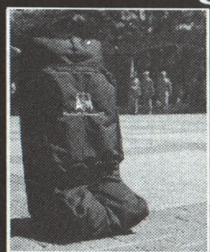


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BATT

Mark Doré, Editor in Chief

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INDIANA CONTINUED

"Around 20 states have religious freedom restoration acts or similarities that mirror or try to resemble what was passed in 1993," Penrose said. "The reason the states have to pass these laws is the Supreme Court actually issued opinion in 1997 in a case, *City of Boerne v. Flores*, that told congress they can't issue a RFRA for the states."

Texas is one of the states that passed an RFRA in 1999, but Penrose said the Texas law is not as expansive as the Indiana law.

Penrose said the growing number of RFRA's are a reaction to fears that the Supreme Court will constitutionalize same-sex marriage as well as a reaction to local non-discrimination laws currently in place.

"Some states and some cities have non-discrimination clauses that they passed at the most local level of legis-

lation, saying you cannot discriminate in public accommodations against individuals based on sexual orientation, or variety of other classes," Penrose said. "These religious freedom restoration acts then serve as a defense to that."

Saad Dawoodi, biochemistry senior and president of Shades of Queer, an LGBT student organization, said this law represents a recent trend toward "right to discriminate" legislation, and that it's an example of how religion is "weaponized" to combat the legal gains of the LGBT community.

"The right to discriminate legislation has been on the rise recently," Dawoodi said. "I'm not surprised in the least, and this backlash against the LGBT rights movement and community is obviously because people who are not in favor of the LGBT community or movement are scared that essentially that they're going to lose their toys."

Brandon Orr, graduate student and president of the campus Association of

Baptist Students, said although gay marriage is against his beliefs, he doesn't believe that merits a discriminatory attitude toward same-sex couples.

"I definitely don't think that they should be able to just turn anyone away because of what they're affiliated with, I think that's kind of dumb," Orr said. "The Bible is very specific about gay marriage and it's wrong, and I believe that it's wrong, but if someone was gay and they came into my store, there's no way I would just turn them away."

Dawoodi said the media coverage, controversy and protest that came as a result of this legislation is representative of the power of the people.

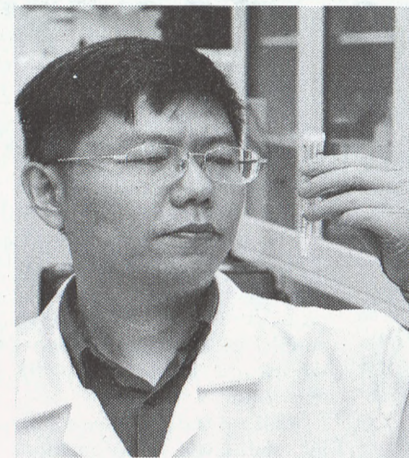
"I think it sends a message to corporations that have gotten a lot of power over the past decades," Dawoodi said. "I think it's a good reminder for companies and America as a whole that the community can mobilize."

ZHU CONTINUED

et cetera. These characteristics can be used as the local stimuli for the purposes of drug delivery and therapy. The matrix metalloproteinase 2, MMP2, a major enzyme in the cancer tissue, is one of them. In my lab, we have designed various nano-sized drug carriers which could respond to the tumoral MMP2 and specifically deliver toxic drugs to cancer cells. By this way, the drugs will stay with the nanocarriers without drug "leakage," and then be released from the nanocarriers once entering the cancer cells.

THE BATTALION: What progress has your team made with this targeted cancer treatment?

ZHU: So far, we have successfully prepared several MMP2-sensitive nanomaterials which could be used to construct cancer-specific drug delivery systems. They have been preliminarily tested in various human cancer cell lines and tumor-bearing mice. In these models, they showed better anticancer effects and less toxicity to normal tissues, compared to the chemotherapy drug alone. However, more studies are needed before they can go to clinical trial.



PROVIDED

Lin Zhu, assistant professor of pharmaceutical sciences, works with developing nanotechnology to improve cancer treatments

THE BATTALION: What adverse side effects could your research prevent patients from experiencing?

ZHU: The major cause of the side effects of the chemotherapy drugs is their toxicity to the healthy cells [and] tissues. The drug-related toxicity [and] side effects, which are very common in the patients receiving chemotherapy, include the fatigue, hair loss, blood disorders, nausea and vomiting, et cetera. These side effects can

be most likely minimized by our strategies.

THE BATTALION: Are there any possible drawbacks to this new type of treatment?

ZHU: I have to say that nothing is perfect, including our anti-cancer strategy. However, to the best of our knowledge, our strategy is superior to the currently used anticancer strategies in terms of the cancer specificity, anti-cancer efficacy and side effects. Since the studies in my lab are preclinical studies, a lot of tests have to be done to confirm its efficacy as well as assess its possible side effects before it can really benefit cancer patients.

THE BATTALION: What are the implications for your research on the fields of pharmacy and medicine?

ZHU: Our research is driven by the need to improve the formulations and drug delivery systems of current chemotherapy drugs and to develop a strategy that can be a stepping stone towards attaining the ultimate goal of cancer-specific drug delivery and therapy. I hope that our work could be a paradigm of both the anti-cancer drug development and the cancer-specific chemotherapy.

THE TEXAS A&M STUDENT MEDIA BOARD
INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR

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THE
BATT

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Summer 2015

(The summer editor will oversee print, digital and special editions, and will serve May 17, 2015, through Aug. 15, 2015)

Qualifications for editor-in-chief of *The Battalion* are:

REQUIRED

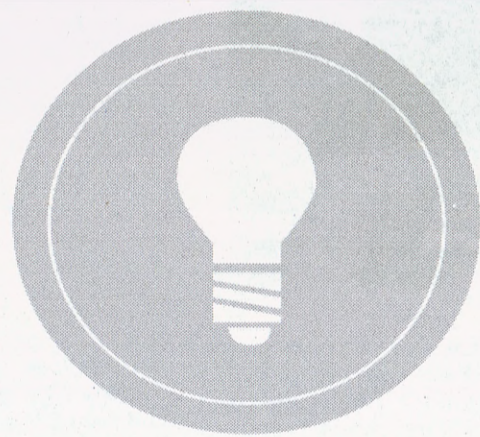
- Be a Texas A&M student in good standing with the University and enrolled in at least six credit hours (4 if a graduate student) during the term of office (unless fewer credits are required to graduate);
- Have at least a 2.25 cumulative grade point ratio (3.25 if a graduate student) and at least a 2.25 grade point ratio (3.25 if a graduate student) in the semester immediately prior to the appointment, the semester of appointment and semester during the term of office. In order for this provision to be met, at least six hours (4 if a graduate student) must have been taken for that semester.

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- Have completed JOUR 301 or COMM 307 (Mass Communication, Law, and Society) or equivalent;
- Have at least one year experience in a responsible editorial position on *The Battalion* or comparable daily college newspaper, -OR- Have at least one year editorial experience on a commercial newspaper, -OR- Have completed at least 12 hours in journalism, including JOUR 203 (Media Writing I) and JOUR 303 (Media Writing II) or JOUR 304 (Editing for the Mass Media), or equivalent.

Application forms should be picked up and returned to Sandi Jones, Student Media business coordinator, in Suite L406 of the MSC. Deadline for submitting application: 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 7, 2015.

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