

**Office of the Provost  
Monthly Report to the President  
October 2014**

- **College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources:**
  - CASNR announced the creation of a new Womble Pre-Law Endowed Scholarship. Created by the Dr. Bob and Jean Smith Foundation of Dallas, funds generated by the endowment will be used to assist CASNR students that are interested in going to law school.
  - The Soil Judging Team won first place overall at the Regional Soil Judging Contest held at Texas A&M University-Kingsville.
  - The Red Steagall Endowed Scholarship was established within the Texas Tech Alumni Association. Created by friends of Steagall, funds generated from the endowment will provide scholarships to undergraduate students majoring in CASNR.
  - The livestock judging team captured first place, and three Red Raiders finished in the top 10 individually, at September's National Barrow Show in Austin, Minnesota, considered by many as the "World Series of Swine Shows." The Texas Tech team won the swine evaluation event by four points over second-place Iowa State and also tied for first place in the reasons division.
  
- **College of Arts & Sciences:**
  - Kimi Nakatsukasa received a \$10,000 grant from Language Learning's Small Grant Research Program. This grant will fund her joint project, "Gestures and Acquisition of Prepositions by L2 Learners," which investigates the role of embodiment in the conceptualizations of prepositions by second language learners.
  - John Beusterien received word that the collection "Touching the Ground: Female Footwear in the Early Modern Hispanic World," which he co-edited with Noelia Cirnigliaro of Dartmouth College, will be awarded Best Collaborative Project, 2014, from the Society for the Study of Early Modern Women. "Touching the Ground" is a special issue of the Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies.
  - Christopher Witmore was awarded a National Humanities Center Fellowship for 2014-2015. Witmore will use the fellowship to write his book, "Old Lands: A Chorography of the Eastern Morea, Greece." Witmore was one of 41 Fellows chosen from a group of 362 who applied for academic year 2014-2015.
  - Kimi Nakatsukasa and Shawn Loewen, from Michigan State University, investigated a teacher's use of first language in a Spanish-as-a-foreign-language classroom, especially when the student-teacher interaction is about languages. Their findings, published in the journal Language Teaching Research, showed that the teacher often used the students' first language when talking about vocabulary and grammar.
  - Students and professors in the sport management program, in the Department of Health, Exercise & Sport Management, partnered with Women's Protective

Services of Lubbock to hold a charity golf tournament at the Rawls Course. Their efforts raised more than \$20,000 in sponsorships and donations.

- Tom MacCarone is a member of the astronomy research team that recently discovered the brightest pulsar ever recorded. This pulsar, no bigger than a city, but burning with the intensity of 10 million suns, is a source of super-bright X-rays. Its discovery challenges existing theoretical models that say such intense X-rays are generated only by black holes.
  - Diego Pascual y Cabo was named as 2014-2015 Service-Learning Faculty Fellow by the Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Center at Texas Tech. As a result of his participation in this fellows program, he will include a service learning component into the newly designed SPAN 3315 (Intermediate Conversation for Bilingual Students) course.
  - The Institute of Environmental and Human Health (TIEHH) has received a commitment of support for whitetail deer research from the Texas Deer Association. TIEHH researchers are developing many important projects for the deer industry, including the study of the transmission of insect-borne disease such as epizootic hemorrhagic disease. EHD is an infectious, viral disease that is known to have large scale outbreaks in deer populations.
  - George Asquith, professor and Pevehouse Chair Emeritus in the Department of Geosciences, was awarded Most Influential Professor 2014 by the Edward E. Whitacre Jr. College of Engineering during its recent Honors Convocation.
  - The Department of Mathematics & Statistics has been awarded an NSF Noyce Teacher Scholarship grant of \$799,643 to recruit and prepare secondary STEM teachers.
  - John Schroeder, professor in the Department of Geosciences and principal investigator, will receive \$1.4 million from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a new radar prototype that will provide better measurements of the complex flow conditions in wind plants.
  - Thanks to the strengths of the Department of Political Science, Texas Tech University has been selected by DACOR Bacon House Foundation Education Program as a Foundation School for 2015-2016. This means that DACOR will provide fellowships and scholarships to students interested in the study of international affairs, and in some cases to sons and daughters of Foreign Service families.
  - The Department of Mathematics & Statistics ranks among the Top 25 Mathematics Graduate Programs in the nation, according to Graduate Programs. Program rankings, compiled using data gathered between September 1, 2012 and September 30, 2014, encompass reviews posted at [graduateprograms.com](http://graduateprograms.com) by more than 70,000 students participating in over 1,600 graduate programs nationwide.
- **Rawls College of Business Administration:**
    - In FY 2013-14, the college generated over \$18 million in gifts and pledges, marking the second-highest fundraising year in the college's history. Last year also ranked the college as the highest-earning fundraising college at TTU, a milestone that has not been reached since 2001.

