

ACADEMIC TIMES

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS



NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

OPTOMETRY NEWS

July 2014

Dr. Spencer Johnson presented three lectures at the Utah Optometric Association conference in Midway, Utah on June 5th and 6th. Courses covered topics on neuroimaging, neurological evaluation of anisocoria, and the International Classification of Disease - 10th revision.

On June 24 in Philadelphia, Dean **Doug Penisten** gave a presentation to the Board of Directors of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry on new and continuing initiatives regarding the multi-year, joint project team which he chairs. The project team, co-sponsored by the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry and the American Optometric Association, is entitled "Developing a robust, diverse, and highly qualified national applicant pool".

Dr. Earlena McKee attended the June 2014 meeting of the American Optometric Association in Philadelphia and received the Optometric Recognition Continuing Award. Dr. McKee also participated in preparing a poster which was presented at the meet-

ing. She did the statistical analysis for a group of faculty from the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis.

Dr. David Lewerenz presented "The iPad as a Low Vision Tool" at the annual meeting of the American Optometric Association on June 28 in Philadelphia. He was also the developer, along with Dr. Kim Reed of NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry in Florida, of an online education course launched this summer on the American Optometric Association's EyeLearn website. The online course is entitled "Age Related Macular Degeneration: Comprehensive Care of the AMD Patient".

Dr. Alan McKee attended the June 2014 meeting of the American Optometric Association in Philadelphia and received the Optometric Recognition Continuing Award. On June 5th he accompanied the third-year optometry class on the HOYA lab tour to Lewisville, TX where he accepted a \$20,000 unrestricted grant to NSUOCO.



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June 2014

Dr. Richard Castillo (NSU Ophthalmologist) was reappointed to a 3-year term as a grant reviewer for the Health Resources and Services Administration.

Dr. Castillo also completed a state certification credential in HIV and Blood-borne pathogen Risk Management for Medical Professionals through the University Of Kentucky College Of Medicine.

Dr. Nate Lighthizer, O.D., Assistant Professor at the College of Optometry traveled to Lubbock, TX as well as El Paso, TX in the month of May to lecture to Texas optometrists on new Electrophysiology technology that can be used in the earliest detection of glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. He also traveled to Branson, MO along with the rest of our NSU College of Optometry CE team to put on our annual "Ocular

Disease Update" Conference. There he lectured on laser procedures, viral eye diseases and the prescribing of narcotics.

David Lewerenz, O.D., Associate Professor at the NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry, will attend the meeting of the American Optometric Association from June 25 to 28. As Vice-Chair of the Vision Rehabilitation Section of the AOA, he will be involved in meetings of the Section. He will also give a presentation, "The iPad as a Low Vision Tool" as part of the continuing educational offerings at the meeting on June 28.

Dr. Alan McKee participated in the Association of Contact Lens Educators (AOCLE) annual workshop in Phoenix, AZ May 29-June 1 where the focus was "Case-Based Learning in Contact Lens Education"

OPTOMETRY NEWS

June 2014

Dr. Alissa Proctor received the 2013-2014 Patron of the Year award from Tahlequah Public School's Board of Education for her continued services and support providing vision screenings to the students as well as education and support to the staff of Tahlequah Public Schools.

Dr. Laticia Pack represented NSUOCO at the 2014 Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators Workshop in Scottsdale, AZ on May 29 - June 1. The workshop included instruction on case-based learning and managing patients with prosthetic eyes. She also toured the Arizona College of Optometry at Midwestern University.

Dr. Jenna Lighthizer, Dr. Earlena McKee, Dr. Alan McKee, and Dr. Laticia Pack served as mentors to a Soft Toric and Presbyopic Lens Education (STAPLE) workshop teaching soft toric contact lenses to second-year optometry students on May 20, 2014 at NSUOCO.

Dr. Alan McKee accompanied the third-year optometry class on a laboratory tour of HOYA Vision Care North America in Dallas, TX June 5-7. The trip included discussion of new products as well as the significance of ocular protection from the high-energy blue wavelength light emitted from many smartphones and LED back-lit computer displays

A new Essilor VisiOffice frame measurement system was installed at the NSU Pheiffer Optometry Clinic at Cherokee Nation W. W. Hastings Hospital May 1st. The new system allows for precise fitting measurements required for the most advanced progressive lenses available

Dr. Alan McKee completed his second term as President of the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank Executive Committee at the end of June with the major emphasis on fundraising and construction for the new eye bank building in Oklahoma City

**COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH
PROFESSIONS**

Dr. April Adams presented seven workshops for the Cherokee Teach Institute, June 4 and 5, 2014 on the Tahlequah Campus of NSU.

