of Texas Tech representatives based on their high achievement, well-rounded involvement at their local high school, as well as their leadership potential:

### **List of schools and students**

#### **Tom C. Clark High School**

Jacob Boozer

#### **William H. Taft High School**

Tu-Trinh Kim

#### **Douglas MacArthur High School**

Marcus Harris

Brett Skogman

Sophia Sudiagal

#### **Boerne High School**

Emily Bow

Jordan Dickerson

Heather Schloss

Sawyer Williams

#### **Samuel V. Champion-Boerne High School**

Dahlia Baker

Nicholas Contreras

Kelsey Lemmons

#### **Alamo Heights High School**

Leah Lawrence

Taylor Puhl

#### **Theodore Roosevelt High School**

Allison Bain

Janai Floyd

Matthew Silvas

#### **John Marshall High School**

Chloe Rivas

Charelle Thomas

#### **Louis D. Brandeis High School**

Chase Guillory

Madeleine Mussey

#### **Claudia Taylor (Lady Bird) Johnson High School**

Briana Chavez

Katarina Chavez

Kelley Walsh

#### **William J. Brennan High School**

Joshua Luna

Kevin Martinez

#### **Sandra Day O'Connor High School**

Lisa Bennett

Eduardo Ramos

#### **John Paul Stevens High School**

Anthony Estolano

Jessica Gonzalez

Catherine Nicosia

#### **John Jay High School**

Alyssa Gonzalez

Shania Hurtado

Eliseo Marquez

#### **Ronald Reagan High School**

Liam Bolster

#### **International School of the Americas**

Raquel Espinoza

Horacio Pena



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

**Health Careers High School**

Bhuvana Kamma

Antoan Teodossien

**CONTACT: Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director, Texas Tech University,**  
(806) 742-7060 or [ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu).



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 7, 2012

CONTACT: Jorge Cruz, [jorge.cruz@ttu.edu](mailto:jorge.cruz@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's Hispanic Honor Society Awards the Gabriela Mistral Award**

Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, awarded Angela Arneson, graduate student and honorary president of Texas Tech University's chapter for Sigma Delta Pi, the Gabriela Mistral Award for her academic achievements in Spanish and her noteworthy leadership and initiative in her chapter.

The Gabriela Mistral Award is awarded to outstanding graduate or undergraduate students of Spanish who are active members of Sigma Delta Pi. The award is granted by Sigma Delta Pi's national executive committee and is presented to only one person per chapter.

"We are so proud of Angela for her achievements and this very important national recognition," said Comfort Pratt, advisor for Sigma Delta Pi and associate professor in the College of Education. "We also wish Angela all the best as she completes her dissertation for her doctorate."

Established in 1919 at the University of California, Berkeley, Sigma Delta Pi honors those who have completed three years of study in college-level Spanish, with a grade point average of 3.0 in all Spanish courses taken. Candidates must also rank in the upper 35 percent of their class.

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**CONTACT: Comfort Pratt, Sigma Delta Pi advisor, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1997 ext. 237 or [c.pratt@ttu.edu](mailto:c.pratt@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 8, 2012

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Expert: 'The Avengers,' the Top Grossing, Perfect Comic Book Film**

#### **Pitch**

"The Avengers" has already made \$600 million and broke box office records worldwide. What makes "The Avengers" the perfect comic book superhero film?

#### **Expert**

Rob Weiner, associate librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 742-2238 ext. 282 office, (806) 780-8775 mobile, or [rob.weiner@ttu.edu](mailto:rob.weiner@ttu.edu).

#### **Talking Points**

- Choice of actors for major roles
- Comic book roots of the film
- Balance of superheroes' stories

#### **Quotes**

- "The Avengers' has the perfect balance where each character has just the right amount of individual screen time eventually allowing the group to function as a team. There are some great one-liners in the film."
- "Joss Whedon wrote a clever script that remained true to the comic book roots, but was also accessible to those who have never read an Avengers comic or graphic novel."
- "The Avengers' film does not have the dark tones that Christopher Nolan's Batman films do. It is just pure fun, and the perfect popcorn movie."



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 8, 2012

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

### **Expert: Good/Bad News at Fukushima Just like Chernobyl**

#### **Pitch**

Last year, the world experienced its second level seven nuclear power plant accident, a quarter century after the Chernobyl disaster on April 26, 1986. While both accidents reached the highest level of disaster, the amount of radioactive material released differs greatly between the Fukushima Daiichi disaster and the one in Ukraine.

Scientists agree that the dismantling and cleanup of the Fukushima plant will take decades. A Texas Tech University radiation expert who was the first American scientist allowed inside Chernobyl's exclusion zone can discuss the differences in the two disasters, and the good news/bad news of both scenarios.

#### **Expert**

Ron Chesser, director of Texas Tech's Center for Radiation Studies, (806) 742-3722 ext. 245, (806) 742-1737, or [ron.chesser@ttu.edu](mailto:ron.chesser@ttu.edu).

#### **Talking Points**

- Though Fukushima and Chernobyl reached the same level of seriousness, that doesn't mean that the releases of radiation were the same. Both disasters did release significant amounts of radiation. After that, they're not very similar in the types of release and what happened.
- The amount of radiation released from Chernobyl is considerably more than at Fukushima.
- Reactor fuel wasn't left open to elements at Fukushima except for old fuel rods in spent fuel pool. The reactors themselves at Fukushima didn't breach.
- At Chernobyl, an explosion breached the containment vessel and exposed nuclear fuel to the atmosphere. This blew nuclear fuel into small particles, which was lifted into the air, carried long distances by wind and dropped by gravity or rain.
- About 13,230 pounds of radioactive material containing about 120 different isotopes launched into the air from Chernobyl, which burned for 10 days.
- 98 to 99 percent of the radiation released is now decayed at Chernobyl. However, the 1 or 2 percent left has long decay rates and will be there for decades yet to come. However, the remaining radiation will not convey the severe dose rates seen in the first few months after the accident.
- Fukushima's fuel reactors didn't explode because there was only a partial meltdown in three reactors. It wasn't the typical meltdown that burned through

the reactor vessel and contaminated lower parts of reactor, such as what happened at Chernobyl.

- Fukushima had to release gas pressure, and those releases expelled isotopes of cesium, iodine and xenon. The Chernobyl disaster released massive amounts of those isotopes as well as about 115 other radioactive isotopes.

### Quotes

- “If the built-up gas pressure at Fukushima hadn’t been released, the pressure could have ruptured the reactor vessel. The workers there knew it was one of those ‘damned if you don’t, but not as damned if you do’ scenarios. They had to make several releases like that to relieve the pressure and keep the reactor vessel intact. That was their main job. They did a miraculous job. The vessels themselves proved very resilient despite a horrible accident that progressed far beyond the design of these reactors.”
- “The bad news about Fukushima is that it affected more urban areas than did Chernobyl, because it’s more densely populated near the reactor in Japan. The iodine-131 is one of the volatile elements at both Chernobyl and Fukushima. It has lots of good news and bad news.”
- “The good news with iodine-131 is that it has an eight-day half-life. After 40 days, most of it has decayed. The bad news is it’s given all its energy during that time period. This can cause a rapid dose to the thyroid gland. In adults, it’s not as dangerous. In adolescents with very active thyroid, it can cause cancers that don’t show up right away. Near Chernobyl, thyroid cancer rates didn’t show a significant increase until about eight years after the accident. Iodine shouldn’t be a major problem now.”
- “With cesium-137, the bad news is its long half-life of 30 years. But the good news is it doesn’t convey a quick dose of radiation.”
- “Worldwide, we’ve propagated this radiation phobia. Scientifically when you look at radiation at normal levels of exposure, it is a very poor carcinogen. There are many other chemicals out there that are far more carcinogenic. One thing we need to do in the future is integrate into public education the scientific realities of radiation so that when we have events, we can have a rational response. I’m not saying people shouldn’t be concerned or scared. But many responses were way out of proportion with reality. People cleared out iodine tablets in Lubbock. We couldn’t even detect radiation levels from Japan here. That kind of panic is due to fears when we’re afraid of what we don’t understand.”



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 8, 2012

CONTACT: Sally Logue Post, [sally.post@ttu.edu](mailto:sally.post@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-3905

### **Internal Competitive Funding Opportunity Will Advance Scholarship in the Creative Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences**

Proposals are now being accepted for Texas Tech University's Internal Competitive Funding Opportunity to Advance Scholarship in the Creative Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. About \$600,000 is available to faculty in those areas.

"This is the second year for the internal funding initiative to help our faculty enhance their scholarly and creative efforts," said Guy Bailey, Texas Tech president. "We have outstanding faculty in every area of our university. This is one way to reward those in disciplines that have little access to external funding."

Last year, more than \$440,000 was distributed to more than 40 faculty members. Many faculty members in the creative arts, humanities and some social science areas have little external funding available, compared to colleagues in sciences and engineering. Texas Tech devised the internal competitive funding opportunity as a way to advance scholarship in these areas and to promote excellence.

"Last year's internal competition was immensely successful," said Taylor Eighmy, senior vice president for research. "We intend for these grants to be transformational for the faculty members, to provide free time for thinking and creating, and to provide general support for scholarly and creative efforts."

