



## **PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY**

### **January 2013 Newsletter**

For the month of January, the Petroleum Technology welcomes a new instructor, Ms. Dana Fahnrapp. Dana is a Western Texas College alumna, as well as a graduate of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas with a degree in Geology. After obtaining a degree in Geology, Dana worked in the Petroleum Industry as a “mud logger”, using her knowledge from her degrees to monitor well sites during the drilling phase. She has extensive safety training, working as well as a volunteer firefighter with the Scurry County Fire Department.

Ms. Fahnrapp replaces Mr. Shilpaker who returned to UT Dallas to work towards his Ph.D. and to write his Ph.D. dissertation, essentially a long book giving a synopsis of his research and its analysis and what all it means.

Companies have begun to contact the Petroleum Technology program with interests in interviewing students for summer internships. To complete the program students must also successfully complete an internship with a company in the Petroleum field, and prepare a report on their work during this internship.

Progress continues to be made on the field installation of the Polaris H.O.T. unit, with plans for internet connectivity set in place.

The continued work on a remodel of the Science building continues this year. Students in the Petroleum Technology program have Geology as one of the key classes, and Geology is taught in the Science building. A completely remodeled Science building will be a great aid in teaching our students, with completion expected by start of Fall Semester, 2013.

As these programs are about Project Based Learning, and re-use, re-purpose, and STEM support, all of the old lab cabinets from the Science building were moved to the 5400 sq. ft. Bay lab area. These will be used to set-up work areas (at no cost) for lab exercises: parts storage, drilling, taping, building items, etc.