



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

College of Agricultural Sciences  
& Natural Resources

Department of Agricultural Education and Communications

Box 42131

Lubbock, TX 79409-2131

P 806.742.2816

F 806.742.2816

[www.aged.ttu.edu](http://www.aged.ttu.edu)

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Undergraduate Students in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications

FROM: Matt Baker, Professor and Chair *Matt Baker*

DATE: February 25, 2008

RE: Advanced Registration: Summer and Fall 2008

I sincerely hope that your Spring semester is off to a terrific start. As a faculty we could not be more delighted with your academic dedication. We truly feel that you are one of the most outstanding groups of undergraduate students to ever go through our department. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of some of the upcoming events related to Summer and Fall semester registration.

**Academic Advisement**

A GROUP academic advising session and Pizza Party will be held on Tuesday evening, March 25 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in AE 206. Attendance at this advisement session is **strongly suggested** due to the fact that we are still two faculty members short. This session is MANDATORY for all students who plan to STUDENT TEACH this upcoming Fall. Fall student teachers with a conflict should contact Dr. Frazee ([steven.fraze@ttu.edu](mailto:steven.fraze@ttu.edu)) or Dr. Burris ([scott.burris@ttu.edu](mailto:scott.burris@ttu.edu)) as soon as possible.

For students who are unable to participate in the Group Advisement Session on March 25, individual one-on-one (faculty-student) academic advisement will be held **Tuesday, March 25 through Monday, March 31 from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm**. As a student in our department, you have been assigned an academic advisor. If you are unsure who your advisor is, stop by AE 103 and ask Irita to provide his/her name for you. If it would be more convenient, you may contact Irita via e-mail ([irita.winn@ttu.edu](mailto:irita.winn@ttu.edu)) or phone (806.742.2816). Each advisor will have a time sheet posted outside his or her office for you to sign up.

A hold has been placed on your records, and you will be unable to register until you have been advised either at the Group Advisement Session or in the one-on-one session mentioned previously. Advanced registration begins on **Tuesday, April 1**. As many of you already know, the **Class Schedules are available on the Web at the following URL** <<http://techsis.admin.ttu.edu/student/>>. PRIOR TO ADVISEMENT, WE WOULD ASK THAT YOU HAVE A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE READY TO PRESENT TO YOUR ADVISOR FOR HIS/HER APPROVAL. All of our degree programs are in the university catalog, available on-line at <[www.ttu.edu](http://www.ttu.edu)>. After registration, remember to check your billing statement on the TechSIS system <<http://techsis.admin.ttu.edu/student/>> for due dates and payment options. It is always disheartening to us when students pre-register for courses and then find out that they have been dropped early in the semester for issues related to payment.

## **Agricultural Communications**

The next administration of the Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation (GSP) Test is scheduled for March 26, in BA LH 222 from 7-9 pm. Practice sessions have been scheduled on February 27, March 5, and March 12; however, you must register on-line prior to attending a practice session. More detail on the exam is available on the following web site < <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/masscom/about/gsp.php> >.

## **Interdisciplinary Agriculture - Teacher Certification**

Before you are allowed to enroll in the professional education courses through the College of Education required in our curriculum (EDSE 4310, EDSE 4322, and EDLL 4382), you **MUST** apply and be admitted into the Teacher Education Program at Texas Tech < [www.educ.ttu.edu](http://www.educ.ttu.edu) > (then "click" on "Current" on the left menu bar, and then "Certification"). If you have not already been admitted into the Teacher Education Program, the earliest that you can begin enrolling in these courses is Spring 2009. The deadline for Spring 2009 admission is September 20, 2008.

Once you begin this sequence of courses, you **MUST** remain enrolled in at least one of these courses **EVERY SEMESTER** (excluding Summer semesters) until you complete the series. If you have a semester in which you cannot enroll in one of the College of Education courses, you must make a petition to the College of Education regarding your circumstance. A denied petition or failure to make the petition will result in your having to **REAPPLY** for admission into the Teacher Education Program the semester before you re-enter the College of Education's course work. For more information, speak to your advisor.

### TE<sub>x</sub>ES Exam

We are encouraging our students to take the state professional development exam, the Texas Examination of Educator Standards (TE<sub>x</sub>ES), at least one semester prior to student teaching (but after you have completed at least one of the College of Education courses referred to above). The next test dates are April 19, June 21, and August 2. Explicit details on exam registration can be found on the following URL < [http://www.educ.ttu.edu/certification/TE<sub>x</sub>ES/barcode\\_procedure.htm](http://www.educ.ttu.edu/certification/TE<sub>x</sub>ES/barcode_procedure.htm) >. Note that you need to register for Test Code 130 – Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities 8-12 **AND** Test Code 172 – Agricultural Science and Technology 6-12. Please check the URL above at least a month and one-half prior to the test date for registration details.

### TE<sub>x</sub>ES Practice Exam – College of Education

The College of Education often purchases practice exams which you can take one or two weeks prior to the official test dates specified above. For registration details on the practice exams, please see the following URL < <http://www.educ.ttu.edu/certification/TE<sub>x</sub>ES/texas.htm> > about one month prior to the official test dates. For more information, contact Mickie Martin or Donna Perry (in the College of Education).

### TE<sub>x</sub>ES Practice Exam – Dr. Frazee

Prior to taking the TeXes, you are encouraged to schedule a study session with Dr. Frazee for a review of both the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibility Exam as well as the Agricultural Science and Technology Exam.

## **Interdisciplinary Agriculture – Agricultural Leadership**

Freshmen and sophomores are encouraged to speak to Drs. Brashears and/or Burris regarding a proposed change in the curriculum. This change, if approved (and we are optimistic that it will be), will go in effect Fall 2008. It will allow students to enter three tracks, one which will include an official academic minor in Animal and Food Science, a second which will include an official academic minor in Agronomy, and a third which is a more general curriculum, providing students a 'cafeteria-style' approach in selecting courses in the agricultural sciences and natural resources to include in the curriculum.

## **Departmental Update**

We are pleased to report that Courtney Meyers, a doctoral student in the Agricultural Education and Communication Department at the University of Florida, will join our faculty as an assistant professor of agricultural communications on August 1, 2008. Presently, Courtney is a graduate research assistant with UF's Scientific Thinking and Educational Partnership Program. Her dissertation research involves examining the use of a persuasive communication theory to frame news relating to agricultural biotechnology. Courtney will teach both undergraduate and graduate courses in agricultural communications. A native of Kansas, Meyers earned a B.S. in Agricultural Communications in 2003 from Kansas State University and a M.S. in Agricultural Education from the University of Arkansas in 2005. Please join me in welcoming Courtney to Texas Tech University.

We are also pleased to announce that Dr. Jonathan Ulmer will join our faculty on June 1, 2008. Dr. Ulmer completed a B.S. from the University of Nebraska in 1997, a M.S. from Oklahoma State University in 2003, and a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in 2005. All three degrees were in Agricultural Education. Dr. Ulmer has been employed as a Professional Development Specialist in Agricultural Education at the University of Missouri for the previous three years. Dr. Ulmer's research is in the areas of teacher cognitive development and the successful induction of preservice and beginning teachers. He will teach undergraduate and graduate courses in agricultural education and leadership. Please join me in welcoming Dr. Jonathan Ulmer to Texas Tech University.

## **Closing Remarks**

I will conclude by saying how fortunate that we feel to have you as a student in our department. If I can ever be of assistance to you, let me know!