



Graduate School Newsletter

Volume 7 Issue 2 Spring 2007

Providing the latest on Texas Tech University graduate education including student, faculty and department news, research, highlights, and philanthropy.

SPRING 2007 ISSUE

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Photo and student information courtesy of Dr. David Haukos, RWFM Department

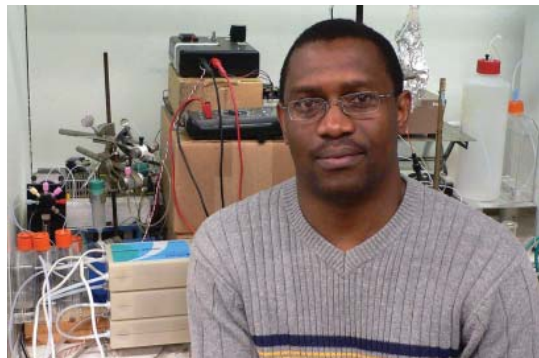
Jena is currently the Wetlands and Waterfowl Biologist for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Lower Rio Grande National Wildlife Refuge Complex near Harlingen, Texas. She is responsible for management and monitoring of numerous wetland tracts within the Lower Rio Grande, Santa Anna, and Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuges. In March

Jena Moon, recent Master's graduate from the Department of Wildlife Science, pictured at left

2007, her project group received the Quality Vegetation Management Project Habitat Award.

Jena received both her B.S. and M.S. from the Department of Range, Wildlife, and Fisheries Management at Texas Tech University. Her M.S. research was part of a collaborated mid-continent effort studying wintering and migration ecology of northern pintails. She has published 3 peer-reviewed papers from her research with several more in preparation. In 2004, Jena was awarded first place in the student presentation contest at the Annual Meeting of The Texas Chapter of The Wildlife Society.

Ademola (David) Idowu, Doctoral Student, Environmental and Analytical Chemistry Bio provided by David Idowu (photo by Donna Rogers)



Doctorate candidate, Ademola David Idowu, is researching high toxicity and widespread occurrence of arsenic in water by identifying ways for effective monitoring, measurement and remediation in water. LEARN MORE <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/research/Idowu-story.php>

From the Dean



John Borrelli, Ph.D., P.E.
Photo courtesy of University Printing

As my time in the Graduate School grows short, I think more and more of things that need to be done. High on my list is to institute a program to educate graduate students and faculty on the responsible conduct of research. At a recent meeting on Graduate Deans of the Big 12, all deans present had as one of their priorities to develop (or expand) a similar program for their campus. A good educational program on the responsible conduct of research will help us to conduct better research, minimize conflict between graduate students and faculty, and help everyone understand professional standards in the conduct of research. Development and

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To view this newsletter on line, please visit: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/docs/news/Sp07nl.pdf>

Helen Jones Foundation Support

The Graduate School wants to express our appreciation to the Helen Jones Foundation for their generous support over the years, including this year. A grant was received this year to increase the existing Helen DeVitt Jones Part-time Graduate Scholarship to further assist our ever-growing graduate part-time student population.

We also received a grant from the Helen Jones Foundation that will be used to assist graduate students across campus with various types of workshops and seminars to meet the dynamic needs of graduate students, especially in regards to professional development.

Wind Science and Engineering - Fujita Scale

information provided by Carol Ann Stanley

The National Weather Service has announced that it plans to implement the Enhanced Fujita Scale, created by researchers in the Texas Tech Wind Science and Engineering Research Center, along with a forum of wind engineers, universities, private companies, government organizations, private sector meteorologists and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration meteorologists from across the country.

The new scale will continue to rate tornadoes from zero to five, but ranges in wind speed will be more accurate with the improved rating scale. The National Weather Service has

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Rawl's College of Business Administration

recruits in India for potential graduate students. **Cindy Barnes**, Director of the Graduate Services Center and **Ajay Kapare**, current MBA student, visited with some 12 institutions and almost 500 students in the Mumbai and Pune in January.

From the Dean [cont'd from front page]

sustaining such a program will not be an easy task, however, I view the development of such a program as part of the ethical obligation of our institution.

The University needs a way to tie the requests for new courses to the resources available in the programs. We have had a significant expansion of our graduate course inventory without any significant increase in resources or changes in existing programs. We cannot dilute the offerings, increase the teaching loads for faculty, teach sections with small numbers of students, and lack critical mass of faculty and students in an academic area if we are to develop programs with regional, national, or international reputations. Yes, we need new courses in certain areas but we also need to eliminate those courses for which there is a lack of demand. Please note that approximately 40% of our graduate courses have class sizes of 9 or less. Academic quality control requires many uncomfortable decisions but it can lead to excellent academic programs.

