

NORTHEAST LEADERSHIP FORUM'S

Heart of North Texas Business Conference

# Emerald anniversary



November 4, 2016



Northeast Campus





# Welcome

Welcome to the Northeast Leadership Forum's 20th Annual Heart of North Texas Business Conference at the Northeast Campus of Tarrant County College. As we celebrate the emerald anniversary of this event, we take a moment to reflect on the past 20 years and marvel at the changes that have occurred in the region and in our society in that time. Just imagine how technology has altered our world in ways we could not even conceive 20 years ago. As an example, children born since the first Heart of North Texas Business Conference have never known a world without internet access. And typewriters are now becoming museum exhibits. Social media has become a part of all our lives in ways we could not have imagined a few short years ago. What changes are the next 20 years likely to bring?

On behalf of the conference planning team, thank you to our sponsors, speakers and you for being here today. We hope you enjoy the conference as much as we have enjoyed planning it!

**Chair:**

**Allen Goben, Ed.D.**

**President of Tarrant County College Northeast Campus**

**Faye Beaulieu,**

United Way

**Jack Bradshaw,**

CEO Northeast Tarrant Chamber

**Jerry Zumwalt,**

Vice President

Community and Industry Education

TCC Northeast Campus

**Julie Parrick,**

Director

Community and Industry Education

TCC Northeast Campus

**Hank Johnson,**

Manager of Workforce Training

Community and Industry Education

TCC Northeast Campus

**Carolyn Sims,**

Events/Community Relations Coordinator

TCC Northeast Campus

**Mayor Jim Griffin,**

City of Bedford

**RaDonna Hessel,**

CEO Grapevine Chamber

**Jeanette Jacobs,**

Director of Academic Affairs

TCC Northeast Campus

**Randy Saleh,**

Assistant Professor Business

TCC Northeast Campus

**Jack Harred,**

Assistant to the President

TCC Northeast Campus



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Economic Developers' Roundtable	Craig Hulse
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Larry Darlage, PhD	Wendy Shabay	Marty Wieder
Gary Green	Carolyn Sims	Glen Whitley
Garry Hamilton	Roy Stewart	

## Heart of North Texas Agenda - November 4, 2016

<b>8 am</b>	<b>Registration and Breakfast</b>
<b>8:20 am</b>	Welcome from Dr. Allen Goben
<b>8:30 am – 9:30 am</b>	<b>Heart of North Texas 20/20</b> Dr. Larry Darlage, Principal of Crown of Life Lutheran School Dr. Karen Rue, Retired, Superintendent, Northwest ISD 2015-2016 Oscar Trevino, Mayor of City of North Richland Hills Vicki Truitt, President, VTruitt Consulting, LLC Marty Wieder, Economic Development Director for Grand Prairie
<b>9:40 am – 10:40 am</b>	<b>Breakout Sessions</b>
Session One	The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) Officer Pat O'Neal, City of Grapevine Police Department Chief Jeff Gibson, City of Bedford Police Department Officer Shane Bean, City of Bedford Police Department The Galley (NSTU 1506)
Session Two	Collaboration Power: Excelling in a Multi-Generational Workplace Dr. Allen Goben, Tarrant County College Dr. Terry Mouchayleh, Tarrant County College Theater (NFAB 1205)
Session Three	An Integrated, Multi-Disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness Dr. Marcelo Cavazos, Superintendent, Arlington ISD Dr. Kenneth Drake, Tarrant County College Dr. Robert Edmonds, Tarrant County College Dr. William Kucera, Tarrant County College Dr. Jennifer Smith, Tarrant County College Center Corner (NSTU 1615A)
Session Four	Keys to Investment Crowdfunding Success for Texas Businesses Nathan Roach, MassVenture College Hall (NCAB 1111)
<b>10:50 am – 11:50 am</b>	<b>Breakout Sessions Repeated</b>
<b>Noon – 1 pm</b>	Lunch Keynote speaker - Rick Smyre, President, Communities of the Future "The Second Enlightenment" Center Corner (NSTU 1506)



## **KEY NOTE SPEAKER**

### ***“The Second Enlightenment”***

**Rick Smyre**

President,  
Communities of the Future

Rick Smyre is an internationally recognized futurist specializing in the area of building “capacities for transformation” in local communities. A graduate of Davidson College and NC State University, he is President of the Center for Communities of the Future, a network of people and organizations in forty-seven states and eleven other countries. Mr. Smyre is an architect of the new field of “community transformation,” the original Chairman of the Board of the American Association of Retirement Communities and was on the staff of the National Economic Development Institute for fourteen years.

