

## ITC WINS TWO MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS

The ITC has won two major research grants totaling over \$207,000 from competitive proposals submitted to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

One of the grants came under the Advanced Technology program, which is allocated to research aimed at promoting Texas' economic growth and diversification. It is headed by Dr. Dean Ethridge, director of the ITC, and is focused on the objective selection and control of cotton for efficient textile manufacturing. It will be done in collaboration with Dr. Donald Wunsch, director of the Applied Computational Intelligence laboratory Electrical Engineering Department, Texas Tech University. The other grant came under

the Technology Development and Transfer Program, which supports the further development of technology created under previous Advanced Technology Program grants and the transfer of that technology to the private sector. It is headed by Dr. Reiyao Thu, Head of Fibers Research, ITC, and it will develop a prototype instrument capable of measuring woven fabric properties as it undergoes rapid, dynamic biaxial loading in the plane of the fabric. It is being done in collaboration with Dr. Richard Tock, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Texas Tech University; it derives from previous research by Dr. Tock on inflatable restraint devices (e.g., automobile air bags).

## SPECIAL SEMINAR OFFERED TO COTTON BREEDERS

Cotton breeders increasingly rely on fiber property measurements and spinning performance tests to guide their decisions affecting the development and commercialization of new cotton varieties. In order to meet the needs of cotton breeders, the ITC initiated a special two-day seminar in June, 1995. Its success has prompted a second seminar, planned for February 27 & 28, 1996.

Participants will get detailed information about the various fiber and spinning performance tests that are useful to them. They will leave with copious notes and references on all subjects covered in the seminar.

For more information, contact Pam Alspaugh at the ITC.

## ITC CONNECTED TO YOUR COMPUTER

Accessing information from the ITC will be easier now via a World Wide Web page on the Internet. The address is:

<http://www.ttu.edu/~itc>

The page is under construction, but eventually *Textile Topics* issues, past and present, will be available as well as information about the center, fees, projects and staff members.

The Natural Fibers Research and Information Center at the University of Texas at Austin will be linked to the ITC page to provide access to the Texas Food and Fibers Commission reports.

Electronic mail access to the ITC is: [itc@ttu.edu](mailto:itc@ttu.edu)