Dr. April Adams completed the Online Educator Certificate Part II.

Dr. Pamela Christol attended the 2014 White House Science Fair, hosted by President Obama, on May 27, 2014.

Drs. Cindy Cisar and Jonathan Fisher, Department of Natural Sciences, and NSU student, **Cody Poe**, were co-authors on a poster presented by Cody at the annual American Society for Microbiology conference in Boston May 17-21, 2014. The title of the poster was "Presence and expression of antibiotic resistance genes from bacteria in sediments upstream and downstream of a wastewater treatment plant".

Faith Fennell, a Medical Laboratory Science 3+1 student, was selected to receive a scholarship on behalf of Sie-

mens Healthcare Diagnostics and the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP).

Dr. Suneeti Jog presented a talk entitled "Floristic quality as an indicator of wetland condition in Oklahoma" at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting in Portland, Oregon

Dr. Suneeti Jog was co-author of a talk entitled "Analysis framework to establish biological criteria for reference-quality wetlands" at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Dr. Diana Mashburn, Nursing, co-presented with several OU nursing faculty, an initial poster on the longitudinal study entitled "An Academic Partnership to Study EBP Elements of BSN Completion Students" at the 23rd Annual Nursing Excellence in Research and Practice Conference, Fayetteville, AR in April 2014.

Dr. Diana Mashburn assisted in planning the May 13 Muskogee Success Expo.

Dr. Kathi McDowell, Dr. Pamela Christol and Dr. Martha Parrott hosted a week-long math and science summer academy for high school students on the campus of NSU-BA June 9 - 13, 2014. The academy was funded by a grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Dr. Kathi McDowell, Dr. Martha Parrott and Dr. Pamela Christol had an article accepted for publication in an outdoor education journal with expected publication in fall 2014. The article describes the impact on student participants during previous summer academies.

Dr. Mia Revels served as the Swainson's Warbler and Little River National Wildlife Refuge Field Trip Leader at the Red Slough Bird Convention May 3-5, 2014.

Dr. Mia Revels and Darby Hanna, NSU Honor's student, presented a poster at the Southwestern Naturalists Association Meeting in Stillwater, OK on April 19, 2014.

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Dr. Mia Revels traveled to Boston to present an invited lecture at Harvard University on her Swainson's Warbler research by the Nuttall Ornithological Club, the oldest ornithological society in North America.

Dr. Sallie Ruskoski, Chair of the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, received the Outstanding Graduate Student Award for her dissertation study entitled "Relationship between Extracellular Polysaccharide Expression and the Propensity to Form Biofilms in Burkholderia Multivorans" from the Center of Health Sciences, Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program, Oklahoma State University on June 12, 2014.

Dr. Sallie Ruskoski was approved as the new Director of the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program by the National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Sciences (NAACLS).

Dr. Michael Shaughnessy conducted field research and supervised the field research team in North Dakota as part of funded research entitled 'Survey of Fringe mammals in western North Dakota'.

Dr. Sue Woods did a science experiment on May 1 and May 5 with the 5th grade class at Caney Valley Elementary School. The students isolated microorganisms from designated locations at the school.

The Cherokee Nation sponsored the conference "Teachers of Successful Students 2014", June 3 and 4, 2014 at Northeastern State University at which **Steven Wilkinson and Karl Kruczek** presented Mathematics workshops for elementary, middle, and high school math teachers from Northeastern Oklahoma.

LIBRARY NEWS

Pamela Louderback received a \$15,000 Big Read grant for 2014/2015. NSU will provide programs and events based on The Wizard of Earthsea to area high schools, TCC, OU Schusterman, TU, and community organizations from March - May 15, 2015. Our keynote speaker will be Jim Butcher, New York Times best selling author best known for his contemporary fantasy book series The Dresden Files. He also wrote the Codex Alera series.

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 by the 15th of the month for the next month's issue.** To avoid confusion, please wait until you have all the information for your article before emailing it so we won't have to decide which is the corrected copy.

If you have any questions, please email Susan Marrs at perrysu@nsuok.edu. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY

On June 30, 2014, **Dr. Roger Collier**, Dean of the College of Business and Technology served as keynote speaker for The National Conference on Re-Emergence of Business -- Transitions & Turnarounds. The conference was held in Bangalore, India, and was sponsored by the Seshadripuram Educational Trust. The College of Business & Technology is now in the fourth year of a joint MBA program with the Seshadripuram Education Trust (SET). There are currently four SET graduate students studying on campus and approximately 8 more are expected to join the program in January, 2015.



