



FALL 2017

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- New Students
- Faculty News
- Student News
- Photos



Congratulations to our August **2017 graduates**: Logeswari Ponnusamy (Ph.D.) and **Melissa Sandoz** (M.S.).

## ***"On The Move" Newsletter***

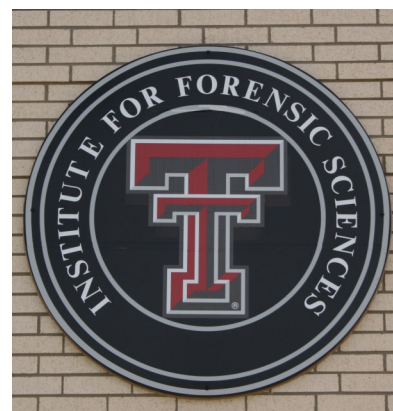
### Terracon Continues Support

The Terracon Foundation continues to support graduate students in our program. For the fourth consecutive year, ENTX Alum Adam Finger (M.S. 2004) championed our proposal to the foundation for graduate student support.



### Institute for Forensic Science

By ENTX faculty vote and subsequent approval from the Texas Tech administration, our department will become the new academic home for the faculty and students of the Institute for Forensic Science (IFS). The IFS had been an independent standing institute in the College of Arts & Sciences. It did not have a traditional academic home as it was not affiliated with a department. This was a significant limitation to the institute, the graduate program, and the faculty. IFS sought a department that closely aligned with their mission and the aims of the graduate program. ENTX was a natural fit. Our graduate courses and faculty research had provided opportunities for IFS graduate students over the years.



### Graduate Program Review

Every six years, graduate programs at Texas Tech undergo a review. This Fall, the ENTX graduate program will undergo such a review. The process involves collection of data on faculty, students, and alums as well as comparative data from peer academic programs at other universities. A review committee consisting of internal and external faculty review the data and prepare a report to serve as guidance for improvement and planning.

## New Students

We have a new cohort of graduate students in our program this Fall. Pictures of some of them are below.



*Armando Elizalde Velazquez  
Universidad Autonoma del Estado  
de Mexico*



*Brett Henry  
Middle Tennessee*



*Cassandra Schmitt  
Lubbock Christian*



*Michael Penrose  
Texas Lutheran*



*Audrey Martinez  
Abilene Christian*



*Kendall Blanchard  
Virginia Tech*



*Olushola "Shola" Awoyemi  
University of Lagos*



## Faculty News

**Dr. Seshadri Ramkumar** recently received a letter from the Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Applied Polymer Science* indicating that a manuscript he co-authored in 2005 on electrospinning of nanofibers is the most accessed paper for 2017. In addition, the manuscript has been cited more than 1100 times according to **Google Scholar**.

In July, **Dr. David Klein** presented a talk and a poster at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Toxicity Assessment in Limeira Brazil.



**Dr. Degeng Wang** is PI of a new NIH R15 grant entitled "To Combine CRISPR/Cas9 Genome Editing, Nano-Tech and Chemical Genetics toward *in vivo* Protein Kinase Analysis".

**Dr. Weimn Gao** is a co-investigator.

The department has several candidates for promotion or tenure this Fall. Associate Professors **Ernest Smith**, **Jaclyn Cañas-Carrell**, and **Weimin Gao** are candidates for promotion to Full Professor. **David Klein** is a candidate for tenure.

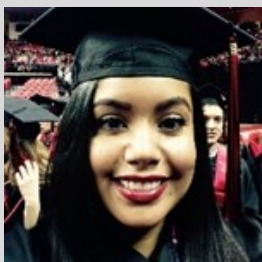


**Dr. Todd Anderson** spent part of September and October at Erzincan University in Erzincan Turkey collaborating with faculty in biology (Dr. Etem Osma) and physics (Dr. Çağrı Çırak).

**Dr. KP Singh** gave an invited presentation on his research at the 14<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Recent Advances in Environmental Health Research, September 10-13 in Jackson, MS.

## Student News

With the aid of the SETAC Student Training Exchange Opportunity award, **Caleshia Calvin** traveled to Florida in August to collect samples for her dissertation. She will be using the samples to evaluate baseline concentrations of PCBs in healthy vs. deformed loggerhead sea turtle hatchlings. Field work was done in collaboration with Dr. Kate Mansfield and Dr. Erin Seney from the University of Central Florida's Marine Turtle Research Group.



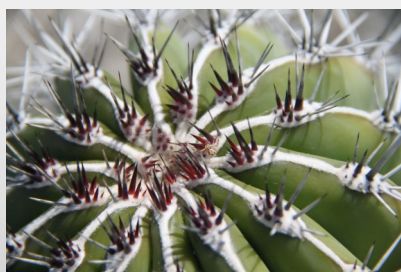
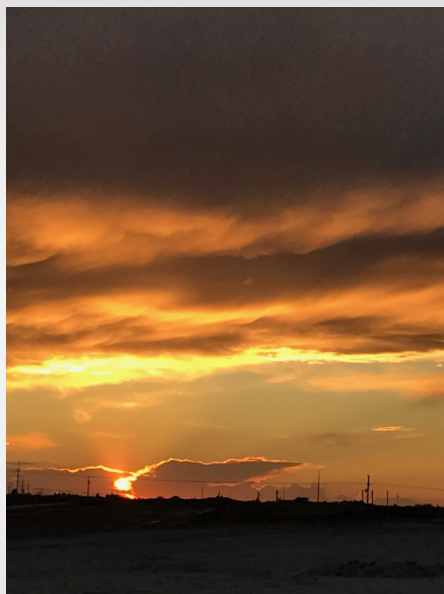
**Analicia Carcano** joined Dr. Céline Godard-Coddling's lab as an intern for the fall semester. She graduated from Texas Tech University with a B.S. in Biology with an emphasis in environmental ecology and a minor in chemistry.

**Mary Hayden** and **Amanda French** received Doctoral Dissertation Completion Fellowships for Fall from the graduate school.



## Photo Contest Entries

A random selection from last Spring. Hopefully they aren't copyrighted.



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and  
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