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E-NEWSLETTER

From the Dean



Dean Paul Paulus

As we approach the end of the Spring 2008 semester, we want to share the many awards recently received by the students and faculty of the College of Science. We are indeed fortunate to have so many superb faculty and students who are dedicated to first-rate science teaching and research. Congratulations to all those who have been recognized and thanks to all the fine staff, students, and faculty who make this college such a great place to work, teach, and learn. This week is Academic Excellence Week, and we will be recognizing some of our top students at a reception on April 15th at 6 p.m. in the Palo Duro Lounge.

We would like to showcase more alumni in future newsletters. So alumni, please send a note to jchavers@uta.edu to update us on your life and career.

New Provost

The College of Science added a significant new faculty member when President James D. Spaniolo appointed Donald R. Bobbitt as Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs. Dr. Bobbitt was Dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Arkansas and is an accomplished analytical chemist. We are excited to have him join our university and look forward to moving to even greater heights under his leadership. [Read more](#)

ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp

ExxonMobil and the Bernard Harris Foundation announced that The University of Texas at Arlington's College of Science has been awarded a grant to host an ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp. The \$80,000 grant will allow the College of Science to host 48 middle school students for a two-week residential science, technology, engineering and math camp. The camp will serve students from traditionally underrepresented populations, and they will attend free of charge.

An emphasis will be placed on hands-on, project-based learning, and the campers will benefit from having UT Arlington faculty and area school district master teachers in their classrooms and labs. Camp participants will have the opportunity to explore topics in biology, chemistry, engineering, environmental science, math, physics, and technology. In addition, campers will attend sessions designed to improve their communications skills.

The ExxonMobil Bernard Harris Summer Science Camp at UT Arlington will be held July 13-25. Application materials will be available on the web at <http://www.uta.edu/sciencecamp>



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The Annual Celebration of Excellence By Students

College of Science Students win 14 awards at ACES competition

The Annual Celebration of Excellence by Students (ACES) provides students an opportunity to present talks and posters about their research and creative activities. The students of the College of Science were well represented at ACES, and 14 of them received awards for their work. The students, their mentors, and the titles of their projects can be found at this link [Award Recipients](#)

Calculus Bowl

Event aims to boost interest in math

Twenty-two teams and 110 high school students from 18 high schools competed in the UT Arlington Department of Mathematics' 8th Annual Calculus Bowl. The competition is a playoff game based on multiple-choice pre-calculus and calculus questions displayed electronically. Each team works together to solve the problems while racing to buzz in with the correct answer. The outreach event is free to all participating schools and is targeted to encourage math education and to introduce students to The University of Texas at Arlington campus. In addition to the competition, Planetarium Director Marc Rouleau led students through a "Stars of the Pharaohs" presentation. Dr. Hristo Kojouharov, Calculus Bowl director, Dean Paulus, and Professors Tuncay Aktosun and D.L. Hawkins gave talks to the students about research programs currently under way and industries' desire to hire mathematicians of all disciplines.

University Awards

Award	Name	Department
<i>Outstanding Research Achievement</i>	J. Ping Liu	Physics
<i>Distinguished Record of Research</i>	Chaoqun Liu	Mathematics
<i>Academy of Distinguished Scholars</i>	Robert Gatchel	Psychology
<i>Chancellor's Council Award for Innovation in Teaching</i>	Christopher Kribs Zaleta	Mathematics

College of Science Awards

The College of Science each year recognizes one faculty member for research accomplishments and one for the quality of their teaching. This year we recognized **Dr. Tuncay Aktosun** with the **College of Science Research Award**. Dr. Aktosun has published over 60 refereed papers. His research in inverse problems and wave propagation has been funded by NSF, the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense. He has also been very successful in integrating research with education at both undergraduate and graduate levels. He is currently serving as the PI of a GAANN Fellowship grant to support the graduate program in mathematics. He has also received grants from NSF, the Mathematical Association of America, and various other sources to support undergraduate research.

Dr. Daniel Formanowicz was recognized with the **College of Science Outstanding Teacher Award**. Dr. Formanowicz came to UT Arlington in 1986 and has served as Graduate Advisor in Biology for 10 years, Associate Chair in Biology since 2004 and Chair of the University Faculty Senate. He has been one of the Biology Department's most popular teachers. His undergraduate courses in ecology, entomology and animal behavior are in high demand. Dr. Formanowicz has also been active in graduate student education, and he has directed the research of over 30 masters students and 15 doctoral students who have gone on to productive careers.

Jessica Boyette-Davis was selected to receive the **Dean's Excellence Scholarship**. She is a psychology doctoral student researching pain and the cognitive effects of chemotherapy under the mentorship of Dr. Perry Fuchs. She was the invited graduate student speaker for this spring's UT Metroplex Day at UT Southwestern and recently received the Provost's Award for her presentation at ACES. She has several publications and an NIH grant pending. After completing her doctoral degree in 2009 she plans to pursue a career in neuroscience research and teaching.

