



5-1-2016

aCAademicS: The Newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences

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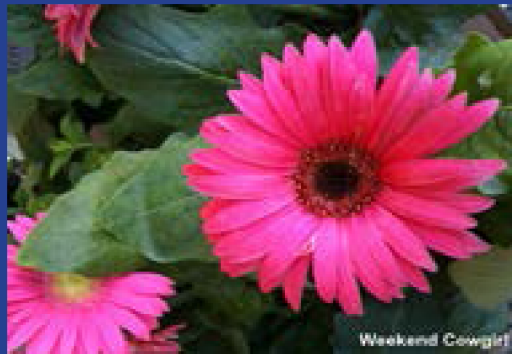
Grant, Peter (2016) "aCAademicS: The Newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences,"
aCAademicS: The Newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/academics/vol2/iss3/1>

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The newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences

May 2016



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Important Dates**May**

- 9 - Maintenance or service agreements for next fiscal year due to Business Office
- 10 - Semester ends
- 30 - Memorial Day - campus closed

June

- 3 - Enrollment
- 6 - Classes begin
- 7 - Last day to add classes
- 13 - NSO
- 30 - End of the first 4 weeks

Reflecting on Success

At this time in the academic year, around commencement, it's always nice to stop and look back at the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff. In the College of Arts and Sciences, there is always a lot to look at.

The programs for department award banquets all had an impressive list of students receiving awards for performance, scholarship and service. Many students will be involved this summer with internships, using them to explore potential career areas. Others have been accepted into professional and graduate programs or will be starting their professional career. And these accomplishments continue after graduation as some of our alumni have been honored with awards, too.

The faculty were busy as usual arranging for guest speakers for their students, acquiring extramural funding (the majority of which was used for undergraduate opportunities) and even arranging international experiences for our students. Faculty also involved students in their scholarship. This resulted in dozens of presentations (87 at just Oklahoma Research Day and the SWOSU Scholarly Activity Fair). Some of these presentations led to awards.

And, as usual, students and faculty were active in service opportunities on campus, in the community and across the state.

Faculty continued to take advantage of opportunities to improve their teaching and scholarship and were active in professional organizations. Their work has been recognized on campus, statewide and even nationally. Also, while CAS faculty have always been involved with recruiting new students, their efforts this year were even greater (and the enrollment increase reflects that effort).

So, it's been another amazing year in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Enjoy your summer!



Pete Grant
Dean of Arts and Sciences

CAS News

Twelve CAS faculty attended the Transformative Learning Conference in Oklahoma City earlier this semester:

Robin Jones (Art, Communication and Theatre)
 Denis Trubitsyn (Biological Sciences)
 Jon Henrikson and Wayne Trail (Chemistry and Physics)
 Victoria Gaydosik and Taylor Verkler (Language and Literature)
 Swarup Ghosh and Ron Koehn (Mathematics)
 Robin Griffeth (Music)
 Jieun Chang and David Hertzell (Social Sciences)
 Pete Grant (Dean).

CAS was well represented at Oklahoma Research Day which was held in March at Northeastern State University. Eight faculty and 25 students from 4 departments gave 16 presentations.

And if you thought that was a productive scholarly event for CAS – 27 faculty in 6 departments along with 95 students gave 71 presentations at the 23rd Annual SWOSU Research and Scholarly Activity Fair!

Award Winners!

Kevin Collins (Language and Literature) was presented the Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award.

Sunu Kodumthara (Social Sciences) was presented the Brandy Award for faculty.

John Woods (Mathematics, emeritus) was inducted into the OSU College of Education Hall of Fame.

Music

Richard Tirk was the clinician for the Mid-East Oklahoma Band Directors Association All District Honor Jazz Band last month in Wagoner, OK.

Chemistry and Physics

Michael-Joseph Gorbet (Chemistry major) represented SWOSU at Oklahoma Research Day at the Capitol.

Biology

Ashley Powers (Biology major) was accepted into the early admission program of the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Lyly Van (Biology major) was selected for the OSU Research Experience for Undergraduates program on bio-based products.

Rachel Wallace (Biology major) was chosen as an intern at the Oklahoma City Zoo.

Matt Meeks (Biology major) was accepted into the Saint James School of Medicine in the Caribbean.

Reine Sinthia Youmbi and Allison Statton (Biology majors) will work as research associates at the University of Pittsburgh's field station, the Pymatuning Laboratory of Ecology, along with Rickey Cothran (Biology faculty).

Charlotte Eastman (Medical Lab Science major) was accepted into the Medical Microbiology Program at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

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CAS News (continued)

Biology (cont.)

Eunice Nwokocha (Biology alumna) is currently employed at the OKC Blood bank.

Nick Whalen (Biology alumnus) was accepted into the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.

