

MAKING CONNECTIONS FOR YOU

THE OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES TEXAS A&M INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY 5201 UNIVERSITY BOULEVARD SC-114 LAREDO, TX WWW.TAMUJ.EDU/CAREER

Employer of the Month

Royce Wells,
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department



Feature Article
Career Briefing:
Alternative Energy
(page 6)

Energy and Utilities
(page 5)

The Top 100 Employers By
Rank
(page 10)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cover Story: Employer of the Month	2
Coffee Talk with Cassandra	2
Meet the Staff	2
Tips from Terry!	3
Notes from the Director	4
Energy and Utilities	5
Featured Article	6
Dress to Impress	8



**Coffee Talk
With Cassandra**



[Cassandra Wheeler, Executive Director, Office of Career Services](#)

Welcome to CAREER CORNER! This newsletter provides information to the University community about our services, and special programming. In addition we connect alumni and students to employers regarding networking and employment opportunities. The Office of Career Services is committed to provide the best services to the University community and is continually "Making Connections for You."

This month, our featured employer is Mr. Royce Wells, Warden and Recruiter from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department in Austin, Texas. In addition, we have tips on working in federal and state environmental agencies.

We hope you enjoy this issue. Email us at [Career Corner Newsletter](#) for comments or ideas for future newsletters. We would love to hear from you!

Employer of the Month

Royce Wells, Texas Game Warden VI / Recruiter works for the [Texas Parks & Wildlife Department](#) (TPWD), Law Enforcement Division located in [Austin, Texas](#). Royce has served more than 35 years working for Texas Parks & Wildlife. "I enjoy people and care about Texas' Natural Resources and want to protect them for the future. I wanted a career in law enforcement and this is a great law enforcement career," Wells stated.

Texas Parks & Wildlife Department is a state agency with vast career opportunities in almost any field for a graduating or current student. The mission of the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department is to manage and conserve the natural and cultural resources of Texas and to provide hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation opportunities for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Major duties for Texas Game Wardens include being responsible for the enforcement of the Parks and Wildlife Code, all TPWD regulations, the Texas Penal Code and selected statutes and regulations applicable to clean air and water, hazardous materials and human health. Game Wardens fulfill these responsibilities through educating the public about various laws and regulations, preventing violations by conducting high visibility patrols, and apprehending and arresting violators. Operation Game Thief provides citizens with a toll-free number to report poaching and other violations.

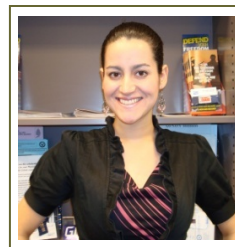
The Law Enforcement Division employs about 500 wardens throughout the state and operates 27 field offices that sell licenses, register boats, and provide the public with local information across the state. "Although our agency is statewide we are very close knit and have more of a family and service attitude. We care about what we do and we care about each other and the public," Wells noted.

According to Mr. Wells, "The most challenging part of this job is, being first responders to natural disasters and while it is rewarding being able to help people in these situations, it is also challenging having to deal with the devastation on people and property." Wells continues, "The best benefit is the chance to make a difference by protecting our natural resources for the future."

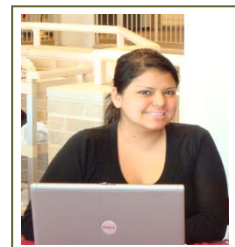
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department actively recruits on the campus of [Texas A&M International University](#) due to the diversity of the student body. "This agency is always looking for game warden prospects that can communicate in English and Spanish and there are good bilingual students there," Wells added.

(Cont'd page 7)

MEET THE STAFF



[Lygia Perez](#)
[Data & Information Specialist](#)
My job is to update the Division of Institutional Advancement's webpages & newsletters.



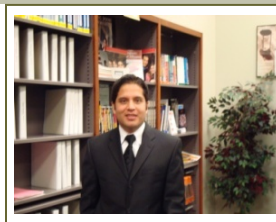
[Dulce Gutierrez](#)
[Staff Assistant](#)
My job is to tell you about our services and to help students, alumni and employers with Dusty Works.



Mr. Royce Wells is shown above receiving his 35th Year Service Award at the Texas State Capitol. Pictured above from left to right: TPWD Executive Director, Carter Smith, Mr. Royce Wells, and TPWD Commission Chairman, Mr. Peter Holt.