It has been a rewarding experience working in the Graduate School and I thank everyone for their help and cooperation. The quality of our graduate programs is very good and I am confident we will see our graduate programs grow in size and in quality.

Scholarship Highlight Elo J. and Olga Urbanovsky Fellowship

This fellowship was established in 1979 from the generosity and vision of Horn Professor and Mrs. Elo J. Urbanovsky and Mr. Laurance S. Rockefeller. Former Professor Urbanovsky served for many years as the Chair of the Department of Park Administration and Landscape Architecture at Texas Tech University.



Pictured at left:
Current fellowship recipient, Abhijit Paul, Julie Urbanovsky, and Joe Urbanovsky (Professor Elo Urbanovsky's son)

He implemented the original site planning for the campus and served in numerous positions at Tech and received awards such as Pro Excelsia Et Pontifice (1963) from Pope John XXIII; and the Cornelius Pugsley Bronze Medal for work in conservation and education. He was the Director of the Board of Governors for the National Recreation and Park Association, a Distinguished Fellow in the American Institute of Park Executives, and an honorary member of the Texas Society of Architects.

He was a national leader in public park design and administration. This fellowship represents a commitment of Professor Urbanovsky and Texas Tech University to the professional preparation of administrators, educators and researchers in a field of growing importance, Land-use Planning, Management and Design .

Mr. Strick Watkins, Amarillo, TX, and a 1960 Park Administration alum contributed a memorial donation in honor of his former classmate and friend Mr. Larry Jones.

For more information or to make a donation to this fellowship, please contact Donna Rogers, Development Officer for the Graduate School, (806) 742-2781, ext. 242 or via email donna.rogers@ttu.edu.

approved the EF Scale and expects to have it fully implemented by February 2007.

Kishor Mehta and Jim McDonald, of Texas Tech, led a forum representing Fujita Scale users, including nationally renowned meteorologists and wind engineers that began working to revise the scale in 2001.

Amanda Broome, Doctoral Student, Agronomy

Bio provided by Amanda Broome (photo by Donna Rogers)



NASA research for hydroponically grown onions

Amanda Broome works on a NASA supported research project with Dr. Ellen Peffley, in the Plant and Soil Science Department, to test onion biomass response to environmental parameters set in a growth chamber. The research goal is to recommend appropriate onion cultivars and growth parameters to maximize edible biomass while minimizing astronaut handling of plant

material. Learn more: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/research/Broome-story.php>

Dr. Kishor C. Mehta, may be reached at (806) 742-3479, ext. 323 or via e-mail at kishor.mehta@ttu.edu.

Dr. Jim McDonald, retired chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering, may be reached at (806) 792-8757.

Financial Aid - Graduate students can currently borrow up to \$18,500 annually in federal loan monies and may be eligible for private alternative loans (typically part-time students qualify for this). Limited grant funding is available at the graduate level and is awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Please contact the Office of Financial Aid at (806) 742-3681 to speak with an advisor or visit www.fina.ttu.edu.

Please visit our website for more detailed information regarding scholarship/fellowship contact information, application forms, eligibility requirements, submission information and deadlines: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/Fellowshipttu.php>, or email us at gradfellowships@ttu.edu.

Financial Opportunities

The Graduate School is pleased to offer these noted fellowships and scholarships to Texas Tech University graduate students, with a majority of the awards ranging from \$2,000-\$4,000/year. Two of the awards below are eligible for part-time students to apply - Preston and Ima Smith Scholarship (full and part-time students) and the Helen DeVitt Jones Part-time scholarship. All other fellowships are for full-time students. We disburse awards in the Spring for the upcoming Fall and Spring. Therefore, our next major round of accepting applications will be Spring 2008.

Fellowship/Scholarship

Major/Requirements

American Mexican Friendship - Waterman Scholarship.....	Previous degree from a Mexican Univ.
Cash Family Endowed Fellowship.....	All majors
Covenant Health/Social Services Fellowship.....	Health/Social Services Related Fields
Elo J and Olga Urbanovsky Fellowship.....	Land-Use, Planning, Management and Design
Hazlewood Memorial Fellowship.....	All majors
Helen DeVitt Jones Graduate Fellowship.....	All majors
Helen DeVitt Jones Part-time Scholarship.....	All majors
Horn Professors Graduate Achievement Award.....	Nomination by Thesis/Dis. Director (all majors)
Junction Summer Scholarship.....	All majors
McNair AT&T Graduate Fellowship.....	McNair Scholars
Preston and Ima Smith Graduate Scholarship.....	West Texas Research
AT&T/Chancellor's Fellowship.....	Departmental Nomination (all majors)
Summer Dissertation/Thesis Research Award.....	* See website
Water Conservation Research Scholarship.....	Water Conservation Research
Paul Whitfield Horn Fellowships.....	*See website

Gelin Emergency Loan Fund

Purpose of the Loan Program

The loan program provided by Mr. Gelin is designed to financially help students when they face family emergencies or other unexpected events. The goal of this loan is to provide students with an interest free, quick and easy alternative to the traditional loan process.

