



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

# Wind Science and Engineering Research Center™

Bi-Weekly Newsletter: Faculty, Staff and Ph.D. Student Updates

## Leadership Lubbock visits Reese:

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, Leadership Lubbock visited the facilities at Reese Technology Center. Leadership Lubbock is a Lubbock Chamber of Commerce program focused on providing an outstanding leadership development program to selected community members.

Many thanks to Rich Krupar, Carol Ann Stanley, Todd Reno, Scott Gunter, Jeff Livingston, Wes Burgett, Brian Hirth, Glenn Allen and Kelly Havens for all their help with the tour.



## Mesonet Hazards:

Once again, Wes Burgett experiences West Texas hospitality from the locals at the Turkey, TX, Mesonet station on February 8th.

*Left to right:* Cocoa Puff, Whitey, Little Brown Jug and Grumpy. Wes says, "Whitey tried to eat my windshield wiper". Perhaps he was hungry...



*Photo credit: Wes Burgett*

## **The McDonald-Mehta Lecture Series presents:**

**"Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences at NOAA"**

**By Dr. Jamie Brown Kruse**

**NOAA Chief Economist  
Director, Center for Natural Hazards  
Research at East Carolina University**



**Wednesday, March 2, 2011, from 3:30 p.m. –  
4:30 p.m.**

**(Reception following the seminar)  
Electrical Engineering Building  
Room 217**

### Abstract:

We examine the current state of integration between the physical sciences and the social sciences at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and identify the future challenges that will require a fully integrated approach. Current initiatives for strengthening NOAA science will be discussed and strategies for addressing future needs. The oil spill of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig was a major event that dominated 2010. The federal response to this event will be contrasted with our experience of Hurricane Katrina that affected some of the same Gulf Coast communities.

## Sigma Xi Meeting Scheduled for March:

Sigma Xi will be holding their Induction Banquet on Thursday, March 31 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. in the Sculpture Garden of the TTU Museum. Dr. Barbara Gastel from Texas A & M University will be the guest speaker.

Dr. Gastel is a physician specializing in biomedical writing. She was the recipient of the Sigma Xi's John P. McGovern Science and Society Award in 2010.

Ticket pricing and other details will be announced at a later date.



## WISE Wednesday Update:



Dr. Kevin Mulligan presented at our weekly WISE Wednesday Seminar. Above, he's pictured at the start of his presentation in the lecture room. Also presenting was Joseph Dannemiller, WISE Ph.D. student.

**Thanks to all involved!**

## New Spectromoter Purchase for NSF-funded MRI RAPID research project:

A new spectrometer (ASD FieldSpec ® 3 Max portable Spectroradiometer) was purchased in December 2010 by Drs. Daan Liang (ET), Brian Nutter (ECE), Philip Smith (Env. Toxicology) and Stephen Cox (ET) for use in the NSF-funded project for the MRI RAPID grant. The spectrometer was shipped to Texas Tech in mid-January and is now almost ready for valid measurement after having been calibrated.

The spectrometer is designed to measure the radiance or reflectance from solid, liquid or vegetation surfaces in either indoor or outdoor environments, and will be used to measure the reflectance of oil slicks, man-made structures, and natural materials as ground truth of satellite hyperspectral images. In other words, according to Lin Cong, "the ground measurements are compared with the hyperspectral pixels in satellite images to remotely recognize the material distribution."



(Above) – The new spectrometer can be put into a backpack for field measurement, and is very portable.

### **ATMO Mondays Schedule BA Room 156 at 11:10am**

- February 28**—Jennifer Daniel
- March 7**—Natalie Gusack
- March 14**—Spring Break—no lecture
- March 21**—Steve Cobb  
(NWS-Lubbock)
- March 28**—Erin Kashawlic

**For more info, please contact  
chris.weiss@ttu.edu.**

### **WISE Wednesday Schedule EE room 217 at 3:30pm**

- March 2:**  
McDonald-Mehta Lecture—  
Dr. Jamie Kruse (NOAA)
- March 9**—Dr. Brian Ancell (ATMO)  
- Richard Walker
- March 16**—Spring Break—no lecture
- March 23**—Amber Reynolds  
- State Farm Insurance
- March 30**—Andrew Widmer  
- Richard Krupar



# 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS DAY



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
11:00 AM – 5:00 PM



SCIENCE SPECTRUM  
2579 S. LOOP 289

▪ Meet KBCD meteorologist John Robison

▪ National Weather Service certified Storm Spotter training

▪ See TTU severe thunderstorm research vehicles and mobile Doppler radar

▪ OMNI IMAX presentation of *Storm Chasers*

▪ Hands-on weather experiments and tornado simulator

▪ Door prizes, guided tours of the National Weather Service, and severe weather safety tips



*Thanks to Pat Skinner for the flyer design.*