

## **Quadrennial Report information from the College of Sciences, 2002-2006**

Dean David Loyd completed ten years at the helm of the College of Sciences in 2006 and returned to the faculty. His successor, Grady Price Blount, joined us after thirteen years at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Blount had served there as Assistant Vice President for Research and Chair of a large interdisciplinary science department. He comes to ASU with a record of over \$25M in extramural funding and a strong emphasis on outreach programs. Those are talents he will put to good use as he continues the work started by Dean Loyd. The College of Sciences continues to thrive as one of our most vital academic units.

### Department of Agriculture

- Capped off 2006 by graduating a record 32 students from across the country.
- Completed a new Food Safety and Product Development Laboratory. This 8,000 ft<sup>2</sup> teaching space was funded with multiple grants from the USDA, the San Angelo health Foundation and the Dodge Jones Foundation totaling almost \$2M.
- Judging in nationally juried competitions is one of the ways that Meat Science students show they are among the best in the country. They repeatedly place and show in national meat judging competitions, regularly beating out teams from much larger schools.
- Loree Branham, a graduate Animal Science student won the championship at the research competition of the International Meat Science Association.
- Hired a new tenure track faculty member, Dr. Kirk Braden.
- Increased annual research funding to \$124,444 by 2006.
- Wildlife Management income grew to almost 422,000 annually by 2006.

### Department of Biology

- Seventy-eight Biology students applied for admission to health professions schools (medical schools, dental schools, optometry schools). Thirty-seven were successful for an acceptance rate of almost 48%.
- Faculty and students made one hundred-five presentations at scientific meetings and produced thirty publications.
- Faculty and students were awarded twelve external research grants totaling more than \$200,000.
- The ASU chapter of Beta Beta Beta was named the top chapter in the country.

### Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

- The Robert A. Welch Foundation Departmental Research Grant (2005-2008) was renewed for a fourth time.

- The ASU student chapter of the American Chemical Society (ACS) earned a commendation from the national ACS twice.
- The department sponsored *Science Days* presentations to over 1,000 area fourth-graders each year.
- Chemistry/Biochemistry graduates went on to Medical school (3), Graduate school (7), Dental school (1), DO school (1), and Pharmacy school (2).
- Pass rate of 100% on EXCET/TEExES exam every year.

#### Department of Mathematics

- Dr. David Huckaby was named a Dolciani-Halloran Foundation Project NExT Fellow. This honor was accorded to less than sixty new faculty nationwide.
- Mathematics retained its 100% first-time passing rate on the TEExES state teacher certification exam: Since 1997 they have had 113 students complete the program and attempt the ExCET/TEExES. All 113 have passed on their first attempt.
- Non-certification majors also continue to excel. On the Major Field Test (MFT), the average score since January 2003 was 157, which puts ASU at the 70th percentile nationwide. Individually, one student scored a 200 (the highest possible score); another scored 199.
- Mathematics Department faculty are heavily involved in the Texas State University System Mathematics for English Language Learners (TSUS-MELL) project. This system-wide project, funded by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), has brought summer salary and travel support for a number of our faculty, and has spawned a number of conference presentations as well as a framework for preservice best practices. The project also sponsored a week-long summer institute for inservice and preservice teachers on our campus during July 2006.
- The Mathematics Department was an integral part of the ten-campus Texas Collaborative for Excellence in Teacher Preparation (TxCETP). Funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), TxCETP has brought more than \$180,000 to ASU for the enhancement of preservice mathematics education. An additional \$70,000 in student support was funneled to ASU through the TxCETP Noyce Scholarship programs. Mathematics faculty organized a series of summer professional development workshops for area teachers. Four workshops were conducted in summer 2004, four more in summer 2005, and six in summer 2006. These workshops, funded by TxCETP, provided high quality, hands-on, inquiry-based instruction to a total of nearly 300 teachers.
- Math's first online course, College Algebra, has been offered every long semester since Fall 2005.
- Several new courses have been added including Precalculus I and II, Introduction to Abstract Mathematics, Introduction to Problem Solving, and Exploring Middle School Mathematics. A new degree program (BS with an Interdisciplinary Mathematics-Physics major with secondary certification) was also added.
- We added three Mathematics Special Academic Scholarship awardees in Fall 2003, eleven in Fall 2004, seven in Fall 2005, and fourteen in Fall 2006. These outstanding students help maintain the strength of our programs, and we are grateful to the President for making these scholarships available.

## Department of Nursing

- A forty-three station Computerized Testing Center becomes fully operational in the Vincent Building with *whole class* and *drop-in* availability
- Funds were secured for the conversion of two classrooms in the Vincent Building to a four-unit High Fidelity Simulation Center
- The Master of Science in Nursing program received full accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission
- All MSN options were converted to online offerings
- The MSN-Nurse Educator option was implemented
- The RN-MSN Program with Nurse Educator and CNS options was implemented.
- During this time period 100% of CNS graduates passed the national certifying examination within 6 months after graduation.

## Department of Physical Therapy

- Preliminary work started to create a Doctor of Physical Therapy program.
- “Met all of the requirements for compliance” by CAPTE (the national PT accreditation agency) on Sept. 1, 2006.
- Made transition to 4+2 programming.
- PT Lab additions completed in the Cavness Science Building; first anatomy class held in the new state-of-the-art Anatomy Lab
- Over three-quarters of MPT student research projects were accepted to state or national presentation venues for the classes of 2005 and 2006. All projects that were submitted for presentation were been accepted.
- 100% of all graduates passed the national licensure examination. As of January 2007, 100% of graduates are employed in the PT field.

## Department of Physics

- The Department of Physics was highlighted as one of twenty-one exceptional programs in Physics Today magazine.
- The Department of Physics was listed as one of eleven programs having "High Student Satisfaction and High Bachelor's Degree Production" in the American Institute of Physics June 2004 Report "Does It Matter Where I Go To College?".
- The Department of Physics was highlighted in an article titled "Great Minds Think Alike" published in the 2005 issue of Images of San Angelo.
- External grants totaling \$176 000 were received from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the National Science Foundation, the American Association of Physics Teachers, and the American Astronomical Society.