

# the Spotlight

## Newsletter

Issue 8 - Fall 2019

### *Sometimes You Do Get What You Need*

*By Dr. James Bell, Dean of Faculty*

As the Rolling Stones (or the cast of Glee, for you younger faculty members) told us, “You can’t always get what you want. But if you try sometimes, you just might find you get what you need.” Those lyrics have rung true in this office recently. Angelia and I have found needed support in Dr. Jen Oswald, the first administrative intern.

Last year I proposed an administrative practicum be established through the dean’s office. Through the budgeting and allocation process, Dr. Cunningham, Dr. Pecha, and Dr. Hannaford supported the practicum going into this year and beyond. The experience was designed to be mutually beneficial, allowing the administrative intern day-to-day experience with the administrative functions of the university while providing support in this office and to chairs. We have indeed had support, allowing us to accomplish some of what Stephen Covey calls the non-urgent but important tasks: long-range planning, preventive activities, and discovery of new opportunities.

This fall, Dr. Oswald completed an exhaustive review of course syllabi and provided meaningful feedback to faculty and chairs. Currently she is organizing,

in collaboration with FDAB Chair Tammy Brown, additional faculty-driven professional development opportunities, the first of which will be a Coffee and Conversation (and Snacks, which didn’t make the title because it wasn’t alliterative enough) session in early March. Similar faculty opportunities will follow.

In the coming weeks, Dr. Oswald will work on a timeline and document file for annual tasks performed by chairs with the aim of making their task planning and management more convenient. She has also attended administrative meetings at all levels, participating in ongoing conversations about the life of the university. Ultimately, she has allowed this office to complete existing tasks more efficiently and to undertake new tasks more readily.

As hoped, the benefits have been mutual. Dr. Oswald states that she has “developed additional leadership skills, professional skills, and problem-solving skills.” She goes on to add, “I have an understanding of how the parts of the university work together as a whole. Whether or not I pursue administration in the future, I have a better understanding of how to support administration and fellow faculty members.”

Dr. Oswald has said that organizing the Coffee and Conversation has been her favorite task so far, one that has made her realize how rarely she sees other faculty members on campus and how eager she is to learn from and with them. It has been a pleasure to watch Dr. Oswald tackle this task by drawing upon existing strengths and



*Jennifer Oswald*

developing new ones. That is the hope for the practicum: that each participant will bring her or his talents and passions into the position, allowing those attributes to shape the internship into an experience that meets the individual’s needs and leaves her or his unique stamp on the role.

Open to any faculty member appointed at the rank of assistant professor or above, the practicum runs the entire academic year. More details about the 2020-2021 Administrative Practicum will be forthcoming soon via email. In the meantime, I hope you will consider applying if such an experience appeals to you.

# 3rd Summer JumpStart program held

Members of Northwestern's Student Support Services held its summer JumpStart program on the Alva campus June 3-July 24. This was the third year for the summer program.

The students from Alva, Blackwell, Cashion, Choctaw, Cleo Springs, Fort Supply, Longdale, Midwest City and Turpin attended classes Monday through Wednesday. Six students attended the June math session, and nine students attended the July English session. All of these students became college freshmen at Northwestern in the fall.

"I couldn't be more pleased about the progress and success of JumpStart," Dr. Dennis Angle, Student Support Services director, said. "This program is a collaborative effort – the instructors, Keenan Meeker and Dr. Jennifer Page, along with their department heads Dr. Tim Maharry, professor of mathematics and Dr. Kathryn Lane, associate professor of English, Dr. James Bell, associate vice president for academics and dean of faculty, Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management, and our office made it happen."

Angle said the summer JumpStart program is an attempt to help first-generation, low-income students obtain a brief sample of college life, complete one or two courses and learn the skills necessary for university success.

During the program, the students attend workshops addressing stress management, test preparedness, financial literacy, time management, Blackboard, studying skills, university life and more.

Student Support Services staff working with the summer program included program advisers Rosa Guel and Demetri Wilson, administrative assistant Rachael Richardson, and serving as student peer coaches were Northwestern sophomore Adriana Guel of Los Angeles, California,

and freshman Michelyn Hurrieta of Longdale.

Courses this year included Beginning Algebra with Keenan Meeker, instructor of mathematics; and Composition I with a lab with Dr. Jennifer Page, assistant professor of English.

The students stayed in university housing while on campus and had their meals in Coronado Café.

For more information on Northwestern's Student Support Services program, please contact Angle at [drangle@nwosu.edu](mailto:drangle@nwosu.edu) or (580) 327-8119.



*Student Support Services summer JumpStart program June participants and staff were (back row, left to right): Dr. Dennis Angle, Demetri Wilson, Collin Zink, Isaiah Sumlin, Arturo Cisneros, Tra'Mon Jackson; (front row, left to right): Autumn Roberts, Klaycie Rauch, Michelyn Hurrieta, Rachael Richardson, Rosa Guel. Not pictured is Adriana Guel.*

## *Northwestern named one of most affordable colleges*

As discussions about college affordability continue nationally, Northwestern Oklahoma State University has been ranked as one of the most affordable small colleges in the nation by a higher education website.

Great Value Colleges recently ranked Northwestern as the 17th most affordable small college west of the Mississippi (River).

In its notification to the school, Great Value Colleges said: "Northwestern was selected not only for the school's affordability but also for the institution's overall outstanding reputation, its faculty's excellence, and the unerring commitment to providing students a high-quality education."

Rather than rank schools simply by flat annual tuition rate, Great Value Colleges considered a more comprehensive figure – net price. College Navigator, which is a part of the National Center for Education Statistics, supplies this information on its comprehensive data website. Net price is an adjusted figure that considers annual tuition costs and added fees as well as the average financial aid package per student.

"We feel strongly that Northwestern provides one of the best college values in the nation, and this ranking helps validate that claim," Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, said. "We are pleased that our reputation for academic excellence was noted in the ranking."

The full rankings are available at <https://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/affordable/small-colleges-west-of-the-mississippi/>.

# Paul presents at 31st ACBSP Conference

Dr. Joseph Paul, associate professor of business at Northwestern, presented at the 31st Annual Conference of Accreditation Council for Business Schools and



*Joseph Paul*

Programs in Houston, Texas.

The four-day conference focused on the theme: The Art of Developing Entrepreneurial Leaders. The organization's mission is to help educators explore trends, assess quality and improve education. Keynote and breakout sessions were hosted by industry leaders covering teaching excellence, accreditation and the conference theme.

The conference had more than 800 delegates from all over the world -- more than 32 countries were represented -- in attendance for paper and poster presentations, workshops and interactive sessions.

Paul gave his presentation titled "You Must First Die...To Go to Heaven" for the track of The Art of Developing Entrepreneurial Leaders (Knowledge, Skills, and Values).

"I am very thankful for the advisement and support I received from the faculty at Northwestern," Paul said. "Dr. Steven Palmer advised me throughout this process, Dr. Jerry Gustafson served as my inspiration, and Dr. David Hawkins provided constant encouragement."

He said his presentation gave an upfront differentiation between Entrepreneurial Leaders and Intrapreneurial Leaders. He

addressed the unique skills and values leaders throughout history possessed and practiced in order to become successful entrepreneurs. His presentation also covered selected current Entrepreneurial Leaders such as Janice Bryant, Sanjiv Sidhu, Mark Dell and Reed

Hastings.

"The common traits displayed by these leaders will be the skills and values that need to be appreciated and embraced," Paul said.

For more information on this topic, contact Paul at (580) 213-3132 or [jspaul@nwosu.edu](mailto:jspaul@nwosu.edu).

## Collins presents at ExamSoft Conference

Dr. Leslie Collins, assistant chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing at Northwestern, presented at the 5th International ExamSoft Assessment Conference in Montreal, Canada.

The three-day conference focused on education technology and exploring data assessment best practices. The conference's mission is to help educators improve learning outcomes and better prepare students for post-graduation success. Product training, keynote, and breakout sessions were hosted by thought leaders in the assessment field as well as ExamSoft professionals.

The conference had more than 400 delegates from all over the world.

Collins gave her presentation titled "Accreditation Categories: A Roadmap for Meeting the Standards!"

She said her presentation covered ways to use category tagging in course exams to increase data reports that show progress of meeting End of Program Student Learning Outcomes. This is data that all accrediting bodies ask for and use to determine if continuing accreditation will be granted.

"In nursing education, one of the largest venues of stress is accreditation," Collins said. "Each accrediting body has its own standards and expectations to meet. In addition, accreditation itself is time consuming—and time is something nurse educators constantly need more of, not less. Using End of Program Student Learning Outcomes as categories and assessing to what extent these outcomes are being met can be the answer to decreasing accreditation stress and the process taking less time.

"In nursing education we all seek the perfect data set to explain how well students are trending in our program outcomes. The Division of Nursing utilized the ExamSoft system to gain this data on our outcomes and use it to report the trending of our students' success. The presentation demonstrated this process and the data that met the accreditation standards and was used to achieve a very successful accreditation review."

For more information on this topic, contact Collins at (580) 327-8496 or [Incollins@nwosu.edu](mailto:Incollins@nwosu.edu).



*Leslie Collins*

# Upward Bound camps held for 12th year

Northwestern's Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science programs held their annual academic summer camp on the Alva campus beginning May 26. This was the 12th year for the program.

The six-week camp finished on June 26; however, all students returned on July 7 to head to San Antonio, Texas, for a cultural field trip to explore the Alamo, Witt Museum, San Antonio River Walk, Natural Bridge Caverns and Schlitterbahn Waterpark.

The 82 students from Alva, Burlington, Cherokee, Aline-Cleo, Fairview, Ringwood, Timberlake and Waynoka attended classes Monday through Thursday in math, science, Spanish, and English/Language Arts. These students are all 9th through 12th graders.

This year, both programs received a one-time financial award to be used for STEM projects and learning experiences. The Upward Bound programs spent two days at NASA taking part in hands-on experiences with other Upward Bound students from across Oklahoma. The students also spent part of the day touring the University of Houston-Clear Lake, which is located just a few minutes from NASA.

The students also heard from motivational speaker/author Justin Aldridge, who trains people in leadership skills. Each student was gifted with Aldridge's book titled "Leading with Love."

Other STEM training took place two days a week on the Northwestern-Alva campus. Two instructors of computer science at Northwestern, Mark Bagley and Evan Vaverka, taught STEM classes during the regular summer academic camp, which

involved Robotics and Computer Programming.

"The students had an amazing time making new friendships and learning new material in their fun classes," Jaunita Dotson, Upward Bound director, said.

One example of their learning occurred in the English/Language Arts class taught by Tanya Phillips and Cindy Leiter. The students read the book, "The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind." The students were asked to construct model windmills based on what they had learned throughout the novel. They also completed several classroom presentations regarding certain events that occurred in the novel. The teachers noted that the students had a chance to collaborate with one another, which put each of them in a leadership role.

This year's counselors included Kentrez Bell, Kansas City, Missouri, sophomore; Kevin Cosper, Aline-Cleo, 2018 graduate; Quashawn Gray, Denison, Texas, 2019 graduate; Alisha

Peterson, Fairview sophomore; Chloe Nutley, Elk City junior; and Michelle Willson, Conway Springs, Kansas, sophomore.

Teachers this year included: Math -- Aaron Randall of Vici and Dakota Buckhaults, Alva. English -- Tanya Phillips, Alva. Language Arts -- Cindy Leiter, Alva. Science -- Danielle Barnett and Kasey Adair of Alva. Spanish -- Dana Manning of Alva and Francisco Martinez, Clearwater, Florida.

This year's staff included Darla Adams, project administrative assistant; Dotson; Tim Lavoie, past Upward Bound project coordinator; and Lee Ann Leist, Upward Bound Math and Science project coordinator.

The students stayed in university housing while on campus and ate their meals in Coronado Café.

For more information on Northwestern's Upward Bound program, please contact Dotson at [jrdotson@nwosu.edu](mailto:jrdotson@nwosu.edu) or (580) 327-8113.



*Last summer's Upward Bound campers, counselors and staff at Northwestern-Alva wrapped up their 12th annual summer camp on June 26. The program offers free one-on-one tutoring, ACT prep, academic advising, college tours and cultural field trips.*

# *Eight new faculty members are welcomed*

Northwestern welcomed eight new faculty members to campus to begin the 2019-2020 school year. Seven new faculty members have been hired in the School of Arts and Sciences, and one is in the School of Education.

Short biographies of each faculty member are listed below:

Lindsey Cherry, instructor of English, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and a Master of Arts degree in English, both from the University of Central Oklahoma. She has served as an adjunct instructor at Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City and Redlands Community College, and as an instructional literacy coach at Canadian Valley Technology Center.

Sarah Fry, instructor of criminal justice/sociology, has a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology/sociology from Westminster (Missouri) College, and a Master of Arts degree in criminology from Pennsylvania State University. This fall she expects to complete her Doctor of Philosophy degree in sociology, also from Pennsylvania State University. She has worked as an instructor, research assistant, guest lecturer and teaching assistant at Pennsylvania State University.

Victoria Hendricks, instructor of English, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English language and literature, and a Master of Arts degree in English language and literature, both from Wichita State University. She previously served as a graduate teaching assistant in English composition at Wichita State University.

Mickey Jordan, instructor of technical theatre and Herod Hall facilities manager, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in speech and theatre and a Master of Arts in American Studies from Northwestern. His previous work

experience includes: shop foreman and graduate assistant for the fine arts department at Northwestern.

Erica Miller, instructor of mass communication, holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mass communication from Northwestern, a Master of Education degree in adult education from the University of Central Oklahoma, and a Master of Education degree in school counseling from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She has worked as a marketing professional at Canadian Valley Technology Center.

Dr. Piper Robida, assistant professor of biology, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in biology from Metropolitan State (Colorado) College and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in biomedical science from the University of South Carolina. She has served as an adjunct assistant professor of biology at North Central (Illinois) College and postdoctoral fellow in allergy and immunology at Northwestern (Illinois) University.

Dr. Robert Vest, assistant

professor of Spanish, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish and history from Northern Michigan University and a Master of Arts degree in foreign languages and literature (Spanish) from Purdue University. He also earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in languages and cultures (Spanish) from Purdue. He has served as a graduate lecturer at Purdue and as an assistant professor of Spanish at Truman State (Missouri) University.

Candace Byrd, instructor of psychology, holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, a Bachelor of Arts degree in social sciences and organizational studies, a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in human resource management, and a Master of Education degree in community counseling, all from the University of Oklahoma. She previously served as an adjunct professor at Northwestern, an independent contractor for the Office of Juvenile Affairs, and an SCEP Psychology Student Trainee/Pathways Intern for the Federal Bureau of Prisons.



*New faculty members begin the 2019-2020 academic year at Northwestern. Pictured left to right in the front row are Lindsey Cherry, instructor of English; Mickey Jordan, instructor of technical theatre and Herod Hall facilities manager; Candace Byrd, instructor of psychology; and Victoria Hendricks, instructor of English. Second row left to right, Erica Miller, instructor of mass communication; Dr. Piper Robida, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Robert Vest, associate professor of Spanish; and Sarah Fry, instructor of criminal justice/sociology.*

# 17 student teachers complete fall assignments

Students leave Northwestern with the knowledge to succeed in a particular field. In their final semester this fall, 17 senior education students received their student teaching assignments and entered area schools to gain hands-on experience.

The students returned to campus for seminars in November and their portfolio exit interviews in December. Graduation was Dec. 8.

Listed below are the students, their hometowns and teaching assignments.

