

# the Spotlight

## Newsletter

Issue 9 - Spring 2020

### *Spring 2020 and Beyond*

*By Dr. James Bell, Dean of Faculty*

In William Faulkner's short story "A Rose for Emily," the narrator adeptly captures the way in which the past loses its chronological distinctness as we age. He writes that, for the older citizens of the town, "the past is not a diminishing road, but, instead, a huge meadow which no winter ever quite touches, divided from them now by the narrow bottle-neck of the most recent decade of years." I've always loved that image. It comes to mind every time I'm trying to remember, "Was that in 1984? ... 2002?" Someday I'll relax and simply enjoy roaming that meadow without the need to pin down the "when."

In many ways the days and weeks since the start of spring break have been a huge meadow, with the only meaningful time demarcations being "pre-COVID" and "post-COVID." Beyond that, the weeks have tended to blur. Somewhere in there (Was it early April? ... last week?), I joked to Kelsey Martin that she'd picked a fine time for a job change. She responded by saying that this spring has been a wild ride, but her Northwestern colleagues are definitely the team to go through it

with.

I couldn't agree more. The events of the past few months have affirmed the unique nature of our campus community and its members. Faculty, administration, staff, and students have joined together to push through challenging and uncharted terrain. Dr. Oswald continued to provide relief to this office as she wrapped up her administrative internship remotely. Angelia, Valarie and Lorraine Case supplied the campus and community with more than a thousand (and counting) cloth masks. Faculty moved seamlessly to alternative educational methods, ensuring that students had the guidance and resources they needed to continue learning. Staff worked to fill gaps resulting from alternating work schedules. From dining room tables and recliners that doubled as home offices and classrooms, we all found ways to keep the gears of the campus turning—and always without undue complaint or fuss.

And as nice as it would be to pat ourselves on the backs, declare this crisis ended, and move toward a typical fall, we all recognize that doing so is

not yet possible. There are still many questions about the upcoming months that cannot be answered, but we are working to answer—recognizing that shifting conditions will require us to be flexible—those questions that can. To that end, an Academic Reopening Task Force including student, staff, faculty, and administrative representation has been meeting and will continue to meet to draft and distribute guidelines for the fall semester. Please reach out to a task force member if you have input or suggestions. Members of the task force are Ethan Sacket, Sue Burks, Chris Lauderdale, Matt Adair, Karsten Longhurst, Mary Riegel, Dean Scarbrough, Leslie Collins, Jonathan Thomason, Wayne McMillin, James Bell, Brad Franz, Kelsey Martin, Caleb Mosburg, David Pecha, Bo Hannaford, and Janet Cunningham.

The fall will no doubt continue to be a wild ride, but I'll echo Kelsey in saying that there is no team I would rather be taking it with. These have been strange days indeed, but they have been made much more bearable by the good company in which I find myself.

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing**  
January 1 · 🌐

In honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Florence Nightingale, the World Health Organization has declared 2020 as the Year of the Nurse and Midwife. We will continue to highlight the countless contributions of nurses to promote health and wellness as the year unfolds.

**YEAR OF THE NURSE 2020**  
EXCEL • LEAD • INNOVATE

**Northwestern Enid**  
1,917 Tweets

Tweets Tweets & replies Media Likes

**Northwestern Enid** @NWOS... · 1/30/20  
CORE has placed a Voter Registration Table underneath their club board in the Campus Commons. Fill out a form, then drop it off in the box.

Reasons to complete the form:  
1) You are a first time voter.  
2) Address Change  
3) Name Change  
4) Party Affiliation Change

## Gustafson presents at online conference

Dr. Jerry Gustafson, professor of business, presented his stock market research “Does the 20-Month Moving Average Predict Bear Markets?” recently at the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines conference (IABPAD).



*Jerry Gustafson*

The conference was set to be in Dallas on April 23-25, but moved totally online as a result of the Covid-19 virus.

The IABPAD is an academy for scholars involved in the practice and study of business and public administration disciplines worldwide. It was founded for the purpose of promoting academic research in the field of business and public administration and motivating the intellectual development of scholars.

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University- Woodward Campus**  
January 17 · 🌐

We like to thank Randy Shaw and Peggy Shaw with KEEP the BEAT for donating an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) to the #NWOSU Woodward Campus!!!

We are so thankful to them for making this available at our campus!!!

# Abstract art workshop offered in February

Northwestern’s visual arts program presented a free abstract art workshop open to the public in Jesse Dunn Annex, room 324, on the Alva campus in February. The workshop was taught by the program’s spring artist-in-residence, Yelena Martynovskaya, and was intended to give attendees a greater appreciation, deeper vision and compound perspective for art done with textures. Martynovskaya discussed her studio practice, process, influences and body of work with the “Exploring Texture in Painting” workshop that followed.

Martynovskaya, who was born in Uzbekistan and immigrated to the United States when she was 11 years old, said that while art has been an occupation she has pursued, perceiving the order and structure of lines and textures embedded in art has come practically naturally to her. The artist recalled focusing on the lines, order and color balance as a young child, which fascinated her and inspired her to pursue an artistic career with greater knowledge and experience in abstract work—knowledge and experience she hoped to share and inspire the public of Alva with in her time here.

“I just think it is interesting to see the different perspectives that art can have based on the person,” Martynovskaya said. “So many times we see pictures and art on websites, social media and even on walls, but don’t take the time to really look at it and think or to consider the texture behind it. It’s easy to get caught just seeing the art as flat.”

Thinking outside the box, Martynovskaya hoped to inspire attendees of her workshop to consider the texture used to create art and the minute details that may go into an expressive work of art. Given supplies and a few pointers, the attendees were able to pursue the abstract art on their own to create individual masterpieces that reflected their personality and perspective through colors, lines, shapes and free expression.

Martynovskaya earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Studio Art from California State University, Sacramento, in 2007 and a Master of Arts degree in Studio Art in 2009. She lives and works in Sacramento, where she currently is a part of a group exhibition at Beatnik-Studios. Art enthusiasts were able to see the artwork Martynovskaya created during her time in Alva at the First Friday Art Walk in downtown Alva at the Graceful Arts Gallery and the Runnymede on Feb. 7.

For more information about the workshop or the visual arts program at Northwestern, contact Kyle Larson,

an assistant professor of art, at (580) 327-8108 or krlarson@nwosu.edu.



*Yelena Martynovskaya*

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**  
February 12 · 🌐

It’s a full house in the art department tonight at the abstract art workshop led by artist-in-residence Yelena Martynovskaya and visual arts professor Kyle Larson.



Castle Players attended a matinee performance of the Broadway touring show "Come from Away" at the Oklahoma City Civic Center in February. Members were treated to a backstage tour, with a Q & A session with actors after the production.



Kimberly Weast (right) is pictured with Captain Beverly Bass and husband. Beverly Bass is the American Airlines pilot on which a main character in "Come from Away" is based.

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing** January 24

The BSN program recently hosted its annual Pediatric Assessment Day on the Alva campus. Junior BSN students worked under the supervision of Dr Mahieu in performing assessments and teaching young people from the community. It is never too early to promote a nursing career to the next generation!



**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries** January 6

Hugely expanded resources on JSTOR added, greatly increasing the size of our collection for history, the social sciences, and others.

NWOSU.LIBGUIDES.COM  
**NWOSU Library News - Research Guides at Northwestern Oklahoma State University Library Services**  
 Previously, we subscribed to the Life Sciences Collection through JSTOR, but we have recently...

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University Choral Music** February 14

Thanks to Mr. Tony Claus and the choirs who participated in the Liberal, KS Choral Festival! My student leaders, the NWOSU Singers, and I had a great time collaborating with all of you! #RRR



**Angelia Case** added 28 photos to the album: 2-11-20 drawing fun!  
 Admin - February 18

Club members had much fun successfully capturing this image...



# Entrepreneur Seminar held on Enid Campus

Northwestern played host to an entrepreneur seminar at its Enid campus on Feb. 20 and 21 with a theme of "The Entrepreneur: Do you have 20/20 vision?"

This seminar was comprised of speakers who have expertise in entrepreneurship, from local mom and pop businesses to multi-million dollar international corporations. The keynote speakers were Patti Griffiths and Laurence Laban with Next-Life Foundation. The lunch and learn speaker was Mo Anderson with Mo Anderson Business and Real Estate.

Other speakers included Dr. Tony Woodlief, State Policy Network; Curtis Tucker, Enid Buzz; Chloe Fuksa, Putnam Six Bookstore; Greg Hodgen, Groendyke Transport, Inc; NWOSU

Division of Business Panel; Drew Ritchie, Farmers Insurance; Kyle Williams, Williams Broadcasting; and Meridith Westfahl, Autry

**Northwestern Enid** @NWOSUEnid

Mr. Tom Evans, Encompass Financial Services, was recognized for his outstanding service to the NWOSU Entrepreneur Seminar Series.



Technology.

Dr. Jerry Gustafson, Northwestern professor of business, was very excited about the entrepreneurship seminar. He added that they had a great line up of speakers who gave impactful information to our community and students.

This was a great event for current entrepreneurs or individuals interested in becoming an entrepreneurs and starting their own business.

**Northwestern Enid** @NWOSUEnid

Patti Griffiths & Laurence Laban are describing their experiences as a non-profit organization teaching vocational skills to students in Tanzania with the Next Life Foundation. Our speaker, Drew Ritchie, begins at 11AM and discusses his work at Farmers Insurance.



**NWOSU Theatre** February 15

Today the Theatre Production I & II classes are spending the day creating the lighting for "Almost, Maine" you won't want to miss this touching show!  
 February 20, 21 at 7:00pm  
 February 22, at 2:00pm



**Northwestern Enid** @NWOSUEnid

As we close out the 2020 Entrepreneur Seminar, one of the many highlights over the past two days has been having 2018 Oklahoma Hall of Fame Inductee, Mo Anderson, on the NWOSU Enid Campus. Mo is pictured with several of our senior Division of Business students.



# 19 student teachers start teaching assignments

Nineteen education majors reached their final semester and received their student teaching assignments to enter area schools to gain hands-on experience.

"The Student Teaching experience - or Clinical III in the education degree - is the culminating semester for education majors and is designed to fulfill the requirements set forth by the Education Division, Oklahoma State Department of Education, Regents for Higher Education, and the Office of Educational Quality and Accountability," said Dr. Martie Young, professor of education. "The candidate is assigned to a Pre-K through 12 partner school for a 14-week field experience. The experience is designed to provide opportunities for the teacher candidate to plan, implement and evaluate instructional materials and techniques to meet the varied learning needs of diverse students. Upon the completion of this experience, a professional folder, three state-mandated professional exams, background check and numerous projects, plans and papers the candidate will be ready to apply for a State Certificate of Teaching."

Young said the students were scheduled to return to campus for seminars in March and their portfolio exit interviews in May. An Education Pinning ceremony had been set for Saturday, May 9 prior to commencement ceremonies at

Ranger Field.

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

**Early Childhood Education** – Meghan Donelson, Burbank, Woodland Elementary in Fairfax; Alexis Stuart, Pampa, Texas, Woodward Early Childhood Center; Angela Thomason, Burlington, Burlington Elementary; Tiffany Willson, Alva, Cherokee Elementary.

**Elementary Education** – Marylea Burgess, Woodward, Woodward Horace Mann; Elise Foss, Alva, Alva Longfellow Elementary; Aleya Franz, Alva, Burlington Elementary; Kaylee Hurst, Tonkawa, Ponca City Woodlands Elementary; Harley Purvis, Oilton, Cleveland Elementary; Lindsey Tompkins, Woodward, Laverne Elementary; Riley Wakefield, O'Neill, Nebraska, Alva Lincoln Elementary.

**Health and Sports Science Education** – Kayla Gourley, Wichita, Kan., Alva Longfellow/Lincoln Elementary; Kaitlin Lamunyon, Bison, Enid Taft Elementary; Nikki

Taylor, Alva, Laverne Elementary/High School.

**History Education** – Reed Nickel, Aline, Burlington High School; Caitlyn Shortnacy, Enid, Waukomis High School.

**Special Education** – Miranda Lawson, Enid, Pioneer Pleasant Vale Elementary; Oakleigh Nickel, Aline, Clinton Southwest Elementary.

Teacher candidates were able to "shop" in the Teacher's Closet that helps each student get free and "new" professional outfits to help transition their wardrobe to professional dress. For more information about the Teacher's Closet 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@nwosu.edu](mailto:jdoswald@nwosu.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@nwosu.edu](mailto:cljenlink@nwosu.edu).



Senior education majors at the beginning of their student teaching assignments in area schools. The students along with education faculty include (front row, left to right) Elise Foss, Kaitlin Lamunyon, Angela Thomason, Kylie Templin, Caitlyn Shortnacy, Oakleigh Nickel, Alexis Stuart, Meghan Donelson, Tiffany Willson; (back row, left to right) Dr. Martie Young, Dr. Christie Riley, Riley Wakefield, Reed Nickel, Aleya Franz, Miranda Lawson, Marylea Burgess, Kaylee Hurst, Lindsey Tompkins, Harley Purvis, Nikki Taylor, Kayla Gourley, Dr. Christee Jenlink.



# Crochet workshop held on campus in January

A beginners' crochet lesson took place in January in the Science Amphitheatre.

The "I Can Granny Square" workshop, sponsored by the NWOSU Art Society, was open to everyone but best suited for

beginning crocheters or those unfamiliar with the Granny Square.

Dr. Mary Riegel, associate professor of mathematics, led the session with assistance from Dr. Jenny Sattler, associate professor of physics.

"A Granny Square is one of the most versatile motifs in the crochet arsenal," Riegel said. They were prepared to "walk you through the process of creating a basic Granny Square and talk about the many simple modifications that lead to common Granny variations."



Dr. Jenny Sattler (left) and Dr. Mary Riegel (right) assist students during the "I Can Granny Square" workshop held on campus in January.



## Shupe, Rubberband perform as part of concert series

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband performed at Northwestern in February as part of the Northwest Oklahoma Concert Series.

Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband is a rock/bluegrass group that has performed around the country since 1996. In that time, the band has compiled nine musical albums, including a Top 40 hit in 2005, "Dream Big."

In 2015, the group released its latest album, "We Rode On," an album that captures the sentiment of the band's history and style while also innovating new themes.

Information from the band's website says this album 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.

Of course, such a transition does not simply happen without plenty of effort and work added in. Shupe, in his own personal studio, spent time recording, arranging and tweaking the band's latest creation to reflect the new-but-original sound the band was looking for.

"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.

They continue to tour regularly with stops at festivals, concert series, special events and prestigious venues. Bringing a national team together with radio, marketing, social media, and publicity, the band will continue touring nationally to promote the album, starting with the regions where they have a strong following.

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.

For more information on Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband visit [www.ryanshupe.com](http://www.ryanshupe.com). Additional information may be provided by the director of the Concert Series Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre arts and chair of the department of fine arts at Northwestern, at (580) 327- 8462 or [kkweast@nwsu.edu](mailto:kkweast@nwsu.edu).



Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband



The Northwestern Chorale performed with Ryan Shupe and the Rubberband on the group's Top 40 song, "Dream Big," during the February concert series event. Shupe bragged on the students and production crew, stating that these people were probably the most prepared of any they had worked with while touring.

## Social Work department plays host to CWPEP Board

The Northwestern department of social work played host to a Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program (CWPEP) Advisory Board meeting on the Enid campus this spring.

CWPEP is a Title IV-E partnership between the University of Oklahoma, The Oklahoma Department of Human Services, and the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families. The Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work coordinates the contract with Northwestern and other participating accredited undergraduate social work programs including East Central University and Oral Roberts University.

The purpose of this partnership is to enhance and support Oklahoma's public child welfare workforce. It affords interested students financial support by covering books, fees and in-state tuition in return for a specified employment obligation in a Child Welfare position with the Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS) or a tribe with which DHS has a Tribal/State Agreement. The stipend amount for a 12-month employment obligation

is \$7,876. This program is funded by OKDHS, Children and Family Services Division through Title IV-E of the Social Security Act. To be eligible to apply to the program, undergraduate students must be fully admitted to a participating accredited social work program. Upon completion of the Bachelor of Social Work degree, social workers enter OKDHS employment as Child Welfare Specialists.

The meeting included a tour of the Social Work Department's Virtual Reality lab that enables students to wear a headset and operate hand controllers that transport them into various virtual environments to learn professional practice skills. The lab was funded by the University of Oklahoma's Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work on behalf of the OKDHS to assist in retaining quality social workers in the public child welfare system.

The meeting was led by Linda Smith, CWPEP program coordinator from the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work, and attended by Northwestern's Dr. Kylene Rehder, professor of social work

and chair of the department, and Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work and director of field experience, along with colleagues Guy Willis, OKDHS Child Welfare Training Program Administrator; Elaine Akin, Bonni Goodwin and Amy White, OU school of social work; Aleece Mann, Misty Stanberry and Jessica Roberson, OKDHS; Brittany Oelze and Stacey Blaylock, Oral Roberts University; and Dr. Jim Burke, East Central University.

To learn more about the CWPEP program, contact Rehder at (580) 327-8135 or [kdrehder@nwsu.edu](mailto:kdrehder@nwsu.edu).



Child Welfare Professional Enhancement Program Advisory Board members meeting at the Northwestern-Enid campus include (from left to right) Aleece Mann, Dr. Kylene Rehder, Jennifer Pribble, Dr. Jim Burke, Linda Smith, Brittany Oelze, Stacey Blaylock, Guy Willis, Elaine Akin, Bonni Goodwin, Amy White, Misty Stanberry and Jessica Roberson.



# Oklahoma's First Lady Stitt provides resilience workshop

Alva and Northwestern Oklahoma State University played host to Oklahoma's First Lady Sarah Stitt on Feb. 13 at an event designed to educate community members about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE). Stitt and her office joined forces with the Potts Family Foundation, Northwestern and Northwest Family Services to present a film screening and panel discussion on this important topic.



First Lady Sarah Stitt

The documentary film "Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope" was shown at 11 a.m. in the Student Center Ballroom followed by a panel that included Charita McOsker, LPC, program manager for Northwest Center for Behavioral Health; Taylor Randolph, NCC, LPC, LADC, instructor of psychology at Northwestern; Amber Maier, LPC, foster care director for Northwest Family Services; Sarah Sherman, MCP, LPC, LADC, director of outpatient services at Northwest Center for Behavioral Health; and Dr. Chan Hellman, director of the Hope Research Center at OU-Tulsa.

The panel was moderated by the First Lady and was the fourth stop on her Raising Resilient Oklahomans Hope Rising Tour. The first hour focused on the film and the second hour featured the panel discussion.

According to a release, "the greatest public health discovery of our time" revolves around these ACEs and the "toxic stress it produces" and how it impacts communities by "increasing the risk of mental health challenges and chronic health conditions later in life." Oklahoma brings in an ACEs rate of 28.5 percent as compared to the national rate of 20.5 percent.

"The child may not remember, but the body remembers. Your mental health is inseparable from your physical health. This one-hour documentary delves into the science of Adverse Childhood Experiences. Now understood to be one of the leading causes of everything from heart disease and cancer to substance abuse and depression, extremely stressful experiences in childhood can

alter brain development and have lifelong effects on health and behavior," states information from the event. "Oklahoma's high rate of ACEs will require a long term effort to build resilience and promote hope."

Panel discussions also included how

communities can rally to help mitigate the issue.

This event was not only educational but also was a call to action for community members to ask how Oklahomans can integrate the science of hope and resilience into the state's systems, communities, homes and lives.

For more information, contact Kelsey Martin, director of marketing and university relations at Northwestern, at (580) 327-8478 or kamartin@nwsu.edu.



**Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope**  
 Film screening with panel moderated by Oklahoma's First Lady Sarah Stitt.  
 Panelists included Charita McOsker, Northwest Center for Behavioral Health; Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology at Northwestern; Amber Maier, Northwest Family Services; and Dr. Chan Hellman, director of the Hope Research Center at OU-Tulsa.



It was a full house in Northwestern's Student Center ballroom at an event designed to educate community members about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE). Attendees watched the documentary film "Resilience: The Biology of Stress and the Science of Hope" followed by a panel discussion moderated by Oklahoma First Lady Sarah Stitt.

# Social Work students assigned to field practicums

Bachelor-level social work students at Northwestern began their field practicums in January at agencies throughout Oklahoma. These 14 seniors entered practicum

volunteering their time to contribute to the education of social work students, the field practicum component of the program would not be possible,"



These 14 senior social work majors began their field practicums to fulfill requirements for a bachelor's degree in social work.

agencies to complete 420 contact hours, demonstrate 31 behaviors and master the program's nine core competencies as outlined by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

"Immersing students into the world of social work allows them to develop the skills needed to become a bachelor-level social worker," Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work and director of social work field education, said. "As the signature pedagogy for the social work program, the field experience component is very important and needed to increase social work competency for these students."

Each student in their field practicum is assigned to a field instructor, someone with specific credentials in the agency to reinforce social work ideas, behaviors and competencies.

"Without field instructors

Pribble said. "They are a crucial part of the educational development for these social work students."

Listed below are the students in their field practicums, hometowns, and their practicum agency placements:

Kathrine Barrows of Blackwell, Oklahoma Department of Human Services in Newkirk; Korbin Bowers of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Baylee Chance of Woodward, Circle of Care in Woodward; Reba Finley of Arnett, Northwest Domestic Crisis Services in Woodward; Desiree Fritz of Enid, Circle of Care in Enid; Bailee Hill of Ponca City, Northern Oklahoma Youth Services in Ponca City; Lauren Hitchcock of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Keeley Horning of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Kallie Jones of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Morgan Lopez of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Chanel Martin of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Ashley Neal of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; Savanna Taylor of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools; and Jonathan Wales of Woodward, Woodward Public Schools.



Northwestern senior social work major Jonathan Wales (right) is able to work alongside James Marks (left), executive director of the Oklahoma State Board of Licensed Social Workers, and on this particular day, Oklahoma's Gov. Kevin Stitt during his field experience assignment in Oklahoma City this semester.

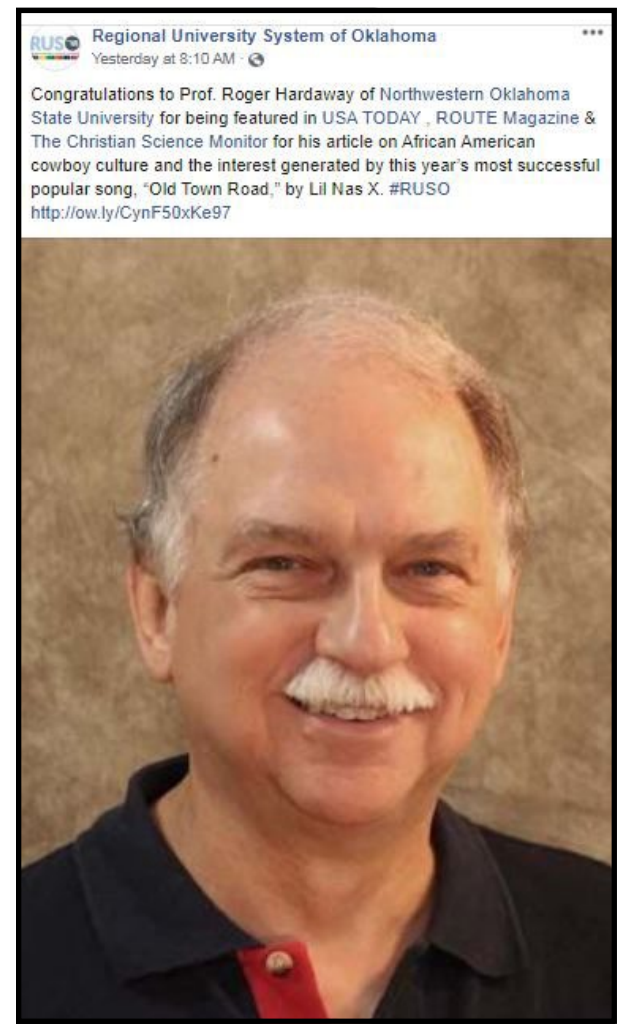
## Schmaltz has articles published in e-book compilation, magazine

“Germans from Russia in the Americas: A Story of Retention and Transformation,” an article written by Dr. Eric Schmaltz, professor of history and chair of the social science department, appeared this spring in the new e-book compilation *Off to Sea!: German-Speaking Emigration from Eastern Europe around 1900* published by the German Cultural Forum for Eastern Europe in Potsdam, Germany.



