



Letter from the Provost

Thank you for your contributions to the Academic Affairs newsletter, the Academic Times. Sharing the activities and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students is critical for several reasons:

1. Public awareness concerning the value of our work and its impact on residents of our local and regional communities is vital to garnering support for that work.
2. We are in difficult economic times with a huge turnover of political leadership, many of whom know little about higher education.
3. NSU is a learning community where everyone should be dedicated to intellectual development; to teaching and learning. Sharing our work helps us realize that we are all connected within that learning community.

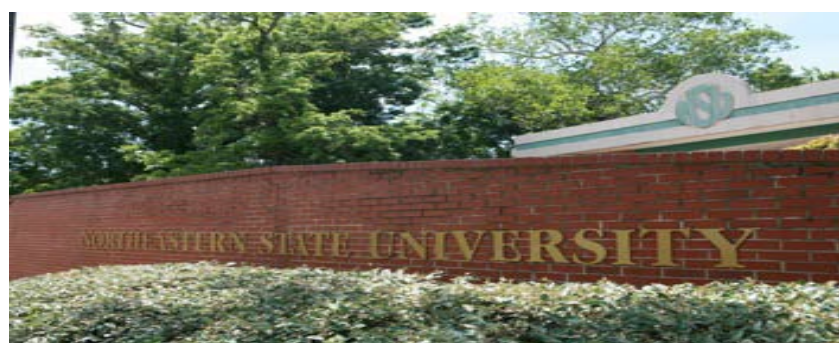
Please keep the contributions coming. We promise to continue spreading the word about what we do at NSU.



Dr. Cindy Cisar was invited to speak at the Oklahoma Water Resources Research Institute (OWRRI) Water Research Symposium in Norman, OK. The title of her talk was "Multi-Year and -Season Study on Antibiotic Resistance in Aeromonads Upstream and Downstream of a Wastewater Treatment Plant". Dr. Cisar also served as a judge for student poster awards. She was invited to speak at the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences First Friday Seminar series. The title of her talk was "Wastewater Treatment Plant Effluent and Antibiotic Resistance: An Inconvenient Link?"

Dr. John de Banzie served as a judge for the poster session at the Arkansas INBRE Research Conference

Sarah Richardson, a student in **Dr. Cindy Cisar's** lab, presented a poster at Oklahoma Research Day at Cameron University. The title of the poster was "Characterization of Ofloxacin Resistance in Environmental Isolates of Escherichia coli".



Dr. Kathi McDowell attended the Oklahoma Academy of Science meeting at the Broken Arrow Campus of NSU. She was elected Vice Chair of the Science Education section. She brought 38 genetics students to the meeting. She attended Oklahoma Research Day at Cameron University. She brought 57 genetics students. They displayed 12 posters representing team projects on bioInformatic related analysis of disease genes. She attended a meeting of the External Advisory Committee and Campus Coordinators meeting for the Oklahoma NSF-STEP. She presented the report for NSU's program.

Dr. Mark Paulissen chaired the Zoology Paper and Poster session and the Biological Sciences Division Meeting at the 99th Annual Oklahoma Academy of Sciences Technical Meeting at NSU-Broken Arrow. Two of his students presented posters at the meeting: (1) **Jordan Johnson**: "Associative learning capabilities in *Sceloporus undulatus*, the Eastern Fence Lizard"; (2) **Brian Becker**: "Sexual dimorphism in the head size of the Little Brown Skink, *Scincella lateralis*". Dr. Paulissen and STEP student Emily DeMoss presented a poster at Oklahoma Research Day at Cameron University in Lawton entitled: "Forebrain size, gender, and spatial learning in the Little Brown Skink lizard, *Scincella lateralis*".

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Dr. Jude Abia presented a poster at the Oklahoma Research Day entitled, "Electrochemical Sensor Technology for Biological Applications". He also attended the Creativity World Forum held in Oklahoma City. He now serves as a member of the editorial team for the journals: International Journal of Chemistry; Modern Applied Science. He has also reviewed two manuscripts, one for each of the afore-mentioned journals.

Dr. Pamela Christol took 15 students to Lincoln Elementary School in Pryor to teach science inquiries to special needs children. She had a Disney Planet Challenge booth at the Science Teachers Association of Texas Conference in Houston. Dr. Christol had a booth at the Oklahoma Science Teachers Association in Edmond. She has been coordinating the vendors/exhibitors and the presenters information for the Northeastern OK Math and Science Teachers Association.

Dr. Spence Pilcher attended the Outstanding Professors' Academy on "Conflict" in Norman on Nov. 19-20, 2010.