Biology Education – Tanner Bowman of Cherokee, Cherokee High School

Elementary Education – McKenzie Billy of Thomas, Watonga Elementary School; Megan Brown of Blackwell, Ponca City Elementary School; Sarah Castillo of Waynoka, Longfellow Elementary School (Alva); Bailey Chavez of Arnett,

Angie Debo Elementary School (Edmond); Kirstie Coffman of Ponca City, Tonkawa Elementary School; Jennifer Cortez of Perryton, Texas, Mustang Valley Elementary School; Tiffany Guffy of Timberlake, Cherokee Elementary School; Kelcie Hainley of Fairview, Hayes Elementary School (Enid); Brannon Robinson of Enid, Taft Elementary School (Enid); Morgan Webb of Pioneer-Pleasant Vale, Waukomis Elementary School

English Education – Karly Murray of Hinton, Alva High School

History Education – Trenton Harmon of Garber, Newkirk High School; Clinton Shelton of Shattuck, Woodward High School

Music Education – Aaron Pierce of Alva, Enid High School; Katelyn Pierce of Vici, Hoover Elementary School (Enid)

Special Education – Lainey

Coldren of Ponca City, Fogerty Elementary School (Guthrie)

In preparation for student teaching, teacher candidates were able to take part in the Teacher's Closet premiere event that helps each student get free and "new" professional outfits to help transition their wardrobe to professional dress. For more information or to donate gently used or new clothing to benefit young professionals, contact Dr. Jen Oswald, assistant professor of education, at (580) 327-8451 or [jdoswald@nwsu.edu](mailto:jdoswald@nwsu.edu). Find "The Teacher's Closet" on Facebook for updates.

For more information on Northwestern's teacher education program contact Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education and associate dean for the School of Education, at (580) 327-8450 or [cljenlink@nwsu.edu](mailto:cljenlink@nwsu.edu).



Senior education majors completed their student teaching assignments in area schools. The students along with education faculty include (front row, left to right) McKenzie Billy, Megan Brown, Katelyn Pierce, Sarah Castillo, Bailey Chavez, Morgan Webb, Lainey Coldren, Kirstie Coffman; (second row) Tiffany Guffy, Aaron Pierce, Clinton Shelton, Tanner Bowman, Trenton Harmon, Karly Murray, Kelcie Hainley, Dr. Martie Young and Brannon Robinson. Not pictured Jennifer Cortez.

# Woods County Retired Educators award scholarship to Hainley

Elementary education senior Kelcie Hainley has been selected to receive a \$300 scholarship from the Woods County Retired Educators Association.

Hainley, of Fairview, was honored

during the WCREA's business meeting at the Alva Public Library in September.

"Receiving the scholarship from the WCREA means a lot to me," Hainley said. "I appreciate that others understand the struggles some nontraditional students go through when trying to complete a degree. With the help from family and friends that have been my support system and with the help of organizations such as the WCREA, who support future teachers, I will finally graduate in December."

Hainley said she has wanted to be an educator since 2003. She has plans after

graduation to become an elementary education teacher for Enid Public Schools.

"This award by the WCREA is especially important in this time in which there is a severe teacher shortage," said Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education and associate dean for the School of Education. "The association members understand the academic, personal, and financial challenges of completing a teacher preparation program. This is particularly true with Kelcie. Her sacrifices, along with those of her family, have enabled her to complete a bachelor's degree and make me realize what an awesome responsibility we as an institution and as a faculty have to support her and her classmates. The WCREA is to be commended for its ongoing commitment to Northwestern and the teaching profession."

The WCREA works with the National Retired Educators Association, Oklahoma Retired Educators Association and the American Association of Retired Persons to encourage its members to maintain educational and community activities. Membership is open to all educators and support personnel who have retired under the Oklahoma Teachers Retirement Act and any other retired person interested in the purpose of the organization.

WCREA brings information to members concerning available offered services and pre-retirement education through OREA. The association also studies retired educators' needs by cooperating with the state legislature committees with information for members by organizing and promoting periodic contacts with state legislators.

For more information on the WCREA contact Barbara Case at (580) 327-0753 or caseb1118@sbcglobal.net.



*Dr. Christee Jenlink (left) and Woods County Retired Educators Association representatives Barbara Case and Lenny Reed (right) present Northwestern education senior Kelcie Hainley with a scholarship.*

## Information meetings for Iceland trip held

Interest meetings for the 2020 Study Abroad trip to Iceland were held in September in Alva, as well as in Enid and Woodward.

Study Abroad trips are open to all Northwestern students and employees, as well as the general public.

Anyone interested in earning course credit may enroll in UNIV 1013 – Global Citizenship, which is being offered during the spring semester.

"Anyone interested in traveling is welcome to come along even though they may not be taking the course for credit or a member of the Northwestern community," said Dr. Jenny Sattler, Study Abroad co-group

leader and associate professor of physics at Northwestern.

The seven-day trip to Iceland in May 2020 will include stops in Reykjavik and the Hvolsvöllur area.

"Studying abroad presents the unique opportunity to see and learn about the world," Sattler said.

For more information contact Sattler at jasattler@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8568 or Dr. Leslie Collins, co-group leader and assistant chair of the division of nursing, at lncollins@nwosu.edu or (580) 327-8496.

Additional details may be found on the Study Abroad web page at [www.nwosu.edu/study-abroad](http://www.nwosu.edu/study-abroad).



# Decker named as one of '50 Making a Difference'

Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology, was recognized by The Journal Record as part of its 2019 list of "Fifty Making a Difference." This list spotlights female business and community leaders making a difference in Oklahoma and includes individuals from various sectors, both private and public. Decker is one of 40 first-time honorees on the 2019 list.

"When I received notification about the Journal Record's 'Fifty Making a Difference' list, I was surprised and extremely honored and thankful," Decker said. "It took me a bit to consider all that it meant. There are many women across the state of Oklahoma who work very hard for their communities, the state, and for our citizens, and to join the ranks of those women is exceptionally humbling.

"I see this award as an opportunity to build connections with others, both women and men, across our state and region that can assist in building strong partnerships and forging new pathways for a bright and engaging future for our state. The key to progress for our communities and state will be the result of collaboration and cooperation between the private and the public sector. No one entity can reach all people and make decisions that are right for everyone. Together, however, we can create the vision we hope to achieve."

Decker has several current and past leadership roles with various organizations including being on the board of directors for Oklahoma Coalition for Affordable Housing;

past president, board of directors for Preservation Oklahoma; past president, Oklahoma Sociology Association; state advisory board member, Oklahoma Main Street Program; and chair, Alva Arts Alliance.

She also is a member of several organizations including the Mid-South Sociology Association, Woods County Economic Development Committee, Northwestern Citizenship Institute Executive Committee and the Woods County Mineral Owners Association.

She is known for her work as the executive director of the Freedom West Community Development Corporation. Together with her staff and board, they have built and rehabilitated more than 170 affordable housing units in northwest Oklahoma. The corporation works to bring the power of public and private partnerships to the forefront of community revitalization. Their programming efforts focus on the idea that all communities need to reinvent themselves periodically, while capitalizing on the strengths of their history, natural resources and traditions.

Decker has received several honors and awards throughout the years including the National Social Work Organization Director of the Year, John Sheffield Teacher of the Year at Northwestern, National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education Scholar and most recently recognition as Alva Goldbug Education Foundation Distinguished Goldbug for Humanitarianism.

The 2019 honorees of the Journal Record's "Fifty Making a Difference" were recognized in an October ceremony at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.



Kay Decker





# Long-time Ranger takes position in eastern Oklahoma

After 23 years of full-time employment at Northwestern, Associate Vice President for University Relations Steve Valencia said goodbye.

Valencia began a new career at Rogers State University in Claremore as their vice president for development.

"Northwestern has been my home for so long that it's hard to imagine being anywhere else, but the opportunity presented to me by RSU was one that I had to accept," Valencia said.

"I have had the privilege of working with some exceptional people, from Presidents Cunningham and Struckle, to the members of the senior staff and the talented people who have been part of the University Relations staff."

Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, reflected upon her time working with Valencia.

"Steve has been a valued member of Northwestern's Senior Staff and Executive Team for many years," she said. "I will miss his leadership, but I wish him all the best in his new role. I am very proud of Steve as an alum of NWOSU."

A native of Waynoka, Valencia graduated from Northwestern in 1988 with a Bachelor of Arts in mass communications and in 2000 with a Master of Education degree.

Valencia served Northwestern as its part-time sports information director (SID) for a year following completion of his undergraduate degree before leaving to work at KWOX (K101) radio in Woodward, KALV-AM radio in Alva, and as a sports editor at the Clinton Daily News and associate sports editor

for the Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise.

Valencia served for four years as the director of public information and publications and as an instructor of journalism at Colby (Kansas) Community College before returning to Northwestern in 1996 as the public relations director and instructor of mass communications/adviser to the student newspaper Northwestern News.

The following summer, Valencia relinquished his duties as an instructor and adviser on the academic side to devote full-time energies to the university's public relations efforts while also adding sports information duties to his role. He served as the SID during the Northwestern Rangers' run to the NAIA Football Championship in 1999, and for their repeat appearance as runner-up in the championship game in 2000. He gave up the sports information duties in January 2003.

For 23 years Valencia has led the school's award-winning external relations programs, which includes communications and marketing, public affairs and governmental relations.

Along with his University Relations team, he helped to expand the marketing and communications efforts of the institution through the implementation of a branding program, rebuilding the university's website, improving publications, and leveraging the power of social media platforms. Through their efforts, Valencia and the staff have won numerous awards from the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association.

Valencia also developed and implemented the Vision for Victory campaign for athletics that raised more than \$6 million and led to the improvement of several athletic venues. The Northwestern Foundation honored him in 2015 with its Reichenberger Fundraising Award.

He also provided leadership for the recent Imagine Northwestern fundraising campaign.



Steve Valencia

As Northwestern's designated legislative liaison, Valencia has played a key role in securing special state appropriations for campus construction projects and the development of the agriculture education

program. He has received appointments from leaders in both major parties, including former Gov. Brad Henry and former Speaker of the House Jeff Hickman.

Valencia held several leadership positions on the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), including board chairman for the five-state District IV. He served as chairman of the Communicator's Council for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Valencia's wife Janet also left the university and her positions as the Graduate Studies coordinator and Doctor of Nursing Practice administrative assistant.

Valencia has mentioned that it was a hard decision to leave after being at Northwestern for such a long time, but he has assured that "we'll always be Rangers at heart because that never leaves you."

# Arsenic and Old Lace is fall production

“No family tree is without its nuts,” explains Mickey Jordan, director of Northwestern’s theatre production of “Arsenic and Old Lace.”

Add a plethora of family secrets to that tree and one gets a show that leaves spectators on the edge of their seats.



*Martha Brewster, played by Dena Walker, standing left, visits with her sister, Abby Brewster, portrayed by alum Erin Lehr, seated right, while nephew Mortimer, played by Dakota Retherford, pours a drink and guest, Mr. Gibbs, played by Christopher Chauncey, listens.*

Jordan, who just began serving the university as its instructor of technical theater this fall, said the first production of the school year has a lot to offer its audience.

“Basically, it’s a show about family secrets,” Jordan explained about the production. “It’s very unassuming, but once it gets started it has twists and turns, and it’s great. There’s a murder, there’s a wedding, there’s a who-done-it aspect, there are Irish cops, convicts, Germans—it’s really crazy. It’s one of those shows that if you’re not familiar with it, it’s going to be a treat to watch it for the first time.”

Jordan explained that the plot follows the Brewster family -- a

family consisting of two sweet, old sisters who live in a large Victorian house with their three nephews -- in 1940 Brooklyn, New York. The play shows events of their day-to-day life, which Jordan said is very natural and unassuming at first, but quickly turns into an in-depth plot of mystery, suspense and intrigue.

“The story itself is just super quirky,” Dena Walker, associate professor of mathematics who is portraying one of those sisters in the role of Martha Brewster, said. “Anything with a title like ‘Arsenic and Old Lace’ makes you think, ‘Well is arsenic even involved?’ or is that just the writer’s way of trying to get people into it.”

Of course, such an involved production does not come without some long hours of work from the cast and crew months in advance.

“Arsenic and Old Lace” was Jordan’s capstone project in fulfillment of his master’s degree requirements, which means that on top of his usual duties in the theater, he is in the full director’s position of nearly every decision and aspect of the production as well.

“Before the show even starts, you spend about three months putting together a director’s notebook,” Jordan said. “That’s where you put in all the blocking, how the characters are going to

move, and the director has to do all of these character analyses to figure out the who, what, when, how and why of the characters. Then you have auditions to try to find who best fits in that role, then you have rehearsals and set-ups. It’s very much like an iceberg because the production seen really is just like the very tip of it. Then, underneath the water there is so much that goes into it. We are so pleased that there are so many people that auditioned and wanted to be involved in Northwestern theatre. It’s very exciting; we’re off to a good start this semester.”

Although they didn’t have to begin their work quite as early as Jordan, the 14 members of the cast began rehearsals Aug. 26 and had journeys of their own.

One such journey was Walker’s as she learned more about her character and how to portray her.

“She is about 65 years old... she’s a classy lady, very Brooklyn 1940s so a very classy, elegant woman,” Walker said describing her spinster character. “I’m excited to play somebody so much older. I’m an Oklahoma girl so I’m still trying to

*Continued on page 11*



*Mortimer Brewster, played by Dakota Retherford, is tied up by Jonathan Brewster played by Austin Morton and Dr. Einstein, played by Jon White.*

Continued on page 11

## Arsenic...

achieve the Brooklyn 1940s voice.”

Altus freshman Adria Lujan, who portrayed Elaine Harper, said that although college theater has been a different experience from what she was used to in high school,



Adria Lujan, seated, playing Elaine Harper, converses with fiance Mortimer Brewster, played by Dakota Retherford.

she also enjoyed the experience and production.

Lujan explained that she was basically the love interest of the main character Mortimer Brewster. “She’s the minister’s daughter, so she’s modest, but she has a little spunk to her I guess. They have a very cute romance going on that’s fun to watch,” she said.

Lujan said that one of the main aspects she worked on to get into her character was to constantly be mentally placing herself in her character’s shoes.

With the guidance of my director, he has shown me how I should really portray Elaine, and it’s come to be really fun,” Lujan said.

## Donor gifts allow for upgrades at Campbell Rodeo Complex

Much-needed improvements at the Campbell Rodeo Complex will provide new amenities for cowboys and cowgirls at Northwestern.

A new 24’ x 200’ structure will house 20 new horse pens for incoming freshmen and transfers. Integrity Construction completed the project last summer. A new well also was drilled to provide water for livestock.

“It’s a significant improvement and one that will aid in recruiting competitors to Northwestern,” Stockton Graves, head rodeo coach, said. “Competitors have made

significant investments in their horses and want to know they can be protected and cared for nearby. The Campbell Complex is a great recruiting tool for us, and we are grateful to those donors who supported this project.”

Donors include the Esther Blessington family, the Brass Spur family, Lee and Sharon Brandt, Mark and Gena Denton and the Glass family.

Northwestern’s rodeo teams have produced three individual national champions in the past two years and have one of the largest teams in the nation.



Project donors and members of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University administration stand in front of new pens constructed at the Campbell Rodeo Complex.



# Walker selected for 2019 AICPA Leadership Academy

Jana Walker, CPA was one of only 38 CPAs honored by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) as a member of the Leadership Academy's 11th graduating class. Walker was selected based on her exceptional leadership skills and professional experience for the four-day Leadership Academy program, held during October in Durham, N.C.

Walker is a 2012 graduate of Northwestern with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting and a graduate of Oklahoma State University with a Masters of Science degree in Agricultural Economics. Walker is a member of the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants (OSCPA), which awarded her the 2016 Trailblazer Award for accountant

innovation, professional dedication, and community commitment. Since 2017, Walker has been an accounting instructor for the Division of Business. She is also the sole owner of her public accounting firm Jana A. Walker, CPA, PLLC.



Jana Walker

The AICPA Leadership Academy was designed to strengthen and expand the leadership skills of promising young professionals while they network with a peer group of talented and motivated CPAs.

