



Letter from the Provost

Dear colleagues,

This is my last opportunity at NSU to wish you well and thank you for the work you are doing to provide a quality learning experience for NSU students. The core of any university is, and must be, learning. To that end, the classroom (regardless of whether that classroom is physical or virtual) and the relationship between the student and a faculty member/mentor is, and must be, the priority for a university. All time, energy, and resources possible must be dedicated to support and develop the learning environment and build the student/faculty relationship. Everything and everyone outside of that classroom environment is here as support for that priority.

I hope that my time at NSU has contributed to that understanding in visible, constructive ways. If so, I feel that my time here has been successful.

I wish all of you well, and applaud the work you are doing to elevate the learning environment for students who come to NSU to fulfill their hopes and dreams; those who will be our future friends, neighbors, colleagues, and leaders.

Martin Tadlock, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs



Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Dr. Jude Abia was an ambassador for NSU during an invited lectureship at the science seminar series at Tulsa Community College-SE campus. Dr. Abia lectured on the topic of Biomass conversion to Biofuel using Ionic Liquid on the night of February 14, 2012.

Dr. April Adams reviewed an online General Physics course for Quality Matters Certification. Dr. Adams reviewed a science education textbook. She participated as a member in the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation Program Accreditation Committee and attended the National Association for Research in Science Teaching International Conference in Indianapolis in March.



Dr. April Adams, Dr. Ratnakar Deole, Dr. Erik Terdal, and Dr. Kevin Wang met with the Jenks Public School Curriculum Director to discuss collaboration between Jenks and the Broken Arrow science faculty.

Dr. Pamela Christol made a presentation with **Drs. McDowell** and **Parrott** entitled, "Get Green for Blue: Water Quality Investigations" at the National Science Teachers Association National Conference. She collaborated with a colleague from IUPUC for an NSTA presentation entitled, "Integrating the NSTA Learning Center into Preservice Education". Dr. Christol has been appointed by the president of the National Science Teachers Association to serve on a national Leadership Task Force.

On March 8, **Dr. Cindy Cisar** gave a short presentation to the Leadership Tahlequah Class 14. She described her research on antibiotic resistant bacteria and answered questions.

Dr. Diamantopoulos organized a group of six students to attend the 74th annual OK-AR MAA section meeting to participate in the student competitions (team jeopardy and individual integration bee). While both teams competed very well, team #1 advanced to the finals and captured second place! This was the first time in four years that one of NSU's student teams was in the final three.



Team 1: Ryan Berkley: Mathematics major/senior/Owasso, OK
Abraham Middleton: Math/English double major/senior/Santa Barbara, CA
Joshua Killer: Math Major/Junior/Stilwell, OK



Team 2: Gregory Palma: Math BS/Musical Arts/BA double major/senior/Vinita, OK
Miranda Sawyer: Mathematics major (spanish minor)/junior/Westville, OK
Joshua Gregory: Mathematics Education major/junior/Glenpool, OK



Mandy Lambros, an Honors Biology student working with **Dr. Cindy Cisar**, was selected to represent NSU at Research Day at the Capitol on March 15. Mandy's poster presentation on "Identification of qnrS Alleles in Fluoroquinolone-Resistant Environmental Bacteria" received third prize.

Dr. Edie Long, SLP Associate Professor, wrote "Integrating Dynamic Assessment and Response to Intervention" which was published in the April issue of *ASHA LEADER LIVE*.

Representing NSU, **Diana Mashburn**, nursing instructor, and **Dr. Joyce Van Nostrand**, nursing professor, co-sponsored for a third year with OU-Tulsa Nursing, the Annual Evidence-based Practice Symposium on April 19, 2012 in Tulsa. A total of 13 podium presentations were offered by 25 NSU senior nursing students. Each group also shared a poster presentation. All six nursing faculty served as evaluators. Dr. Van Nostrand gave a welcome from NSU, and Diana Mashburn co-moderated a panel discussing the use of research in EBP.

Dr. Marvita McGuire, director of the Medical Laboratory Science Program, was notified that the MS Program was awarded initial accreditation by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences.

Dr. Mark Paulissen served as a reviewer for the peer-reviewed journals "*Biology Letters*" and "*Zoological Studies*" in February 2012.