Dr. Dorothy Radin and Dr. Teresa Williams (ORU) have an ongoing partnership with Chelsea Hampton of Tulsa's Job Corp to introduce students in the transitions class to the ACT assessment tests. These students are in the final phases of vocational training, completing GEDs, and preparing to enter the work force or postsecondary institutions.





Jason Dovel won an audition for a position in the trumpet section of the Symphony of Northwest Arkansas.

Fountain, Runnels and Aman are involved in a research project with four other political science majors, **Katie Fallen, Dylan Ward, Melissa Weems and Misty Grady**. Under the guidance of political science faculty members **Ron Becker, Dan Savage and Jeonghum Min**, the seven students have constructed, and are conducting, a survey of the ideological attitudes of Democratic voters in Oklahoma's 2nd Congressional District. The presentation by Fountain, Runnels and Aman was well received at the conference, with several attendees asking for copies of the research. The group also plans to present its research at the National Social Science Association Conference in Las Vegas in the spring. In addition, the group plans to submit one or two papers based on an analysis of the survey's results for publication in the OPSA's and the NSSA's peer-reviewed journals.



Mr. Chris Garland and the department of Social Work received a \$24,467 grant from Oklahoma Department of Human Services through The University of Oklahoma. This is Year 17 of a contract to provide services to enhance the well-being of children and families in Oklahoma through professional education and training programs focused on developing and improving future child welfare services providers. Educational allowances to students selected to participate will be awarded on a semester basis. Students will be under contract for the required commitments of the award. This will be the final award year of this program

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Brent Huggins presented his research on "Revaluation of the Chinese Yuan." Three other students, Megan Fountain, Mitch Runnels, and Johnny Aman presented their research on "Voter Attitudes in Oklahoma's Second Congressional District."

As an award-winning member of the Watercolor USA Honor Society, associate professor of art, **Lance Hunter** was invited to exhibit in Rhode Island in Watercolor NOW 2011. The exhibition will be held Jan. 9-28 at the Rhode Island Watercolor Society's Slater Memorial Park Gallery in Pawtucket.

Dr. Dan Savage brought four students to the Oklahoma Political Science Association's Nov. 2010 conference at Rogers State University in Claremore. Three of those students made a presentation on the preliminary results of a survey being conducted by several political science students, **Dr. Ron Becker, Dr. Jeonghum Min, and Dr. Savage**. The survey is of Democratic voters in Oklahoma's 2nd Congressional District and is designed to measure ideological attitudes. The 2nd District is one of the few in the southern United States, and the only one in Oklahoma, that has not realigned with the Republican Party. Political Science majors Megan Fountain, Johnny Aman and Mitch Runnels accompanied Dr. Savage to the conference and made the presentation. A fourth student, Brent Huggins, also attended the conference and presented a paper he wrote for Professor Cheryl Van Den Handel on the valuation of Chinese currency.

Dr. Donna Shelton gave a presentation titled "Introducing Personal Learning Networks to Future World Language Teachers" at the annual conference of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages in Boston.

Amy Aldridge Sanford, Cari Keller, and Amber Fite presented a workshop on recommendation letters at the Oklahoma Women in Higher Education conference at UCO in November.

Dr. Anne Watson spent a week in Tampa, FL recording new works for wind instruments for Carl Fischer, LLC.

Kristopher Copeland was accepted to present "Assessing the Basic Speech Course" at the Central States Communication Association Conference this April.

Shannon Unger's proposal to offer a lecture/recital on "The Deepest Desire" (Jake Heggie with lyrics by Sister Helen Prejean) with flautist Patricia Surmon and pianist Ron Chioldi was accepted for CMS Little Rock conference in March.



Seven students were selected for the 2011 Oklahoma Intercollegiate Honor Band which will take place as part of the OMEA convention in January. The guest conductor is Michael Haithcock, who is the Director of Bands at the University of Michigan. Their performance was on Jan. 20 at the International Ballroom of the Downtown Doubletree.

**Amanda Jespersen, flute
Jonathan Rice, bassoon
Kandis Bardell, clarinet
Timothy Moore, trumpet
Trevor Moore, trombone
Ryunosuke Hamada, trombone
Eric Schmidt, string bass**





The first week of November was a good one for students in the political science program because of their performances at two state events:

1. At the state capitol in Oklahoma City the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature met for its biannual mock legislative session on Nov. 4-8. NSU's contingent of twenty-seven students competed with over twenty Oklahoma colleges and universities.

NSU's chapter of OIL meets every Thursday evening in the UC at 8:00. Led by **Dustin Woods**, the weekly meetings are used to train students to write, debate, and pass legislation. Some students also play executive, judicial, and journalism roles. All training is designed to prepare students for the five-day mock legislative sessions held once per semester at the state capitol.