The Leadership Academy features career-development workshops and sessions with some of the accounting profession's most prominent influencers, including William (Bill) Reeb, CPA, CITP, CGMA, chair of the American Institute of CPAs; Barry Melancon, CPA, CGMA, American Institute of CPAs president and CEO, Association of Certified Professional Accountants CEO; and Mark Koziel, CPA, CGMA, Executive Vice President – Firm Services, Association of Certified Professional Accountants.

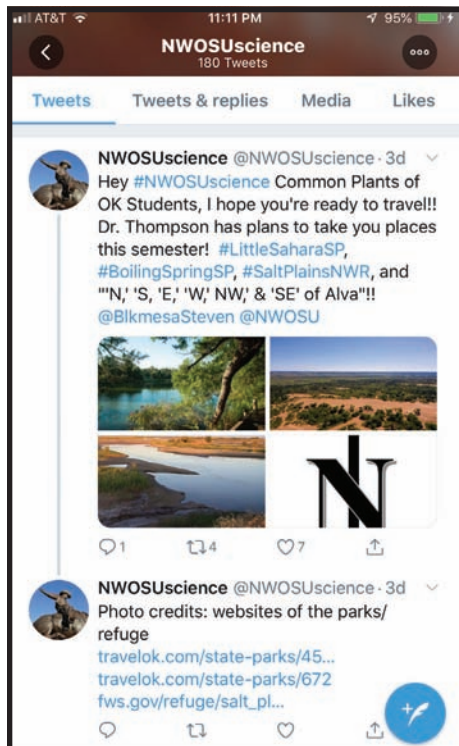
Participants were selected from public accounting firms of all sizes, business and industry, academia and consulting firms.

The 2019 Leadership Academy attendees were recommended by their employers, state CPA societies or both. Candidates submitted resumes and a statement explaining how participating in the Leadership

Academy would impact them personally and professionally. They also wrote an essay on the topic "The future will bring significant changes to the accounting profession. What do leaders have to get right in order to successfully lead?"

To date, 351 CPAs have participated in the AICPA Leadership Academy, many of whom have gone on to take on leadership positions in their firms, businesses and volunteer organizations.

More information about the AICPA Leadership Academy is available online.



# “I Love Yarn Day” celebrated with workshop

A Beginners’ Crochet Lesson was offered to those interested at Northwestern as well as anyone in the community who wished to attend in celebration of “I Love Yarn Day.”

The workshop, sponsored by the NWOSU Art Society, was led by Dr. Mary Riegel, associate professor of mathematics, on Saturday, Oct. 12, in the Science Amphitheatre on the Alva campus. Participants received a crochet hook, yarn needle and yarn to create their first project and learn the basics of crochet.

“Step-by-step instructions and demonstrations guided each participant through the process of creating a washcloth,” Riegel said. “Armed with their new skill and a hook, participants were ready to tackle future projects.”

The workshop was open to all ages and abilities, and no previous crochet experience was required.



## Case, Davis win at OCPRA Conference

Northwestern public relations professionals took home five awards at the 2019 Oklahoma Collegiate Public Relations Association (OCPRA) annual conference and awards banquet.

Northwestern’s winning entries included two Grand Awards, two Achievement Awards and an Honorable Mention. Awards went to projects submitted by university relations specialists Valarie Case and Erin Davis.

“I am tremendously proud of the University Relations team and thrilled to see their work recognized on a state level,” Steve Valencia, former associate vice president for university relations, said. “Communications and marketing work is constantly evolving, but there is no doubt that we are at the forefront of our craft.”

OCPRA received more than

500 entries from more than 40 institutions for its 41 categories.

Northwestern’s winning entries are:

### Grand Awards

Best Use of Social Media Admissions – We Want YOU to be a Ranger!: Valarie Case

Bright Idea – Ranger Rodeo Promotional Videos: Erin Davis



*Public relations professionals Valarie Case (right) and Erin Davis took home five awards at the 2019 Oklahoma Collegiate Public Relations Association (OCPRA) annual conference and awards banquet*

### Achievement Awards

Events/Promotion – Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat: Valarie Case and Erin Davis

Shoe String – Ranger Love Stories: Erin Davis

### Honorable Mention

Featurette – Years of Research, Fine-Tuning Lecture Notes Leads to New Book for Ridgway: Valarie Case

Founded in 1969, OCPRA provides networking and professional development opportunities to staff working in public relations and associated fields at Oklahoma’s public and private colleges and universities. The organization hosts an annual conference and awards banquet each summer and a fall workshop for its more than 40 member institutions.

To learn more about OCPRA, visit [www.ocpra.org](http://www.ocpra.org).

# Education Career Fair held in October

Education employers seeking employees had an opportunity to go right to the source by attending the fall 2019 Education Fair at Northwestern on Monday, Oct. 14.

Northwestern education majors were encouraged to attend the fair prepared to provide copies of resumes and cover letters.

Oklahoma organizations that attended were Aline-Cleo Public Schools, Alva Public Schools, Bridge Creek Public Schools, Calumet Public Schools, Clinton Public Schools, College Bound Academy, El Reno Public Schools, Enid Public Schools, Epic Charter Schools, Guthrie Public Schools, Guymon Public Schools, Ponca City Public Schools, and Northwestern Graduate Studies.

Kansas organizations attending were Dodge City Public Schools, Garden City Public Schools, High Plains Educational Cooperative

and Wichita Public Schools.

Taylor Wilson, director of counseling and career services, also encourages job seekers to dress well and to stop by her office in Fine Arts 209 if they need any help prior to

university job fairs. She also may be reached at [tawilson@nwosu.edu](mailto:tawilson@nwosu.edu).

For more information or to schedule an appointment visit [www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services](http://www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services).



*Reed Nickel visits the Alva Public School's information table at the Education Career Fair held on campus in October.*

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus** 5 hrs · 🌐

The NWOSU Enid Leadership Council volunteered at Loaves and Fishes following their annual city-wide food drive. #nwosu

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University** 5 hrs · 🌐

Via @RUSOregents: Science has been Clay Reed's passion since he was a kid. A graduate of #NWOSU, Dr. Reed now helps patients at the @MayoClinic fight cancer. #StudentSuccess #STEM

See his story at [ow.ly/44qN50vZSYg](http://ow.ly/44qN50vZSYg)

We are so proud of Clay! All the best to you as you continue in your career path of helping others. #RangerFamily #RangerProud #BeARanger #NWOSUscience

# Hardaway has book reviews published

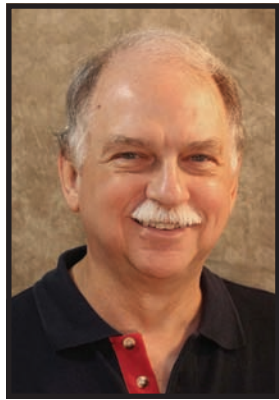
Dr. Roger Hardaway, professor of history, has had two book reviews published in scholarly journals.

Hardaway evaluated “Nicodemus: Post-Reconstruction Politics and Racial Justice in Western Kansas” by Charlotte Hinger and “Dangerous Subjects: James D. Saules and the Rise of Black Exclusion in Oregon” by Kenneth R. Coleman.

“Both books are excellent, and they are welcome additions to the body of literature that exists on the general subject,” Hardaway said.

Hardaway’s review of Hinger’s book was published in The Chronicles of Oklahoma.

Hardaway said Nicodemus, Kansas, was one of several all-black towns established by African-Americans in the late 19th century. He continued by adding that Hinger focuses her research on the efforts of several of the town’s citizens to exert some influence over Kansas politics. Their activities led to the



Roger Hardaway

Kansas Republican Party nominating Nicodemus resident Edward McCabe for state auditor in 1882. He won the general election, thus becoming the first African-American elected to a statewide office in Kansas history. McCabe was reelected in 1884 and, consequently, served from 1883 to 1887.

He said when Republican leaders adhered to Kansas custom and refused to nominate him for a third term, McCabe’s political career ended. Later, he moved to Oklahoma with the hope of resurrecting his electoral prospects but without success. He did, however, found the all-black town of Langston, which is the site of Langston University, Oklahoma’s only historically black college or university.

Hardaway’s review of Coleman’s book was published in the Pacific Historical Review.

Hardaway said Saules was an African-American who joined the U.S. Navy and deserted once the vessel he was aboard shipwrecked on the Oregon coast in 1841. Saules

married a local Native American woman and earned a living hauling freight, farming, and cooking at missionary outposts. Although he was one of only a handful of African-Americans in Oregon, he was at least partially responsible for white government officials trying to run black settlers out of the territory and prevent others from moving there. The reason these officials disliked Saules, Coleman believes, is that they thought his marriage led him to encourage other Native Americans to attack white settlers and try to prevent them from confiscating native lands.

The editors recruited Hardaway to review these volumes because he has written extensively about African-Americans in the American West.

“One of the responsibilities of historians is to evaluate the work of our peers and give meritorious scholarship a wider audience,” Hardaway said. “These volumes certainly deserve the positive reviews I have given them. I very much appreciate the opportunity to contribute to these outstanding journals.”

**NWOSUscience** @NWOSUscience · 22h

Want out of the box assignments? **#NWOSUscience** got you covered! Knowing ball launch speed, determine heights of "Rings of FIRE" equally spaced across the total range!! Sharon demonstrates... Yes, the last hoop counts--W 🍌🍌🍌 T 🍌•••!! @NWOSU 🍌

**NWOSUscience** @NWOSUscience

Here's what happening in **#NWOSUscience** this fall: @NWOSU grad Payten Sams is coming to campus to talk about a career in microbiology at IMMY @IMMYdiagnostics! Interested, come join us!!

**NWOSUscience** @NWOSUscience

We are so excited to be beginning the new year with Dr. Piper Robida, Assistant Professor of Biology @NWOSU!! She brings with her extensive research and a passion for teaching that our students have come to expect at **#NWOSUscience**!!

# Northwestern, NOC partner to fight opioid addiction

Northwestern and Northern Oklahoma College have partnered to fight opioid addiction on their campuses, supported by a grant from the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

Northwestern and NOC are two of five Oklahoma colleges and universities to receive grant funds through a \$250,000 State Opioid Response – Higher Education Community Outreach Grant administered through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

The grant funds campus efforts to prevent opioid misuse and provide referral services for those needing treatment.

“According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Oklahoma ranks sixth in the nation in the number of opioid prescriptions with eight out of 10 residents having a prescription,” Dr. Janet Cunningham, Northwestern

president, said. “In addition, more overdose deaths in our state involve prescription opioids than all illicit drugs combined. We have a responsibility to help prevent opioid abuse and provide resources to help those who are addicted.”

The grant is another example of the close partnership between Northwestern and NOC.

“We are pleased that as a result of this grant, students will have more access to resources that can help prevent addiction and also help those in need of treatment identify recovery services,” Dr. Cheryl Evans, NOC president, said. “NOC is pleased to partner with Northwestern Oklahoma State University on this important initiative to help our students.”

Both institutions are providing outreach, engagement and evidence-based prevention services, including health education, promotion and

community consultation. Efforts focus on the general student population, as well as students at risk for opioid misuse, opioid disorder and opioid overdose. These institutions have also developed online resources for opioid abuse prevention and treatment.

Additionally, grant funds are being used to support training for faculty, staff and students in the prevention and treatment of opioid misuse and overdose, including naloxone administration, access to treatment services, recognition of and response to an opioid overdose, and safe storage and disposal of opioids.

Peer health educators are providing campus-based student training on opioid misuse and prevention. Tribal connections are also a part of the institutions’ plans to utilize and extend access to community resources.

## *Martin is new director of marketing, university relations*

Northwestern President Dr. Janet Cunningham has appointed Kelsey Martin of Alva as Director of Marketing and University Relations. Martin began her duties in October.

Martin now leads the University’s efforts in marketing, communications and public affairs.

“We are excited to have her join the Northwestern staff and lead our messaging of academic excellence and value,” Cunningham said. “She has been actively involved in a number of community and regional activities and initiatives, and we are confident she will be an effective ambassador for Northwestern and a successful leader for our University

Relations team.”

Martin comes to Northwestern after serving six years as Director of Marketing and Public Relations for BancCentral National Association. At BancCentral she was responsible for marketing bank products, sponsorships, event planning, internal and external relations and social media management.

She is a 2013 graduate of Oklahoma State University with a bachelor’s degree in agricultural communications.



*Kelsey Martin*

“I am very excited to be joining the Ranger family,” Martin said.

“I am eager to build upon the efforts of the University Relations team, and work with the faculty and staff to build upon the successful brand of Northwestern.”

Martin is active in the Alva community and northwest Oklahoma, serving on a number of boards, including the Alva Chamber of Commerce, Red Carpet Country Tourism, and Alva Bank It. She is a graduate of Leadership Northwest Oklahoma Class VI.



# Schmaltz presents at North Dakota museum

Dr. Eric Schmaltz, chair of the department of social sciences at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, recently presented at the Prairie Village Museum in Rugby, North Dakota.

A generous grant through Humanities North Dakota made it possible for the museum to host this public forum.

Schmaltz gave his presentation on “A People on the Move (Volk auf dem Weg): The German from Russia Legacy as Reflected in the American Dream.”

An audience of nearly 70 attended this event, which explored the history of ethnic Germans from Russia who settled in North Dakota and on the northern plains in vast numbers at the turn of the last century. Schmaltz traced how this “people on the move,” a traditional expression from the group, had to navigate the great challenges and dynamic opportunities of American society.

“This occasion also marked an opportunity for us to revisit the idea of the American Dream,” Schmaltz said. “New England writer James Truslow Adams famously coined this term in his 1931 book, ‘The Epic of America.’ Though a complex, evolving idea since the nation’s founding, many different interpretations spanning the generations have come forth concerning what it means. It has to do with more than possessing things, however. It is more concerned about opportunity and social mobility.”

Schmaltz said early generations of Germans from Russia had to work hard and to make adjustments to American life, but in time they have

on the whole proved quite successful.

“They had to overcome certain stigmas for being historically associated with German culture during the two world wars, not to mention their other historical affiliation with Russia, which for a time was Communist,” Schmaltz said. “There had already arisen an earlier stigma against Eastern and Southern European immigrants at the turn of the last century. I refer to this as the ‘Double Stigma,’ being connected with both Germany and Russia at that time.”

Schmaltz said this group, after nearly 150 years, has become a vital part of American life and culture, leaving a profound legacy in many endeavors, whether agri-business, architecture, art, foodways, language, music, politics or faith.

Schmaltz said an estimated 30 percent of North Dakota’s population today can claim at least some German-Russian ancestry, one of the highest concentrations of this diaspora heritage in the United States.

Schmaltz listed a number of famous descendants of Germans from Russia in the United States during his presentation, including North Dakota natives Lawrence Welk, musician and TV celebrity, and Angie (Brown/Braun) Dickinson, famous film and TV actress. Others included South Dakota native Allen H. Neuharth, journalist, former CEO of Gannett, and founder of the newspaper USA Today; Nebraska native Randy Meisner, musician and

songwriter perhaps best known as the bassist for rock group the Eagles; New Mexico native John Denver (born John Deutchendorf), musician, songwriter and actor; and California native Chris Isaak, musician and sometimes actor, whose father’s side had first settled near Rugby.

Schmaltz himself has deep North Dakota roots, including Germans from Russia on both sides of his family, and he has spent a quarter of a century studying the German from Russia saga.

“I was born in nearby

Minot, North Dakota,” Schmaltz said. “My parents had attended college there as well. I had not been in Minot since 1978, when I lived there as a young child. I am glad that the event was able to bring me back there, even if only briefly.”

Schmaltz also noted that Rugby’s claim to fame is that it is located just a few miles from the geographical epicenter of North America, a fitting backdrop for a talk on the American Dream. Plans are already underway for Schmaltz to present again sometime next summer in Rugby.

