June 2019

Peter Grant

Abstract

With the advent of digitization, documents are much more easily stored and located. SWOSU Digital Commons is loaded with digitized documents. It is organized by Mr. Phillip Fitzsimmons, Reference and Digitization Librarian, in the Al Harris Library. One can find past issues of The Southwestern, minutes from Faculty Senate meetings, past issues of Echoes from the Hill, student and faculty research articles and posters, and issues of this newsletter,... Read More

Follow this and additional works at: https://dc.swosu.edu/academics
Part of the Adult and Continuing Education Commons, and the Higher Education Commons

Recommended Citation
Grant, Peter (2019) "June 2019," aCAdemicS: The Newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences
Available at: https://dc.swosu.edu/academics/vol5/iss5/1

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Newsletters at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in aCAdemicS: The Newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences by an authorized editor of SWOSU Digital Commons. An ADA compliant document is available upon request. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.
Leaving the Party

With the advent of digitization, documents are much more easily stored and located. SWOSU Digital Commons is loaded with digitized documents. It is organized by Mr. Phillip Fitzsimmons, Reference and Digitization Librarian, in the Al Harris Library. One can find past issues of The Southwestern, minutes from Faculty Senate meetings, past issues of Echoes from the Hill, student and faculty research articles and posters, and issues of this newsletter, aCAdemicS. Mr. Fitzsimmons recently provided usage statistics for the 28 issues of this newsletter: it has been downloaded 672 times from 32 institutions in 41 countries.

The first issue was published February 2014. That issue, and every one following, began with a letter from me. Topics of these letters varied over the years such as helping students make connections, assessment, summer camps, the passing of a colleague, student internships and the history of the College of Arts & Sciences. Sometimes it was easy to choose a topic and write about it. Other times, not so much. The latter probably resulted in less than inspiring prose, but at least the letters could be used for critiquing exercises in Composition I classes.

Now, I only have to worry about a topic for one more letter – this one. I’m retiring from SWOSU on 1 July 2019, having served for 31 years, the last 5 ½ of those years as the dean of the college. I do so with a mix of emotions. During those 5 ½ years I have had the honor and the privilege of working with over 100 faculty and staff who have made a commitment to focus on the students in their teaching, their scholarship and their service. The reason I have had something to fill 28 issues of this newsletter is due to the devotion and productivity of these amazing people.

While I will certainly miss my colleagues, I will now have a little more time to chip away at my personal to-do list, which has continued to grow over the years.

Yo-Yo Ma’s grandmother told him to always leave a party while he’s still having fun. I’m currently having a blast, and so I will heed her advice.

Starting 1 July, Dr. Jason Johnson will begin as the new dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. I think he’s going to have a blast, too.

Peter Grant, Dean
College of Arts & Sciences
CAS News

Dr. Becky Bruce was featured in the Focus on SWOSU Faculty section of the May/June 2019 CETL Newsletter.

The Department of Music is offering six summer camps: band, cantiamo solo voice, choral, marimba, middle school band, and string camps.

Miss SWOSU Meaghan Dorn (Interdisciplinary Studies) represented SWOSU at the Miss Oklahoma Pageant.

Alberto Manzano (Criminal Justice major and Criminal Justice Student Association vice-president) was selected for the Summer Policy Institute program run by the Oklahoma Policy Institute. The Summer Institute is a 4-day program held at the University of Tulsa that involves a combination of seminars, panels, workshops and keynote addresses involving leading policy experts from government, academia and community organizations. Subjects include topics such as Oklahoma’s legislative process, state budget and taxes, education, poverty and opportunity.

Dr. Daniel Kavish (Social Sciences) was interviewed by Best Colleges about advice regarding students selecting college majors.

Two SWOSU Biology alumni were involved with the presentation of “Where Did the Horny Toad Go?” at Coop Ale Works earlier this month. Stefanie Leland, and her husband Beau, directed the documentary (see the trailer). Chris Hise, manager of the Nature Conservancy’s Four Canyon Preserve, was also involved in the presentation.

Dr. Fred Gates (Social Sciences) recently attended the 44th annual meeting of the Economic and Business History Society in Detroit, Michigan, where he chaired a paper session entitled, “New Methodologies in Colonial Atlantic History.” He was also elected to serve another three-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees for the organization.

