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News Release

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Faculty Fellow for Commercial Research Named for Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center *Position to Identify Technologies with Market Potential*

Ron Banister, a Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) assistant professor and anesthesiologist, has accepted an appointment effective immediately as a faculty fellow from the Texas Tech University System Office of Technology Commercialization.

Banister, who has collaborated in the invention of eight medical devices over the past three years, will act as a mentor and sounding board for TTUHSC researchers who are considering bringing their technologies to market. In addition, Banister will be asked to assess new technologies being developed at the TTUHSC for their commercial potential.

Banister said he accepted the appointment because he believes there is a real need for medical researchers to better understand how the commercialization process works, and bring medical technology enhancements to the public at a faster rate.

“Some of our researchers are working on technologies that have great application in the commercial markets, and they either don’t realize it, or don’t know how to develop it. My role here is to help with both,” Banister said.

“Patent law, technology ownership and the process of creating a start-up company can be very complicated,” David L. Miller, vice chancellor for technology commercialization, said. “Our hope is that, by having an appointed representative for our office working inside the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, we can become much more visible and accessible to researchers. There is some great research going on at the institution’s various campuses, and it is our responsibility to facilitate their commercial development for the benefit of the general public.”

The Office of Technology Commercialization plans to make similar appointments at Texas Tech University later this year, creating clusters of technology commercialization in areas that have been targeted for strategic research growth as the university increases research spending towards its goal of becoming a national research university.

The Texas Tech University System Office of Technology Commercialization works with university researchers to bring their discoveries and inventions to the marketplace. The office also works to protect the intellectual property developed through university

Office of Communications and Marketing, Texas Tech University System



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research and bring it to the public through licensing agreements and the creation of start-up companies.

For more information, visit www.texastech.edu/otc.

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