Besides serving as a co-founder and co-executive director of the university’s endowed Institute for Citizenship Studies, Schmaltz has served for nearly a decade as editor of the Germans from Russia Heritage Society “Heritage Review” in Bismarck, North Dakota, and as an editorial review board member of the “Journal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia” in Lincoln, Nebraska.



Eric Schmaltz

# Enrollment stays steady at Northwestern

Enrollment for the 2019 fall semester at Northwestern was nearly the same as it was a year ago.

In a preliminary enrollment report submitted to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Northwestern reported headcount enrollment of 1,983 students, a decrease of just 10 students from a year ago.

“Northwest Oklahoma is facing two years of some of the lowest high school senior class numbers, and that is having an effect on enrollment,” Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, said. “The class sizes begin to rise after 2020, and we are prepared to take advantage of a larger pool of students in our primary recruiting area.”

One bright spot in the enrollment report was in concurrent enrollment – dual credit courses taken by high school juniors and seniors. Enrollment more than doubled this fall with 180 students taking concurrent courses, compared with 88 a year ago.

“We are thankful the Legislature decided to better fund the concurrent enrollment program,”

Cunningham said. “We are able to expand tuition waivers to juniors, and that made a difference.”

An additional 9.8 percent enrollment increase occurred in the graduate program, where 191 students are enrolled in master’s level courses.

Enrollment at the main campus

in Alva totaled 1,283 students. Northwestern-Enid reported 189 students, and Northwestern-Woodward has 209 students.

Students enrolled at outreach sites, including the University Center of Ponca City, totaled 192. A total of 815 students also are enrolled in online courses.



*Students walk to and from classes on the first day of classes in August 2019 at Northwestern.*



*Drum major Jacob Steckbeck leads the Ranger Band members as they entertain the crowd at the annual All-College Get Together held the Friday prior to the beginning of classes.*

Join the Spanish Club for Beginner Salsa Dance Lessons & Salsa Tasting at 6:30 in the Student Center Ballroom.

Join @NWOSUSGA for a FREE movie tonight for the first 100 students with a current student ID. Movies start at 6:45 at Rialto.

1:26 PM · Oct 22, 2019 · Twitter Web App

# Writing Marathon held for fifth year

Northwestern's English program played host to a Writing Marathon workshop in downtown Alva in

## Ibarra wins Campus Kudos

Adrian Ibarra, systems analyst was selected by the Staff Council as the recipient of the 2019 spring semester Campus Kudos Award.

Melissa Brown, Graduate Studies Coordinator, Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice Administrative Assistant and Staff Council chair, **Adrian Ibarra** presented Ibarra with the Campus Kudos award.



The person nominating Ibarra for this award said, "Adrian approaches his heavy, heavy load of problem-solving and work with such a cheerful and fun attitude. I appreciate his sense of humor and the way he approaches the people he works with. Adrian installed new desk accessories in my office at the beginning of the semester with wonderful professionalism and a fun sense of humor. We welcome the times we see him on campus as he hurries to and from different issues. It's his kind and happy attitude that I appreciate every single day. I cannot separate just one act to nominate. I'm thankful for fellow employees like this."

Campus Kudos is a public acknowledgement created by the Staff Council that applauds the efforts of eligible staff members who have displayed an act of kindness above their job responsibilities. This award is presented each semester.

October at the Graceful Arts Center.

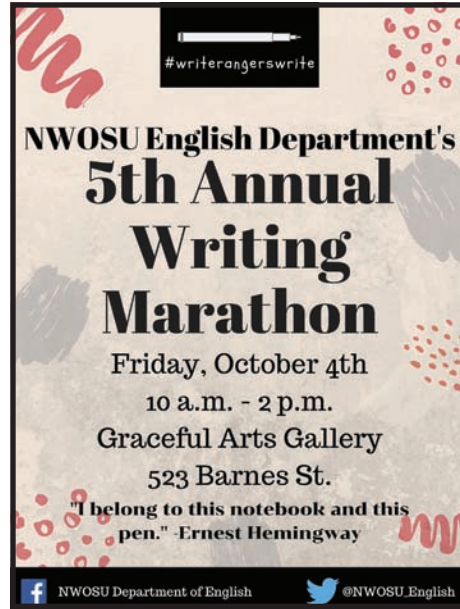
"This event was called a 'writing marathon' but required no running," Dr. Kathryn Lane, associate professor of English and chair of the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department, said. "The goal of a writing marathon is to allow the writer to experience a location by furthering their sense of place and comradery. It takes the concept of writer from solitary to communal. Frankly, it's fun."

The day kicked off at 10 a.m. at the Graceful Arts Center with the entire group writing one round together. From 10:30-10:40 a.m. participants broke into groups of

no more than four and headed out into downtown Alva to see writer-friendly locations. Each group picked its first destination and decided how long they wanted to write, then shared their work among the group. From there, participants either wrote another round or moved to a new location for more inspiration.

This continued until 1 p.m. when everyone reconvened at the Graceful Arts Center for a "read-around" where writers could share up to two minutes of their work. There was no requirement for participants to share their work.

A writing marathon is a writing experience that you have to try to fully appreciate, Dr. Lane said.



# Calvert is Constitution Day speaker

Constitution Day 2019 was observed on campus this year with an examination of the life and contributions of John Dickinson (1732-1808). The program, sponsored by the Northwestern Institute for Citizenship Studies, was titled “A Conservative Rebel: The Life and Contributions of John Dickinson, Founder, Framer, Soldier, & Emancipator.”

The guest speaker, Dr. Jane Calvert, is the foremost authority on Founding Father John Dickinson. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2003 and is director and chief editor of the John Dickinson Writings Project and associate professor of history at the University of Kentucky. Her first book, “Quaker Constitutionalism and the Political Thought of John Dickinson,” gives the first comprehensive analysis of Dickinson’s actions during the American Revolution.

She currently is producing the first edition of “The Complete Writings and Selected Correspondence of

John Dickinson” and the first full and accurate biography. She also has worked on topics on religious liberty, Thomas Paine, and the second amendment. Her work on Dickinson is supported by the National Endowment for the

Humanities (NEH), the National Historic Publications and Records Commission, as well as public and private institutions and foundations. Most recently, she was awarded an NEH Public Scholar grant to work on Dickinson’s biography.



*Aaron Mason, left, listens while Dr. Jane Calvert, Founding Father John Dickinson expert, talks during the 2019 Constitution Day event held on Sept. 18.*

## 5 awarded Guthrie Scottish Rite Scholarships

Five Northwestern Oklahoma State University seniors were awarded the Guthrie Scottish Rite Scholarship given by the Guthrie Scottish Rite Charitable and Educational Foundation.

Those awarded this fall were Tanner Bowman of Cherokee, natural science education; Lainey Coldren of Kingfisher, special education; Tiffany Guffy of Cherokee, elementary education; Brannon Robinson of Enid, elementary education; and Clinton Shelton of Woodward, social sciences education.

Each semester the scholarships

are awarded to teacher candidates who are completing their professional semester.

Dr. James Bell, associate vice president for academics and dean of faculty, and Dr. Martie Young, professor of education, presented the students their scholarship.

*Continued to page 21*



*Dr. James Bell (far left) and Dr. Christee Jenlink (far right) recently awarded five students with the Guthrie Scottish Rite Scholarship. The recipients are (left to right) Clinton Shelton, Tanner Bowman, Tiffany Guffy, Brannon Robinson and Lainey Coldren, all senior education students at Northwestern.*

# Social Work department on 'cutting edge' with lab

By Mitchell Willetts  
Enid News & Eagle

<https://www.enidnews.com/>

ENID, Okla. — Empathy comes from experience, and in a field like social work, there are few qualities more necessary, according to Jennifer Pribble.

As director of field experience for Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Enid's social work department, it's Pribble's responsibility to see students put what they've learned into practice, and that they learn from practice what can't be taught in a classroom.

But with the addition of a brand new virtual reality lab opened Friday, Pribble sees a way for students to ease into the experiences they'll come to face.

"All of our students go do a field practicum for 420 hours, but they

*Continued from page 20*

## Scottish Rite...

The Guthrie Scottish Rite Charitable and Educational Foundation works primarily with children with language and/or reading disorders. Recipients are chosen by members of the Teacher Education faculty who have reviewed all applications and voted for the candidate they felt was the best choice.

For more information on the Guthrie Scottish Rite scholarship or the Division of Education contact Dr. Christee Jenlink, associate dean of education and professor of education, at (580) 327-8450 or email [cljenlink@nwsu.edu](mailto:cljenlink@nwsu.edu).

can't go until they have these skills," she said. "This is a middle ground to give them some practice before they're out there in it."

There are 11 stations in the lab, each with a set of VR goggles, and a pair of controllers for each hand allowing the user to interact with the world wrapped around their eyes. Large,



Ashley Fischer, social work secretary, uses the university's new Virtual Reality Lab during the open house on campus Oct. 25. Photo by Mitchell Willetts

wall-mounted monitors display to the room what the user is seeing and doing.

At the Oct. 25 open-house event, the social work department showcased the \$40,000 grant funded lab to visitors with a variety of experiences. Roller coaster rides, a safari jaunt, and plenty of others for entertainment.

Some were truer to the room's educational purpose, such as a real-life street tour of San Francisco, led by one of the city's homeless residents.

Another puts the wearer behind

the eyes of an autistic child at a birthday party, their internal dialog narrated to explain how all the varied action and commotion in the room might effect someone with the condition.

The open house was student Scott Messenger's first time using VR. He took the San Francisco tour, among other things.

"It made a little bit of my hair stand up. I'm looking around like I'm expecting something to happen," he said. Watching on the monitor, there's a greater barrier between what's happening and what's felt, as it's clear to the viewer how far removed they are from the events on screen.

But put the goggles on, and "whatever you thought your safety wall was, it gets blown wide open," Messenger said.

A lot of content exists for use in VR, and more is created every day, but



Dr. Janet Cunningham, wearing goggles, experiments with the new virtual reality technology in the lab on the Enid Campus during open house festivities.

there's not much designed specifically to prepare social work students for the profession.

There is a video she has used, developed by Oral Roberts University,

*Continued on page 22*

Continued from page 21

# Social Work...

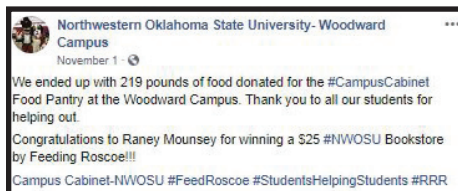
which takes the user through a home visit as part of child welfare investigation. It's potentially helpful viewing, but Pribble said she would like to provide students with something more in-depth and interactive.

"That's something I want to develop, is a VR where they're getting to assess safety specifically, as they go on a home visit," she said. "Do you go right in the door when someone on the other side says, or do you wait for them to answer the door? Where in the room do you stand? Whenever you walk in, what do you look for? What looks dangerous?"

Virtual reality is still relatively unproven as a teaching tool, and many schools have yet to invest heavily in it. Though she feels it's gaining popularity, it's not yet standard in education.

Pribble said the department will

be looking closely at the VR lab and student performance to determine just how effective a teacher it is, and in the future, it may be implemented into the curriculum.



# Hellman selected to give fall commencement address

Dr. Chan Hellman of Tulsa, a 1989 graduate, delivered the commencement address at his alma mater during Northwestern's fall commencement ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 8.

A native of Helena, he graduated from Northwestern with a bachelor's degree in psychology, and later earned a master's degree in experimental psychology at the University of Central Oklahoma and a Ph.D. in quantitative psychology at Oklahoma State University. While at Northwestern, Hellman served as a Student Government Association senator.

"During my time at Northwestern I really wanted to take scuba diving," Hellman said. "I coordinated my courses around this opportunity which would potentially put me behind on the graduation timeline. Doc Mathews was the instructor and taught a really challenging course that included the requirement to pass a written test on the kinesiology and chemistry associated with diving (especially what happens to the body during diving accidents).

"Scuba diving was an amazing experience that I would not have pursued had it not been for this class. On the optional final exam, Doc Matthews invited us to show up and dive. I put on an air tank and swam to the deep end bottom and used the whole tank just staring at the surface reflecting on how Northwestern was offering a pathway of experiences that would change my life forever."

Hellman is a professor in the Anne & Henry Zarrow School of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma. He also holds an adjunct professor appointment in the Department of Health Promotion Sciences for the OU College of Public Health. He has taught invited courses at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, as well as Northern Ireland, Belgium, and the United Kingdom.

He is also the founding director for the Hope Research Center. At the Center they design and collect hope-centered program evaluation and applied research projects customized

to the needs of the organization. This hope-centered research is focused on evaluating and improving program services to achieve client outcomes.



Dr. Chan Hellman

Hellman has numerous scholarly publications in scientific journals, technical reports, and books and has presented his research

at both national and international conferences. His research is focused on the application of hope theory to those impacted by trauma and adversity. He is also interested in the impact of prevention and intervention services on increasing and sustaining client hope.

Hellman teaches master's and doctoral level students primarily in the areas of positive psychology, research methods, and statistics. He also directs student research in the areas of hope and nonprofit organizations.

The lifelong Oklahoman and his wife Kendra enjoy spending time with their children and grandchildren, traveling and reading.

Hellman serves as the Director of Research for the Alliance for Hope International (the parent organization of more than 140 Family Justice Centers located in the United States, Europe, Ireland, Latin America, and Japan). Chan is the lead researcher for Camp HOPE America, a program for children exposed to domestic violence currently operating in 23 states. He is also on the Department of Justice-supported National Advisory Board for the use of technology to assist victims of crime. Chan serves on committees with the Tulsa Area United Way for their Nonprofit Leadership Academy as well as the Social Innovation grant making process.



# Four acts are featured in concert series

Four acts will comprise the season for Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series (NWOCS). All four concerts have or will take place on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Herod Hall Auditorium.

This year's schedule includes 3 Redneck Tenors held on Sept. 10; Jukebox Saturday Night presented on Nov. 5; Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband, Feb. 4, 2020; and DFW Brass, March 24, 2020.

The 3 Redneck Tenors are a new breed in the "tenor genre" – their musical comedy featuring classically trained veteran artists is like Duck Dynasty goes to Carnegie Hall - down-home laughs with big city music! It has been said that if Larry the Cable Guy, Il Divo, and Mrs. Doubtfire had a baby, that child would be The 3 Redneck Tenors. Written by opera-veteran Matthew Lord with music arranged by award-winning composer Craig Bohmler, and starring Mr. Lord, Blake Davidson, and Jonathan Fruge, The 3 Redneck Tenors were top finalists on "America's Got Talent" and have been thrilling audiences since 2006.

Jukebox Saturday Night is a



**3 Redneck Tenors**

music review of the great Big Bands during the 1930s, '40s and '50s. A fun-filled event for all ages captures the exciting sounds of great melodies and lyrics performed by an energetic group of instrumentalists and vocalists who will keep the audience moving in their seats, tapping their toes and clapping their hands. Jukebox Saturday Night celebrates America's Swing Era, performing the greatest hits as recorded by Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey, Glenn Miller, Duke Ellington, Jimmy Lunceford, Harry James, Artie Shaw, Cab Calloway, Benny Goodman, Bunny Berigan, Count Basie and more. Vocal selections include songs made famous by Frank Sinatra, Doris Day, Bob Eberly, Helen O'Connell, Rosemary Clooney and other vocal idols.

Ryan Shupe is roaring back with his new album "We Rode On," which marks a striking career transition and a meaningful evolution in Shupe's songwriting, his life, and the band's sound. It strongly and deftly combines the rock side of their musical arsenal with the acoustic instruments and virtuosic jamming the band has become known for in their live shows.

Like a mad musical scientist



**Ryan Shupe & the Rubberband**

(and father/husband), Ryan Shupe recorded, arranged and tweaked the band's newest creation in his personal studio.