- The college's Undergraduate Services Center, along with Beta Gamma Sigma, hosted a reception recognizing Dean's and President's List honor designees for the spring and summer semesters. In total, there were 1,031 COBA students honored, with 733 making the Dean's List for maintaining a 3.5 GPA and 298 making the President's List for maintaining a 4.0 GPA.
  - As part of an effort to support the college's strategic goal of becoming an internationally recognized institution of thought leadership in business, the college is pleased to announce a newly established position, the Visiting International Scholar, for the 2014-15 Academic Year. Franco Parisi, Ph.D., professor of finance from Santiago, Chile, will serve as the college's inaugural Visiting International Scholar.
  - The Area of Finance was recently reaffirmed by the CFA Institute as a CFA Program Partner, marking the fifth year in a row.
  - A recent article published in the Journal of Real Estate Literature examining the publishing activities of authors across the top three academic real estate journals ranks TTU – specifically faculty members in the Area of Finance – No. 23 in the world, with respect to publications since 2000.
- **College of Education:**
    - This fall, enrollment in the college (1,914) is above the previous high water mark set in the fall of 2012.
    - The Tech Teach 2+1 (hybrid, distance delivered) teacher education program, which began in January of this year, is being implemented in targeted partner districts in three of Texas' population center cities: Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio. In less than a year, TTU has 107 non-resident teacher candidates in this program. With the combination of distance courses and personalized clinical coaching by a district-housed TTU faculty member, this program is the first of its kind in the U.S. Partner districts are very excited about the program and the potential for expansion is limited only by our resources.
    - This fall, the college launched distance-delivered, competency-based graduate certificate courses in STEM, Literacy and School Leadership for teachers and administrators in 18 schools within five school districts in Houston, Dallas and the Lubbock area. The courses utilize iPads and video capture to observe and provide feedback and shaping to move teachers/administrators to masterful implementation of teaching and leadership practices known to increase K-12 student achievement.
- **Whitacre College of Engineering:**
    - Whitacre College of Engineering students now have access to a powerful software tool for geological, engineering and petrophysical analysis, through IHS Petra® software valued at more than \$1.25 million from IHS Inc., the leading source of critical information and insight.
    - Kishor C. Mehta is the recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Jack E. Cermak Medal. He was recognized for outstanding contributions to wind engineering, particularly for systematic studies of structural damage

caused by windstorms and leadership in the development of structural design standards for wind loads.

- **Graduate School:**

- Fall 2014 total graduate enrollment is 5,881, up 8.4% over fall 2013.
- The largest increase was in engineering (increase of 144; 19%), human sciences (increase of 97; 23%), interdisciplinary/grad temp (increase of 83; 19%), and business (increase 74; 11%).
- The fall 2014 total number of international sponsored graduate students is 111, up 33% over fall.
- Dean Mark Sheridan was invited to make a presentation in the “Advocacy Strategies: Graduate Education and the Public Good” session at the Annual Meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools (Dec. 4-6, 2014).
- The Graduate School so far for 2014-2015 has awarded some 431 fellowships totaling \$1,363,003.
- Combined with scholarships and fellowships from all of the other academic units, TTU is providing 3,190 graduate student scholarships/fellowships in the amount of \$4,526,341.