Married for 52 years to Brownie Allen, Rick has three children, Cinda (50), Deric (47), and Beth (45). In the ‘70s he was the CEO of a textile yarn spinning firm. As a result of his experience at the state and local level, to include chairman of a NC county school board and chairman of a county chamber of commerce, he understands issues local communities face when preparing for a different kind of economy and society.

Mr. Smyre focuses his work in several ways. He speaks internationally, coaches local leaders in the knowledge and skills of “community transformation,” and collaborates with many people and groups globally and locally to prepare for a different kind of future.

Rick has provided over 400 seminars, keynotes and retreats over the last two decades to introduce innovative “Community Transformation” ideas such as Transformational Learning, Master Capacity Builder, Creative Molecular Economy and Mobile Collaborative Governance. The most recent concept emerging from work nationally is the idea of a Future Forward College. Among the conferences Mr. Smyre has keynoted has been the National Millennium Communities Conference in Houston for the US Institute of Justice; the national Future Trends Business Marketing Conference in Miami; and the National Council for Resource Development in Washington, DC. This year in San Francisco was the twenty-second year that he has presented at the international World Future Society Conference.



***“Heart of North Texas 20/20”***

**Marty Wieder**

Economic Development Director  
Grand Prairie

Marty Wieder is Economic Development Director with Grand Prairie. Prior to joining the City last May, he served as Director, Economic Development with Colleyville for almost 7 years. Marty also previously worked with GSBS Architects, as well as in economic development-related positions with North Richland Hills, Northeast Tarrant and Arlington Chambers of Commerce, and North Central Texas Council of Governments.

Marty grew up in Arlington—where he observed (and early in his career got the opportunity to work with) historic Mayor Tom Vandergriff. Marty attended UT Arlington, earning a Bachelor’s in Communication (1983) and Master’s in Urban Affairs (1988).

A member of the International Economic Development Council, American Planning Association and its Economic Development Division, Urban Land Institute and International Council of Shopping Centers (which tapped him as Public Sector Delegate on their P3 Retail Program Advisory Committee in 2015), Marty is a North Texas Commission Board Director and Class 4 (2012-13) graduate of NTC’s Leadership North Texas program. He is a Service Lead Deacon at Gateway Church NRH.

Fort Worth Business selected Marty among their “Top 40 under 40” in 1994. Texas Career and Technology Council & Vocational-Technical Education Foundation of Texas recognized him and other NRH officials in 1999 as “Best in Texas” for backing the BISD. Northeast Tarrant Chamber granted him Chairman’s Awards in 1994 and 2001 for fostering economic development programs (which Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives recognized in 2001 as “Best in the State”) and its Gertrude Tarpley Director of the Year Award in 2003. UT Arlington selected him among the School of Urban & Public Affairs’ Recognized Alumni in 2013, and Colleyville Area Chamber of Commerce granted him their Leadership Award in 2015.

Marty and wife Bonnie have four children—Casey (who recently married Tracie Calhoun Wieder), Carleigh, Collin and Christian.



***"Heart of North Texas 20/20"***

**Dr. Larry Darlage**

Principal

Crown of Life Lutheran School

Larry Darlage received his B.A. degree from the University of Indianapolis in 1967. He obtained teaching and research fellowships at Iowa State University where he completed a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry in 1971.

Following a two-year postdoctoral appointment at the University of Florida, he began his career in teaching and education at Pikeville College located in eastern Kentucky. In 1978, Larry moved to Dallas to help start up Brookhaven College. He served as Division Chair of Science and Mathematics and Vice-President of Instruction. In 1996, he was hired by Tarrant County College to serve as the President of the Northeast Campus in Hurst. He "retired" from TCC in 2014 and now serves as principal of Crown of Life Lutheran School.