"I wanted to create a new sound and an evolution for the band's music," Shupe said. "It's the best album we've done and definitely the most rocking!"

Being a fifth generation fiddler, as well as an accomplished electric guitar, acoustic guitar and mandolin player, Shupe has been touring extensively across the US since he was 10 years old. He is no stranger to the national stage, and the band has appeared on Good Morning America, E! TV, Mountain Stage, Woodsongs, GAC and CMT.

In addition to performing with



**DFW Brass**

local orchestras and organization such as the Dallas Opera, Dallas Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Worth Symphony, Plano Symphony and Irving Symphony,

the members of DFW Brass have performed throughout the world including at The Vatican, Carnegie Hall, cruise liners, the Shanghai Radio Symphony, Italian opera houses, and multiple international

*Continued on page 23*



**Jukebox Saturday Night**



# Homecoming a success; 2020 dates announced

Hundreds gathered around the downtown square on Saturday, Oct. 26, for the annual Homecoming parade, then headed to Ranger Field to watch the massed bands perform, learn who the Ranger Royalty and homecoming button winners would be, and watch a Ranger football game, all to celebrate Northwestern's homecoming.

The theme was "Paint the Town Red: Homecoming 2019."

Leading the parade on Saturday

*Continued from page 22*

## Concert series...

music festivals throughout Europe as well as North, Central and South America.

Season tickets, as well as individual performance tickets, may be purchased online at [www.nwocs.ticketbud.com](http://www.nwocs.ticketbud.com) or from Holder Drug or Graceful Arts Center. Anyone interested in buying a contributor package or tickets can contact Kimberly Weast, chair of the Department of Fine Arts, by email at [kkweast@nwosu.edu](mailto:kkweast@nwosu.edu) or (580) 327-8462.

The reserved seating section at each concert will be held until five minutes prior to the performance.

Stay up-to-date with NWOCS by liking the Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/](http://www.facebook.com/NorthwestOkCS/) or on Twitter at @NorthwestOkCS. Keep an eye out for the hashtag #NWOCS.

The Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series is supported by Northwestern, the Oklahoma Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Charles Morton Share Trust.

was parade marshal Thelma Crouch, former student and retired staff member of Northwestern (1988-2000).



*Thelma Crouch, honorary parade marshal*

After the conclusion of the parade, the winners of the floats and bands were announced.

First place for on-campus floats was Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, second place was Delta Zeta sorority, and third place was Student Government Association.

In the off-campus, non-profit float category first place went to Cherokee Strip Museum, second place went to Alva First Christian Church, and third place went to Pack/Troop 392.

For the off-campus, commercial business float category, first place went to Community Bank and second place to Alva State Bank & Trust Company.

The President's Award for the best overall float went to Community Bank. The Northwestern Alumni Association Ranger Spirit Award for the float depicting exceptional Ranger spirit went to Alva First

Christian Church.

Eleven bands participated in the parade. Bands that placed include the following:

Middle School – Outstanding Drum Line, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale; first place in the marching competition, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale; second, Southwestern Heights; third, Chisholm.

Class 2A High School – Outstanding Color Guard, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale; Outstanding Drum Line, Laverne; first place in the marching competition, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale; second, Laverne; third, Cimarron.

Class 3A High School – Outstanding Drum Line, Alva; first place in the marching competition, Chisholm; second, Alva.

Seven bands in addition to the Northwestern band participated in the massed band performance, bringing the size of the performance to about 350 students.

Northwestern played host to several other activities including the alumni band and the crowning of the

Ranger King and Queen.

This year's Ranger Royalty included Ranger King Sam Gentry, a sophomore undecided major from Corpus Christi, Texas, who was sponsored by the Northwestern football team. He is the son of Marcus and Rebecca Darbonne.

*Continued on page 24*



# Homecoming...

Ranger Queen is Adriana Guel, a junior social work major from Los Angeles, California, who was sponsored by Chartwells Dining Services. She is the daughter of Ruben and Maria Guel.

Payton Scott of Newkirk was crowned Freshman Queen during the Ranger Royalty Finalist banquet. The agriculture business major is the daughter of Eddy and Tracey Scott.

Winner of the Northwestern homecoming button drawing for the \$500 Alva Chamber Bucks was Errin Donaldson of Elk City. Her sister, Allysa Donaldson, is a freshman psychology major at Northwestern. Northwestern's on-campus activities had a great turnout of decorations that showed Ranger spirit.

First place for the on-campus Paint Palooza Board Competition was the Castle Players Theatre Troupe with the Math Club taking second place.

The winner of the residence hall decoration contest was Fryer Hall.

The winning window/door display went to the Office for Student Success and Retention, and the J.W. Martin Library placed

second.

Northwestern's Homecoming Committee had a drawing incentive for button salespersons where two winners could take home \$50 in Chamber Bucks. The winner of the drawing for button salespersons for on-campus sales was Angelia Case, academics projects assistant and media specialist for Northwestern, and the winner for off-campus sales was Baylei Hada.

"Thank you to everyone who sold and purchased Northwestern homecoming buttons and to those merchants who provided incentives to be used with these buttons," Karen Koehn, Homecoming button chair, said. "The excitement in the air around Homecoming continues to make my heart and hopefully yours, jump just a little bit. This is a great community, and the support you invest in our university's homecoming is heartwarming. Homecoming festivities are only successful when the entire community comes together to make it work. You continue to inspire me and restate my favorite saying, 'Lucky me...I live in Alva, OK!'"

Homecoming is a community effort, and the homecoming committee is grateful to everyone who made the week and official homecoming day a success.

"Mother nature gave Alva a break on Saturday from the bad weather for the parade and all of the

other festivities," said Dr. David Pecha, homecoming chairman and vice president for administration. "Thanks to all of the friends and alumni of Northwestern for their continued support of homecoming. The committee has already started work for Homecoming 2020!"

Homecoming 2020 is set for Oct. 10, 2020. Be watching for a contest to open during the spring semester to enter ideas for next year's homecoming theme and parade marshal. Until then, a web page has been established for people to enter the competition at [www.nwsu.edu/homecoming](http://www.nwsu.edu/homecoming). The homecoming committee will consider all entries and make an announcement of the new theme and parade marshal during the spring semester.

Photos from the homecoming events can be found at <https://nwsuhomecoming.shutterstock.com/>.



Ranger Royalty flower girl Sutton Hansen (front left) and crown bearer Watson Burdick (front right) escorted Sam Gentry and Adriana Guel, who were crowned Ranger King and Queen during Northwestern's Homecoming halftime event. Freshman Queen Payton Scott (back left) was named in an earlier on-campus ceremony and joined the group for the halftime event.



# Northwestern plays host to Alva Teach Oklahoma students

Northwestern played host to seven Alva High School students for the high school's "Teach Oklahoma" course.

Teach Oklahoma was designed to mentor high school students about teaching and provide a fundamental knowledge about the teaching profession in Oklahoma. The course is supported through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

The Alva High School Teach Oklahoma students were greeted on campus by Northwestern teacher candidates. A "Kahoots" contest was held that consisted of the Teach Oklahoma students responding to questions regarding Northwestern's teacher preparation program and facts about Northwestern. The top three scores from the contest were awarded Northwestern t-shirts. This was followed by a lunch during which the students and Northwestern teacher candidates engaged in discussion about the teaching profession. Tim Argo, Alva Public Schools superintendent, and Halah Simon, Alva High School language arts educator, joined the participants for lunch.

The seven high school students included Rachel Bratton, Kade Flores, Arek Greve, Isaac Hartle, Delaney Lambert, Tara Owen and Megan Pharis.

This is the first of three events for the Teach Oklahoma students during the 2019-2020 school year, all of which are sponsored by a grant the Northwestern Division of Education received from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education, chair to the Division of Education and associate dean of the School of Education, understands and believes in the importance of students actively learning and getting hands-on experience, especially in the teaching field.

"The Teach Oklahoma program is more critical than ever in light of the teacher shortage not only

in Oklahoma but across the nation," Jenlink said. "The program provides immersive experiences for high school students who are considering a career in teaching. With Northwestern's history of excellence in teacher preparation, having the Alva students visit the campus to experience the program complements the work that is occurring in the Teach Oklahoma course at Alva High School."

Northwestern's teacher education program, which is housed in the Division of Education, is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and approved by the Commission for Educational Quality and Accountability (CEOA).

For more information about Northwestern's teaching programs contact Jenlink at (580) 327-8450 or [cljenlink@nwsu.edu](mailto:cljenlink@nwsu.edu).



*Alva High School Teach Oklahoma students visited Northwestern Oklahoma State University's campus to learn more about the teacher preparation program. Back Row (left to right) Trey Allen, Arek Greve, Rachel Bratton, Rylie Wakefield, Isaac Hartle, Elise Foss; Front Row (left to right) Kade Flores, Delaney Lambert, Tara Owen, Marckee Belliston and Megan Pharis.*



*Dr. Leslie Collins presented to educators from universities, colleges, and practice arenas in nursing, dental, law, veterinarian, pharmacy, and medical in June. Her presentation "Accreditation Categories: A Road Map to Success," spoke about a unique way to use ExamSoft items to ensure end-of-program student learning outcomes were being met through examinations. This content showed how these items were used at NWSU Nursing to strengthen the outcomes data that lead to continuing accreditation for the BSN programs. In October, Dr. Collins spoke at the Oklahoma Nurses Association conference in Norman. She presented content on interventions for decreasing incivility in all areas of nursing. The interactive presentation taught nurses how to have a toolkit for addressing uncivil behaviors.*



*Eleven DNP students attended the Residency Week during the summer. Students validated their physical assessment skills, learned common office procedures such as suturing, knee injection, and how to do Pap smears. Gina Stafford of the Oklahoma Board of*



*Nursing was a great speaker, explaining legalities related to being an advanced practice nurse in Oklahoma. On Tuesday afternoon, students participated in a roundtable featuring DNP-prepared nurse practitioners. These students start their clinicals in spring of 2020.*

## Northwestern Oklahoma State University United Fund Week

October 21 – Hamburgers & Hotdogs  
October 23 – Taco Stack  
October 29 – Frito Chili Pie

Each Event is from  
11:00AM – 2:00PM &  
5:00PM – 8:00PM

Help Support the United Fund

The United Fund provides grants to 10 local organizations including:

Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of Western Oklahoma, Kid's Inc., Legal Aid of Oklahoma, Northwest Oklahoma Literacy Council, Panhandle Nutrition Services, Red Cross of Northwest Oklahoma, Salvation Army, Woodward Senior Center, and Woodward Arts & Theater Council.

*Baskets sponsored by WLAB (Woodward Leadership Advisory Board), Dr. Fisher, Kristin, and Emmy...Basket drawings October 30.*

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**

December 9 at 11:08 AM · 🌐

...

Aaron Murphy with Skyland Grain brought a "sprayer simulator" to an #NWSU agriculture class so students could experience what it's like to maneuver the piece of equipment through traffic, navigate fields and spray crops in a variety of realistic scenarios while sitting on a hydraulic seat with controls that look and operate like a real sprayer. Murphy also talking about employment opportunities with the company and student internships.

Skyland Grain LLC operates locations in south central and southwest Kansas, eastern Colorado and northwest Oklahoma.

puts out fertilizers and agri-chemicals and that kind of thing.

# All job seekers welcomed at campus fair

Employers seeking employees had an opportunity to go right to the source by attending the fall 2019 Career, Internship and Grad Fair at Northwestern Oklahoma State University-Alva on, Nov. 13.

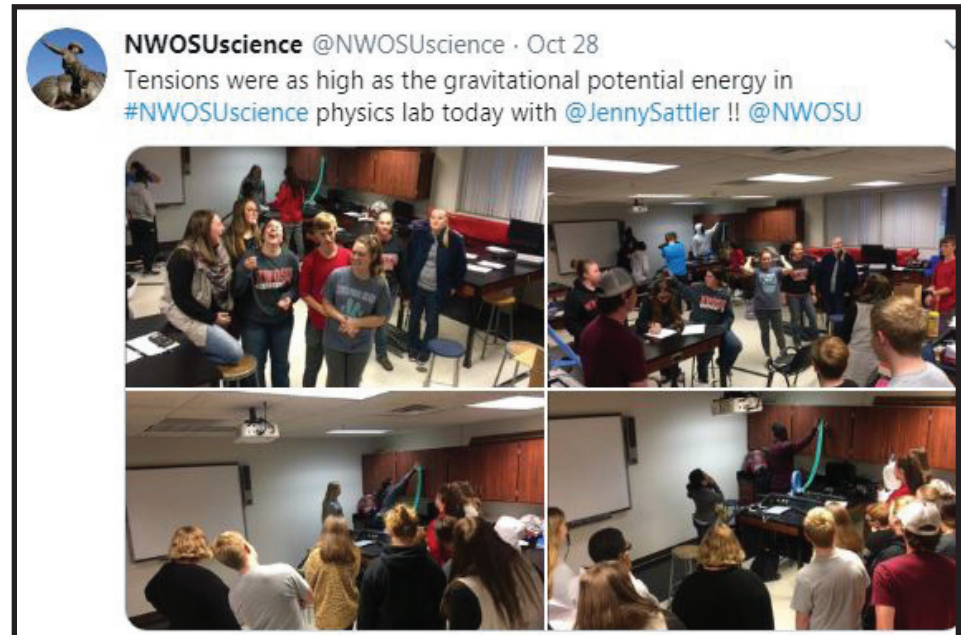
Northwestern students, as well as any job seekers, were welcome to attend the fair.

Organizations attending were BancCentral, Choose Tulsa, Great Salt Plains Health Center, Northwest Center for Behavioral Health, Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Paycom, Sedgwick County Corrections, Skyland Grain, LLC; Transworld Business Advisors of OKC SW; USDA/FSA; USDA/NRCS; Vantage Associates, Plane Plastics.

Taylor Wilson, director of counseling and career services, encouraged job seekers to stop by her office in Fine Arts 209 if they need assistance. She may

be reached at [tawilson@nwosu.edu](mailto:tawilson@nwosu.edu). schedule an appointment visit [www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services](http://www.nwosu.edu/student-services/office-of-career-services).

For more information or to



**NWOSUscience** @NWOSUscience · Oct 28

Tensions were as high as the gravitational potential energy in #NWOSUscience physics lab today with @JennySattler !! @NWOSU



**Northwestern Oklahoma State University - Woodward Campus** is with Brooke Handke and 3 others.

August 23 · 🌐

#NWOSU Division of Nursing White Coat Ceremony!!! Congratulations !!!

Northwestern OK St U  
@NWOSU

Hundreds of elementary school children are making their way to campus today and Friday to see the @NWOSUTheatre production of "The Coloring Book." The public will have an opportunity to attend on Saturday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m. All tickets are \$1.25.

NWOSU Theatre to present the children's play  
**"The Coloring Book"**  
by Bradley Walton  
Herod Hall Auditorium - Alva  
Admission - \$1.25  
**Open to the public Nov. 23 - 2 p.m.**  
Elementary students from Alva and the area will be attending shows on Nov. 21-22 at 10 a.m. & 1 p.m.

# Hardaway featured in national publication articles

Dr. Roger Hardaway, professor of history at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, recently has been featured in articles published by three major national publications.

ROUTE Magazine asked Hardaway to discuss Nat Love, who was a 19th century working cowboy throughout the American West for several years.

USA Today interviewed Hardaway on general African-American cowboy culture from the beginnings of the western cattle industry through modern-day rodeo performances. The article focused on the interest that has been generated by the most successful popular song of the year, “Old Town Road” by rapper Lil Nas X. The article was not only available to readers of USA Today but also in numerous affiliated major newspapers such as the Indianapolis Star, Shreveport Times, El Paso Times and Arizona Republic.

