

# SWOSU to Host "Congress to Campus" Event

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University students and western Oklahoma residents will have a unique opportunity to learn more about the democratic process from two retired members of the United States House of Representatives at an upcoming "Congress to Campus" event to be held Thursday, September 29, on the Weatherford campus.

Former Congressman Glenn English, a Democrat, and former Congressman Mickey Edwards, a Republican, will spend the day meeting with a diverse array of SWOSU students and faculty in both roundtable and classroom settings.

"SWOSU is most honored to be hosting two statesmen of the caliber of Glenn English and Mickey Edwards.," said SWOSU President Dr. Randy L. Beutler. "Their unique experiences in the political arena and their broad perspectives on the value of public service are unmatched. The 'Congress to Campus' event will provide students, faculty/staff and area residents the opportunity to interact with former members of Congress in an apolitical environment in order to better understand how government works, and doesn't work, and perhaps could work. Particularly during this highly-charged election year the insights of English and Edwards will be of great value."

The SWOSU Foundation, Inc. will host English and Edwards at a private reception benefitting the SWOSU Department of Social Sciences at 5:30 p.m. in the Skyview Suite of the Pioneer Cellular Events Center. Tickets to the private reception are \$20 each and may be purchased at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/swosu-congress-to-campus-private-reception-tickets-27071612923> or by calling the Foundation's campus offices at Burton House, 580-774-3267.

SWOSU will host English and Edwards in a "Congress to Campus" Community Forum at 7 p.m. in the SWOSU Business Enterprise Center (formerly the SWOSU Conference Center). English and Edwards will discuss many topics including the 2016 presidential election and will take questions from the audience. The public is invited to attend the forum and an RSVP for the forum is not required but encouraged for planning purposes—those wishing to RSVP should call SWOSU's Office of Institutional Advancement at 580-774-3267 or e-mail [robbin.jennings@swosu.edu](mailto:robbin.jennings@swosu.edu).

English represented the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Oklahoma in the U. S. House of Representatives from January 3, 1975 to January 7, 1994. English recently retired as Chief Executive Officer of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). A native of Cordell, English is a 1964 graduate of SWOSU and in 1976 was named the first-ever SWOSU Distinguished Alumnus.

Edwards represented the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Oklahoma in the U. S. House of Representatives from January 3, 1977 to January 3, 1993. Edwards was raised in the Capitol Hill area of Oklahoma City. After retiring from Congress, Edwards taught at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and at other institutions including Georgetown, Princeton, George Washington University and Penn Law. Edwards also has served as vice president of the Aspen Institute.

“Congress to Campus” is a program of the United States Association of Former Members of Congress in partnership with the Stennis Center for Public Service. The aim of “Congress to Campus” is to engage students and provide inspiration that will lead to greater democratic participation; whether it is in the arena of public service or something as simple as voting.

For more information, contact the SWOSU Office of Institutional Advancement at 580-774-3267.