Four types of awards will be made this year: Level 1 (\$3,000 or less), Level 2 (\$10,000 or less), Level 3 (\$20,000 or less), and Level 4 (\$40,000 or less). There are specific requirements expected of applicants based on the level of award received.

"These funds are intended to advance the scholarship of the applicant and to promote excellence," said Bob Smith, Texas Tech provost. "We want our faculty to collaborate both within and outside of the humanities and social sciences. These awards are meant to encourage scholarship so that they may create new art, write books, and be able to present at the best conferences and workshops."

The funds can be used in many ways including purchasing equipment or computers, traveling to conferences, or for collaboration, travel for presentations, to support applications for distinguished faculty award opportunities, early scholarship

development, new areas of work, and supporting graduate students or undergraduate research efforts.

Applications are due by July 9. Dossiers submitted for the grants will undergo a rigorous peer review. The application and review process will be confidential. Constructive and thoughtful feedback will be provided to applicants.

Guidelines for proposal submission, requirements and expectations of the faculty member are available at: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/vpr/award-ops/CAHSScompetition.php>.

The competition this year is overseen by a steering committee comprising Michael San Francisco, associate vice president for research/faculty development, chair; Brian Steel, associate dean in the College of Visual and Performing Arts; David Larmour, Horn professor in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures; Aliza Wong, associate professor of history and president of the Faculty Senate; and Laura Beard, professor and assistant dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.

**CONTACT: Michael San Francisco, associate vice president for research/faculty development, Office of the Vice President for Research Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3905, or [michael.sanfrancisco@ttu.edu](mailto:michael.sanfrancisco@ttu.edu).**





# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 9, 2012

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech and The Sky Factor Research Natural Image Impact on Patients**

Texas Tech University's Neuroimaging Institute will partner with The Sky Factory, a fine art and technology company that creates pleasant imagery of nature, to research the effects of these natural images on patient health.

Evidence-based design research indicates illusions of nature, such as a sky scene on the ceiling of a room, support healing, reduce stress and anxiety, and reduce the use of pain medications in healthcare settings. These realistic illusions have been installed in healthcare environments around the world to alleviate stress, promote patient relaxation, provide positive distraction and improve the patient experience.

The two-part research project, conducted by College of Human Sciences professors Debajyoti Pati, Michael O'Boyle and Cherif Amor, will study the effects of Sky Factory's virtual skylights on hospital patients.

Pati said this research is exciting for Texas Tech, as it will mark the entry of the university into the field of neuroscience and architecture,

"These studies deal with the ground-breaking application of fMRI technology in building justifications for actual commercial products in a real-life context," Pati said.

The initial study will generate brain maps of the neural pathways and regions associated with subjects' perception of Sky Factory SkyCeilings™ unique imagery and compare those results with the mapped responses of the subjects' viewing imagery established as being positive, negative or neutral.

The second half of the study will gather data on hospital patients over the period of one year. One group will be assessed while staying in rooms with Sky Factory SkyCeilings installed over the beds, and a second group while staying in rooms without the SkyCeilings.

The Sky Factory, LC is a unique fine art and technology company based in Fairfield, Iowa. Founded in 2002, the company creates realistic Illusions of Nature™ — virtual skylights and virtual windows that transform interior spaces. Applications include all

healthcare environments, eldercare facilities, schools, workplaces, and hospitality environments

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**CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136 or [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 10, 2012

CONTACT: Rikki Carter, [rikki.carter@ttu.edu](mailto:rikki.carter@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Raiders Rojos Alumni Chapter to Host 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Graduation Convocation**

- WHAT:** Raiders Rojos, a chapter of the Texas Tech Alumni Association, will host the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Graduation Convocation
- WHEN:** 6:30 p.m. May 17
- WHERE:** McKenzie Merket Alumni Center
- EVENT:** The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Hispanic Graduation Convocation event honors the accomplishments of Texas Tech graduates with a cultural celebration that includes Mariachi entertainment, the bestowing of a complimentary cultural zarape stole and a Raiders Rojos insignia lapel pin, which will both be given during the recognition ceremony.

To reserve a stole, students must contact event organizer Janie Ramirez at [Janie.ramirez@ttu.edu](mailto:Janie.ramirez@ttu.edu)

Members of the founding Hispanic Alumni 4 Tech non-profit organization, composed of 1970s graduates, will also be honored as 2012 Distinguished Alumni. The event is open to the public.

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**CONTACT:** Janie Ramirez, outreach programs administrator, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 459, or [janie.ramirez@ttu.edu](mailto:janie.ramirez@ttu.edu).



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 10, 2012

CONTACT: Jorge Cruz, [jorge.cruz@ttu.edu](mailto:jorge.cruz@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

## **Texas Tech Awards Presidential Scholarships**

Texas Tech University awarded the President's Competitive Scholarship and the President's Interactive Scholarship to four students.

This is the first year the scholarships are being offered. Brad Looney from Fort Worth and Jeffrey Chen from Missouri City were each awarded the President's Competitive Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500. Faith Jurek from Goldthwaite and Saba Nafees from Fort Worth were each awarded the President's Interactive Scholarship in the amount of \$2,500.

"We are excited about these new scholarships, and thrilled to have another opportunity to reward students who excel both in and outside the classroom," Texas Tech President Guy Bailey said. "Brad, Jeffrey, Faith and Saba all embody what Texas Tech University wants in a student: commitment, excellence and a desire to be the best."

The scholarship recipients will be honored at an award luncheon on May 11.

The requirements for the President's Competitive Scholarship include a 3.0 GPA, and involvement in leadership and extracurricular activities. The President's Interactive Scholarship is designed to encourage student participation in one of the following: study abroad, internships or undergraduate research.

"We encourage all of our students to participate in at least one of the following activities during their time at Texas Tech: undergraduate research, study abroad, and internships," Bailey said. "We know that these activities broaden our students' educational experience and success, leading to exceptional opportunities upon graduation."

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**CONTACT: Sarah Barron, coordinator of presidential services and communications, Office of the President, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2121 or [sarah.barron@ttu.edu](mailto:sarah.barron@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 10, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Names 2012-2013 Cheerleader Squads**

The new all-girl squad will debut this fall.

The Texas Tech University Spirit Program has named the 32-member co-ed cheer squad for the 2012-2013 season and has added a third spirit squad consisting of all women. The 16-member pom team was named earlier this month.

"Having two cheer squads allows us to increase our support and promotion for Texas Tech at many university and community events," said Bruce Bills, coach of the cheer teams.

A total of 55 students completed the preliminary audition process for the co-ed team. Of those that tried out, 16 females and 17 males were selected, with 13 new members and 20 students returning.

Named for next year's squad are fourth-year student Jordyn Capehart of Allen; third-year students Jose Campos of Granbury; John Chebret of Humble; Kymber Drake of New Braunfels; Tanner Lyday of Lewisville; Laura Perley of Plano; Regan Waits of Hot Springs, Ark.; second-years students Calvin Beene of Humble; Anthony Brown of Garden City, Kan.; Noah Cagle of North Richland Hills; Coleigh Cheatham of Aledo; Mathew Golla of Anaheim, Calif.; Andrew Mitchell of Baytown; Nicole Mitchell of Abilene; Matt Parkin of Heber, Utah; Alex Pulido of Del Rio; Bradley Shaefer of Burleson; Hunter Thompson of Leander; Bridgette VanWeezel of Burleson; Chris Winiecki of Largo, Fla.; and first-year students Jamie Balda of Plano; Zach Bowden of Lewisville; Blake Budlong of Lewisville; Mikayla Galloway of Amarillo; Taran Hulsey of Springtown; Janelle Jackson of Wilmington, Mass.; Paige Kloetzer of Deer Park; Zachary Laures of Plano; Rian Morgan of Burleson; Allison Rodarte of El Paso; Brandon Thomas of Colleyville; Ryan Turney of Denton; and Lindsey Wolfe of Keller.

Auditioning for the inaugural all-girl squad were 41 young women. Out of 25 finalists, 14 were selected. The new team includes: Brooklyn Barber from Colleyville; Kelsey Bearden from Sundown; Megan Bickel from Lee's Summit, Mo.; Jessica Castro from Keller; Carli Hinkle from Austin; Morgan McDavid from Southlake; Jessica Northam from Deer Park; Deyanna Porter from Lorton, Va.; Kelice Sanders from The Colony; Jessica Scott from Richardson; Kayla Shea from Colleyville; Amanda Swetman from Round Rock; Addison Weiss from La Grange; and Courtney Williams from The Woodlands.

“This is an exciting time in the Spirit Program as we grow and add back the All-Girl squad,” Bills said. “I am thrilled to get opportunity to work with these student-leaders. Not only are these students incredibly talented cheerleaders, they are going to be great ambassadors for Texas Tech.”

Tryouts consisted of four sections: Spirit and Motion Technique, Standing and Running Tumbling, Stunts and Personal Interview.