Hardaway appears throughout a documentary film produced by the Christian Science Monitor and is

featured on the publication’s digital issue. The film looks at “trail rides” by modern-day African-Americans that occur regularly to commemorate the contributions of black cowboys to American history. Participants ride horses on excursions that last from one to several days. The documentary is available for viewing on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omwZUUN2tj4>.

“One of the more interesting topics I have researched is that of African-American cowboys,” Hardaway said. “That was the focus of each interview I had with these three publications.”

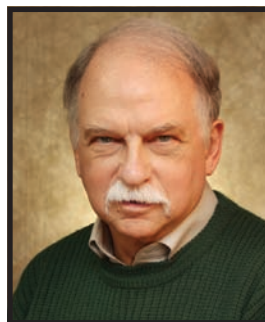
This is not the first time that Hardaway has been asked to discuss his research in major media productions. In 2017 he was quoted as an expert on black cowboys in the Smithsonian and Pacific Standard magazines, and in 2018 he was featured on a radio documentary

produced by Switzerland’s national radio network. He has also been cited as an authority on African-Americans in the American West in numerous other publications including the Dallas Morning News, Seattle Times, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Los Angeles Times, Milwaukee Independent, Grand Forks Herald and The Chronicle of Higher Education.

One of Hardaway’s journal articles about African-American cowboys was recently reprinted in a book published by the University of Oklahoma Press. Another has been prominently displayed for several years on the website of the Public Broadcasting System in conjunction with its series called “Texas Ranch House.”

Hardaway, who has been a Northwestern faculty member since 1990, is often cited as an expert on

*Continued to page 31*



Roger Hardaway



# Marching band has busy season

The marching band performed at six games this year, and learned three halftime shows and a pre-game.

This year's pre-game featured the music of Dr. Who. The halftime show for the first two games was "Rock in Various Forms." It featured Taylor Swift's "Shake It Off," "Party Rock Anthem," and Skillet's "Monster."

The homecoming show featured the music of Fall Out Boy, which included the songs "Light Em Up," "Uma Thurman," and "Centuries."

This year's homecoming festivities also involved 13 bands consisting of over 500 students from across northwest Oklahoma and Kansas. There were a total of 13 bands marching in the parade, and the "massed band" had over 300 students participating in the pre-game performance, which featured

the song "Cool Kids."

The final show was a "Tribute to the Music of Queen." For the Queen show the band performed "Fat Bottomed Girls," "Crazy Little Thing Called Love," and "Don't Stop Me Now."

The final show was learned in the practice gym, because it was too cold

in the morning to practice outside. (It was so cold that the group had valves and slides freezing! Some instruments had icicles forming on them!)

The marching band and jazz band finished the year with the Christmas Gala.



*The marching band finished the fall semester in style as a part of the annual Holiday Gala. The jazz band and choirs also performed at the event.*



*Alyssa Mitchell performs on flute as part of the Ranger marching band.*



*More than 300 students from area high schools participated in the Homecoming massed band. More than 500 students from 13 bands participated in the Homecoming parade.*

*Continued from page 30*

## Hardaway...

the history of African-Americans who have lived in the American West. He has written three books and several journal articles on the subject. In addition, he has presented relevant papers at several academic conferences in both Europe and North America.



# Dignity Drive benefits Enid YWCA

The Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) organization and Psychology club organized and accepted donations for personal hygiene products as part of the “Compassion in Action Dignity Drive” at all Northwestern locations through November.

“Being a part of the SWAT Dignity Drive allows social work majors to employ a community service project while also supporting a local service agency,” Morgan Lopez, social work senior and SWAT president for the Woodward campus, said. “This year we have been able to partner with the Psychology Club, which has enabled SWAT to encompass other helping professions in our mission to provide basic needs to vulnerable populations.”

This year SWAT and the Woodward and Enid Psychology clubs gathered donations for the YWCA located in Enid. The YWCA provides emergency crisis-

intervention services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. These services also include an emergency shelter for survivors of domestic violence.

Items donated included shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, feminine hygiene products, diapers, baby hygiene products, lice kits, body

lotion, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss and other personal care items.

For more information concerning the Compassion in Action Dignity Drive, contact Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work and director of field experience, in Enid at (580) 213-3148 or [jlpribble@nwsu.edu](mailto:jlpribble@nwsu.edu).



Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus  
November 9

The #NWOSU chapter of the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) organization and Psychology club are accepting donations for personal hygiene products as part of the “Compassion in Action Dignity Drive” at all Northwestern locations until Dec. 1. <http://bit.ly/33qKY2y>

**COMPASSION IN ACTION DIGNITY DRIVE**  
Personal hygiene products for vulnerable populations in Enid

Accepted Donations to Enid (Oklahoma):

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Diapers
- Soap & Deodorant
- Lice Kits
- Baby Hygiene Products
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Body Lotion
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
- Dental Floss
- Etc...

**ACCEPTING DONATIONS UNTIL DECEMBER 1ST!**

Each donation gets an entry to win this NWOSU SWAG BAG!

**DONATION BOXES ARE LOCATED ON THE ENID AND WOODWARD CAMPUSES IN THE BUSINESS OFFICES AND IN ALVA IN THE HOUSING OFFICE**

Sponsored by NWOSU Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) and Enid and Woodward Psychology Club. questions? contact SWAT sponsor Jennifer Pribble at [jpribble@nwsu.edu](mailto:jpribble@nwsu.edu)

Northwestern OK St U  
@NWOSU

Two student events today! 📖 **Banned Book Reading at 5:30 in the Ranger Room.** 🎨 **Artist-in-Residence Talk & Workshop at 6 in Jesse Dunn Art Annex, Room 324.**

**BANNED BOOK READING**  
October 30  
5:30 PM  
Located in the Ranger Room

WELCOME to NWOSU AIR Ashley Freinberg  
**Ashley Freinberg Artist Talk**  
from 6-7 PM  
Ashley will discuss her studio practice, process, influences, and body of work.

**Collage & Mixed-Media Workshop**  
from 7-9 PM  
Lead by NWOSU AIR Ashley Freinberg  
Free and open to all ages and skill levels!  
Cut, paste and glue to construct a colorful, fall-themed collage while learning to utilize mixed media techniques to further enhance the texture of your piece. Materials provided.

WHEN: **Wed, Oct. 30th @ 6-9 PM**  
WHERE: **JESSE DUNN ART ANNEX, ROOM 324**

FINE ARTS NWOSU AIR



## Alumni updates reported by nursing department

Karlea (Pearson) Irvin (2014) is a Practical Nursing Instructor at NW Technology and is in her third semester of her Master's in Nursing Education program.

Chelsea (Courcy) Randall (2016) is working in the Level 1 Trauma Unit at John Peter Smith Hospital at Ft. Worth, TX

Megan Cansler (2016) is currently in a NP program and working at Seiling Hospital and Dr. Duffy's Clinic

ShiAnne (Cook) Farris (2013) has began her DO education at the OSU School of Medicine

Remember to submit your department's news for the next newsletter!  
<https://www.nwosu.edu/forms/submit-news-to-spotlight>

Northwestern OK St U @NWOSU

Student event coming up tomorrow!  
 Nov. 19-Game Night hosted by #NWOSU Spanish Club at 6:30 in the Ranger Room.

B	I	N	G	O
13	29	38	51	●
4	20	32	●	65
7	19	●	55	70
10	●	34	46	72

COMING SOON

**COME AND JOIN SPANISH CLUB FOR A GAME NIGHT.**

TUESDAY NOV 19.  
 @ 6:30  
 RANGER ROOM.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
 October 31 · 🌐

Ranger Rodeo starts tonight at 7 p.m.! #NWOSU students will have FREE admission with a student ID. Be sure to come support our Northwestern Oklahoma State University Rodeo Team throughout this weekend.

**Ranger Rodeo**  
 Woods County Fairgrounds Indoor Arena  
 October 31-Nov 2  
 7 PM each night

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
 December 13 at 4:49 PM · 🌐

JD Struxness, '18, is currently standing at #1 in the #WNFR! Hazing beside him is Northwestern rodeo coach, Stockton Graves, '02. We are rooting for you, J.D.! Ride, Rangers, Ride #RRR



*Northwestern had three alumni finalists at the March of Dimes Nurse of the Year Awards. Carrie Evans (2012) for the Surgical Services Award; Madison Busby (2015) for the Critical Care Award; and Christi Erford (2016) for the Nurse Educator Award.*



*Rachel Mock (2018) was featured in the Oklahoma Nursing Times for her work at Mercy Hospital Logan County. Read more: <https://oknursingtimes.com/031215/serving-communities/>*

## *Wells represents Oklahoma at national ANA convention*

In June, Dr. Shelly Wells along with three other Oklahoma nursing leaders represented Oklahoma Nurses at the American Nurses Association's Annual Membership Assembly in Washington DC.

The ANA Membership Assembly is the governing and official voting body of the American Nurses Association (ANA). It identifies and discusses issues of concern to members and provides direction to the ANA Board of Directors. One of the key responsibilities of the ANA Membership Assembly is to determine policy and positions for the Association.

The meeting of the ANA Membership Assembly provides a forum for discussion of critical nursing practice and policy issues and input from a broad cross section of nursing leaders.

This year's Membership Assembly dealt with several bylaws changes and board officer elections as well addressed policy issues including Compliance with Vaccinations, Human Trafficking, DACA Recipients and their ineligibility to take the NCLEX exam in 42 states (Oklahoma does allow DACA recipients to take the NCLEX and obtain a nursing license), and the Visibility of Nurses in the Media. The Assembly also voted to develop an ad hoc committee to study the issue of nurse suicide in the United States.



*Dr. Shelly Wells, left, along with other Oklahoma nursing leaders represent Oklahoma nurses while at the American Nurses Association Annual Membership Assembly in Washington D.C.*

**Northwestern OK St U**  
@NWOSU

Our students placed second today at the Oklahoma Statewide Student Ethics Challenge sponsored by the SEED foundation. Students participating are Morgan Phillips, Callie Campbell, Chelsi Bond, and Kelli Dollarhide. Congratulations! #NWOSU

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University- Woodward Campus**  
October 21 · 🌐

Education students from Northwestern Oklahoma State University met with students from Mrs. Love's class at Woodward Public Schools in collaboration of the program Teach Oklahoma. #RRR #NWOSU

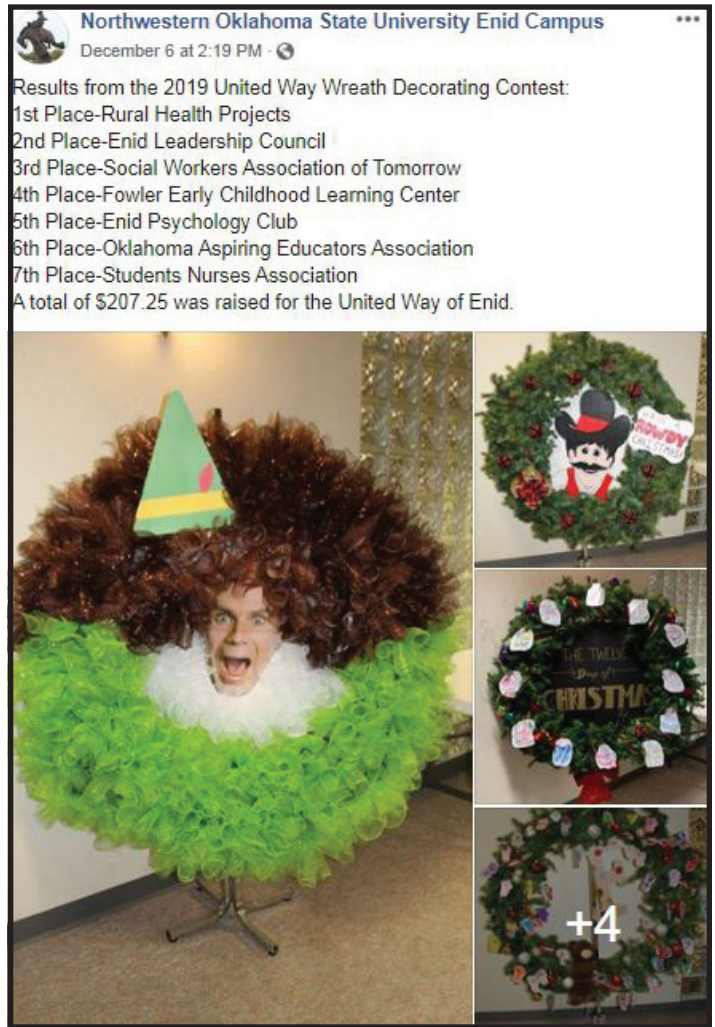
# Social work faculty members attend NASW state conference

Northwestern Oklahoma State University social work faculty recently attended the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) 44th annual Oklahoma state conference held at the Sheraton Reed Conference Center in Midwest City.

The opening address was presented by Oklahoma's first lady Sarah Stitt, who addressed mental health concerns and the importance of the social work profession.

NASW is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world, with 132,000 members. NASW works to enhance the professional growth and development of its members, to create and maintain professional standards, and to advance sound social policies.

*Kylene Rehder (left) and Jennifer Pribble (right) are pictured with Oklahoma's first lady, Sarah Stitt, while attending the National Association of Social Workers 44th annual Oklahoma state conference.*



We wish you all a restful break and the happiest of holidays!



# Campus Cabinet food pantry expanding to Woodward campus

By Mitchell Willetts

Enid News & Eagle

<https://www.enidnews.com/>

ALVA, Okla. — Established just one semester ago at its flagship Alva campus, Northwestern Oklahoma State University's food pantry program has doubled in use, and the college is looking to expand the program to its other locations.

When the Campus Cabinet opened in January, it averaged between three to five visitors per weekly Wednesday opening, coordinator Angelia Case said. The number has been closer to 10 or 11 in the weeks since the fall semester started, and according to the university, 879 pounds of food, hygiene products and bedding have been distributed to students and staff.

"I see people who are here wanting to better themselves and it's taking all the resources they have just to be here, pay their tuition, get their books, and they don't have a lot left," Case said.

Need is clearly there, she said. It's hard put a number on it, though the university tried in spring 2018 with a campus survey.

Nearly half of NWOSU-Alva's students said there had been times at school when they didn't have enough food, and 50 percent said they knew somebody in such a situation.

Clientele is increasing, and Case credits more awareness of the program among faculty and the student body. Often, first-timers to the Campus Cabinet arrive after encouragement from coaches and instructors, she said.

There is no need to prove financial hardship for registration, only proof of enrollment for students or proof of employment for staff.

According to a 2018 USDA study, 15.6 percent of Oklahomans were defined as food insecure, meaning

they had limited or unreliable access to food for financial reasons. Oklahoma was one of 12 states above the national average of 11.1 percent.

Northwestern's Woodward campus is preparing to launch a pantry of its own, a move nudged along by members of the NWOSU Single Parent Support Network, SPSN coordinator Kristin Mravinec said.

"Our single parents thought a food pantry would be a good way to help and support students in need," she said.

To get things off the ground, the Woodward campus will be accepting non-perishable food donations throughout October.

"Northwestern Oklahoma State University cares about the well-being of our students, whether it's intellectual, emotional, mental or physical," Deena Fisher, Woodward campus dean, said. "Having a safety net when it comes to basic human needs is one way that we can help our students."

Enid has talked about instituting a similar program, dean Wayne McMillin said. But if the campus does decide to follow Alva's example, it is uncertain at this point when it will do so.

"We are just in the preliminary stages," McMillin said. "There are plans to have a cabinet here in Enid and to try and have something similar on a smaller scale on our campus."

However, he said, while it has proven "wildly popular" in Alva, there are unique factors to be considered in Enid.

