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

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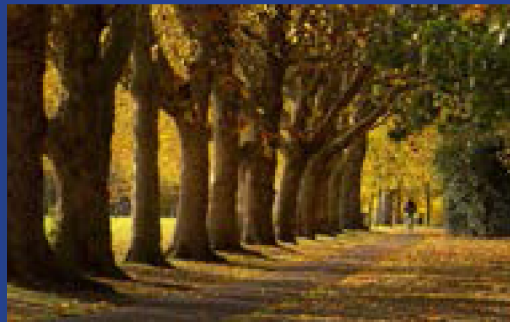
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aCAcademicS

The newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences

September 2015



New Faculty, New Niches

Important Dates

September

- 11 – Smithsonian Exhibit Opens, SWOSU Museum
- 12 - Parents Day
- 14 - OKC Philharmonic at SWOSU
- 17-18 – Undergraduate Research Conference, OKC
- 19 – CAS Night at SWOSU Football Game
- 24 - Council of Chairs Meeting
- 30 – Majors Fair

October

- 10 - Homecoming
- 14 - 1st 8 week courses end
- 15-16 - Fall Break
- 19 - Classes Resume
- 19 - 2nd 8 week classes start
- 22 - Council of Chairs Meeting
- 31 - SWOSU Saturday

“Ch- ch- ch- ch- changes” sang David Bowie in a song by the same name. Lots of changes happening on campus – new students, administrators and staff; new names for buildings; and a new look for Black Kettle Hall.

Sometimes, when changes occur and something new is added, the outcomes are not favorable. One example in biology is introduced species. Fire ants, European starlings and salt cedar are all introduced species in Oklahoma and they are causing problems.

When a new species is introduced into an environment, problems ensue because each resident species has carved out its own niche and the niche of the introduced species overlaps some of those established niches. The niche is the role a species plays in its environment – not only where it lives, but also how it interacts with other organisms in that environment.

Let’s use Hamlet’s role in Shakespeare’s play as an analogy. Hamlet had certain things to say and do at certain times and places. That was his niche in the play. No one else had that same niche. Now suppose we add Othello to the play. Even though Othello comes from another Shakespearean tragedy, his role does not fit well into Hamlet. The result, as a colleague is known to say, would be a “disaster.”

On campus one of the changes that happen every year is the addition of new faculty. This year Arts and Sciences has 14 faculty (see p. 6) who are either replacing a faculty member or continuing in a new position. So, why doesn’t the addition of new faculty create niche problems on campus? Each department carefully crafted a job description that identifies an available niche in that department. Interviews with candidates helped to determine which applicant can best fill that niche.

If done well, and it usually is in Arts and Sciences, these new faculty not only fill a niche but also contribute new ideas, new strategies, new personalities and add a dose of new energy. And we shouldn’t fear new. As Jean Piaget wrote, the primary goal of education should be creating people “who are capable of doing new [my emphasis] things, not simply repeating what other generations have done...” Our new faculty will help us do this and we welcome them to their niche.

Enjoy the fall!



Pete Grant
Dean of Arts and Sciences

CAS News

Two CAS faculty attended the first Grant Writing Institute at SWOSU just before the semester began: Andrea Holgado and Rickey Cothran (both in Biological Sciences). The goal was to develop a proposal that would be ready to submit to a funding agency. Good luck to both of them!

Dorie Astle’s (Social Sciences) article, “Imprisonment: Time for a Change,” was published in the August 2015 issue of *The Tulsa Lawyer*. *The Tulsa Lawyer* is a monthly magazine of the Tulsa County Bar Association.

Guy Biyogmam wrote a review for a paper, “Infinitesimal deformations of naturally graded filiform Leibniz algebras.” That review was published in *Mathematical Reviews*, part of MathSciNet.

