

# Landmarks

THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Volume 27, Issue 2, 2012

*“Growing up on a dry-land cotton farm, I developed an appreciation for the fact that there was a better way to make a living.”*

Jim Graham

*Finding a Better Way*



# Landmarks

THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND NATURAL RESOURCES

PERSPECTIVES



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Michael Galyean  
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Back in 1992 when presidential candidate Bill Clinton was early into his campaign, it is said that one of his advisors, James Carville, coined the term “The economy, stupid” to remind everyone on the campaign staff about what their focus should be. In the same way, the arrival of the fall semester on the Texas Tech campus serves as a reminder to me that it’s all about our students (i.e., “The students, stupid”). They are everywhere this time of year! With a logarithmic increase in pedestrian traffic, driving on campus becomes a real challenge. Restaurants and stores all over Lubbock are filled with them. There’s a sense of new beginnings that makes everyone feel good, coupled with a bit of frustration that commute times are longer and everything is much busier than it was during the long, quiet summer. Regardless of the feelings that accompany their arrival, they are indeed back – and given that they really are what universities are all about, it’s good to have them back.

Our College has been fortunate to experience significant growth in student numbers over the past several years, with our Fall 2011 enrollment of 1,874 undergraduate and graduate students being the largest in history. As of press time, our preliminary enrollment for Fall 2012 is 1,856 students. The slight decrease from last year is a result of lower graduate student numbers associated with cuts in state and federal funds for research. Despite the fact that our Fall 2011 enrollment was far less than that of our in-state rival Texas A&M (7,099 students in Agriculture and Life Sciences), we are comparably sized to Colorado State (1,475) and New Mexico State (2,033), and not far from several regional large land grant universities like Kansas State (2,866), Nebraska (2,533), and Oklahoma State (2,514). Our enrollment growth in recent years can be attributed, in large measure, to the outstanding recruiting efforts of the staff of the Dr. Bill Bennett Student Success Center under the supervision of Associate Dean Cindy Akers and to aggressive departmental recruiting efforts through the state and region.

In addition to strong recruiting efforts, CASNR scholarship endowments give us a huge advantage in attracting top-quality students to our programs. We distributed approximately \$1.3 million in scholarship funds last year, and almost 40 percent of CASNR students receive scholarship funding. Thanks to the generosity of our scholarship donors and the fine work of Jane Piercy and the college Development Office staff, the funds we are able to distribute far exceeds (from 1.5 to 3X) that of our regional land grant “competitors.”

Over the past year, I have had many opportunities to interact with our CASNR students, both undergraduate and graduate. I know that many people are worried about the future of agriculture and our country in general, and it’s easy to think that young people today are “just not what they used to be.” My message is – don’t worry. These young people are bright, articulate, and know the value of hard work. Indeed, if our students in CASNR are a representative sample of students around the U.S., agriculture and the country are going to be in good hands for the future.

Thanks for your continuing support of our work in CASNR. I hope you will enjoy this issue of *Landmarks*. It’s a great opportunity to learn more about our fine students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

## STAY CONNECTED!



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Tracee Murph, Coordinator of Alumni Relations

Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to visit with many alumni; whether at events, through phone calls or email, or just someone dropping by my office. I have very much enjoyed getting to know them, and look forward to meeting even more alumni along the way.

The visits have re-instilled in me something that I learned as an undergraduate in the college, and something that encouraged me to continue my career here. That is that CASNR has the best alumni. Each semester we gain new graduates that go on to find careers in a variety of fields. These alumni make us so proud by becoming outstanding leaders working to make strides that impact their communities, states, the nation, and the world.

We feature two such alumni in this issue. Their accomplishments are only a small taste of the legacy CASNR alumni, young and old, have created. I hope each of you find enjoyment, inspiration, and maybe even a little bit of yourselves in their stories.

You are creating your own legacy and making your alma mater proud. As alumni, your support and involvement has shaped the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources to what it is today and, along each step of the way, you are paving the path for generations to come. I hope you continue to connect with us and stay involved with the college. Feel free to visit the college any time and join us at events throughout the year.

*Tracee*



From Left: Becky Bram, Coordinator of College Development; Jane Piercy, Director of Development and External Relations; Bryce White, Student Assistant; Zachary Pena, Senior Business Assistant; Tracee Murph, Coordinator of Alumni Relations

This summer we welcomed two new members to our team. Zachary Pena started as our new Senior Business Assistant in July. Zach comes to us from Texas Tech University System Institutional Advancement where he worked in Financial Services. He is the first line of contact for our office, and many of you will hear from him as he schedules appointments or you RSVP to events.

We also hired a new Student Assistant in July. Bryce White is a sophomore Pre Vet major from Lubbock. He helps keep our office running behind the scenes, and is a vital source of support. You may see him at many of our events. Please don't hesitate to talk to either of these guys if you need anything.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HOMECOMING BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 13, 2012, 8:00 a.m.

Student Union Building Red Raider Ballroom

### 85TH ANNUAL PIG ROAST

#### AND OUTSTANDING AGRICULTURALIST AWARDS

Thursday, November 8, 2012, Lubbock Memorial Civic Center

Dean's Reception, 5:30 p.m. – Mezzanine

Dinner and Awards, 6:30 p.m. – Banquet Hall

### DISTINGUISHED AND YOUNG ALUMNI AWARDS

February 2013

### 50TH+ CLASS REUNION

May 2013

## TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM \$1 BILLION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN SURPASSES \$900 MILLION MARK

# Vision & Tradition

## THE CAMPAIGN FOR TEXAS TECH™

Vision and Tradition: The Campaign for Texas Tech has surpassed \$900 million as funds are raised toward its \$1 billion goal. Already surpassing gifts raised from previous campaigns, the Vision & Tradition capital campaign is easily the most successful and largest fundraising effort in the history of the Texas Tech University System.

"We are so close to reaching our \$1 billion goal," said Dr. Kelly Overley, vice chancellor and chief operating officer of the Texas Tech Foundation, Inc. "We are confident we can celebrate its completion before our anticipated deadline."