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**CONTACT: Bruce Bills, Texas Tech cheer coach, (806) 742-5433 or [bruce.bills@ttu.edu](mailto:bruce.bills@ttu.edu); or Stephanie Rhode, Spirit Program supervisor, (806) 742-5433 or [stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu](mailto:stephanie.rhode@ttu.edu).**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 11, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Student Organizations, Advisors Honored with Awards**

Texas Tech University's annual Student Organization Recognition Awards were announced at the traditional Arbor Day ceremonies.

The Student Organization Recognition Awards recognizes advisors and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the Texas Tech and greater Lubbock community.

Overall Student Organization of the Year is Tech Habitat for Humanity

Organization of the Year:

Academic: Association of Information Technology Professionals

Departmental: National Society of Black Engineers

Fraternity/Sorority: Kappa Delta Chi

Graduate: Association of Biologists

Honorary: Gamma Beta Phi

Multicultural: Hispanic Scholarship Fund

Religious: Catholic Student Association

Residential: Residence Halls Association

Service: Alpha Phi Omega

Special Interest: Knight Raiders

Spirit: High Riders

Sports Club: Tech Judo Club

Overall Most Improved Organization of the Year is RaiderThon.

Outstanding Organization Advisors are:

Academic: Mead Bond Wetherbe, Association for Information Technology Professionals

Departmental: Stephen Bayne, National Society of Black Engineers

Fraternity/ Sorority: Jason Biggs, Interfraternity Council

Honorary: Jerry Hudson, Mass Communications Dean's Student Council

Multicultural: Janie Ramirez, Hispanic Student Society

Residential: Craig Kuehnert, Residence Halls Association

Service: Jon Mark Bernal, Alpha Phi Omega

Sports Club: Mario Pitalua, Tech Judo Club



## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Most Improved Organizations are:

Departmental: Tech Collegiate FFA

Multicultural: Sri Lankan Students Association

Religious: Chi Rho

Criteria for the awards are available [here](#).

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**CONTACT: Elizabeth Massengale, Greek Life and Student Organizations, Center for Campus Life, (806) 742-5433 or [elizabeth.massengale@ttu.edu](mailto:elizabeth.massengale@ttu.edu).**





# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 11, 2012

CONTACT: Clay Fuchs, clay.fuchs@ttu.edu  
(806) 742-2136

### **Former Texas Tech Athlete Competing in Golf Channel's 'Big Break Atlantis'**

A big break may be coming for a former Texas Tech University student athlete.

Gloriana Soto, a former member of the Texas Tech's women's golf team, will be competing on Golf Channel's "Big Break Atlantis," a competition at the Atlantis Paradise Island resort in the Bahamas. Twelve amateur golfers will be competing on the show for a spot to play on the LPGA Tour.

Soto is the first female professional golfer from Costa Rica to compete in the U.S. She was born into a golfing family and started learning from her father and grandfather at age 8.

"Being the first woman professional in Costa Rica for me has been very special," Soto said. "I want to open doors for young aspiring golfers in Costa Rica. I want them to know that it is possible to follow their dreams with golf."

Soto lives her life based on a philosophy of always going with her gut instinct. This philosophy led her to Texas Tech.

"I am a person that goes by feelings," Soto told Golf Channel's Jeremy Friedman. "How I feel. I always trust my gut instinct. Something inside told me Texas Tech was the place to go."

Soto said she was scared about her decision but knew it was the right one. She learned a lot about herself in college including how to thrive under pressure.

"Playing golf at Texas Tech was very beneficial to my golf career," she said. "When I was there we competed against some of the top universities in the country, which helped elevate my game to a new level."

Soto received her bachelor's degree in psychology and a minor in exercise sports science in 2009.

"Texas Tech is by far one of the best universities in the country, with some of the best facilities. As a professional golfer I can now say that I was blessed to play there."

The first episode of “Big Break Atlantis” airs at 9 p.m., Monday (May 14) on the Golf Channel.

For more information about the show click [here](#).

**CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, associate director, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University (806) 742-2270, or [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu)**



# Advisory

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement Schedule**

- WHAT:** A record 3,643 students will graduate during spring graduation and law school hooding ceremonies.
- WHEN:** Friday (May 18): **3 p.m.** College of Arts and Sciences  
**7 p.m.** Graduate School  
Saturday (May 19): **9 a.m.** Whitacre College of Engineering and the Colleges of Education, Architecture, Human Sciences and Visual & Performing Arts  
**1:30 p.m.** The Colleges of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Mass Communications, Honors College, University College and the Rawls College of Business  
**6 p.m.** School of Law hooding ceremony
- WHERE:** All ceremonies will take place at the United Spirit Arena at 18<sup>th</sup> Street and Indiana Avenue.
- EVENT:** Mark Lanier, a 1984 Texas Tech School of Law graduate and benefactor of the Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development wing of the law school, will speak at the Friday ceremonies. He is the founder and lead counsel of the Lanier Law Firm, based in Houston.

Jerry S. Rawls, a 1967 Texas Tech graduate in mechanical engineering, and for whom Texas Tech's College of Business is named, will speak at the Saturday ceremonies. Rawls is the executive chairman of Finisar Corp.

Robert A. Black, Texas Tech School of Law class of 1980, will speak at the Law School hooding. Black is the managing shareholder of the law firm of MehaffyWeber P.C., in Beaumont and the 2011-2012 president of the State Bar of Texas.

Ceremonies can be viewed online at [www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream](http://www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream).

For more about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.

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

Office of Communications and Marketing

**CONTACT: Leslie Cranford, senior editor, Office of Communications and Marketing, (806) 742-2136 or [leslie.cranford@ttu.edu](mailto:leslie.cranford@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 14, 2012

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Human Sciences Professor Receives Fulbright Award**

Texas Tech University Department of Nutrition, Hospitality and Retailing professor Ben Goh was recently awarded the 2012-2013 Fulbright Scholar Program grant to serve as a lecturer at Bangkok University in Thailand.

Goh's project focuses on tourism and hospitality management education in Thailand. While overseas, he will teach financial and operational management in the service industry for graduate students, and innovation and change management in the service industry.

"I am very excited about the opportunity to teach at Bangkok University this fall," he said. "New courses and teaching in a totally different cultural environment will definitely be an interesting experience."

Goh said he chose Thailand because it is one of the top tourist destinations in the world, making his course material highly applicable.

Next fall, roughly 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the citizens of the U.S. and residents of other countries.

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

**CONTACT: Ben Goh, professor, College of Human Sciences, (806) 742-3068 or [ben.goh@ttu.edu](mailto:ben.goh@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 15, 2012

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

### **Astronaut Launches into Space and into Texas Tech Ph.D Program**

The College of Education at Texas Tech University announced a NASA astronaut has been accepted to its doctoral program in education.

Joseph Acaba launched May 14 for a four-month tour of duty aboard the Russian Soyuz TMA-04M spacecraft as part of the team for Mission 31/32 to the International Space Station. He also has been accepted to Texas Tech's new Blended Delivery Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with Specialization in Science Education for the cohort starting this fall.

Follow Acaba's mission via Twitter and a blog both linked to [www.nasa.gov/station](http://www.nasa.gov/station).

Texas Tech Provost Bob Smith was delighted to learn that the College of Education has successfully recruited a second U.S. astronaut to be a Red Raider.

"When we hired our first Red Raider astronaut, Dean Al Sacco Jr., we underestimated the benefits his appointment would bring to Texas Tech," Smith said. "We understand that Dean Sacco did play a role in recruiting astronaut Acaba to Texas Tech. Also, we know that both astronauts Acaba and Sacco have a passion for education of youth in science, engineering and technology. Our collective hope is that our Red Raider astronauts will be reaching greater numbers of young learners as astronaut Acaba joins us and progresses in his program."

Acaba will take classes online in his own personal time after he returns from the mission, said Walter Smith, Helen DeVitt Jones Professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction and advisor for the doctoral program. The nature of the online classes allows for flexibility.

"Joe has outstanding experience as a science teacher and seasoned astronaut," Walter Smith said. "He's joining a cohort of exceptional educators who already possess exemplary science education credentials and will make a difference in the world as a result of their Texas Tech doctorate."

Raised in Anaheim, Calif., Acaba earned a bachelor's in geology from the University of California-Santa Barbara in 1990 and a master's in geology from the University of Arizona in 1992. Acaba was selected as a mission specialist by NASA in 2004 and completed Astronaut Candidate Training in 2006.

Office of Communications and Marketing

Acaba serves in the United States Marine Corps, Reserves, and spent two years in the United States Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. He also was manager of the Caribbean Marine Research Center at Lee Stocking Island in the Exumas, Bahamas.

Juan Munoz, Texas Tech's vice provost for Undergraduate Education, vice president for Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Community Engagement has known Acaba for more than 25 years, as a schoolmate, a U.S. Marine, a teacher, and now NASA astronaut.

"In every aspect of his life, Joe has distinguished himself," Munoz said. "I am not surprised that he has carefully selected Texas Tech to begin this new chapter of his life, at one of the country's great public research universities. We are proud to welcome Joe to Texas Tech, and the Red Raider family."

Acaba's space flight experience includes STS-119 Discovery (March 15-28, 2009), the 125th shuttle flight, the 36th flight of Discovery and the 28th shuttle flight to the International Space Station. He accumulated 12 hours and 57 minutes of extravehicular activities in two spacewalks. STS-119 landed at the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, having traveled 202 orbits and 5.3 million statute miles.