Eligibility

The Mr. and Mrs. Carl H. Gelin Loan Fund is available to any graduate student working on a graduate degree or certification program at Texas Tech University. All applicants must be on campus and must be full-time graduate students with a financial need and in good standing with the Graduate School.

Award Amount: \$500 - \$2,500

- Loans of \$500 or less should be paid back within 120 days, at 0% interest, after the loan is received.
- Loans up to \$2,500 - Repayment of these loans typically begins two to three months after the student receives the funds. The loan must be paid back within five (5) years at 0% interest. For additional information, please see the Graduate School website.

Contact Person: Dr. Ralph Ferguson, Associate Dean

For additional information and loan application forms, please visit: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/gelin.htm>

Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week April 9 - 14, 2007

The **Sixth Annual Research Poster Competition** was held on March 22. Our signature event showcases innovative research that is presented locally, regionally, and nationally. Over eighty participants submitted their research posters representing a multitude of academic disciplines across campus. As part of Graduate and Professional Student Appreciation Week, Plains Capital Bank embraced graduate student research and hosted a reception in honor of the participants and judges.

More detailed information regarding the winners of the Research Poster Competition will be forthcoming.

Family Night Out will be held on Saturday, April 14, and is a social event for graduate students and their families. The event provides an opportunity to build a sense of community and cohesion among graduate students. Families will be able to enjoy the entertainment provided by the Science Spectrum. For more details, please contact the Graduate School at 742-2781.

The Graduate School would like to take this opportunity to thank the Helen Jones Foundation and Plains Capital Bank for supporting these events and graduate student research.

Students attending the TLTC Research Poster Design Workshop - highlighted in the right hand column



The Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center (TLTC) and the Graduate School hosted two sessions of the Research Poster Design Workshop in February. Approximately 50 graduate students attended the inaugural event. Mr. Ching Lee, TLTC's Senior PC/ Network Support, administered the two one-hour sessions and provided graduate students with helpful tips for creating and designing research posters.

History Department, *provided by Gretchen Adams, Ph.D.*

Valerie M. McKito, a Ph.D. candidate in History, has been named one of twelve dissertation fellows by the Gilder-Lehrman Institute of American History in New York. This prestigious fellowship in Early American History is awarded annually through a national competition. Ms. McKito is the first winner from Texas Tech University. She will be in residence on her fellowship this summer at the New York Public Library's Special Collections, where she will complete research on her dissertation: "In the Shadow of Victory: Loyalists after the Revolution."

Shadia Mahmoud, a doctoral student in History, has been named a recipient of the Georgia Dingus Scholarship by the International Cultural Center for Spring 2007. Ms. Mahmoud was also awarded an academic scholarship from the Department of History for 2006-07.

Horn Professors Graduate Achievement Award

Wesley Eugene Harvey, MFA Student in Art and **Xiaoping Pan**, Doctoral student in Environmental Toxicology, received the annual Horn Professors Graduate Achievement Award. This award was established by the Paul Whitfield Horn Professors at Texas Tech to recognize and reward outstanding research or creative activity. This cash award was presented during the Faculty Honors Convocation on April 10.

Agricultural and Applied Economics, *photo and student information provided by Dr. Tom Knight*

Divina Gracia P. Rodriguez, who completed her M.S. degree in Agricultural and Applied Economics in December 2006, recently received the Southern Agricultural Economics Association's Outstanding Master's Thesis Award. The award was presented in a ceremony during the SAEA's 2007 annual meeting in Mobile, AL. The SAEA Outstanding Master's Thesis Award is a distinguished award based on the following criteria: (1) relevance of the topic addressed, (2) application of appropriate economic methods, and (3) contribution of the results/methods in advancing the agricultural economics profession. Ms. Rodriguez's thesis, entitled "Impacts of a Poverty Alleviation Program for Coconut Producers in the Philippines: A Panel Data Approach," was supervised by Dr. Roderick M. Rejesus (Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics). Rodriguez's thesis examined the economic impact of a multi-faceted poverty alleviation program specifically designed for low income coconut producers in the Philippines.



