



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™
EL PASO

NEWS RELEASE

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**Texas Tech System Regents to Establish
Freestanding Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso**

Friday August 8th, the Texas Tech University System Board of Regents voted to begin the process of establishing a freestanding Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences (GSBS) at Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center (TTUHSC) at El Paso. The freestanding graduate school would offer a master's degree and eventually a doctoral degree in biomedical sciences. Currently, the El Paso campus has a regional school offering a master's in biomedical sciences through Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center in Lubbock.

The process will include obtaining the required accreditation and related approvals from regulatory authorities including the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS). With the opening of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine in 2009, TTUHSC at El Paso has placed increasing emphasis on biomedical research, particularly in the area of translational medicine. The regional Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences enrolled 14 students last year and is expected to enroll another ten to 15 this year.

"The establishment of this freestanding Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at El Paso will complement and enhance the existing programs and expand educational opportunities," said TTUHSC at El Paso Founding President and Dean of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine Richard Lange, M.D. "Not only will the program benefit our university but these biomedical sciences graduates will form an integral part of the workforce in El Paso which is expected to make huge gains in the area of biomedical research in the near future."

Lastly, the research performed by the graduate students will address the health issues prevalent on the US-Mexico border. This new program will help facilitate interactions between basic science researchers and healthcare providers—or bench to bed discoveries. The new graduate school would become the third school on the TTUHSC El Paso Campus.

About Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso:

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso, the Texas Tech University System's fourth university, has a mission to provide education, research, and patient care to West Texas. It is comprised of the Paul L. Foster School of Medicine, the Gayle Greve Hunt School of Nursing and is a regional campus for a Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. The university has a clinical practice called Texas Tech Physicians which is part of the largest network of healthcare physicians in West Texas. Research focuses on cancer, diabetes & obesity, infectious diseases, and neurology.

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