His teaching experience includes one year of high school science at Melbourne High School, Florida and four years of middle school math and science teaching experience at Dunnellon Middle School, Florida.

Acaba is a member of the International Technology Education Association, the Florida Association of Science Teachers, and the Association of Space Explorers.

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

**CONTACT: Walter Smith, professor, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-1998 ext. 446, or [walter.smith@ttu.edu](mailto:walter.smith@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 15, 2012

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

(806) 742-2136

### **Expert: Spring Rain Exactly Right for Planting, Growing in West Texas**

#### **Pitch**

Rain totals look good for agriculture going into late spring and summer, but more will be needed come late June and July, to ensure good yield for fall.

#### **Expert**

Glen Ritchie, assistant professor of crop physiology with joint appointment with Texas AgriLife Research, Department of Plant and Soil Science, (229) 392-8003 (cell), or [glen.ritchie@ttu.edu](mailto:glen.ritchie@ttu.edu).

#### **Talking Points**

- If you look at West Texas Mesonet, rain totals have ranged anywhere from two to eight inches, and even more rain further south toward San Angelo.
- The South Plains is in a lot better shape than in 2011 at this point in time.
- The forecast is for less of a La Niña pattern than last year, which will increase the summer rainfall amounts over what fell last year.

#### **Quotes**

- “Soil can only hold a certain amount of water, so if we get too much, we’ll either have run-off or deep percolation through the soil. So no matter how much we get, we’re going to be limited to how much is actually available to the crop.”
- “As it pertains to crop production for this year, the rain we’ve had means we’re under less pressure to irrigate early on in the season.”
- “For crops like cotton and sorghum, we’re in pretty good shape going into the season, assuming we get seasonable weather from this point forward. Corn is typically a higher user of water, so we have less of a buffer for corn than we do for some of these other crops.”
- “Places that have had six or more inches of water are going to be able to get the crop to flowering stage, then we’re going to need more in order to carry through the season.”
- “Essentially late June throughout July is going to be the best time to receive more rain; but essentially any moisture that we get on irrigated crops is going to take some of the burden off of running irrigation systems, which are really made to supplement rainfall.”





# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 15, 2012

CONTACT: Melanie Hess, [melanie.hess@ttu.edu](mailto:melanie.hess@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Architecture Professor Makes Multidisciplinary Breakthrough**

After studying ancient Islamic architecture and its connection to quasi-crystal patterns established in the 1980s, a Texas Tech University professor found that eight centuries, before its description in the west, ancient designers had unlocked the mysteries of the complicated long-range order of quasi-crystalline formations, which modern science is still struggling to resolve.

Rima Ajouni found that ancient Islamic patterns, developed with a compass and a straight edge, can explain complicated global systems, which scholars have been working to unlock for three decades. She received the Architectural Research Center Consortium New Researcher Award for her multidisciplinary breakthrough.

"In terms of normal periodic symmetry, it is easy to predict the entire global system based on a small portion," Ajouni said. "Because of the idea that inside a crystal atoms have to be ordered in repeating patterns, for example, square patterns have to be periodically repeated so the atom will be exactly the same distances in every order."

Five-fold pentagons don't work the same way. The spacing between some atoms is different than between others. Placing pentagons edge to edge will always render gaps, which should not be there.

In 2007, Ajouni had a revelation inspired by a paper published by Harvard and Princeton University researchers. Investigators had noticed ancient Islamic architecture has a local tiling system similar to quasicrystals, but it did not repeat periodically.

"That's what triggered my interest in quasicrystals," Ajouni said. "Now I've worked with ancient Islamic patterns since 1996, so I understand exactly how they work. The minute that paper said it's a local tiling system, I thought, there's no way. There must be a global system."

Ajouni began analyzing all the patterns, and found the system many researchers had been attempting to understand through complicated mathematics was in fact quite simple to construct.

“That’s what my discovery is,” Ajouni said. “I found the global system that was used to generate these patterns in ancient times and can be used to generate new types of quasi-crystalline symmetries including the famous Penrose patterns. This global system is based on the golden ratio. It’s a multi-level hierarchy system that can easily build infinitive quasiperiodic models.”

“In 1982, science found an unexpected structure in a mix of aluminum and manganese alloys, based on a five-fold and 10-fold symmetry. Until then, this type of structure had never existed before” Ajlouni said. “At least, that’s what science thought, that this was against all laws of nature.”

With her findings published throughout numerous disciplines, Ajouni said she is excited for the huge research field that has been opened up to her.

“The new researcher award is a national honor, and I felt encouraged that this is great research to be pioneering in. This is an interdisciplinary field, so it connects physics, math, history, religion, art, architecture, computer science and more. Hopefully this discovery will even help advance in other fields.”

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

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# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 16, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Announces Spring Commencement**

Two building benefactors will speak at graduation ceremonies.

A record 3,643 students will graduate from Texas Tech University Friday and Saturday (May 18-19) during five ceremonies at the United Spirit Arena.

Ceremonies can be viewed online at [www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream](http://www.commencement.ttu.edu/livestream).

A ceremony for the College of Arts and Sciences will take place at 3 p.m. Friday. The Graduate School ceremony follows at 7 p.m.

Commencement exercises for the Whitacre College of Engineering and the Colleges of Education, Architecture, Human Sciences and Visual & Performing Arts begin at 9 a.m. Saturday.

The Colleges of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources, Mass Communications, Honors College, University College and the Rawls College of Business hold their ceremony at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Mark Lanier, a 1984 Texas Tech School of Law graduate and benefactor of the Mark and Becky Lanier Professional Development wing of the law school, will speak at the Friday ceremonies.

Jerry S. Rawls, a 1967 Texas Tech graduate in mechanical engineering, and for whom Texas Tech's College of Business is named, will speak at the Saturday ceremonies.

The School of Law Hooding Ceremony begins at 6 p.m. Saturday. Robert A. Black, Texas Tech School of Law class of 1980, will speak. Black is the managing shareholder of the law firm of MehaffyWeber P.C., in Beaumont and the 2011-2012 president of the State Bar of Texas.

### **Honored students**

Outstanding students, selected based on all-around achievement, will carry banners representing their respective colleges.

The following students are banner bearers: Laurie Bellah Strebeck, an agricultural communications major from Throckmorton, College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural

Resources; Brenda Berenice Alcantar, an architecture major from El Paso, College of Architecture; Nathan Andrew Wolcott, a classics and philosophy double major from Lubbock, College of Arts and Sciences; Brittany Lane Hoffman from Lubbock, and Abigail Ann Jacobson from Sugar Land, both multidisciplinary studies majors, College of Education; Katherine Jane Albus, a nutritional sciences and dietetics major from Whitharral, College of Human Sciences; Bryan David Munson, an electronic media & communications major from Albuquerque, N.M., College of Mass Communications; Lauren Kathryn Spangler, a music major from Albuquerque, N.M., College of Visual & Performing Arts; Wade Lawrence Jansa, a mechanical engineering major from Garden City, Whitacre College of Engineering; Kelsey Nichole Dunn, an accounting and finance major from Lubbock, Rawls College of Business; Rebecca Sofia Chapman, a doctoral candidate in higher education, from Wichita Falls, Graduate School; Neil R. Hester, a psychology major from Lubbock, Victoria A. Crawford, a nutritional sciences major from San Antonio, and Caroline L. Courtney, double major in honors arts and letters and journalism from Bartlesville, Okla., Honors College; Brenda Vera Grafton McCall, a university studies major from Leander, University College.

The highest ranking May graduates for each college include:

- College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources: John Nolan Duff, an agribusiness major from Levelland; Jerra Fay McMath, an animal science major from Estancia, N.M.; Loni Denise Woolley, an animal science major from Grandview; and Laurie Bellah Strebeck, an agricultural communications major from Throckmorton
- College of Architecture: Brenda Berenice Alcantar, an architecture major from El Paso
- College of Arts & Sciences: Leslie Marie Aguilar, an English major from Abilene; Maria M. Andazola, a psychology major from Tokio; Shane Lawrence Edmonson, a philosophy major from El Paso; Shelby Elizabeth Epperson, a health major from Coppell; Megan Elaine Galindo, a biology major from Monahans; Nicholas Zachary Grimberg, a political Science/Sociology double major from Carrollton; LaTreshia Arieon Hamilton, a psychology major from Houston; Melissa Cary Handley, an exercise and sport sciences major from Round Rock; Todd Paul Hemelstrand, a history major from Amarillo; Jennifer Jasso, a Latin American and Iberian Studies major from Killeen; Sarah Jane Kennedy, a geography major from Tomball; Bryan David Munson, an English major from Albuquerque, N.M.; James Alexander Murchison, a biochemistry major from Lubbock; Thomas Charles Rooklidge, a history major from Flower Mound; Stephen Patrick James Small, an economics major from Orange; Sofia Teresa Symcox, a sociology major from Fort Worth; David Rodolfo Valdes, a biology major from San Antonio; James Oliver Walls, a biology major from Elkhart, Kan.; and Neil R. Hester, a psychology major from Lubbock
- College of Education: Rissé Seye Ashburn of Wolfforth; Breanna Kathleen Daniels of Allen, and Laura Ashley Scarborough of Silverton, Brittany Lane Hoffman from



