



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Kent Hance, Chancellor

March 10, 2009

The Honorable Randy Neugebauer
1424 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Neugebauer:

On behalf of the Texas Tech University System, I respectfully ask for your support of FY2010 funding in the amount of \$3.0M for the Center for Food Industry Excellence at Texas Tech University.

The International Center for Food Industry Excellence (ICFIE) proposes to build upon the expertise available at Texas Tech University and its collaborating institutions. Center-affiliated researchers will develop and evaluate food innovations that improve the security, safety, functional properties, nutritional quality, eating quality, consumer acceptance and production characteristics of food available to U.S. consumers. Center scientists engage in innovative research across the farm-to-table continuum to improve food safety, expand uses for existing commodities and identify consumer behaviors and attributes that influence food acceptability and marketability.

The Southern High Plains is in the heart of the U.S. cattle industry, rapidly growing swine and dairy industries, a large cotton production industry, and an expanding and diversifying crop production industry (i.e., peanuts, cereal grains, wine grapes, peppers, beans and onions). The foods produced in this region are an integral part of the U.S. food supply. Technologies developed through this research will be transferable regionally, nationally and internationally.

This massive region is experiencing growth in the value-added processing of key commodities produced in the region and needs a consolidated, fully-funded program to assist with the creation and evaluation of new production, processing and marketing systems related to plant and animal food-stuffs. The region needs the infrastructure necessary to assist the food safety, food production, food manufacturing, food service and retail sectors and to provide technically trained individuals to work in the industry.

I am grateful for your assistance and truly appreciate your continued support of Texas Tech and all that you do for the great State of Texas. Please feel free to contact me if I or my staff can assist you in any way.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kent Hance". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kent Hance