"Our alumni and friends have a longstanding history of generosity when it comes to supporting the universities of the Texas Tech University System," said Kent Hance, chancellor of the Texas Tech University System. "This tradition has continued and helped make a tremendous impact during a time when many other institutions' fundraising efforts have diminished due to a declined economy."

The capital campaign, which includes Texas Tech University, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center and Angelo State University, is one of 14 billion-dollar campaigns being currently conducted at higher education institutions in the country. Publically announced in September 2010, the Vision & Tradition capital campaign is scheduled to end in August 2013.

"The entire development team has done an outstanding job engaging our donors," said Ed Whitacre, co-chairman of Vision and Tradition: The Campaign for Texas Tech. "The success of this campaign is due to the professional staff who work tirelessly to further the Texas Tech University System."

Some of the areas that are being funded through this capital campaign are student scholarships and fellowships that will reward academic accomplishment and encourage diversity; faculty support through establishing endowments that attract world-class scholars who excel in teaching and research; and facility enhancements by building spaces where students and faculty can learn, discover and compete.

Facilities such as the Jones AT&T Stadium, Jerry S. Rawls College of Business Administration, United Commons at the new residential hall off Boston Avenue and the new clinical simulation center in Odessa are a few examples where the component institutions are already benefiting from the capital campaign.

"We are less than \$100 million away from the most ambitious campaign in our history," said Hance. "We hope our donors will continue to come together to make this dream a reality."



## TEXAS TECH RECEIVES NATIONAL RESEARCH UNIVERSITY DESIGNATION

Texas Tech received official notice from the Start Auditor's Office in May that it met the necessary criteria and is now eligible to receive a share of the state's National Research University Fund (NRUF). The notification paves the way for additional research funding from NRUF, which could range from \$8-10 million annually.

In March, President Guy Bailey unveiled a 10-year business plan for the University with the end goal of inclusion in the Association of American Universities. Inclusion to the fun moves Tech a step closer toward the goal of becoming a nationally competitive research university.

Texas Tech is one of seven institutions initially designated by the state legislature in 2009 in an effort to boost the research capacity of the state's public universities. Of the seven, only Tech and the University of Houston have met the criteria.





UGANDA



KATWE VILLAGE



SALT LAKE - KASESE, UGANDA



SAFARI TOUR - QUEEN ELIZABETH NATIONAL PARK, UGANDA



UGANDA

# GRADUATE STUDENT STUDIES AROUND THE WORLD

BY LAURA GUTSCHKE

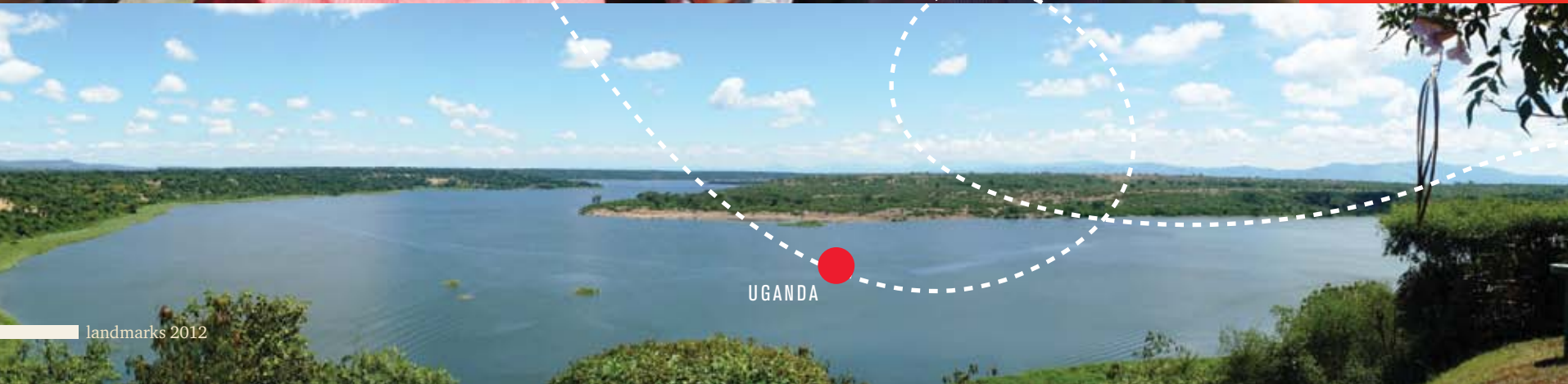
**TOMAS RESENDIZ** ('09 BS Agricultural and Applied Economics) earned more than a degree from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR). He gained a passport to the world – literally.

The Petersburg, Texas, native currently is in Uganda in the Peace Corps Master's International program on scholarship from the United States Department of Agriculture. Upon completing the program, he will earn a master's degree from CASNR.

Resendiz also studied abroad in South Korea his senior year and Brazil at the start of his master's program. During his sophomore year, he was a CASNR Washington D.C. congressional intern, first unpaid and later paid as a liaison for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

The fifth of six children and the first in his family to attend college, Resendiz has done more than focus on bettering just himself. He served as a CASNR community advisor in Stangel/Murdough Dormitory, organized a fund-raiser for Ronald McDonald House and worked at a day care as part of AmeriCorps. While in Brazil, he joined a fellow student in raising funds for a clinic serving poor and disabled children.

In seven short years, Resendiz has gained a plethora of world experiences. Following are excerpts of a Q-and-A with Resendiz via e-mail while in Uganda.



UGANDA



KATWE TOURISM INFORMATION CENTER





**Q: Did you have global interests in high school?**

I would love to be able to describe how I was a very active high school student with the highest interests in international affairs and global issues. However, nothing would be further from the truth. The truth is I was a below average kid until my senior year. I had no intention, motivation, encouragement and, especially, financial resources to afford such “dreams.”

**Q: At Texas Tech you became involved in volunteer work. Why is community service important and rewarding to you?**

Community service was a way for me to pay-it-forward. I was helped – and at times mentored – by Dr. Norman Hopper (recently retired from the CASNR), who at the time was dean of students. Without him I honestly believe I would have never made it through my first year, or even to Texas Tech at all. Given his generosity and a much easier sophomore year, I had time to do things to kind of show my gratitude, but not to anyone in particular because it was a personal fulfillment kind of thing, since most people didn’t know what I was doing.

