

# SWOSU Receives \$15,000 Grant from AT&T Foundation

03.16.2012

AT&T Foundation has given a \$15,000 grant to Southwestern Oklahoma State University to support the President's Leadership Class at the university in Weatherford. Making the presentation was (third from left) AT & T External Affairs Manager Sandra Robinett. Oklahoma state representative Harold Wright (right) also attended the presentation. Accepting for SWOSU are (left) Lynne Thurman, assistant to the president for institutional advancement, and President Randy Beutler.

To help support the efforts of Southwestern Oklahoma State University to develop the leaders of tomorrow, AT&T has given a \$15,000 grant to the Southwestern Foundation to support the President's Leadership Class program at the Weatherford university.

"At a time of such rapid change, developing in our next generation the skills for leadership is crucial," said AT&T Oklahoma President Bryan Gonterman. "We believe very strongly in our obligation to give back and to promote efforts to develop the leaders of tomorrow, so we are very pleased to be able to make this contribution to the SWOSU PLC."

Lynne Thurman, assistant to the president for institutional advancement at SWOSU, worked with the AT&T Foundation for the contribution.

The PLC at SWOSU is a comprehensive leadership development experience consisting of academic and experiential courses designed to meaningfully explore personal, interpersonal, organizational and social dimensions. The PLC provides tremendous opportunities for participating students to expand their knowledge about themselves, diversity issues, values and ethics in the greater context of leadership development.

"On behalf of our board of directors, staff, faculty and students, I would like to thank the AT&T Foundation for selecting SWOSU as the recipient of the generous grant to support the President's Leadership Class," Thurman said. "Grants and donations to SWOSU from organizations like the AT&T Foundation often represent the most compelling way to improve educational opportunities for our hard working, deserving students in need. We are most grateful."

In attendance at the presentation was State Representative Harold Wright.

"SWOSU is doing great work preparing the next generation of leaders for Southwestern Oklahoma, and I am very pleased to see AT&T recognizing the importance of their work to our community," Wright said. "This contribution is not just about money; it is an investment in the students who will lead our state in the future."

AT&T Inc. is committed to advancing education, strengthening communities and improving lives. Through its philanthropic initiatives and working with other organizations, AT&T has a long history of supporting projects that create learning opportunities; promote academic and economic achievement; and address community needs.

