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

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Reaching Out

So here we are in the middle of January of a new year. Holiday lights and ornaments have been neatly stored for next year, wrapping paper and boxes have been recycled and gifts have been stowed in a drawer or closet. The holiday season, often referred to as the season of giving, is over.

While that giving may have ended, giving activities on campus, typically referred to as service or outreach, continue all year long. I’m reminded of these events from the invitations I receive, flyers on bulletin boards, and announcements on the SWOSU website.

Another reminder is when I review the promotion and tenure documents submitted by faculty. These tomes consist of a two-inch thick, three-ring binder that is chock-full of accomplishments in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service. The latter is not only an important component of promotion and tenure documents, but also an important component of the university’s mission: “to provide educational opportunities, research, scholarly and creative activities, and service” which meet “the needs of the state and region and contribute to the educational, economic, and cultural environment.”

Examples of outreach provided by the seven departments in the College of Arts and Sciences include

- art exhibitions
- theatrical performances
- outdoor classroom experiences
- summer science, math and music academies
- writers’ festivals
- history and speech competitions and community concerts.

All of these activities involve faculty and students. In fact, many faculty have actually incorporated service activities into their classes. This is referred to as Service Learning.

Some of these service activities have been ongoing for decades. For example, SWOSU is in the process of organizing the annual Southwestern Interscholastic Meet (SWIM) for high school students. This meet will the 104th offered on campus! And I’m pleased to say that all seven CAS departments are involved.

I look forward to sharing the service activities of our faculty, students and staff with you in this newsletter.

Pete Grant
Dean of Arts and Sciences
CAS News

Two CAS students were among several other SWOSU students nominated for the Nigh Leadership Academy - Jessica Vo (Chemistry major) and Victoria Stambaugh (History Education major). While neither was selected as a finalist, being nominated by itself was quite an honor.

Thirty-six CAS students have been named to Who's Who among Students in American Universities and Colleges. Students will be honored at a reception on Sunday, February 12, at 2 p.m. in the SWOSU Fine Arts Center on the Weatherford campus.

The Honors Program received a $5,000 award from the SWOSU Foundation. This money will be used to send two honors scholars on the study abroad experience to London during spring break. Dr. Brian Campbell (Chemistry & Physics) and Dr. Andrea Holgado (Biological Sciences) are co-directors of the program. Dr. Jerry Dunn (Social Sciences) is leading the study abroad trip to London.

Three faculty received funding to attend and present at professional meetings: Dr. E. K. Jeong (Art, Communication & Theatre), the 33rd Annual Five State Photography Competition/Exhibition at Ft. Hays, KS; Dr. Matthew Tracy (Music), the U.S. Navy Band Saxophone Symposium Performance at Fairfax, VA; and Dr. Tom McNamara (Mathematics), the Joint Mathematics Meeting at Atlanta, GA.

Each year the SWOSU Alumni Association honors emeriti faculty. This year four were honored and three of those four have CAS connections. Mr. Mark Mouse (English and Biology alumnus) served as the Director of the SWOSU Placement and High School College Relations for many years. Dr. Bill Seibert (Biological Sciences) joined the faculty in 1969. Dr. Dan Dill not only earned several degrees from SWOSU, but he also served on the Chemistry faculty, as chair of that department, and as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Biology News

Dr. Maggie Mwoyosvi Yoder (Biology alumna) recently received her doctorate from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Her dissertation was on Usher syndrome which affects hearing and vision.

Tyler Watson (Biology major) was accepted into the OSU College of Osteopathic Medicine.
Cameron Nix (Biology major) was selected to the 2016 Academic All-America® Division II football team. Cameron is the first football player to receive this honor since SWOSU became an NCAA Division II institution.

Amber Rymer (Biology alumnus) worked with Dr. Peter Grant (CAS Dean) on several research projects while she was an undergraduate. One of those projects was presented at an international conference and resulted in a publication: Grant, P.M. and A. Rymer. 2016. A simple, inexpensive artificial stream for rearing Ephemeroptera from sandy substrates. Proceedings of the Joint Meeting of the XIV International Conference on Ephemeroptera and XVIII International Symposium on Plecoptera. *Zoosymposia* 11:164-167.

### Alumni News

Mr. Philip Busey, Jr. (Communication Arts alumnus) is President-Elect of the SWOSU Alumni Directors.

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**Two SWOSU Art Students Selected for Kansas Juried Exhibition**

Two SWOSU students, Klemson Lancaster (right photo) from Waco, TX, and Emeche Wells from Roseville, MN, were accepted into the 33rd Annual Five State Photography Competition/Exhibition. This juried exhibition, sponsored by the Hays Arts Council in Hays, KS, is an annual photographic competition of works submitted from Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Missouri, and Nebraska. This year, there were 317 submissions and 151 were accepted.