Dr. Spence Pilcher successfully completed the Quality Matters Applying the Rubric online workshop. He performed a series of science demonstrations for Pre-K students at Kansas Elementary School.

Dr. Amy Smith hosted a job interview workshop for fish and wildlife majors.

Dr. Erik Terdal gave a talk, "Distance learning, distance teaching: online Coral Reef Ecology taught from the Caribbean" at the Heartland Electronic Learning Conference at the University of Central Oklahoma on March 6. Dr. Terdal, with Belizean colleague Roni Martinez, submitted an abstract entitled, "MARGAY AND OCELOT CATS IN THE MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE OF BELIZE: PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM A CAMERA TRAP SURVEY IN 2010" to the AAAS-SWARM meeting. It was accepted for oral presentation.

Dr. Frank Yuan-Yeu Yau and **Dr. Kevin Yueju Wang**, Department of Natural Sciences, co-authored a manuscript titled "The Bxb1 recombination system demonstrates heritable transmission of site-specific excision in Arabidopsis with their collaborators. After review, the paper was accepted and will be published in the peer-reviewed SCI Journal *BMC-Biotechnology*. The paper describes the use of a novel Site-Specific Recombination system to remove unwanted DNA fragments from the plant genome. Dr. Frank Yuan-Yeu Yau and Dr. Kevin Yueju Wang (Department of Natural Sciences) co-authored research article "Site-specific deletions in the tomato genome by the CinH-RS2 and ParA-MRS recombinase systems" has been accepted by the peer-reviewed *Journal of Plant Biotechnology Reports*, and will be published On-line First soon.

The Pre-professional Health Club assisted with the blood drive at NSU-BA on Feb. 13. **Dr. Sue Woods** is the sponsor of the PPHC.

Dr. Rui Zhang gave a presentation on the American Physical Society Marching meeting in Boston, MA. It is one of the largest physics conferences in the nation, hosting couple of thousands of physicists. He was awarded the Inbre Faculty Mini-grant, \$25,000, to perform his research on HIV assembly.



Dr. Michael Landry joined other members of the Tulsa Chapter of the National Association of Purchasing Managers along with members of the Association for Operations Management for a tour of M&M Manufacturing in Tulsa on April 10. M&M employs about five dozen people, uses advanced computer-based machining techniques, and makes parts for the aerospace, oilfield, and automotive industries. Meanwhile, on the Broken Arrow campus, NSU's supply chain management program will host the monthly NAPM luncheon on May 15.



Dr. Richard Castillo was invited to present a series of lectures and a workshop on office surgery to students and faculty at the Illinois College of Optometry. This is the fifth consecutive year he has been invited back to conduct this course.



Dr. Stephan Sargent and **Mrs. Meagan Eeg Moreland** along with Dr. Evan Ortlieb of Texas A&M (Corpus Christi) have prepared a research presentation entitled, "Using a Digital Reading Environment to Enhance a Love of Reading: A Study within a Fourth-Grade Reading Clinic." The study will be presented at the annual conference of the International Reading Association in Chicago in May 2012.

Dr. Stephan Sargent and Dr. Jeanne Cobb (Coastal Carolina University) have prepared a research article entitled, "Navigating Mandates: Teachers Face Troubled Seas." The manuscript has been accepted for publication in the reading journal, *Language and Literacy*.

Dr. Stephan Sargent, Dr. Pamela Christol, and Dr. Martha Parrott will be working with a grant project in Osage County during the last two weeks of July. They will be teaching area educators how best practices in science, mathematics, technology, and literacy/reading education.

Dr. Stephan Sargent spoke to state public school teachers participating in the "Oklahoma Textbook Caravan" (part of the textbook selection process) about learning to read/write in a digital environment."

Dr. Stephan and **Mrs. Meagan Eeg Moreland** have a research article that has been accepted for publication in *Reading Psychology*, a national, peer-reviewed reading/literacy journal. The manuscript is entitled, "Evaluating the Efficacy of Using a Digital Reading Environment to Improve Reading Comprehension within a Reading Clinic."

Dr. Mindy Smith and **Mrs. Meagan Moreland** are providing intensive professional development in reading/literacy to assist an area school.