"Because of the services provided in the community, our situation is a little different. We have Loaves & Fishes and things like that readily available," he said. "Sometimes you



Helping to fill a food request order at the Northwestern Campus Cabinet food pantry are Taylor Dowling, Alva senior majoring in computer science; Marisella Perez, Oklahoma City freshman, nursing; and Iris Irish, Carnegie freshman, nursing. Several Northwestern students are volunteering to help this semester.

don't want to get too gung ho about it when there are already services and you don't want to duplicate them."

The degree of need is uncertain, McMillin said. How well needs are being met by already established resources in the community is uncertain. So, it is also uncertain how much use a food pantry at NWOSU's Enid campus would see.

"Is there a need for it? Maybe we should be investigating that and then move forward with our plans," he said.

Campus Cabinet opens 5-7 p.m. every Wednesday in Shockley Hall, room 108, at NWOSU-Alva. Registration forms and additional information is available at [www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet](http://www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet).

# Wells named March of Dimes top nurse in education

Dr. Shelly Wells, chair of Northwestern's Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing, was selected Nurse of the Year in Education recently at the March of Dimes' 10th annual Nurse of the Year Award ceremonies in Norman.

The March of Dimes presented 17 awards to nurses who exemplify an extraordinary level of patient care, compassion and customer service in their respective disciplines.

"Winning this award is a huge honor," Wells said. "It serves as recognition and appreciation for the work I have accomplished throughout my nursing career."

Wells began her career 36 years ago at Graceland College in Iowa. After she earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in nursing, she completed her Master of Science, Master of Business Administration, and Doctor of Philosophy in nursing from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She has experience working in emergency rooms, intensive care units, and cardiac units. She has also been a product line manager of the Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Specialties at a Level I trauma center. Before coming to Northwestern, she served as associate dean for the graduate programs at Graceland University and assistant dean for clinical and community affairs for the University of Oklahoma College of Nursing Tulsa campus.

"Dr. Wells is a great asset to our Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing, and we are so proud of her accomplishment," Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, said. "Winning this award

is a testament to the dedication and commitment Dr. Wells has established in our program at Northwestern."

Dr. Wells enjoys working with students at all different phases of their career and watching them grow into valued nursing professionals.

"At Northwestern I get to interact with students before they become licensed as Registered Nurses as well as Registered Nurses coming back to complete their bachelor's degrees," Wells said. "With the BSN-to-DNP program, I get to work with nurses who want to advance their careers and serve as primary care providers in their home communities. We have such a shortage of primary care providers in Oklahoma that they are stepping up to fill a huge need."

Serving as health care providers, educators, researchers, volunteers and advisers, nurses play a critical role in advancing the mission of the March of Dimes, which is to improve the health of all babies by preventing birth defects,

premature birth and infant mortality. The Nurse of the Year initiative supports the mission while recognizing exceptional nurses through the region, celebrating the profession and creating awareness of the strides made in this growing field.

A selection committee of health care professionals reviewed the nominees and narrowed the field to 51 finalists among 17 categories. Nurses had to be an RN or higher and be employed in the state of Oklahoma to be eligible.

For more information about Northwestern's nursing programs contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or scwells@nwosu.edu.



Shelly Wells



# 14th annual Ranger Research Day winners announced

Northwestern's Alva campus played host to the 14th annual Ranger Research Day in the Student Center Ballroom, where 28 projects were entered with 47 participants



*Milissa Britt won first place in the Psychology category of poster presentations on her research topic, "Is Social Media Usage Redefining the Expression of Intimacy?"*

having the opportunity to display, share and discuss their research with peers, professors and the Alva community.

Graduate and undergraduate students created poster presentations of academic research projects conducted in one of their classes. All presenters are encouraged to attend Oklahoma Research Day on March 6, 2020, which Southwestern Oklahoma State University will host in Weatherford. Registration for Oklahoma Research Day opened Dec. 2. Students can register at [www.oklahomaresearchday.com](http://www.oklahomaresearchday.com).

Student poster entries were critiqued and eligible for awards. Winners with classification, hometown, research project name and sponsor include:

Psychology category first place went to Milissa Britt, graduate student from Columbus, Kansas, for

her project titled "Is Social Media Usage Redefining the Expression of Intimacy?" Dr. Jason Ferrell, assistant professor of psychology and chair of the psychology department, was Britt's sponsor.

Second place for psychology went to Cally Winburn, graduate student from Enid, for her project titled "The Effects of Social Support on Individuals with Bipolar Disorder." Ferrell was Winburn's sponsor.

Third place for psychology went to Jerod Clark, senior psychology major from Enid, for his project titled, "Slow: Children at Play' Traffic Signs & Effects on Driver's Speed." Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology, was Clark's sponsor.

Honorable mention for psychology went to Caitlin Jacobs, senior psychology major from Kiowa, Kansas, for her project titled "Circadian Rhythm and Stress." Randolph was Jacob's sponsor.

Nursing category first place went to a group of nursing majors

-- Jessellen Frantz, Pawnee senior; Briana French, Enid senior; and Kaitlin Jones, Winona, Minnesota, senior -- for their project titled "Spirituality in End-of-Life Care." Dr. Krista Tilley, assistant professor of nursing, was their sponsor.

Second place in nursing went to a second group of nursing majors -- Brooke Handke, Tulsa post-graduate; Amy Kleinvachter, West Salem, Wisconsin, post-graduate; Tasha Swallow, Alva senior; and Joni R. Welch, Sigler junior -- for their project titled "Effect of Baccalaureate Degree Nurse vs. Associate Degree Nurse on Patient Outcomes." Dr. Leslie Collins, assistant professor of nursing and assistant chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing, was their sponsor.

Third place in nursing went to a third group of nursing majors -- Clarissa Coble, Ponca City senior;



*(Left to Right) Briana French, Kaitlin Jones and Jessellen Frantz won first place in the Nursing category of poster presentations for their project titled "Spirituality in End-of-Life Care."*

Krystyn Hawkes, Ponca City post-graduate; and Anabel Segovia, La Joya, Texas, senior -- for their project

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Continued from page 38

## Research day...

titled “Art Therapy in Oncology Patients.” Dr. Nikole Hicks, associate professor of nursing, was their sponsor.

Honorable mention for nursing went to a fourth group of nursing majors -- Julia F. Buckingham, Alva senior; Carlie Edstrom, Wilmington senior; and Tiana Young-Mauchly, Pearl City, Hawaii, senior – for their project titled “Visitation Restrictions in the Adult ICU.” Dr. Mary Brune, assistant professor of nursing, was their sponsor.

Holliday said he believes students and community members who are interested in pursuing a graduate degree should participate in Ranger Research Day as well as Oklahoma Research Day because research is an integral part of graduate studies.

For more information on Ranger Research Day, visit [www.nwosu.edu/ranger-research-day](http://www.nwosu.edu/ranger-research-day) or contact Holliday at (580) 327-8589 or [spholliday@nwosu.edu](mailto:spholliday@nwosu.edu).



# Students, faculty raise funds for Extra Life during livestream

The Computer Science program once again sponsored a 24-hour livestream to raise funds for Extra Life on Friday, Dec. 6, and 7 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7.

Members of the program gathered in the Bill and Billie Buckles Computer Science and Robotics Labs in Shockley Hall to play a mix of video games as well as a few group activities while live broadcasting the whole event on Twitch. A few teachers from various departments stopped by as well.

On Saturday there was a Super Smash Brothers Ultimate tournament open to anyone of any age. A prize for first place was awarded.

As the students worked in teams and as solo players, their goal was to generate content to be watched during the livestream as viewers gave donations. Students played games such as League of Legends, Fortnite, Rocket League, Super Smash Brothers Ultimate, Jackbox Party and others for the duration of the livestream.

All funds raised went through Extra Life to the Children's Hospital Foundation of Oklahoma City.

The livestream tune was available at: [https://www.twitch.tv/nwosu\\_esports](https://www.twitch.tv/nwosu_esports). There was a link to donate at this location.

Extra Life unites thousands of gamers around the world to play games in support of their local Children's Miracle Network Hospital. Since its inception in 2008, Extra Life has raised more than \$50 million for sick and injured kids.

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals raise funds and awareness

for 170 member hospitals that provide 32 million treatments each year to kids across the U.S. and Canada. Donations stay local to fund critical treatments and healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment and charitable care.

From the past four livestream

charity events, Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science, estimates the students have raised approximately \$2,000 benefitting two separate charities.

For more information about Northwestern's Computer Science program, contact Vaverka at (580) 327-8587 or [epvaverka@nwosu.edu](mailto:epvaverka@nwosu.edu).





# 10th annual Holiday Store, Photos with Santa event a success

The 10th annual Holiday Gift Store for Kids and Photos with Santa event was held on campus Saturday, Dec. 14.

Members of the NWOSU Art Society partnered with members of the Delta Zeta sorority to bring this fun event to children and their families in the area.

Delta Zeta now runs the gift store that will continue to provide inexpensive gift items for children to purchase for their loved ones, friends, teachers and even pets.

“Delta Zeta members are not new to helping at the store as they have volunteered with us for several years,” Angelia Case, Art Society sponsor, said. “It was only natural for us to ask them if they would like to take over the leadership of the store part of this event while the Art Society members continue to offer Photos with Santa right next door.”

Delta Zeta members are thankful for the opportunity and continue to look forward to having a larger part in the event.

“Delta Zeta is so excited to be taking on the Christmas store,”

Jessica Wildman, Pocasset junior serving as Delta Zeta president, said. “We are thankful for the opportunity and hope to see it grow. We are looking forward to this amazing opportunity to provide Christmas to a child’s family and to let us continue growing in the community.

“We would like to thank the Art Society for providing us this opportunity and are hopeful to continue to work closely with them in the future,” Wildman added.

Delta Zeta members and other

volunteers helped the children shop and stay within their budget. The children then received help in getting the gifts wrapped and ready to take home.

While children and families waited to go in the store, they could take advantage of a visit with Santa Claus and have photos taken with him.



*Kasen Wilson gives Santa his letter.*



*Waylon Hankins picks out just the right gift.*



*Members of the NWOSU Art Society and friends and Delta Zeta teamed up to present the 10th Annual Holiday Store and Photos for Santa this year in the Student Center.*

*Dedication ceremony held in November*

# Fine Arts is renamed Ryerson Hall

Northwestern's Fine Arts Building was officially renamed Ryerson Hall during an outdoor dedication ceremony on Friday, Nov. 15, 2019, at noon.

Northwestern welcomed the community to the ceremony to honor Richard Ryerson and family for their dedication to make improvements on campus.

"I've visited the building many times with my involvement on campus and time served as a Regent with the Regional University System of Oklahoma," Ryerson said. "My interest in restoring historic buildings made me want to do something to help give a facelift to this structure."

Thanks to Ryerson, the oldest academic building on campus received renovations including new windows, new exterior doors, tuck pointing and the current remodeling of four bathrooms.

Ryerson is an active donor to the university, establishing an endowed chair, creating many scholarships, helping to create the entrance signage, and, most recently, upgrading the chime system on Alva's campus.

"This building is a focal point on our campus and many students, staff,

*Continued on page 43*

*Dr. Cunningham gives her remarks during the renaming and dedication ceremony of Ryerson Hall.*



*Many friends of Northwestern and Ryerson family members and friends gather.*



**The big moment, unveiling the new name, Ryerson Hall.**

*Continued from page 42*

## Ryerson Hall...

and faculty walk these halls every day,” said Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president. “We are very grateful to the Ryerson family for making this commitment to revitalize our new and improved Ryerson Hall.”

The project is currently in its final phases.



*Richard Ryerson and Julia Witherington (left) look on as John Ryerson (left) addresses the crowd assembled for the dedication of the newly named Ryerson Hall.*



# Ranger band buys new trailer

What may be the biggest news for the year within the band program is the new band trailer!

The band outgrew its previous trailer, which is a good problem to have. They were fortunate to have donors step forward and contribute more than the target amount of \$13,000. The band had close to \$14,000 donated by the time the marching season was complete.

With the donated funds, they were able to purchase the trailer and get it wrapped in vinyl. Next, shelving will be installed in the spring. With the extra money, the band is looking into the possibility of painting the old trailer in order to use it for the jazz band.

The students are thrilled to have the trailer. It's an exciting time to be a member of the Ranger Band Program!



*The Ranger marching band posed with the brand new trailer, which was purchased with generous donations of band supporters.*

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**

November 22 at 4:45 PM

If you were unable to attend the ceremony to change the name of the Fine Arts Building to Ryerson Hall on Nov. 15, here's a short clip. The full ceremony is available at <https://youtu.be/Tz6ljq4oIVg>. Thank you so much to the Ryerson family. #NWOSU

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University- Woodward**

Campus

November 4

The Woodward #CampusCabinet is open each Wednesday from 5:00PM-7:00PM, located in the Front Office. The Food Pantry is available to assist #NWOSU students and employees in need on a weekly basis.

To fill out forms, please visit: <https://www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet/cc-forms>.

#StudentsHelpingStudents #RRR

## CAMPUS CABINET WOODWARD

A Food Pantry for NWOSU Students & Employees at the Woodward Campus

**When:** Every Wednesday @ 5:00—7:00PM

**Where:** Front Office @ Woodward Campus

For Assistance, Please Contact Kristin Mravinec at  
580-254-2502 [kimravinec@nwosu.edu](mailto:kimravinec@nwosu.edu)

**What We'll Need From You:**

*Needed for First Visit*

- Proof of Enrollment/Employment
- First Time User Application

*Needed for Every Visit*

- Campus Cabinet User Card
- Food Request Form

[www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet](http://www.nwosu.edu/campus-cabinet) [www.facebook.com/campuscabinetnwosu](https://www.facebook.com/campuscabinetnwosu)

**Complete Forms  
Online for  
Faster Service**

The Campus Cabinet (Woodward) is a project organized by the NWOSU Art Society and the NWOSU Single Parent Support Network, with the help of many volunteers.

# Choirs celebrate season with song

The university choirs celebrated the holiday with a performance at Beadles Nursing Home for the residents and particularly for friend and supporter, Donovan Reichenberger.

Caroling on the square was a highlight the choir we also took the opportunity to sing in the beautiful foyer of the old Bell Hotel.

The semester concluded with the annual combined NWOSU Choirs and Bands Holiday Gala Concert. Immediately after the concert, the Chorale sang around the Christmas tree at the old bell tower while Dr. Cunningham and her two grandchildren helped light the tree for the season.

*University Singers take a moment to celebrate the season after singing in the foyer of the Bell Hotel in downtown Alva.*



**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus**  
 December 8 at 10:42 AM · 🌐

Congratulations to all of our NWOSU Enid students participating in the commencement ceremony this afternoon! We are proud of you and can't wait to see what you do next!



**NWOSU Division of Education @NWOSU\_EDUCATION · Nov 10**  
 NWOSU Education leadership ready to begin accreditation visit!

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University- Woodward Campus**  
 December 11 at 11:44 AM · 🌐

#RRR #NWOSU 2019 Fall Graduation Reception Woodward Campus. We are proud of you!



**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus**  
 December 6 at 2:58 PM · 🌐

Last night, the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Enid Campus held the Fall Recognition Ceremony for our Fall 2019 graduates. Congratulations! Formal commencement will be held on Sunday, December 8th at 3:30 PM in Percefull Fieldhouse on the NWOSU Alva Campus.

For more photos from this event or to download print quality photos, please visit our shutterfly account at <https://nwosuenidphotos201920.shutterfly.com/>



# BEST teams compete in Alva competition

High school and middle school students from throughout Oklahoma and Kansas competed in the Northwestern-sponsored Heartland BEST (Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology) robotics game day competition on Nov. 2 at the Alva Recreation Center.

Founded in 1993 by two engineers employed at Texas Instruments, BEST is a national program that encourages middle and high school students to create a robot as a team and compete against different teams around the region and country in a themed obstacle course.