Mr. Landry Brewer (Social Sciences) has given presentations about his new book, Cold War Oklahoma, at Clinton Lions Club, Weatherford Rotary Club, Book Talk at Elk City Carnegie Library, and Magic City Books in Tulsa.

Faculty Funding

Dr. Robert Fant (Music) - SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs
Dr. Tim Hubin (Chemistry & Physics) – INBRE through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (2 awards)
Dr. Richard Tirk (Music) – SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs, City of Weatherford Hotel/Motel Committee

What you really need to do is show students how imperfect people can be and still succeed.

Dr. Karen Uhlenbeck
First woman to win the Abel Prize (2019)
CAS Faculty Receive Promotions and Tenure

Twelve Southwestern Oklahoma State University faculty members have been awarded promotions, and 10 faculty members have received tenure effective with the Fall 2019 semester. These changes were approved at a recent meeting of the Regional University System of Oklahoma Regents, according to SWOSU President Randy Beutler.

The following CAS faculty members were approved for advancement in rank:

From Assistant Professor to Associate Professor
- Dr. Jieun Chang, Department of Social Sciences
- Dr. Rickey Cothran, Department of Biological Sciences
- Dr. Swarup Ghosh, Department of Mathematics
- Dr. Jon Henrikson, Department of Chemistry & Physics
- Dr. Tugba Gursel Sevin, Department of Language & Literature

From Instructor to Assistant Professor
- Mr. Landry Brewer, Department of Social Sciences

Tenure
- Dr. Yu-Ling Chen, Department of Music
- Dr. Rickey Cothran, Department of Biological Sciences
- Dr. Marc DiPaolo, Department of Language & Literature
- Dr. Swarup Ghosh, Department of Mathematics
- Dr. Jon Henrikson, Department of Chemistry & Physics
- Dr. Tugba Gursel Sevin, Department of Language & Literature

New Dean of SWOSU-Sayre Campus

Mr. Bill Swartwood is the new dean on the SWOSU-Sayre campus. Swartwood has been teaching mathematics and physical science at SWOSU since 1998. He received his Bachelor of Science in Education in 1980 and Master of Science in Education in 1989, both from SWOSU.

Swartwood has been teaching in Oklahoma schools for 39 years, including 17 in public schools. He is a member of the American Mathematical Society. He and his wife, Toni, have two children — Kara Smith and Brady Swartwood and three grandsons — Stockton, Cord and Jackson. Swartwood is the son of elementary teachers and SWOSU alumni - Henryetta and Everett Swartwood.
Dr. Tim Hubin Named Chair of Department of Chemistry & Physics

Dr. Tim Hubin has been named chair of the Department of Chemistry & Physics at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. Hubin received two Bachelor’s degrees in Chemistry and in Secondary Science Education from Kansas State University in 1994 and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Kansas in 1999. Hubin also has postdoctoral research experience from the California Institute of Technology.

Hubin, who has taught at SWOSU for 14 years, believes students learn best by doing. He is a pioneer in incorporating scientific research into his class work. His current research, which has generated over $1.2 million in external research funding at SWOSU, focuses on developing molecules that bind metal ions tightly and has applications in diverse areas such as treating cancer, biomedical imaging and oxidation catalysis. His 49 and counting SWOSU undergraduate research students have had articles published in numerous national and international peer-reviewed scientific journals and have presented at many national conferences.

Hubin is a winner of SWOSU’s highest teaching honor, the Bernhardt Academic Excellence Award, and also the Oklahoma Medal of Excellence and he is a recipient of the national Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar Award, among other honors.

Among his contributions to SWOSU’s Chemistry program, Hubin has overseen curriculum development, adding innovative courses such as Structure and Bonding Theory, Principles of Laboratory Safety and a research project based Inorganic Chemistry Lab. His current curricular project is the development of a Scientific Ethics course for SWOSU STEM majors, which is being supported by the OK-INBRE NIH program.

Students Present at National Meeting

Jennifer Abshire and Kade Ezell (Biology majors) recently presented posters at the annual meeting of the American Society of Microbiology (ASM) in San Francisco.


As an ASM Undergraduate Research Fellow, Jennifer participated in the Microbe Academy for Professional Development. As the Oklahoma ASM Ambassador, she participated in the ASM Young Ambassadors of Science Retreat.