Eric Schmaltz

In addition, Dr. Schmaltz was invited to write a guest editorial entitled “North Dakota’s Germans from Russia: A Half Century of Discovery, Preservation, and Reflection (1971-2020),” which appeared in the spring 2020 issue of the magazine *North Dakota Horizons* published in Bismarck.



## State Teacher of Year speaks at ‘Why Serve’ event

Oklahoma’s 2019 Teacher of the Year spoke at “Why Serve,” a February event to highlight the importance of service through teaching with the goal of inspiring those in attendance to consider a career in teaching.



Becky Oglesby

Becky Oglesby, who teaches Pre-K through third grade art at Ranchwood Elementary in Yukon, made a presentation during a lunch in the Student Center Ballroom. Others invited to attend this event were Teach Oklahoma students from the Alva, Enid and Woodward high schools, as well as students from surrounding high schools who are interested in becoming teachers.

Dr. Christee Jenlink, associate dean of education and professor of education, said that Oklahoma is facing a critical shortage of qualified teachers, so this event with young people is important in helping to address this issue.

Prior to the lunch program, high school students gathered in the Education Center to participate in workshops developed by Northwestern’s teacher education faculty and teacher candidates.

The workshops “provided hands-on learning experiences that simulate teacher preparation classes,” Jenlink said. The simulations, in conjunction with the Oklahoma Teacher of the Year’s speech on the topic of ‘Why Serve,’ were intended to be motivation

for students to choose a career in teaching.

Oglesby, who is known in her school and community as the “Batman Teacher” for the abundance of comic-book memorabilia she has in her classroom, began her full-time Teacher of the Year duties on July 1, 2019. Her duties include speaking engagements throughout the state and serving as Oklahoma’s teacher ambassador, encouraging others to enter or remain in the profession.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Joy Hofmeister has said that Oglesby’s creative teaching style, along with her optimism and passion for education, is a model of excellence for Oklahoma.

“Becky is a teacher who does not falter, no matter the circumstances,” Hofmeister said. “She demonstrates compassion and courage, and treasures her students, never failing to celebrate the individuality of each one. Often, our teachers are literal heroes.

Becky Oglesby is proof of that.”

Oglesby was a second-year teacher at Plaza Towers Elementary in 2013 when a deadly EF-5 tornado tore through the Moore school and claimed the lives of seven students. At the height of the storm, she used her body to shield her first-graders as the twister destroyed the school.

As an art teacher, Oglesby incorporates core subject areas, provides the opportunity for students to express their uniqueness, emphasizes state academic standards and provides life lessons.

“My greatest contribution to education has been showing the world that teachers are more than babysitters worried about test scores,” Oglesby said. “Your kids become our kids, and our priority is to create a safe learning environment where they can flourish.”

This “WhyServe” event was made possible through a grant received by the Division of Education from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.



Lindsey Cherry, instructor of English, leads a workshop with Teach Oklahoma students.

Teach Oklahoma students from Alva, Enid and Woodward high schools gathered in EC 109 and other rooms for workshops developed by Northwestern’s teacher education faculty and teacher candidates.



Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art, leads a workshop with Teach Oklahoma students.



Jen Oswald, assistant professor of education, leads a workshop with Teach Oklahoma students.



Mindi Clark, associate professor of agriculture, leads a workshop with Teach Oklahoma students.

# In Memory...



Students work to light their candles at the Monday night vigil in memory of Allison Zimmerman. Zimmerman, an NWOSU mass communications professor, died Friday, Feb. 14, at the age of 33. (Courtesy of the Ranger Pulse)



Brenner Clark, left, and Diane Todd, right, light candles at a Monday vigil for Allison Zimmerman. (Courtesy of the Ranger Pulse)

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
February 18 · 🌐

Allison Adair Cunningham Zimmerman's service will take place Wednesday, February 19 at 2:00 p.m. in the Herod Hall Auditorium. Overflow of the service will be in the Student Center Ballroom.

For those that wish to view the service via live stream, please use the Youtube channel link below at 2:00 p.m. tomorrow.  
<https://www.youtube.com/user/NWOSURangers>



Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
College & University

Send Message

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
February 17 · 🌐

We will be celebrating Allison's life tonight with a candlelight vigil. Join us at 6:45 pm at the Ranger Statue.

**CANDLELIGHT VIGIL  
IN MEMORY OF  
ALLISON ZIMMERMAN**

Monday, February 17  
6:45 p.m. | Ranger Statue

# 17 admitted to 2020-2021 DNP cohort

March 1 was the deadline for the next cohort of applicants to apply for Northwestern's highly competitive Bachelor of Science in Nursing to Doctor of Nursing Practice program (BSN-to-DNP). Seventeen of 25 students who applied were admitted into the 2020-2021 cohort.

Recently named the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program in Rural Nursing Practice, this 73-credit-hour program is the first BSN-to-DNP program in a public Oklahoma university to educate Family Nurse Practitioners, said Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing.

"While a Family Nurse Practitioner can practice in any community, Northwestern offers the only program in the state that emphasizes the health needs of the rural communities where the demand for Family Nurse Practitioners continues to increase," Wells said. "It is the most cost-effective DNP program in the state. Family Nurse Practitioners

address the primary care needs of people across the life-span from birth to death. They practice in a variety of settings including clinics, community health centers, and schools.

Northwestern's BSN-to-DNP program is a hybrid program designed to allow the BSN-prepared nurse to bypass the master's degree and earn the Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, as is the national trend. Didactic courses are offered online with a one-to-one consultation with expert nursing faculty when needed."

Wells explained that before starting any clinical experience practicums, students participate in a required on-campus one-week summer residency intensive session where advanced physical assessment skills are validated and

common primary care procedures are emphasized. Students then complete more than 1,000 clinical experience hours in their practicum courses over the last two years of this three-year program. They work with the nursing faculty to establish clinical practicum experiences with preceptors in communities near their residence.

Northwestern's only doctoral program currently has 38 students enrolled and anticipated that nine students would participate in May

9 commencement exercises was part of the program's first class since its beginning in August 2017. This first graduating class was to be honored at the annual Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing's Convocation on May 8 and would have been included in commencement exercises. Both of these events were held alternatively because of the pandemic. Each graduate will present their DNP project on campus on July 17 to complete their degrees.

"The small faculty-to-student ratio is one of the many strengths of the program," Wells said.

Having the only rural DNP program in the state means a lot for Northwestern, northwest Oklahoma, the State of Oklahoma, but especially for rural healthcare.

"We are the only family nurse practitioner program that focuses on rural health," said Dr. Pat Thompson, associate professor of nursing and director of the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice. "There is currently a bill in the legislature that seeks to increase the number of physicians in primary care in rural areas of Oklahoma by offering them significant tax credits."

Continued on page 16



Wisdom Family Foundation  
Doctoral Program  
in Rural Nursing Practice



Kyle Larson, assistant professor of art (top center), leads a portrait drawing with colored pencil session for NWOSU Art Society members at the group's Feb. 18 meeting.



# 17 admitted...

Thompson praises Dr. Peggy Wisdom, a 1968 Northwestern graduate who has developed a distinguished career in medicine and teaching by serving as a professor and vice chairman of neurology at the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center, for her generosity in donating money to the DNP program to help increase the number of primary care providers in rural Oklahoma.

"She realized that it is near-impossible to recruit or maintain physicians in rural areas," Thompson said. "In contrast, nurse practitioners tend to stay in their home communities. For that reason, we try hard to place our students in rural clinics and correctional facilities so that they are prepared for the challenges of practicing at a distance from major medical centers in Tulsa and Oklahoma City. We also have students complete activities to research the availability of community resources to improve the physical and mental health of Oklahomans, which is currently classified as poor in relation to the rest of the United States.

"The doctoral degree enables the family nurse practitioner to see a much bigger picture than masters-level nurse practitioner education, in terms of knowledge in health policy and population health," Thompson said. "With the additional knowledge, these students are equipped to become leaders in improving the health of all Oklahomans."

For additional information on the program and a link to the DNP application form, visit [www.nwsu.edu/graduate-studies/bsn-to-dnp](http://www.nwsu.edu/graduate-studies/bsn-to-dnp). Questions should be directed to Thompson at (580) 327-8497 or [prthompson@nwsu.edu](mailto:prthompson@nwsu.edu).



Seven theatre faculty members and students attended the week-long Region 6 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Abilene, Texas, in late February. Students had the opportunity to meet other students from Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Missouri as well as see the work of their peers, attend workshops, and enjoy live performances presented by competing universities within the region. Those attending were: (left to right) Kimberly Weast, Mickey Jordan, Peyton Lucas, Christopher Chauncey, Lilith Ferrero, Esther Thornburg and Sydney Endsley.



# Riley is speaker for diversity training

Northwestern played host to Shewanda Riley Feb. 27-28 for diversity training. The events were open to the campus and community.

Riley is a professor of English at Tarrant County College in Hurst, Texas. She presents on diversity-related topics across the nation and has completed a number of publications and presentations. During the two-day event, Riley spoke on racial diversity topics, participated in readings, and met with faculty, staff and students.



Shewanda Riley

Every year, the diversity committee at Northwestern strives to bring in relevant speakers who teach campus and community members about an issue in today's culture. These committee members include Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology; Dr. Roger Brown, associate professor of business; Dr. Steven Mackie, professor of education; Dr. Colleen Golightly, associate professor of education; MaryAnn Braten-Hall, instructor of education; Shawna Gilbert,

access services librarian; Karsten Longhurst, instructor of music; Dr. Wei Zhou, associate professor of business; Dr. Henry Trabuc, assistant professor of education; Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work; Taylor Randolph, instructor of psychology; Sadiia Jones,

associate director of athletics for compliance and student services; and Calleb Mosburg, dean of student affairs and enrollment management.

I was "very pleased to bring Ms. Shewanda Riley to Northwestern to share her outstanding professional experiences in diversity education with our faculty, staff, students and the broader community," said Decker, chair of the diversity committee. "Riley has an extensive history with this subject and has presented at numerous conferences and institutions across the United States."



Shewanda Riley makes a point during the first full session of diversity workshops held at Northwestern in late February.



Many students, faculty and staff members attended the diversity training sessions given by Shewanda Riley in February.



# 'Almost Maine' is spring production

The fine arts department presented its first theater production of the spring semester, "Almost, Maine," in Herod Hall Auditorium in Alva in February.

Mickey Jordan, director of technical theatre and Herod Hall facilities manager, said "Almost, Maine" by John Cariani is set in the current time at the highest tip of Maine bordering Canada—an area too small to be considered a township and yet not quite large enough to be called a half-post, so it is simply named "Almost." Under the Northern Lights, the story occurs at 9 p.m. one night, but visits scenes of multiple characters and gives clues to how their lives may intertwine. Jordan added that the play is about finding love and different kinds of love through a series of different scenarios.

Although some may cringe at the first thought of a love story, Kimberly Weast, professor of theatre arts and chair of the department of fine arts, and Jordan agreed that these various love stories are not the kind some would typically think. Jordan

added that the scenes are relatable to real life, are very pointed, and audience members will be able to sympathize with characters from personal firsthand or secondhand experience. Weast also said the stories are not stereotypical, sappy ones, but the production will leave one with a sense of hope and realizing how diverse and different relationships can be.

Of course, as with any theatrical production, many hands and hours of hard work played a major role in

preparing to bring "Almost, Maine" to the stage. For this production, however, the work was divided a bit differently than other productions. "Almost, Maine" had a production team that included 20 Northwestern students in the cast and five directors consisting of three Northwestern students, Weast and Jordan.

"We love to give students opportunities to try their skills and their knowledge," Weast said. There were three students who had their directing debut on some of the short scenes within the play. And, although none of them were [theater] majors, they



Actors Michael Day and Sydney Endsley share a moment discussing a gift during the production of 'Almost Maine.'

have all taken Directing I and are very enthusiastic and excited about the opportunity to use the skills they have learned.

The students joining Weast and Jordan as directors are Madison Wilson, history senior from Enid; Dakota Retherford, vocal music sophomore from Cushing; and Peyton Lucas, psychology junior

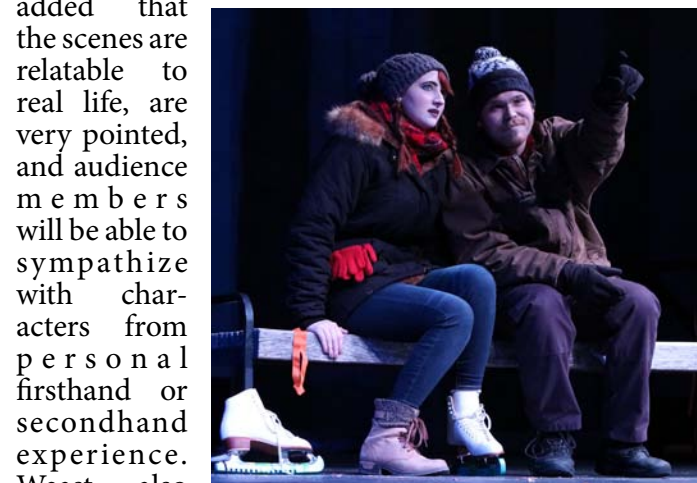
from Fairview.

Weast said the department is excited to provide directing opportunities to students who are not theater majors because while they may not face directing a play in their future, the experience

may equip students to feel more comfortable presenting or leading in their future.

Cast members for this production were:

Angela Cook, early childhood education freshman from Mutual;



Maleah Schmitz and Brenner Clark ponder married life during 'Almost Maine.'

Tyler Coker, sociology senior from Jones; Tanya Crain, music freshman from Lamont; Austin Morton, mass communication sophomore from Buffalo; Adria Lujan, nursing freshman from Blair; Kennedy Murphy, psychology freshman from Carnegie; Aliyah Bidwell, mass communication freshman from Greenfield; Trinity Mendez, social work freshman from Clinton; Chuy Dominguez, mass communication sophomore from Laverne; Justin Meyer, business administration and general business freshman from Alva; Duncan Brown, chemistry junior from Alva; Jeffery Cher-Aime, music junior from Newkirk; Brenner Clark, nursing freshman from Amorita; Maleah Schmitz, speech and theater sophomore from Alva; Erin Lehr, theatre alumna; Sydney Endsley, speech and theater sophomore from Meno; and Michael Day, vocal music junior from Okeene; as well as Lucas, Retherford and Wilson.

# Social Sciences inducts new honor society members

This spring Northwestern's social sciences department welcomed new members into the Phi Alpha Theta, Pi Sigma Alpha and Pi Gamma Mu international honor societies.

Phi Alpha Theta is an international history honor society dedicated to promote the study of history. Requirements for membership include a minimum 12 hours of history, a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 and a grade point average of at least 3.1 in history.

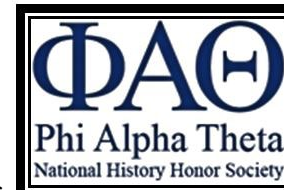
The sponsor for the Northwestern chapter is Dr. Eric Schmaltz, professor of history and departmental chair. This year's four inductees include American Studies graduate student and university staffer Melissa Brown, Alva; history major Rodney Dale McKinney II, Enid junior; social science education

majors Noble Hunter Buckhaults, Alva junior, and Clinton Robert Shelton, Woodward senior.

Pi Sigma Alpha is an international political science honor society dedicated to promote the understanding of politics, democracy, and citizenship throughout the world. Requirements for membership include a minimum 12 hours of political science, a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 and must be in the top third of the graduating class.

The sponsor for the Northwestern chapter is Dr. Aaron Mason, professor of political science. This year's one inductee was Northwestern graduate Sarah Marie Hardaway, Murray, Kentucky.

Pi Gamma Mu is an international social sciences honor society dedicated to promote excellence in social sciences and uphold scholarship, leadership and service.



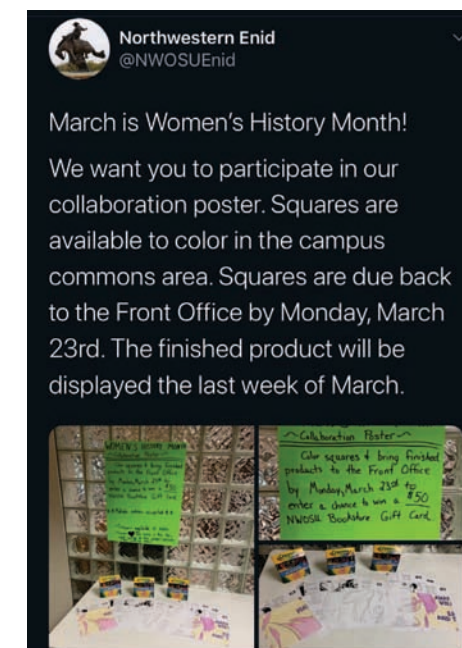
Requirements for membership include a minimum 20 hours of social science, a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 and inclusion in the top third of the graduating class.

The sponsor for the Northwestern chapter is Jana Brown, instructor of history and social science education coordinator. This year's three inductees include Northwestern graduate Sarah Marie Hardaway, Murray, Kentucky; and social work majors Isis Clair Lair, Woodward junior, and Wynter Marie Standridge, Woodward junior.

Northwestern Social Sciences' honor society members are encouraged to pursue scholarship, community leadership, and public service. Congratulations to this year's initiates.



The cast of 'Almost, Maine,' Herod Hall Feb. 20, 21, 22 2020. In the first presentation of 2020, NWOSU Theatre produced John Carini's touching play 'Almost, Maine' presented with a cast and crew of 22.



# Primp for Prom wins state award

“Primp for Prom,” an annual community service project co-sponsored by the Northwestern Department of Social Work’s student organization Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) and the Woodward High School Key Club, has earned a state-wide community service award.

The Woodward Daughters of the American Revolution chapter nominated the event, which earned the 2019 Oklahoma State Daughters of the American Revolution (OSDAR) Community Service Award.

The recipient of the OSDAR Community Service Award must have contributed to the community in an outstanding manner through voluntary, civic, benevolent service, and by organizing or participating in community activities within the past five years with no compensation. It is given to individuals or organizations that help with events or activities that serve people in their communities.

OSDAR State Chair Lisa Hefner said that the Primp for Prom event is a wonderful example of how young people are helping other young people and demonstrates true service to others. This event shows young people citizenship and service that are so important in today’s society.

Sponsors for SWAT are Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the department and professor of social work, and Jennifer Pribble, assistant professor of social work and director of social work field education. Sponsors for Woodward High School Key Club are Stefanie Alexander and Beth Baker.

Primp for Prom is held in Woodward for northwest tri-state area high school students to pick out a formal dress, shoes and accessories at no charge. This event is set up like a department store with volunteers ready to assist shoppers with finding the perfect dress. In 2019, these high school shoppers were able to select from more than 100 pairs of shoes and more than

400 dresses that were donated in all sizes, styles and colors. All shoppers have the opportunity to choose their special dress in a supportive, caring environment without the stress of financial consideration.

Students volunteer their time and expertise to help shoppers to find that perfect dress. One of the special volunteers was Miss Oklahoma Teen USA Abigail Billings.

“Primp for Prom is an event that always highlights the generosity of others and the kindness that exists in

our local communities,” Rehder said. “The Department of Social Work and the Key Club are always honored to sponsor this event, which is about more than dresses, as we see it as a means to embody our university mission to build a sense of community and as an opportunity to serve others.”

For more information about Northwestern’s social work department, contact Rehder at (580) 327-8135 or kdrehder@nwsu.edu, or Pribble at (580) 213-3148 or jlpribble@nwsu.edu.



Woodward High School Key Club members helping with Primp for Prom include (left to right) Xiomara Guzman, Dr. Kylene Rehder-chair of the department and professor of social work at Northwestern, Fatima Flores, Christol Ruttman, MaKenzie Miller, Abby Billings and Crystal Standridge.

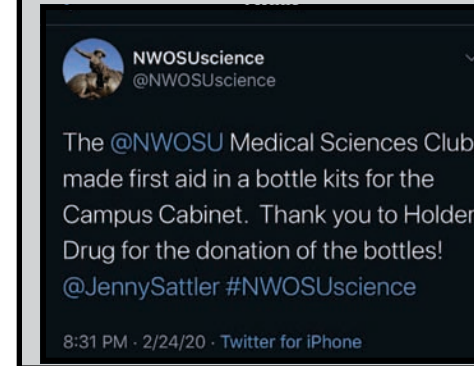
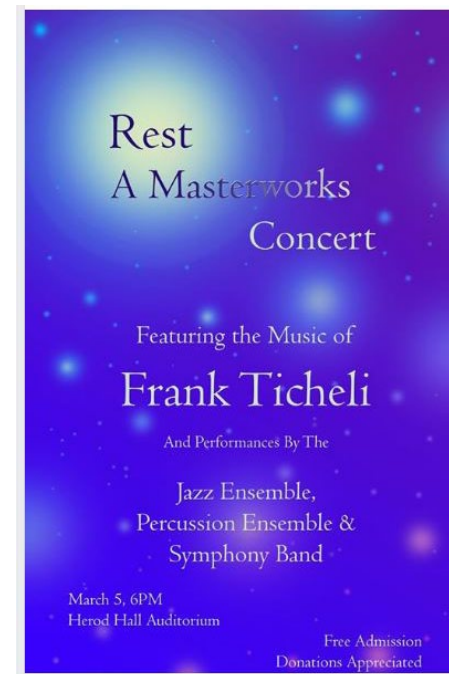


Northwestern’s Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) campus organization from the Department of Social Work were congratulated by Woodward DAR Chapter members for receiving the OSDAR (Oklahoma State Daughters of the American Revolution) Community Service Award for their annual event “Primp for Prom.” Pictured are (back row, left to right) Dr. Deena Fisher-Northwestern-Woodward dean, Elizabeth Fox-Shipley, Jessica Goodballet, Woodward DAR Chapter representative Kitty Frech, Alicia James, Katelyn VanVickle, Woodward DAR Chapter representative Roberta Chance, Mirissa Beavers, Reba Finley, and Dr. Janet Cunningham- Northwestern president. (Front row from left to right) Jennifer Pribble-assistant professor of social work, Jennifer Ruppel, Marsellia Rael, and Dr. Kylene Rehder, social work department chair and professor of social work.