Lubbock and Abigail Ann Jacobson from Sugar Land, all multidisciplinary studies majors

- College of Human Sciences: Kadee Lynn Albritton, an early childhood major from Colleyville; Jordan Leigh Bice, an early childhood major from Odessa; Mackenzie Leigh Gabel, a nutrition major from Panhandle; Loren Evelyn Lemmon, an early childhood major from Longview; Lisa Christina Lis, an early childhood major from Rowlett; Katherine Michelle Salazar, a human development and family studies major from Houston; Sarah Catherine Taylor, an early childhood major from Midland; Beth Renee Thompson, an interior design major from Christianburg, Va.; and Katherine Jane Albus, a nutritional sciences and dietetics major from Whitharral
- College of Mass Communications: Trevor Mathew Bell, a public relations major from Lubbock; Jennifer Dale Lord, an electronic media & communications major from Lubbock; Kristen Catherine Carr, a public relations major from Colleyville; and Bryan David Munson, an electronic media & communications major from Albuquerque, N.M.
- College of Visual & Performing Arts: Julia Kaye Keller, an art major from San Antonio; Sarah Elizabeth Kyrouac, a dance major from San Antonio; Noemi Margarita Martinez, an art major from Mullin; and Lauren Kathryn Spangler, a music major from Albuquerque, N.M.
- Whitacre College of Engineering: David Russell Bell, a mechanical engineering major from Lewisville; Alan Brian Bullick, an electrical engineering major from Lakeside; Shane Patrick Furlong, a mechanical engineering major from San Antonio; Logan Elliott Walker, an electrical engineering a major from Borger; and Wade Lawrence Jansa, a mechanical engineering major from Garden City
- Rawls College of Business: Stephanie Dawn Auge, an accounting major from Bedford; Bianca Campos, an accounting major from Batesville; SaiprasannaReddy Yarramalla, a business economics major from Plano; Joshua Garrison Schaeper, a management information systems major from Dallas; Christoffer Thomas Moden, a Marketing major from Korlstad, Sweden; and Kelsey Nichole Dunn, an accounting and finance major from Lubbock
- University College: Gita Sri Kant Rao, a university studies major from Plano

For more about commencement, including information on maps, guest seating, college receptions, parking and hotels, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/commencement/>.



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 17, 2012

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

### Expert: Plants May Remember Survival Techniques in Small RNA

#### Pitch

Do your African violets remember when you forget to water them? Does a 100-year-old elm remember how it survived the Dust Bowl on the High Plains of Texas? Researchers at Texas Tech University say yes, and they keep the “memories” of these past experiences in the small RNA in their cells. Survivors then may pass this information on to their offspring. Understanding how plants remember the tough times, such as drought, could help scientists to create more drought- and heat-tolerant crops that can adapt to global climate change.

#### Expert

Chris Rock, associate professor of plant molecular genetics, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3722 ext. 271 or [chris.rock@ttu.edu](mailto:chris.rock@ttu.edu).

#### Talking Points

- While it's true that plants don't have brains or central nervous systems like animals, they do have chemical and electrical signaling abilities. A Venus flytrap signals the trap to close when they feel an insect inside.
- Plants and animals have small RNA contained in their cells. Originally discovered in plant cells in the 1990s and believed to be junk, scientists now believe that RNA in animals and humans plays a role in memory.
- When a plant is stressed, say by too much heat or too little water, the plant's cells must work to keep the plant alive and may modify the cell's metabolism.
- If the plant is successful, these cellular adjustments may be “remembered” by the cell's small RNA, and can be recalled if the same experience should happen again. These experiences may, in turn, be passed down to a plant's progeny.

#### Quotes

- “It's been shown in mammals including humans that small RNAs are really important in functioning of nervous system and particularly brain cells. It's not thought that small RNAs are somehow processing information.”
- “As global climate change becomes a greater issue in the ensuing years, understanding plant memory could become more important. Humans depend on large agricultural industries to feed us, clothe us and drive our economy. A

warmer overall climate could spell disaster not only for the industry, but for human survival as well.”





# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 17, 2012

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

### **Expert: Donna Summer's Last Dance and Legacy Will Live On**

#### **Pitch**

In a career that spanned four decades, Donna Summer proved her music was more than a passing phase. The five time Grammy winner was often known as the "Disco Queen," but also made her presence known in other genres, including gospel, rock, dance and R&B.

#### **Expert**

Rob Weiner, associate librarian and pop culture expert, Texas Tech University Library, (806) 742-2238 ext. 282 office, (806) 780-8775 mobile, or [rob.weiner@ttu.edu](mailto:rob.weiner@ttu.edu).

#### **Talking Points**

- "Love to Love You Baby" released as a 17 minute single, started out controversial because of her breathy moaning and seductive voice, but ultimately skyrocketed her career.
- First female artist with four No. 1 Billboard Hot 100 hits, including "Hot Stuff" and "MacArthur Park"

#### **Quotes**

- "She exuded a youthful presence that the camera loved."
- "Whether you love or hate disco, one cannot argue that Donna Summer had a great set of pipes."





# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Friday, May 18, 2012

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)

### **President Rallo Appointed a Vice Chancellor for Texas Tech University System**

The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents approved today (May 18) the appointment of Joseph C. Rallo, president of Angelo State University, as a vice chancellor for academic affairs. He will begin his duties effective upon the naming of a replacement at Angelo State.

Rallo will oversee system-level strategic planning and help manage the academic profile for each of the system's component institutions, handling initiatives such as accreditation, academic policies and programs, international affairs, and distance education and online learning. He also will coordinate efforts at the system's multiple campuses and academic sites, as well as system expansion.

"Dr. Rallo has made a profound and lasting impact at Angelo State," said Jerry Turner, chairman of the Board of Regents. "We are grateful for his efforts and look forward to his continued contributions to the Texas Tech University System."

"Dr. Rallo has been an exemplary leader at Angelo State," Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance said. "He is an esteemed authority in higher education with more than 30 years of invaluable experience. Dr. Rallo has strengthened the university's academic excellence and helped advance its online learning programs. We are fortunate to have him join us at the system level."

Rallo became president of Angelo State in June 2007. Under his leadership, the university has achieved record enrollment of more than 7,000 students, doubled research expenditures and received prestigious recognition from national and international organizations. Rallo also led Angelo State to become the first Hispanic Serving Institution in the system, and during his tenure, Angelo State was named to *The Princeton Review's* Best Colleges for three consecutive years.

"Angelo State becoming a member of the Texas Tech University System was one of the first milestones I experienced as president," Rallo said. "It has been a pleasure to work with the system over the years, and I am delighted and honored to be making an impact on higher education and multiple universities at this new level."

Holding several academic leadership positions, Rallo previously served as provost and academic vice president at Western Illinois University and dean of the College of

Business & Administration and Graduate School of Business Administration at the University of Colorado-Colorado Springs.

Rallo is a member of numerous academic boards, including the Board of Trustees of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and serves as chair of the Texas Council of Public University Presidents and Chancellors and president of the Texas International Education Consortium.

Rallo earned a bachelor's degree in Russian history from Lafayette College and holds a J.D. from Western New England College and a master's and doctorate in International Relations from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. He served on active duty in the United States Navy and then cross-commissioned to the United States Air Force, with duty assignments in intelligence and logistics. After 27 years of active and reserve service, he retired with the rank of colonel.

The Board of Regents, Rallo and Hance will develop a search process for Angelo State's sixth president.

**CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, associate director, Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 21, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Researchers Discover Antibiotic Residues, Some More than FDA Limits, in Samples from 'World News with Diane Sawyer'**

After testing farm-raised shrimp samples of international origin for ABC's "World News with Diane Sawyer," researchers at Texas Tech University found evidence of antibiotics – one a suspected human carcinogen – in seafood imported into the United States and purchased from grocery store shelves.

Ron Kendall, director of The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) at Texas Tech, said researchers tested only the muscle tissues consumed by people. When concluded, they found that about 10 percent of the 30 samples tested contained evidence of three antibiotics.

Though the sample sizes were small, he said finding antibiotic residues at all is cause for concern. Todd Anderson, a professor of environmental toxicology, and instrument manager QingSong Cai conducted the shrimp analyses.

In the study, researchers discovered the antibiotic nitrofurazone, a probable carcinogen, in two of the samples purchased in New York – one from a farm in India and the other from Thailand. Both samples were 28 and 29 times higher than the amount allowed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The limit is 1 part per billion.

"Finding this particular antibiotic is of great interest, especially considering someone could have been eating an item that would have been banned," Kendall said.

"Nitrofurazone is a genotoxic substance. It can affect the DNA of cells and result in genetic toxicity that can possibly result in cancer. You don't want to ingest it. That's why the FDA has adopted a zero tolerance stance with it."

The antibiotic chloramphenicol showed up in one sample at 150 times the current FDA required detection limits on prohibited antimicrobial agents in seafood. Trace amounts of enrofloxacin showed up in a sample purchased from a store in Washington, D.C.

