

# Combat Surgeon Talk Rescheduled for February 21 at SWOSU

02.04.2011

Thomas Cashero, M.D., will share his experience of serving as a combat surgeon in the mountains of Northern Afghanistan at an evening presentation on Monday, February 21, on the campus of Southwestern Oklahoma State University. His presentation was scheduled earlier in February but was postponed because of inclement weather.

Dr. Cashero, who was part of a team of surgeons and anesthesiologists operating a MASH unit not far from the Pakistan border, will speak at 7 p.m. in the SWOSU Conference Center, located at the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> and Davis Streets, in Weatherford. Admission is free and open to the public for the Al Harris Library Showcase Series.

Jason Dupree, head of public services at the library, said viewer discretion is advised because the presentation does include graphic images of medical trauma caused by gunshots and explosions.

The presentation will offer practical, first-hand knowledge for anyone working in emergency rooms or individuals who serve as first responders (i.e., paramedics, firefighters, or law enforcement). The information presented will be very insightful for any college student currently serving with the U.S. military or those individuals pursuing careers as nurses or doctors.

Cashero will dispel common misconceptions about the role of technology and new equipment in combat medicine and emphasize where the real change in medicine has occurred: training, teamwork and philosophy. Cashero will also share stories about additional tasks asked of him in Afghanistan like veterinarian care for U.S. guard dogs, public relations work with local villages and hospitals, security tasks and vehicle maintenance training.

Cashero has practiced medicine for nearly 40 years demonstrating a perpetual dedication to foreign medical opportunities. He has served as a physician in Monrovia, Liberia; Kyoto, Japan; La Paz, Bolivia; and Uromi, Nigeria. In the Army Reserves, he has served twice in Operation Iraqi Freedom and most recently in Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan).

Since 1989, Cashero has held a private practice in Clinton and currently serves as the medical director of Sinor EMS and a surgeon for Integris Clinton Regional Hospital.

Cashero has served in the Army Reserve since 2004. In 2010, he traveled with the 934<sup>th</sup> Forward Surgical Team (FST), a U.S. Army Reserve unit deployed from Salt Lake City to Forward Operating Base Sharana (Paktika Province, Afghanistan). During his military service, Cashero has earned the following awards: Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NATO Afghanistan Service Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Services Medal.

For more information about the upcoming event, contact Dupree at 580.774.3031 or [jason.dupree@swosu.edu](mailto:jason.dupree@swosu.edu).