**Q: How was Dr. Hopper a positive influence?**

He took a chance on a poor, not-so-bright high school student from a very small West Texas town. Ultimately, even to this day I am not sure of why he did it. Perhaps it was because he was also from that small town or because my father worked for his brother as a tenant farmer. Maybe he saw something in me that I didn’t. Whatever the case, that gesture of his, along with his constant advice, really made a great impact.

**Q: What were some of your congressional intern duties?**

I had to do what all interns do – forward mail, answer phones, get coffee, etc. Nevertheless, given that prior to that the only jobs I knew involved heavy manual labor with long hours, that was such a cushy job for me. At times I could not believe how people could get paid so much money for doing such things. A few months in I was asked to be the Congressional Hispanic Caucus liaison for Rep. Henry Cuellar. This position and the guidance of (Rep. Cuellar’s) Chief of Staff Terry Stinson introduced me to the wonderful world of networking.

**Q: What were some of those manual labor jobs?**

My first job ever was hoeing cotton every summer. I also worked in factories. During my freshman year, I had to work as a forklift driver and did some part-time custom work, usually involving welding, woodworking and gardening. Most of those jobs required long hours for little pay.

**Q: When you think about your time in D.C., what is the one word that comes to mind? Why?**

“Opportunity” – the reason being that it did provide many for me. Congressman Cuellar’s office was one that rewarded hard work and determination with increase in responsibility, and it pushed me to limits and places I never knew I could reach.

**Q: What prompted you to study in Korea your senior year?**

I believe from my first classes at Texas Tech, when I learned about the wonderful world of “study abroad,” the idea grew in my head. As I took some animal science and economic classes, I learned of the rising Asian Tigers and there increased influence in globalization, specifically within the agricultural sector.

**Q: How were your experiences in Korea?**

Academically, Korea was much more intense. I took 27 credit hours – many business classes mixed with some final fine arts credits. Korea University was one of the top three in the country. The business school where I studied was ranked No. 1 at the time of my attendance. Socializing in Korea was undoubtedly the best part of my time there. The culture was so different and the people so welcoming that I fell in love with that country almost immediately. One of the things often discussed by other U.S. students was the erroneous way we look at patriotism. Those people that say you cannot love another country other than your own have probably never been abroad. The world is full of wonder and beauty that should not be pinned against each other, but rather enjoyed for its uniqueness.

**Q: You were accepted into law school but instead chose to pursue a Peace Corps Master’s International degree. Why?**

I ask myself this question almost every day. Just kidding. The answer is quite simple – this is the program that Dr. Hopper ran. It was also a program that had little-to-no new participants as far as I knew. I felt that since Dr. Hopper made the program, it must be a good one; it just needed someone to come in and optimize all the great possibilities that came with it.

**Q: What attracted you to studying in Brazil and taking courses in Portuguese?**

After my year in Korea, I felt compelled to go abroad again. Learning Portuguese was tedious and very rewarding. The best part of learning that language was that I was in Brazil while doing it. I found it a bit challenging, but my fluency in Spanish facilitated things for me.

**Q: Describe the fund-raising project in Brazil. Why did you do that?**

Bailey Rose Eiland (another CASNR exchange student) was made aware of that clinic through her host family and wanted to visit it. Given that we shared that eagerness of doing something memorable before leaving, we went together. After one visit we both agreed that we would do a fund-raiser for those kids, and in a few short weeks we had collected enough money to buy 422 toys for those disabled children.

**Q: How did you raise the money?**

I raised money by calling home and sending e-mails to old acquaintances. Ultimately, I also put money of my own into this project.

**Q: Describe your Peace Corps program.**

The Peace Corps program I am in is Economic Development. I was sent to a small village inside Queen Elizabeth National Park to work with a small community-based organization that deals with tourism.

**Q: Did you choose Uganda? How long will you be there?**

I did not pick Uganda or even the continent of Africa. Peace Corps assigns you where to go. The assignments are for 27 months.

**Q: What are your day-to-day responsibilities in Uganda?**

I work with my organization personnel and train them to become more efficient, professional and technologically literate. This is a full-time job, but they are picking things up with ease. My day consists of writing grant proposals, creating new businesses to increase income for my organization and designing projects that will help the community.

**Q: Uganda has been in the news recently because of unrest in neighboring Congo (DRC) and a new Ebola outbreak. How do you cope with such risks?**

It’s not something that crosses my mind every day. I really try not to live in fear of things I cannot control. There are plenty of things that are more dangerous than Ebola or a Congolese militia attack. I live about 22 kilometers from Bwera, which is a border city with the DRC. I have been to that city several times during my projects and have never run into any trouble. However, I also live within a national park, meaning that the lions that roam around are not enclosed in cages, nor are the green mambas, cobras, pythons or crocodiles that have already taken the lives of four villagers. Don’t get me wrong – I definitely don’t live in constant fear of these things. I have been advised by the locals on how to avoid these dangers so that I now naturally and subconsciously avoid having any close calls.

**Q: Despite the turmoil impacting Uganda, the country is blessed with beautiful national parks. Have you been able to enjoy the sights?**

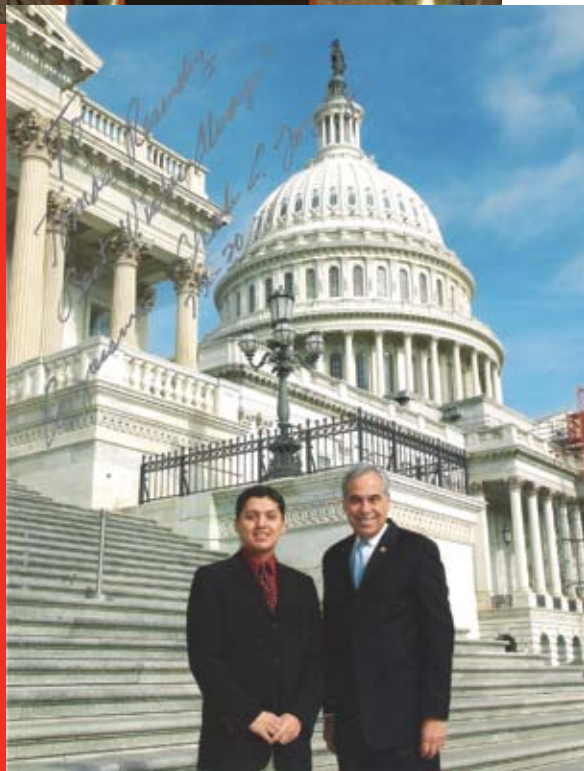
During the beginning of my project I was working with USAID-STAR (a program of the United States Agency for International Development) to help promote national parks in the Albertine Rift, along with community tourism. So, I was able to see for free many different, wonderful wildlife not only in Queen Elizabeth, but other parks as well. My newly built home (in Queen Elizabeth National Park) faces true north overlooking crater lakes and the bird sanctuary Lake Munyan-yange. At a distance I see the Rwenzori Mountains. Every night I hear hippos walking past my house, and I see elephants almost every day walking across the street. Warthogs are around like dogs in the streets.

