

Students Attend SURE-STEP at SWOSU

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford recently hosted 14 students at a SURE-STEP program designed to provide an exciting opportunity for high school seniors seeking degrees in biology and chemistry at SWOSU.

Attending the four-week program from July 6-31 were: ARNETT—Mikkinzi Davis and Shawn Plymesser; CHOCTAW—Ryan Brewer and Chris Ozment; CLINTON—Kaden Stratton; HYDRO—Johnny Boschman; KELLYVILLE—Justin Cullen; MUSTANG—Katherine Helms; SNYDER—Morgan Scott; TYRONE—Lucas Keyes; WEATHERFORD—Kevin Bright, Kaleb Fischer and Tamara Powell; YUKON—Erica Benda.

Students who participated in the summer program, attend SWOSU the following academic year, and maintain all other requirements will be awarded a 6-semester credit hour waiver and a \$1,500 stipend each semester for their first year of college study.

SWOSU, in association with four other Oklahoma universities, were awarded a \$2 million grant over a five-year period from the National Science Foundation to encourage students to pursue degrees with science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Program Director Dr. Brian Campbell said students had lecture and laboratory courses designed to promote success with STEM material. Students were also trained in skills necessary to cope with college studies like time management and study skills.

Participants lived in the SWOSU residence halls, ate in the cafeteria and were given an opportunity to experience college and campus life first hand. Room and board for the four-week period was provided by SURE-STEP.

Students will participate in active research in either chemistry or biology during the 2008-09 academic year.