Notes From the Director

*[Andres Jaime](#)
[Director, Employer Relations](#)*



Students are Needed to Help our Environment: Internship and Employment Opportunities in the State and Federal Environmental Agencies

As you know, the Office of Career Services provides employment and internship information for students in every field. However, were you also aware of the fact that our nation and world is going through an alarming time in terms of our resources and natural environment? For this reason, we are strengthening the relationships that we have with organizations and institutions in the science field to provide more internship and employment opportunities to [Texas A&M International University](#) (TAMIU) students.

There is a wide variety of internship and employment opportunities for students interested in contributing to improve our environment today. It is a common assumption that only science students with majors in biology, chemistry, environmental science or health related areas are hired to work for organizations that research our environment.

While it is true that many positions are offered to these majors, it is also true that most environmental agencies also have opportunities in other fields such as business, communication and sociology to name a few. If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please visit us at the Office of Career Services to talk about employment and internship opportunities with environmental organizations that fit your major and background.

Another great way to experience this field before you finish your undergraduate and graduate degree is to get involved with an internship program.

As we tell our students, internships are the best way for both employers and students to learn about each other and create matches that often result in exceptional career opportunities.

This spring semester, the [Office of Career Services](#) developed strong connections with the institutions below and several others to allow our students to take advantage of their internship, employment and even scholarship opportunities. At the same time, TAMIU services these agencies by providing them with interns and potential professional employees of excellent quality and great potential.

The institutions below are a few examples of organizations that we work with. These state and federal institutions develop and conduct research and other strategies to better understand and improve the quality of our resources and natural environment and have plenty of programs for TAMIU students for practically all majors.

The office of Career Services has placed TAMIU students with these agencies in the past and will continue to strengthen the relationship with them to allow you to have direct access to individuals making selection and hiring decisions at these organizations.

Please review the websites of the following institutions and contact me if you have any questions regarding their internship and employment opportunities:

[HACU National Internship Program](#)

Paid internship opportunities with all federal agencies involved in environmental research for all majors

www.hnip.net

[United States Department of Agriculture](#)

Offers internships, research projects and scholarships to a wide variety of majors

www.ars.usda.gov

[Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)

State agency conducting environmental research offering internship and employment opportunities

www.tceq.state.tx.us

Energy & Utilities



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The energy and utilities industry refers to all the industries involved in the production and sale of energy. With a wide variety of operations spread out across the country there are a huge number of jobs available, including a number you probably never realized were part of the industry in the first place! Read on to learn about what's hot in the energy and utilities industry right now.

Energy Basics

The energy and utilities industry can be broken down into 10 sub-industries: 1 alternative energy; electric utilities; energy trading and marketing; natural gas utilities; oil and gas exploration and production; oil and gas refining, marketing and distribution; oil and gas transportation and storage; utility services; water utilities; and, independent/merchant power production. The United States is the world's largest energy producer and consumer. Accordingly, the size and importance of the industry means that it affects every part of the country and offers a wide variety of career opportunities requiring all sorts of educational and professional backgrounds.

Geographically Speaking

From the oil reserves of Texas and Alaska to the coalmines in Wyoming, the energy industry plays a role in every corner of America. Oil and gas extraction is primarily based in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and California with great oil reserves also located in Alaska. Natural gas is mostly found in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Wyoming, Louisiana, Colorado, Alaska, Kansas, Alabama and California. Washington, California, Oregon and New York are hydropower leaders, while the country's largest wind farm is located on the Washington-Oregon border. Iowa is hoping to build an even larger one.

The US Department of Energy's Career Intern Program

[The Career Intern Program \(CIP\)](#) was designed to help deal with the Department of Energy's aging workforce and its need for greater diversity. It is a decentralized program that cuts across the entire department, varying by the needs of each sector and region. All eligible candidates must hold a bachelor's degree. See <http://humancapital.doe.gov/pers/cip> for more information on this exciting opportunity.

Cool Careers

Many jobs in the energy and utilities industry require a bachelor's degree in science or engineering, but there are a number of positions out there for the less scientific-minded in such areas as marketing, accounting and human resources. There are also plenty of job opportunities for those without a degree.

According to The Bureau of Labor Statistics' 2004 - 2014 employment projections, the most in-demand energy jobs include: civil engineers; electrical engineers; surveyors; environmental scientists; environmental engineers; chemical engineers; nuclear engineers; and hydrologists.

Surveyor

Duties: Determine land, air and water boundaries; record and analyze important features in a survey area (ie: minerals); map sites for subsurface exploration (usually related to the petroleum industry); use advanced technology (ie: GPS).

Education and Skills: A bachelor's degree or college diploma related to survey science or geomatics (as technology advances the former is increasingly demanded); often a professional examination (ie: professional land surveyors' examination) must be taken in order to obtain a license to practice; strong computer skills and high attention to detail.