GRANT NEWS

Award Name: Oscillatoria Limnetica 2014

Award Dates: 05/01/2014 - 08/31/2014

Award Amount: \$12,500

Project Director: Dr. Ratnakar Deole



Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR through OSU

Purpose of Award: To provide a research opportunity to faculty at a research institution. Purpose of this research is use changes to the lipid composition of Oscillator Limnetica at a different salt concentration as a salinity proxy of paleoclimate reconstructions in regions where precipitation patterns constitute a major feature of climate variability. Changes in the composition in response to salt concentrations will be analyzed using GC/MS.

Award Name: Climate Variability Wetlands 2014

Award Dates: 05/01/2014 - 08/31/2014

Award Amount: \$12,500

Project Director: Dr. Suneeti Jog



Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR through OSU

Purpose of Award: Faculty researcher will explore the relationships between wetland condition and array of landscape variables representing human impacts and climate conditions. The project also involves assessment of wetlands in Oklahoma to generate regional GIS based models that relate landscape characteristics to wetland condition and the geographical distribution of plant species and their response to climate change.

Award Name: Alternative Dispute Resolution- Early Settlement Northeast 2014-2015 (Yr. 21)

Award Dates: July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Award Amount: \$81,801

Project Director: Ann Wilkins



Funding Agency: State of Oklahoma Supreme Court

Purpose of Award: To provide mediation services according to the Dispute Resolution Act and other directives and forms provided by the Administration Director of the Courts. Dispute mediation services shall be provided to northeast Oklahoma as determined by need.

GRANT NEWS

Award Name: North Dakota 'fringe' Survey of Mammals 2014-16

Award Dates: 06/18/2014 - 04/30/2016

Award Amount: \$20,257

Project Director: Dr. Michael Shaughnessy



Funding Agency: North Dakota Game & Fish through the U.S. Department of Interior

Purpose of Award: A mutual endeavor between North Dakota Game and Fish and NSU to establish and survey data for western North Dakota 'fringe' mammal species that are historically underrepresented in the natural history collections. Determination of range limits, vegetation associations and habitat parameters will also occur during the survey. Project Investigator will produce updated range distribution maps for North Dakota 'fringe' mammals detected during the survey.

Award Name: The Big Read 2014-15

Award Dates: April 15, 2014 - June 30, 2015

Award Amount: \$15,000

Project Director: Dr. Pamela Louderback



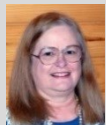
Funding Agency: National Endowment for the Arts

Purpose of Award: Provide the local community the opportunity to celebrate Ursula K. Le Guin's "A Wizard of Earthsea" with a variety of science fiction and fantasy events.

Award Name: TQ NSU Chemistry & Physics Academy Yr II of II (2012-2015)

Award Dates: 09/06/12 - 06/30/2015

Award Amount: \$60,964.00 Year II of II funding



Project Director: Dr. April Adams

Purpose of Award: The NSU Chemistry & Physics will provide professional development for certified science teachers who want to become certified to teach Chemistry and Physics, and teacher candidates in Biology, Physical Science or Earth Science secondary science teacher preparation programs who want to become Chemistry and Physics certified.

GRANT NEWS

Award Name: Child Welfare Specialization Training Program II 2013-18

Award Dates: September 30, 2013 - September 29, 2014 (Year 1 of 5)

Award Amount: Total = \$735,000 in increments of \$147,000/year for 5 years

Project Director: Dr. Virginia Whitekiller



Funding Agency: Department of Health & Human Services for Children and Families through The Research Foundation for the State University of New York, Albany, New York.

Purpose of Award: Development of a program of diverse child welfare workforce, namely Native Americans. It highlights a formal agency partnership with the Cherokee Nation Indian Welfare with the desired outcome that a more effective and efficient bridge will be built between both organizations that will support and enhance tribal child welfare services. This collaboration will include ongoing workforce training as well as a workforce entry and retention plan. It will include (8) BSW traineeships per year for a total of (40) awards over the 5 year period.

Award Name: Let's Talk About It Oklahoma 2014

Award Dates: 05/08/2014 - 11/30/2014

Award Amount: \$850.00

Project Director: Dr. Pamela Louderback



Funding Agency: Oklahoma Humanities Council

Purpose of Award: To provide scholarly presentations to the community.

Award Name: American Burying Beetle 2014-15

Award Dates: 05/01/2014 - 06/30/2015

Award Amount: \$59,983

Project Director: Dr. Craig Clifford



Funding Agency: Oklahoma Military Department

Purpose of Award: To determine the relationship between, size, metabolic rate, and travel distances for Nicrophorous species. To determine the effect of trap-and-relocate protocols on Nicrophorous species.