College of Science Awards Ceremony

Each year the College has a ceremony and reception to recognize all of the undergraduate and graduate students who have been selected by the departments for various awards. These awards highlight their excellence in the classroom and in research. A full listing of these awards can be found at the following link [award recipients](#).

Some Recent New Grants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Sponsor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Robert Gatchel	The Strong Star Multidisciplinary PTSD Research Consortium	Department of Defense	\$1,500,000
J. Ping Liu	High Performance Nanocomposite Permanent Magnets by Rational Assembly of Nanoparticles	DARPA	\$650,000
Maeli Melotto	Stomate-based innate immunity against bacterial infection in Arabidopsis	NIH	\$1,900,000
Yi-Jiun Su	Jupiter-Io Interaction- How are electrons accelerated into Io magnetic footprint?	NASA	\$366,000
James Grover	Refining a Predictive Understanding of Physical, Chemical and Biological Factors Influencing <i>Prymnesium parvum</i> Population Dynamics	Texas Parks and Wildlife	\$498,000

Faculty Highlights

Most- Cited Articles

A **Dr. Daniel Armstrong** article, "**Ionic Liquids in Analytical Chemistry**", published in *Analytical Chemistry* is being featured on the ACS Publications website http://pubs.acs.org/journals/promo/most/most_cited/index.html as one of the Most-Cited Articles published in 2006

A **Dr. Sandy Dasgupta** article, "**Perchlorate in Dairy Milk. Comparison of Japan versus the United States**", published in *Environmental Science & Technology*, is being featured on the ACS Publications website http://pubs.acs.org/journals/promo/most/most_cited/index.html as one of the Most-Cited Articles published in 2007

Journal Cover

The work by **Dr. Jorge Rodrigues** on the Daphnia microbial pathogen was selected as cover for the journal *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* and has been made available at <http://aem.asm.org/content/vol74/issue7/index.dtl?etoc>

ATLAS

Dr. Kaushik De will become the U.S. ATLAS Operations Coordinator, effective April 1, 2008. Dr. De has been leading the ATLAS Monte Carlo production effort on an international scale for several years. He has made several important contributions to the development of ATLAS production systems, most notably PanDA, which has been recently chosen to be the common system for production throughout ATLAS. Read more about Dr. De's new appointment at the following link http://www.wfaa.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/localnews/stories/DN-ednotes_14met.ART.State.Edition2.462534b.html)

Forty under Forty

Dr. Yi-Jiun Su has been selected as one of the 2008 "Forty under Forty" to be honored by the Fort Worth Business Press. This event honors select men and women under the age of 40 who are helping to shape the future through their business and community involvement.

American Pain Society

Dr. Robert J. Gatchel, the Nancy P. & John G. Penson Endowed Professor in Clinical Health Psychology and chairman of the Department of Psychology, received a newly initiated award from the American Pain Society -- the Clinical Centers of Excellence in Pain Management Award. This award recognizes and rewards top-quality clinical care in pain management. Read more at the following link <http://www.uta.edu/public-affairs/pressreleases/page.php?id=2339>

Alumni Stories

Robert Stewart

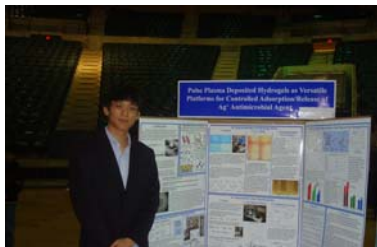
“Forty-five years ago, a new graduate from the physics department at Arlington State College drove an old 49 Ford to California. The student and the college have matured, created new knowledge, and thrived. Thank you for my education, and the self-confidence to try a new field of physics.” [Read More](#)

Robert Skinner

I began studies in Physics and Mathematics at UTA in June of 1961 just after graduation from Grand Prairie High School. For the next four years I alternated semesters, one at UTA and the next, including summers, working as a Cooperative Program student at Ling-Temco-Vought Aerospace Co. near my home. When working at LTV I attended night school at UTA. My Physics courses were lumped into the semesters I was not working because they were all in the daytime. I had a great experience in these courses and reveled at the application of mathematics to the modeling of physical problems. At the time we chose to neglect multibody problems that make complex systems and stay with simple systems. I did not know at the time that in my graduate studies and faculty years I would work with such complex biological systems as the mammalian spinal cord, brainstem and telencephalon. [Read More](#)

Student Awards

Wen Chyan receives Dean's Science and Technology Award



The Dean's Science & Technology Award, a \$4,000 College of Science scholarship, was given to Wen Chyan at the Fort Worth Regional Science Fair, held March 4th at UNT in Denton. Wen Chyan is working in the chemistry lab of Dr. Richard Timmons.

Claudia Marquez receives Honorable Mention at NSF



Biology graduate student Claudia Marquez was awarded an honorable mention in the 2008 NSF graduate research fellowship competition. Nearly 10,000 students apply annually to this program. This year 913 received fellowships and 1639 were given the distinction of Honorable Mention. Given the competition, this is a pretty exciting accomplishment for Claudia!