



SUMMER 2014

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"On The Move" Newsletter

Energy Management and Sustainability

With support from the Operations Division and Sean Childers (Assistant VP of Operations), TIEHH facilities recently underwent an analysis of energy consumption. Lon Mirll, the Manager for Energy Management at Texas Tech coordinated the analysis, which included temperature and light recordings as well as activity sensors. As an environmental institute, energy consumption is something that we care about. Our goal is to conduct research in a safe and ethical manner, while minimizing our impact on the environment.

May 2014 Graduates

Congratulations to our six ENTX graduates for May! They were a productive bunch who left their mark on our program.**



| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| Meghan Funkhouser | M.S. | Brie Sherwin | Ph.D. |
| Brett Blackwell | Ph.D. | Kristyn Urban | Ph.D. |
| Scott Weir | Ph.D. | Shuangying Yu | Ph.D. |

***True, but also greasing the skids a little for when we ask them to donate money for the alumni scholarship.*

Institute News

Long-time building maintenance jack-of-all-trades Mitchel Burt has left TIEHH to become facilities operations manager at Wyle Aerospace. We will certainly miss him, although he stops by occasionally since he is still at Reese Center. Over the years, Mitch was able to save us a ton of money because of his extensive fabrication skills and knowledge.



Belated welcome to Jimmy Huddleston, who joined Dr. Ron Kendall's lab in January as a technician for the quail research projects. Jimmy is a 2012 Texas Tech graduate and also a talented photographer (www.jimmyhuddlestonphotography.com).



In January, we welcomed back Dr. Rodica Gelca, a 2009 graduate of our program. After a post-doc with TTU climate scientist Katherine Hayhoe, Rodica is back with us as a research faculty member. She recently received travel support to participate in the South Central Climate Science Center Early Career Professional Development Workshop in Norman, OK. The South Central Climate Science Center was established in 2012 by the U.S. Department of the Interior.



More Institute News



In April, Dr. Aaron Roberts from the University of North Texas visited TIEHH and gave a seminar on his research related to the effects of mercury on aquatic organisms.



ENTX alum Dr. Carrie Bradford returned to Lubbock to serve as our guest speaker at the Spring Banquet. Carrie is a toxicologist with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Congratulations to Ron Kendall's lab and their spiffy new truck for quail research!



Student News

Brie Sherwin won 1st place presentation for her work on the Dunes Sagebrush Lizard at the 2014 Texas Tech Annual Biological Sciences Symposium (TTABSS). **Heather Lanza** placed 2nd for her presentation on perfluorinated compounds in the environment.

The annual Texas Tech Graduate School poster competition was held in April. ENTX graduate students **Adric Olson** and **Vinit Singh** placed 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in the Science Category. Vinit also received a travel scholarship from Texas Tech University's Howard Hughes Medical Institute Scholar Service Organization for his involvement in the TTU Research Carnival.



At the SETAC South Central Regional Chapter Meeting in San Marcos, ENTX students **Amanda Parra**, **Rebecca Cochran**, and **Jarrett Louder** won awards for platform and poster presentations. Amanda had the 3rd Place Platform, Rebecca 2nd Place Platform, and Jarrett 3rd Place Poster.



More Student News

Logeswari Ponnusamy received a Pediatric Oncology Student Training (POST) Program grant from Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF). Loges is also the recipient of a Helen Devitt Jones Graduate Fellowship.

Chuanwen Lu received the Jean Lu Student Scholarship Award from the American Association of Chinese in Toxicology (AACT) during the 2014 Society of Toxicology (SOT) Meeting in Phoenix, AZ.

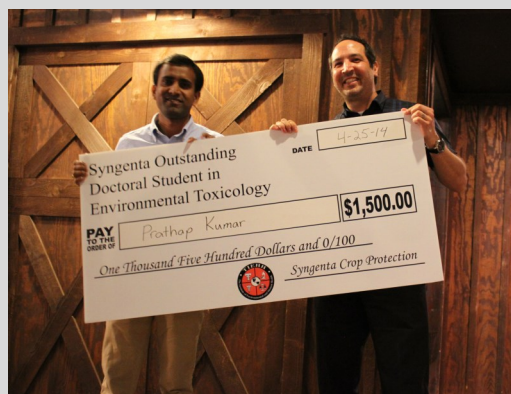
Our student group started a new tradition this spring in the Lubbock Parks & Recreation's Kickball League. The "Toxic Balls" lost every game, but "significantly improved their kickball skills". I'd like to see the statistical test that produced that result. Meanwhile, a small but aggressive group participated in the Adopt-A-Highway. Sara and Heather won the prize for the "strangest" item found during the afternoon.



Syngenta Awards

The Syngenta Outstanding Doctoral and Masters Student awards were given at the TIEHH Spring banquet in April. Dr. Marion Stypa of Syngenta has continued the tradition of supporting student awards at TIEHH.

This year's winners (pictured with Dr. Chris Salice) were **Heather Lanza (M.S.)** and **Prathap Kumar (Ph.D.)**.



Waste Control Specialists Student Awards

Thanks to Elicia Sanchez for continued support of our program from Waste Control Specialists (WCS). This year's recipients (pictured with Dr. Chris Salice) were **Aaron Conti (M.S.)** and **Nick Dunham (Ph.D.)**.



Faculty News

Congratulations to retired faculty member **Ken Dixon** on becoming the first ENTX faculty to be granted "emeritus" status. Ken's designation was recently approved by the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents.

Seshadri Ramkumar received Texas Tech University's Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award for 2014. The award is given by the Center for Active Learning and Undergraduate Engagement in recognition of hard work and dedication in mentoring undergraduate students. Dr. Ram's research paper, "Electrospinning of Nanofibers", published in the *Journal of Applied Polymer Science* has been listed as the 3rd most accessed paper for April 2014.



From the Regional SETAC Meeting in San Marcos, TX



Toxic Balls Kickball





**2014 TIEHH
Spring Banquet**
1st PLACE
 Photo Contest Winner

Fishy Business



Thomas Bilbo



Sampling the bayou near Barksdale Air Force Base



Student retreat at Big Bend National Park



Good luck at Towson, Chris. You will be missed.

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and
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