Texas Gov. Greg Abbott appointed three new members to the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents for terms set to expire on Jan. 31, 2025, his office announced on March 6.

The new appointees are Ginger Kerrick (Webster, Texas), Flight Integration Division Chief for NASA; Mark Griffin (Lubbock, Texas), President and CEO of The Griffin Companies and Pro Petroleum Inc.; and Dusty Womble (Lubbock, Texas), board member and former Executive Vice President of Tyler Technologies.

“Congratulations to Ms. Kerrick, Mr. Griffin, and Mr. Womble on their appointment to the board,” said TTU System Chancellor Dr. Tedd L. Mitchell. “Regents invest their time and energy voluntarily for which we are all grateful. This is a transformative time for the Texas Tech System, and we are thankful to them for their service. I also want to express my personal appreciation to Regent Esparza, Regent Lancaster and Regent Francis. Their tenure on the Texas Tech Board of Regents has made our system one of the finest in the nation. I consider them dear friends, as well as great Texans.”
The Texas Tech University System Board of Regents elected Christopher M. Huckabee and J. Michael Lewis chairman and vice chairman, respectively, during a special-called meeting of the board by telephone conference March 21.

Huckabee, who was appointed to the board by Gov. Abbott in 2015, was named vice chairman of the Board of Regents in Oct. 2018 and has previously served the board as a member of the Facilities Committee and Investment Advisory Committee. Huckabee is the CEO of Huckabee Architecture, Engineering and Program Management, a 300-person firm dedicated to educational design.

Lewis was appointed to the Board of Regents in 2017 by Gov. Abbott. He has previously served the board as the chairman of the Carr Foundation Board of Trustees and served as a member of the Finance and Administration Committee and the Investment Advisory Committee of the Texas Tech University Endowment. Lewis has also served as a board member for the Texas Tech Foundation.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center on April 25 announced the naming of its pharmacy school as the TTUHSC Jerry H. Hodge School of Pharmacy. The naming honors the lifelong dedication and support of TTUHSC by Hodge.

Texas Tech University System Chancellor and TTUHSC President Dr. Tedd L. Mitchell said...
Hodge’s leadership and involvement at the state level were instrumental in helping the university establish the School of Pharmacy in 1993, the first publicly supported pharmacy program in the U.S. in nearly five decades.

“The impact Jerry Hodge has had on this community has been extraordinary,” Mitchell said. “His commitment and longstanding dedication to this region, the city of Amarillo and to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center has been transformative as we wouldn’t be here today without this family’s devotion and support. It is an honor to recognize Jerry with the naming of our School of Pharmacy.”

Facility Spotlight: Angelo State University Seibel Commons

Angelo State University celebrated the completion of the Centennial Village Commons Building, which was named “Seibel Commons,” in recognition of a generous $5.5 million gift from the Abe and Annie Seibel Foundation in Galveston. Construction of the new G-Wing of Centennial Village was completed prior to the start of the 2018-19 academic year thanks to construction contractor, Whiting-Turner, who teamed up with architecture firm, Marmon Mok. The project was led by TTU System Facilities Planning and Construction. The residence hall added 162 beds to the complex, which brings the total number of beds in the complex to 682. Centennial Village originally opened in 2008.

“With the continued growth of our student body,” said ASU President Brian J. May, “it is imperative that we provide not only adequate residence hall space, but that we provide the modern facilities and amenities that our students expect and deserve. To receive such a substantial gift to help us accomplish those goals is a tremendous and welcome bonus, and the entire Ram Family is extremely thankful to the Seibel Foundation.”

The Seibel Commons houses various gathering spaces for all the student residents of the Centennial Village complex. Its amenities include gaming tables, a computer lab, large-screen TVs, the complex laundry room and the complex Help Desk.

Texas Tech Red Raiders are NCAA Tournament National Runner-Up

The Texas Tech men’s basketball team completed its historic 2018-19 season with an NCAA Tournament runner-up finish, falling 85-77 in overtime to Virginia in the national championship game in Minneapolis on Monday, April 8.

