The National Wind Institute (NWI) at Texas Tech University has a 40-year history of multidisciplinary research and education in wind science and wind engineering, and maintains a national and international reputation for expertise in wind-related research.

The NWI was established in 1970, following a tornado in Lubbock that caused 26 fatalities and more than $100 million in damages.

Since that time, the NWI has evolved into an institute with over 40 faculty affiliates from 10 different academic departments and employs thirteen professional staff with offices on the main campus and at the Reese Technology Center.

The NWI focuses on multidisciplinary research to mitigate the deleterious effects of windstorms on the built environment, people and their quality of life, and how to utilize the beneficial effects of the wind (e.g. wind energy).

The Institute’s educational focus includes the first Ph.D. program in Wind Science and Engineering in the nation, two Master’s Certificates in Wind Energy, a Bachelor of Science degree in Wind Energy, and other development opportunities to produce a vibrant workforce for the wind industry now and for the future.

From here, it’s possible.
The McDonald-Mehta Lecture Series is named after and funded with the endowment of Dr. Kishor C. Mehta and Dr. James R. McDonald, founding faculty members of the National Wind Institute (NWI) at Texas Tech. The lecture series invites nationally-known scientists and experts in wind-related industries to speak about ongoing research around the world.

Dr. McDonald is a former Professor and Chairman of the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Texas Tech. He specialized in research related to tornado hazards, windborne debris, and the design of buildings and structures to resist extreme windstorms. He has conducted more than 30 years worth of on-site damage documentation and more than a dozen on-site damage documentation studies with the late Dr. Ted Fujita.

Dr. Mehta is a P. W. Horn Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the former Director of the NWI. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineers, and currently serves as Director of Hazard Mitigation and Structural Engineering in the Division of Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation at the National Science Foundation.

**October 22, 2014**
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Civil Engineering - Room 209

*Waves, Surge, and Building Damage during Tropical Cyclones*

**Dr. Andrew Kennedy**

Associate Professor
Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering & Earth Sciences
University of Notre Dame

**October 29, 2014**
3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Civil Engineering - Room 209

*Design and Modeling Challenges for Floating Offshore Wind Turbines*

**Dr. Jason Jonkman**

Senior Engineer
National Wind Technology Center
National Renewable Energy Laboratory