

# SWOSU's Trisha Wald Wins State Honor

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An assistant professor from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford has been named the 2014 Outstanding Accounting Educator by the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA).

Dr. Trisha Wald, JD, assistant professor in the Accounting, Computer Science & Entrepreneurship Department at SWOSU was announced as the winner during the recent annual Oklahoma Accounting Educators Conference held in Claremore.

Wald said her favorite part of teaching is the joy and excitement of the students when they understand the material and start to see connections between materials in her class, other classes and the real world.

“At that point, I feel like I have done my job as a teacher – I have given them the ability to see the information and how it relates to the world around them,” Wald said.

An educator since 2008, Wald teaches accounting and legal classes at SWOSU. She is active within the university in numerous capacities including serving on the Student Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate and as a Faculty Senator for her department.

Wald received her bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and finance from SWOSU, where she graduated summa cum laude and was named the Outstanding Senior in Finance. She then earned her Juris Doctor, with honors, from the University of Oklahoma College Of Law.

After earning her law degree, Wald did not go directly into the education field. She passed the Oklahoma Bar and practiced law for several years in Oklahoma City before accepting a teaching position at her alma mater.

OSCPA member Dr. Melody Ashenfelter, CPA, a fellow accounting professor at SWOSU and former teacher of Wald's said she is dedicated to her students and they have the upmost respect for her. Her student evaluations are among the best on campus.

In addition to a commemorative plaque, Wald will also receive a scholarship from the OSCPAs to award to an SWOSU accounting student of her choice.

To be eligible for the honor, nominees must be either full-time or retired accounting educators at an Oklahoma college or university. They must have displayed superior teaching skills, student motivation abilities and notable education innovations. In addition, nominees must have demonstrated active involvement in professional accounting activities.

The OSCPAs has been honoring outstanding Oklahoma accounting educators at two-year and four-year schools since 1991.