Salary: Entry-level salaries start at around \$25,000.

(Cont'd on page 9)

Career Briefing: Alternative Energy

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As oil prices continue to hit record highs and climate change becomes an increasing concern, governments and industry leaders are devoting more money, time and resources towards alternative forms of energy. If you're looking for a job that makes a big difference to the planet, the alternative energy industry might be for you.

What is Alternative Energy?

Alternative Energy concerns the research, development and operation of renewable energy sources. There are five main sources of renewable energy: wind, solar, bio-energy, geothermal and hydropower. It is already a large industry, but as the need for new forms of energy increases, it is growing bigger by the day.

Wind

When properly harnessed by wind turbines—modern day windmills—wind is fantastic source of clean energy. Despite this, less than 1% of American electricity comes from wind power. The potential is there: the [American Wind Energy Association](#) claims there is theoretically enough wind power flowing across the country to supply all of our electricity needs. *More info:* [American Wind Energy Association](#)

Solar

The sun provides the earth with more energy in one hour than the entire world uses in a year, according to [Solarbuzz](#). Energy from the sun can be used for heating and cooling, electricity production and chemical processes. [The Solar America Initiative](#) aims to make solar energy cheaper, more accessible and more widespread by 2015. *More info:* American Solar Energy Society

Bio-energy

Energy from biomass (vegetable oils, wood, animal manure, etc.) is the second largest source of renewable energy in the world. The biggest challenge is how to efficiently convert biomass into fuels and products. Accordingly, there is high demand for all sorts of R&D specialists, especially those with a background in chemistry, engineering or agriculture. *More info:* [Biomass Energy Research Association](#) .

Geothermal

The heat from the earth is a limitless source of clean energy. Technological advances are making it a more cost-effective resource, but there is need for further advancement and research. *More info:* [Geothermal Energy Association](#).

Hydropower

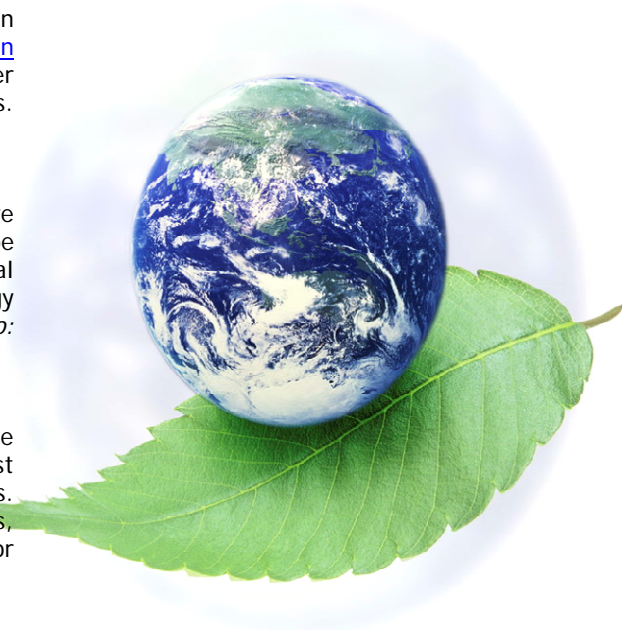
Humans have been using water to generate power for over 2,000 years. Today it is the largest source of renewable energy in the world. While the other four sources of renewable energy account for less than 1% of the electricity generated in the US, hydropower alone creates 10%. *More info:* [National Hydropower Association](#).

SPECIALIST JOB BOARD

[Greenjobs](#) is geared specifically towards the renewable energy industry with jobs across North America and overseas.

Where to Start

If you are unsure where to begin or don't have the background required for more specialized jobs, an internship is a good place to start. [The Environmental Careers Organization](#) lists a variety of environmental internships, as well as tips on finding a career in various environmental fields. For information geared specifically towards finding a job in renewable energy visit the [Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy](#) website.





This protected natural area is only accessible by scheduled guided walks by special arrangements. At Honey Creek, majestic sycamores and bald cypress trees laced with Spanish moss are abundant, and Columbine and maidenhair ferns twine among the rocks. Access to [Honey Creek State Natural Area](#) is through Guadalupe River State Park.

Employer of the Month

Cont'd from page 2

The State of Texas provides great employee benefits for potential employees. "The agency looks for someone who wants to be in law enforcement, someone that is a people person, someone that is a self starter and conscientious because we set our hour and are not on a schedule," Wells remarked.

