

SWOSU Receives Grant for Balloon Satellite Project

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University faculty Madeline Baugher (second from left) and Brad Bryant (far right) recently received a \$4,000 grant to fund a balloon satellite project on the Weatherford campus. Also pictured are SWOSU Provost Dr. Blake Sonobe and Anita Blankenship, director of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University faculty Madeline Baugher and Brad Bryant recently received a \$4,000 grant to fund a balloon satellite project on the Weatherford campus.

The award came from the Oklahoma NASA Space Consortium through the University of Oklahoma.

Madeline Baugher, the SWOSU-NASA Grant principal investigator (PI), is an instructor in the Department of Entrepreneurship & Computer Systems and has been working with SWOSU-NASA grants for several years. Brad Bryant, chair and instructor in the Department of Industrial and Engineering Technology, is co-PI for the award and will facilitate the project.

The balloon satellite project is a NASA sponsored project, which gives students the opportunity to apply technology, engineering, mathematics and the natural sciences through the use of weather balloons. Students will learn how to build a small data recording satellite which is launched into the atmosphere via a weather balloon. Multiple satellites can be launched from one balloon simultaneously.

This project will be included in the engineering technology program at SWOSU. If the project is successful, it may be expanded to include local secondary and elementary science classes.

For more information about the balloon satellite project at SWOSU, contact Bryant at 580.774.3162 or brad.bryant@swosu.edu. For information on other NASA grant projects at SWOSU, contact Baugher at 580.774.3122 or madeline.baugher@swosu.edu.