- **Honors College:**

- Costica Bradatan had an article in the NY Times Opinionator “The Wisdom of the Exile” [http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/08/16/the-wisdom-of-the-exile/?\\_php=true&\\_type=blogs&\\_r=0](http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/08/16/the-wisdom-of-the-exile/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=0).
- Keira Williams has been selected as a 2015 Dibner Library Scholar and will be at the Smithsonian in the summer of 2015. This position consists of a residential grant to conduct research in the Special Collections at the Smithsonian Libraries in Washington, DC. The Dibner Library Resident Scholar Program awards generous stipends to individuals working on a topic relating to the history of science and technology who can make substantial use of the Dibner Library’s Special Collections. The award is intended to support Dr. Williams’s research for a book project on the origins of *Wonder Woman*.

- **College of Human Sciences:**

- The Hi-Tech Fashion student organization helped sponsor the “Garment Workers from the Dominican Republic Speak about Human Rights at Work at Texas Tech” lecture. Alta Gracia, the world’s only collegiate apparel factory, in the town of Villa Altagracia, pays their workers three times the local minimum wage in the Dominican Republic Free Trade Zone and is an advocate for worker’s rights.
- A Department of Design research study was judged a winner in the ‘International Research Project’ category for the 2014 Academy Awards, organized by the International Academy of Design and Health, Stockholm. The award was presented at the 10th Design and Health World Congress in Toronto, Canada. The study was conducted by Debajyoti Pati, Michael O’Boyle, Cherif Amor, Jiancheng Hou, Shabboo Valipoor, and Dan Fang, and sponsored by the Sky Factory Foundation.

- Karen Alexander and Cindy Miller launched the 2014-2015 Professional School Counselor Academy Oct. 8-10. The academy is a nine-month professional development experience for secondary school counselors that addresses preparation of student personal graduation plans under House Bill 5, aspects of college and career readiness, integration of career and technical education courses, planning career exploration experiences for their students, and management of local counseling responsibilities. The academy is supported through the AchieveTexas College and Career Initiative, a Texas Education Agency funded project.
  - Jimmy Cheng and Chris Browning won the Academy of Financial Services (AFS) 2014 Best Paper in Financial Planning Award at the AFS annual conference in Nashville, TN. The title of the paper is "The Retirement Consumption Gap: Evidence from the HRS".
- **School of Law:**
    - The school welcomed Wall Street Journal senior energy reporter Russell Gold to kick off the new Energy Law Lecture Series.
    - Texas Tech Law can now boast that it is the only law school in the country to have an entire court teach joint courses.
    - All four justices of the Seventh Court of Appeals, which presides in Amarillo, were appointed as M.D. Anderson visiting professors for the 2014–2015 academic year. The justices follow several other M.D. Anderson visiting professors, including Ann Bright, general counsel for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Judge Jennifer Elrod, United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; and former Texas securities commissioner Denise Crawford. Funding for the professorship is provided through a grant from the M.D. Anderson Foundation, which was established in 1936 by cotton trader and banker Monroe Dunaway Anderson.
- **Library:**
    - Amy Kim had a photograph selected for a juried exhibition at the 2014 Georgetown Art Hop in Georgetown, Texas.
    - Brian Quinn has been appointed to the editorial board of Library Resources & Technical Services, one of the most important journals in the field.
    - Carrye Syma and Rob Weiner’s article, “Library 1100: Information Literacy, Sequential Art and Introduction to Library Research” has been published in the peer-reviewed, open-access journal Interdisciplinary Comics Studies as part of a special issue on comics and post-secondary pedagogy in Image Text.
    - The upcoming issue of Library Hi Tech News, a journal that helps busy professionals stay abreast of current events and developments in the library and information industry, will include Matthew McEniry and Ryan Cassidy’s article, “How the New Generation of Video Game Consoles Have Accelerated the Need to Preserve Digital Content – Part 1”.
    - Kaley Daniel has been invited by PR News Press to publish her article, “Your Channel GPS: Mapping a Channel Plan and Editorial Calendar for Facebook” in its upcoming PR News Social Media Guidebook.