Of the 500 Game Wardens throughout the state, the employment outlook for next year is projected to be about 50 retirements. "People that get into this career usually enjoy it so much they work until they are able to retire. So we have very few that leave with less than 25-30 years of service once they are hired." Wells continues, "The agency hires when there are vacancies left by retirees and this may be the best time in a long time to pursue this career option."

According to Wells, students interested in working for this agency must be as knowledgeable as possible, which would require some research from the student. Networking with those in the career field is a valuable way to gain knowledge, and internships are a great way to learn about a career. For information on the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us and for Game Warden career information call 1-877-B-A-Warden or email Royce.wells@tpwd.state.tx.us.

"This has been one of the dream jobs people hear about, one that you don't dread going to work each day. Being a part of the communities we live in makes it a great job to raise a family in as well," Wells concluded.

Wells graduated from [Sul Ross State University](#) 1980 where he received his Bachelor's in Criminal Justice and a minor in Sociology and Psychology.

Colorado Bend State Park – Hill Country



Get away to the rugged [Colorado River country](#) at this pristine wilderness location suited to primitive tent camping. The drive to this old fishing camp takes you through lovely Hill Country landscapes and on a gravel road for the last eight miles to the park. From January to April, fishing on the river includes the legendary white bass (spawning) run. Take a weekend guided tour to [Gorman Falls](#) where Gorman Creek tumbles 60-feet to splash among lush vegetation before flowing into the river. Reserve a weekend walking tour to [Gorman Cave](#) or squeeze through tight passages on the monthly crawling cave tour.



Dress to Impress

Eco-Fashion Is

developing in many countries as a way to monitor different productions that will help to conserve energy. Using sustainable and recyclable fabrics creates cool clothing alternatives that will better the environment.

Eco-fashion clothing fabrics are made from any organic raw materials such as bamboo, silk, soy, hemp, re-used textiles and cotton grown without pesticides. Eco-fashion materials are produced to decrease the harmful effects that chemical processing has in the environment for instance, herbicides, dyes and use of animals.

People world-wide have become more involved with social and political campaigns to protect the environment starting with what they wear.

Eco-fashion continues to grow rapidly around the world, and more designers are now integrating fair-trade into their product which also increases their net value by 30%. Fashion is now moving towards a consciously modern direction.

Here are some
Eco-Fashion web stores with
a variety of products for you to
you choose...

[Emily Katz](#)

Emily Katz, a fashion label out of Portland, Oregon, strives to fill a niche in the fashion industry and become a staple in your closet. Gracing the collection are fabrics such as soy jersey, hemp/recycled poly denim, water resistant fleece and organic cotton fleece, all of which support the simple elegance of the silhouettes while making a statement about our place in the environment.

[Grace & Cello](#)

Grace & Cello believes in the right to look and feel beautiful: for you, for the people who work to make their products, and for the planet that grew all of their fabrics and grew all of us.

[Stewart+Brown](#)

Design for Karen and Howard is a passion and a way of life. Their professional journey is a union of creativity and purpose. Karen, a trained painter, and Howard, a trained graphic artist, design every aspect of the product and brand themselves. Each Stewart+Brown collection at its elemental level is a fusion of experiences and insights filtered through their creative core and rendered into their own unique and personal aesthetic. They find inspiration in everything in their lives. Their collaborations are influenced by art, design, culture, travel, and the great outdoors.



Energy & Utilities

(Cont'd from page 5)

For more information on energy careers visit "[Get Into Energy](#)". The site even features a [Career Assessment Quiz](#) to help you determine what area of the energy industry is right for you.

Sources:

[Energy Information Administration \(EIA\)](#)

[US Department of Energy](#)

[Bureau of Labor Statistics](#)

Generation Next Scholarship Competition

Excerpted from the [Black Collegian Magazine](#)

ESSENCE magazine has partnered with [The Sallie Mae Fund](#), a charitable organization sponsored by Sallie Mae, to present the "Generation Next" scholarship competition. This program will award five young African-American women each a \$5,000 college scholarship from The Sallie Mae Fund, an all-inclusive trip to attend one of the first-annual ESSENCE Young Women Leadership Conferences. In addition, winners will receive recognition in a special magazine feature in the October 2008 issue of ESSENCE.

To be eligible, each contestant must be an African-American female who is enrolled as a freshman at an accredited postsecondary institution. She must be a United States citizen or permanent resident, have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, have a family adjusted gross income for 2007 of \$50,000 or less, and demonstrate leadership and community service experience. Applicants must also submit a 500-word essay on the additional ways that they plan to continue to ensure success while in college.