**Q: What are your long-term career goals?**

I would like to make my way to the U.S. Department of State. My ultimate goal is to either make it to U.S. secretary of state or U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. After that, I would do as most politicians after service – become a traveling guest professor at different institutions around the world.

**Q: How have your CASNR studies been a springboard for international experiences most people don’t have in a lifetime?**

That is where everything began. Through the mentoring of my advisors and some professors I was able to push semester by semester. No matter how crazy my ideas of traveling and working were, they helped me find a way to tie it all to my studies to gain course credit and ultimately my degrees. For many people Texas Tech’s “From Here, It’s Possible” is just a slogan. I guess I took it as more of a challenge. So to whomever came up with that, all I have to say is, “Touché good sir, touché.”





# *Looking for a* BETTER WAY

Alum Jim Graham's Career

Fosters Improved

Ag Production



## James (Jim) C. Graham's career has come full circle.

Before Graham ('63 BS Agricultural Science) joined Monsanto in 1966 as a research specialist, he worked on cotton-related projects at the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station (today the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center) in Lubbock as an undergraduate at Texas Tech University.

At Monsanto, Graham advanced from researcher to field developer to manager. He has been involved in the technical development and sales support of the herbicides Lasso and Roundup on the East Coast, directed researchers and other company personnel in the United States, Canada, Asia, South America and Western Europe, and ran the licensing program for fungicides and herbicides.

Graham officially retired in 1999, but he continues to research part-time at company headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, where he and his wife Rachel reside today.

"It's very rewarding that Monsanto allows retirees to continue to bring back their skills to the company on research projects," Graham said.

One of those projects in the last six years has Graham once again working with a team at the AgriLife Research Center on a cotton-related project. He makes four or five trips to Lubbock each growing season to monitor fields involved in studies to improve water-use efficiency of cotton.

"The precious resource we have in not only the Ogallala Aquifer but the many other limited groundwater sources must be managed long-term so that farming – so critical to the area – can continue to be profitable," Graham said.

By Laura Gutschke | Photos by Leslie Kitten, Savant Photographic Artistry





## Fostering Research Interest

Graham's appreciation for water stewardship is innate. He was raised on a small cotton, grain sorghum and cattle farm near Ashtola, about 55 miles southeast of Amarillo.

"Growing up on a dry-land cotton farm, I developed an appreciation for the fact that there was a better way to make a living," Graham said.

He initially enrolled at nearby Clarendon Junior College before following his older brother W.D. (Doyce) Graham to Texas Tech. Doyce earned MS and Ph.D. degrees from Purdue and spent his career at Clemson as Small Grains breeder. A younger brother M.C. (Mike) Graham is a Texas Tech graduate in business.

Graham's most influential experience at the College of Agricultural and Natural Resources was working with the faculty at the AgriLife Research Center.

"Even though I was just a college student working in the field and doing small things in the lab, I was able to work with different academic researchers and see how teaching in the classroom related to practical research," Graham said. "I developed an appreciation for the process of transferring technology from the lab to application on the farm. I saw how it really worked, and it drove me to want to go to graduate school."

Graham earned his master's and doctoral degrees in agronomy from the University of Wisconsin, where he was encouraged by Monsanto representative Ralph Althaus to become a researcher with the company. Before completing his Ph.D. studies in 1967, Graham began work as a Monsanto research specialist in St. Louis.

While at Wisconsin, Graham met another important person in the agronomy department – Rachel, who worked as an administrative assistant. The two married in September 1964 and eventually had two sons.

"She has been a wonderful partner who raised the family and traveled with me around the country and the world," Graham said.

At Monsanto, Graham started a plant growth regulator program that focused on drought stress and yield in corn and soybeans. For six years, his work focused on improving water efficiency through chemicals. Although the project ended without leading to commercial application, the work rendered other benefits.

"I learned more about crops, plant physiology and what we can do with genetic tools to make better use of water," Graham said.

## Changing Roles

In 1975, Graham transferred to Wilmington, Delaware, to serve as a product development associate.

"I moved out of research to more of a field development role that involved showing farmers and extension agents how new products worked," Graham said.

For three years he was responsible for technical development and sales support for Lasso and Roundup in 10 mid-Atlantic and New England states.

"There is an amazing amount of agricultural production in the East, especially when you go south of Philadelphia and into Virginia," Graham said.

He then transitioned to management in 1979 when he moved to Indianapolis to oversee a seven-person product development team. Three years later he returned to Monsanto headquarters, first to work as director of ag product development and later as director of the plant protection research program. In that latter position, he managed 120 scientists researching and developing crop protection products.

As a manager, Graham liked to engage his employees by asking questions and seeking their input.

"I tried to recognize great people and make sure they had great opportunities," Graham said. "My job was to make sure things are done right and manage the budget, but then step back and let them do what they needed to do."

Graham took his management skills overseas in 1992. From Monsanto's corporate headquarters for Western Europe in Brussels, Belgium, he served as director of ag technology. For five years he led a 70-person research, product development and registration group. One of his tasks was navigating the process of having agricultural products approved by each country's regulatory agency.

"We think we see a lot of cultural differences from the west to the east in America, but in Western Europe there really are a lot of cultural differences," said Graham, who enjoyed his five year stint in Belgium.

