

Brief Bio Statement:

Craig Wilson, Ph.D.

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Dr. Wilson works within the College of Science in the Center for Mathematics and Science Education at Texas A&M University, where he obtained his Ph.D. in Science Education, Curriculum and Instruction in 2001.

His research interests are in hands-on/inquiry-based science teaching and in successfully linking K-12 science teachers with research scientists. He coordinated a NASA funded program-the National Space Biomedical Research Institute-Teacher Academy Project (NSBRI TAP) looking at the impact of long duration space flight on the human body and this allowed him to work with teachers in all fifty states and to teach in many of these including Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico. He currently directs the USDA/HSINP Future Scientists Program that is expanding nationwide to California and Arizona (2009-2010) and to Florida and Puerto Rico (2010-2011). The program has been adopted by schools in thirty other states and by two schools in England, bringing Life and Agricultural Science into classrooms grades K-12. The program was the recipient of the USDA Administrator's Outreach, Diversity, and Equal Opportunity Award for 2007-2008. It is now administered as a nationwide program through the USDA/Hispanic Serving Institutions National Program (HSINP).

Dr. Wilson has an office at the USDA/ARS/ Southern Plains Area Office in College Station alongside which he has created a Monarch Waystation (butterfly garden), pond (with rice), and 'pocket prairie' where students are able to spend a day working on related science activities. He has taught for over thirty-five years on three continents in situations ranging from beneath a huge acacia tree on the edge of the Kalahari Desert (Botswana, Africa) to experimenting with weightlessness on NASA's KC-135 (Houston, Texas).