

SWOSU Receives Funding for Two Summer Academies

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University recently received funding from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for two different summer academies on the Weatherford campus. An energy summer academy and science/mathematics academy will be held this summer. Pictured are (from left): SWOSU Chemistry/Physics Professor and S/M Academy Director Dr. Brian Campbell; Anita Blankenship, director of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs; and SWOSU Industrial & Engineering Technology Instructor and EA Academy Director Jeff Short.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) has awarded funding for a second year for two different summer academies to be held on the Southwestern Oklahoma State University campus in Weatherford.

SWOSU Industrial & Engineering Technology Instructor Jeff Short received \$32,400 for an energy summer academy entitled "Oklahoma Giants -- Exploring the Science, Math, Engineering, and Technology of Oklahoma's Wind and Natural Gas Energy.

The other award is for SWOSU Chemistry and Physics Professor Dr. Brian Campbell who received \$38,400 to provide another summer academy entitled "Summer Science and Mathematics Academy."

Short's Oklahoma Giants Summer Academy will target sophomores, juniors and seniors. The academy is a fun way to explore the math, science, and technology behind two of Oklahoma's most valuable resources, wind and natural gas. Using labs and field trips, participants will explore the math, science, and technology used everyday by Oklahoma men and women as they produce energy for Oklahoma and the nation.

Participants will study wind-generated and natural gas energy in cooperation with various energy companies to learn the application of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) in the economy of Oklahoma. The academy is designed to be primarily activity and project based with little lecture format. Participants will be challenged to find how STEM coursework can open doors to a large variety of careers. This energy academy will be held on the SWOSU campus three different weeks this July.

For questions about the energy summer academy, please contact Short at 580.774.3711 or by email at jeff.short@swosu.edu.

Campbell will offer the two-week SWOSU Summer Science and Math Academy from June 2-13. Thirty-two students who will be juniors or seniors in fall 2008 are invited to experience university life and an introduction to science and mathematics.

Academy participants will study six academic science units offered by the SWOSU Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Physics, Mathematics, and Computer Science. The students will also participate in an interdisciplinary problem-solving unit directed by SWOSU scientists. Additional enrichment activities include a physical

fitness/recreational unit designed to entertain and enhance the participants' self-esteem and interpersonal communication skills.

Other activities include science and technology seminars and a variety of social activities. Career opportunities in science and technology will be an integral component of the program. If interested, please contact Dr. Brian Campbell at 580.774.3118 or by email at brian.campbell@swosu.edu.