Graham returned to St. Louis in 1997 to run the licensing program for fungicides and herbicides for a year. From 1998 to 1999 he worked on the global cotton team.

"When I retired in 1999, I never lost my Monsanto desk or computer," Graham said.

Retirement gave Graham the time to enjoy further his pastimes of reading and tending his ornamental landscaping at home. But, it also allowed him to continue studying at Monsanto ways to improve crop production. At the AgriLife Research Center, he works with Wayne Keeling and Glen Ritchie, who also is an assistant professor of crop physiology at CASNR.

"They're doing the field experimentation and execution of the research," Graham said.

How appropriate that, in his retirement, Graham can be found once again working on occasion in a cotton field near Lubbock, where his inquisitive nature was first nurtured.



WHERE THEY ARE NOW

**JOHN MONTANDON** ('69 BS Agricultural Economics) authored his first book *By His Own Blood*, an account of his father's death following a botched blood transfusion tainted with HIV, and his personal search for answers and healing. For more information visit [www.byhisownblood.com](http://www.byhisownblood.com).



**BLAKE BOYD** ('85 BS Agricultural Economics) has been named President of Peoples Bank.

**BUDDY ALMY** ('52 BS Animal Production) has recently published a book about his 53+ years as a farm and ranch realtor. You can purchase his book entitled *Almy's Observations over 50+ Years as a Realtor* at Amazon or Barnes & Noble Books.

**JOHN MEHAFFEY** ('11 Ph.D. Animal Science) is now an assistant professor for the Department of Animal Science in the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture at Stephen F. Austin State University.

**KENNETH CARR** ('96 BS Agricultural Economics, '97 MS Agricultural Sciences) has retired after 40 years of teaching agriculture, spending the past 34 years with Sudan ISD. He and his wife, Joyce, plan to spend retirement raising Hereford show cattle and keeping up with their two grandchildren.

**BRYAN DANIEL** ('92 BS, '94 MS Agricultural Education) began work January 1, 2012 as Chief Administrator for Trade and Business Development at the Texas Department of Agriculture.

**NEIL DUDLEY** ('00 BS Agricultural and Applied Economics) was promoted to Vice President of Pederson's Natural Farms in Hamilton.

**MIKE SCHUELER** ('85 BS Agricultural Economics) became President of FirstBank Southwest in Hereford.

**BRITTNI DRENNAN** ('09 BS, '11 MS Agricultural Communications) is now the Communications Coordinator for the International Brangus Breeders Association.

**HOMER JONES** ('48 BS Agricultural Education) celebrated 66 years of marriage to his wife Jo this June.

**CHARLES SUDDUTH** ('59 BS Horticulture) retired as Director of Special Projects for the Lubbock Memorial Arboretum.

**WENDELL DUNLAP** ('62 BS, '66 MS Agricultural Education) retired after 40 year of teaching. He now owns Dunlap Painting, Inc. in Plainview.

**EMILY WOLTER** ('11 BS Food Science) became the first student from Texas Tech to receive the Institute of Food Technologists Student Association Campbell's Excellence in Leadership Award. She is continuing her education at North Carolina State University where she's pursuing a master's degree in food chemistry.

Recent graduates **ZACH GILBERT** and **DAVID JANKS** (both '12 BLA Landscape Architecture) used their senior project to realize the potential for Marine Creek Lake Park in Fort Worth. City officials said they plan to use the pair's renderings for park renovations sometime in the future.

**ALLEN KING** ('57 BS, '67 MS Animal Husbandry) and his wife Kathy celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year. The couple was married in Honolulu in 1962.

**WADE THOMPSON** ('53 BS, '58 MS Agricultural Education) taught Vocational Agriculture at Hereford High School from 1958-1961. He retired from Texas Tech University in 1995.

**JOSE LOPEZ** ('04 MS, '09 Ph.D. Agricultural Economics) was presented the 2012 Provost Award for Research & Creative Activity for the College of Science, Engineering and Agriculture at Texas A&M University-Commerce. This follows his award of the Spring 2011 A&M Student Recognition Award for Teaching Excellence. He is currently part of a research team examining barriers for beginning Hispanic farmers and ranchers.

**KENNETH BURGESS** ('52 BS Animal Husbandry) is a retired banker serving on the Texas Tech Foundation Board.

**DUDLEY MONTGOMERY** ('52 BS Agricultural Economics) retired from 40+ years in the banking industry. He last served as President of Security State Bank in Pecos.

**BILLY POWELL** ('55 MS Animal Husbandry) retired from the General Land Office as Land Appraiser for the Veterans Land Board program. His duties included all state property such as state parks and prison systems.

**STACY STOCKARD MONCIBAIZ** ('05 BS Agricultural Communications, '06 MS Agricultural Education) is now Marketing Coordinator at Texas Tech University Parking Services.

**R. DAREN HARMEL** ('95 MS Soil Science) is now Research Leader of the USDA-ARS Grassland Soil and Water Research Laboratory in Temple.

**MARY FULLER** ('73 MS Animal Nutrition) retired from Nestle Purina PetCare Company after 39 years as Senior Nutritionist.

**LINDSAY WEST KENNEDY** ('06 MS Agricultural Education) has been awarded one of this year's "20 Under 40" awards from the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce and the Young Professionals of Greater Lubbock. She currently serves as the external affairs director for the National Sorghum Producers and the external affairs director for the United Sorghum Checkoff Program.

**RICHARD RIDGWAY** ('57 BS Soil Science) has recently published a book about his educational experiences, and his scientific accomplishments and contributions. *A Rich and Rewarding Journey – Pursuing the Health of the Land and Its People Through Increased Scientific Knowledge* is available through Barnes & Noble and Xlibris.

**JANELL JONES** ('92 BS Agricultural Communications, '94 MS Agricultural Education) is now the District Testing Coordinator for Sweetwater ISD.

**KRISTIN PHILLIPS** ('08 BS Horticulture, '10 Master of Agriculture) is the Agricultural Sciences teacher at Martin High School in Arlington.

