The Paul Whitfield Horn Professors at Texas Tech University are proud to announce two recipients of the 2019 Horn Professors Graduate Research Award. Both prizewinners already have engaged in significant research in their respective disciplines, and are notable examples of the excellent scholars being cultivated at Texas Tech. We are excited to recognize their outstanding work.

Yu-Wei Chang, from the Department of Environmental Toxicology, was nominated by Dr. Kamaleshwar Singh. Her national award-winning research focuses on the adverse effects of environmental contaminants in kidney diseases and cancer. Her creative and impressive work not only looks at cause, but it also examines therapy approaches to reduce or prevent the negative effects of certain environmental contaminants. Her ground-breaking research is directly relevant to clinical patient care.

Nancy Dinan, from the Department of English, was nominated by Dr. Katie Cortese. Her first novel, Things You Would Know if You Grew Up Around Here, is under contract with a well-regarded publishing house, Bloomsbury, and is in final publisher edits with a 2020 release. Her first book, which is about the 2015 Texas floods, is just the start. She has two more novel drafts nearing completion, with subtle links to the first book. They explore different plots and feature unique casts. The three-book project is significant because of the unique way it combines journalistic and historical facts with a fictional narrative, focusing on both environment and history, and thereby addressing a global issue, humanity’s stewardship of nature.