South Central ASB Conference

Rena Hale, engineering doctoral student was awarded the best student presenter, receiving excellent in all categories at the annual South Central Regional American Society of Biomechanics Conference, sponsored by the American Society of Biomechanics and Tekscan Inc., and taking place at the Texas Woman's University Institute of Health Sciences-Dallas Center on April 12, 2013.

According to Hale, the conference is a place where graduate students in the field of biomechanics get the chance to present their research.

"It is extremely exciting to receive this awards as it validates the quality of research and the ability to present the research we are performing, especially since we are a very new department," Hale said.

Competing against students from Texas Tech, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, University of Texas at Tyler and Texas Women's University and judged on problem formulation, study design, data analysis and results, Hale presented her work in under 15 minutes plus an additional 5 minutes to answer questions from the judges and students.

"Rena clearly demonstrated in depth knowledge of her research content, she was well prepared for the presentations and answered questions very well," Sharon Wang Ph.D., chair of committee said. "Furthermore, her organization from the rationale and background to her results and conclusion, were excellent."

Being vital to Hale's presentation was principal investigator, Roger Gonzalez Ph.D., professor of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering, who concentrated on detail, and sharpened her skills as a researcher and presenter, according to Hale.

"I am proud of Rena's academic achievements and her excellent skills at communicating a complex scientific process in terms that many can readily understood," Gonzalez said.