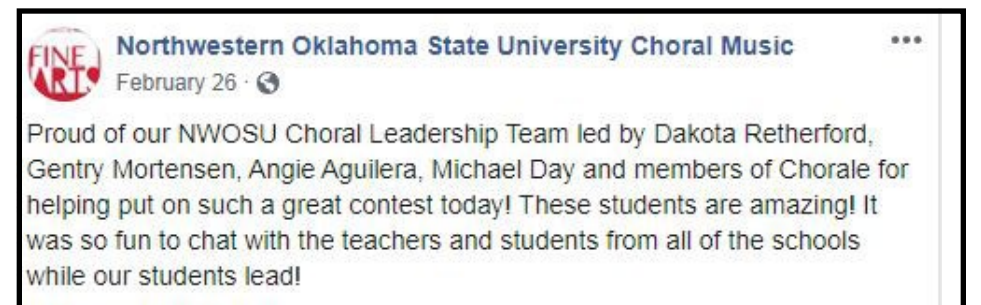
# Bands present masterworks winter concert

Seth Cudd, instructor of music and director of bands at Northwestern, said the Winter Band concert held on March 5 was a masterworks concert. The university has hosted this performance for a number of years to bring music from some of the most well-known and enjoyed composers to Alva through the musical talents of Northwestern students. Each year the different bands practice to perform individual pieces for the concert before coming together on stage to provide an evening of different acclaimed music.

Cudd said the students have been working hard this year to bring such remarkable musical pieces to the audience’s ears as “Military Escort March” by Harold Bennett, “Rest” and “Simple Gifts” by Frank Ticheli and a number of pieces from well-known composers John Coltrane and Herbie Hancock. The percussion ensemble also performed “Witch” by Chris Brooks, conducted by Katherine Blair, instrumental music senior from Waynoka.



In an effort to better serve the NWOSU community, the Medical Sciences Club wanted to assist with the Campus Cabinet. With the help of Holder Drug, items were purchased and assembled into first aid kits available through the Campus Cabinet. The items in the first aid kit included band-aids, butterfly bandages, gauze pads, antibiotic ointment, burn cream, and medical tape.



# Wales named NASW-OK student of year

Jonathan Wales has been named the 2020 National Association of Social Workers, Oklahoma (NASW-OK) Undergraduate Student of the Year. He received this award earlier this spring during a ceremony held at the NASW-OK Annual State Conference in Midwest City.

The Undergraduate Student of the Year Award honors a bachelor's level social work student from a Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) accredited program. Wales' selection was based on his ability to demonstrate leadership qualities, contribute to the positive image of a social work program, successful academic performance, and representation of the profession's core values.

Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the department of social work, said that Wales' recognition is well-earned. "We are proud of the commitment that Mr. Wales has demonstrated to the profession of social work and are excited his contributions to service and social justice are being recognized in such a prestigious

way," Rehder said.

NASW is the largest membership organization of professional social workers in the world and focuses on enhancing the professional growth and development of its members, creating and maintaining professional standards, and advancing sound social policies.

"I'm so honored by this award and grateful to Northwestern's Department of Social Work for their support of the profession and student success," Wales said. "I'm grateful to the social work faculty as they have prepared me to excel in professional social work practice."

Wales completed a practicum with the Oklahoma Board of Licensed Social Workers and the National Association of Social Workers with a focus on administration, advocacy and social work policy. After graduating in May, he is continuing his education

in the fall to obtain his Master of Social Work (MSW) degree.

For more information on Northwestern's department of social work, please contact Rehder at (580) 327-8135 or kdrehder@nwosu.edu.



(Left to Right) Dr. Angelo McClain, CEO of NASW is pictured with Jonathan Wales, NASW-OK BSW Student of the Year, alongside social work faculty, Dr. Kylene Rehder and Jennifer Pribble.



Social work faculty and students attend the 45th NASW-OK annual state conference. Pictured (left to right) Dr. Kylene Rehder, chair of the department of social work; Dr. Angelo McClain, NASW CEO; Kallie Jones, Desiree Fritz, and Jonathan Wales, social work students; and assistant professor Jennifer Pribble.



# Cherry chosen as finalist for Literary Festival

Northwestern's own Matthew Cherry, director of the Academic Success Center, received the high honor of being a finalist in the Saints and Sinners Literary Festival short fiction contest.

Saints and Sinners is a program within the Tennessee Williams Literary Festival, which is one of the largest literary festivals in the world based in New Orleans.

Both festivals have contests for short fiction, very short fiction, one-act plays and poetry.

Cherry placed in two separate

contests—one for Saints and Sinners and one for Tennessee Williams.

Cherry won the short fiction contest for Saints and Sinners by drawing on his military experiences. "Big House" is a fictionalized account of his time in the Marine Corps, both domestically and overseas, and focuses on the intense and often conflicting emotions Marines develop for fellow service members. It will be published in the annual Saints and Sinners anthology, and Cherry was scheduled to read an excerpt from the story at the festival.



Matthew Cherry

In the Tennessee Williams Literary

Festival, he entered the very short fiction category with a flash-fiction piece of roughly 500 words titled "Chambered," which also draws on his military experience.

Although Cherry said he is not a combat veteran, with "Chambered" he wanted to explore the ways combat impacts the life of a veteran over many years.

He earned second runner-up with this piece and received recognition on the festival's webpage, program and newsletter.

Cherry and his wife Lindsey, an instructor of English at Northwestern, had planned to attend both festivals in New Orleans at the end of March before the pandemic.

# Schmitz selected for Campus Kudos

Cathy Schmitz, a financial aid counselor at Northwestern, has been selected by the Staff Council as the recipient of the 2019 fall semester Campus Kudos Award.

Sue Burks, financial aid assistant director and Staff Council chair-elect, presented Schmitz with the Campus Kudos award.

The person nominating Schmitz for this award said, "Cathy has been in the financial aid office since August 2018,

and in that time she has helped to bring a new light to the office. She has taken each of the students under her wing to make sure that they are receiving all the financial aid that they are eligible for, and she makes sure that they understand how to navigate the new self-service platform. Cathy will walk the student step-by-step through self-service and ensure that they understand what they are seeing and how to navigate the new financial aid site. Cathy has

quickly become a valued member of the financial aid team."

Campus Kudos is a public acknowledgement created by the Northwestern 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, including the summer term.

"What a nice surprise and honor it is to be chosen for this award," Schmitz said. "Being a small part in our students' success has been very rewarding. Ride, Rangers, Ride!"



Sue Burks (left) presents Cathy Schmitz with a fall Campus Kudos Award.

## State Regents recognize Northwestern and VAP

Northwestern and Alva-based business Value Added Products were recently honored for their business partnership during a ceremony to recognize innovative collaborations that further the education of Oklahoma's workforce.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award is designed to highlight successful partnerships between higher education institutions and businesses and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents' Economic Development Grants. In all, 27 business and higher education partnerships throughout the state were honored.

VAP is a producer-owned cooperative that specializes in dough production. The business continues to receive an AA rating BRC certification, the internationally recognized mark of food safety and quality. The Alva plant currently employs 53 people.

Through Northwestern's partnership with VAP, business and mass communication students were tasked with creating new marketing materials for the dough manufacturing business. Throughout the year, students designed and presented a new logo and created slogans and a promotional video as well as a modular vendor booth display for trade shows. One student involved with the campaign, Ethan Sacket, a senior business student, was able to attend the Pizza Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada, with the company and see firsthand how the content created would further brand awareness.

"The pinnacle was getting to see the final products displayed at the International Pizza Expo in Las Vegas, Nevada," said Sacket. "I experienced firsthand what it's like to be an exhibitor at 'The Largest Pizza Show in the World' while also witnessing what industry leaders from across the globe are doing. This was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity and I am extremely grateful to the VAP team for letting me learn from them."

Institutions involved in these

partnerships provide \$500 for tuition waivers to employees of the partnering businesses; internships that enable current students to work at the partnering businesses; faculty externships with the partnering businesses; and/or enhancement of the partnerships with additional equipment, materials or supplies. The State Regents provide a \$500 match to the waivers.

"Our colleges and universities collaborate with leaders in the private, public and nonprofit sectors to strengthen our workforce," Chancellor Glen D. Johnson said. "These partnerships between businesses and our state system institutions advance Oklahoma's efforts to build the skilled workforce required to compete in today's global economy."



Representatives from Northwestern and the Alva-based dough manufacturing business Value Added Products are among 27 other partnerships receiving a State Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award. Those accepting the honor are (from left to right) Glen Johnson, chancellor of Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education; Ann Holloway, Oklahoma state regent; Geoff Clark, CEO of VAP; Tammy Brown, chair of the communication department; Ethan Sacket, Northwestern student associated with the project; and David Pecha, vice president for administration.

## Wickham, Chem Club stay busy

Dr. Jason Wickham, professor of chemistry, received a new OCAST grant that started in July 2019 with 2 student (paid) interns.

These interns and Dr. Wickham presented a research poster at the 2019 Southwest Regional Meeting (SWRM) of the American Chemical Society in El Paso, TX in November 2019. They also presented a research poster at the 2020 Oklahoma Research Day in Weatherford, Ok in March 2020.

Dr. Wickham has also served as treasurer of the Oklahoma section of the American Chemical Society

since 2010. He was involved with the planning and finances of the 2019 Oklahoma Pentasectional meeting of the American Chemical Society hosted by the Oklahoma Sectional of the American Chemical Society.

The Chem Club, sponsored by Dr. Wickham, gathered for a movie night and hosted a program in a box from the American Chemical Society entitled *The Future of Food*.

Eleven students attended the March meeting of the Oklahoma Section of the American Chemical Society.

## Kylene Rehder: Social Work Program Director & Professor

From the *RUSO Success Stories* webpage: <https://www.ruso.edu/post/kylene-rehder-social-work-program-director-professor>

Most college students have "that one professor" who's made a profound difference in their education. Dr. Kylene Rehder's impact goes beyond the classroom. The social work students at Northwestern Oklahoma State University get the benefit of her dedication to teaching, as well as her commitment to expand their career opportunities as she works to transform the social services landscape in Northwest Oklahoma.

After graduating from Northwestern with her Bachelor of Social Work in 2001, Rehder went to OU for her Master of Social Work but discovered she was at a disadvantage.

"When I registered for my master's, I found out that I didn't qualify for advanced standing. Only then did I learn that our undergraduate program was not externally accredited, meaning I had to take two years to get my MSW instead of one," Rehder said. "That was the start of my desire to come back to Northwestern and make our program accredited."

After her master's, Rehder started work as clinical therapist before becoming an adjunct instructor at Northwestern. When a full-time professorship opened, she took the job with the main focus to gain external accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education.

"My goal with accreditation was that more students would come to the university for the social work program and stay in the region to practice in rural areas. Many graduates leave for a master's program like OU and never come back," she said. "I wanted to

expand our communities' access to professionally trained social workers."

Accreditation is a four-year writing process that begins with self-study followed by a commission review of the university's curriculum. Having a degree from an accredited program means graduates can sit for the licensing exam upon graduation with a BSW, while also having the opportunity for advanced standing in master's programs. It's a long and arduous process to ensure curriculum quality, academic improvement and public accountability. But Rehder took it in stride.

"This was one of those tasks that was so huge in nature, I'm not sure anyone believed I could do it. I was 25 at the time, quite naive and ambitious, but very determined," Rehder said.

NWOSU began the accreditation path in 2005, and after a lengthy process and thorough review, they got word in 2009 that the program would become only the fifth accredited social work program in the state – and the only one in northwest Oklahoma. The application is retroactive, meaning any graduate since 2005 now has a degree from an accredited program.

"Since then, the growth of the program has been amazing. In 2005, we had 6 majors in the program. Now 40 to 50 are admitted in the program with 60 to 70 currently majoring," Rehder said. "As a volunteer for the Oklahoma Medical Reserve Corps disaster response team, I've seen first-hand the incredible



Kylene Rehder

impact this has made. After the Woodward tornado several years ago, one of the things that struck me the most was that everywhere I looked, there was a graduate of mine! And not just 'there,' but they were leading teams and in charge of agencies – truly contributing to the community."

Rehder was recently awarded the National Association of Social Workers "Social Worker of the Year" award for 2018, in no small part due to her efforts to achieve external accreditation for NWOSU. The association recognized Rehder for the detail and complication of the task and the resulting contribution to the community – a marked increase in professionally trained social workers in the region.

"Every one of our graduates are offered jobs before they leave, and most are staying in the region. I'm so excited to see how the landscape has changed in providing adequate social services," she said. "And it's not just about more graduates, it's also the awareness in the region for the important work social workers do."

"It's just one of those things you think, 'if I could do anything...' I'd go back and contribute to my university and make an impact in the community. It really is a dream come true."

## International society inducts 4 Rangers

Dr. Mary Brune, assistant professor of nursing, Dr. Yvette Lowery, assistant professor of nursing, and DNP students Sierra Elsey and Christi Erford were inducted into the Beta Delta at-Large Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing society.

Northwestern is in the process of becoming a member school of nursing in the chapter.

# Band plays host to OSSAA contest

The Northwestern Ranger band played host to between 800 and 1,000 middle and high school students from the northwest and central regions of Oklahoma on the Alva campus March 3 for the District 2 concert band and solo/ensemble contest.

The all-day contest was held simultaneously in the Herod Hall Auditorium for the concert bands and in Ryerson Hall for the solos and ensembles. This contest allowed students to perform their musical pieces in front of judges to determine if the musician or band may move on to the state level competition.

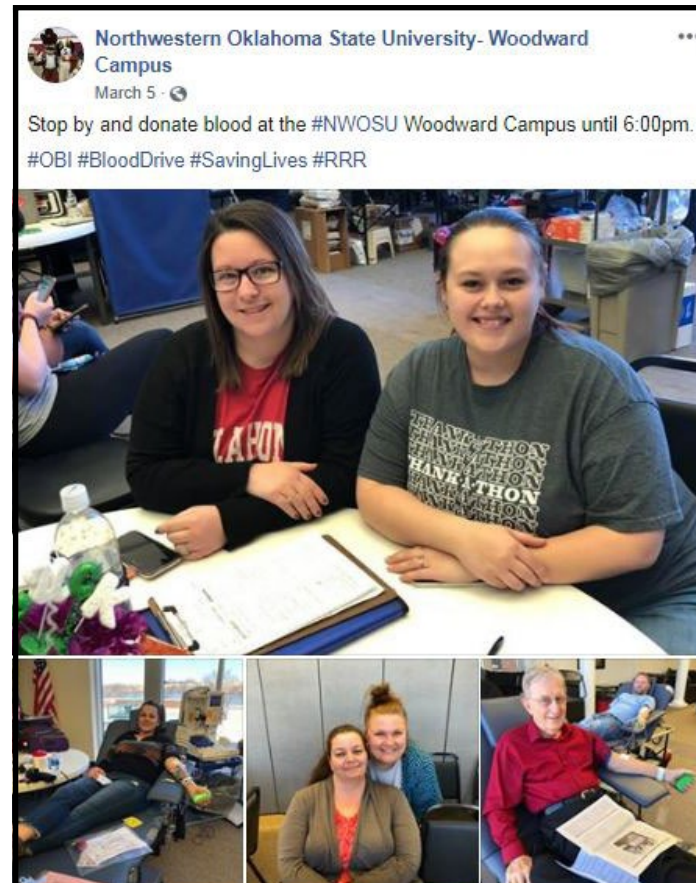
Two hundred students registered to play in the individual solo and ensemble portion with approximately 600 registered to play with their concert bands.

Fifteen high schools and middle schools registered with students to perform including Alva, Blackwell, Chisholm, Hennessey, Kremlin-Hillsdale, Laverne, Medford, Ringwood, Okeene, Oklahoma Bible Academy, Pioneer-Pleasant Vale, Pond Creek-Hunter, Waukomis, Watonga and Woodward.

As one might imagine, hosting such a large crowd may takes a lot of work, but Seth Cudd, instructor of music and director of bands, said students in the University bands come together to host the event. In this way enough students are on staff to help with the performing students, keep track of scoring and help the

contest run smoothly.

Cudd said the contest has been held each year at Northwestern for a significant number of years, although this was only his second year organizing the event.



# Gaddy named 2020 Newman Civic Fellow

Landry Gaddy, freshman political science major at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, has been named a 2020 Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow.

Campus Compact is a Boston-based non-profit organization working to advance the public purposes of higher education. The organization's 2020 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows is comprised of 290 students, including Gaddy.

"I am honored to represent Northwestern and the community of Alva," Gaddy said. "This fellowship will provide an enormous opportunity to network with civic-minded students and experts from around the United States."

"While growing up in Alva, I have been exposed to some of the most supportive, giving, and civic-minded individuals who inspire me to do my part in making Alva a better place. I plan to use this opportunity to learn from experts about civic issues, raise

awareness for my platform which provides items for students in need, and share my passion for civic service."

The Alva native is an active member of the University's Student Government Association, Delta Zeta social sorority and President's Leadership Council. She has volunteered in numerous capacities with her church and community, while also founding The Goldbug Closet, which provides gently used clothing to students in need.

"Gaddy realizes the importance of civic engagement and understands the amount of effort needed," Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology, said. "Going through this program will give her additional strategies to increase engagement, and she will use this experience to benefit herself and our University."

Gaddy has seen first-hand the commitment a

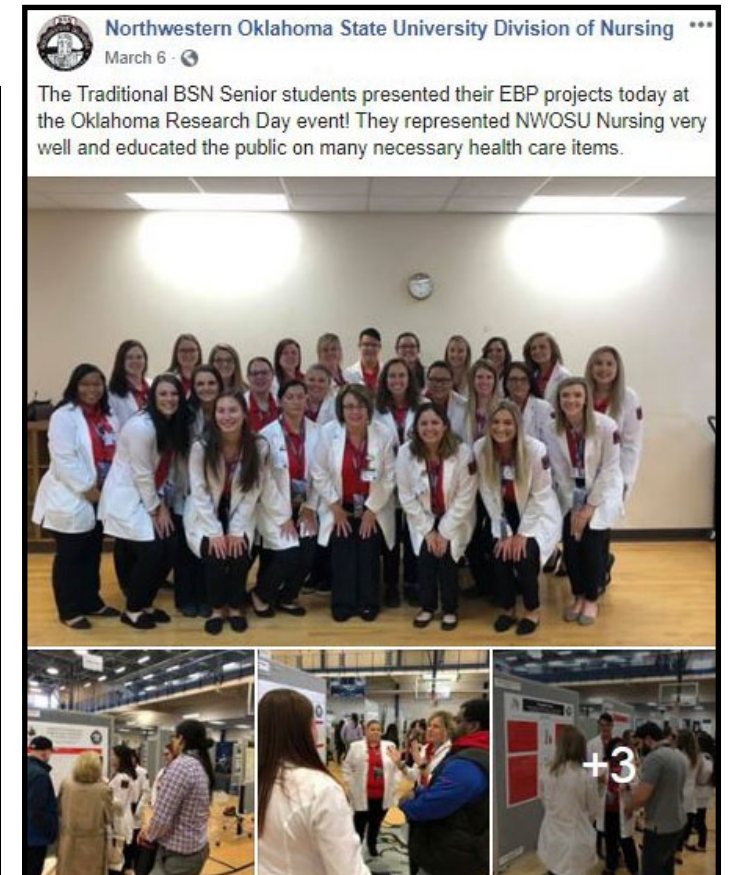
community can make to a situation of need and knows that when members work together, the quality of life increases positively for the entire community. She plans to continue to strive for civic engagement and will pursue a law degree upon graduation from Northwestern.

The Newman Civic Fellowship, named for Campus Compact co-founder Frank Newman, is a one-year experience emphasizing personal, professional and civic growth. Through the fellowship, Campus Compact provides a variety of learning and networking opportunities, including a national conference of Newman Civic Fellows in partnership with the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate. The fellowship also provides fellows with access to apply for exclusive scholarship and post-graduate opportunities.

The Newman Civic Fellowship is supported by the KPMG Foundation and Newman's Own Foundation.



Landry Gaddy



# Primp for Prom services 26 high schools

More than 250 dresses were given away to students from 26 high schools in Oklahoma and Texas during the annual Primp for Prom event held in the Woodward High School Practice Gym.

This year more than 400 dresses and nearly 75 pairs of shoes were donated to the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Department of Social Work, which co-sponsors the event with members of the Woodward High School Key Club.

"Primp for Prom is an event that always highlights the generosity of others and the kindness that exists in our local communities," Dr. Kylene Rehder, department of social work chair, said.

This event is something that Key Club members look forward to helping with each year.

"It's always fun to see the busloads of girls come in from surrounding towns and from Woodward as well, who get to come shop around," said Key Club sponsor Stefanie Alexander. "They get to look for shoes and jewelry and find the perfect dress. And, it's just always such a fun experience to get to see them enjoy the shopping experience."

Wynter Standridge, a Northwestern junior from Woodward and member of the Social Workers Association of Tomorrow (SWAT) organization, which helps with the event, enjoys being a volunteer. She sees Primp for Prom as being an im-

portant event for any high schooler who is dreaming of a wonderful prom experience but is not quite sure they can afford their attire.

Several girls attending the event also noted cost-factor including Carlie Gallegos, a Forgan High School junior, who attended Primp for Prom in the past and also attended this year. She said it can be expensive to purchase a prom dress when coming from a single-mom family, so she is thankful for those who donated dresses and accessories so that girls can choose items for free. She added that she brought back the dress she chose last year and picked up a new one this year.

Hanna Bowen, Woodward High School junior, is also thankful for this event. "Primp for Prom is pretty important to me because there are some people out there who can't afford prom dresses and don't have money for shoes or jewelry," Bowen said. "It's something important for getting to actually be involved in prom. I think it's

something unique that all schools should have."

Rehder expressed appreciation on behalf of the department of social work to those who helped with the event's success including the Woodward High School Key Club members and their sponsor Stefanie Alexander; Woodward campus dean Dr. Deena Fisher and her husband Tom, Judy Guthrie, Northwestern social work volunteers, SWAT members, Woodward High School employee volunteers, Stage, and all the gener-

ous dress and accessory donors from across northwest Oklahoma. She noted a special thanks to the administration of Woodward Public Schools for playing host to the event. "The department of social work and the Key Club are always honored to sponsor this event," Rehder said. "This event is about more than dresses for us; we see it as a means to embody our university mission to build a sense of community and an opportunity to serve others."

For more information about this event or the department, please contact Rehder at [kdrehder@nwsu.edu](mailto:kdrehder@nwsu.edu) or (580) 327-8135.



Alva High School freshman Erica Coday (right) and her mom Tricia look for the perfect dress at Primp for Prom.



# Los Angeles music activist is Fine Arts' guest

Conductor, composer/arranger, vocal contractor, singer, music activist and speaker Dr. Alexander Lloyd Blake was the special guest of the Fine Arts Department Monday and Tuesday, March 9-10.

The Los Angeles music activist spoke twice while on campus. On Monday, he provided a lecture in Ryerson Hall 200 on "Social Justice Topics in Music." Then on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Herod Hall Auditorium, the Northwestern Chorale joined Blake in a lecture/concert on "Social Justice and Music" titled "i will hold you."

Named as one of the 30 most influential musicians of this past year in the United States, Blake spoke for the first half of the concert. The Northwestern Chorale then sang a masterwork the last 20 minutes called "To the Hands." Karsten Longhurst, instructor of music and director of choral studies at Northwestern, said this work addresses the plight of refugees around the world. The performers were accompanied by a guest string quintet.

Longhurst, who has been friends with Blake since their days together at USC-Thornton, said this event was part of their diversity initiative.