The application deadline is June 15. Winners will be selected by committee and announced on or about June 30, 2008. In addition, scholarship applicants will receive information on planning and paying for college, including [Black College Dollars](#), a scholarship directory sponsored by The Sallie Mae Fund and available at www.salliemaefund.org.

Additional eligibility requirements and an online application form are available at www.essence.com/essence/generationnext/index.html

Logon on to [Dusty Works](#)
and check out these jobs:



DUSTY! WORKS!

Title

Career Management Agent
Transportation Security Officer
Analyst ICSC
Operations Manager
IT - Business Systems Analyst & QA
Licensed Professional Counselor
Director, Student Affairs
Administrative Assistant
Onsite Property Manager
Visiting Instructor/Assistant (Piano)
Fire Investigator/Asst Fire Marshall
Nurse Practitioner
Manager

Employer

AFLAC
Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Union Pacific
San Mateo Forwarding
eBusiness Application Solution, Inc
Children's Advocacy Center in Laredo Webb County, Safe Haven Program
Palomar College (California)
La Bota Ranch Realty
Affordable Ministorage of Laredo
Texas A&M - Kingsville
City of Wichita Falls, Texas
Valdez Family Clinic, P.A.
Texas Department of Insurance

Call us or stop by our office. We will be happy to help you logon the system and show you the newest features on Dusty Works, So let Dusty Works for you!

Let Dusty Work for you!



The job outlook for graduates of 2008 appears promising as employers prepare to seek out the best and the brightest....

Excerpted from the [Black Collegian Magazine](#)--Each year, THE BLACK COLLEGIAN conducts a survey of major employers to determine the most active recruiters of college graduates. This survey results in our Top 100 Employers List, which is published in this, the Second Semester Super issue.

Employers were asked about the number of projected hires from on-campus recruiting and the number of campuses they are recruiting on. They were also asked to list the majors they are seeking.

According to Dr. Philip Gardner's [Job Outlook survey](#) included in this issue, large employers with more than 4,000 employees are aggressively pursuing college graduates this year - with 40,000 jobs up for grabs. In addition, employers are prepared to pay more, with 53 percent planning to raise salary offers by an average of 4.2 percent. Much of the growth in opportunities is due to baby-boomer turnover.

If you've completed internships, that investment just may pay off, as the largest expansion in hiring is expected to come from employers using applicants from their internship and co-op talent pools.

Rank	Employer	Total Hires	Campuses
21	Kaiser Permanente	1,267	89
22	Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.	1,260	90
23	Microsoft	1,250	250
24	Safeco Insurance	1,200	8
25	Raytheon Company	1,125	130
26	Baltimore City Public School System	912	0
27	Liberty Mutual Group	880	130
28	Qualcomm	828	15
29	Grant Thornton LLP	750	80
30	The Sherwin-Williams Company	750	400

Some of the majors most in demand this year are civil engineering, environmental sciences, nursing, accounting, electrical engineering, marketing, business administration, finance, mechanical engineering, computer science, agricultural business, and mathematics.

You should visit your career services office to determine if the employers listed in our survey are recruiting on your campus, and meet with a career counselor to plan a strategy for getting an interview with the employers of your choice. THE BLACK COLLEGIAN wishes you much success in your job search!

The above list was excerpted from *The Black Collegian Magazine*. In the next issue we will publish another excerpt containing the next 20 top employers.

Need a Job Agent?

To create a Job Agent in [Dusty Works](#):

STEP ONE: Choose Job Search to view open job postings.

STEP TWO: On the Search Results page, click [Save Search] to can create a Job Agent.

This list will be emailed to you every night!



RESUME ROUNDUP WINNERS



Cesia Rodriguez, '07
B.S., Interdisciplinary Studies
TAMU Alumnus



Abdelhak Bewkerroum
M.S., International Trade
Senior



Heba Omar
B.S., Business Admin & Finance
Junior

The Office of Career Services along with the Director of Alumni Relations partnered to conduct "RESUME ROUNDUP" last month. Students and alumni had the opportunity to visit and meet with professional staff to assist students with résumé and application letters for immediate job openings. All students during the 3-day workshop were entered in a drawing to win door prizes.

If you are job hunting or need to update your résumé, please stop by the Office of Career Services. We can assist you with information on internship opportunities, full-time employment, and résumé, cover letter and interview preparation.

We have extended our office hours for the summer!

Office of Career Services
careerservices@tamiu.edu
(956) 326-HIRE
Student Center, Room 114

Summer Office hours:
Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am - Noon