Jieun Chang (Social Sciences), served as an article reviewer of “An Empirical Study of Customer Satisfaction Re-search of Sonic Drive-In No Contact,” and for a web-based database inventory project, in the *Oklahoma Journal of Undergraduate Research*.

David Martyn (Chemistry and Physics) completed the requirements for Wood Badge, which is the premier training course for volunteers in the Boy Scouts of America.

Howard Kurtz (Social Sciences) served as a consultant of the “National Grant Re-viewer Office of Justice Programs,” for the Office of Justice Programs. He published a chapter entitled “British Corrections,” in the *International Encyclopedia of Corrections* and a podcast series, “Sociology You Can Use” with BVT Publishing. Howard was interviewed, as an expert in the field, by Fox News OKC, for a segment “When Children Kill Their Parents.” Fox Television also interviewed him for insight into the recent shooting of the reporters at WDBJ-TV and work place violence. He also performed at a charity benefit concert for Mustang Fire and Rescue, in Mustang, OK.

Fred Alsberg, (Language and Literature) recently published three poems in *Red Truck Review* Vol. 3 (8/15): “Harry and the Shrink,” “Harry Kominsky Meets Rosy Wu” and “My Calling.”

Funding Successes

Tim Hubin (Chemistry and Physics) received funding from three agencies: Funding from the National Science Foundation through Oklahoma State University for the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Mathematics, Engineering and Technology (OK-LSAMP); funding from two sources for his research - the Oklahoma Center for the Advancement of Science (OCAST) and the American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Fund.

Three faculty received funding from the Oklahoma Arts Council:

Richard Tirk (Music) in support of the 46th Annual SWOSU Jazz Festival
E. K. Jeong (Art, Communication and Theatre) for the Visiting Artist Program
Shelley Martinson (Music) for the Zhou Long Residency.

Alumni News

Jackie Archer (Natural Science Education, B.S. and M.Ed.) was named Oklahoma CareerTech Teacher of the Year. Jackie is a biomedical science and medicine instructor at the Great Plains Technology Center in Lawton.

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Recognition Reception for Principal Investigators

SWOSU faculty were recently honored at a reception on campus for their efforts to acquire extramural funding. Fourteen CAS faculty were among those honored:

Dr. Brian Campbell, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. Lisa Castle, Biological Sciences
 Dr. Kevin Collins, Language and Literature
 Dr. Rickey Cothran, Biological Sciences
 Dr. David Esjornson, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. Lori Gwyn, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. Andrea Holgado, Biological Sciences
 Dr. Tim Hubin, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. E.K. Jeong, Art, Communication and Theatre
 Dr. Jason Johnson, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. William Kelly, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. Doug Linder, Chemistry and Physics
 Dr. Richard Tirk, Music
 Dr. John Woods, Mathematics

CAS Faculty Honored at the Fall Workshop

New Faculty/Positions

Art, Communication and Theatre: Marsha Carmen, Elaine Davies and Debra Holmes
 Biological Sciences: Christopher Horton, Zach Jones and Regina McGrane
 Chemistry and Physics: Jason Johnson, Chair
 Language and Literature: Jason Cash, Christi Cook, Ken Hayes, Taylor Verkler
 Music: Joong-Han Jonathan Jung, Hsuan-Yu Alex Lee and Shelley Martinson

Service Awards

10 Years
 Hung-Chieh Joy Chang
 David Esjornson
 Tim Hubin
 E. K. Jeong
 Lisa Schroeder
 Janis South
 Wayne Trail

15 Years
 Arden Aspedon (retired)
 Michael Dougherty

20 Years
 Sylvia Esjornson
 Valerie Reimers (retired)

25 Years
 Viki Craig (retired)
 Steven O'Neal

Voter Registration

You can register to vote in the Dean of Students' office, STF 211.