Lancaster and Wells, both Two-Dimensional Studio Art majors, have been working on developing their own artworks through their Individual Study in Art courses with Dr. E.K. Jeong. This semester, the students were challenged to enter a juried exhibition that is open to all photographers in the region, including professionals. For undergraduate students, this was a demanding task, but Lancaster and Wells worked together with Dr. Jeong through the entry process, including selecting artworks, appropriate formatting and printing, as well as developing presentable framing for the photo competition.

“The Little Things in Life” by Ms. Lancaster and “The Choice is Yours” and “It Says It All” by Mr. Wells were displayed in the exhibition.
BookGrowl Interviews

BookGrowl is a series of interviews with scholars, authors, and artists about noteworthy books, films, and music. BookGrowl is hosted by SWOSU librarian Frederic Murray.

Books discussed by CAS faculty for BookGrowl include:

- Moby Dick; or, The Whale – Dr. Ken Hayes (Language & Literature)
- Johann Sebastian Bach: The Learned Musician – Dr. Daniel Farris (Music)
- Snow Crash – Dr. Victoria Gaydosik (Language & Literature)
- Jazz Icons – Dr. Keith Talley (former Music faculty and chair)
- Persepolis – Dr. Valerie Reimers (Language & Literature emerita)

Graphic Design Conference and Exhibition

The 2nd Annual Graphic Design Conference and Exhibition was recently held on campus. Fifteen students displayed their work in the Union. According to Dr. Siriporn Peters (second from right), the conference/exhibition strives to generate opportunities for graphic design students to present their creative designs to the public, provide a space for graphic design students to meet with their peers and local business owners, and promote the graphic design program of the Art, Communication & Theatre Department.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University
March 3rd, 2017
Research, Innovation, Imagination: Explore Your Curiosity at ORD

Meeting information and registration details may be found at www.oklahomaresearchday.com/.
Hayden Attends Virginia Film Festival

Dr. John Hayden (Social Sciences) attended the Virginia Film Festival where he joined a capacity crowd for a conversation with world renowned filmmaker Werner Herzog, pictured. He attended a similar event where one of cinema’s acclaimed actresses, Liv Ullmann, was interviewed.

J. D. Maness Biology Seminar Series Spring 2017

All seminars will be held at 4:00 PM in SCI 212.

January 25
Dr. Jeff Kelly - Aeroecology and Avian Migration Patterns
Director of the Oklahoma Biological Survey
Professor of Biology, University of Oklahoma

March 1
Dr. Ray Morantz - Grazing Lands Pollination Ecology
Xerces Society, Inc.

March 22
Dr. Mark Mandel - Biofilm Changes and Evolutionary Transitions in Microbiomes
Associate Professor of Microbiology-Immunology
Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

April 12
Mr. J. D. Strong - Protecting Oklahoma’s Wildlife
Director, Oklahoma Division of Wildlife Conservation

Congratulations to Drs. Robert Chambers and Sophia Lee (Music) who were married on Christmas Day!
Anniversaries to Celebrate in 2017

50th anniversary of Sgt. Pepper’s Lonely Hearts Club Band by The Beatles
50th anniversary of the first human heart transplant
75th anniversary of the premier of Casablanca
125th anniversary of the introduction of Sherlock Holmes
130th anniversary of Srinivasa Ramanujan’s birth
150th anniversary of Marie Curie’s birth
500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation

My simple take is that the liberal arts are indispensable to solving every one of the problems that we now see as technical.

Christopher Newfield, University of California at Santa Barbara.
As reported in “It’s Easier to Kludge It” by Lee Gardner, Chronicle of Higher Education, November 13, 2016.

Writing Center Spring 2017 Hours

Hours run from Tuesday, Jan. 17, until Friday, April 28. We will be closed Spring Break.

Sunday: 4-8pm
Monday: 11:30am-3pm
Tuesday: 10am-9pm
Wednesday: 11:30am-4:50pm
Thursday: 10am-9pm
Friday: 10am-2:30pm

Hours are subject to change as needed.

To schedule an appointment, please email writingcenter@swosu.edu or call (580) 774-7083. Walk-ins welcome!

Be sure to like us on Facebook (SWOSU Writing Center) and follow us on Twitter (@swosuwrites).

Important Dates

January

25 Bernhardt Nominations Due to Institutional Advancement
27 Proposal Development Awards Due to Sponsored Programs
31 Abstracts & Registration Deadline for OK Research Day

February

12 Who’s Who Reception - 2:00-4:00 PM, Fine Arts Auditorium