Longhurst said that Blake is the conductor of "Tonality," a choral ensemble founded by Blake in 2016 while studying at USC-Thornton that focuses on spreading a message of unity, peace and social justice through a culturally diverse choral setting.

Blake also serves as the Choir Director at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts (LACHSA) and serves in Los Angeles and New York City as a Principal Assistant Conductor of the National Children's Chorus.

As an arranger, Blake's "Wade in the Water" was a featured arrangement at the North Carolina Music Educators Association convention in 2013 and is published with Santa Barbara Music Publishing.

His arrangement of "Deep River" and "Poor Wayfaring Stranger" will be published by Alliance Music Publishing and Walton Music Publishing, respectively.

Blake recently was commissioned by the New York City professional ensemble "Inspire" to write a work on environmental justice.

Other musical activities for Blake included an opera premiere at the 2019 Prototype Festival in New York City and preparing choirs for live performances with the UCLA Center for the Art of Performance.

Blake completed the Doctorate in Musical Arts degree at the University of Southern California in 2019. His

Master of Music was completed at the University of California-Los Angeles in 2014, and he completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Vocal Performance at Wake Forest University in 2010.

Blake's recent film and TV credits include singing on the soundtrack of Jordan Peele's "US," Disney's "Lion King," and Pixar's "Spies in Disguise." He also worked as the choral contractor and vocal arranger for Andy Grammer's performance at the 2019 ARDys (Radio Disney Awards). Blake also performed as a singer on the 92nd Oscar Awards.

Blake recently prepared singers for the 2020 Grammy Awards and performed at the 2020 Oscars Awards.

For more information about this event or the vocal music program at Northwestern, contact Longhurst at (580) 327-8692 or [krlonghurst@nwsu.edu](mailto:krlonghurst@nwsu.edu).



# Northwest Regional Science Fair held in February

Students from six schools earned top awards during the Northwest Oklahoma Regional Science Fair held at Northwestern. Since 1957, Northwestern has played host to this science fair. This program has evolved over the years to become one of outreach and service learning, and has served as a springboard for aspiring students. The fair services the northwest counties of Oklahoma and is a feeder fair for the Oklahoma State Science & Engineering Fair (OSSEF) held March 26-28 in Stillwater at Oklahoma State University (OSU). At the regional fair, judges have the capability of advancing a project to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Anaheim, California.

Participants are divided into three categories: Division I grades 10 -12, Division II grades 7-9 and Division III grades 4-6.

Overall Winners listed below:

Broadcom Masters Nominees 7th-8th grades – Juan Flores from Vici Public Schools, Torrie Grant and Jazmein Rivas from Vici Public Schools

Division II - Reserve Champion, Alec Anderson from Ringwood Public Schools, Chemical Fertilizer vs Organic Fertilizer; Grand Champion, Carter McGaha from Vici Public Schools, The Study of Anasa tristis Elimination Using Household Products

Division I - Reserve Champion, Anna Lee from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Fish Eyes; Grand Champion, Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super Are Superworms?

Northwestern Senior Scholarships – \$500, Brooklynn Flanary from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Going microGREEN; \$1,000 Anna Lee from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Fish Eyes; \$1,500, Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super Are Superworms?

International Science and Engineering Fair Qualifiers – Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super Are Superworms?; Carter McGaha from Vici Public Schools, The Study of Anasa tristis Elimination Using Household Products

State Qualifiers listed below:

Northwest Technology Center (Fairview) - Kalli Baumgardner, Aydan Dow, Brooklynn Flanary, Taylor Haines, Anna Lee

Ringwood - Alec Anderson, Saul Espinoza, Rylie Jantzen, Patrick Morgan, Kasey Navarro, Alondra Salas, Avery Wallace

Vici - Torrie Grant, Cayce McCracken, Carter McGaha, Jillian Parry, Madeline Parry, Jazmeine Rivas

Regional Science Fair Category Winners listed below:

Animal Science, Division II – 3rd, Juan Flores from Vici Public Schools, Worm Would You Live; 2nd, Torrie Grant and Jazmein Rivas from Vici Public Schools, Armadillidiidae Choice Chamber; 1st, Carter McGaha from Vici Public Schools, The Study of Anasa tristis Elimination Using Household Products

Animal Science, Division I – 3rd, Kaitlyn

Hiebert from Ringwood Public Schools, Deer-O-Metric Pressure; 2nd, Rylie Jantzen from Ringwood Public Schools, At What Temperature is Swine Semen Most Viable; 1st, Alondra Salas from Ringwood Public Schools, Do Magnets Affect Regeneration in Planaria

Chemistry, Division III - 1st, Bailey Oldham from Ringwood Public Schools, Bucket Color

Chemistry, Division II - 3rd, Keirstyn Altland from Vici Public Schools, Too Much Chlorine; 2nd, Bela Herber and Caitlyn Laverty from Shattuck Public Schools, Cookie Monster- Does Butter Affect Your Cookie; 1st, Avery Wallace from Ringwood Public Schools, Wash it Out

Chemistry, Division I - 1st, Kenzie Craighead from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Don't Just Eat Your Carrots, Cut Them Too!

Earth/Environmental Sciences & Natural Resources, Division II - 3rd, Briley Stoll from Taloga Public Schools, Ph Levels of Tap Water in Four Northwest Oklahoma Towns; 2nd, Kloe Nelson from Vici Public Schools, Death to the Slime Mold; 1st, Gracie Guthrie and

Chelsea Huguen from Vici Public Schools, Soil Erosion

Earth/Environmental Sciences & Natural Resources, Division I - 1st, Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super Are Superworms?

Engineering, Division II - Honorable Mention, Jose Rojas from Ringwood Public Schools, Soundproof with Common Materials; 3rd, Dalton Nichols from



**State qualifiers from the Northwest Oklahoma Regional Science Fair held at Northwestern Oklahoma State University qualified to compete at the Oklahoma State Science & Engineering Fair March 26-28 at Oklahoma State University.**

Ringwood Public Schools, Which Oil is Best Overall; 2nd, Brooke Keller from Vici Public Schools, The Earthquakes Wrath; 1st, Patrick Morgan from Ringwood Public Schools, Aircraft Invisibility

Engineering, Division I - 3rd, Carter Repp from Ringwood Public Schools, 270 vs 30-06; 2nd, Evan Silva from Ringwood Public Schools, What Blocks WiFi; 1st, Anna Lee from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Fish Eyes

Mathematics and Computer Science, Division I - 1st, Hadley Bohlen from Ringwood Public Schools, Blind Spot? Why Not?

Medical/Health Science, Division II - Honorable Mention, Kevin Kaumans from Burlington Public Schools, Right vs. Left; 3rd, Leah Baker from Vici Public Schools, Dehydration and the Effects on Oxygen and Pulse Levels; 2nd, Karlee Lund from Vici Public Schools, Are Office Masks as Clean as They Say; 1st, Cayce McCracken and Jillian Parry from Vici Public Schools, Does Activated Charcoal Kill Mold?

Medical/Health Science, Division I -

**Continued on page 31**

Continued from page 30

# Northwest Regional Science Fair...

Honorable Mention, Larynn Shaffer from Ringwood Public Schools, Does Using Scents Make Sense; 3rd, Adriel Lora from Ringwood Public Schools, Glucose Killer; 2nd, Ashlee McVay from Ringwood Public Schools, Does Blood Pressure and Rate Affect our Daily Lives; 1st, Watt Shaffer from Ringwood Public Schools, Fast Dissolve

Microbiology/Biochemistry, Division II - 1st, Saul Espinoza and Kasey Navarro from Ringwood Public Schools, Are You Playing with Bacteria?

Plant Science, Division II - 3rd, Desi Arguello and Leslie Rivas from Vici Public Schools, How Does The Color of Light Affect Photosynthesis; 2nd, Bridget Burnett and Anna Tate from Ringwood Public Schools, How Does Caffeine Affect Plant Growth; 1st, Alec Anderson from Ringwood Public Schools, Chemical Fertilizer vs Organic Fertilizer

Plant Science, Division I - 1st, Brooklynn Flanary from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Going microGREEN

Social/Behavioral Sciences, Division II - Honorable Mention, Jaxon Meyers from Ringwood Public Schools, Does Weather Affect Pitchers; 3rd, Christina Bentley from Vici Public Schools, How Does Smartphone Usage Effect High School Students; 2nd, Emily Parry from Vici Public Schools, Is Honesty the Best Policy; 1st, Madeline Parry from Vici Public Schools, Spectrum Science: A Study of Color Identification

Social/Behavioral Sciences, Division I - 3rd, Abigail Tate from Ringwood Public Schools, The Mozart Effect; 2nd, Faith Wall from Ringwood Public Schools, The Accuracy of Horoscopes; 1st, Aydan Dow and Taylor Haines from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), The Psychology Behind Aromatherapy

Special Award Winners listed below: American Psychological Association - Madeline Parry from Vici Public Schools, Spectrum Science: A Study of Color Identification

ASM Materials Education Foundation - Brooke Keller from Vici Public Schools, The Earthquake's Wrath

Association for Women Geoscientists - Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super are Superworms?

Mu Alpha Theta Award – Anna Lee from

Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Fish Eyes

NASA Earth System Science Award - Alec Anderson from Ringwood Public Schools, Chemical Fertilizer vs Organic Fertilizer

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award - Kloe Nelson from Vici Public Schools, Death to the Slime Mold  
Ricoch Sustainable Development Award - Brooklynn Flanary from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Going MicroGREEN

Stockholm Junior Water Prize - Keirstyn Altland from Vici Public Schools, Too Much Chlorine?

U.S. Agency for International Development - Carter McGaha from Vici Public Schools, The Study of Anasa tristis Elimination using Household Products  
U.S. Air Force

Engineering – Patrick Morgan from Ringwood Public Schools, Aircraft Invisibility  
Environmental and Life Science – Saul

Espinoza and Kasey Navarro from Ringwood Public Schools, Are You Playing With Bacteria?

Mathematics and Computer Science – Hadley Bohlen from Ringwood Public Schools, Blind Spot? Why Not?

Office of Naval Research  
Division II - Alec Anderson from Ringwood Public Schools, Chemical vs. Organic Fertilizer; Carter McGaha from Vici Public Schools, The Study of Anasa tristis Elimination Using Household Products

Division I - Kalli Baumgardner from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), How Super are Superworms?; Brooklynn Flanary, from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Going MicroGREEN

U.S. Metric Association - Kenzie Craighead from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Don't Just Eat Your Carrots, Cut them Too!

Yale Science and Engineering Association - Anna Lee from Northwest Technology Center (Fairview), Fish Eyes





# Wells speaks on rural health issues

Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, recently presented at the Rural Health Association of Oklahoma's annual conference in Norman.

This two-day conference was attended by approximately 200 health care leaders from Oklahoma's rural hospitals. RHAO's mission is to serve as a united voice for Oklahomans in the promotion of rural health issues through advocacy, education and leadership. Their primary activities include hosting the RHAO annual conference in the spring, promoting and advocating for rural health issues, and meeting with stakeholders across the state.

Wells gave her presentation



Shelly Wells

titled "Oklahoma Health Workforce: Supply and Ideas."

"Hospitals in rural Oklahoma are faced with multiple threats," Wells said. "Their livelihood is dependent upon having enough qualified staff to attend to health demands of their communities. We also know that depending upon the current supply of health care workers is not enough – as their numbers are too few."

She said her presentation focused on the current supply and demand of nursing personnel in the rural areas of Oklahoma, and the current impact of the nursing education pipeline upon the supply of nurses for the rural areas of the state. She touched briefly upon other sectors of the health care

workforce in Oklahoma and the challenges with the availability of supply and demand data for health workforce members. She also presented several exemplars for engaging youth to stimulate interest in health care professions.

"Northwestern, in partnership with Northwest Technology Center, has been a state leader in targeting youth and exposing them to health careers through its MASH (Medical Avenues in Service and Health) camps over the past four years," Wells said. "Similar opportunities need to be identified throughout the state."

For more information on this topic or Northwestern's nursing programs, contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or scwells@nwsu.edu.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing  
March 19 · 🌐  
#2020yearofthenurse Feel free to join in on this conversation.

**NETWORKS OF SUPPORT:  
CONNECTING OKLAHOMA NURSES**

**MONDAY, MARCH 23  
4:00 PM CST**

Michael Seth Cudd shared a post.  
Admin · March 13

Michael Seth Cudd  
March 13

Thank you to our donors, and thank you to Kevin at Northwestern for working so hard to design and build shelving in the new trailer. (Kevin is a gifted carpenter, and his work on our trailer is absolutely impressive. It's not quite finished in these pictures, but it's getting close.) This is going to be amazing to have next year! It'll get a ton of use all marching season!

# Dusty Turner, Agricultural Entrepreneur

From the RUSO Success Stories webpage: <https://www.ruso.edu/post/dusty-turner-agricultural-entrepreneur>

It took years for Dusty Turner to self-define as an entrepreneur.

"I didn't even know what that word meant, it's a label that's developed over time. I never set out to be an entrepreneur, but I've never been afraid of work or meeting and helping people. And that's what opens doors and provides opportunities."

For Turner, the opportunities began to show themselves when he was a student at Northwestern Oklahoma State University in Alva. Though he first attended NWOSU on a basketball scholarship, he eventually chose to use that time to further his education and career. He played basketball for two years and then chose not to play his last two years so he could instead work and have experience in the cattle industry. One of his jobs as an upperclassman was on the NWOSU farm.

The 320-acre university farm, located seven miles south of Alva, is the home of registered cattle, registered hogs, and registered sheep. The combination of facilities on campus and the farm enables students to apply agricultural theory learned in the classroom and gain practical experience needed in the field.

"I always knew I wanted to work in agriculture. My advisor, Dr. Jim Gilchrist, noticed my curiosity and passion for the field. He gave me the opportunity to go run the university farm.

"Northwestern puts a lot of trust and confidence in their students. The experience helped

me to grow quickly and make the right decisions for the future."

Operating Northwestern's farm offered Turner a leadership role on campus and a place to apply his education. In his spare time, he hauled hay and helped out other farmers and ranchers in the Alva area. After graduation, a mentor encouraged him to take his skills to a commercial feed yard; within 3 years, Turner was promoted to general manager and only continued to grow professionally from there. He managed the feedyards for several large companies in the industry and eventually moved to the fuel industry. As COO of Conestoga Energy for 13 years, his problem solving skills were put to work in ethanol pro-



Dusty Turner

duction. Turner's understanding of business grew in other ways, too. "I learned the importance of developing people. Showing care and interest in those who work for you pays off, from a personal and business point of view."

In 2014 Turner combined his wealth of experience in ethanol and cattle and founded MasterHand Milling, the first dried distillers grain cube cattle feed made entirely from the byproduct of ethanol production. It was a race

**"Northwestern puts a lot of trust and confidence in their students. The experience helped me to grow quickly and make the right decisions for the future."**

to be first to market the product in the industry and Turner's entrepreneurial spirit won out. "I just added a little cowboy logic to it," Turner shrugs.



# Pandemic creates university changes

COVID-19. Coronavirus. The Rona. The Virus. All these terms, and more, can be used to describe the sickness, the pandemic that changed a world.

Northwestern was not immune to the effects of the disease.

Northwestern's normal day-to-day life was quickly changed during spring break. Who would ever have guessed that our students would not return for the rest of the semester? Who would guess that most would learn to use software like Zoom and Skype regularly for classes, meetings, advising?

Who knew that YouTube would become a valued tool for lessons? Who would guess that meeting this way would start to feel almost normal?

The photos, the graphics and the stories to follow in the next pages will help illustrate what became of Northwestern's Spring 2020 – the COVID-19 semester.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
March 17

Visit [www.nwsu.edu/coronavirus](http://www.nwsu.edu/coronavirus) for Northwestern's updates.

**OFFICES AT ALL CAMPUS LOCATIONS WILL BE CLOSED MARCH 19 & 20**



**J.R. HOLDER WELLNESS CENTER WILL CLOSE AT 9:00 P.M. ON MARCH 17 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

NWOSU SGA  
March 23

All campus events have been canceled the remainder of the semester, but we will be doing various giveaways throughout the rest of the semester on our social media pages!



**WE ARE SAD TO ANNOUNCE ALL STUDENT EVENTS ARE CANCELED FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR.**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
March 25

Northwestern Oklahoma State University is moving to ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY METHODS FOR THE REMAINDER OF SPRING SEMESTER 2020.

For more details and information  
<https://www.nwsu.edu/coronavirus>



**Northwestern**  
OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association  
March 19

Two Upcoming Events Canceled

To do our part in minimizing the risks of the Novel Coronavirus, we are canceling Spring Alumni Reunion 2020 and Baseball, Hot Dogs and Apple Pie.

For more information, see [bit.ly/springreunioncanceled](http://bit.ly/springreunioncanceled)

MY.NWFOUNDATION.COM  
Northwestern's Spring Alumni Reunion 2020 Canceled - Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association  
The Northwestern Foundation & Alumni...

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association  
March 24

The Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association is partnering with Holder Drug, Alva's Market and Walmart Alva to deliver prescriptions and groceries to our homebound and quarantined citizens during the COVID-19 public health crisis.

Learn how to utilize this service on our website:  
<https://my.nwfoundation.com/free-deliveries-by-the-northwes...>

**FREE GROCERY & PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY**  
Deliveries made within 25 miles of Alva

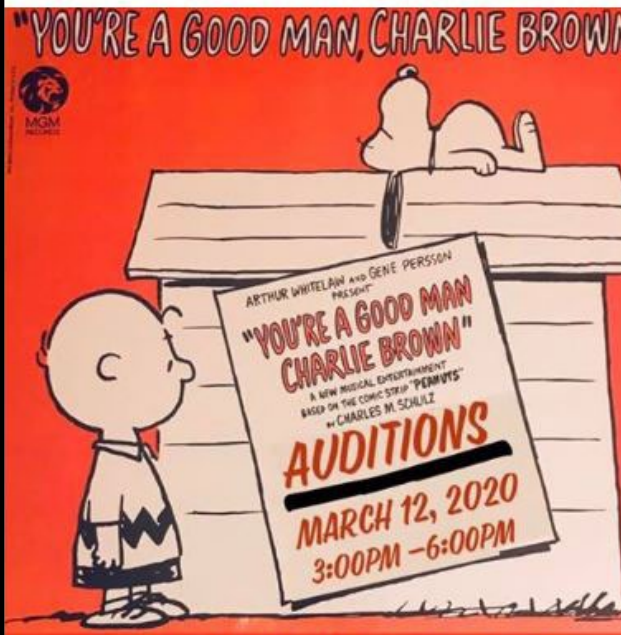


Northwestern Foundation & Alumni Association

NWOSU Theatre  
March 9

Unfortunately we will need to cancel this production for April. But we hope to present the production in October!

**"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN"**



ARTHUR WHITELAW AND GENE PERSHAN PRESENT  
**"YOU'RE A GOOD MAN CHARLIE BROWN"**  
A NEW MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT  
BASED ON THE COMIC STRIP "PEANUTS"  
BY CHARLES M. SCHULZ

**AUDITIONS**  
MARCH 12, 2020  
3:00PM - 6:00PM

**RYERSON HALL RM. 200**  
PLEASE HAVE A 32 BAR VOCAL SELECTION AND SHORT MONOLOGUE PREPARED!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
March 26

New info from the library:

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Libraries  
March 26

New, New Hours & Returns:

- The J.W. Martin Library will be open M-F, 8AM-5PM.
- Don't stress if you receive an email notifying you something is due. The emails are automatic and our feelings will not be hurt if you delete them.
- We're not worried about having items returned until the end of the semester. However, if you are leaving campus, the drop boxes on the north and west of the library building are open and you should probably drop your library items off before you head out.
- If you would like to turn off the nagging emails from our AI overlords, contact the library at 580-327-8574 or [nwlibraries@nwsu.edu](mailto:nwlibraries@nwsu.edu) and we will renew your items for you.

Northwestern News (NWOSU)  
March 23

Hey Rangers! You may not be on campus but we are working to keep you updated and connected. We are switching to an alternative method from print: The Daily Northwestern News! We will be posting constant updates and links right here on our Facebook and other updates and stories on [rangerpulse.com](http://rangerpulse.com) EVERY DAY!

Students and teachers, how are you coping with online classes and social distancing? What are you doing in the meantime? Writing, drawing or painting, making videos, doing something creative? Share it with our campus community! Email pictures, links, word documents, or anything to [nwnews@nwsu.edu](mailto:nwnews@nwsu.edu).

NWOSU SGA  
March 16

Hand washing 101: 20 seconds with warm, soapy water and sing the NWOSU fight song!



1. Ride ride ride  
Rangers ride

2. And we will win  
this game tonight

3. Fight fight fight  
Rangers fight

4. And everything  
will be alright

5. Score score score  
Rangers score

6. And we will win  
just like before

7. More more more  
Rangers more you  
gotta ride & fight  
some more

8. Ride, ride, ride, ride  
ride, fight, fight,  
fight, fight, fight

9. Ride ride ride  
Rangers ride and we  
will win this game  
tonight

10. Fight fight fight  
Rangers fight

11. You gotta ride em  
hard & ride em far

12. And ride ride ride  
and fight fight fight

# DNP student site work affected by coronavirus

Several medical centers, hospitals, and Great Salt Plains Health Center excluded Northwestern DNP students from the clinical sites after spring break because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Several other DNP students who were being precepted at privately-owned clinics were allowed to continue clinicals. In those locations, students had their first opportunities to participate in telehealth visits.

Drs. Wells, Ballina, Lowery, and Thompson rapidly developed activities

to facilitate students' completion of clinical hours for this semester utilizing Grand Rounds presentations and simulations.

Students in the Adult Health and Gerontology clinical courses participated, which was the first time that first-year and second-year students in clinical have been combined for learning activities.

Feedback from students has been 100% positive, and these activities will be incorporated in future clinical courses in an abbreviated form.



# Nurses donate equipment

Northwestern's Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing donated personal protective equipment to Integris Bass Baptist Hospital to aid in the nationwide shortage.

With Northwestern's nursing program using alternative instructional delivery methods for the remainder of the semester, an abundance of these items was no longer needed to complete coursework.

"Northwestern nursing values its relationships with our clinical partners," said Dr. Shelly Wells,

professor of nursing and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing. "By donating the personal protective equipment from our Ketterman Lab inventory, we hope to provide some relief to those nurses and other health care providers addressing the needs of the many patients coming in with complex health issues."

More than 700 items were donated and included particulate respirator masks, surgical masks with face shields, surgical masks with ties, ear loop face masks, yellow isolation gowns, isolation packs and training equipment.



**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**  
March 25 · 🌐

If you're out driving around in the community for the #AlvaBearHunt, make sure to swing by the north entrance to #NWOSU to see our Ranger bear. #RRRR

**Alva Bear Hunt**  
Take a drive around town and see how many bears you can find in the windows of homes!

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**  
April 9 · 🌐

Visit Alva & the Alva Chamber have proposed a #BunnyHop! Much like the #BearHunt, families can safely drive around town to "hunt" eggs! How many Easter eggs can you find? The #NWOSU bear now has a basket so be sure to stop by! This isn't an ordinary Easter week, but let's make the most of it! #goalvago #egg hunt #RRRR

*Ranger Bear made his first appearance on campus on March 25 to be a part of the Alva Bear Hunt. He also had fun participating in the Bunny Hop for Easter. Above right, Mary Riegel paints Ranger Bear.*

**NWOSU SGA** @NWOSUGA · 3/22/20

Rangers, don't forget classes start back tomorrow ONLINE! Check your student e-mail, Blackboard and Self-Service accounts!