**JERRY MCCracken** ('82 MS Agricultural Education) taught Agriculture for 27 years and now works for the USDA-FSA.

**JAKE PRINCE** ('03 BS Interdisciplinary Agriculture) is the Vocational Agriculture teacher at Klein Oak ISD, serves on the Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association of Texas Board or Directors as the Ag Program Coordinator, and is a CDE coach for National FFA.

**CRAIG TRIMM** ('81 BS Agricultural Economics) was selected to serve as the Acting Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs with the Farm Service Agency. In this Senior Executive Service position, he oversees all FSA Farm Programs under the Production Emergencies and Compliance Division, Conservation and Environmental Programs Division, and Price Support Division.

**STEVEN FRAZE**, Chair of the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, was named the Shirley L. and LuCille Garrison Endowed Chair in Rural Youth Development. A special reception was held to honor the Garrisons and present Dr. Frazee with the title. At the reception, the Garrisons were given a chair engraved with the University Seal and "Shirley L. and LuCille Garrison Endowed Chair in Rural Development."



**SARA TROJAN**, an experienced researcher in cow/calf nutrition and management, has joined the faculty in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences as a visiting assistant professor. Relocating from South Dakota State University, she earned her bachelor's degree in animal science from Oklahoma State University, master's degree from Kansas State University, and doctorate in animal nutrition also from Oklahoma State University.

California native **RYAN WILLIAMS** was welcomed to the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics as an assistant professor. He has a long-standing research focus on the energy-water nexus with a goal to evaluate the links between scarce water resources and energy resources.

Nationally-recognized horse reproductive specialist and horse show judge, **JANE PRUITT BAGLEY**, was named a visiting associate professor in equine science with the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. Along with teaching courses and conducting research in horse production and equine reproduction, she will coach the horse judging and ranch horse teams, as well as oversee the Texas Tech Equestrian Center.

The Department of Plant and Soil Science named a new Communications and Recruiting Coordinator. **CHRISTI CHADWELL**, who served as the 2010-11 Masked Rider, earned her bachelor's degree in agricultural communications from Texas Tech. Her duties also include working closely with the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute and Texas Tech's International Cotton School.

**KIM LINDSEY**, former Executive Director of the Stock Horse of Texas Association and experienced equestrian, has been selected as Director of the Texas Tech Equestrian Center. Her duties include managing the student, teaching and research programs housed within the 45 acre facility.

IN MEMORY

- BILL P. QUATTLEBAUM**  
'49 BS Agricultural Education
- DONALD T. PENDLETON**  
'57 BS Range Management
- FRANKLIN M. BROWNFIELD**  
'52 BS and '53 MS Agricultural Education
- GERALD H. DEVAULT**  
'69 BS Agricultural Sciences

- DR. B. L. ALLEN**  
'48 BS Soil Science
- S. M. TRUE, JR.**  
Former student and past CASNR Advisory Board member
- DR. WAYNE H. HUDNALL**  
'69 BS and '71 MS Soil Science and B. L. Allen Endowed Chair for Pedology in the Department of Plant and Soil Science

*Correction: In the last issue it was reported that Wayne E. Richardson had passed away. This was a misprint due to a mistake in our records. Mr. Richardson has informed us he is alive and well. We apologize for any confusion.*



## IN THE NEWS

THE 2012 ANNUAL Texas 4-H Roundup was held in Lubbock and hosted by Texas Tech University this summer. This is the first time the event has been hosted by any other institution than Texas A&M University in College Station. This event is the pinnacle event for Texas 4-H, drawing more than 4,000 youth and adults each year. The 4-H Roundup is designed to strengthen its participants by shaping their leadership and competition skills, and offer team building, networking and career building opportunities, and citizenship development. In addition, over \$2,000,000 in scholarships are awarded to members each year. This year's event was the largest success to date, with an increased participation by more than 900 individuals and a total attendance reaching over 4,000 people.



*Above: Members of the Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, and State 4-H Council Officers and faculty at the 2012 4-H Roundup Ribbon Cutting and VIP Breakfast.*

*Left: Participants enjoyed a special concert by country music artist Aaron Watson.*

TWO MEMBERS OF the Texas Tech Equestrian Team advanced to the National Intercollegiate Horse Show Association's (IHSA) National Championships. The team competes in Zone 7, Region 2 of IHSA, where Haley Aydam was crowned Zone Champion in Individual Open Equitation Over Fences, and Tobie Montelbano received Reserve Champion in Individual Open Reining at Semi-Finals, qualifying them both for nationals. There, Aydam placed 10th in Individual Open Equitation Over Fences. Montelbano came in fourth in Individual Open Reining and was asked to represent IHSA and Texas Tech at 2012 National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) Collegiate Reining Championship at the NRHA Derby Show, where he placed fourth out of 12 riders.

THE TEXAS TECH Woman's Rodeo Team also made school history this spring, winning their first national championship at the 64th Annual College National Finals Rodeo. After winning back-to-back regional championships in the Southwest Region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association, the ladies finished atop the standings with 423.3 points.

RESEARCHERS FROM TEXAS Tech's International Center for Food Industry Excellence were awarded \$540,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and an additional \$150,000 matching funds from the Beef Checkoff Program. The group includes Drs. Guy Loneragan, Todd Brashears, Michael Ballou, Chance Brooks and Mark Miller from the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. In collaboration with scientists from the USDA Agricultural Research Service, the team will

explore important factors that contribute to Salmonella in cattle. The hope is to engage the beef industry to develop and implement practical solutions to reduce the likelihood of the pathogen in beef.

THE MEAT SCIENCE Quiz Bowl Team came in third place at the American Meat Science Association Reciprocal Meat Conference. The team members worked for months studying information related to history of the meat science industry, microbiology, processing and marketing.

THE RANCH HORSE Team finished second overall at the American Stock Horse Association National Collegiate Championships. During the two-day event, the team competed against 12 colleges and more than 100 individuals from across the country. Individual team members Jennifer Bouse, a math major from Angleton, won first overall in the limited non-pro division; True Burson, an animal science major from Silverton, placed first in the reining class; and Hanna Langendoerfer, an exercise and sports sciences major from Idalia, Colo., took home first place in the trail and pleasure classes.

