

Bessinger Named Chair of SWOSU Music Department

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Dr. David Bessinger has been named chair of the Southwestern Oklahoma State University Music Department in Weatherford effective July 1.

Bessinger, professor of music, has taught at SWOSU since 1984.

He holds degrees from Baylor University, University of Illinois and University of Oklahoma. His teaching areas at SWOSU include percussion, music theory and music of the 20th century.

As a performer, Bessinger is active as a marimbist and chamber musician. He has performed on several occasions as a marimba soloist with the SWOSU Wind Ensemble.

As a chamber musician, he has performed many works with SWOSU colleagues for the SWOSU and Weatherford communities, state and regional conferences, and at the National Conference on Percussion Pedagogy and the North American Saxophone Alliance.

Bessinger is a past president of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Percussive Arts Society and has hosted the Oklahoma Percussion Festival on four occasions in Weatherford. He is active in the music department's outreach program through clinics and summer camps for young percussion students.