If you have any problems or questions, feel free to text our SGA concerns number listed below!

**CLASSES START BACK TOMORROW!**

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK YOUR SCHOOL E-MAILS, BLACKBOARD & SELF SERVICE

LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP  
405-633-2339

**Northwestern Oklahoma State University**  
April 1 at 11:11 AM · 🌐

Northwestern's Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing donates personal protective equipment to Enid hospital. View the full story here: <https://bit.ly/3bJMxFW>

**NWOSU**

**CHARLES MORTON SHARE TRUST DIVISION OF NURSING**

Donates over 700 personal protective equipment items to Integris Bass Baptist Hospital in Enid.

**NWOSU Housing and Res Life** @NWOSUHOUSING

Just a reminder for all students still in our resident halls.

**Operating Hours Coronado Cafeteria**

Monday - Friday  
Breakfast 8:00AM - 9:00AM  
Lunch 12:00PM - 1:00PM  
Dinner 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Saturday and Sunday  
Brunch 11:30AM - 12:30PM  
Dinner 5:00PM - 6:00PM

**Northwestern News (NWOSU)**  
March 25 · 🌐

History repeats itself: 100 years of the flu  
By Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, Assistant Professor of the Mass Communications Program

The COVID-19 virus racing across the country right now is certainly not the first pandemic the United States has faced... See More

[NORTHWESTERNNEWS.RANGERPULSE.COM](http://NORTHWESTERNNEWS.RANGERPULSE.COM)

**NWOSU SGA**  
March 30 · 🌐

Rangers! We've got a fun game for you today during your homework break! Fill this out and tag us! We're trying to see how many blackout's we can get!

**NWOSU BINGO**

VISITED STARBUCK'S 3 DAYS IN ONE WEEK	HAD DINNER AT DR. CUNNINGHAM'S HOUSE	BEEN TO THE BRADT'S MENAGERIE	PROUD TO BE A RANGER	FELL ASLEEP IN THE LIBRARY
HAVE A RED, BLACK & WHITE NWOSU T-SHIRT	MADE HONOR ROLL	JOINED A CLUB	STUDIED ABROAD	HAVE HAD A JACK & JILL FROM HOLDER'S
GONE TO A FITNESS CLASS AT THE WELLY	HAD FREE LUNCH FROM THE BCM/WESLEY HOUSE		TAKEN A PHOTO WITH ROWDY	CHANGED YOUR MAJOR
REFERRED TO SWOSU AS THE SCHOOL DOWN SOUTH	BEEN TO A MOVIE AT RIALTO	KNOW THE WORDS TO THE FIGHT SONG	ATTENDED BAHAMA BREAKAWAY	PLAYED SAND VB UNTIL SUPER LATE
HAD A CORN DOG AT MOVIE ON THE LAWN	MISS BEING ON CAMPUS	DRESSED UP FOR THEME NIGHT AT VB OR BB GAMES	HAD A SNO CONE FROM FROSTY JOE'S	WALKED OUT TO THE RANGER STATUE



Shawna Gilbert attends the Service Desk inside the J.W. Martin Library. Library staff members have marked off 6 foot safe zones at the desk and have adjusted seating at tables and computers inside the library, among other measures, to ensure safety of library patrons.



Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
March 30 · 🌐

Students/Faculty: Get remote research help during the #COVID19 outbreak by contacting the #NWOSU reference librarian through Zoom: 773-885-3817, M-F, 8am-5pm. More info at <https://bit.ly/39tJwb6>. #RemoteRangers

**NWOSU STUDENTS & FACULTY:**  
**Get remote research help during the #COVID19 outbreak by contacting the NWOSU reference librarian through Zoom: 773-885-3817, M-F, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
April 23 at 5:33 PM · 🌐

This time of year usually brings together a group of volunteers to help beautify the campus. With social distancing in mind, the Campus Planting Project began today with a handful of people. Two other days are set for April 29 & May 6. Email [eedavis@nwosu.edu](mailto:eedavis@nwosu.edu) if interested.

# Welch chosen to present at 25th Research Day

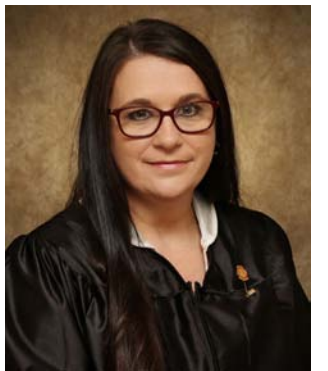
Joni Welch, Alva senior, was recently selected to represent Northwestern Oklahoma State University at the 25th annual Research Day at the Capitol.

Welch was one of 22 undergraduate students representing 16 Oklahoma colleges and universities who were identified to participate in the prestigious event, which is designed to raise awareness of the outstanding undergraduate research that is taking place at Oklahoma's colleges and universities.

Welch and her team outlined research suggesting that patient outcomes are improved when care is provided by nurses who have received their Bachelor of Science in Nursing and those who engage in lifelong learning. The team consisted of fellow nursing students Brooke Handke, Tulsa senior; Amy Kleinvachter, La Crosse, Wisconsin, senior; and Tasha Swallow, Sharon senior.

"As Oklahomans face more complex health concerns, it is vital that healthcare professionals, including nurses, have the education to meet the patients' needs," Welch said. "Studies suggest that experience is not a substitute for higher education.

The state of New York currently requires nurses with associate degrees to obtain a B.S.N. within 10 years of initial licensure. Similar legislation should be expected in the future for other states."



Joni Welch

Research Day is sponsored by the National Science Foundation, Oklahoma NSF Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, and Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Research Day was canceled, but still honored the students' research.

Northwestern News (NWOSU)  
April 3 · 🌐

How are teachers coping with the online format  
By Michelle Willson, Feature/Entertainment Editor  
<http://northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com/how-are-teachers-coping-with-the-online-format>

NWOSU Visual Arts  
April 7 · 🌐

Art Movie Monday (or, ummm... Tuesday) Recommendation! Although we can't get together to watch a film, here is a weekly recommended film to watch on your own:  
Jodorowsky's Dune (2014)

"In 1975, Chilean director Alejandro Jodorowsky, whose films EL TOPO and THE HOLY MOUNTAIN launched and ultimately defined the midnight movie phenomenon, began work on his most ambitious project yet. Starring his own 12 year old son Brontis alongside Orson Welles, Mick Jagger, David Carradi... See More

JODOROWSKY'S DUNE  
OFFICIAL TRAILER

Northwestern Oklahoma State University Division of Nursing  
April 4 · 🌐

All of our graduates make us very proud. Brandy Moore (an online RN to BSN grad) works in Wagoner Oklahoma and is their hospital's Covid-19 expert. What is everyone else doing during this challenging time??

**Wagoner Health**

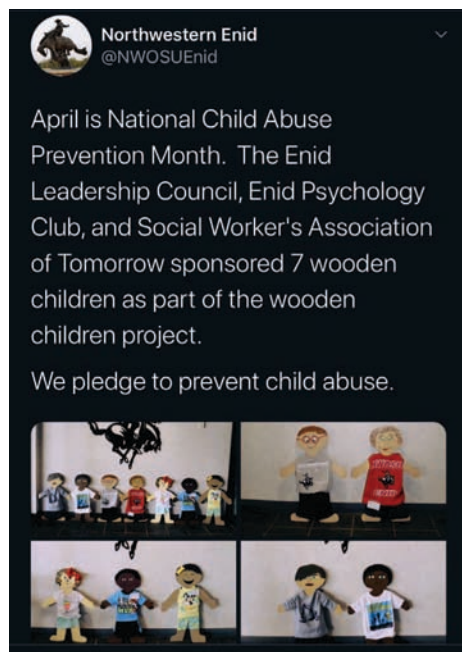
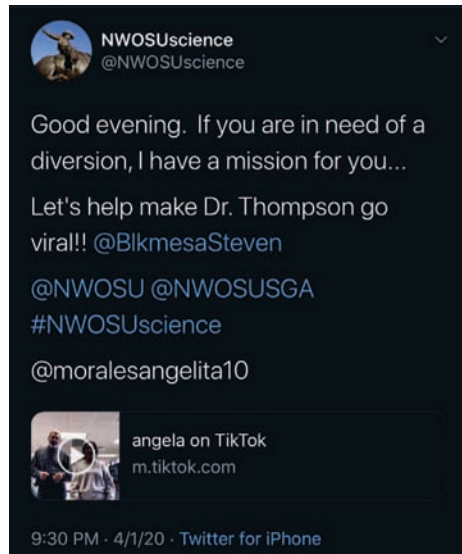
**COVID-19 HERO OF THE WEEK**

**Brandy Moore**  
Director of Quality and Infection Control and Prevention

Brandy is the point person for all things COVID. She works with internal and external constituents, public health, CDC and many others in managing the crisis. Great job, Brandy!

Caring for Covid-19 patients in our Community.

Great People • Great Service • Great Care



# DNP students here in July, need 'patients'

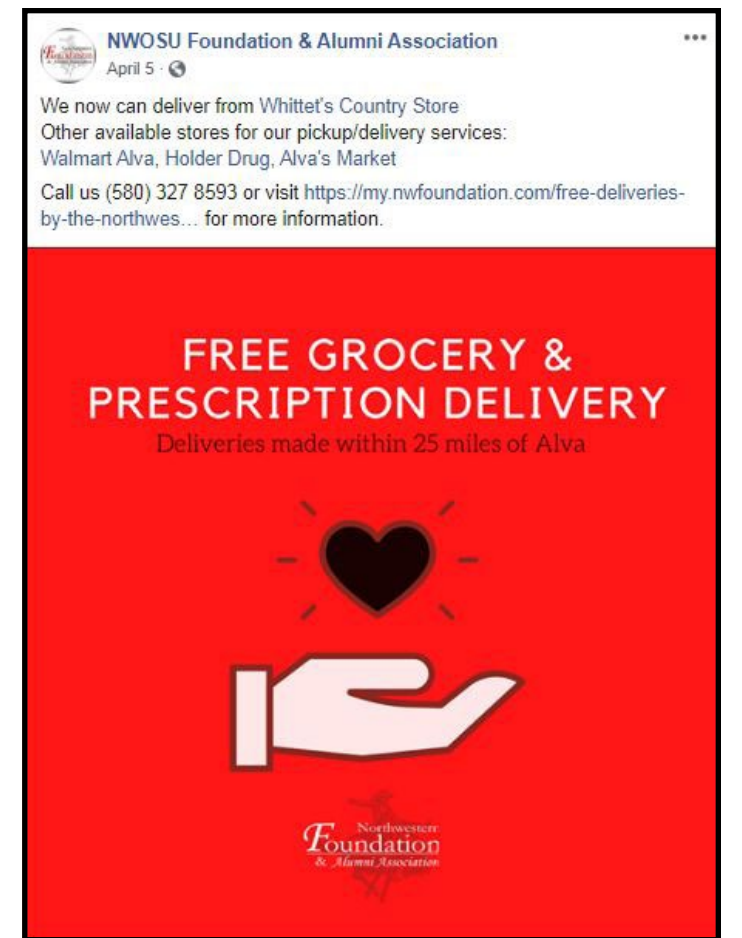
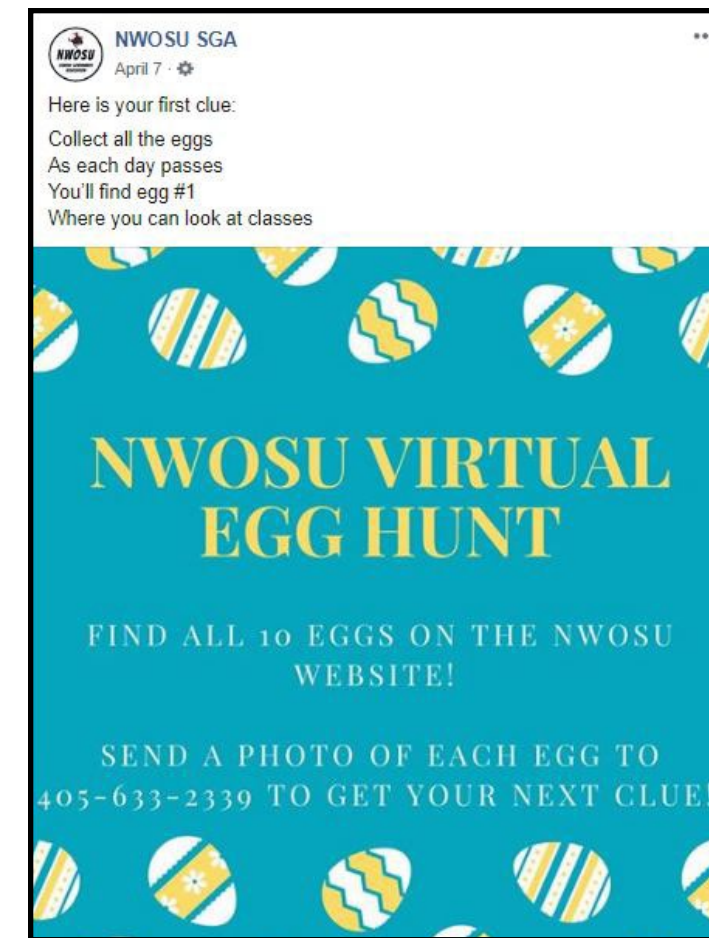
Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Doctor of Nursing Practice students are expected to be on campus July 12-17 to participate in the annual residency week.

During this time, the students will have physical assessment and office procedure skills validated. The nursing program will be asking Northwestern students,

faculty and staff and their kids to volunteer to be "patients" for the physical assessment activities again this year.



Paycom and NWOSU Career Services played host to a free webinar in April available to all Northwestern students to provide tips on developing a resume and cover letter as well as building a professional network





**#Reminder Governor Kevin Stitt "Safer At Home" Executive Order applies to all 77 Oklahoma Counties until April 30**

**In accordance with Governor Stitt's Executive Order, all Oklahomans who are:**

- 65 and older
- Immunocompromised adults and children

**Are instructed to shelter at home until April 30, unless you are:**

- Getting groceries or prescriptions
- Participating in daily exercise

**STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.**

INFORMATION + UPDATES  
[CORONAVIRUS.HEALTH.OK.GOV](https://www.ok.gov/health/coronavirus)  
 CALL CENTER: 877-215-8336 OR 2-1-1

**NWOSU Department of English**  
 April 10 · Congrats Winners!

## Congrats EFLH Scholarship Recipients

Gladys Bingham-Dotter Scholarship  
 Chloe Wallace, Anna Reed-Raney

Lebeda Writing Scholarship  
 Chloe Wallace

Fran Wadley Slack Scholarship  
 Anna Reed-Raney, April Burchfiel, Garyn Pierce

Gloria Piersall Scholarship  
 Meghan Manning, Taylor Alexander, Angel Marshall, Jayden Dillon

# Suspension of classes; viral epidemic not new to Northwestern

## Remembering the 1918 flu epidemic

An excerpt from NWOSU: A Centennial History by Wayne Lane

The flu epidemic that struck the nation in 1918 forced a suspension of classes and athletic events at all the schools in Alva, as well as other restrictions. Members of the student training corps were assigned to patrol the Alva business district to prevent gatherings of more than two or three persons, to try to prevent spitting in public, and to enforce other regulations designed to prevent the spread of the flu.

As it developed, none of the men in the corps saw active duty with the army. Induction papers for them

were issued by the War Department but were mistakenly sent to Alma, Oklahoma, instead of Alva, delaying induction until October. Ninety-four were in the original group, and the number increased until the armistice on November 11 and the subsequent discharge of all men in the corps on December 21, 1918.

Before classes were suspended in the fall semester of 1918 because of the flu epidemic, instructors at the college had given their students assignments that were to be completed and turned in

at the close of the semester. Lee Hardy remembered going to the main building to submit his work and finding a fire blazing in the basement. He said, "Fumigation candles had been placed in rooms in preparation for the resumption of work in the spring semester. One of the candles had overturned, burned through the floor and into the basement below." Fortunately, the janitor, O.L. Valentine, had discovered the flames and shoveled snow in from a window to douse them.



Jennifer Mahieu was featured on the front page of the April 13 issue of Oklahoma's Nursing Times (<https://oknursingtimes.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/April-13-2020-issue-r.pdf>). She coordinates student success activities for the undergraduate BSN students.

# Five place in gaming exposition

Five Northwestern students placed in competition during the Computer Science and Graphics Conference at the University of Tulsa April 17-18. The event was conducted and streamed online.

Students build, program and design computer games and are judged on a variety of categories. Participants at both the high school and college level from across Oklahoma participated.

Northwestern had two teams of computer science majors place in the college level of the Game Development and Design category.

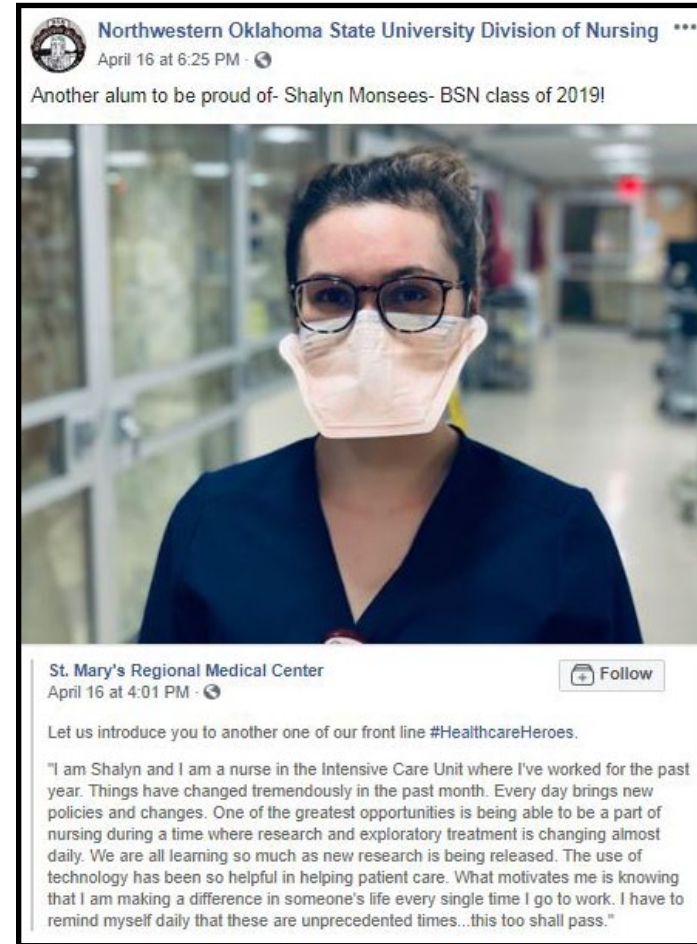
Placing first with their game called Jumpy Shooty is the team of Jose Granados, Woodward senior; Blake Garnett, Alva senior, and Jake Adair, Waynoka senior. The team of Sam Meek, Waynoka junior, and Jackson

Gardner, Lawton senior, placed third with their game called Split.

This was the seventh year that Northwestern computer science students have competed in the event. Evan Vaverka, instructor of computer science, is the Northwestern eSports/game programming team faculty adviser.

For more information on Northwestern's Computer

Science program contact Vaverka at (580) 327-8587 or epvaverka@nwsu.edu.



# Northwestern to offer new master's degree in heritage tourism and conservation

Northwestern will begin offering a new Master of Arts degree in Heritage Tourism and Conservation in August.

This 32-hour program is designed to increase the knowledge base for students who are already employed in a conservation/tourism-based position and for students who want to work or establish a business within the conservation/tourism industry. The curriculum includes multidisciplinary coursework in the areas of history, sociology, communication and conservation that culminates in an individualized project in an area of interest to each student.

"The aim is to prepare students to serve as leaders in existing and emerging areas of conservation/tourism and to make them more valuable and marketable to current and potential employers," said Dr. Shawn Holliday, associate dean of graduate studies. "This program fulfills a need and unique niche in northwestern Oklahoma."

Holliday noted that information from the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation states that tourism is the third largest industry in the state, and tax collections have increased more than 20 percent since 2010. Spending on tourism has grown by 28 percent during that same time period.

Holliday also pointed to a recent article in the "Tulsa World" that stated the Oklahoma Department of Tourism has reported that the tourism industry added almost \$9 billion to the state's economy over the past calendar year.

In northwest Oklahoma, there are five state parks: Gloss Mountain, Little Sahara, Alabaster Caverns, Great Salt Plains and Boiling Springs. There is also one National Wildlife Refuge at Great Salt Plains, and there are many conservation areas in Woods, Harper, Dewey, Ellis and Woodward Counties.

Holliday said agri-tourism is a subset of a larger industry called rural tourism that includes resorts, off-site farmers' markets, non-profit agricultural tours, and other leisure and hospitality businesses that attract visitors to the countryside. Heritage Tourism is a subset of the larger tourism industry.

Holliday provided information from the Travel Industry Association that states heritage tourism focuses on the history and culture of a given region and can include genealogy, traditional arts, storytelling, music, dance, customs, food, activities of daily life, and incorporates museums (historical, archaeological, natural history, geologic) as part of the attraction.

For more information and application requirements for this new master's degree in Heritage Tourism and Conservation, contact Holliday at (580) 327-8589 or spholliday@nwsu.edu.



# Northwestern News staffers win awards at OCMA

The Northwestern News, a student-produced publication at Northwestern Oklahoma State University, won seven first place awards in this year's Oklahoma College Media Association contest.

Winners are usually announced at the annual OCMA conference in Stillwater, but this year the pandemic forced the cancellation of all events on university and college campuses throughout the state. Instead, advisers recently received notification of the results by email.

The Northwestern News also received four second place and four third place awards as well as one honorable mention for a total of 16 awards. The Northwestern News competes in the Diamond Division that includes other small schools in the state. The entries appeared in the newspaper between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2019.

"I am proud of the work these students do every week," said Dr. Kaylene Armstrong, Northwestern News adviser. "They have all really progressed in their abilities this year.

I love having a group of editors and reporters who are willing to work hard no matter how hard it is to get the paper out on time while also completing their school work. Many of them also have other jobs as well, so it is really remarkable what they do."

Two first place awards went to freshman news editor Jordan Green of Blackwell, news writing and feature photo. Junior features editor Michelle Willson of Conway Springs, Kansas, also won two first place awards in features and multimedia story telling. Other first place awards went to senior Megan Brown of Alva, investigative/enterprise reporting; junior circulation manager Chuy Dominguez of Laverne, editorials; and senior photo editor Leah Darnell of Haysville, Kansas, sports photo.

Second place winners are Darnell, editorials; Green, feature photo; senior editorial editor McKayla Holson of Waynoka,

news writing; and Northwestern graduate Capri Gahr of Carmen, investigative/enterprise reporting.

Darnell received two third place awards, news photo and sports photo. Other third place winners are junior Taylor Alexander of Duncan, features; and junior Caitlyn Pray of Caldwell, Kansas, news writing.

Honorable mention winner is Willson, reviews.

Other members of the Northwestern News editing staff this year included senior Ashley Strehl of Freedom, editor-in-chief; senior Ashley Watts of Wellington, Texas, sports editor; freshman Carson Polk of Blountsville, Alabama, online manager; and junior Jayden Dillon of Jet, advertising manager.

