



26 October,  
2018

## Oklahoma Teacher of the Year to Speak Wednesday at SWOSU

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year—Donna Gradel of Broken Arrow High School—will speak at Southwestern Oklahoma State University this Wednesday, October 31, as part of the Teacher Candidate Professional Development Day on the Weatherford campus.

The public is invited to hear Gradel's presentation at 2 p.m. in the North Commons Lobby of the Pioneer Cellular Event Center.

Gradel is a secondary science teacher who was selected Oklahoma's Teacher of the Year for 2018-19.

She attended West Virginia University on a women's basketball scholarship and received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from WVU. She is currently in her 30<sup>th</sup> year of teaching, the last 23 of which have been at Broken Arrow Senior High School where she teaches AP Environmental Science and Innovative Research and serves as the Science Department Chair.

Gradel has received numerous awards through the years including the 2018 Broken Arrow Chamber Successful Women's Community Impact Award, 2017 Presidential Innovative Award for Environmental Educators, 2015 Henry Ford National Innovative Teacher Award, 2014 Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence Medal of Excellence for Secondary Teaching in the State of Oklahoma, 2013 MIT Inspirational Teacher Award and the Tulsa World "Metro Coach of the Year" for coaching the 1994 state girls basketball champion Tulsa Hale Lady Rangers.

Also going on throughout the day at SWOSU will be various professional development

concurrent sessions as part of the SWOSU Education Career & Resources Fair. The sessions run

from 9-11 a.m. and feature the following topics: Panel of New Teachers/Q & A; New Teacher Finances/Incentives; Engaging All Learners with Ice Breakers; and Classroom Management PK-12.

The SWOSU Education Career and Resources Fair will be held from 11-12:20 on the arena floor of the Pioneer Cellular Event Center. Over 35 school districts/education entities from four states have registered to attend. The fair is a combined effort between the Department of Education and Career Services office.

For more information, contact Bruce Belanger at [bruce.belanger@swosu.edu](mailto:bruce.belanger@swosu.edu).



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Weatherford, OK 73096

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