Two SWOSU Flutists Participate in NFA Convention

On 13-16 August, thousands of flutists gathered in Washington DC for the 43rd Annual National Flute Association (NFA) Convention. A celebration of music, pedagogy, and performance, the NFA convention draws acclaimed soloists and pedagogues from around the country and world each year. SWOSU students Tiffany Piper and Hayden Stephenson are honored to be the first Southwestern Oklahoma State University music students on record to participate in this prestigious event.

Masters of Music Education student Tiffany Piper (BME, SWOSU 2015) was awarded an internship at the NFA Convention. One of eight students selected for this competitive position, she will work alongside NFA board members and staff, gaining valuable hands-on experience. Sophomore music education major Hayden Stephenson is a winner of the National Flute Association's Collegiate Flute Choir Competition. She will perform in concert with this outstanding ensemble on the final day of the convention under the direction of Angeleita Floyd and Project Trio.

Hayden and Tiffany are flute students of Shelley Martinson, SWOSU Assistant Professor of Music. Both flutists were selected from a nationally competitive pool of college students and are honored to represent the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Music Department on this national stage. This opportunity is made possible in part by the generous support of the SWOSU Foundation.



Hayden Stephenson (left) and Tiffany Piper.

T/P Workshop

The annual Tenure/Promotion Workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 23 in Stafford 110 from 3:00-4:30 PM. If you are applying in the next couple of years, this workshop is a great opportunity to learn more about SWOSU policy and practice, and to ask questions of others who have gone through the process or are directly involved in the process.



OK Space Grant



Thanks to the OK Space Grant, Lori Gwyn (Chemistry and Physics) and three students visited the NASA Ames Research Center in San Jose, CA. While there they learned about research and internship opportunities available from NASA. The intent is to build a collaboration with NASA researchers and to contribute to NASA research missions.

Pictured from left to right: Sequojah O'Neal-Johnson, Madison Duckwall and Megan Oertel. This photo was taken on the Ames base facility in front of one of their many large wind tunnels.

FY16 Organized Research

The Office of Sponsored Programs awarded \$22,500 to the College of Arts and Sciences for Organized Research. Twenty-two proposals were submitted to the Dean's office requesting a total of \$41,689. Priority for funding was given to newer faculty in tenure-track or continuing positions. The following table provides award information.

Jason Cash, Language and Literature. 1) Taking on the shape of someone else's pain: U2 and Irish postmemory, 2) Rubbed-out men in the rabbled empire of the Queen: transnational utopianism in Sebastian Barry's *The Whereabouts of Eneas McNulty*. \$2,000.00

Yu-Ling Chen, Music. 1) The effect of musical attention control training (MACT) for children with dyslexia, 2) Using music therapy to promote physical, cognitive, and psychological well-being in older adults. \$2000.00

Rickey Cothran, Biology. Sexual conflict in an ecological context: insights from amphipods. \$2,000.00

Trevor Ellis, Chemistry and Physics. A novel approach to the asymmetric synthesis of B-substituted pyroglutamic acids. \$750.00

Swarup Ghosh, Math. Finitely generated counterexample of the peak point conjecture and uniform algebra with hull, but with no non-trivial Gleason part. \$1,800.00

Lori Gwyn, Chemistry and Physics. Construction of arsenic biosensors for a biochemistry lab module. \$900.00

Jon Henrikson, Chemistry and Physics. Elucidation of changes in secondary metabolic production through chemical signaling among antibiotic producing bacteria. \$2,000.00

Debra Holmes, Art Communication and Theatre. "Create a Puppet Play!" Workshop for OSTCA. \$1,050.00

Chris Horton, Biology. Identifying novel mechanisms of helper T cell differentiation. \$2,000.00

Zach Jones, Biology. Non-native vs. native grassland habitat influences on vertebrate populations. \$2,000.00

Regina McGrane, Biology. Evaluating the mechanism of pathogen priming induced by *Pseudomonas putida* against *Pseudomonas syringae* infection. \$2,000.00

Siriporn Peters, Art Communication and Theatre. Communication design for people with disabilities at the national park service: touch and see your park. \$1,000.00

Tugba Sevin, Language and Literature. Language and identity. \$2,000.00

Denis Trubitsyn, Biology. Molecular mechanisms of magnetosome formation: role of the magnetosome-associated protein Mad2 in crystal morphology. \$2,000.00

TOTAL AWARDED \$ 22,500.00

Next Generation!