Student reporters in various journalism writing and photography classes provide stories and photos for the weekly paper. Because classes

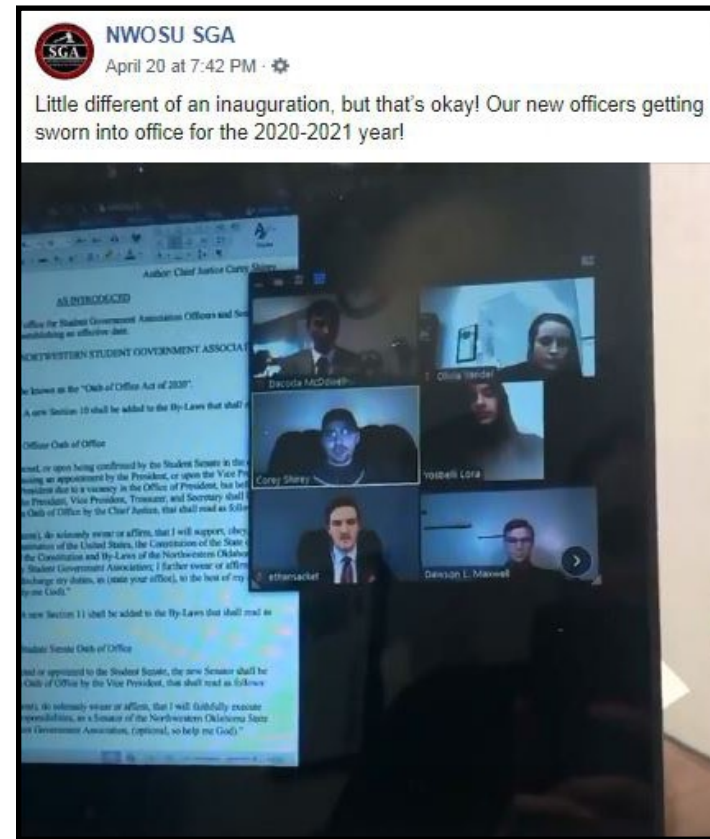
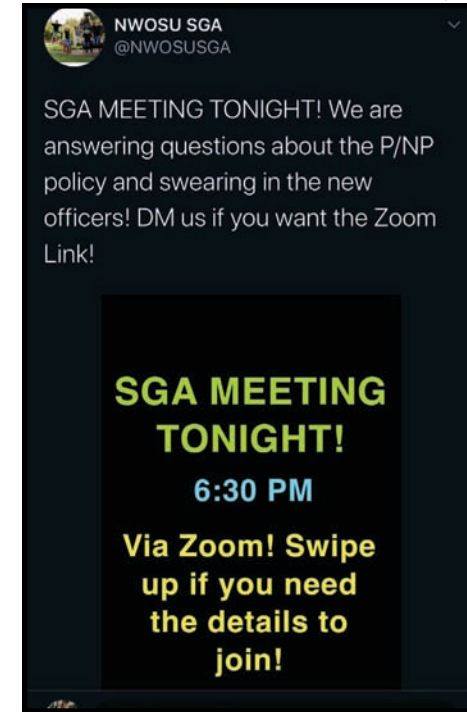
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*Continued from page 47*

## Northwestern News...

went to alternative instructional delivery methods after spring break, the staff did not produce weekly print papers but continued to update their website, <http://northwesternnews.rangerpulse.com/>, and the Northwestern News Facebook page.

To learn more about the Northwestern News, please contact Armstrong at (580) 327-8481 or [kdarmstrong@nwosu.edu](mailto:kdarmstrong@nwosu.edu).



Feel like you need help dealing with your mental health during this #COVID19 pandemic? View the 90-second video released by the Oklahoma House of Reps at <https://bit.ly/helpyourhouse>. Additional support at [www.ok.gov/odmhsas](http://www.ok.gov/odmhsas) or 1-877-215-8336. #HelpYourHouse #OklahomaStandard

**Continue to care for your mental health during this pandemic**

Members of the Oklahoma House of Representatives have released a 90-second video titled "Help Your House" that you may find helpful at this time.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
March 27

We miss you ALL! Even though we can't be together during this time, we can stay connected thru social media. Show us your new study/teaching area, share words of encouragement or just let us know why you enjoy being a Ranger. #RemoteRangers #RangerFamily #NWOSU

**You Are Missed**

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
April 22 at 6:48 PM

Myles Melton likes to help mom while working from home! Amy Melton is our Division of Education secretary. #RemoteRangers #BeARanger #NWOSU

**AMY MELTON'S OFFICE ASSISTANT HELPS MOM MAKE IT THROUGH EMAILS.**



# Art show taken online after Covid-19 interruption

One of the largest shows in the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Art Society Art Show's 17-year history has been hanging silently in the J.W. Martin Library on the Alva campus for weeks with only a handful of students and employees able to enjoy it since COVID-19 interrupted everyone's lives in March.

The art was up for a week and judged just before leaving for spring break, but because of the virus and the need to keep everyone safe, classes started using alternative instructional delivery methods, and the majority of students aren't on campus. Though the library has remained open through the week, it was only open to students and employees so community members weren't able to visit the show.

So, the show was taken online. A photograph of each piece is normally taken and put into a photo gallery each year and shared following the show, but this year those photos were added to an album on the club's Facebook page where viewers were asked to "like" their favorite pieces to help determine the annual People's Choice award.

"We had a week's worth of votes when we left for spring break," Angelia Case, NAS sponsor, said. "We thought about how we could bring the show to the public to give this artwork the audience it deserved, so we took it to Facebook. We'll be determining a People's Choice winner from the likes and adding them to the votes we received in the library."

Student entries reached 205 pieces this year along with 160 from employees, retired employees and alumni. Student prize money reached \$739. Most of that money for the winning art is raised by club members during various fundraising activities throughout the school year with \$250 provided by the Student Government Association as a co-sponsor.

"Although photos on Facebook is not a perfect solution to view the artwork, at least people can see it if they would like to," Case said. Photos of the artwork also may be viewed on the club's Shutterfly gallery at <https://nwosuartsocietyphotos.shutterfly.com/6655>.

Viewers can see the artwork of Angela Egger, Williamsville, Illinois, freshman, whose charcoal drawing titled "Gin" won Best of Show on the student side. They can see the landscape photograph submitted by Valarie Case, a university relations specialist at Northwestern, titled "A Stormy Alva Harvest" that won Best of Show on the non-student side.

And, they can see all the other winning pieces of artwork complete with ribbons and many others that were just as deserving of a prize.

Little by little the physical show grows smaller as the artists come to retrieve their work from

the panels as it was all scheduled to come down at the end of March. Winning pieces were to be displayed at a show at the Runnymede on April 3, but all that was canceled.

Case said any remaining artwork will be removed at the end of April and will be stored until artists are able to arrange to pick up artwork and prize money.

Artists with questions should contact Case at [arcase@nwosu.edu](mailto:arcase@nwosu.edu).

"We know it's a weird time right now, but we just want our artists to know how much we truly appreciate them," Case said. "We wouldn't have a show at all without the pieces they enter. Sometimes we get close to that entry deadline date and wonder if we're going to have a show at all, but entries always seem to come through at the last minute, and boy they did this year. It's almost a record year for entries, and I wish more people could have seen it. There were so many great pieces.

"Just remember, we hope to do this art show again next spring, so there is a whole year now to get ready."

To see the entire list of winners for this year's show, visit [www.nwosu.edu/art/nas-art-show](http://www.nwosu.edu/art/nas-art-show).



A charcoal drawing titled "Gin" by Angela Egger, Williamsville, Illinois, freshman, won Best of Show on the student side of the 17th annual NWOSU Art Society Art Show.



A landscape photo titled "A Stormy Alva Harvest" by Valarie Case, university relations specialist, won Best of Show on the non-student side of the annual art show at Northwestern.

# Staats hired in agriculture

Joining Northwestern Oklahoma State University this fall as an instructor of agricultural education is Jack Staats, who has been hired as the William Donald Campbell Family Chair in Agriculture.

Staats brings a wealth of knowledge to the students of Northwestern, and he plans to incorporate his wide-range of experience into his classes at the university. He taught agricultural education at Freedom High School from 1973-1976, Buffalo High School from 1976-1977, and Alva High School from 1977-2007. Staats went on to serve as the program manager and Oklahoma FFA adviser for Oklahoma's Department of Career and Technology Education. Leadership and enthusiasm for teaching agricultural education are passions of his, and these traits will be expected from his students, as well.

"We are very excited that Jack is going to be a member of our agricultural team here at Northwestern," said Dr. Dean Scarbrough, chair of the agriculture department. "Oklahoma continues to see a critical need for the preparation of certified agricultural education teachers in the state. Jack's vast experience as an agricultural education teacher, state program administrator, and state FFA adviser speaks for itself, and will greatly benefit our



Jack Staats

Continued on page 50

Continued from page 49

## Staats hired...

efforts to produce classroom-ready graduates.

"Anyone who has ever known Jack can readily see his passion for agricultural education and for the development of new generations of teachers entering the discipline. We are truly thrilled that he will continue his legacy of positively impacting young people's lives, and the field of agricultural education, as a Northwestern Ranger."

Staats will be teaching classes such as Live Animal Evaluation and Livestock Production but also many of the mechanized agriculture classes such as Metals and Welding and Agriculture Structures. Another of his courses, entitled Planning the Community Program in Agricultural Education, will emphasize topics such as program policies in agricultural education, FFA chapter advisement, and interaction of high school agriculture programs with local school and community members.

"I am excited to join the Ranger faculty," Staats said. "My goal has always been to inspire young people into becoming successful as they pursued careers in agriculture. I feel the next step for me in advancing the career pathways in the field of agriculture is to help recruit and train young people as they become part of the agricultural education teaching profession."

To learn more about Northwestern's agriculture program and the classes offered visit [www.nwsu.edu/school-of-education/agriculture](http://www.nwsu.edu/school-of-education/agriculture) or contact Scarbrough at [dascarbrough@nwsu.edu](mailto:dascarbrough@nwsu.edu) or (580) 327-8487.

J.R. Holder Wellness Center  
April 26 at 5:00 PM

This week we are celebrating Wellypaleoza! Each day of the week we will be going LIVE with a different fitness class OR informational chat with our personal trainers and fitness class instructors!  
We will have everything ranging from Yoga to Nutrition and pilates to body weight exercises! Join us - we will let you know what is headed your way at the start of each day!

# Wellypaleoza

APRIL 27 - MAY 1

LIVE FITNESS CLASSES WITH OUR CLASS INSTRUCTORS!

LIVE INFORMATIONAL CHATS WITH TRAINERS & CLASS INSTRUCTORS

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
20 hrs ·

Our #NWOSU employees volunteered again today to continue with the Social Distance Campus Planting Project. Thanks to all who have helped!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
April 28 at 8:54 AM

Our virtual commencement ceremony will take place on May 9th at 10:30 a.m. If you are a graduating senior at #NWOSU send a picture of yourself in your cap and gown to [publicrelations@nwsu.edu](mailto:publicrelations@nwsu.edu) by April 30.

# Virtual Commencement Ceremony

Join us as we honor our graduates!

On May 9th, Northwestern will host a virtual commencement ceremony that will be shown on the university's social channels of Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, YouTube and [nwsu.edu](http://nwsu.edu).

College & University

Send Message

41 2 Comments 50 Shares

## Projects happen while students are away

It's been difficult to find positives during the pandemic season, but one area of benefit has been found on campus.

The university's physical plant crew has found good opportunities to complete a few projects that could not have been finished with student and event traffic on campus.

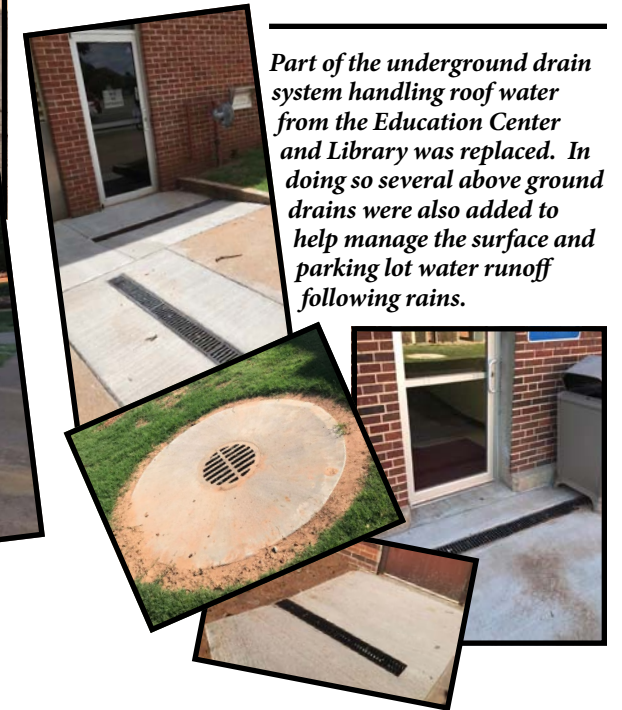
On this page are only a few of the projects our employees have taken on so far.



Monte Herren (kneeling) works on repairing the raised flower bed as Ken Knabe watches.



This past spring some work was done on the west side of Ryerson Hall, adding a much needed parking pad for the Student Services golf cart. The next sidewalk project will be replacing sections of the sidewalk around the building.



Part of the underground drain system handling roof water from the Education Center and Library was replaced. In doing so several above ground drains were also added to help manage the surface and parking lot water runoff following rains.



Renovation of the west side of the Student Center had been planned for last summer, but did not happen. Plans are to replace the broken concrete that runs from the west side of the building to the north side of the science building. So much student/guest/employee traffic happens in this area, the work was needed to improve the area's

appearance and to avoid any safety concerns. This change will allow easier access to the Student Center and also provide a handicapped ramp on the west entrance. All of this work is being performed by our physical plant staff. Quotes will be requested to replace the glass windows/doors on the west side of the Student Center as well.



Student teacher Alexis Stuart (top left) shared a little fun she had with her class during alternative classes. She said, "I thought I would share something fun with you all. Even though we're not in the classroom, we're still learning and having fun during distance learning. Today during whole group we played blends Pictionary and the losing team had to draw a mustache on their face. Well, it was a tie, so we all drew a mustache."

Michael Seth Cudd shared a post.  
Admin · May 11 at 12:33 PM

Michael Seth Cudd is with Katie Elizabeth Evans.  
May 11 at 12:33 PM

I'm going to feature each one of our band seniors over the next week or two. Our first senior to be recognized is Katie Elizabeth Evans. Congratulations, Katie!!! Thank you for all you have done for the Ranger Band Program!

Hometown: Enid, Ok

Favorite Ranger Band Memory: My favorite band memory would have to be when we played mafia in fine arts during Summer band 2018. I saw this girl wearing a thunder shirt and I was like "hey I like your shirt" and then she walked away. Little did I know that was my future best friend Natdaddy.

Share Medical Center - A St. Anthony Hospital Affiliate  
8 hrs · 🌐

We want to thank Steve Maier and the faculty in the Department of Natural Science at NWOSU for donating "ear savers" for our staff routinely wearing masks. These are a lifesaver!! We appreciate your kindness and putting your creativity to work using your 3D printer!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
April 29 at 12:00 PM · 🌐

Looking to get a few general education requirements out of the way this summer? We have a few to choose from! You can find our summer and fall course schedules at <http://bit.ly/course-schedules>. Contact your adviser or get with the Office of Recruitment at [recruit@nwsu.edu](mailto:recruit@nwsu.edu).

### LACKING A GEN. ED?

**PICK IT UP THIS SUMMER!**

- BIOL1114 General Biology
- CHEM1105 Chemistry/Non-majors
- CMSC1103 Microcomputer Apps.
- ENGL1113/1213 Comp I & II
- FIN1113 Personal Finance \*
- GEOG1113 Fund. of Geography \*
- HED2303 Wellness Concepts \*
- HIST1483/1493 US History \*
- HUM2403 Theater Appreciation
- HUM2533 Music in Life \*
- LEAD1013 Habitudes \*
- MATH0115 Beginning Algebra
- MATH1503 College Algebra \*
- PHSC1114 Gen. Physical Science
- POLS1113 Am. Fed. Government \*
- SCOM1113 Intro. to Speech Communications

\* online option available

**Stay on track to GRADUATE!**

Enjoy smaller class sizes in a condensed amount of time!  
**SUMMER Enrollment is OPEN**

Make an appointment with your advisor or stop by RH125 for assistance.

# Internship provides understanding

By Dr. Jennifer Oswald  
Administrative Intern  
Assistant Professor of Education

During the past year I was given the opportunity to serve as the first NWOSU administrative intern with Dr. Bell's office. I applied for this position because it was a chance to gain administrative experience without the long-term commitment. I have always been the teacher who says she will never be in administration. The longer I teach, the more I understand the impact, value, and importance of administrators. I began questioning if I might have the skill set and disposition for leadership. I wondered if this might be another position for

me to serve others. This internship became the opportunity to answer those questions.

As my internship comes to a close, I can definitely say I have learned from this experience. I have a better understanding of how the parts of the university work together as a whole, and I have learned the value and importance of good communication. Our administrators work together seamlessly to keep the university functioning. Northwestern is known for our people. Our people make the difference. Our administrators are



Jen Oswald

hardworking individuals, but seeing the entire team in action, working together, was incredible. I can say without a doubt that we have the right people in the right places. It was an opportunity to learn from the best.

Whether or not I pursue administration in the future, I have been able to strengthen my relationship with faculty, staff, and administrators. I leave with a better understanding of how to support the people with whom I work. Thank you, Dr. Bell and Angelia, for a wonderful learning experience!

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
5 hrs · 🌐

Dr. Jennifer Mahieu, associate professor of nursing, has an interesting time teaching class when her "assistant" keeps playing with the mouse! Dr. Mahieu misses her students, especially when they would randomly drop by and say hi!

## JUST A GAME OF CAT & MOUSE

Dr. Mahieu's assistant, Blaze

Ken Brown and 15 others · 1 Comment · 3 Shares

Like · Comment · Share

NWOSU SGA  
May 7 at 11:15 AM · 🌐

Questions about the P/NP policy? Here's a helpful guide!! 📖

## P/NP FAQ's

- You do **not** have to take any P/NP's if you don't want to. You can leave them as letter grades.
- You can take a P/NP in one (or more) classes and letter grades in the others.  
Example: your physics grade went downhill after going online but your other grades are fine - you can take a P/NP in that one course.
- P/NP does not affect your GPA. So, if you take a P, it is not going to improve your GPA if you are trying to improve it, but also not hurt it.  
Example: an athlete working to become eligible due to bad grades in the fall.
- Some majors require a C or higher for classes. **A P does not count towards that.** (Business, Education, Nursing, etc).
- A grade of NP will result in no credit for a course, and a **student would need to repeat the course with a passing grade to receive credit.**
- If you are unsure, **ASK YOUR ADVISOR or INSTRUCTOR.** They can guide you to make the proper decision. Don't make these choices based off of emotion or misunderstanding!

# Six retire from Northwestern



The coronavirus has interrupted the normalcy of our world and so many of the wonderful, regular functions of all we do. This virus has also derailed the opportunity to celebrate six amazing employees retiring this year.

Those six include Dr. Ramona Bartlow, assistant professor of nursing; Dr. Ralph Bourret, professor of business; Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology; Dr. Deena Fisher, dean of the Woodward campus; Dr. Chandler Mead, chair and professor of health and sports science education; and Annette Schwerdtfeger, 35-year employee and business officer head cashier.

These people have made Northwestern, and its students, better.



**Dr. Ramona Bartlow**

According to Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing, Bartlow's teaching assignments have included the first clinical nursing course and the last clinical nursing course for

every traditional BSN student. This unique perspective has allowed her to see the growth and passion in each of the graduates as they pursue their nursing career. Dr. Wells added that "Dr. Bartlow's sense of humor and her love of the color purple have always been evidenced in the work she has accomplished for the division. You cannot walk into her office without experiencing a taste of both!"

Dr. James Bell, associate vice president for academics and dean of faculty, added that "Dr. Bartlow has been a welcoming and uplifting presence in the nursing division for many years. She has also been an excellent educator. We will all miss seeing her cheerful and reassuring smile."

"As a nursing faculty member, Dr. Bartlow influenced the professional careers of so many of our nursing graduates. She truly cared about the success of these students," Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president, said.

Dr. Bartlow says that she has learned so much over the last 11.5 years that she has been at Northwestern. "I have learned patience, tolerance and understanding," she said. "I have completed my masters in nursing and my doctorate in nursing education. I have a better understanding of how hard it is to work a full-time job and go to school. I have more compassion for the students that I have worked with knowing the struggles that they go through on a daily basis. It makes me proud to know that the nurses that are now working in our area are part of the Northwestern family and make me proud on a daily basis." She added that she has worked with some amazing faculty

members both in the nursing division as well as in many of the other departments. "The staff that work at Northwestern are top notch and everyone deserves a huge hug and great job for all the hard work that they do every day throughout the semester," Dr. Bartlow said. "Thank you for letting me be a small part of such a great institution. Ride, Rangers, Ride."



**Dr. Ralph Bourret**

Dr. Ralph Bourret, professor of accounting, joined the NWOSU faculty in fall 2009 as an assistant professor of accounting. According to Dr. Steven Palmer, professor of business and former chair of the division, "Dr. Bourret helped the faculty revise the accounting curriculum and prepare for the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs accreditation. Dr. Bourret was always willing to work with students. He spent long hours in his office and was a fixture at athletic events and fine arts performances."

*Continued on page 55*

# Six retire from Northwestern



"It will be odd to go to student events and sporting activities and not see Dr. Bourret," said Dr. Bell. "He has been very much a part of the life of the university for many years, encouraging students both within—and outside of—the classroom."

"Dr. Bourret has taught countless accounting students during his time at Northwestern and those students are now out in the world as accounting professionals," said Dr. Cunningham. "Dr. Bourret was also a huge supporter of our student athletes as he rarely missed athletic competitions."



**Dr. Kay Decker**

"Dr. Kay Decker, professor of sociology and former chair of the department of Social Sciences, is retiring after 30 years at Northwestern," said Dr. Eric Schmaltz, professor of history and chair of the social sciences department. "She has witnessed many changes over the years here and can share many memories about this institution. She will continue to remain engaged in various ways with both

the university and the larger community in the coming years. All the best wishes in your upcoming retirement, Dr. Decker!"

"Dr. Decker came to Northwestern as a student in 1978 and has been part of the campus virtually ever since," said Dr. Bell. "She joined the faculty in 1991 and quickly established herself as an essential member of the Northwestern team, serving as department chair and on several committees, most notably the Diversity Committee. She approaches every task with focus and energy, insisting on excellence."

"Dr. Decker truly embodies the concept of 'Making Place Matter,' Dr. Cunningham said. "She worked tirelessly to make northwest Oklahoma as strong and self-sufficient as possible. She has mentored so many students and former students in the social sciences."

She first came to Northwestern as a freshman in 1978, and once she completed her undergraduate degree in Social Science Education, and with encouragement from Dr. Jack Carmichael, she went on to Oklahoma State University to pursue a master's degree in sociology. "My time at OSU went quickly and I soon found myself teaching part time for Dr. Carmichael in the fall of 1989. I began my career as a full time faculty member at Northwestern in 1991. I've spent the past 31 years teaching on

3rd floor Jesse Dunn, which holds many special memories for me."