In the community, Larry serves on numerous boards and committees. He has been honored with outstanding leadership awards from the Colleyville, Hurst-Euless-Bedford, and the Northeast Tarrant Chambers of Commerce, as well as from the Northeast Leadership Forum.

This year, he and his wife Mary Linn have celebrated 49 years of marriage, and they reside in Southlake, Texas.





***“Heart of North Texas 20/20”***

**Karen Rue, Ed.D.**

Retired, Superintendent  
Northwest ISD  
2015-2016

At a local and national level, Dr. Karen Rue has been active in leading and creating a transformational shift in education, with a focus on preparing future-ready students, encouraging innovation and creativity, and developing more meaningful assessment and accountability measures. Dr. Rue was a founding member of the Public Education Visioning Institute, and served as co-chair of the Texas High Performance Schools Consortium.

She was named a 2016 AASA Women in School Leadership Award Finalist, the 2014 Region XI Superintendent of the Year, selected to participate in Classroom Connectivity in Texas at the Governor’s Mansion and in the Connected Superintendents Summit at the White House, chosen as a finalist in the eSchool News Tech-Savvy Superintendent Awards program, and named one of the nation’s Top 50 Innovators in Education by the Center for Digital Education.

Dr. Rue served as President of both the Texas Association of School Administrators and the Urban Superintendents of America Association. She also served as Vice President for the Texas School Coalition and is a past president of the Fast Growth Schools Coalition and Texas Association of Suburban/Mid-Urban Schools.

Retiring in 2016 with 37 years in education, 11 as superintendent of Northwest ISD, Dr. Rue served 3 years as superintendent of schools of Tuloso-Midway ISD and as Executive Director of Katy ISD where she received the U.S. Congressional Achievement Award for her dedication and service to the people of Katy ISD. She has a bachelor’s degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, a master’s from Lamar University, and a doctorate from Texas A&M University.



***"Heart of North Texas 20/20"***

**Oscar Trevino**

Mayor

City of North Richland Hills

T. Oscar Trevino, Jr., P.E. was elected Mayor of the City of North Richland Hills in June 2002 and re-elected seven times, making him the longest serving mayor in the city's history. Prior to being elected mayor, he served as a council member for three years.

Mr. Trevino was born and raised in San Antonio, Texas. He graduated from Texas A&M University in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He has more than 40 years of business and construction experience and is presently president and owner of O. Trevino Construction, a heavy-highway contractor. He is a member of St. John's Catholic Church and a fourth degree Knight of Columbus.

Along with promoting a positive city image, sense of community and financial stability, Mayor Trevino's priorities for North Richland Hills have included safety and security, economic development, redevelopment and revitalization, and mobility improvements. Mayor Trevino believes it is important to collaborate and work with other communities to improve regional problems, such as transportation and air quality issues.

His approach to leadership is inclusive and built on a foundation of finding consensus. He is a past president of the North Central Texas Council of Governments and past chair and current member of the Tarrant Regional Transportation Coalition. He is a member of the Coalition for Better Transportation, Texas Transportation Institute Advisory Council and TEX-21 Committee. He is also a member and former chair of the National League of Cities Transportation & Infrastructure Services Committee and a member and past president of the NLC's Hispanic Elected Local Officials group. He is a member and past chair of the Tarrant County Mayors Council, as well as the Northeast Leadership Forum and holds numerous other volunteer positions within the community.

Mayor Trevino was honored as the Hispanic Businessman of the Year by the Fort Worth Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2015. He received the Planning Advocate Award from the American Planning Association's Midwest Texas Section in 2011.



***“Heart of North Texas 20/20”***

**VICKI TRUITT**

President

VTruitt Consulting, LLC

Former State Representative Vicki Truitt served 14 years in the Texas House of Representatives. For six years, she chaired the Texas House Committee on Pensions, Investments, & Financial Services. She served multiple terms on the influential House Calendars Committee, and was a member of the House Committee on Public Health for ten years. Prior to ascending to the chair of Pensions & Investments, she chaired Budget & Oversight for the House Committee on Public Health. And as Vice Chair of the prestigious Sunset Advisory Commission, she led all House Sunset activities during the 2007 legislative session. She also served four years on the budget writing Appropriations Committee. During the 80th Legislature, Vicki successfully passed more legislation than any other member of the Texas House of Representatives.

