WOSC Alumni Association to Honor Jason Paul Kruska as 2013 Alumni Hall of Fame Inductee

Jason Paul Kruska, a 1991 graduate of Western Oklahoma State College, will be inducted into the Western Oklahoma State College Alumni Hall of Fame at the upcoming Foundation and Alumni Recognition Banquet to be held on Friday, February 1, 2013 at 6:30 pm. Jason, son of Paul and Mary Kruska, graduated from Western with an Associate in Science. He was an active member of the Student Senate and the Wesley Foundation. Through his leadership as Freshman Class President, he was instrumental in making Western a tobacco free campus. This put the college years ahead of its peers in what would ultimately become Oklahoma state tobacco free legislation. Jason attended Oklahoma State University and received a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Spanish in 1996. He was President of Tau Beta Pi and Vice President of Pi Tau Sigma, both engineering honor societies, and a member of the Blue Key Honor Society. During his undergraduate studies at OSU, Jason was a NASA Co-op student at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland and NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. This honor led him to employment at NASA in 1997. Jason completed his MBA with a certificate in Marketing and Management of Technology at the University of California at Berkeley in 2002. Since joining NASA Johnson Space Center, he has worked as a safety engineer for the International Space Station and a safety and mission assurance planning engineer. He currently serves as integration and test & verification engineer. In 2008, Jason participated in International Space University’s Space Studies Program in Barcelona, Spain representing NASA Johnson Space Center during a two-month intensive program.

Just prior to entering ninth grade, Jason was injured in a bicycle accident that left him a quadriplegic. Regarding physical challenges, he says, “I never consciously thought about it. It was an inconvenience but it wasn’t going to stop me.” Jason credits his family for his success and ability to overcome his physical challenges. “Family support is critical if you are able-bodied or not.” Jason is married to Moon Tse Kruska. Jason’s interest in aerospace developed while watching the C-5 and C-17 air traffic over the Altus community during his childhood years.

The WOSC Alumni Hall of Fame, established in 1996, recognizes and honors Altus Junior College and Western Oklahoma State College alumni who, through leadership, character and hard work, have made exceptional contributions in their field, in their community, and at WOSC. Inductees are honored each February at the Annual Foundation and Alumni Recognition Banquet. Also recognized at the banquet are the generous gifts of many WOSC Foundation, Inc. donors. This year’s event will feature the musical talent of the Mid-America String Quartet. Tickets are $15.00 per person and can be reserved through the Office of Development and Alumni Relations by email at foundation@wosc.edu or by phone at 580-477-7706.