

Beutler Named to SWOSU Position

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Randy Beutler, director of legislative relations for Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry, has been named assistant to the president for strategic operations at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford.

Beutler will start his position January 1, 2006.

In addition to his duties with Governor Henry, Beutler has been an adjunct professor of history at SWOSU. Beutler is a former member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives where he served as District 60 representative from 1992-2000. He was reelected three times without opposition.

In 2003, Beutler was appointed by Governor Henry as his legislative liaison to the Oklahoma House of Representatives. In this capacity, he worked closely with all members of the Legislature in regards to the Governor's agenda. He worked on the passage of the education lottery, tobacco tax, Tribal Gaming Act and the Higher Education Bond Act of 2005. In January of this year, Beutler was promoted to director of legislative relations, which elevated him to a senior staff member of Governor Henry's administration.

Beutler graduated from Canute High School and then earned his bachelor's degree from SWOSU in 1983. He completed his master's degree at SWOSU in 2003. He is a former social science teacher at Washita Heights Public Schools and Weatherford High School. He was named Weatherford Public Schools "Teacher of the Year" in both 1987 and 1990.

He is a member of the Oklahoma Farmers Union, Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Masonic Lodge #182, SWOSU Alumni Association, Oklahoma Academy of State Goals Board of Directors, and the Elk City Old Town Museum Board of Directors.

In his new position at SWOSU, Beutler will assist President John Hays with external affairs, legislative matters, grant development, development of external funds and non-academic administrative matters. He will assist in the strategic direction of SWOSU and assist with leadership development projects.