"With chloramphenicol, 45 parts per billion is considerably higher than the .3 parts per billion," Kendall said. "It's a very powerful, broad spectrum antibiotic. There is a reason why the U.S. FDA and other countries have set a very low tolerance for this product. You shouldn't be consuming this."

ABC contacted TIEHH to test the shrimp about a year after the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) raised serious questions about the safety of imported seafood. In their 51-page report, they cited that half of the seafood imported into the U.S. comes from fish farms, and that these animals, when grown in confined areas, may require antibiotics to treat infections.

The GAO questioned the FDA's oversight program to check for unapproved drug residues in imported seafood samples and called it limited, especially when compared to programs in the European Union.

Samples were purchased from grocery stores in New York, Washington, D.C., Atlanta and Los Angeles.

"These findings were pretty surprising to me," Kendall said. "Considering someone may walk in to a grocery store to buy shrimp to eat, I think that's worth further investigation, and more extensive testing should be done. This was a grab-bag sampling, and we reported what we saw. I don't know yet if it's a greater problem or a lesser problem, but it should be looked into at this point."

See the clip here: <http://abcnews.go.com/WNT/video/imported-shrimp-tested-chemicals-16382541>.

**CONTACT: Ron Kendall, director, TIEHH, Texas Tech University, (806) 885-4567 or [ron.kendall@tiehh.ttu.edu](mailto:ron.kendall@tiehh.ttu.edu); Todd Anderson, professor of environmental toxicology, TIEHH, Texas Tech University, (806) 885-4567 or [todd.anderson@tiehh.ttu.edu](mailto:todd.anderson@tiehh.ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 21, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Receives Grant for Upward Bound**

Program supports first-generation and underserved students getting to college.

Texas Tech University was selected to receive a U.S. Dept. of Education grant in the amount of \$2.5 million during the next five years to help fund the Upward Bound Classic Program under the Division of Institutional Diversity, Equity & Community Engagement.

"We invested a significant amount of time and human capital to insure that our grant application would be highly competitive," said Juan Munoz, vice president of the division. "Clearly, it was. It is also worth noting that Upward Bound remains a specific programmatic criteria, referenced by the Coordinating Board, for being NRUF eligible."

The Upward Bound program has been continuously offered at Texas Tech since 1967.

Upward Bound is designed to provide the skills, tools, and motivation for high school students to enroll and complete college. The local program serves first-generation college-going students in 20 school districts within a 50-mile radius of the Lubbock area. The program is open to high school students who would be first-generation college students from limited-income families, and exhibit a high-level of academic commitment and achievement through their high school course work.

"It takes a strong commitment to succeed in this program," said Jesse Jalomo, managing director for Upward Bound at Texas Tech. "With the skill sets that Upward Bound provides, these students will be successful in post-secondary education. They have a hunger – a strong desire to go and complete a college degree."

The program receives 100 students at a time and exposes them to the collegiate life through college visits and prepares them for the academic rigors of college through tutoring sessions and supplemental instruction in core subjects, as well as enrichment courses.

The grant will help fund various Upward Bound services, including:

- College-prep classes
- Tutoring sessions
- College tours
- Academic advising
- Financial aid advising

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- Career counseling
- Volunteer opportunities

The Texas Tech Upward Bound program also is in competition for two math/science grants in the amount of \$2.25 million per grant.

For more information on Upward Bound, visit <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/upwardbound/>.

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

**CONTACT: Jesse Jalomo, managing director, Upward Bound, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3616 or [jesse.jalomo@ttu.edu](mailto:jesse.jalomo@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 22, 2012

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

**Texas Tech Hosting Native American Summer Bridge Institute**

The summer camp is for students interested in learning more on how to plan for college.

Texas Tech University will host a five-day summer camp for Native American high school students interested in learning more on how to plan for college.

The Native American Summer Bridge Institute (NASBI) is designed for high school students completing the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade this spring. The program is free to all students accepted into the program. Student travel also is paid for. For most students this includes a free flight to Lubbock.

The five-day camp introduces students to college courses, test-taking strategies and campus life activities. All materials and supplies are provided. Students stay at the Texas Tech residence halls and are supervised by Texas Tech staff.

NASBI was established to assist students in preparing for college and understanding college life and expectations. The goal is to provide students with information to assist in their transition from high school to college and graduate school.

According to the National Center for Educational Statistics, the high school graduation rate for Native Americans is 51 percent. Of those, approximately 5 percent proceed directly to four-year colleges and only 10 percent of those students graduate in four years.

To apply for the camp, contact the Texas Tech Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center at 806-742-8681 or visit their website at <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/diversity/NASBI.php>.

**CONTACT: Jobi Martinez, director, Cross-Cultural Academic Advancement Center, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-8682, or [jobi.martinez@ttu.edu](mailto:jobi.martinez@ttu.edu).**

-more-





# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 23, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Rawls College Adds Energy Commerce as Area of Study**

Academic program is announced as self-standing area.

The energy commerce program at Texas Tech University just got a promotion. The program, housed in the Rawls College of Business, is now an official area of study, the Area of Energy Commerce.

"The Rawls energy commerce (EC) program is considered, by industry and universities alike, to be the premier program in the country," said Debbie Laverie, senior associate dean. "Formerly, the program at Oklahoma University was considered the number one program, but our program surpassed it several years ago. Other universities now attempt to emulate our program."

The bump from program to area reflects the fact that the complexity of the industry has expanded far beyond the petroleum land management focus of previous years, said Terry McInturff, area coordinator.

"While oil and gas operations still are our backbone and many of our graduates do become in-house landmen, we are also educating students to enter the industry as energy lenders, gas marketers, commodity traders, energy accountants and alternative energy consultants – the list of opportunities is virtually endless," McInturff said.

Due to the close proximity of Texas Tech to the Permian Basin and the number of students attending the university from families employed in the energy industry, it is vital, he said, that the Rawls College of Business continues to be a leader in the area.

"As the only such program in the state of Texas, our EC program has a unique niche which draws companies such as Chevron, Conoco-Phillips, Exxon and others to recruit at Texas Tech for EC, as well as non-EC majors," McInturff said. "Further cooperation between the Area of Energy Commerce and our Career Management Center will be fruitful for the program and the college."

According to Laverie, the designation shows a commitment to the program by the college to grow it with tenure-track faculty with an increased emphasis on research.

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



**CONTACT: Terry McInturff, area coordinator, Area of Energy Commerce, Rawls College of Business, Texas Tech University, (806) 834-1609 or [t.mcinturff@ttu.edu](mailto:t.mcinturff@ttu.edu); or Kellie Estes, operations director, (806) 834-2046 or [kellie.estes@ttu.edu](mailto:kellie.estes@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 23, 2012

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

### **Texas Tech Welcomes First Class for International MBA**

Executive-style graduate degree focuses on the international energy industry.

After three years of development, Texas Tech University's Rawls College of Business will host its inaugural International MBA cohort May 20-27 in Lubbock.

"Texas Tech's newest graduate degree program builds upon two strengths of the Rawls College – executive-style graduate education and energy-focused education," said Steve Buchheit, international MBA (iMBA) program director.

The 20-month program brings together a diverse group of up-and-coming energy professionals using a week-long residency format. The format allows working professionals to earn a graduate business degree without having to leave their jobs or families. The program also has enabled Texas Tech to attract non-local students to campus.

The iMBA program will use many unique teaching methods, a requirement of the two-year U.S. Department of Education development grant which funds the program. The grant has allowed Rawls College faculty to become Harvard-trained in case-method instruction. In addition, Department of Education funding has brought energy experts to campus for public speaking and to enhance the faculty's industry knowledge.

"For most of our cohort of students, this will be their first exposure to Texas Tech," Buchheit said. "I'm excited about that, because we know something about energy in West Texas. Committing to a 20-month program is a major decision for busy professionals, and word-of-mouth is critical in the energy industry. I see the Rawls iMBA program as a great opportunity to show others why Texas Tech is a great choice for graduate education."

In fewer than two years, the group will complete four residencies in Lubbock and two international residencies. The European and South American stays abroad highlight the global nature of the energy industry from developed- and developing-world perspectives.

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

**CONTACT: Archie Pitsilides, Rawls iMBA administrative director, Rawls College of Business, (806) 834-1827 or [archie.pitsilides@ttu.edu](mailto:archie.pitsilides@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 23, 2012

CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, [jeff.sammons@ttu.edu](mailto:jeff.sammons@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-3451

### **Texas Tech Names 2012 Distinguished Engineering Student**

Texas Tech University's Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering named Daniel Disser the 2012 recipient of the McAuley Distinguished Engineering Student Award.

Provided by members of the Whitacre College of Engineering Dean's Council, this award was established in memory of James A. McAuley, an active member of the Dean's Council and a Texas Tech Distinguished Engineer.

Disser, originally from Montgomery, competed for this honor and was selected because of his outstanding academic achievements, honors, activities, interests and aspirations. He is a May 2012 petroleum engineering graduate with a 3.8 GPA.

Disser serves as the president of the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE), the college's largest student organization. He has worked to increase the number of community service events that SPE participates in from four to six per semester and has implemented a mentoring program for underclassmen. He previously served as the external vice president of SPE and also is a member of the American Association of Drilling Engineers and Ducks Unlimited.

