



# BUFF BRIEF

A WEEKLY NEWS & EVENT UPDATE FOR THE PAUL ENGLER COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES



## WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY COVID-19 UPDATE

For the most up to date information from West Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M University System, visit the University's [COVID-19 Information Page](https://www.wtamu.edu/about/coronavirus-information.aspx).

COVID-19 INFORMATION

<https://www.wtamu.edu/about/coronavirus-information.aspx>

## Encouraging Words from Each Department



[Ms. Muniz Message to Students](#)



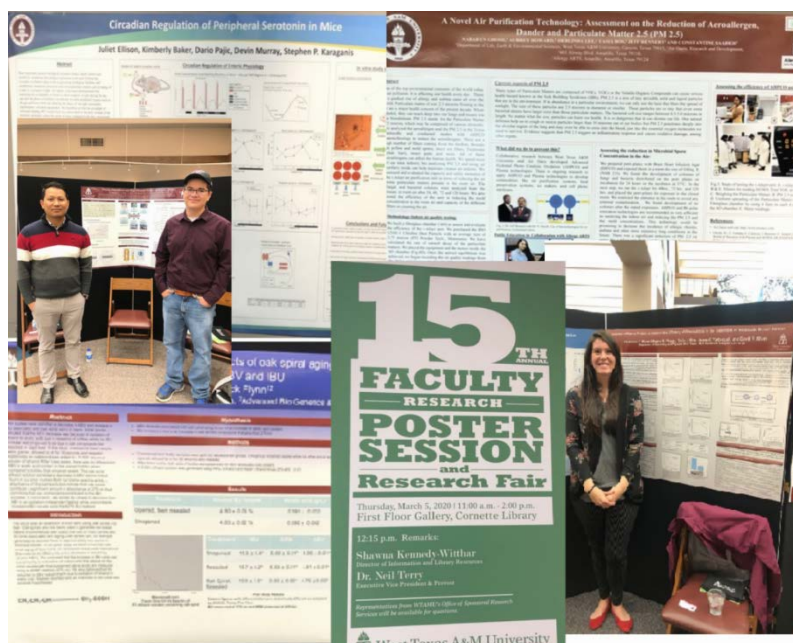
[Dr. Lust Message to Students](#)



[Dr. Crosman Message to Students](#)



## College Faculty Participate in University Research Fair and Poster Session



Faculty members in the Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences joined colleagues from across campus to take part in the 15th Annual Faculty Research Poster Session and Research Fair on March 5th hosted in the Cornette Library. Thirty-four posters were viewed by over 200 attendees.

### Faculty members presented on the following:

Dr. Nick Flynn - *Investigating the Effects of Oak Spiral Aging on Beer ABV and IBU* [Chemistry & Physics Department Grant; Welch Foundation Grant]

Dr. Nabarun Ghosh, Aubrey Howard, Jeff Bennert - *A Novel Air Purification Technology: Assessment on the Reduction of Aeroallergens, Dander and Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM 2.5)* [Killgore Research Grant]

Dr. Stephen Karaganis - *Circadian Rhythms of Peripheral Serotonin Regulation in Mice* [Killgore Research Grant]

Ms. Alexandra Muniz, Shelby Phelps, Tasia Bos, Dr. Jason Yarbrough, Dr. David Khan - *Inhibition of Sorcin Protein to Improve the Efficacy of Doxorubicin in the Treatment of Metastatic Breast Cancer* [Killgore Research Grant]

Dr. Keshav Shrestha - *Doping Dependence and High-Pressure Studies on  $\text{Eu}_{1-x}\text{Ca}_x\text{Fe}_2\text{As}_2$  ( $0 < x < 1$ )*



#### Guerrero elected to UCOWR Board of Directors

Dr. Bridget Guerrero, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Business and Economics, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Universities Council on Water Relations (UCOWR).

Dr. Guerrero's 3-year term will begin on July 1, 2020. Members of the Board of Directors oversee the following roles and responsibilities: provide vision and planning, actively participate in governance and programs, recruitment, establish and approve policy, fiscal oversight, hire and support the Executive Director.

UCOWR Website

<https://ucowr.org/>



# Stellar Students

## Scarborough donates time and talents through making face masks

What Hannah Scarborough has, maybe for the first time in her young life, is time. Even with online classes until noon most days, the West Texas A&M University sophomore agricultural media and communication major suddenly did not have a daily checklist of student government, her sorority, Chi Omega, or any other requirement that filled most waking hours. "What else am I going to do? Sit around all day?" she said. "I might as well use that time for something good."