In 2016 the SWOSU Delta Sigma Chapter of Tri Beta (biology honor society) won

- best chapter of the south-central region
- 2 awards - 3rd places for outstanding poster presentations
- 2 awards - 3rd places for outstanding oral presentations and
- 1 award for outstanding graduate student presentation.

Social Sciences

The following History Education majors are finishing their teaching semester and will graduate in May: Nathan Butler, Aaron Schantz, Haley Rogers, Tanner Thompson, Matthew Loch and Travis Leverette.

Nathalia Cecenza (History major) and Hunter Bailey (Political Science major) participated in the Oklahoma Scholar-Leadership Enrichment Program at the University of Oklahoma entitled, "Anti-Americanism: Impact and Policy Implication."

Tanner Boyd (History major) will lead the SGA next year as its president.

Sam Jennings (History alumnus) was admitted with awards to OSU's Ph.D. Program in History.

Jakob Hertzfel (History alumnus) is completing his MLS degree this semester at OU.

Dorie Astle published the article, "The Death Penalty: *Baze, Glossip* and Beyond," in *The Oklahoma Bar Journal*. The article addresses issues of lethal injection and related United States Supreme Court rulings.

The North American Association of Wardens and Superintendents presented a scholarship at the association's annual conference in Tulsa to Chaise Rogers (Criminal Justice alumnus), currently working with a private prison in Oklahoma. Chaise will be entering the SWOSU graduate program in the fall.

Howard Kurtz made the following presentations at academic meetings: "Gun Toting Professors" at the Western Social Science Meeting, Reno, Nevada; "Parricide, an Analysis of Existing National and International Theories" and "Research on Parricide in Search of an Expanded Typology" at the Southwestern Social Sciences Association National Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada; "A Theoretical Analysis of the Presentation of Gender in Everyday Life on College Campuses" at the Southwestern Social Sciences Association Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada; and "Killing Parents in the Heartland - Parricide" at the Oklahoma Criminal Justice Association Meeting in Edmond, Oklahoma. He also attended the national meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice in Denver Colorado.

Language and Literature

Tugba Sevin was invited to give a lecture at a Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honor Society) event at Florida Atlantic University. She also presented the paper entitled "Identidades e Intersecciones: Cruzando Fronteras, Construyendo Comunidades" (Identities at Intersections: Crossing Borders, Building Communities) at the Crossing and Intersections Conference at Florida Atlantic University.

Poet Reads at Annual Conference



Fred Alsberg (Language and Literature) read his poetry at the 46th Annual Popular Culture Association Conference in Seattle, WA. His poem, "In Case You've Wondered," was published in *The Great American Wise Ass Poetry Anthology*, University Press, Lamar University.

CAS News (continued)

Language and Literature (Cont.)

Christi Cook presented her paper, "Kill the Girl! Feminine Sacrifice in *Divergent* and *The Hunger Games*," at the 2016 Popular Culture and American Culture Association Conference in Seattle.

Funding

John Woods (Mathematics, emeritus) received funding from the U.S. Department of Education through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for the KES-AM Statewide Partnership.

Siriporn Peters (Art, Communication and Theatre) received a SWOSU Foundation Award for her project at the Washita Battlefield National Historic Site.

Lisa Castle (Biological Sciences) received travel funding from the National Institutes of Health through the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center.

SWOSU provided travel assistance to Lisa Schroeder and Robin Jones (both faculty in Art, Communication and Theatre), and four of Sophia Lee's (Music) students.

Four CAS faculty received proposal development awards which provide financial assistance to draft proposals for external funding: Lori Gwyn and Doug Linder (Chemistry and Physics) and Christopher Horton and Regina McGrane (Biological Sciences).

Peters Wins Best in Show



Siriporn Peters (Art, Communication and Theatre) won the award for Best in Show of Oklahoma Roots at the Cyril Historic Society Museum and Art Gallery in March. Her award-winning work is shown above.

Southwestern History Club Visit Museums and Historic Sites



In April, John Hayden, Becky Bruce and Laura Endicott (Social Sciences faculty) joined the Southwestern History Club on a trip to Kansas City, Missouri, and Topeka, Kansas. They visited The National WWI Museum and the Nelson Atkins Art Museum in Kansas City as well as the Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka National Historic Site in Kansas. SWOSU History alumnus Randy Standingwater works at this historic site.

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Girl Scouts Participate in STEM at SWOSU

On March 5, the Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma, in collaboration with SWOSU faculty and students, held their second annual STEM Meet at SWOSU. Ninety-one girls from Custer County, Elk City, and Yukon took part in ten different activities across campus. The purpose of the event was to give Girl Scouts the opportunity to explore science, technology, engineering, and math in fun, educational, hands-on workshops.