Beside welcoming 13 faculty in new positions, we welcome 2 new babies, both in Language and Literature:



Gwendolyn Parker Cash, daughter of Dr. Jason and Callie Cash



Samuel Hayes, son of Dr. Ken and Blair Hayes

SWOSU at the State Fair

It is time again to volunteer for the SWOSU information booth at the Great State Fair of Oklahoma. The SWOSU booth has been at the Fair for the past 35 years! Arts and Sciences will be responsible for two days this year - 25 and 26 September (Friday and Saturday) from 10:00 AM to 10:00 PM. You can volunteer for 3 hour shifts or more anytime you like. Tickets are free for all volunteers. This is an excellent opportunity for new faculty/staff and student clubs/groups to represent SWOSU. You do not have to be an expert in all-things-SWOSU to volunteer. There are materials, pamphlets, instructions and other information available at the booth.

If you would like to volunteer please send Jerry Dunn (jerry.dunn@swosu.edu) or Muatasem Ubeidat (muatasem.ubeidat@swosu.edu) a message with the time and day you would like to volunteer. For more information please contact Jerry at 774-3048 or Muatasem 774-3298.



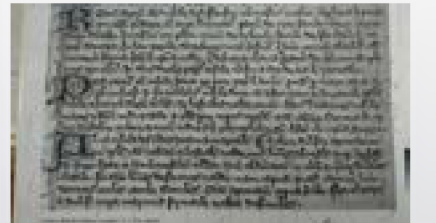
<http://www.okstatefair.com/icon-logo-new.png>

John Woods in the Hall of Fame



John Woods (Mathematics, Professor Emeritus, far right) was inducted into the Oklahoma Educators Hall of Fame in August. Celebrating with John are sons Ben and Paul, daughter-in-law Sam, President Randy Beutler and John's wife Paulette.

Introduction to Paleography



In June, along with eleven other academics from across the country, John Hayden (Social Sciences) completed the course "Introduction to Paleography, 800-1500" at the Rare Books School at the University of Virginia. Professor Consuelo Dutschke, Curator of Late Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts at Columbia University, taught the intensive one week course. John spent the week reading texts such as this Latin translation of Marco Polo's account of the orient.

Opportunity
may knock
only once,
but temptation
leans on the doorbell.

http://blakeset.com/quote/auth/keyword/opportunity_knocks/

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Hometown Teams

A traveling exhibition on sports from the Smithsonian Institution's Museum on Main Street program will be on display at the SWOSU Museum in Town Center, 14 September through 23 October. The exhibition is entitled, "Hometown Teams: How Sports Shape America." The exhibition is the result of the work of two retired Language and Literature faculty, Viki Craig and Jerry Nye. The Museum will be open Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM. It is located at 210 West Main Street.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Weatherford Library is hosting a series of book reviews on baseball, now underway. There are two more reviews in September: 10th, Harbour Winn, *Bang the Drum Slowly*; and 17th, John Hayden (Social Sciences), *Wait Till Next Year*.



<http://nhumanities.org/content/home-town-teams-how-sports-shape-america>

CAS Word Cloud

Each department is designing a roll-up display for recruiting. I was exploring different layouts for the CAS roll-up and discovered the Wordle program (www.wordle.net). It's a simple program into which one pastes text to form a word cloud. The size of the words is proportional to their frequency in the text. With this program, there is a lot of flexibility with font type, color, and layout. Best of all, use of this program is free.

The following word cloud was produced using Wordle. I used words from the names of the departments and degrees offered

