

# Miss Oklahoma Alex Eppler Coming to Tech Trek

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Miss Oklahoma Alex Eppler is coming to Tech Trek at Southwestern Oklahoma State University.

The summer math and science camp for 48 girls is planned July 13-19 on the Weatherford campus, and Eppler will take part in the Professional Night on Thursday, July 17, when 40 professional women from across Oklahoma visit the campers using a “speed interview” method.

Each group of four girls will be given five minutes to talk with each professional about their career. At the end of five minutes, the girls change to a different table and are given the chance to talk to another professional. The professionals are from a variety of Science/Technology/Engineering/Mathematics (STEM) fields including dentistry, nursing, geology, physics, optometry, accounting, medicine, pharmacy, finance, information technology, publishing, engineering and marketing. Professional night gives the campers a snapshot of various careers to consider for their future.

Eppler is also a science teacher at The Academy in Oklahoma City, and she will discuss the importance of science and math education and its real-world applications.

Miss SWOSU Hailey Raetz will also be taking part in Thursday’s program. The Miss America organization has taken on the platform of STEM Coalition to encourage young girls to enter the STEM fields.

Before the Thursday event, the campers will participate in a Professionalism Workshop. SWOSU’s Jonna Myers and Patsy Parker will discuss the importance of making a good impression, dressing professional and successful interview techniques.

Tech Trek was founded in 1998 by the California American Association of University Women (AAUW), and, due to its success in reaching over 9,000 girls across eight college campuses, was expanded nationwide in the summer of 2013. Thirty campers from across the entire state of Oklahoma experienced the inaugural Tech Trek at SWOSU and this year the Weatherford branch of the AAUW was chosen once again to host Tech Trek, expanding to 48 campers this year.