U.S. SENATOR JOHN Corynyn and his wife, Sandy, visited the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute in April to discuss cotton research with students and faculty. The pair learned about cutting-edged research projects underway at the institute, including a water-resistant cotton fabric. Research is also being done to develop the next generation of cotton and new applications for cotton in the marketplace that will be instrumental in ensuring

the continued success of the cotton crop in Lubbock and West Texas.

ALEX AVERY, DIRECTOR of Research and Education in the Center for Global Food Issues at the Hudson Institute - a Washington, D.C. based policy research organization, gave a special lecture at this year's annual Agriculture and Natural Resources Awareness Week. The lecture focused on the future of farming and the debate between organic farming and agricultural biotechnology.

THE WOOL JUDGING Team successfully finished its season with a victory at the Houston Livestock Show Intercollegiate Wool Judging Contest. The group's Red Team finished first with a 24 point lead over its nearest competitor and the Black Team came in third overall.

THE TEXAS FFA announced its election of new leadership officers at the annual convention in Lubbock. Among the group of officers are four outstanding CASNR students. Sheldon Franks, a freshman pre-vet major from Follett, will serve as State Vice President for Area I – Follett Chapter. Krysti Kelley, a freshman interdisciplinary agriculture major from Mission, will serve as State Vice President for Area X – Sharyland Chapter. Kelli Neuman, a freshman agricultural communications major from Winnie, will serve as Stave Vice President for Area IX – East Chambers Chapter. Abby Prouse, a freshman agricultural communications major from Bosqueville, was selected as State Vice President for Area VIII – Bosqueville Chapter.

THE MEAT JUDGING Team took first place honors again this year at the Houston Livestock Show Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest. The groups Black Team finished first with a total score of 4,053, winning the beef judging, lamb judging, pork judging, specifications, total placing, and reasons divisions. This is the eighth consecutive year the powerhouse team has one this competition.

A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM of scientists from Texas Tech has been awarded a \$480,000 grant to study Lubbock area soil microbial communities. The five-year project, funded by the USDA's Agricultural and Food Research Initiative, is looking for key indicators of soil carbon transformers when Conservation Reserve Program land is converted to cropland. The team consists of faculty members from the Departments of Plant and Soil Science, Geosciences, and Biological Sciences, as well as scientists from the Agricultural Research Service Wind Erosion and Water Conservation Unit in Lubbock and the Agricultural Research Service Central Great Plains Resources Management Research Unit in Akron, Colo.

TEXAS TECH'S NEWLY formed Transdisciplinary Research Academy has selected nine CASNR faculty to be among its first members. The academy is designed to bring people with diverse interests and from different disciplines together to explore questions that have a global impact and intersect with the strategic research themes established by the University. Among the research areas selected from CASNR are: Food, Health, Cancer with Conrad Lyford, an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics, and Erica Irlbeck, an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications; Water Cycles & Resources Science with Richard Zartman, chairman of the Department of Plant and Soil Science and Leidigh Professor of Soil Physics; and Food Safety & Public Health with Todd Brashears, an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, Mindy Brashears, Director of the International Center for Food Industry Excellence, Mark Miller, San Antonio Livestock Exposition Distinguished Chair in Meat Science, Chance Brook, an associate professor of meat science, Guy Loneragan, an epidermiologist and professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences, and Kendra Nightingale, an associate professor specializing in food safety.

## IN THE NEWS



*Participants took tours of area businesses, including Littlefield's American Cotton Growers Denim Mill and Llano Estacado Winery.*



THE DEPARTMENT OF Agricultural Education and Communications and the Texas Tech Chapter of ACT hosted the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) annual Professional Development Conference. More than 100 agricultural communications students from across the nation participated. The program featured educational sessions, guest speakers, and tours of area agricultural businesses. Speakers included Wyman Meinzer ('74 BS Wildlife Management), the official state photographer of Texas, and Jim Bret Campbell ('96 BS Agricultural Communications, '97 MS Agricultural Education), Senior Director of Marketing and Publications for the American Quarter Horse Association.



*Samantha Piercy, a junior animal science major from Lubbock, Khaki Scrivner, a sophomore agricultural communications major from Turkey, Chelsey Ahrens, a doctoral agricultural communications and education student from Lamar, Ark., and Courtney Gibson, a doctoral agricultural communications and education student from New Deal, at Stonehenge.*

THIS SUMMER, CASNR launched a new location in its Study Abroad Program. Thirty students spent a two-week 'Maymester' in England and Scotland. The itinerary had an agricultural communications emphasis but the students learned about a wide variety of agricultural issues, including livestock, meat and wool production, crop production, agricultural mechanics, and many more staples of basic English agricultural and cultural history. The adventure included trips to many landmarks like Windsor Castle and Stonehenge.



*The group at Windsor Castle.*



## AWARDS *and* RECOGNITIONS



From left are Wester, Hawkins, Shroyer, Light, Thomas, Richardson and Skaggs.

### DISTINGUISHED AND YOUNG ALUMNI

The Distinguished & Young Alumni Awards were established to recognize some of the most outstanding alumni of Texas Tech University's College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. The purpose of these programs is to recognize and honor CASNR alumni who have made significant contributions to society, and whose accomplishments and careers have brought distinction to the college and to the professions associated with agriculture and natural resources. One alumnus from each of the college's departments is selected to receive the awards.

**KIRK THOMAS** for the department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. He graduated magna cum laude in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in agricultural economics. Continuing his education in 1982, he earned a master's degree in finance from Texas Tech University. A native of Lubbock County, Thomas has cultivated a tremendous career in the banking industry. Specializing in agriculture, commodity, and agribusiness lending, he has served as a vice president, senior vice president, and executive vice president for a number of banks in Lubbock. Currently Mr. Thomas serves as President of Lone Star State Bank in Lubbock. He also serves on the bank's Board of Directors.

**CHRIS SKAGGS** for the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications. He received a bachelor's degree in both agricultural education and animal science in 1982. He then went on to obtain a master's degree in animal science from Kansas State University in 1984, and received a doctorate in animal science from Iowa State University in 1992. Skaggs is currently the Associate Dean for Student Development for the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at Texas A&M University. He is also a professor and holds the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Chair in Animal Science.

