

Recently Retired



We want to wish Dr. Hong-Chao Zhang, E.L. Derr Endowment Professor, well on his retirement after 31 years of devoted service to the Texas Tech University Department of Industrial, Manufacturing and Systems Engineering (IMSE). Dr. Zhang served as a Professor of Industrial Engineering and Director of the Advanced Manufacturing Laboratory (AML). He received his Ph.D. in Manufacturing Engineering from the Technical University of Denmark, and his M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Aalborg in Denmark. His current research is focused in the area of environmentally benign product design and manufacturing (also called sustainable manufacturing), manufacturing systems and material processing, manufacturing enterprise systems, reverse manufacturing and reverse logistics, product and process molding, and automated tolerance analysis and synthesis. His research results are shared by research institutions and industrial companies. He has published more than 135 technical articles in the area of advanced manufacturing

and environmentally benign manufacturing, graduated 23 Ph.D. students, and received research funding totaling more than \$18 million from the National Science Foundation, Department of Energy, Texas State Government, and industry.

Dr. Zhang served as the Guest Editor for a special issue of the IEEE Transactions on Electronics Packaging and Manufacturing Technology. He also serves as an editorial board member of the International Journal of Sustainable Manufacturing and is an advisory board member of the International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology. His presence at the IMSE will be missed and we wish Dr. Zhang continued success in his research and well wishes upon his retirement.



In Memorium

It is with deep sadness that the TTU Department of IMSE extends our condolences for the loss of one of our own, Dr. Ismael de-Farias Jr. Dr. de-Farias passed away in August due to complications from heart surgery. His presence as a dedicated faculty member to his students is greatly missed.

Born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to parents Geruza Macedo de-Farias and Ismael Regis de-Farias Sr., Dr. de-Farias quickly developed an interest in the sciences. He obtained a Bachelor's in Physics and Master's in Computer Science from Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro and a Ph.D. in Algorithms, Combinatorics and Optimization from the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research interests included integer programming, discrete optimization, quantum computing, and quantum optimization. Although his education and research were at the forefront of his mind, there was nothing more important to him than his family and the people around him.

After obtaining his Ph.D., de-Farias moved back to Brazil for work where he met and fell in love with his future wife, Milene Amato. The pair soon got married and created a loving family of six. Anyone who spent any time with him knew how proud of and involved in the lives of his children he was.

He often extended his hand to students as a beacon of familiarity and kindness. He treated them as if they were his own. One of his most treasured traditions included hosting an international Thanksgiving feast where he invited and encouraged his students to share dishes from their respective countries at a gathering in his home. His welcoming spirit and kind nature will most assuredly keep him close in all our memories. Dr. de-Farias is dearly missed.



Ismael de-Farias, Ph.D.
1959-2022