Name: **Dr. Pamela Fly, Dr. Donna Shelton, Dr. Tobi Thompson, Dr. Martha Parrott, Professor Rick Shelton, and Dr. Linda Wilson**

Event: DaVinci Spring Forum

Date of Event/Award: April 13, 2012

Event Site: The new Creativity Center at Tulsa Community College's Metro Campus.

The DaVinci Institute is a unique private partnership of leaders in higher education across the state of Oklahoma. Our goal is to nurture the Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Education in Oklahoma as these fields undergo transformations in the twenty-first century. One of the methods we utilize to achieve this vision is to host small groups of participants from all institutions and disciplines to consider and offer ideas which will substantively address the opportunities and challenges to higher education. Why creativity? Why innovation? As Daniel Pink, author of *A Whole New Mind* says, it's imperative "...for anyone who wants to survive and thrive in this emerging world—entrepreneurs and business leaders eager to stay ahead of the next wave, parents who want to equip their children for the future. . .".



APRIL 2012 GRANT AWARDS

Award Name: American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES - EPSCoR 2012)

Award Dates: January 1, 2012 - April 30, 2012

Award Amount: \$5,000

Project Director: **Dr. Phyllis Fife**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma EPSCoR

Purpose: To assist (1) student with travel expenses to attend the Annual AISES Leadership Summit in Albuquerque, NM. To assist in hosting the 2012 AISES Region IV Conference March 2-3, 2012. The conference will bring together AISES chapters from colleges, universities and high schools across region IV which consists of six states: Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. There will be Professional scholars in the STEM fields and sponsors from various disciplines. The conference will offer students opportunities to form networks with their peers as well as supportive faculty and professionals in the varying STEM fields. Funds will also be used to support the AISES Day at the 40th Annual NSU Symposium on the American Indian in April 2012.

Award Name: Bringing the Hospital Home 2012

Award Dates: March 1, 2012 - October 15, 2012

Award Amount: \$500

Project Director: **Dr. Melissa Strong**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma Humanities Council (OHC)

Purpose: Funds from OHC will support partial travel expenses for a 14-day residency in Boston, MA in March 2012. Dr. Strong was awarded a fellowship from the Boston Athenaeum. The fellowship included a stipend and a year's membership to the Athenaeum. Dr. Strong will research her theory that the United States Sanitary Commission (USSC) fundraiser and hospital inspector Mary A. Livermore, uses Mary Safford to correlate nursing with the duties of a middle-class wife and mother. Dr. Strong will also research the theory that USSC popularized and spread this view of nurses even as it legitimized nursing as acceptable, paid professional work for educated women.

Award Name: 39th Annual Symposium on the American Indian

Award Dates: March 1, 2012 – April 30, 2012

Award Amount: \$5,000

Project Director: **Dr. Phyllis Fife**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma Humanities Council

Purpose of Award: Funds for support of the 40th Annual Symposium on the American Indian to be held April 9-13, 2012. The support for this program helps benefit the academic community as well as the general public of the State of Oklahoma. This year's theme will be "The Journey of Sovereign Nations: Self-determination and Human Rights". The topic will be a reflection of four decades of change for American Indians. Disciplines to be examined will be the history, education, human experiences, arts, social well-being and politics that impact the tribal governments.

Award Name: Oscillatoria limnetica, Bio-energy Production 2012

Award Dates: May 1, 2012 – August 31, 2012

Award Amount: \$10,000

Project Director: **Dr. Ratnakar Deole**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR-Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

Purpose of Award: To determine the genome sequence of Oscillatoria limnetica, a blue-green algae. This cyanobacteria provides a unique opportunity for the production of chemicals and materials. Its genome sequence will provide insights not only on its unique aspect of the combination of oxygenic and anoxygenic photosynthesis and production of biohydrogen, but it will also help understand combination of two mechanisms functioning at high salt concentrations.



