**Popular Science thinks WISE is Cool!**
In a feature story, Popular Science (August 24th) reports on "The 30 Coolest College Classes in the Country" via a slideshow that includes brief summaries of the programs and links to their websites. The "Ultimate List of All the Great Labs" that PopSci has covered includes the Wind Science and Engineering Research Center at Texas Tech and the Debris Impact Testing Laboratory. The ranked list includes 30 laboratories around the country and WISE’s Debris lab was ranked as Number 7 on the list.

Other ranked labs included the Experimental Mine at Missouri S&T, the National Crash Analysis Center at George Washington University, the Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center at New Mexico Tech, the Subzero Science and Engineering Laboratory at Montana State University, and the Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, among many others. The story can also be seen in this month’s edition of Popular Science Magazine. Check out the story here: [http://www.popsci.com/awesomelabs](http://www.popsci.com/awesomelabs)

---

**Dr. Xinzhong Chen Awarded Grant:** WISE Faculty member Dr. Xinzhong Chen was recently awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation for his study titled “Reliability-based predictions of extreme and fatigue responses of utility-scale wind turbines through advanced modeling and simulations”. The grant totaled $240,474. The WISE Center would like to congratulate Dr. Chen on his recent NSF grant!

---

**Dr. Daan Liang Awarded Grant:** Drs. Daan Liang, Brian Nutter and Mary Baker were awarded $10,000 by the National Science Foundation. The title of the proposal was “RET SUPPLEMENT: Hyperspectral Imagery: A New Frontier for Windstorm Damage Assessment”. Dr. Liang is the PI. Congratulations Drs. Liang, Nutter and Baker!

---

**WISE Alum Dr. Anita Schiller is published again:** Dr. Schiller was recently published in Natural Hazards, the Journal of the International Society for the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Hazards on August 14th. Her article is entitled “The impact of a storm surge on business establishments in the Houston MSA". Read the full text here: [http://www.springerlink.com/content/v4504t026415h574/](http://www.springerlink.com/content/v4504t026415h574/)

Congratulations Dr. Schiller on your recent publication!

---

**WISE Faculty, Staff, and Student BBQ:** All WISE Faculty, Staff, students and their families are invited to attend the Fall BBQ on September 10th, 5pm to 8:30pm at Dr. Mehta’s house. Dr. Mehta is providing the hamburgers and hotdogs. We ask that you help out by bringing other items to share with everyone. Email Kelsey Seger for more details. See you there!

---

**Dr. Michael Giesselmann takes charge:** As of September 1st, WISE Faculty member Dr. Giesselmann started his service as new chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department. Congratulations Dr. Giesselmann!

---

**Happy Labor Day Holiday!**
**Monday, September 6th**

---

**Issue 36, September 2, 2010**