

Volume 5 | Number 1

June 1, 2020



BUFF BRIEF

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

For the most up to date information from West Texas A&M University and the Texas A&M University System about COVID-19, visit the University's [COVID-19 Information Page](#).

COVID-19
INFORMATION

A MORE MODERN WT

Website Construction Update

- ✓ Launched on May 15, WT has a new, revamped website.
- ✓ Webpages and links may not be current. Faculty and Staff are working hard to get them up-to-date.
- ✓ Please continue to be patient as construction continues and the issues get addressed.



BEGINNING JUNE 1

WEST TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
WILL BE A

SMOKE-FREE
and
VAPE-FREE
CAMPUS

**No tobacco or
smokeless
tobacco
products
allowed
anywhere on
campus.**

Beginning June 1, 2020, West Texas A&M University will be a completely tobacco/vape-free campus. Revisions to the current tobacco policy were adopted March 3 and are an important step toward ensuring the health and safety of our campus community and visitors.

The new policy prohibits the use of all tobacco products (including vape products), smokeless tobacco products, and any illegal smoking products on all University properties, facilities, and state vehicles—including the use of these products in personal vehicles while on campus property. Prohibited products include cigarettes, cigars, snuff, chewing tobacco and snuff products, vape pens, e-cigarettes, and hookahs.

Rules governing the use of these products in residence halls can be found in the Code of Student Life Handbook.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in helping WT join more than 2,400 colleges and universities across the county in eliminating secondhand smoke exposure, discouraging the use of use of harmful products, and encouraging tobacco users to kick the habit. The University has and continues to promote prevention and cessation programs.

Students may contact Darcy Webber, **Health and Wellness Promotions** Coordinator, for more information about prevention and cessation programs.

Faculty and staff should contact the **Benefits Office in Human Resources** (Heidi Stricker) for information regarding similar programs.

Walter V. Wendler
President

Scholarship Search



West Texas A&M University serves a broad community of students in Canyon, Amarillo, the Texas Panhandle and the World with unique needs as a result of the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic. In order to meet the needs of WT students and their families who have been impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, WT will award over \$2.88 million to assist students as part of its WT CARES PROGRAM. These allocations are designed to provide grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds will be used to address financial hardship, including housing and food insecurity, medical expenses, and lack of educational support and supplies (including technology). Additional grant opportunities will be made available for students with similar needs who are enrolled in any of the Summer and Fall 2020 semesters. [Click here to apply for the CARES Act grant.](#)

Summer I and II 2020 semester application dates:

Opens: May 30, 2020

Closes: July 31, 2020 11:59 pm

WT's New Scholarship for Interns

The President's Earn and Learn Scholarship Program launched this year for students pursuing experiences in research or internships that are unpaid or underpaid. Some of Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences students were recipients of this award.

- **Jessica Williams**, Sr. Wildlife Biology and Broadcast Journalism
- **Caitlyn Dotson**, Jr. Wildlife Biology
- **Katie McCallie**, Jr. Wildlife Biology

[See the full list of recipients](#)

Fantastic Faculty

Dr. Joseph Cepeda presents on: "Geological Framework of the Ogallala Formation"



Photo by Rik Anderson

On February 21, 2020, Dr. Joseph Cepeda, Professor of Geology, was invited to present his talk titled "Geological Framework of the Ogallala Formation" at the 2020 Southern Plains Conference, held in Canyon, Texas. This research traced the evolution of ideas on the origins of the Ogallala Formation from 1899 to present day.

For more than 120 years, geologists have recognized the abundance of groundwater contained within the Ogallala and the reality that most of the water is contained in the lower part of the formation - ideas that still remain true today.

Dr. Naruki Hiranuma Partners with The U.S. Department of Energy



Photo courtesy of Dr. Naruki Hiranuma

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently published a press release highlighting the research of Dr. Naruki Hiranuma, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science. Dr. Hiranuma's research was conducted at the Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) user facility and funded by DOE. In October and November 2019, Hiranuma, an expert in advanced aerosol measurement techniques, led a campaign he called Examining Ice Nucleating Particles (ExINP). This campaign provided the first automated and continuous measurements of ambient ice-nucleating particle (INP) concentrations—for 45 days straight at intervals of roughly every six minutes. Hiranuma's work, supplemented by ARM data, involved the first field deployment of the Portable Ice Nucleation Experiment chamber (PINE). PINE is a one-of-a-kind device that makes artificial clouds and uses aerosol particle detectors to monitor the abundance and characteristics of INPs. [Read more](#)

DATES TO REMEMBER



6/1

Summer 1
Classes begin



6/2

Last day to add/
register
for Summer 1



6/4

Last day to drop (not
withdraw) and be
eligible for
refund



6/8

Summer 1 Registration
(Full) Payment
Deadline 4 PM

**Employer Information
Session:**
Cactus Feeders
June 4th 3:00 P.M.

Career Success Webinar:
Leveraging your LinkedIn
June 2nd 4:00 P.M.

**Career Services
Summer Sessions**

Visit Handshake for more
information!

Contact Career Services at
806-651-2345

West Texas A&M
UNIVERSITY
CAREER SERVICES

Paul Engler College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences

Spring Semester 2020

President's List Students

4.0 GPA



Department of
Agricultural Sciences

111

Department of
Chemistry and Physics

13

Department of
Life, Earth and Environmental Sciences

65

Dean's List Students

3.5 - 3.9 GPA



Department of
Agricultural Sciences

158

Department of
Chemistry and Physics

9

Department of
Life, Earth and Environmental Sciences

68

Pond's Ponder

**“Two things define you:
Your patience when you have nothing,
and your attitude when you have everything.”
~ George Bernard Shaw**

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

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Please submit any contributions to the "Buff Brief" to:
BuffBrief@wtamu.edu