Vicki is a Public Policy Fellow of the University of Texas School of Law's Center for Public Policy Dispute Resolution, and has also completed that Center's course in Advanced Negotiation Skills: A Skills Based Institute of Strategy and Technique, and is a graduate of Leadership North Texas. She is the current chairman of the Northeast Leadership Forum, has been honored with the NLF's Distinguished Leadership Award, and has long been involved in local organizations, such as Metroport Cities Partnership, Metroport Meals On Wheels, Rotary, and many others.

Vicki remains involved in public policy issues and represents the interests of leading businesses, government agencies and non-profit organizations throughout Texas for whom she leverages her extensive contacts with public policy makers, and uses focused planning and strategies to achieve results for clients.

She is a native and life-long resident of North Texas. She and her husband, Jim, have been married for 37 years, and have two adult daughters and five grandchildren, all of whom live in North Texas.



## ***SESSION ONE***

### ***"CRASE - Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event"***

#### **Officer Pat O'Neal**

Northeast Tarrant County Area SWAT Team

Officer O'Neal earned a B.S. in Psychology from Wayland Baptist University, and continued with his education, earning another B.S. in Criminal Justice and an M.S. in Administration and Organization from the University of Central Oklahoma. Officer O'Neal is a Senior Officer with the Grapevine Police Department, where he has served over 10 years as a Patrol Officer, Street Crimes Officer and Crime Prevention Officer. Officer O'Neal holds a Master Peace Officer License and is a Certified Crime Prevention Specialist, with specialized training in Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Officer O'Neal is currently serving his sixth year as a member of SWAT for the Northeast Tarrant County Area team, involving the cities of Hurst, Euless, Bedford and Grapevine. Officer O'Neal has extensive Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response (ALERRT) and Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training.

#### **ACTIVE SHOOTER BREAKOUT DESCRIPTION:**

The Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) seminar is designed on the Avoid, Deny, Defend strategy developed by ALERRT in 2004 to provide guidance and a proven plan for surviving an active shooter event. Topics include the history and prevalence of active shooter events, the role of professional guardians, civilian response options and medical issues.



***“CRASE - Civilian Response to  
Active Shooter Event”***

**Jeff D. Gibson**

Chief of Police

Bedford Police Department

Chief Jeff D. Gibson is a twenty year veteran of the Bedford Police Department. As Chief of Police, he commands a department of over 141 employees. Chief Gibson has served and supervised multiple divisions within the Bedford Police Department to include, Patrol, SWAT, Training and Recruiting, and Narcotics.

Chief Gibson holds a Bachelor of Arts and Science Degree awarded by Dallas Baptist University. Chief Gibson is a graduate of the International Law Enforcement Administration Management College and Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas. Chief Gibson holds a Master Peace Officer and Advanced Instructor certifications from the State of Texas.



***“CRASE - Civilian Response to  
Active Shooter Event”***

**Shane Bean**

Patrol Supervisor

Bedford Police Department

Shane is a U.S. Army Veteran with 5 years of active service. Following his honorable discharge in late 2002, he immediately began his employment as a Police Officer with the Bedford Police Department. During his tenure, Shane has served in multiple division within the Police Department and is currently assigned to the Patrol Divisions as a Patrol Supervisor. Shane is also assigned to the Northeast Tarrant County Area SWAT Team and has been a member of SWAT since 2005. Shane has been a certified ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) instructor for 9 years.



## **SESSION TWO**

### ***“Collaboration Power: Excelling in a Multi-Generational Workplace”***

**Dr. Allen Goben**

President, Northeast Campus  
Tarrant County College

In 2014, Dr. Allen Goben became President of Tarrant County College Northeast Campus. As President of Heartland Community College in Normal, Illinois, he doubled the college foundation's endowment and created Heartland GPS: Guided Path to Success-- a framework for improved student planning and success.

In 2009, Dr. Goben was honored as a Distinguished Graduate at The University of Texas at Austin Community College Leadership Program. In 2011 the American Association of Community Colleges named him to the 21st Century Commission on the Future of Community Colleges. This compliments his participation in AACC's Voluntary Framework of Accountability Steering Committee.