In the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, the need for ventilators and masks, especially the simple mask to preserve the N95 medical masks, was broadcast by the media. There was, or soon would be, a shortage. Ventilators, no. Best leave that to the professionals. But masks, yes, Hannah's Hands could help sew a mask. Except for one thing – Betsy Ross, she ain't. Scarborough had never sat behind a sewing machine.

She called family friend Lisa Bradshaw, who tried to give a sewing tutorial over the phone. When Hannah had issues threading a needle, it was decided to break social distance guidelines and come show Hannah how it was done...



Read all about Hannah's Helping Hands Here!

## National Science Foundation Workshops Online

We are pleased to announce that the NSF Leadership Workshop, as well as the NSF Career Soft Skills Workshop, are now available online for students to complete.

If you are interested in participating in either workshop, please contact Dr. Nick Flynn at [nflynn@wtamu.edu](mailto:nflynn@wtamu.edu) with the following information:

First Name  
Last Name  
Buff ID

Workshop you are interested in (Leadership or Softskills)

The first round of workshops will be available now - May 31st. Students will be entered into workshops on a weekly basis.

Students who complete workshops are requested to complete the surveys associated with workshop for grant evaluation purposes.



# Research Review

Dr. Erik Crosman  
Assistant Professor of Environmental Sciences

## What is the title of your research project?

Air Quality Research in the Western US (AQUARIUS) Workshop

This was a science workshop funded by the National Science Foundation that occurred in September 2019.

## Who is involved?

AQUARIUS Steering Committee:

Erik Crosman, West Texas A&M University

Gannet Hallar, University of Utah

Steve Brown, National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

Chris Cappa, University of California, Davis

Kelly Barsanti, University of California, Riverside

Jennifer Murphy, University of Toronto

Logan Mitchell, University of Utah

John Lin, University of Utah

## Description of Research Project

The goal of this science workshop (funded by the National Science Foundation in September 2019) was to bring together experts from all over the world (125 in total) to plan for a major research study planned in December 2022-February 2023 in the Western US to investigate how wintertime particulate matter forms in mountain basins during inversion conditions.

## Expected Publication of the Research Results

The AQUARIUS workshop successfully identified the research priorities of such a study, including atmospheric chemistry, the weather conditions that trap pollution in basins, and the measurements needed to understand pollution emissions sources across urban and rural areas. The steering is currently composing a white paper on the science needs for the upcoming AQUARIUS aircraft and ground-based study that will be made publicly available in 2020 on the AQUARIUS website: <https://atmos.utah.edu/aquarius/>

The key points of the white paper will be delivered to an upcoming paper in the Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society. In addition, the outcomes of this science conference will be critical in leading to the study design of the major AQUARIUS field study to be conducted in the western US in 2022-2023.



## SAVE THE DATE

4/15 - Fall 2020 Financial Aid Priority Deadline  
4/15 - Last Day to Drop Courses With a X.  
4/17 - Fourth Payment Deadline  
4/29 - Last Class Day  
4/30 - Dead Day



### Dr. Temple Grandin Q&A

Dr. Temple Grandin joined Dr. Kevin Pond on Saturday for a follow up Q&A session from Dr. Grandin's February visit to WTAMU. We hope you enjoy the recording of their conversation as Dr. Grandin shares her thoughts over COVID-19, research, and many other interesting topics.

[Find the Video Here](#)

[https://www.facebook.com/WTAMUPECoANS/videos/157337355555875/?\\_tn=kC-R&eid=ARD-IW64ciLVNCQbEKoDso6-sl9JxCwSYdR8EdvQ4Nhy8PeRs5WNdSgDgZLbRj87vXzxNnUjGmeE82e7&hc\\_ref=ARTyLh60xA8z7BrjfbPlfrTAVfVL9PMULAYpLP9VRSLJFC7Tz\\_V2ze-wQvhsnUMeIK4&fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/WTAMUPECoANS/videos/157337355555875/?_tn=kC-R&eid=ARD-IW64ciLVNCQbEKoDso6-sl9JxCwSYdR8EdvQ4Nhy8PeRs5WNdSgDgZLbRj87vXzxNnUjGmeE82e7&hc_ref=ARTyLh60xA8z7BrjfbPlfrTAVfVL9PMULAYpLP9VRSLJFC7Tz_V2ze-wQvhsnUMeIK4&fref=nf)

## Pond's Ponder

**"The best leader is the one who has sense enough to pick good people to do what is needed, and self-restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they are doing it."**

**Dr. Kevin Pond**

Follow us for more regular updates on the Paul Engler College of Agriculture & Natural Sciences!  
Go Buffs!  
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