Northwestern has played host to the BEST robotics competition for the past 18 years in Alva, said



*The field setup created by Northwestern's Heartland BEST robotics committee and was used by all the robotics teams at the contest.*

Dr. Timothy Maharry, Heartland BEST steering committee member and chair of the mathematics and computer science department at Northwestern.

Maharry said approximately 250-300 people attend the event, including a merged middle school and high school team from Alva that consists of approximately 20 members. Other schools competing in the event include

Burlington High School, Deer Creek High School, Lawton Academy of Arts and Sciences High School, Leede High School, Pratt [Kansas] High School, Shattuck High School, Wynona High School and Wynona Junior High.

The competition consists of eight rounds with four robots competing at the same time on an obstacle pre-determined by the BEST organization. This year's theme, "Off the Grid," creates a city with power lines destroyed by natural disaster and needing

robots to fix them. The students are given minutes to perform the task quickly and effectively, and the most efficient robot is then promoted to the next round.

Once the ultimate winner from the Heartland BEST competition is selected, the team is taken on to regionals, which take place in Denver, Colorado, the beginning of December.

Northwestern faculty and

Alva community members are involved to make the event a success. Members of the Heartland

BEST Steering committee who host the event include Northwestern faculty Dr. Steve Maier, chair of the natural science department and professor of physics, who serves as the Hub Director; Dr. Mary Riegel, associate professor of mathematics, who serves as the Game Committee Chair; Dr. Jenny Sattler, associate professor of physics,

who serves as the Kit Committee Chair; Maharry, who serves as the Sponsorship and Finance/BEST Award Chair; as well as Keenan Meeker, instructor of mathematics; Dr. Jason Wickham, professor of chemistry; Dr. Roxie James, assistant professor of English; and community members Tom Boren and Amber Maier.

For more information about the event contact Maharry at (580) 327-8583 or [tjmaharry@nwosu.edu](mailto:tjmaharry@nwosu.edu).



*Alva High School student Elisabeth Ridgway and her mom/robotics coach April Ridgway show off the robot used at the annual Northwestern Heartland BEST robotics competition.*



# Jazz band performs on tour, attends Denton concert

The Jazz Band went on tour on November 1 performing at Waukomis, Kremlin-Hillsdale, and Blackwell.

For the tour, the group learned around 45 minutes of music, which is a challenge, since they rehearse only two hours each week.

“I am proud of what this group of students do in such a short amount of time,” director Seth Cudd, director of bands, said. “Our tours are great for recruitment. This is not just recruitment for the band program. Our tours are great for the entire NWOSU campus. We are often able to perform in front of entire schools! As a result, we are recruiting on a large scale!”

The jazz band also traveled to

Denton, Texas on Nov. 26 in order to attend a jazz concert at the University of North Texas. Bari Saxophone player Gary Smulyan performed with the One O’Clock Lab Band.

The University of North Texas is well known as one of the top jazz programs in the world. The “One O’Clock Lab Band” is their top jazz band. The students in that particular band are some of the best jazz musicians in the country. Our students had a lot of fun, and it was an excellent learning experience for them.



NWOSU Jazz Band performing at the Waukomis Band Room



**Ranger Athletics**  
@NWOSUAthletics

VB | @nwosuvolleyball secures their very first GAC Tournament victory behind the season high and game leading attack of Kaydee Honeycutt, with 22 kills! #RRR

5:10 PM · 11/21/19 · ScoreShots Next

# Choirs busy performing, collaborating

The NWOSU Concert Choir, Chorale, and Singers had an excellent fall semester performing and collaborating.

They started the semester off with an All-State high school and Junior High Honor Choir Workshop for high school and junior high singers practicing to audition for these special regional events. Dr. Dee Wilkins from Oklahoma Panhandle State University led the sixty junior high students while Prof. Longhurst led one hundred high school students.

The University Singers took a mini tour to Oklahoma City and



*Dr. Dee Wilkins from Oklahoma Panhandle State University works with 60 junior high students during the All-State workshop held on campus.*

Festival featured 130 singers from the University of North Texas, comprised of the Northwestern Chorale, and the Enid and Woodward High School large choirs. Our guest conductor, Dr. Hall that same evening. Jessica Nápoles



*Dr. Jeffery Wall, choir director at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, works with the University Chorale.*



*Dr. Jessica Napoles, from the University of North Texas, works with students at Holiday Chorale Festival.*

visited seven schools in two days, including Enid High School. Dr. Jeffery Wall, Choir Director at Northeastern Oklahoma State University, worked with the choirs before our fall concert, "Made in the USA," that took place at the First Baptist Church of Alva. The concert featured songs from many musical styles and genres by known and lesser-known American composers and arrangers.

The fourth annual Holiday



*Concert choir performing at the Holiday Gala.*



# Online library and information science minor to begin in spring

Northwestern began offering a new minor, library and information science, to its students in the spring 2020 semester. The minor is open to students of any major and is able to be completed entirely online, consisting of 21 credit hours—15 hours of core courses and six hours of elective classes.

Although the minor may especially appeal to those interested in pursuing an information- or library-related field, the minor is open to everyone and is a valuable asset that matches with a variety of majors, said Shannon Leaper, director of library services and assistant professor of library and information sciences.

“I think when we hear ‘library and information science,’ it’s easy for a person to immediately think of working in a library and that being your major to pursue that field, but it is so much more than that,” Leaper said. “Library and information research is an asset to all majors and degrees because it’s teaching you how to pull and find information, how to analyze it and how to use it.”

Leaper suggested that those with a major in computer science, English, history, mass communication, psychology and social science may find that completing a minor in library and information science is beneficial to their course study. Leaper said the minor takes the student through a series of classes using in-depth technology, research and problem-solving skills to research, find and use information—a skill that is crucial for those, if not all, majors to have.

Leaper, along with Shawna Gilbert, access services librarian and assistant professor of library

science, and Douglas Davidson, research and instructional services librarian and assistant professor of library science, are the faculty who will teach the online classes. Leaper said that although teaching classes will be in addition to their current full-time librarian duties, the faculty are excited and eager to get started.

The first classes to be offered in the spring even-year rotation are information literacy, foundations of library and information science, library public services, organization

of knowledge, and library and information science internship.

Leaper said that although some students may feel it’s too late to add a minor, if interested, they have the possibility of completing it in approximately one year.

For more information about the minor or the library services, contact Leaper at (580) 327-8570 or [seleaper@nwsu.edu](mailto:seleaper@nwsu.edu). More information on the minor also is available at [www.nwsu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/lis](http://www.nwsu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/lis).

The image shows a Facebook post from Northwestern Oklahoma State University, dated 22 hours ago. The post text reads: "Get a minor in Library & Information Sciences completely online at #NWSU by starting with classes in spring 2020! Classes begin Jan. 13, 2020, so get enrolled today! Read more at: <http://bit.ly/2PQ1I6X>". Below the post is a promotional graphic for the "ONLINE Library & Information Sciences Minor starting in Spring 2020 at NWSU!". The graphic features a laptop keyboard in the background and text that says "21 credit hours - all available ONLINE!". It also includes the website "www.nwsu.edu/school-of-arts-and-sciences/lis" and the date "NWSU classes begin Jan. 13, 2020". The Northwestern Oklahoma State University logo is in the bottom right corner of the graphic.

# Employees honored for years of service

Northwestern's employees were honored during the 16th annual Employee Service Recognition Ceremony Nov. 19-20. Ceremonies took place in Alva and Enid to honor employees who work at Alva, Enid and Woodward campus locations.

Dr. Ramona Bartlow, assistant professor of nursing, was awarded the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award during the annual ceremony. Nominations for the award are made by faculty, staff and students, then the recipient is determined by a selection committee. To be selected, the recipient must be a full-time faculty member at Northwestern and exemplify distinguished teaching and administrative leadership.

Kristin Mravinec, administrative assistant in the dean's office at the Woodward campus, was named the Thelma Crouch Staff Employee of the Year. This award was established to recognize exceptional performance and/or service by a member of the Northwestern staff. The recipient of this award shows dedication to Northwestern and its students. The Student Government Association accepts nominations for this award and then determines the recipient.

Employees who were honored for their years of service are listed by name and job title:

Five-year service recognition: Dr. Richmond Adams, assistant professor of English; Jana Brown, instructor of history; Melissa Brown, graduate studies coordinator and

Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice administrative assistant; Cheryl Ellis, human resources director; Shawna Gilbert, access services librarian; Tara Hannaford, director of financial aid; Chris Lauderdale, comptroller; Jeffery Lee, custodian; Tiffany Misak, campus coordinator at the Enid campus; Lawana Newell, instructor of music;

Janet Cook, assistant cashier; Kevin Fields, health and safety officer; Monty Herren, assistant director of plant operations; and Dr. Cornelia Mihai, professor of chemistry.

Twenty-year service recognition: Anne Haight, scholarship coordinator; Jeff McAlpin, instructor of sociology and Bill Johnson Correctional Center administrative director; Steve Sneary, instructor of agriculture; Dr. Steven Thompson, professor of biology; and Teri Warren, assistant registrar and admissions coordinator.

Thirty-year service recognition: Valarie Case, university relations specialist.

Thirty-five-year service recognition: Myra Davison, administrative assistant in the president's office; and Annette Schwerdtfeger, cashier.

Forty-year service recognition: Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president.

Kaylyn Hansen, who also serves as service learning coordinator, presented service learning awards on behalf of the SL/CE committee. Those being honored include:

Greatest Student Involvement Award: Bartlow and Dr. Leslie Collins, assistant professor of nursing and assistant chair to the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing -- given to an employee who had the greatest student involvement in a project. The Student Nurse's Association had 50 students volunteer to host a booth at the Northwestern Homecoming parade.



*Thelma Crouch presents the Staff Employee of the Year award that bears her name to Kristin Mravinec.*

Dr. Jennifer Sattler, associate professor of physics; Vanessa Scoggins, travel and insurance clerk; Danny Utterback, custodian; and Allison Zimmerman, instructor of mass communication.

Ten-year service recognition: Bartlow; Dr. Ralph Bourret, professor of business; Kaylyn Hansen, director of assessment and institutional effectiveness; Shane Hansen, instructor of health and sports science; Dr. Shawn Holliday, associate dean of graduate studies; and Dr. Steven Palmer, professor of business.

Fifteen-year service recognition:

*Continued on page 51*

## Employees honored....

Greatest Community Impact Award: Dr. Tracy Beedy, assistant professor of agriculture -- given to the faculty or staff whose project impacted their community through beautification, culture, sustainability or other areas that put a community's need first. Beedy and the students in the Introduction to Plant Science class planted a demonstration plot of 18 varieties of wheat chosen by Oklahoma Cooperative Extension as new varieties potentially important in Woods County, with some standard varieties included for comparison.

Distinguished Service Award: Dr. Steven Maier, professor of physics -- given to an employee whose commitment to service sets a high standard in Service Learning while promoting the meaning of Service Learning and Civic Engagement. Maier, along with students, faculty and community volunteers hosted a free STEM-based robotics competition for area schools.

Most Inventive Project: Angelia Case, academic projects assistant/media specialist-- given to a faculty or staff member who had a unique, creative project. The Campus Cabinet Food Pantry was created to help to fill in the gaps when those in the Northwestern community (both students and employees) need help.

Applaud Award: members of the Lady Ranger Basketball team -- given to a club/organization that shows the greatest overall effort, participation and hard work. The Women's

basketball team helped Lincoln Elementary's students on National Walk to School Day.

Most Expressive Award: Kylene Rehder, professor of social work and department of social work chair, along with members of the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) -- given to a club/organization that had a unique project/event. Hundreds of dresses were given away for free to



*Dr. Ramona Bartlow (right) was presented the John Barton Distinguished Teaching and Service Award by Dr. Bo Hannaford, executive vice president, and also was recognized with a 10-year service award at Northwestern.*

grateful students from 15 high schools in two states during the annual Primp for Prom event held in Woodward.

perSERVering Ranger Award: members of the Ranger Softball team -- given to an organization for their extraordinary service and serving in multiple community service projects throughout the year. The Ranger Softball team volunteered for numerous community service projects including hosting Voter Registration and a blood drive.

Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology, presented Diversity Initiative recognitions to Ryan Bowen, head baseball coach; Angelia Case, academic projects assistant/media specialist; Douglas Davidson, research and instructional services librarian; Marian Braten-Hall, instructor of education; Dr. Roxie James, assistant professor of English; Sadiia Jones, assistant director of Athletics for Compliance and Student Services; Karsten Longhurst, instructor of music/director of choral studies; Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management; Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work; Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology; Dr. Henry Trabuc, assistant professor of education; Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing; Dr. Wei Zhou, associate professor of business; Beedy, Shane Hansen, Hannaford, McAlpin and Sattler.

Tandy Keenan, director of Sponsored Programs, presented highlights of happenings from her office for the past year including the fact that nearly \$1.6 million in grants were funded this past year, up from just more than \$1.5 the previous year.

Several employees also were recognized during the ceremony for their service to the Faculty Senate, Staff Council and Professional Staff Council.

Images from the ceremony may be found online at <https://nwosuphotos201920.shutterstock.com/14752>.

# Northwestern Powerhouse: University fueling rural health care

From *Oklahoma Nursing Times* web page,  
12/23/19

<https://oknursingtimes.com/020215/northwestern-powerhouse-university-fueling-rural-health-care-3/>

There's something special going on with the future of rural healthcare in Oklahoma and it's taking place at Northwestern Oklahoma State University.

Shelly Wells, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS, ANEF is the Division Chair and a Professor at the school. A big smile covers her face when she describes how the Alva university is educating nurses to provide healthcare to rural Oklahomans for generations to come.

"We want to keep them out in the high-need areas so our curriculum includes education on rural nursing and that sets us apart from other programs in the state," Wells said. "At this time, we are the only public university in Oklahoma that offers a BSN to DNP."

Northwestern features three different options to advance your nursing education.

The traditional BSN program is offered at four different sites. Students who have earned their LPN may be admitted with advanced standing into the traditional program.

"We have provided access throughout four different sites throughout rural northwestern Oklahoma so that the students don't have to travel to a main campus to receive their education. They can receive much of it near their home areas."

An online RN-to-BSN program is available with no traditional clinical hour requirements that may be completed in 12 months. This program is designed for working

RNs to complete their BSN.

A hybrid BSN-to-DNP program allows students to pursue their family nurse practitioner licensure without needing to obtain a Master's degree first. Coursework is offered online with practicums close to the student's home setting.

"We anticipated admitting six students the first cohort and 10 the second and we have admitted 25 so far in each cohort and it's become a competitive entry process," Wells said of the growing program.

A Nightingale Award of Nursing Excellence recipient from the Oklahoma Nurses Association, Wells takes pride in the program's low faculty-to-student ratio and the relationships the faculty have forged at healthcare facilities across northwestern Oklahoma.

Allowing students to learn in their communities creates a natural draw for students.

"That's the plan," Wells said. "We have students completing clinical rotations in those four sites with the thought and hope they will stay in those sites to serve their home communities."

The NWOSU Nursing program is nationally recognized for its accessibility, affordability, and program outcomes.

The BSN program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) and is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing (OBN). The BSN-to-DNP program for Family Nurse Practitioners has received provisional approval from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing and has applied

for national accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Education (CCNE) with a site visit scheduled in November 2019

The yearly application process for the traditional BSN program begins each October. The Online RN-to-BSN program enrolls students year-round and the annual application cycle for the BSN-to-DNP program opens every January.

With more than 30 years of teaching experience in nursing, Wells has closely followed the national trend calling for more BSN-prepared nurses.

"All the hospitals we have talked to in Oklahoma prefer to hire BSN-prepared nurses and they are encouraging their staff to go back and complete their BSN," Wells said. "We're seeing those numbers increase."

A BSN provides the foundation of study that can serve as a basis for pursuing advanced education in nursing.

And Northwestern provides options to do that close to home.