The Red Raiders won a school-record 31 games and became the first school from the state of Texas to reach the NCAA Final Four since 2003. Head coach Chris Beard has now led Texas Tech to its best finish in the NCAA Tournament in back-to-back years, following an Elite Eight run during
Beard’s second season as head coach in 2017-18. Beard was named the Associated Press National Coach of the Year and Big 12 Coach of the Year. Sophomore Jarrett Culver was named Big 12 Player of the Year and collected several second team All-America awards.

Texas Tech also claimed the program’s first Big 12 title with a regular season co-championship while winning a school-record 14 conference games.

Texas Tech & Angelo State Programs & Organizations Win National Championships

Several programs, spirit groups and organizations within the Texas Tech University System won national championships during the spring semester. The most recent national champions from Texas Tech University and Angelo State University are:

- Angelo State University Co-Ed Cheer Team
- Angelo State University Wool Judging Team
- Texas Tech University Co-Ed Cheer Team
- Texas Tech University Pom Squad
- Texas Tech University Meat Animal Evaluation Team

Ground Broken for New Angelo State Stephens Chapel on Campus

Angelo State University hosted the official groundbreaking ceremony for its new Stephens Chapel to be located at 1965 S. Johnson St. in the heart of the ASU campus on April 17. The new chapel is named in honor of longtime ASU supporters F.L. “Steve” and Pollyanna Stephens. In recognition of the honorary naming, the Stephens have fully funded construction of the chapel with a gift of $1.925 million and were in attendance for the groundbreaking ceremony.

At 3,100 square feet, the Stephens Chapel will include a portico, narthex, sanctuary, bride’s room, groom’s room/vesting, sacristy, restrooms and service areas. It will have metal-framed, brick/stone-clad exterior walls and a metal roof. The finishes will include stone tile flooring, interior brick walls, stained glass windows, custom light fixtures, wood deck ceilings and custom pews.

This is the second ASU facility to be named for the Stephens, whose name also adorns the Stephens Arena inside the ASU Junell Center athletics facility on South Jackson Street.

Texas Tech & South Plains College Sign New Agreement to Help Students Transfer

Texas Tech University and South Plains College (SPC) signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on April 1 for a new concurrent enrollment/alternate admissions program for students not initially accepted to Texas Tech.

The MOU, formally called “Texan to Red Raider,” guarantees students admission to Texas Tech upon successful completion of program requirements.

“This partnership is distinguished by the long-standing relationship between Texas Tech and South Plains College and our close proximity that provides special pathways for students who start at SPC with the ultimate goal of enrolling at Texas Tech,” said Texas Tech President Lawrence Schovanec. “Our continued collaboration will
Public Art Program Adds Several Pieces Throughout the TTU System

The TTU System Public Art Program has had numerous installations this semester at completed capital construction projects across the TTU System at its component universities. Designed and created from world-renown sculptors and artists, the Public Art collection has added the following pieces throughout the TTU System:

- “Confluence” by Frank Swanson – ASU
- “Red Tail” by Peter Mangan – TTU
- “PULSE” by Adam Frank – TTUHSC
- “Zephyr” by Marc Fornes – TTU
- “Complete Fragment” by James Surls – TTUHSC
- “All the World is a Stage” by David Dahlquist and Matt Niebuhr – TTU

TTUHSC El Paso Receives $1.5 Million for Jim & Julie Cardwell Endowed Chair in Neurology

Thanks to a generous $750,000 gift from the Jim and Julie Cardwell Fund and the Cardwell Family Foundation, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso is establishing an endowed chair in the department of neurology.

TTUHSC is matching the gift, establishing the Jim and Julie Cardwell Endowed Chair in Neurology. The chair will be supported by a $1.5 million fund thanks to the combined gift and match. The gift and endowed chair are part of a long-term effort to increase the number of neurologists available to treat the El Paso community. The Cardwell Family Foundation is an affiliate of the El Paso Community Foundation.

In the Texan to Red Raider program, students take 12-15 credit hours at Texas Tech while simultaneously taking 39-42 credit hours at SPC.

Jim & Julie Cardwell with Salvador Cruz-Flores, M.D., professor and chair of the TTUHSC El Paso department of neurology.

enhance access to a college degree, benefiting both of our schools and our communities.”