Dr. Goben served as President of Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC) in Kentucky where in only three years, his team achieved a 24% improvement in student success. HCTC was recognized as one of the Best Places to Work in Kentucky and was listed on the Chronicle of Higher Education's "Great Colleges to Work For".

For nearly 30 years, he has been devoted to collaborative leadership and learning excellence as a faculty member, coach, college recruiter, counselor, and administrator. He has led student services operations as a Counselor for Advanced Technologies, and his classroom teaching experience includes history, geography, social studies, communications, human relations and transformational leadership in community colleges.

A first generation college student who began his post-secondary educational journey at Indian Hills Community College in Iowa, Dr. Goben completed a bachelor's degree in history from Iowa State University, a master's degree in School Counseling from Drake University, and an EdD in 2003 in Educational Administration from The University of Texas at Austin, Community College Leadership Program.



***“Collaboration Power: Excelling in a Multi-Generational Workplace”***

**Dr. Terry Stewart Mouchayleh**

Executive Director of the Teaching and Learning Academy at Tarrant County College

Dr. Terry Stewart Mouchayleh is the Executive Director of the Teaching and Learning Academy at Tarrant County College. Prior to joining TCC she was the Director of Professional Development and Evaluation Programs at Austin Community College (ACC) and was an English professor at Amarillo College for 18 years before joining ACC. Terry has served as president of the Two-Year College English Association (TYCA), Texas Community College Teachers Association Executive Committee (TCCTA), and as the community college representative on the Executive Committee of the American Association of Colleges and Universities. She also served as a member of the Texas Higher Education Formula Funding Advisory Committee and the Texas Leadership Advisory Committee. She is a graduate of Leadership Round Rock, Texas, and the John Roueche Future Leaders Institute and is a Salzburg Global Issues Fellow.



## **SESSION THREE**

### ***"An Integrated, Multi-disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness"***

**Marcelo Cavazos**  
Superintendent  
Arlington ISD

Dr. Marcelo Cavazos started his teaching career as an English teacher in the Mission Consolidated ISD in 1990. In 1992, he moved to McAllen ISD where he taught English and government. He was named the secondary language arts supervisor for Mercedes ISD in 1993 and became associate adviser for San Benito Consolidated ISD in 1995. Cavazos went to work for the Texas Education Agency Department of School Finance and Support in 1998.

He joined the AISD in 1999 as associate superintendent for instruction and served as interim deputy superintendent for seven months before being named deputy superintendent in February 2009. He has previously served as a lecturer for the University of Texas at Arlington's Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Cavazos served as interim superintendent for six months before being named superintendent Dec. 6, 2012. He holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from the University of Texas - Pan American and a doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Cavazos is active in the community. He serves on the TASB Risk Management Fund Board, SafeHaven of Tarrant County Board, Texas School Alliance Board, United Way of Tarrant County Board Executive Committee, Workforce Solutions for Tarrant County Board, River Legacy Foundation Board and the Arlington ISD Education Foundation Board. He's an ex-officio member of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce Board. Cavazos is a member of the Rotary Club of Arlington, an associate member of the Greater Arlington Lions Club, a Lifetime Supporting Member of the Texas Lions Camp, a Melvin Jones Fellow with Lions Club International Foundation, a member of the Knights of Columbus and active at St. Matthew Catholic Church. He received the 2009 Arlington MLK Celebration Sharing the Dream Award for Education, the 2012 YMCA Citizen of the Year Award, the 2012 Educator Award from the Asian-American Chamber of Commerce, the 2013-2014 Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award from the Arlington Elks Lodge No. 2114 and is the 2016 Seat 21 Honoree by the Texas Rangers Baseball Foundation. He has been married to Nora for 16 years; his children, Theresa and Diego, attend school at Gunn Junior High and Key Elementary.





## ***“An Integrated, Multi-disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness”***

**Robert Lee Edmonds, Ph.D.**

Professor of Physics

Tarrant County College

**CASTI** (Center for the Advancement of Science,  
Technology, and Innovation)

Robert Edmonds is a professor of physics at the Northeast campus of Tarrant County College. Dr. Edmonds is an accomplished enterprise and technology executive with a distinguished record of leadership and consulting for national and international private and public Fortune 500 companies, governments, and venture capital groups including the Deutsche Bank, Deloitte & Touche, Berkshire Hathaway, British Telecom, the Pentagon and Naval Research Laboratory.