Communication Studies Master's Students Active in Research and Teaching, *information provided by Dr. Juliann Scholl, COMS Graduate Director*

Several graduate students from the Department of Communication Studies have exhibited research and teaching excellence. First, in collaboration with **Dr. Narissra Carter**, the following students presented competitive papers at the National Communication Association annual convention in San Antonio, TX, in November: **Melinda Findley, Caroline Huang, and Brandon Stephens**. Also, **Ryan Kinane** chaired a paper panel for the Mass Communication Division. Students planning to present papers at the upcoming annual convention of the Southern States Communication Association in Louisville, KY, are **Ryan Kinane, Traci Prinsen, and Kaci Willis**. These papers are also co-authored with Dr. Carter.

LeAnn Gibson was awarded a TEACH fellowship from the Teaching Learning Technology Center for 2006-2007 academic year. This program is primarily for doctoral students, so this is a noteworthy honor for Ms. Gibson.

English, information provided by Dr. Sean Grass, Associate Professor

Carrie Jerrell's poem "Pig Wrestling," first published in the inaugural issue of *Measure*, has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. She also has five poems forthcoming in *Passages North* as part of its featured contributor segment. Carrie is a doctoral student in English.

Fernando Benavidez, a doctoral student in English, was selected as a 2007 Graduate Student Fellow at the second annual conference of the American Association for Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE) on March 7-11 in Costa Mesa, CA.

Quan Manh Ha, a doctoral student in English, won the prize for Outstanding Presentation at the Southeastern Conference Association for Asian Studies, held in Nashville in January. He won the award for his paper entitled, "An Early Voice of the Vietnamese Diaspora in Vietnamese-American Literature."

Jordan Cofer, a doctoral student in English, will publish "From Dishonor to Glory: Flannery O'Connor's Pauline Allusions in 'Judgment Day'" in the upcoming issue of *Intégrité: A Journal of Faith and Learning*.

Rick Pierce, a doctoral student in English, will publish his poem "My Father Watching Professional Bowling" in an upcoming issue of *Tar River Poetry*.

Human Development and Family Studies, information provided by Caitlin Pause and Luke Dean, Graduate Part-time Instructors and Ph.D. candidates

The Adult Identity Development Project (AIDP), housed in Human Sciences under **Dr. Gwendolyn T. Sorell**, continues to allow graduate students in HDFS opportunities for research, publication and presentation. The current projects include a study on role-related weight identity in morbidly obese women, conducted by **Cat Pausé**. This study, along with the AIDP, was recently mentioned in "Archways" publications. Other projects underway are a study on role-related work and body identity in women who work in the sex industry, conducted by **Danielle SoRelle-Miner**, and a study on the interaction of role-related work and spiritual identity, conducted by **Ron Colwell**. Findings from AIDP studies have been published in many different journals. Ron has recently contributed to articles published in the *Christian Education Journal* and *Developmental Psychology*. Both Ron and Cat will be traveling to Washington, D. C. in March to present the methodology of the AIDP at the "Society for Research on Identity Formation" conference.

In Other News....

2 professors and 3 grad students wrote an article about the CSAR program at Tech. It was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*.

H.H. Cleveland, K.S. Harris, A.K. Baker, R. Herbert, & L.R. Dean. (accepted November 2006, in press) - Characteristics of a Collegiate Recovery Community. *Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment*.

Dr. Bo Cleveland and Dr. Kitty Harris have the green light from a publisher to write a book about TTU's CSAR program.

Grad student **Luke Dean** had an article accepted for publication in the forthcoming March 2007 issue of *Family & Consumer Sciences Research Journal*.

L.R. Dean, J.S. Carroll, & C. Yang. (accepted October 2006 for March 2007, in press). "Materialism, perception of financial problems, and marital satisfaction." *Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal*.



Graduate School Spring Graduation will be held on Friday, May 11, 4:00 p.m., in the United Spirit Arena.

Alumni Highlights, Marriage and Family Therapy Program, *photos and information provided by Dr. Richard Wampler*



Dr. Todd Ephraim, pictured left, a graduate of the MFT Program (1997), has recently been selected as the Chief Executive Officer for the Jewish Family Services of Milwaukee. In his new position, Dr. Ephraim will oversee agency programs providing marriage and family

therapy, services for the elderly, a day care program, programs for exceptional children, refugee resettlement services, and a host of other services to the Milwaukee community.

Ms. Carmen Aguirre, MS, doctoral candidate in Marriage and Family Therapy, has been named as Executive Director of the South Plains Children's Advocacy Center (CAC). CAC provides a variety of services across the South Plains to children who are victims of sexual or physical abuse.



Dr. Dakesa Schooler Piña, pictured right, graduate of the MFT doctoral program (2006), is CAC Director of Clinical Services.

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Suman Ahuja
Kasia Gabka
Catherine Polydore
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Oscar Solis

Newsletter Compilation and Editing
Marlene Kenady
Donna Rogers