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September 6, 2011

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**Assistant Professor and Program Advisor at Angelo State University
Selected as Emerging Leader**

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Amy Williamson, an assistant professor and program advisor with the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Angelo State University in San Angelo, Texas, has been selected as an Emerging Leader by PDK International, a global association of education professionals.

The PDK Emerging Leaders program recognizes top educators under age 40 from across the globe for their leadership and vision in the field of education. A review committee composed of past PDK Emerging Leaders selected this year's 18 honorees from a competitive field of applicants, based on their outstanding professional accomplishments.

In addition to being honored at the 2012 PDK International Conference, honorees also have the opportunity to be published by PDK, apply for grants, and participate in PDK initiatives.

"Recognizing the achievements and commitment of these young leaders is vital to PDK's vision of cultivating tomorrow's great educators," said William J. Bushaw, PDK International's executive director. "These inspiring individuals will provide a very bright future for the field of education."

As assistant professor and program advisor for secondary certification candidates, Williamson teaches and coordinates the courses that students are required to complete for certification. She began her education career as a high school English teacher in Ashburn, Ga., before pursuing her doctorate in curriculum and instruction at Baylor University.

"As someone who understands what it is like to be a new teacher and not know all the answers, I feel that preparing teachers to effectively teach and nurture the young minds of tomorrow is not only my job, it is my responsibility," Williamson said.

She serves as advisor to the Angelo State University student chapter of the Texas State Teachers Association, a campus chapter she helped to establish. Williamson also initiated the university's Annual Education Symposium, which was created to provide students interested in education careers with a way to communicate directly with educators in the field about current issues.

-30-

About PDK International

Founded in 1906, PDK International is a global association for professional educators. The organization's mission is to support education, particularly public education, as the cornerstone of democracy. More information is online at www.pdkintl.org.

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