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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Texas Wesleyan professor/student combo
invited to present at Hawaiian International conference**

FORT WORTH, April 11 – Texas Wesleyan University computer science professor Lucinda Caughey and junior mathematics major Kathryn Wheeler have been invited to present their work on weather simulation at the Enterprise: 2003 Hawaiian International Faculty-Student Conference. Caughey and Wheeler will be the first ever Wesleyan professor-student combo to attend the conference, which encourages interdisciplinary research and faculty-student research collaborations. Awards will be given to the best presentations.

The paper Caughey and Wheeler will present is titled “Vortex: A Virtual Reality Thunderstorm Explorer” and documents their efforts to create a “virtual thunderstorm chamber” that would be able to simulate atmospheric conditions including the formation of clouds, their production of thunderstorms and the intensity of the produced storm. Variables such as vapor pressure, relative humidity, dew point, time and temperature can be inputted into the computer so that students are able to visualize changes in the atmosphere over time. Their research will eventually be able to reproduce and even predict thunderstorms. The conference will take place in Hawaii in May. For more information, call Dr. Caughey at 817-531-4886.

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