"Knowing that I have helped



*These five commemorative watches will be given to retiring faculty members at a retirement ceremony to be held during the fall semester.*

so many former students launch their careers is truly my greatest joy," she said. Dr. Decker said she has former students living all across the country, and is planning several road trips in the coming years to stop by to see many of them. So many of them continue to email, call, and post news on social media so they can stay in touch. She added that while very few ever looked forward to the "dreaded Research Methods class" which they had to complete in order to graduate, not one ever regretted the feeling of accomplishment they experienced once the final proposal copy was submitted! "Those proposals helped many get into graduate school, earn prestigious law firm internships, and be offered that first professional position upon

*Continued on page 56*

# Six retire from Northwestern



graduation," Dr. Decker said.

"Looking back, I'm thankful for the many friendships I've made with colleagues from many departments, and the opportunities Northwestern gave me to apply my community development knowledge for the betterment of our service area communities," Dr. Decker stated. "Supporting faculty in using our skills and professional experiences is a critical aspect of higher education today. I've been given the chance to help improve the lives of many families and individuals over the past 31 years, through educating the next generation, creating jobs, building new affordable housing, and supporting the arts in community. I hope all of my students can find themselves working in a career that allows them a chance to use their skills and creativity in similar fashion. I'm not finished yet, and will start a new set of adventures soon! Ride, Rangers, Ride!!!"



**Dr. Deena Fisher**

"Dr. Deena Fisher's love of Northwestern is evident when you talk to students from the Woodward cam-

pus. She has dedicated her time here in growing the Woodward campus and making it a vital partner to the community of Woodward," said Dr. Bo Hannaford, executive vice president. "Students and their success have always been at the top of Dr. Fisher's goals and she will be truly missed here at Northwestern!"

"Dr. Fisher has been a guiding force at the Woodward campus since its establishment," said Dr. Bell. "Throughout its history, she has cultivated a nurturing and inclusive campus. She has also been a fierce advocate for its students and offerings."

"Dr. Fisher has been the face, heart and soul of the Woodward Campus since she has been there since the beginning," added Dr. Cunningham. "She really 'adopted' each student as her own and served as teacher, adviser, mentor and 'shoulder to cry on.'"

"I wish the faculty, staff, administration, and students the very best as I retire after 23 years with Northwestern," said Dr. Fisher. "My husband, his mother, his two sisters and our daughter all graduated from Northwestern."

"After more than 23 years, I join the rest of my family as 'Forever a Ranger,'" she said.

"I am eternally grateful to Presidents Struckle, McDaniel, Beran, and Cunningham for their leadership. In addition, I am thankful for the guidance of Dr. Zwink, Lohmann, Pecha, Hannaford, Hucceby, Knedler, Bell, Smith, Mr. Barton, Franz, and Mosburg. I have loved being a branch campus administrator alongside of Dr. Pennington, Evans

and McMillin.

"To the wonderful department chairs, faculty members I have worked with, you have my utmost respect. To the staff at the home campus as well as my own special staff, I appreciate and recognize how hard you work," Dr. Fisher said. "And to the students whose lives I have touched, I assure you that you touched my life more and in immeasurable ways. I wish you all a bright Ranger future."



**Dr. Chandler Mead**

"Dr. Mead is a great colleague, educator, and mentor. He always puts students' long-term well-being first, approaching his teaching and program with rigor, but providing the necessary support for students to be successful," Dr. Bell said. "I'm thankful he'll continue to be part of the campus as an adjunct."

"Dr. Mead has been instrumental to the success of our HSSE program and NWOSU. He has high expectations for his department, but his primary goal is to see students graduate and succeed in life,"

*Continued on page 57*

# Six retire from Northwestern



Dr. Hannaford said. "I am so excited that upon his retirement, he has chosen to come back to Northwestern and continue to teach. This shows his loyalty and commitment to the institution."

"Dr. Mead has been a senior and well-respected faculty member at Northwestern for many years," Dr. Cunningham stated. "He has successfully run a large department with many part-time faculty who also have other job responsibilities."

"Northwestern has been my life, beginning in 1981 as a student athlete," said Dr. Mead. His employment began in 1987 as a graduate assistant coach. Full-time employment began in 1990 as an instructor and assistant football coach, and he was later promoted to defensive coordinator. In 1999, he moved to the Wellness Center as director, and progressed to professor of health and sports science and department chair. "I want to express my profound gratitude for having the privilege to serve this great institution," he said. "I look forward to continued service in a part-time basis."



**Annette Schwerdtfeger**

"There truly isn't another Annette Schwerdtfeger!" said Paige Fischer, university bursar. "She is one of the most selfless ladies I have ever met and she has been so much fun to work with. I am so glad Annette has decided to continue working part-time for Northwestern!"

"I'm glad to see Annette back in the business office part-time," said Dr. Bell. "Walking by those counters wouldn't be the same without her friendly greeting, and we would miss her wealth of knowledge about all things business-related!"

"Annette completed 35 years at Northwestern, all in the Business Office. She has been a friend to many students," said Dr. Cunningham. "Her sense of humor is unique and she has always kept Herod Hall lively."

"The Northwestern community has become a second family to me. I've enjoyed all the time and memories I've had working with the finest admins, faculty, staff and students," said Schwerdtfeger. "Over my years, I've seen many changes from writing hand out receipts to integrating technology. I'm not one for change, it's difficult for me. You know the phrase you can't teach an old dog new tricks? I was that old dog."

With a giggle, she took a moment to compare Dr. David Pecha, vice president for administration, to a former employee with a similar position, Dr. V.K. Curtis. Still giggling, she said that Dr. Pecha is as big a tightwad as Dr. Curtis was!

Schwerdtfeger said that making the decision to retire was a very hard one because she enjoyed her work with students so much. She enjoyed joking with the students she saw regularly. She explained that one time a student saw her at a store, away from her regular work environment, and that student asked, 'Don't you work at Northwestern?' She answered "No, that's my twin sister."

She also said that she has had to deal with some very unhappy students along the way. One, in particular, was upset he couldn't receive his paycheck a day early after knowing it was ready to distribute at the end of the month. After a lively discussion, he walked out of the office with the door hitting hard. She left the office through the back exit and met him outside and explained further that she knew it was hard to understand, but that was the policy. Now, that student is a good friend and school superintendent who completely understands policy issues!

Annette has also enjoyed meeting the children of students she has already helped through the years. A few come in with the student and tell her that she hasn't changed a bit!" Schwerdtfeger closed by saying she was "extremely happy that she was given the option to come back and work part-time, as needed, because the Northwestern family is such a wonderful family to have."

# Red and Black Scroll Honor Society inducts 31

Northwestern inducted 31 new members into the Red and Black Scroll Honor Society.

Because of the restrictions COVID-19 has placed on social gatherings, there was no ceremony, but the students received their certificate in the mail.

Red and Black Scroll recognizes outstanding scholarship and service among sophomore students at Northwestern. Requirements for membership include completion of 40-59 hours of college credit, a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0, participation in two or more campus organizations or activities, attendance at Northwestern for at least two semesters and non-failure of a college course.

Sponsors are Dr. Dena Walker, assistant professor of mathematics, and Dr. Sheila Brintnall, professor of mathematics.

This year's inductees include Jose Amador of Hooker, accounting major; Dayla Andersen of Kremlin, biology major; Sharon Boeckman of Hitchcock, mathematics major; Brady Bowles of Buffalo, psychology major; Kaylea Brown of Terlton, mass communication major; Christopher Chauncey of Cordell, mathematics major; Nicholas Davis of Alva, computer science major; Caleb Decker of Meno, undecided major; Carys Delaplane of Enid, nursing major; Nicholas Dill of The Colony, Texas, mass communication major; Jayden Dillon of Jet, English education major; Kimberly Drew of Buffalo, nursing major; Mikayla Edris of Vail, Arizona, elementary education major; Payton Haskins of El Reno, health and sports science education major; Caitlyn Johnson of Tuttle, nursing major; Kailani

Kealoha of Pala, Hawaii, biology major; Calli Lewis of Arnett, nursing major; Kailin Lian of Laguna Niguel, California, nursing major; Shehab Lotfy of Beaver, history major; Adria Lujan of Blair, nursing major; Dawson Maxwell of Perry, criminal justice major; Melissa Perez of Ringwood, biology major; Margaret Peterson of Wichita, Kansas, chemistry major; Johnna Roberts of Enid, elementary

education major; Bianca Ruiz of Alva, biology major; Keeli Smith of Felt, undecided major; Camille Soderstrom of Bartlesville, English education major; Makenna Sterling of Medford, nursing major; Britni Stewart of Chandler, agriculture education major; Kelsey Swindle of Sharon, health and sports science education major; and Chase Zook of Waynoka, agriculture major.



Members of the Division of Nursing had a lot of fun as they gathered to celebrate the retirement of Dr. Ramona Bartlow.

# Gardner, Ginn, Ortiz selected as outstanding

Mathematics and Computer Science Department faculty select outstanding students in mathematics and computer science every year. This year's honorees are Jackson Gardner, computer science; Charis Ginn, mathematics; and Joseph Ortiz, computer science. All three students graduated this spring semester.

Gardner is a computer science major/minor from Lawton. He is currently employed full-time as a network administrator for BancCentral in Alva. He is working on several IT-related projects and hopes to pursue a master's degree in the future.

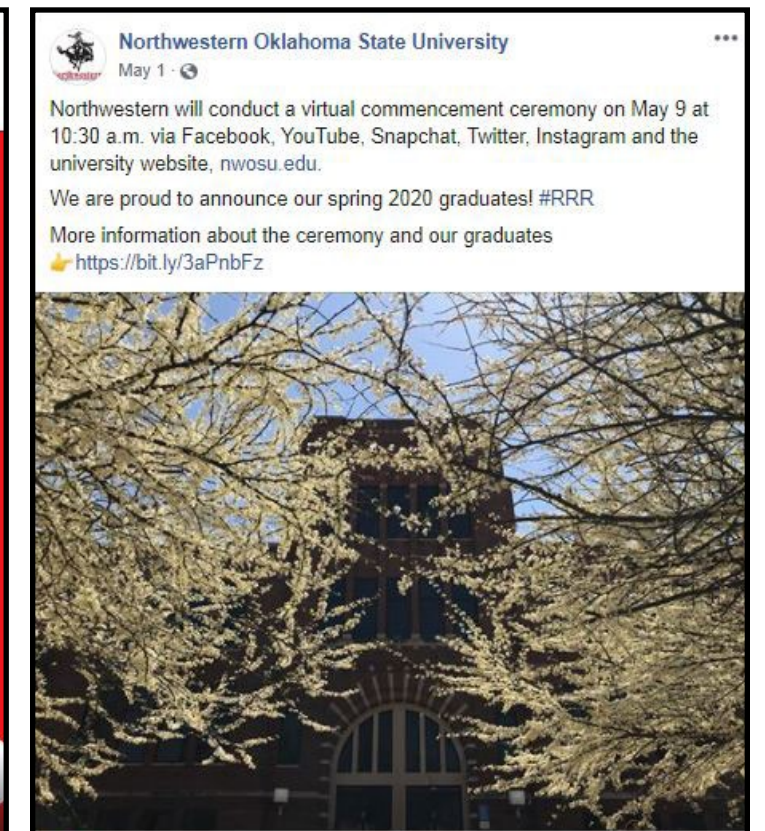
Ginn is a mathematics major and computer Science minor from Atlanta, Georgia, and currently works for the Northwestern IT department. She is planning to pursue a second degree in computer science after completing her mathematics degree in May. Ginn hopes to eventually pursue a more coding-focused job and then earn a master's

degree in interactive intelligence at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Ortiz is a computer science major/minor from Alva. After graduation he plans to continue his education by completing certifications to further his

career as a network administrator.

For more information on Northwestern's Mathematics and Computer Science Department contact department chair Dr. Tim Maharry at (580) 327-8583 or [tjmaharry@nwsu.edu](mailto:tjmaharry@nwsu.edu).



# Sacket earns deSERVING Ranger Award

Service - an act of helpful activity; to help or aid others.

Volunteer - a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.

Leader - a person who leads.

These three terms personify Ethan Sacket, a senior business administration major at Northwestern who has been honored with this year's deSERVING Ranger Award from the Service Learning and Civic Engagement (SL/CE) program.

- Serves as a community service model for other students;
- Exceptional leadership and organizational skills; and,
- Consistent work ethic and availability.

Sacket's list of volunteer opportunities indicates nearly 40 worthy causes to which he has dedicated 576 hours of his time. A few of these activities include being Northwestern's Camp Ranger Coordinator, speaking on behalf of Northwestern at a state regents meeting, tutoring in Coronado Hall, painting crosswalks in downtown Alva, being a weekly elementary school mentor, helping with numerous Alva Chamber of Commerce activities, and serving in various capacities in the local nursing homes and retirement communities. Deciding which volunteer opportunity is his favorite is hard for the Aline native as he said anytime he's helping others is when he's truly happiest; however, serving on the Thank-a-Thon Leadership Team to help the Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association plan and implement an event



Ethan Sacket

Kaylyn Hansen, director of assessment and institutional effectiveness who also leads the service learning and civic engagement program, said each spring the award recognizes an outstanding Northwestern student who demonstrates the following:

- Dedication to service and a sense of responsibility to the Northwestern service learning and civic engagement vision;

for university students to thank monetary donors of the university has been a wonderful experience.

"I believe the daily practice of gratitude is essential in the development of a positive mindset," Sacket said. "We are stronger together, and seeing hundreds of students come together within two days to show gratitude to those who support NWOSU students is truly a unique experience."

None of these volunteer hours indicates the time he spends working with the Northwestern Student Government Association, an organization he's been involved in since being a senator his freshman year. He was the SGA treasurer his sophomore year, spent this last school term as vice president, and for the 2020-21 school year, he will serve the students as president, which he said is "the pinnacle of my service experience at this fine university."

Sackett said that SGA provides one of the best opportunities at Northwestern to serve the students, Northwestern and the community, and since the end of his time at the university is drawing nearer, he wants to maximize it.

To do that, he and the other newly elected officers -- Dawson Maxwell, Perry sophomore majoring in criminal justice, vice president; Dacoda McDowell-Wahpekeche, Newalla freshman majoring in mass communication, secretary; and Yosbelli Lora, Ringwood junior majoring in psychology, treasurer -- came up with ideas and various goals for the next school year via Zoom meetings when COVID-19 altered life on campus.

Sacket said he establishes S.M.A.R.T. goals [specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, time-bound] in his life so he has been working with his team to create individual goals for each of the categories within SGA. He wants to make decisions now that will have a lasting impact on Northwestern students in the next five to 10 years to help improve campus life long-term.

New, specialized leadership

Continued on page 61

Continued from page 60

# Sacket earns award...

roles and committees have been developed to focus on central areas of improvement, such as civic engagement, sustainability and mental health.

If volunteering, Northwestern activities and going to classes to earn a degree aren't enough to keep Sacket busy, he said he always had a dream to serve as a state officer in an organization.

That dream became a reality in March when he was elected to serve as the Oklahoma Student Government Association North Regional Director. He plans to visit each of the more than 20 higher education institutions in the north region during his year of service. He, along with other members of

the board of directors, will answer the call of the Chancellor of Higher Education to provide informal advice and to make presentations at public hearings, legislative meetings and other engagements.

Healsowillserveasarepresentative from a public four-year institution on the Oklahoma Student Advisory Board to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Why does Sacket continue to seek leadership roles? To volunteer his time? It all goes back to maximizing the time he has in life.

"Leadership opportunities are an amazing avenue by which to meet new people and add value to others. By helping others hone in on their leadership skills, a lasting legacy

develops for all." And, as for volunteering his time, he recalls the servant-minded individuals he has had as role models all of his life and spoke of a conversation he had with his grandmother during a late-night game of Canasta as she reminisced on past experiences and discussed what she believed is the purpose of life.

"She said that in the end, the main things that matter are our spiritual relationships and how we help others in the opportunities in which God places us. It was evident that serving others has been at the forefront of our family life. As a result, I have been motivated to see how many I can help even in the smallest way during my lifetime."

NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association added a new photo to the album: The Faces of Our Heroes. May 1 at 5:19 PM

The Faces of Our Heroes: Northwestern Alumni in Health Care

As the weeks go on, so does the work of our friends in health care. Let's all send some love and encouragement to those working on the frontlines! Drop an encouraging comment below.

Drew Lancaster is the sixth featured in this series. Visit our website to see more alumni in healthcare who are making a difference. <https://my.nwfoundation.com/the-faces-of-our-heroes>

## The Faces of Our Heroes

I have gained the experience of greater flexibility during these unprecedented times. There are now specific restrictions on treatments we are accustomed to performing, due to the risks to the patient.

I have a big heart for my patients and their families. Compassion goes a long ways. With my career as both an ICU and flight nurse, the patient's immediate family is another important focus. Taking time to answer their questions eases their pain with what is most likely the worst days of their lives.

Drew Lancaster, BSN, RN  
Air Evac Lifetream;  
Flight Nurse  
Class of 2007

Northwestern Oklahoma State University May 1 at 10:00 AM

#FacultyFriday

Adjunct Instructor of Communication, Charity Lyon, enjoys her back porch views to teach class. Students in morning classes even get serenaded by the birds! Charity likes to wear crazy pants to give the students a little laugh. What's been your favorite thing about classes with alternative instructional delivery methods?

#BeARanger #NWOSU #RideRangersRide #RemoteRangers

Didn't put on real pants, though!

# James, Lane publish pop culture book

Dr. Roxie James, assistant professor of English, and Dr. Kathryn Lane, associate professor of English and chair of the English, Foreign Language and Humanities Department, have published “Criminals as Heroes in Popular Culture” through Palgrave Macmillan, a world-renowned publishing company.

James has a master’s degree in English Literature from Northwestern State University. Lane has a master’s degree in Creative Writing from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Both James and Lane have doctorates in English Literature with a specialization in Romantic and Victorian Literature from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

The collection is nine chapters with contributions from all over the world. Topics vary widely from historical perspectives to timely interpretations. Lane explained the book examines why society is fascinated by criminals and often recasts them in the role of hero. The collection of essays covers female pirates, Chinese westerns, modern video games and even Martha Stewart.

Lane said she became inspired to write this book when she noticed a trend in television and film advertisements while on a fall break and reached out to the editor of “Dialogue”, a journal of popular culture, about guest editing a special edition on that trend.

“When we put out the call for papers, the response was so massive that we realized we either needed to have three special editions or we needed to do more,” Lane said. “The book collection grew from that. The special edition of ‘Dialogue’

came out the second day of the fall semester (2019), and we’re excited that the book collection has been released before the school year ends.”

Through the process of writing the book, Lane said she learned a million things from scholars around the world.

“That’s the fantastic thing about putting together a book collection,” Lane said. “This is my second, and I have to say reading other people’s research is always fascinating.”

She is the editor of the 2018 book collection “Age of the Geek: Depictions of Nerds and Geeks in Popular Media.”

James said the best part of writing this book was learning all of the background information regarding heroes, villains and

everyone in between.

“We looked at the Martha Stewart/Snoop Dogg friendship,” James said. “Reading about the two of them is always fascinating.”

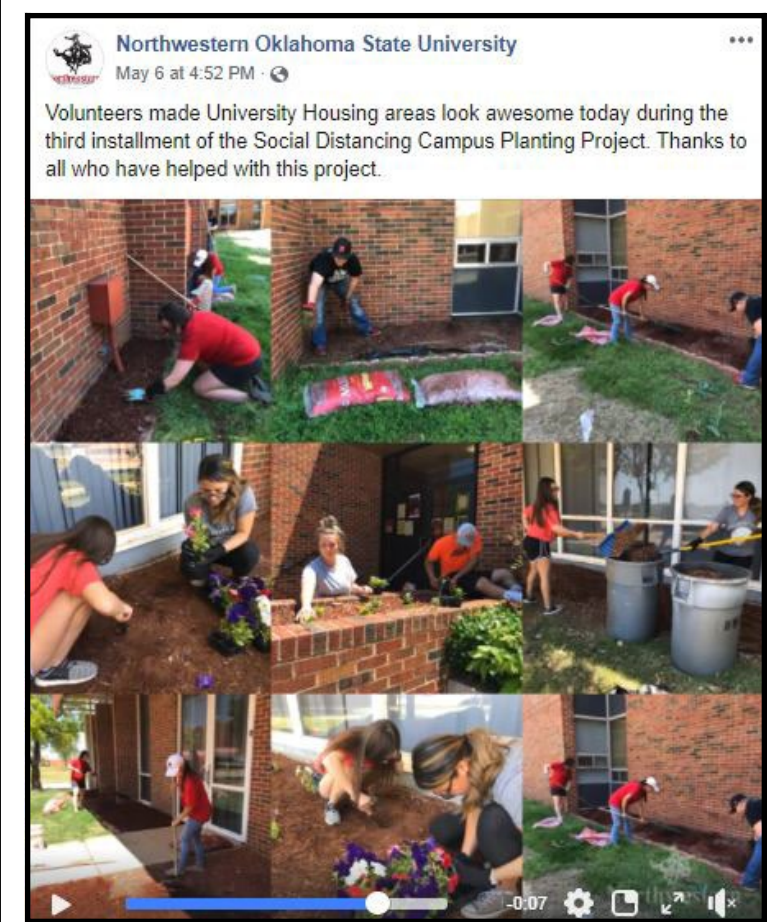
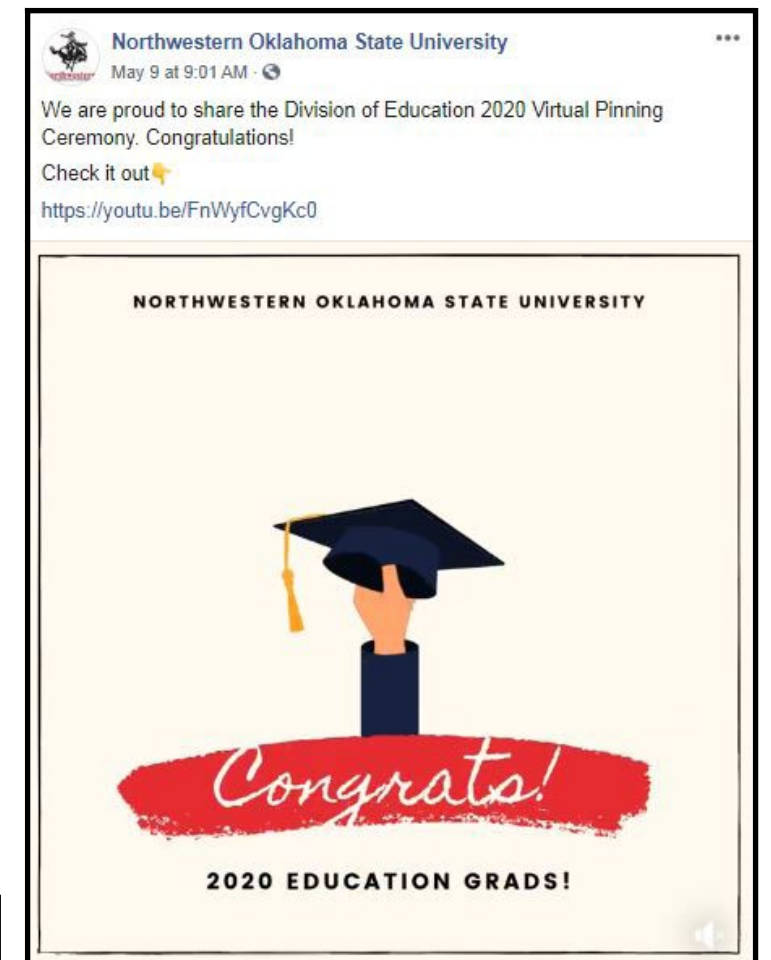
The book is available for



Kathryn Lane (left) and Roxie James with their recently published book “Criminals as Heroes in Popular Culture.”

purchase on Amazon and at <https://www.palgrave.com/us/book/9783030395841>.