**DEAN HAWKINS** for the Department of Animal and Food Sciences. After receiving an associate's degree from Clarendon College, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in animal science and a teaching certificate in agricultural education in 1984. He continued his education obtaining a master's degree in animal breeding from Texas Tech in 1986, and a doctoral degree in physiology of reproduction and growth at Texas A&M University in 1990. Hawkins joined the faculty of West Texas A&M University in 2009, where he is currently a professor and department head for the Department of Agricultural Sciences. He teaches animal science courses and provides guest lectures in reproductive physiology of domestic animals.

**DEWEY SHROYER** for the Department of Landscape Architecture. A native of South Texas, began his college career in 1959 as an architecture major at Arlington State University. He transferred to Texas Tech in 1961 where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1966 and a master's degree in 1973, both in Park Administration. Upon graduation, Shroyer began a four decade career with the Department of Grounds Maintenance at Texas Tech University. He worked as a supervisor, superintendent, acting director, and finally managing director until his retirement in 2008. During his 41 years of service, he worked under 11 university presidents, three interim presidents, three chancellors, and one interim chancellor. Under his watch, the department was responsible for more than 2,261 square acres of land, including the main campus and 10 separate sites statewide. Shroyer has been a registered Landscape Architect with the State of Texas since 1971.

**DAVID WESTER** for the Department of Natural Resources Management. He was born in Denver, Colo., and graduated cum laude from Colorado State University in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in Range and Forest Management. He continued his education graduating from Texas Tech with a master's degree in 1979 and a Ph.D. in 1984, both in Range Science. After graduation, Wester

spent 28 years on faculty in the Department of Natural Resources Management where he taught courses in range, forest, and wetland plant identification; Synecology; and experimental designs and analysis. He moved to Texas A&M University – Kingsville in 2011 where he currently works as a professor and research scientist in the Department of Animal, Rangeland, and Wildlife Sciences and Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute.

**LARRY RICHARDSON** for the Department of Plant and Soil Science. He is a native of Vega, Texas. He graduated in 1981 with a Bachelor of Science in Agronomy. Following graduation, he became the research and production manager for his father's company, Richardson Seeds, in Vega. He started the first research and breeding program for the company. In 1992, Richardson was named the president of Richardson Seeds. He currently oversees all operational aspects of the company, including the expansion of sales, both domestic and international, as well as the automation of the plant facilities. He is also the president of MMR Genetics, a sorghum breeding company. In 2010, he and the company established the Richardson Seeds Scholarship Endowment in Agricultural Communications in the college.

The Young Alumni Award is presented in conjunction with the Distinguished Alumni Awards. It is given to an individual who graduated from the college within the last 15 years and has attained a high level of professional accomplishment and standards of integrity and character to positively reflect and enhance the prestige of the college and the industries of agriculture and natural resources.

**GINGER LIGHT** received her doctorate in Agronomy from Texas Tech in 1999. After graduation, Light was employed with the Department of Plant and Soil Science as an instructor and researcher. In 2002 she began teaching courses in crop science, horticulture and entomology. She was instrumental in teaching and developing several online and distance education courses and contributed to departmental recruiting efforts. She was hired by Bayer CropScience in 2009 and worked as their Global Cotton QMS Manager, responsible for quality assurance within the organization and traveling to more than 10 countries. In 2011 Light was promoted to Physical Traits Development Manager within the company.

## AWARDS *and* RECOGNITIONS

Three members of the Department of Animal and Food Sciences were recognized at this year's American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) annual conference. **DEAN MICHAEL GALYEAN** was presented the prestigious ASAS Morrison Award. The award is given in recognition of research excellence of direct importance to livestock production. In conjunction, he became part of the newly created ASAS Foundation Living Histories project by becoming the first member highlighted as part of the project.

**MARK MILLER**, professor of meat science and muscle biology and the San Antonio Livestock Exposition Distinguished Chair in Meat Science, was also honored with the American Society of Animal Science Meat Science Research Award.

At the same conference, **ROBERT ALBIN**, a retired professor of beef cattle nutrition and management, was named a Fellow of American Society of Animal Science – Administrative Category. He is only the fifth Texas Tech faculty member to be named in the group. Others include Drs. Michael Galyean, Rodney Preston, W. L. Stangel, and Leland Tribble.

**DAVID DOERFERT**, agricultural communications professor and graduate studies coordinator for the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, has been named a Fellow in the American Association for Agricultural Education. The award is given to members of the association who have made exceptional contributions to the profession. Honorees have no less than a decade and no more than 20 years of active service at the university level, and have shown great promise for continued contributions.

Retired faculty member of the Department of Natural Resources Management, **CARLTON BRITTON**, was selected for the Henry A. Wright Award for Lifetime Achievement in Fire Ecology in Grasslands and Shrublands. The nationally-recognized range scientist accepted the award at the Southwest Fire Ecology Conference in Santa Fe.

Outstanding faculty members of CASNR received accolades for their quality teaching and research during the University's annual Faculty Honors Convocation. **DAVID DOERFERT** received the 2012 President's Excellence in Teaching Award. **DAVID ROGOWSKI**, an assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resources Management, received the Texas Tech Alumni Association New Faculty Award. **ERIC HEQUET**, a professor with the Department of Plant and Soil Science and Associate Director of the Fiber and Biopolymer Research Institute, was awarded the Texas Tech Parents Association Barnie E. Rushing Jr. Faculty Distinguished Research Award.

Also during the Convocation, two Texas Tech Parents Association Faculty Awards were presented. **RYAN RATHMAN**, an assistant professor in the Department of Animal and Food Sciences and recipient of the John W. and Doris Jones Endowed Professorship, was given the Hemphill Wells New Professor's Excellence in Teaching Award. **SCOTT BURRIS**, an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications, received the Spencer A. Wells Faculty Award for Creativity in Teaching.

Texas Tech's Emabeth Thompson Professor of Risk Management, **THOMAS KNIGHT**, was named Horn Professor by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents. This is the highest honor the nationally-recognized professor of agricultural and applied economics can receive on the University level.





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College of Agricultural Sciences  
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