

Texas Tidbits_111703

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☒ **NASA leader at UMHB.** NASA administrator Sean O'Keefe spoke to 1,000 people in Walton Chapel at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Nov. 5 about the future of NASA. Delivering the university's McLane Lectures,


O'Keefe (center) with Drayton McLane and UMHB President Jerry Bawcom.

he encouraged students to be leaders for tomorrow in exploration and discovery, calling it an adventure. "My hope is that many of you will help to participate in the adventures to come, whether you are working for NASA, discovering new ways to heal the sick or teach the young, or charting new pathways in business enterprise like Drayton McLane," he said, referencing the namesake of the lecture series. Regarding the Columbia shuttle disaster, O'Keefe said, "We should recognize that every step of the way in the age of flight, we have achieved our breakthroughs and triumphs only

after having suffered through enormous setbacks, learning from them and rebounding to continue our unceasing efforts to explore the unknown."

☒ **DBU honors faculty member.** Curtis Lee, associate professor of biology, has been named Faculty Member of the Year at Dallas Baptist University. He was cited for being among students' top pick when choosing classes over a number of years. Lee and his wife, Sharon, are members of South Oaks Baptist Church in Arlington, where she serves as minister of education.

☒ **Baylor regents hear reports.** At the conclusion of the Baylor board of regents meeting Nov. 7, the university issued a news release saying regents "heard interim reports" from three review committees named at the September regents meeting. Those committees are charged with examining concerns about faculty relations, the faculty hiring process, admission of provisional students, preserving Baylor traditions, the university's financial model, indebtedness, conflicts of interest among regents, tuition increases and pending litigation against the university. Regents also approved a new department of statistical science.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.