In the summers of 2010 and 2011, Disser worked for Anadarko Petroleum Corp. as a production engineering intern in Vernal, Utah and a completions engineer in Denver.

Before coming to Texas Tech, Disser completed a bachelor of science in corporate communications at the University of Texas at Austin. After completing his degree, he worked at an oil and gas company in Conroe, where enjoyed the technical aspects of his job so much he decided return to school to pursue a degree in petroleum engineering at Texas Tech.

Disser has accepted a job after graduation with Anadarko in The Woodlands, Texas. He will begin work as a drilling engineer at the Eagle Ford Shale play designing well plans and monitoring drilling activities.

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

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**CONTACT: Jeff Sammons, director of marketing, College of Engineering, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3451, or [jeff.sammons@ttu.edu](mailto:jeff.sammons@ttu.edu).**



# Advisory

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 24, 2012

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

**Texas Tech to Host Open House for Master's of Public Administration Program**

WHAT: Open House

WHEN: 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 12

WHERE: Room 107 of Holden Hall on the Texas Tech campus

EVENT: The public can attend an open house to learn more about Texas Tech University's master's of public administration degree.

Programs include health administration, government management, nonprofit management, fiscal administration and policy analysis.

Classes are scheduled once a week in the evenings for ease of attendance while you work. Entrance exams may be waived for applicants with administrative work experience.

Parking is free. To get to Holden Hall, enter Texas Tech from the Broadway entrance and turn right (north) onto Akron. Holden Hall is the building on the left. The parking lot will be the first left. Refreshments will be served.

**CONTACT: Era Ibarra, senior business assistant, Center for Public Service, Department of Political Science, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3125, or [era.ibarra@ttu.edu](mailto:era.ibarra@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 25, 2012

CONTACT: Chris Cook, [chris.cook@ttu.edu](mailto:chris.cook@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech Receives National Research University Designation**

Texas Tech University received official notice today (May 25) from the State Auditor's Office that it has met the necessary criteria and is now eligible to receive a share of the state's National Research University Fund (NRUF).

Inclusion to the fund moves the university a step closer toward its ultimate goal of becoming a nationally competitive research university. In March, Texas Tech President Guy Bailey unveiled a 10-year business plan for the university with the end goal of inclusion in the Association of American Universities (AAU).

"NRUF eligibility is a crucial part of tier one," said Texas Tech President Guy Bailey. "It is a benchmark recognizing the progress toward excellence we have made in recent years. Our faculty, students and staff are to be commended for their efforts in our achieving this designation."

The notification paves the way for additional research funding from NRUF, which could range from \$8-10 million annually, effective in the upcoming fiscal year.

"I am pleased that Texas Tech is being recognized as a nationally competitive and elite academic institution," said Senator Robert Duncan (R-Lubbock), who authored and introduced the legislation. "Texas Tech's administration, faculty and students have worked diligently to meet the high standards required to receive this designation. I am confident that Texas Tech will continue on this path of success to be among the nation's top universities."

Texas Tech is one of seven institutions initially designated by the state legislature in 2009 in an effort to boost the research capacity of the state's public universities. To qualify for NRUF, universities must meet statutory criteria established by the Texas legislature. Of the seven, only Texas Tech and the University of Houston have met the criteria.

"We appreciate Sen. Duncan for his vision and determination to boost the state of Texas as one of the leaders in higher education research in the country," said Texas Tech System Chancellor Kent Hance. "We also want to thank Rep. Dan Branch, Sen. Judith Zaffirini and all the other members of the legislature that worked to make the legislation a reality. Through their efforts, Texas Tech University will continue its ascent as a leader in research."

Office of Communications and Marketing

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# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 25, 2012

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Assistant Professor Elected President of Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers**

Texas Tech University Assistant Professor Marshall Watson recently was elected president of the Society of Petroleum Evaluation Engineers (SPEE).

The organization is a professional association formed in 1962 with the goal of bringing together specialists in the evaluation of petroleum properties. With nine local chapters and 550 members throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe, the SPEE provides educational services to both its members and the oil and gas industry, fosters the spirit of scientific research among its members, and promotes the profession of petroleum evaluation engineering.

"SPEE plans on growing its membership worldwide and to continue in its objectives of promoting the profession, fostering research and disseminating facts pertaining to evaluation," said Watson, who teaches in Texas Tech's Department of Petroleum Engineering. "I am looking forward to a great year for SPEE."

Watson will serve as president for one year, and then move to the position of past-president for a year.

The SPEE has long been a leader in reserves definition and was the catalyst in defining the probable and possible categories. It also has been active on the matters of global significance in the area of petroleum reserves/resources. In the U.S., the society led an effort that resulted in legislation (Texas House Bill 2067) signed by Gov. Rick Perry on May 28, 2011, and most recently Louisiana HB 748 signed this month by Gov. Bobby Jindal, that allows professionally licensed petroleum evaluation engineers from outside the states to legally evaluate the states' properties. Internationally, SPEE is working with the United Nations towards the harmonization of resource terminology.

For more information on the SPEE visit <http://www.spee.org/>.

**CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, associate director, Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-2136, or [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu).**

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# News Release

**NOTE:** Formal opening and ribbon cutting of the Kent R. Hance Chapel will be next month. A tour will be provided to the media at that time. The wedding is not open to the public.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: Saturday, May 26, 2011

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)

**First Wedding to be Held in Hance Chapel**

Texas Tech alumna and future husband will be first to marry in Kent R. Hance Chapel.

Nearly a year after breaking ground, the Kent R. Hance Chapel will host its first wedding today (May 26) on the Texas Tech University campus. Beth Cochran, a graduate of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC), and Daniel Moser will be the first couple to marry in the non-denominational, multifunction chapel.

"Several generations of my family have graduated from Texas Tech, including me," said Cochran, the bride-to-be. "We have a long history of being Red Raiders. This university has meant a lot to me and my family, so it is very special to be getting married on campus and celebrating this day at Texas Tech."

Cochran received her bachelor's degree in human development and family studies from Texas Tech in 2001 and doctor of medicine from TTUHSC in 2008. A native of Lubbock, she met Moser online and they have been together for more than a year and a half. Cochran is a local family practitioner, and both she and Moser reside in Lubbock.

Reservations for the Hance Chapel, which is located between University Avenue and the McKenzie-Merket Alumni Center, started soon after the project was announced. Available to all faiths, the 6,879-square-foot facility will open officially next month and support a broad range of religious and non-religious services, such as weddings, funerals, memorial services and other events.

"It was only a few days after announcing the Hance Chapel before we received our first call to reserve it," said Kym Ruiz, Top Tier events manager. "The Texas Tech McKenzie-Merket & Frazier Alumni Centers host hundreds of weddings on campus each year, and we hope even more will choose to celebrate here now that we have this beautiful chapel."

Designed to complement the Spanish Renaissance style established on campus, the more than \$3 million project has been built primarily with funds provided by Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System.

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Office of Communications and Marketing

“This university is such a special place for me, just as it is for so many of our alumni,” Hance said. “Having this first couple marry in the Hance Chapel is a wonderful feeling. I wish the couple the very best and hope many more will enjoy the chapel like they have.”

With the generosity of Hance and others, including the late Margaret Talkington, no taxpayer money has been used to construct the chapel. Revenues generated by the chapel as well as an endowment set up by private donors are being used to sustain operations.

**CONTACT: Kym Ruiz, events manager, Top Tier, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-3641 ext. 241, [kym.ruiz@ttu.edu](mailto:kym.ruiz@ttu.edu)**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 29, 2012

CONTACT: Rachel Pierce, [rachel.l.pierce@ttu.edu](mailto:rachel.l.pierce@ttu.edu)  
(806) 834-0258

### **Texas Tech Agricultural Economics Professor Receives Highest Faculty Honor** Agricultural Economics Professor Thomas Knight named a Horn Professor

A nationally recognized professor of agricultural economics at Texas Tech University has been appointed a Horn Professor, the highest distinction a faculty member can receive from the university.

Thomas Knight, a professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, was approved by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents last week.

"Horn Professors represent the finest among our faculty and attest to the quality of our academics," said President Guy Bailey. "These individuals are honored for their attainment of national and international distinction and for their research or other scholarly or creative achievements. We value these men and women for their scholarship and their many contributions to Texas Tech."

The Horn Professorship was established in 1966 to recognize scholarly achievement and outstanding service at Texas Tech. The designation is named for Texas Tech's first president, Paul Whitfield Horn. Since the professorship's inception, 82 members of the faculty have been appointed Horn Professors.

"This is not a designation that is awarded lightly," said Provost Bob Smith. "While being recognized primarily for exceptional and sustained research or other creative and scholarly achievement, typically Horn professors are truly integrated scholars, with abilities melding the tripartite mission of teaching, research and service."

Knight joined Texas Tech in 2002. He has been the Emabeth Thompson Professor of Risk Management since 2010 and last year received the President's Academic Achievement Award. Before he joined Texas Tech's faculty, Knight served as assistant, associate and full professor at Texas A&M University. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics from Oklahoma State University, and he received a doctorate in agricultural economics from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

For more information on the Horn Professorship, visit  
[www.provost.ttu.edu/hornprofessors.php](http://www.provost.ttu.edu/hornprofessors.php).