International Recruiting

Planning to travel to another country over summer? If so please share information about SWOSU with the people you meet, especially potential students. The International Student Affairs office has brochures available to assist with this. A digital copy of this brochure is also available.

The office is located in HAB102. If you have questions, give the director, Randy Beckloff (randy.beckloff@swosu.edu), a call.



Patsy Parker first welcomed the scouts to campus and then the girls rotated through three different hands-on workshops. These workshops involved the departments of Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering Technology, Mathematics, Psychology and Pharmacy. In addition, Stephanie Chidester from Williams Co. (SWOSU Chemistry and Mathematics alumna) provided a mathematics workshop, and Sharica Williams (STEM coordinator for Girls Scouts of Western Oklahoma) gave a geology workshop with the curriculum developed by Devon Energy.

Faculty involved included Lori Gwyn (Chemistry and Physics), Lisa Friesen, Cindi Albrightson, Tom McNamara (Mathematics), Jorie Edwards, Stephen Drinnon, Krista Brooks and Shelly Stockton. Students from the Chemistry Club, Society of Women Engineers, Psychology Club, Math Club, and several Pharmacy students led the girls in different STEM activities including extracting DNA, tie-dyeing goggles, writing computer code, robotics, learning about super tasters, learning about conditioning, math puzzles, health measures, making hand sanitizer, and more. Collegiate Activity Board students led the Girl Scouts around campus.



Tom McNamara (Mathematics) assists students engaged in math puzzles.

Jobs Outside the Classroom



Kelly Logan and Tugba Sevin, along with Denise Landrum-Geyer (all Language and Literature), organized a roundtable discussion event entitled, “Jobs Outside the Classroom.” The invited speaker was Dr. Ruth Schemmer (above photo), Assistant Dean of Career Development at Vanderbilt University. Other speakers were from SWOSU and included Ruth Boyd, Yolanda Carr, Jason Cash, Ken Hayes and Taylor Verkler.

GAC All-Academic Team

Eight CAS students were selected for the Great American Conference All-Academic Team:

Ryle Danker – Biology
Charlotte Eastman - Biology
Hanah Elrod – Biology
Cori Kelly – Natural Science Ed.
Kaila Lancaster – English
Cameron Nix – Biology
Jarech Page – Criminal Justice
Kaleb Prough – Engineering Physics

Graphic Design Students Compete in Dallas

Siriporn Peters and Todd Parker (Art, Communication and Theatre) and four graphic design students attended the 12th Annual National Student Show and Conference in Dallas, TX, in April. The design students had opportunities to learn from their peers and professional practitioners. They also had opportunities to visit art museums.



Pictured are (left to right) Siriporn Peters, John Herring, Hafith Uresi, Calli Kaiser and Matthew Hileman.



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Professional Practice of Graphic Design

A conference and exhibition of graphic design were held on campus in April. These events were part of Siriporn Peters' (Art, Communication and Theatre) Professional Practices of Graphic Design course.

Graphic design students shared their individual and collaborative projects. The main exhibitions were the design for the "Get Fit Weatherford" project for the Weatherford Chamber of Commerce and the campaign design project for the Clinton Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee.

Barbara Numberg, the Mayor of Corn, also launched her collaborative project, "Corn Patch," with SWOSU. The Corn Patch is a park and walking trail for all ages in Corn, OK.

Dr. Dejan Mraovic, Coordinator of the Graphic Design Program at Cameron University, presented the talk, "Typography Design on Bank Notes." SWOSU graphic design students also shared their design experience as professional practitioners.

Three Graphic Design students discussed their projects. Grace Hammons discussed her design for online games. She won the online game design award twice before she joined the graphic design program at SWOSU. Audrey Harchar shared her experience as a graphic design intern at the SWOSU Center for Economic & Business Development. Enrique Uribe discussed his experience as the graphic design intern at the Stafford Air and Space Museum.



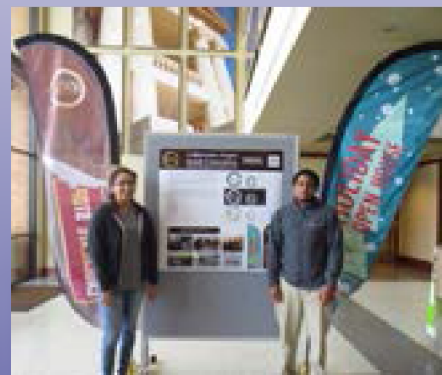
<http://www.bikeleague.org/league-vocabulary/national-bike-month>

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.

Little Gidding
T.S. Elliot



Odessa Talley shows her design for Weatherford's "Get Fit" project.



The campaign design for the Clinton Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee was a group project by Emily Belz and Valeria Lopez.