



## News

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# SWOSU Department of Education Sponsoring Favorite Teacher Post

The Department of Education is “Celebrating 120 years” for homecoming and Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford has graduated 20,000+ teacher education students over the last 120 years.

In honor of the SWOSU tradition of developing teachers, the Department of Education has a \$1,000 scholarship opportunity, sponsored by the SWOSU Foundation, for any current SWOSU student who makes a positive post about a favorite teacher (elementary, middle school, high school or college) using the hashtag #SWOSUFavTchr on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. The post should be made by October 29. A random drawing from all those students that posted using the hashtag will be made and announced at the homecoming football game.

SWOSU has a long-standing history of developing excellent educators from the beginning, according to Instructor Marla Pankratz. Southwestern Normal School was established by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature on March 8, 1901, to prepare teachers for the public schools. In 1903, the first 113 future teachers attended their first classes.

In 1920, Southwestern Normal School became a four-year institution under the name Southwestern State Teachers College. In 1974, the institution’s name was changed to Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

“We are incredibly proud to be a public institution carrying on the tradition of developing teachers to serve in the communities in our state and region,” Pankratz said. “We are proud to partner with our communities, school districts and alumni to continually work to utilize innovative practices that can better meet the needs of children and families as well as prepare the next generation of teachers and educators.”

Additional information is available by contacting the SWOSU Department of Education at 580.774.3285.