The training proved to be effective as the NSU contingent was awarded the trophy for being the Best House Delegation. In addition, political science majors **Katie Fallen** and **Tyler Keen** won personal honors. Fallen was chosen Second Runner Up for best legislation for her proposed reforms for the Department of Human Services, and Keen was chosen First Runner Up for Best Freshman Delegate.

Along with the awards won, NSU students also played important leadership roles. Political science major **Amber Buker** served as Attorney General at the session and communications major **Stephen Rogers** was Speaker of the House.

2. Four political science majors presented their research at the annual Oklahoma Political Science Association Conference at Rogers State University in Claremore.



The paper "Group Assessment of Learning: Test the Class, Not the Students" authored by **Ernst Bekkering, Julia Kwok** and **David Kern**, was recognized as a meritorious paper at the Information System Education Conference and was automatically accepted for publication in the *Information Systems Education Journal*. The paper describes the development of a new methodology to demonstrate student performance in higher education. Developing proper learning assessment methods is crucial to effective teaching.

Ken Jones and **Dr. Michael Landry** completed the publication of 22 electronic tests for Blackboard application in coordination with the McGraw-Hill Publishers text: Supply Management 8th Ed. by Burt, Petcavage, and Pinkerton. The tests were triple-checked for accuracy and functionality before being distributed. The Blackboard tests are now authorized and being distributed by Richard Hercher, Executive Editor of Operations and Decision Sciences, McGraw-Hill/Irwin, Burr Ridge, IL, to Instructors using the text.

The case, "Conflict between Doing Well and Doing Good? Capital Budgeting Case - Coors," authored by **Julia Kwok** and **Elizabeth Rabe**, was published in the *2010 Nov./Dec. issue of Journal of Business Case Studies (Volume 6, Number 6)*. The case describes how Coors, the first major U.S. brewery to produce an alternative fuel, created a bio-mass alternative fuel from waste. The ethanol project presents Coors an opportunity to be an innovative, environmentally friendly, and community-minded company.

Student Team led "Race for Life" 5K-10K run on the NSU-BA campus with 126 participants. This was the maiden event for the charity for One to the Other Ministries--medical missions to foreign countries. Student Team also worked with John 3:16 Mission in Tulsa, OK, and coordinated a canned food drive for the Mingo Valley School. The student contest generated over 3200 cans of food for the Holiday Meals distribution.





Dr. Castillo gave five hours worth of lectures and conducted a workshop on office-based surgical procedures at the Multistate Surgical Procedures for Optometric Physician's course held at NSU-BA on Dec. 4-5. He attended the National Board of Examiners in Optometry meeting in Charlotte, NC Dec. 4 - 8, where he served as exam council and chair on the systemic disease committee. He has been invited to speak at the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association Winter Seminar in January. He will be lecturing over advances in eyecare technology to the D.O. colleagues.

David Lewerenz, OD, presented two lectures at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry in San Francisco last November. The presentations were titled, "Determining Statutory Blindness and Visual Disability" and "In the Middle: Helping Visually Impaired Patients with Their Mid-Range Needs".



Grant Project: AISES American Indian Science & Engineering Society Spring 2011 Sponsor: Oklahoma EPSCoR-Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.

Amount: \$5,336.00

PI or Director: **Dr. Phyllis Fife**

Goal of Project: Funds to assist AISES students with travel and operating expenses for designated conferences and symposiums. This is the second award obtained by Dr. Phyllis Fife for the AISES program this fiscal year.

Grant Project: ACT Preparation Program

Sponsor: AT&T Foundation

Amount: \$10,000.00

PI or Director: Mr. Jerry Cook

Goal of Project: AT&T contributed \$10,000 to Northeastern State University (NSU) in Tahlequah to assist in the funding of an ACT college preparation program for students at Fort Gibson Public Schools. The contribution is funded by the AT&T Foundation; the philanthropic arm of AT&T. NSU is developing an enhanced program that combines academic training and ACT test preparation skills with ongoing tracking and analyzing of student achievement levels to boost test scores and success at the college level.

The program will be offered to 120 Fort Gibson seniors who have taken the ACT test at least once. The students' test scores will be monitored and analyzed by a team of NSU specialists who will work with the students to maximize each student's ACT scores. The ACT initiative at Fort Gibson is part of NSU's Community Outreach and Recruitment Effort. Faculty and staff join CORE teams and assist the university with initiatives to increase enrollment, alumni connection and parental involvement.

CORE goals are to increase enrollment through connection with prospective students, recognize the achievements of students, alumni and community members, increase institutional exposure and increase financial support and the engagement of alumni and parents with the university.