Award Name: Spectroscopic Analysis-Biofuels 2012

Award Dates: May 1, 2012 – August 31, 2012

Award Amount: \$10,000

Project Director: **Dr. James Hicks**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR-Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

Purpose of Award: To explore whether infrared absorption coefficients can be used to assess the reactivity of bio-oils compounds in various liquid media. The primary motivation is the prediction of reactivity from spectroscopic information. A side product of the research could be a novel method to assess solvent polarity. A second motivation is the application of spectroscopy for the quantitative analysis of complex reaction mixtures with high time resolution.

Award Name: OSRHE - Quasilattice Structure 2012

Award Dates: April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013

Award Amount: \$25,000

Project Director: **Dr. Chris Burba**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - OSRHE

Purpose of Award: To discover a routine method for assessing the amount of charge ordering present in ionic liquids. Charge organization is a consequence of long-range ion-ion interactions among the constituent ions, and has implications in the technologically important properties of the ionic liquids.

Award Name: OSRHE - Membrane Elasticity HIV 2012

Award Dates: April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013

Award Amount: \$25,000

Project Director: **Dr. Rui Zhang**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - OSRHE

Purpose of Award: The long-term objective of this study is to understand the effect of membrane elasticity in the assembly and budding of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which allows progeny viruses to form, to break off the plasma membrane and to target other host cells.



Award Name: OSRHE - Summer Mentor Program 2012
Award Dates: April 1, 2012 – August 31, 2013
Award Amount: \$13,200
Project Directors: **Dr. Jessica Martin** (\$2,200), **Dr. Joseph Ahlander** (\$4,400), **Dr. Jude Abia** (\$2,200), **Dr. Cindy Cisar** (\$2,200), **Dr. Sapna Das-Bradoo** (\$2,200).
Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - OSRHE
Purpose of Award: To provide summer training/research experiences for students.

Award Name: Impact of Wastewater Treatment Plant
Award Dates: March 1, 2012 – February 28, 2013
Award Amount: \$50,000
Project Director: **Dr. Cindy Cisar**
Funding Agency: U.S. Geological Survey through Oklahoma State University
Purpose of Award: To initiate an analysis of the effects of wastewater treatment plant effluent on nitrogen use by bacteria in Oklahoma streams. In addition to baseline information on nitrogen cycling, new information will be obtained on the effect(s) of antibiotics on stream bacteria.

Award Name: Oklahoma Small Business Development Center 2012
Award Dates: January 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012
Award Amount: \$175,540
Project Director: **Mr. John Blue**
Funding Agency: Small Business Administration through Southeastern State University
Purpose of Award: To provide comprehensive services and resources to existing and potential small businesses in the state of Oklahoma.

Gary Cheatham recently had this book review published "Review of Counting Coup and Cutting Horses: Intertribal Warfare on the Northern Plains", 1738-1889, by Anthony R. McGinnis (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2010), in Military History of the West 41 (2011).

The Circle of Excellence Awards were handed out on April 26. This annual award recognizes outstanding faculty members for research, teaching and service.

Awarded for service, **Dr. Stephan Sargent**, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education is being honored for service.

Awarded for teaching, **Dr. Isaac Dianni**, Department of Accounting and Finance, College of Business and Technology

Awarded for research, **Dr. Jessica Martin**, Department of Natural Sciences - Chemistry, College of Science and Health Professions;



If you have any information that you would like to have posted in the next 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 August issue is August 15. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter.

Deans and Division & Department Chairs

College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Mike Chanslor - Interim Dean
Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford - Communication, Art and Theater
Dr. Mark Bighley - Music and Humanities
Dr. Audell Shelburne - 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. Deborah Landry - Interim Dean
Dr. Allyson Watson - Interim Assistant Dean
Dr. Louis White - Assistant Dean
Dr. Peggy Lisenbee - Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Mark Giese - Health & Kinesiology
Dr. Renee Cambiano - Educational Foundations & Leadership
Dr. Richard Williams - Psychology & Counseling

College of Business & Technology

Dr. Roger Collier - Interim Dean
Dr. Kathy Reese - Interim 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
Dr. 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. Kippi Wyatt - Assistant Dean
Dr. Michelle Welch - Associate Dean
Mary Stratton - Assistant Dean of Administration

Muskogee Campus

Dr. Tim McElroy - Dean

Library

Ms. Paula Settoon - Interim Executive Dean

Broken Arrow Campus

Dr. Christee Jenlink - Dean