- Ryan Litsey and Kenny Ketner presented Occam's Reader Oct. 15 as part of NISO's (National Information for Standards Organization) webinar "21st Century Resource Sharing: Which Inter-Library Loan Standard Should I Use?"
- **Media & Communication:**
  - The TTU International Film Series partnered this month with both the Presidential Lecture and Performance Series and the School of Art. In the first case, IFS supported Cheech Marin's visit with a repertory screening of his film *Born in East LA*. In the latter, IFS provided support to the visit of experimental filmmaker and artist Lawrence Jordan, currently on-campus as an artist-in-residence. Jordan is visiting several classes, screening films in two public presentations, and providing mentorship to TTU students.
  - The college hosted #NewsTTU, a panel discussion on news consumption by contemporary audiences held in the standing-room-only Red Raider Ballroom on National News Engagement Day. The panel was made up of student and community news leaders and moderated by Dr. Kelly Kaufhold.
  - Erik Bucy gave an invited research lecture on "The Power of Television Images in a Social Media Age: Linking Bio-behavioral and Computational Approaches" to the Jacob Marschak Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Mathematics in the Behavioral Sciences. His talk showed how nonverbal coding of political behavior can be used to predict large-scale social media responses by viewers of televised debates. This study is the first of its kind to show these effects. An article summarizing this research, conducted with Dhavan Shah and colleagues at the University of Wisconsin, will appear in a forthcoming issue of *The ANNALS*.
- **Visual and Performing Arts:**
  - Actor and world renowned Chicano art collector Cheech Marin, opened the 2014-2015 season of the Presidential Lecture & Performance Series on October 3 to a sold out audience
  - Stacey Jocoy chaired and presented at the International Academic Conference on Social Studies in Osaka, Japan. The theme for that portion of the conference was virtual and hybrid teaching environments.
  - John Gilbert performed a guest artist recital and master class at Iowa State University.
  - Trey Davis received the highest award from the American Choral Directors Association.
  - The School of Music presented the first operas ever performed at the Wells Fargo Amphitheatre with their production of Puccini's *Suor Angelica* and Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief*.
  - Christopher Smith's *Dancing at the Crossroads* full-length theatrical dance show was performed at Austin College in Sherman TX, accompanied by a workshop and master-class. Smith also gave a presentation as part of the Open Teaching Concept seminars entitled "Stolen Generations: Recovering First-Peoples Identity in a Post-Colonial World".

- Norman Bert's script St. Joe and the Christmas Gift was accepted for publication by Canyon Voices, an on-line literary journal published by Arizona State University.
- Linda Donahue was accepted into the 2014-15 class of the TTU President's Leadership Initiative.
- Melissa Merz organized the USITT Presents (United States Institute of Theatre Technology) for a special one-day seminar highlighting advanced theatrical makeup techniques. This is the first seminar of its kind in this region of the United States.
- Nicole Wesley performed four works and choreographed on work for "Encore! The Best of Flatlands Dance Theatre!" at the Louise Hopkins Underwood Center for the Arts. She directed the 2014 COCO Dance Festival in Port of Spain, Trinidad with eight dance students. The TTU students performed Punchline, an original choreographic work by Genevieve Durham DeCesaro. She was highlighted in the international magazine, Caribbean Beat. It is one of the largest Caribbean magazines in the region.
- **Division of Undergraduate Education & Student Affairs:**
  - Year to date, the Center for Active Learning and Undergraduate Engagement (CALUE) has distributed \$13,470 in undergraduate research travel funds and \$19,860 to fund undergraduate research projects.
  - From the Center for Campus Life, the Panhellenic Council hosted three national organizations to present on the Texas Tech campus as possible expansion organizations. This will be the first time the sororities at TTU have expanded since 1987.
  - Parent & Family Relations, in collaboration with the Texas Tech Parents Association, hosted Family Weekend October 10-11, 2014. Over the course of the weekend, more than 700 parents and family members took part in the different events.
  - The Daily Toreador received five Gold Circle Awards in the Columbia Scholastic Press Association's 2014 national competition.
  - The Learning Center has met with 8,475 students to further assist in academic coaching or tutoring.
  - The annual Major & Minors, held October 29, gives students the chance to explore majors & minors, career opportunities, meet with professors, and advisors from 60 departments across campus. Over 500 students are expected to attend.