



News

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Reimers Makes Major Gift to SWOSU

Photo Caption: Dr. Valerie Reimers (center) recently made two generous investments that will assist the SWOSU Writing Center and SWOSU Department of Language & Literature. With Reimers are Garrett King, executive director of the SWOSU Foundation, and Dr. Denise Landrum-Geyer, coordinator of the SWOSU Writing Center and associate professor in the SWOSU Department of Language & Literature.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU) with locations in Weatherford and Sayre has received two generous investments from Dr. Valerie Reimers that will benefit the SWOSU Writing Center and the SWOSU Department of Language & Literature.

Reimers is a member of SWOSU's engaged and diverse emeriti community, having served as a professor in the Department of Language & Literature from 1995 until her retirement in 2015. Reimers holds degrees in English from SWOSU, University of Central Oklahoma and the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Prior to teaching at SWOSU, she served as assistant professor at the University of Texas Pan-American in Edinburg, Texas from 1990 to 1994.

During her tenure at SWOSU, Reimers had the vision for and did the exploration necessary to promote the establishment of a writing center in 2003 with the support of SWOSU administrators, particularly then-President Dr. John Hays and Dr. Jill Jones, then-chair of the Language & Literature Department. Reimers served as the writing center coordinator until Fall 2012. The ongoing funding from the endowment provided in the Reimers Writing Center Fund will enhance the center's mission to provide assistance with writing to students, faculty and staff from all disciplines.

The SWOSU Department of Language & Literature will receive ongoing funding from an additional endowment, the Reimers Endowed Fund. Support for oral and written communication connects SWOSU students to languages, literature and cultures; increases the understanding that comes with critical and creative thinking skills; and promotes SWOSU's institutional goals.

"We are deeply grateful to Professor Reimers and all of our emeriti like her who choose to invest in this institution and its aim to provide a quality higher education for all," said SWOSU President Dr. Randy L. Beutler.

The Reimers Writing Center Fund and the Reimers Endowed Fund are stewarded by the SWOSU Foundation, Inc., which was established in 1977 to promote philanthropy and distribute funds to support the activities and programs of SWOSU. Located on the Weatherford campus in the historic Burton House, the Foundation currently stewards over \$25 million in assets for the benefit of SWOSU. For more information, please contact the SWOSU Foundation at 580-774-3267 or visit www.SWOSUFoundation.com.

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