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

**CONTACT: Bob Smith, provost and senior vice president, Texas Tech University,** (806) 742-2184, or [bob.smith@ttu.edu](mailto:bob.smith@ttu.edu).



# News Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: May 29, 2012

CONTACT: Dailey Fuller, [dailey.fuller@ttu.edu](mailto:dailey.fuller@ttu.edu)

### **Search Committee Named for Angelo State University President**

Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance named a search committee today (May 29) to assist in finding the next president of Angelo State University.

"We have an outstanding group of individuals who have been selected to serve on this committee," Hance said. "Their efforts will be vital in helping us select a new president for Angelo State, and I am confident this search will yield the most qualified candidates in the nation."

The eight-member committee is chaired by Mickey L. Long, vice chairman of the Board of Regents and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Carr Scholarship Foundation. Long, a 1976 graduate of Angelo State, is president of Westex/WLP Well Service.

"As an alumnus of Angelo State, it is an honor to lead this committee," Long said. "Angelo State is an evolving university, and we are determined to find the best leader who will continue the institution's tradition of excellence and vision for the future."

The committee will help identify potential candidates, assist with initial screenings of candidates and ensure that their respective constituency groups are kept up-to-date on the progress of the search. Candidate recommendations will be forwarded on to the chancellor. The final selection will be made by the chancellor, who will seek confirmation of his choice by the Board of Regents.

Other members of the search committee are:

- **Leslie M. Mayrand**, Ph.D., RN, CNS – dean of the College of Health & Human Services and professor of Nursing, Angelo State University; San Angelo
- **Nancy Neal** – chairman, Academic, Clinical & Student Affairs Committee, Board of Regents, Texas Tech University System; Lubbock
- **Alvin New** – mayor, City of San Angelo; former CEO of Town & Country Food Stores; Angelo State University alumnus ('85); San Angelo
- **John D. Steinmetz** – vice chairman, Board of Trustees, Carr Scholarship Foundation; member, Board of Regents, Texas Tech University System; Lubbock

- **David J. Tarver**, Ed.D. – professor of Curriculum & Instruction, College of Education, Angelo State University; former president, Faculty Senate, Angelo State University; San Angelo
- **Jorge Velarde** – vice president and CFO, Multi-Chem (a San Angelo-based leader in the energy production chemical industry); San Angelo
- **Suzanne Williams Taylor** (*Ex Officio member*) – student regent, Board of Regents, Texas Tech University System; third-year law student and former student government association president, Texas Tech University; Arlington

Joseph Rallo, Ph.D., who recently was announced as vice chancellor of academic affairs at the Texas Tech University System, will remain president of Angelo State until a replacement is named. A search consultant will be retained to assist with the search committee.

Angelo State was founded in 1928 and is located in San Angelo. The institution enrolls more than 7,000 students and offers undergraduate, master's and doctoral degrees in more than 100 majors and concentrations. Angelo State has five colleges and has been consistently recognized by The Princeton Review as one of the "Best Colleges" in the nation.

**CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, associate vice chancellor, Office of Communications & Marketing, Texas Tech University System, (806) 742-0057, [robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu)**



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 30, 2012

CONTACT: Patrick Gonzales, [patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:patrick.gonzales@ttu.edu)  
(806) 742-2136

### **Texas Tech's Camp L.E.A.D. to Host 50 Students from Dallas, San Antonio Area**

The leadership institute is for rising sophomores, entering their junior year of high school.

For the second straight year, Texas Tech University is hosting high school students from the Dallas and San Antonio areas for the university's leadership institute, Camp L.E.A.D (Leadership Education and Development).

Of the 50 available spots, 39 San Antonio-area students representing 17 schools, and 11 Dallas-area students representing five schools, were chosen out of a pool of applicants to attend the prestigious program June 3-6.

"Camp L.E.A.D. provides high school students with a unique and unforgettable experience, and it is a privilege for Texas Tech to help shape the lives of such a fine group of students," said Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. "Leadership is key to success, and we at Texas Tech believe it is important to mentor future generations in this vital area."

Established in 2011, Camp L.E.A.D. is designed to build the character of each student through engaging lessons that focus on teamwork, effective communication and influencing tactics. The summer program provides students with a foundation for their continued leadership, explorations and development.

Students will participate in a variety of activities during the camp, which include individual personal strengths assessments, lessons on understanding their individual strengths, recognizing the uniqueness of others and group dynamics. The students will also participate in team-building exercises such as a ropes course to enhance the students understanding of trust and unity.

Students also will interact with a specialized instructor and successful business and civic leaders through the duration of the camp. All scheduled activities and lodging for the students are located on the Texas Tech campus, and the associated costs are underwritten by private donations.

The camp will host an appreciation luncheon at noon on June 5 at the Texas Tech Club (West Club Level), with guest speaker Kenneth Wallace, a former Texas Tech football

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player and current assistant superintendent at Galena Park Independent School District in Houston.

The select group of high-achieving students who have been chosen to attend Camp L.E.A.D. are rising sophomores, entering their junior year of high school.

“Congratulations to the top 50 students chosen for the 2012 Camp L.E.A.D. summer program,” said Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director. “This year’s selection process was highly competitive, as we had many outstanding applications submitted. We once again congratulate those who were chosen and look forward to welcoming each of the students to our beautiful campus.”

**CONTACT: Ashley Marie Gonzales, Camp L.E.A.D. director, Texas Tech University, (806) 742-7060 or [ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu](mailto:ashley.gonzales@ttu.edu).**

# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 30, 2012

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

### **Experts Available as 2012 Hurricane Season Begins**

Wind scientists and economist discuss damage and safety.

Hurricane season officially begins Friday (June 1), and forecasters say it is likely to be less active than 2011. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) outlook includes nine to 15 named storms, four to eight hurricanes, of which one to three may be classified as major. The seasonal outlook does not predict how many storms will hit land.

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.

John L. Schroeder (SHRAY-dur), professor of atmospheric science, 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) 742-2813 or [john.schroeder@ttu.edu](mailto:john.schroeder@ttu.edu).**

Bradley Ewing, professor of operations management in the Rawls College of Business, has studied the economic impact of hurricanes and tornadoes for more than 12 years. He can speak to the impact of hurricanes and tornadoes in cities such as Oklahoma City, Corpus Christi, Wilmington, N.C., Miami, and Nashville, Tenn. **Ewing can be reached at (806) 742-3939 or [bradley.ewing@ttu.edu](mailto:bradley.ewing@ttu.edu).**

Daan Liang, assistant professor of construction engineering technology, investigated building damages caused by Hurricane Katrina using satellite images and aerial photos along with ground survey results. Liang has studied how the construction of buildings affects their vulnerability against severe windstorms with various probability models. 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) 742-3538 or [daan.liang@ttu.edu](mailto:daan.liang@ttu.edu).**

Larry Tanner, research associate, 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 was also 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) 742-3476 ext. 336, or [larry.tanner@ttu.edu](mailto:larry.tanner@ttu.edu).**

Ernst Kiesling, professor of civil engineering and executive director of the National Storm Shelter Association, recommends that homeowners who live above the flood plane 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 utilizing 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 National Storm Shelter Association 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 30 years of experience in the design, standards-writing and quality control of storm shelters. **He can be reached at (806) 742-3476, ext. 335 or [ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu](mailto:ernst.kiesling@ttu.edu).**



# News Release

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: May 31, 2012

CONTACT: Robert Giovannetti, [robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu](mailto:robert.giovannetti@ttu.edu)

### **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Students Tour Texas Tech Campus**

Twenty-five eighth-grade students from Our Lady of Perpetual Help (OLPH) Catholic School in Dallas, invited by Texas Tech University System Chancellor Kent Hance, will tour the campus today (May 31) and experience firsthand a sample of college life.

"I recently visited with the eighth-grade class and was extremely impressed with the students' attentiveness and politeness, as well as their positive and engaged attitudes," Hance said. "I personally invited these students to the Texas Tech University campus so our ambassadors could emphasize to these young people that higher education is never out of their reach, and how it can open up a world of opportunity for them."

Students on this trip will not only tour the Texas Tech campus, they will also participate in a mock college class and tour the F. Marie Hall SimLife Center at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. They will also hear from Hance and Juan Muñoz, vice provost for undergraduate education and student affairs and vice president for institutional diversity, equity and community engagement, on the importance of going beyond a high school education and pursuing higher education.

Southwest Airlines donated the airfare to fly the students and their teachers from Dallas to Lubbock, Citibus donated transportation for the students' excursion around town and on campus and United Supermarkets and Fuddruckers are providing meals for the students during their visit.

OLPH Catholic School was established in 1946 in the Love Field neighborhood of Dallas and serves boys and girls in pre-K starting at three years of age through eighth grade. The current student body consists of 190 students. The school has evolved through the years to reflect the changing needs of the church, neighborhood and society. OLPH provides a quality, faith-based education in a safe environment inspiring students to successfully continue their education and become responsible members of the community.

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