

SWOSU Receives \$50,000 from AEP-PSO

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Brad Bryant (right), chair of the SWOSU Department of Industrial & Engineering Technology, accepts a check from Tiffini Lyda, Public Service Company of Oklahoma manager of community affairs for western Oklahoma. The gift will support expansion and updates to SWOSU's Industrial and Engineering Technology program on the Weatherford campus. Also pictured is SWOSU President John Hays.

The Southwestern Oklahoma State University Foundation has announced a \$50,000 donation from the American Electric Power Foundation and Public Service Company of Oklahoma to help support expansion and updates to SWOSU's Industrial and Engineering Technology program on the Weatherford campus.

"The AEP Foundation is very pleased to make this gift to SWOSU for a program that is the only Industrial Technology program in Oklahoma that is accredited by the National Association of Industrial Technology," said Stuart Solomon, president and chief operating officer of Public Service Company of Oklahoma. "PSO has a long-standing relationship with SWOSU, and we are excited that the AEP Foundation is supporting this program that will have such a positive impact on students as well as the western Oklahoma area."

The AEP Foundation strives to improve quality of life, including access to high-quality education, in the communities served by the operating units of American Electric Power (AEP). Solomon said the donation bolsters the long-standing partnership between Public Service Company of Oklahoma and SWOSU to respond to the needs of the community through accessible and high-quality education options.

"The market is good for our students and greater than 95 percent of our industrial and engineering technology graduates are being employed upon graduation," said Brad Bryant, chair of the SWOSU Department of Industrial & Engineering Technology.

PSO, a unit of American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP), is an electric utility company serving approximately 525,000 customers in eastern and southwestern Oklahoma. Based in Tulsa, PSO has 4,400 megawatts of generating capacity and is the largest provider of wind energy in the state.

The American Electric Power Foundation is funded by American Electric Power (NYSE: AEP) and its utility operating units. The Foundation provides a permanent, ongoing resource for charitable initiatives involving higher dollar values and multi-year commitments in the communities served by AEP and initiatives outside of AEP's 11-state service area.

The Foundation's areas of focus include special emphasis on improving lives through education from early childhood through higher education, protecting the environment, providing basic human services in the areas of hunger, housing, health and safety, and enriching life through art, music and cultural heritage. The Foundation is based in Columbus, Ohio.