As a planetary physicist, Dr. Edmonds is credited for constructing the first detailed investigation of internal energy sources driving the formation and evolution of terrestrial planets. Edmonds also retains copyrights for his original, leading work in numerical methods for solving complex mathematical relationships. He is a notable expert in decision and option theory, applied business quantitative, and risk analysis. Robert Edmonds has published numerous scientific, technical, and business treatises, journal articles and conference papers, as well having delivered lectures and key note speeches across the United States and Europe. In 1996, his seminal work in distance education and telemedicine was instrumental in forming the country's largest corporate educational foundation.

Robert Lee Edmonds received his B.S. degree in physics from Loyola University of Maryland in 1973, and the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from The Johns Hopkins University in 1980 and 1984, respectively. Dr. Edmonds was appointed to the Carnegie Institution of Washington D.C. as a research fellow serving from 1985 to 1987. He is also a graduate of the Harvard Business School's executive program with a concentration of study in valuation and strategic analysis.

Dr. Edmonds was elected to the New York Academy of Sciences in 1988 and is a member of the American Geophysical Union. He served on the Industry Advisory Board at Texas A&M University and currently serves on several executive committees of a national non-profit organization promoting character, service, and educational development in youth. Edmonds also co-founded an emerging publishing and media company that today produces educational, motivational, and inspirational publications for several corporate and non-profit institutions.



## ***"An Integrated, Multi-disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness"***

### **William R. Kucera, Ph.D.**

Professor of Chemistry

Tarrant County College

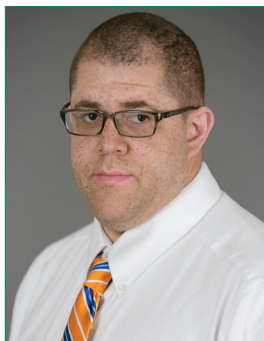
**CASTI** (Center for the Advancement of Science,  
Technology, and Innovation)

Professor Bill Kucera is an educator and scientist that has been teaching chemistry at Tarrant County College for the last twenty years. Dr. Kucera has an extensive background in polymer chemistry and he's also an avid follower of developments in materials science. One of his latest initiatives involves the field of 3D printing.

Dr. Kucera completed his B.S. degree at the University of Texas at Arlington in May of 1988. While completing his bachelor's degree, he worked in industry with Gifford Hill in the field of construction materials. He also performed undergraduate research in conductive polymers during his junior and senior years at UTA. After completing his bachelor's degree, he worked for an Irving, TX based adhesives and sealants company with commercial clients throughout the U.S. At that time, he developed, tested, and improved formulations of bedding compounds for windows – essentially caulking compounds. About a year later, he enrolled at TCU and began working on his advanced degree under the supervision of Robert Neilson – former department chair in chemistry. His research focused on phosphorus-nitrogen based polymers with properties very similar to the silicone based products manufactured by Dow-Corning. His research required extensive use of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy and even glass blowing for the repairing/building of equipment in lab.

After completing his graduate studies at TCU, Dr. Kucera was hired by TCC as a full time professor. At this time, he teaches courses in General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, and Allied Health Chemistry. He spends extensive time mentoring his students for their programs in medicine, science, and engineering. He often invites former students with medical/science degrees to initiate open forums for his current students.

Dr. Kucera is an outdoor enthusiast with a passion for camping, fishing, hiking, and cycling. His grandfather and stepfather have made noteworthy contributions to the field of science and engineering. They have both contributed significantly to his growth not only as an academic, but also as a mentor and a scientist.



***"An Integrated, Multi-disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness"***

**Kenneth Drake, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Physical Science

Tarrant County College

**CASTI** (Center for the Advancement of Science, Technology, and Innovation)

Dr. Kenneth Drake joined Tarrant County College in 2014 as an associate professor in physical science. Dr. Drake received his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Texas at Arlington under the guidance of Sanjay Awasthi, M.D., founder of the biotechnology company Terapio of Austin, Texas. Upon completion of his Ph.D. he accepted a post-doctoral research position at the University of California at San Diego to work for C. Lowell Parsons, M.D., the nation's leading urologist on interstitial cystitis and founder of Urigen Pharmaceuticals out of North Brunswick, New Jersey.

