

Dr. James South Named SWOSU Vice President of Academic Affairs

05.30.2013

Dr. James South has been selected as the new vice president of academic affairs at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford and Sayre, according to SWOSU President Randy Beutler.

South has served as dean of the SWOSU College of Arts & Sciences since March 2012. He previously served as chair of the Department of Music from 2008-12 and director of bands from 1995-2011.

"I am very excited about Dr. South assuming this important role at SWOSU," Beutler said. "We had several outstanding candidates, and the selection committee has done an extensive and thorough job in the selection process."

As vice president of academic affairs, South is chief academic officer at SWOSU. This appointment is subject to Regional University System of Oklahoma Board approval.

South began his higher education career as a visiting lecturer at the University of Illinois at Champaign from 1988-1990 and then joined the faculty at Emporia State (KS) University, where he was assistant professor and director of bands/orchestras prior to coming to SWOSU.

He has also taught in the Irving (TX) Independent School District and Northlake College in Irving.

South received a Bachelor of Music in Education from Northwestern University in Evanston (IL) and Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of North Texas.

South has been an invited guest conductor for over 40 state and regional honor and symphonic bands. He has numerous publications and presentations and is a member of several music education associations. He served as president of the Oklahoma Music Educators Association from 2005-2007 and is currently president of the Southwest Division of the National Association for Music Education. In 2012, South was inducted into the Oklahoma Music Educators Hall of Fame.

South's wife, Janis, is a member of the SWOSU Music Department.

Dr. Cindy Foust has been serving as interim VPAA, and she will return to her position as vice president of student affairs.