



WiSE Wednesday Lecture Series Presents: National Wind Institute Technical Staff Panel

PANEL MEMBERS:

Jeff Livingston, Assistant Director of Operations

Jeff originally came to work for TTU's Wind Science and Engineering Dept., now known as the National Wind Institute, in March of 1999. Jeff retired from TTU in June of 2014 and returned to work full time for NWI in July of 2015 (because he just couldn't live without us). Jeff is a Veteran of the United States Air Force, holds a Journeyman Ironworkers card, and also is a FAA Licensed Aircraft Technician.

Wes Burgett, M.S., Research Associate and Operations Manager with the West Texas Mesonet

Wes's duties include: maintaining data flow, instrument repair, communications, station construction, computer support, and maintenance for 110 mesonet stations, 6 SCINTEC SODAR units, one boundary-layer radar profiler, and one atmospheric sounding system. Prior to working for TTU, Wes was a Meteorologist with Aeromet, Inc. on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, Pacific Ocean where he worked with radar focal point for DWSR-93S radar, operational weather forecasting, and ICBM mission forecasting for USAKA (United States Army Kwajalein Atoll).

Miguel Hernandez, Wind and Research Technician

Miguel is currently the Wind and Research technician for the National Wind Institute at Texas Tech University. Miguel has worked for 3 1/2 years on the Scaled Wind Farm Technology (SWiFT) Facility with Sandia National Labs and Group NIRE.

Lee Wilks, Superintendent

Lee came to NWI with a background in the oilfield with Halliburton and Schlumberger. Lee's most recent positions were a trainer, working with employees to meet advancement goals and increase safety within Halliburton. Lee moved to Lubbock 3 yrs. ago following his daughter, a TTU graduate and his son in law. His wife Paula states, "we are going where the grandkids are (3 boys now)." Lee has his associate's degree in petroleum technology from Eastern New Mexico University – Roswell. Lee has been with NWI for about 2 years now and has worked on many projects at Reese Center and in the field helping various Professors. Lee spends his free time riding his Harley, working around the house or playing with the grand kids.

MODERATOR:

Anna Thomas, Ph.D. Associate Director of Operations and is a Research Assistant Professor

In this role, Anna is responsible for multidisciplinary collaborations that support the overall wind enterprise at TTU. She specializes in research proposal development and assists in maintaining relationships regarding wind for TTU. Thomas received her B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies, her M.Ed. in Higher Education and her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at Texas Tech University. Dr. Thomas' passion for multidisciplinary teams is evident through her current work in identifying links between interpersonal and intellectual dimensions in multidisciplinary research work.