Dr. Drake's subject matter expertise is in the area of stress resistance and cellular drug accumulation defect seen in certain types of cancer (multi-drug resistance). His project goals included identification of a small molecule "toxic factor" capable of initiating the condition known as interstitial cystitis. Drake completed a second postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas working for Mark A. Lehrman, Ph.D. Here, his responsibilities included targeting sugar metabolism that protects viruses in effect weaken viral replication. It was during this time that Dr. Drake returned to teaching environmental chemistry at the University of Dallas. Following his time at the University of Dallas, he moved to Arizona State University as a senior lecturer before, again, returning to Texas to accept a professorship with Tarrant County College. At Tarrant County College, Dr. Drake enjoys the associate's level of academics as he can directly see his impact on his students and community, and can realize his mission and goals to inspire the next generation of great scientists and entrepreneurs.

Dr. Kenneth Drake has been a member of the American Chemical Society since 2011.



## ***"An Integrated, Multi-disciplinary Model for STEM Preparedness"***

### **Jennifer Smith, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor of Life Science

Tarrant County College

**CASTI** (Center for the Advancement of Science, Technology, and Innovation)

Dr. Jennifer Smith joined Tarrant County College in 2015 as an Associate Professor of Life Science. She holds a Ph.D. in Biomedical Science with emphases in immunology, molecular genetics, and cancer biology earned in 2012 from Baylor University. Jennifer completed her research and a postdoctoral fellowship at Baylor Institute for Immunological Research in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Smith was also an adjunct faculty member at Baylor, Texas Woman's University, and Richland College before her current assignment at Tarrant County College.

Dr. Smith's research in breast cancer vaccines is currently in a Stage II clinical trial through Baylor Research Institute. She has been a contributing author and editor of a teaching supplement for a microbiology textbook, participates in many higher education pedagogical activities, and is a frequent guest speaker for various Dallas-based clubs and organizations. In the classroom, Jennifer Smith is actively building research opportunities for undergraduate research at the college, and is dedicated to expanding opportunities for under-resourced students in higher-level biological sciences leading to professional degrees. This past spring, she reorganized her microbiology class to allow for independently designed research projects to be completed by students in lab, culminating in a public presentation.

Dr. Jennifer Smith is a member of several honor societies and professional organizations, including Mu Phi Epsilon, a professional music fraternity, for whom she serves as its 2nd International Vice President, Collegiate Advisor. In that role, she manages and coordinates over 80 collegiate chapters and over 10,000 members, as well as the fraternity's regional District Directors. Currently, Dr. Smith is the coordinator of the Microbiology program on Northeast Campus and has a primary teaching commitment in the field, with recent teaching experience in Genetics and Introductory Biology.



## ***SESSION FOUR***

### ***“Keys to Investment Crowdfunding Success for Texas Businesses”***

#### **Nathan Roach**

Founder/CEO of MassVenture

Nathan Roach is a San Antonio-based entrepreneur and attorney. Nathan is Founder/CEO of MassVenture ([www.massventure.com](http://www.massventure.com)) a leading Texas equity crowdfunding platform. Nathan has been a strong advocate for legal reforms to allow investment crowd funding in Texas and at the national level. Additionally, Nathan is Corporate Counsel at MWR Legal ([www.mwrlegal.com](http://www.mwrlegal.com)), a full-service law firm representing and connecting innovators, startups and high-growth companies. An attorney and technologist, Mr. Roach focuses on helping inventors, innovators, and startups avoid trouble, protect their IP, and stay focused on transforming their field of endeavor. Upon graduation from Trinity University, Nathan began his career in technology as employee number 19 at Rackspace Managed Hosting, rising from self taught webmaster to Project Manager. He took his technology skills into the business world, founding Litigation Dynamics, a litigation support company that anticipated the growing need for technology support in the legal profession. After his exit, Nathan attended law school where he helped direct implementation of the St. Mary's University School of Law Technology Courtroom.

# Notes

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