

SWOSU Student Named 2016 Newman Civic Fellow

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University student Emma Leffler of Arlington (Oakridge) TX has received a 2016 Newman Civic Fellows Award.

Leffler is one of 218 students nationwide to receive the honor from Campus Compact, a Boston-based non-profit organization working to advance the public purposes of higher education.

The award honors the late Frank Newman, one of Campus Compact's founders and a tireless advocate for the civic engagement of higher education. Andrew Seligsohn, president of Campus Compact, said the country is seeing a resurgence in student interest in acting to create lasting social change, and this year's Newman Civic Fellows exemplify that commitment.

Leffler is majoring in pharmacy at SWOSU in Weatherford and aspires to promote self-empowerment, optimism and healthy lifestyles among western Oklahoma residents. She has served as local chair of Operation Heart and Operation Over-the-Counter Medication Safety programs, both geared to help the public understand these important health topics. She was instrumental in creating a western Oklahoma "glow" run to benefit the American Cancer Society. During summers, she helps contribute to the empowerment of 8th grade girls by serving as a camp counselor for SWOSU's Tech Trek, designed to promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Leffler will represent SWOSU in a national group of student leaders. Leffler received an award certificate and an invitation to join the Newman Civic Fellows online network. She will be invited to participate in state-specific activities.

She was nominated for the award by SWOSU President Randy Beutler.