The contribution to NSU is one of 13 announced this month by AT&T that are going to Oklahoma colleges and schools to bolster higher education and student programs.



Pictured from left to right are **Jerry Cook**, director of community relations, **Mark Kinders**, vice president for university relations, Bryan Gonterman, president of AT&T Oklahoma, **Dr. Martin Tadlock**, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Craig Cromley, director of external affairs for AT&T Oklahoma.



During the fall 2010 semester, NSU was asked to support the Tulsa Metro Chamber's Talent Dividend Program. One focus of this program is the College Access Career Readiness Coaching program (CACR). This program allows professionals within the Tulsa Metropolitan community to volunteer two hours a month and serve as a resource coach to help students in Tulsa Public Middle and High Schools better prepare for their next step. An inaugural group received training in December and will begin their sessions in January. The goal is to increase college going rates and degree attainment thus positively impacting the economic forecast for Tulsa. Currently, four NSU staff members are committed to this program. **Mrs. Nadia Hall, Mrs. Bonnie Dickson, Mrs. Regina Portman and Mr. Jerrett Phillips**, all from the Broken Arrow Enrollment Management Center, are serving at East Central High School during the spring semester.



Jackie Schumaker gave a presentation on "Descriptive Cataloging of Audiovisual Recordings" at "Cataloging 101" - the Oklahoma Library Association Technical Services Roundtable Fall 2010 Workshop in Midwest City.

Tom Rink has been asked to serve on two advisory boards: The Vatterott College Program Advisory Council for the Criminal Justice Program and the University of Oklahoma, School of Library and Information Studies Advisory Board.

Linda West presented a poster presentation in Macon, Ga. She presented "More is better: enhancing access to classical music on CDs" at the OnLine AudioVisual Catalogers 2010 conference. She upgraded Library web pages over the summer and edited over 400 pages including content and design to conform to University standards.

Harriett Hobbs, Samantha Clifford, Jeanne Pry, Lou Ann Rhea, and Jenifer Rodgers attended the Oklahoma Library Association's Technical Services Roundtable workshop on Cataloging 101 which included sessions on Books, AV recordings, E-resources, Realia, and Serials in Midwest City.

Vickie Sheffler, Delores Sumner, Susan Woytke, Peggy Kaney, and Sarah Burkhead were presenters at the Native American Symposium at the University of Arkansas on Nov. 3, 2010.

Dr. Sheila Collins has been named to the American College and Research Libraries Advocacy Committee and the American College and Research Libraries Traditional Cultural Expressions Task Force.



If you have any information that you would like to have posted in the February issue of the Academic Times newsletter, please work through your dean's office. Please submit information in the form of a word document. If you have any questions, contact Monica Barnett at barnettm@nsuok.edu. The deadline for the February issue is February 15. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter.

Deans and Division & Department Chairs

College of Liberal Arts
 Dr. Paul Westbrook - Dean
 Dr. Mike Chanslor - Associate Dean
 Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford - Communication, Art and Theater
 Dr. Mark Bighley - Music and Humanities
 Dr. Les Hannah - Languages and Literature
 Dr. Bill Corbett - Social Sciences
 Dr. Kathlyn Shahan - Social Work
 Dr. Cari Keller - Criminal Justice and Legal Studies
 Major Jason Junkens - Military Science

College of Education
 Dr. Kay Grant - Dean
 Dr. Pamela Fly - Associate Dean
 Dr. Louis White - Assistant Dean
 Dr. Deborah Landry - Curriculum & Instruction
 Dr. Mark Giese - Health & Kinesiology
 Dr. Renee Cambiano - Educational Foundations & Leadership
 Dr. Kathryn Sanders & Dr. Richard Williams - Psychology & Counseling

College of Business & Technology
 Dr. John Schleede - Dean
 Dr. Dunn Faires - Associate Dean
 Dr. John Yeutter - Accounting & Finance
 Dr. Anne Davey - Business Administration
 Dr. Michael Turner - IS & Technology

College of Science & Health Professions
 Dr. Martin Venneman - Dean
 Pam Hathorn - Associate Dean
 Dr. April Adams - Natural Sciences
 Dr. Darryl Linde - Mathematics & Computer Science
 Dr. Joyce VanNostrand - Health Professions

College of Optometry
 Dr. Doug Penisten - Dean
 Dr. Michelle Welch - Associate Dean
 Mary Stratton - Assistant Dean of Administration

Muskogee Campus
 Dr. Tim McElroy - Dean

Library
 Dr. Sheila Collins - Dean

Broken Arrow Campus
 Dr. Christee Jenlink - Dean