A message from Dr. John Schroeder, the new Director of the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center:

“As many of you have heard by now, I have accepted the position to serve as the new Director of the Wind Science and Engineering (WISE) Research Center at Texas Tech University. I will take over for Dr. Andrew Swift, who is moving on to University College to focus on the Texas Wind Energy Institute. He leaves WISE well positioned for success, and we thank him for his outstanding service. For those of you who do not know much about me, I have spent the majority of my career bridging the gap between the atmospheric science and engineering communities in an area best described as wind science. I’m a firm believer in the phrase “you can learn a lot by looking,” so I have spent my career building measurement technologies to make unique atmospheric observations, and then analyzing the collected data to extract new information about the structure of near-surface wind flow. I have always enjoyed field work in thunderstorms and hurricanes, because there are a myriad of logistical concerns to consider. A heightened level of planning is required to execute an experimental plan in a design-level wind event, and you simply cannot afford to miss an opportunity as you may not get another one for many years. In my opinion, WISE has an opportunity to significantly and positively impact society through innovative research, education and outreach focused on all things wind, and I am excited to have a chance to help realize this potential. WISE has always been an inclusive, multidisciplinary center with faculty and students from various disciplines crossing boundaries to collaborate. This culture is not easy to establish within the confines of a university, and WISE has been doing it for 40 years! If longevity is any indication, WISE has been doing some things right! I am excited to serve as the new Director of this unique research center that has contributed so much throughout its history to Texas Tech University, Texas and the nation. I look forward to working with the outstanding faculty, students and staff of WISE to make a difference.”

To see TTU’s official statement: http://today.ttu.edu/2010/06/texas-tech-announces-changes-in-wind-science-and-engineering-research-center-leadership-2/

Dr. Delong Zuo receives award: The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering announced on June 30th that Dr. Delong Zuo is this year’s recipient of the Research Award. The WISE Center would like to congratulate Dr. Zuo on this achievement and wishes him continued luck in all his research.

Send us your news! Have you accomplished or achieved anything lately? Want to share it with your fellow WISE colleagues? Email us at Kelsey.seger@ttu.edu.

NSF Grant awarded to Dr. Daan Liang to study economic resilience of communities after hurricanes: The project titled “Development of a quantitative model for measuring regional economic resilience to hurricanes” was awarded by the NSF to PI Dr. Daan Liang on June 29th and is effective on September 1st. The research project is slated to receive $280,000 in research funds. Several news stories on the research can be seen online: http://today.ttu.edu/2010/06/professor-awarded-nsf-grant-to-study-how-communities-recover-from-hurricanes/ http://www.39online.com/news/sns-ap-tx--texas-tech-hurricanes,0,7041384.story

Co-PI’s on the project include Dr. Bradley Ewing and Dr. Kishor Mehta, who was interviewed by the local Fox news station about the award.

New VORTEX2 video and interview: WISE Ph.D. students Tanya Brown and Rich Krupar were interviewed by the Omaha World-Herald video-journalist for an article and video titled “Supercell Sleuths”. Other participants of the V2 armada were also interviewed and the video gives a great representation of the field work’s scale of research. See it here: http://www.omaha.com/article/20100627/NEWS01/706279915