Both had the pleasure of hearing Frances Arnold, 2018 Nobel Prize in Chemistry recipient, speak in the opening session.
Arts & Sciences at the Library of Congress

My wife, Marci, and I had the opportunity to accompany the President’s Leadership Class on their Washington, D.C., tour in May. We visited the Thomas Jefferson Building, part of the Library of Congress. On the ceiling of the maps exhibition room was an incredible mosaic that featured the arts and the sciences.

Students Receive Awards at Math Banquet

The Department of Mathematics held its annual awards banquet at the end of the spring semester. Receiving awards were (front row, left to right) Jor-dyn Hartzell, Kevin Freeman, Boubacar Wane, (back row) Jaxson Taylor and Tyler Kehn. Dr. Tom McNamara (back row, right) served as the emcee for the banquet.
SWOSU SAGE STEAM Summer Camp was held for the second year in June. This camp is geared toward females who will be entering the eighth grade and who may have had limited access to STEAM-related activities. Fifty students were selected for this week-long experience.

One of the many interesting things about this camp is that faculty and staff from all three colleges on the Weatherford campus were involved. CAS participants, and their roles, follow:

**Art, Communication & Theatre**
Ms. Jessica Salmans – workshop, STEAMentor Night participant

**Biological Sciences**
Dr. Regina McGrane – SAGE STEAM STEM Liaison, workshop, STEAM Browsing Tables, STEAMentor Night participant

**Chemistry & Physics**
Drs. Terry Goforth and Wayne Trail, Ms. Emily Trail - Observatory

**Language & Literature**
Dr. Kelley Logan – workshop
Dr. Denise Landrum- Geyer – SAGE STEAM Arts/Humanities Liaison, workshop
Dr. Victoria Gaydosik - STEAMentor Night participant

**Mathematics**
Ms. Kathy O’Neal – SAGE STEAM treasurer

**Music**
Dr. Sophia Lee – workshop, STEAMentor Night participant
Dr. Kristin Griffeath - STEAMentor Night participant

---

**30th Annual Y Triathlon**

The Weatherford Great Plains YMCA held its annual sprint triathlon earlier this month. This was the 30th time, which makes this triathlon the longest continuing running sprint triathlon in the state! Mr. Brad Berrong (SWOSU distinguished alumnus, 3rd from right in photo) participated in this event and was acknowledged for participating in every triathlon since the event began. Dr. Peter Grant (CAS dean, 2nd from right) participated in the event, too. He finished third in his age group (but please don’t ask him how many were in his age group) and was the oldest participant. Also, Dr. Wayne Trail (Chemistry & Physics, 1st on right), often a participant in triathlons, volunteered in the transition area this time.
Students Study Music Therapy in Taiwan

Dr. Yu-Ling Chen (photo, front, right) took three students to Taiwan in May to perform scholarly activities based on a cross language comparison research examining the relationship between musical abilities and reading readiness. The students were

- Morgan Corona (photo, back, right), a music therapy intern at the Children’s Center Rehabilitation Hospital at Bethany,
- Molly Nguyen (front, left), who will start her internship at the Children’s Center Rehabilitation Hospital at Bethany in June,
- and Leticia Castro (back, left), a senior music therapy major.

This trip was sponsored by a grant from the Ministry of Science and Technology of Taiwan. This project is an international collaboration established by Dr. Hsiao-Lan Sharon Wang, assistant professor of special education at the National Taiwan Normal University. During their two-week stay, the students gave presentations, workshops, and performed clinical demonstrations. They also visited the special education department and hospitals. The students learned the music therapy practices of Taiwan and also experienced the culture, food, and scenery.

CAS Happenings

June
28-29 - Oklahoma Drama Educators Conference

July
4 – campus closed, Community Band Concert
5 – campus closed
7 – 64th Annual Band Camp
13 – National ACT Test
15 – New Student Orientation
22-26 – Weatherford Arts Academy

This publication, aCADemicS, is the newsletter of the SWOSU College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), and is published by the office of the Dean of the College. Subscriptions to the Newsletter are free. To place your name on the mailing list or to contribute information for the next issue, contact Dr. Peter Grant, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, 100 Campus Drive, Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096-3098, (580) 774-7152, peter.grant@swosu.edu.