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SWOSU Pair Benefits from Reach Higher Program



Southwestern Oklahoma State University students Rachel Koszczewski (left) of Altus and Rhiannon Calfy of Temple each have received a \$1,000 "Reach Higher" scholarship from the SWOSU Foundation, Inc, on the Weatherford campus. With the pair is Dr. Todd Wiggen, coordinator of SWOSU's Organizational Leadership Program (Reach Higher Flex Finish).

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Reach Higher is a program for adults who have successfully completed some college coursework but have not yet finished a college degree.

"The Reach Higher program means the world to me," Calfy said. "I started the Reach Higher program two years ago after I had my son. I was enrolled at Southwestern Oklahoma State University and was trying to find my purpose when I stumbled upon information about the Reach Higher program. The program has been my saving grace and inspiration on my darkest days by reminding me that, one day soon, I will be a college graduate with a good job."

Calfy said that she has a long-term goal of working in the non-profit sector, specifically helping families that have children diagnosed with serious illness.

“Reach Higher gives adults an opportunity to go back to school at a lower cost to complete their college education,” Koszczewski said. “It encourages them all to reach their goals in building their careers in business and acts as a guide for balancing out their studies and daily schedules.”

She said this degree will help her get a head start on making plans for her future career, leading to an adult life full of happiness and stability. She wants a positive voyage full of opportunities that will allow her to help care for her family.

Dr. Todd Wiggen, coordinator of SWOSU's Organizational Leadership Program (Reach Higher Flex Finish) said the Reach Higher adult-friendly degree completion options available through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education encourage adults who have earned some college credit to successfully complete their degrees.

Reach Higher provides two distinct degree completion program strands for adult learners. Reach Higher: FlexFinish offers flexible enrollment and online options to working adults who wish to pursue an associate degree in enterprise development or a bachelor's degree in organizational leadership. Reach Higher: DirectComplete offers adult students the opportunity to complete a degree program connected with workforce development needs that align with Oklahoma's *100 Critical Occupations* list.

Additional information is available by contacting Wiggen at todd.wiggen@swosu.edu.

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