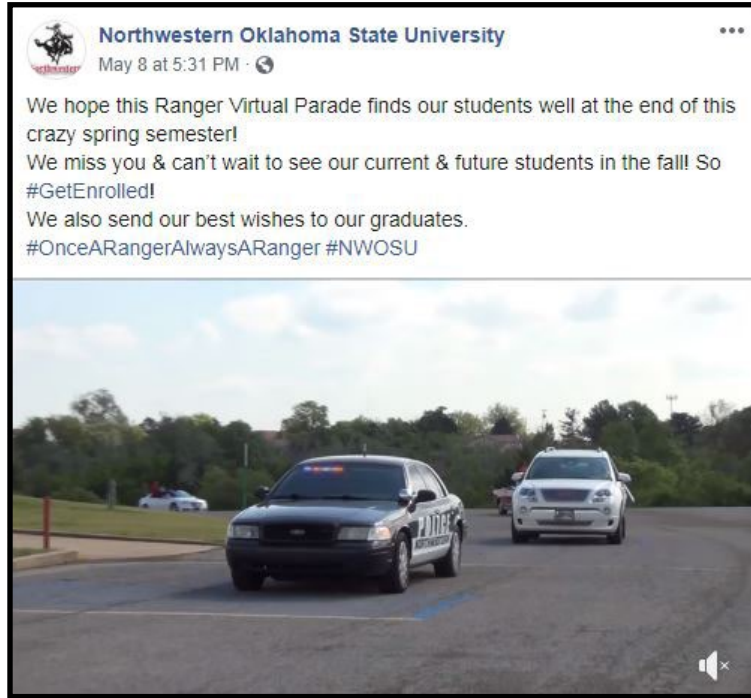
For more information on the book, contact James at (580) 327-8474 or [rjames@nwosu.edu](mailto:rjames@nwosu.edu) or Lane at (580) 327-8470 or [kelane@nwosu.edu](mailto:kelane@nwosu.edu).







James Bell gets his sign ready for the Ranger Virtual Parade held at the football field on May 8. See video of parade by clicking on the graphic to the right.



NWOSU Foundation & Alumni Association [Send Message]



# Mother, son among first to earn DNP degrees

May 9, 2020, was supposed to be an exciting and history-making day for Northwestern Oklahoma State University. Faculty within the Wisdom Family Foundation Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice (DNP) program have spent the last three years preparing students to graduate in the university's first-ever class.

Among the seven students who finished the program are a mother and son pair.

Angela, of Stillwater, and Andrew, of Tulsa, Skousen wanted to further their careers, and Northwestern gave them the perfect opportunity.

Before completing his DNP, Andrew earned two associate degrees and his Bachelor of Science in non-nursing degree fields. Once he obtained these degrees, he entered the work force as a paramedic and pharmacy tech. In the medical world, he worked alongside nurse practitioners and registered nurses and knew his future was in nursing. Once he was admitted into nursing school, he worked in emergency rooms and urgent care facilities.

While finishing his doctorate at Northwestern, he has been teaching at Tulsa Community College (TCC) and Tulsa Technical School.

"I have always wanted the autonomy and responsibility of having my own patients," Andrew said. "The DNP role is the future of healthcare and will be a very needed profession. It is also fun and challenging."

Angela Skousen earned her registered nurse license in 1983 from TCC while already working as a

paramedic. In 1991, she completed her BSN from Northwestern and immediately entered the workforce. She worked in almost every capacity, which included emergency room, cardiac care unit, home health, post-



Angela Skousen



Andrew Skousen

anesthesia care unit and floor nursing. After spending nine years in those areas, she moved into aesthetics and has been helping patients in the beauty industry for the past 20 years.

"I love aesthetics because I'm making people happy every day," Angela said.

Earning a DNP was Angela's lifelong dream, but the timing was never right. Once she heard Northwestern had established the program, she knew this was her opportunity. Angela decided to return to her alma mater to complete her DNP.

Angela and Andrew relied heavily on each other as study partners.

"It is such an experience to see my son's perspective on things we are learning compared to mine," Angela said. "Thirty years makes a big

difference on perspective.

"It is interesting to see how we both accomplish assignments in very different ways."

Even with differences in perspective, the duo could agree on one thing – the quality of Northwestern's professors.

While each professor may have their own teaching style, both Skousens found that each professor provided them with something they needed. Whether it was Dr. Courtney Ballina, assistant professor of nursing, pushing Andrew through his moments of procrastination or

Dr. Patricia Thompson, the DNP program's director, answering all of Angela's questions, the Skousens were supported by all faculty and staff within the program.

"Northwestern's Hybrid BSN-to-DNP program offers students the unique experience of small classes with strong, supportive faculty," said Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing

*Continued on page 66*



## Mother, son among...

and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing. “Our program provides students with the opportunity to get to know their professors and understand that these faculty members are all currently and

actively engaged in clinical practices.” “The vision for our program is to strengthen the health care workforce and prepare advanced practice registered nurses who are ready to care for people with the unique health

needs that accompany living in a rural area. Our goal is the student’s success.”

The Skousens have different goals for their future careers with their new degrees, but their love for helping others is unwavering.

This hybrid program allows students who have earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree to fully obtain the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree to practice as family nurse practitioners.

Northwestern is one of only two public universities in Oklahoma to offer a Family Nurse Practitioner Program, the first public university to offer the BSN-to-DNP program and the only public university with the Doctoral Program for Rural Nursing Practice.

This program prepares DNPs to become certified Family Nurse Practitioners in their home communities and surrounding areas without first earning a master’s degree. It is a practice-focused doctorate, rather than the traditional research-focused doctorate, and places an emphasis on health care in rural areas.

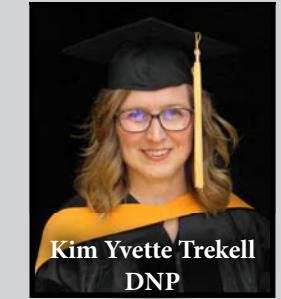
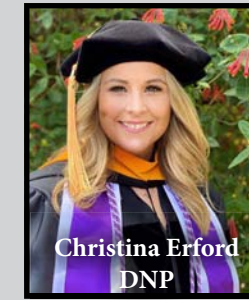
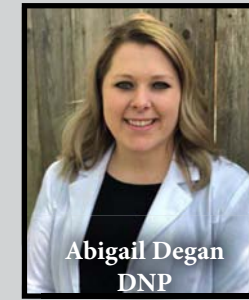
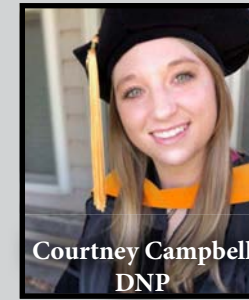
For more information, visit [www.nwosu.edu/graduate-studies/bsn-to-dnp](http://www.nwosu.edu/graduate-studies/bsn-to-dnp) or contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or [scwells@nwosu.edu](mailto:scwells@nwosu.edu).



Northwestern faculty members and administrators prove their versatility when meetings with all needed to happen. Zoom meetings were among the most popular form of meetings held during the ‘alternative delivery’ semester. Above: Dr. Janet Cunningham met with one section of the full faculty at this meeting.



## Northwestern’s First Doctoral Graduates



## Online RN-to-BSN program ranked #1 in state

Northwestern’s online Registered Nurse to Bachelor of Science in Nursing program has been named the best online RN-to-BSN program in Oklahoma, as evaluated by RegisteredNursing.org.

“Our nursing division continues to give our students the best educational opportunities,” said Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president. “We have great leadership within the nursing division, and I am proud of the dedication our students receive from the faculty and staff.”

Schools were ranked in order of total points. The points breakdown is as follows:

1. If the institution is accredited (5 Points)
2. If the institution offers online programs (20 Points)
3. Ratio of total nurse program completions to total program completions awarded by the institution, sorted from higher to lower ratios (25 Points)
4. Annual tuition and fees adjusted

for each county’s cost of living, sorted by lowest to highest (25 Points)

5. Ratio of instructional faculty that are tenured (5 Points)

6. Acceptance rate percentage for the College/University (10 Points)

7. Graduate rate at 150% of normal time (10 points)

Once all the points were totaled, RegisteredNursing.org ranked the schools from highest to lowest total points.

“The online RN-to-BSN program is designed for working RNs and provides its graduates with an expanded set of skills to open new doors for them in the nursing profession,” Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Division of Nursing, said. “The ability to critically analyze evidence to base their patient care activities as well as to identify community resources and health trends allows the graduates to be strong advocates for their patients and profession.”

“Program alumni have been active in their professional organizations,

have received promotions, and have even completed graduate degrees.

We currently have four graduates of the online RN-to-BSN program successfully progressing in the BSN-to-DNP program. The small classes and engaged faculty set our program apart from others.”

Northwestern currently has 16 students in the online RN-to-BSN program for the summer semester.

The Northwestern Nursing Program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, Inc. (ACEN) and is approved by the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. Northwestern is accredited by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

For more information on Northwestern’s nursing degree programs visit [www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing](http://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing) or contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or [scwells@nwosu.edu](mailto:scwells@nwosu.edu).





Liberty Bird  
Miss Northwestern



Libby Williams  
Miss Northwestern's Outstanding Teen

## Bird, Williams to continue reigns

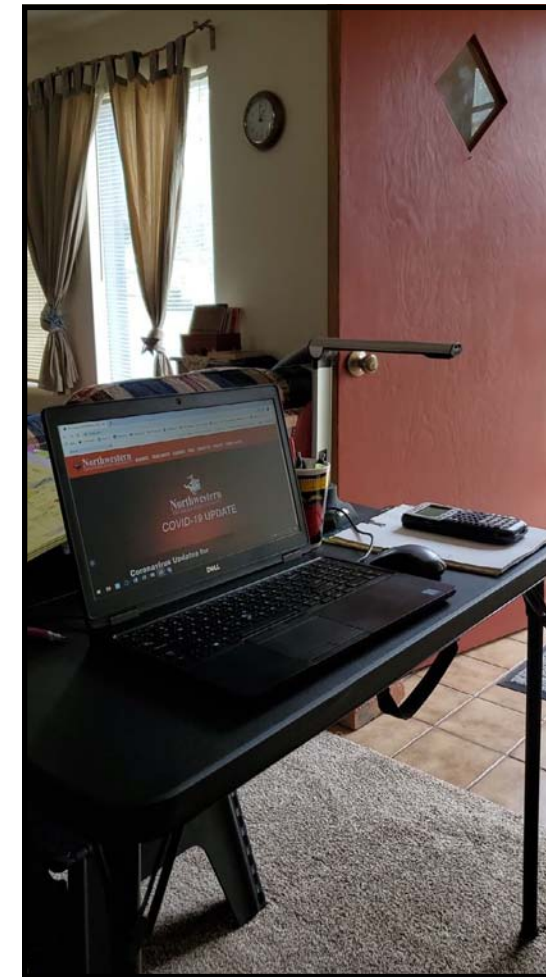
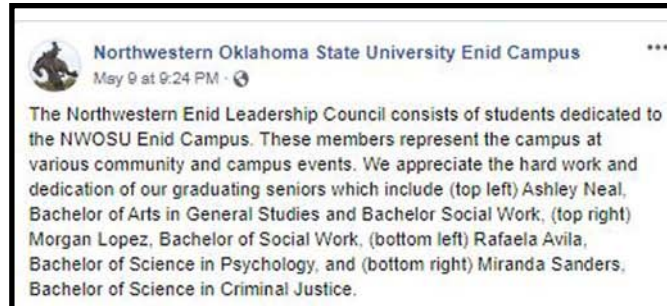
Following the lead of both the Miss America Organization and Miss Oklahoma competition, Northwestern Oklahoma State University will not hold its annual Miss Northwestern competition on the Alva campus in 2020.

The postponement is because of the nationwide impact of COVID-19.

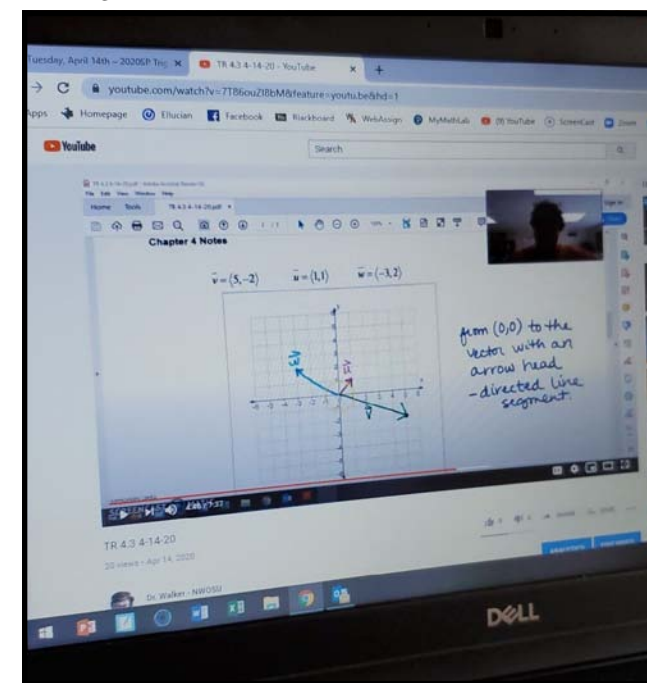
Liberty Bird, an Alva sophomore, will continue to be Miss Northwestern and represent the university at the next Miss Oklahoma event in 2021 on June 5-12. Also, Libby Williams of Norman will continue as Miss Northwestern's Outstanding Teen and also compete in 2021.

This year's Miss Oklahoma competition was scheduled to take place next month in Tulsa while the 100th anniversary of the Miss America competition was scheduled for December of this year.

Paige Fischer, director of the Miss Northwestern competition, said more details will be announced later. For anyone with questions or wanting to schedule appearances by Miss Northwestern and Miss Northwestern's Outstanding Teen this fall, contact Fischer at [plfischer@nwsu.edu](mailto:plfischer@nwsu.edu).



As many have done during the spring 2020 semester, Dena Walker converted part of her home into a remote studio for alternative teaching and learning.



One of Dena Walker's spring 2020 video lessons presented on YouTube during the spring 2020 semester.

## Walker's approach to alternative learning

Class content is presented by alternative delivery methods. Final exams have been electronically written. Reviews are uploaded. Current grades are posted. Let the reflection of the past eight weeks begin. This is how Dr. Dena Walker, associate professor of mathematics, summed up the last half of the spring semester.

"It all seems like a blur now," she said.

Spring break was on the horizon as COVID-19 interrupted many vacation plans, as well as plans for the remainder of the semester. Faculty members spent their breaks trying to decide how the last eight weeks would flow and what they would look like when all classes went to alternative instructional delivery methods rather than being in the classroom with students.

"I was added to a Facebook group called Pandemic Pedagogy," Walker said. "The input from faculty across the nation made choosing my alternate delivery method a little easier."

She learned from others what she wanted - and really didn't want - to do.

After researching, she decided to continue with the same structure as usual but altered. She knew her students would not be able to meet at the regularly scheduled time via Zoom, so she opted for short video lectures posted on YouTube. She did utilize Zoom for individual meetings with students and optional test review sessions, and Blackboard for announcements and class information. Homework, quizzes, and tests were all completed via the online homework systems Webassign and MyMathLab which were textbook

compatible. These platforms, which would normally charge a fee for student use, were provided free through the publishers.

Along with many other instructors, Walker was concerned about how students were actually learning because of the changes. Student feedback was very low. Walker said that posts on Pandemic Pedagogy illustrated there was much concern for the mental health of students during this time. Instructors across the country dealt with the issue in many ways. Walker believed that keeping a familiar structure was appropriate for her and her students. Another concern was technology needed to keep up. Fortunately, after polling her classes she learned that they all had the needed access.

"All in all, I think my implemented plan worked for the students that I had this semester," Walker said. "Did I miss them? Yes. Do I want to have to teach online in the fall? NO. I am a teacher who needs to see my students' faces. I need to hear them ask questions. I need to hear them laugh. So I look toward the fall semester and pray we are back to our new 'normal'."

# Teacher Education Program receives full accreditation

Northwestern's teacher education program was recently notified it has been fully accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP).

The Division of Education's bachelor's and graduate-level programs were accredited without areas for improvement.

"The success of the accreditation process for teacher education at Northwestern is due to many people," said Dr. Christee Jenlink, professor of education, chair to the Division of Education and associate dean of the School of Education. "Northwestern teacher faculty worked hundreds of hours in preparation for the site visit. Our administration provided total support throughout the process.

"Northwestern students were also supportive in the preparations and willingly participated in the interviews that were conducted on campus. Stakeholders from area public schools were extraordinary. When asked to participate in interviews with the site team, all were eager to help. The stakeholders' response to the call was exemplary."

In Oklahoma all programs, undergraduate and graduate, that lead to licensure must be accredited. Every seven years, an institution with programs that lead to licensure are reviewed by national and state entities to determine if the institution has met the standards set forth by the accrediting body. Failure to be accredited results in graduates of programs not being able to receive licensure in their field.

The accreditation process is ongoing in that programs continually

review and revise the requirements of programs to ensure accreditation standards are being met through the policies and procedures established by the preparation programs. The preparation for the onsite visit by the accreditation team begins months before the visit. A self-study report is submitted to the accrediting body nine months prior to the visit. Northwestern's on-site visit was November 10-12, 2019.

Two accreditation teams reviewed Northwestern's programs: a national team and a state team. The teams reviewed the self-study report and evidence to support the institution's case in meeting standards required by CAEP and standards set by the state of Oklahoma. During the site visit, the team interviewed 101 current students, graduates, faculty, Northwestern administrators, and stakeholders from public schools in Northwestern's service area.

The accreditation teams submitted a report to CAEP summarizing the on-site visit, and the Accreditation Council for CAEP voted April 27 to accredit Northwestern's programs for seven years without any areas for improvement. An institution rarely receives accreditation without any areas for improvement cited.

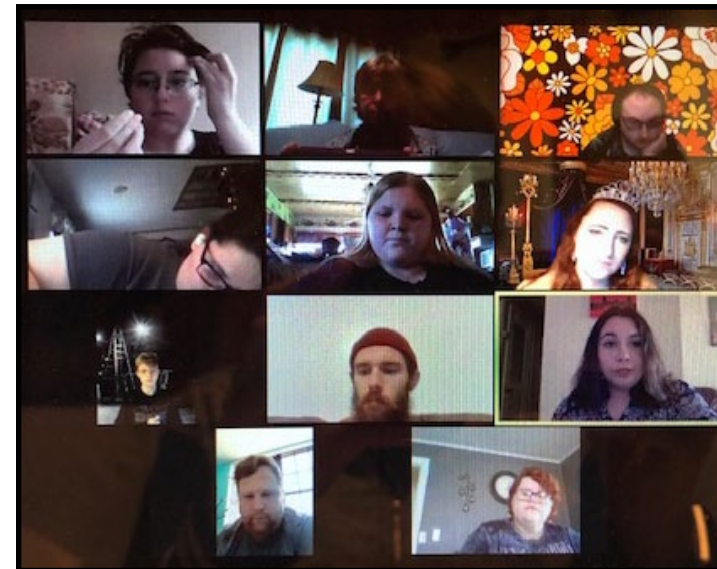
Dr. Bo Hannaford, executive vice president, said Northwestern's successful accreditation review is a verification of the superior direction within the teacher education program.

"I am extremely proud of Dr. Jenlink and our faculty for their hard work during this process," he said. "Their relentless effort to continuously improve and upgrade our education programs and provide exceptional educational experiences for our students is a testament to the talent and leadership within the

*Continued to page 71*



*Members of Kimberly Weast's Theatre Production I and II classes met once a week on Mondays in the spring. The classes finished the semester via Zoom. On these days members of the class were charged to give oral presentations of aspects of theatrical design.*



*Theatre Production I students meet with Oliva Buller, professional stage manager from Louisiana Tech. The previous four Monday classes included guest lectures from NWOSU Speech and Theatre alumni Ashley Ottensmeier Petre, Tori Hurley and Charlie Burns.*

*Continued from page 70*

## Teacher Education....

program." CAEP, formed in 2010 by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), advances equity and excellence in educator preparation through evidence-based accreditation, assuring quality and continuous improvement to strengthen P-12 student learning.

For more information on Northwestern's teacher education program contact Jenlink at (580) 327-8450 or [cljenlink@nwosu.edu](mailto:cljenlink@nwosu.edu).

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
June 5 at 3:03 PM

Northwestern Oklahoma State University officials have been informed that a student who is enrolled in online courses, but living in student housing, has tested positive for COVID-19.  
Read the story at <https://bit.ly/2A9oqTI>

### COVID-19 UPDATE

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
June 2 at 11:00 AM

#RangersStandTogether  
#NWOSU  
#RideRangersRide

Recent national events have highlighted the injustice and intolerance that still exist in our country today. As we have throughout our history, Northwestern Oklahoma State University stands strong to support and unite our students, employees, alumni and communities; to fight racism and intolerance; and to educate each other on positive solutions to these issues.

Northwestern Oklahoma State University  
College & University

Send Message

## BSN-to-DNP program earns accreditation through 2025

Northwestern's Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) to Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) program was recently notified it has been fully accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).

The accreditation, which has a five-year term, was awarded following a rigorous process that included a site visit as well as a review of Northwestern's nursing curriculum.

"National accreditation is the gold standard for all nursing education programs," said Dr. Shelly Wells, professor of nursing and chair of the Charles Morton Share Trust Division of Nursing. "To apply for licensure as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) in Oklahoma, one has to be a graduate of an accredited program.

"Northwestern has a strong track record of providing high-quality nursing education for many years. Accreditation of its Doctor of Nursing Practice program validates that the graduate program continues to follow in the Northwestern nursing tradition."

Accreditation assures the public that the program at Northwestern is a high-quality program that delivers content essential to engage in advanced practice nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner. The DNP degree at Northwestern prepares nurses to serve as leaders in the assessment of health needs and provision of health care in their communities.

National program accredita-

tion opens many doors for program students and graduates. A program graduate is now able to take the national certification exams for recognition as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse - Family Nurse Practitioner. Students are eligible to



apply for scholarships through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grants and scholarship programs.

"This is great news for our program," said Dr. Bo Hannaford, executive vice president. "I am very proud of all our faculty and stakeholders who were a part of this visit. Everyone worked very hard to ensure the success of this process. We have a wonderful tradition within our nursing division, and this is another positive step for Northwestern and our students."

Officially recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education as a national accreditation agency, the CCNE is an autonomous accrediting agency, contributing to the improvement of the public's health. CCNE ensures the quality and integrity of baccalaureate, graduate and residency programs in nursing. CCNE serves the public interest by assessing and identifying programs that en-

gage in effective educational practices.

Northwestern's undergraduate nursing programs also have been accredited. The Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing through 2027.

Northwestern's Nursing Program has a rich history beginning in the fall 1984 with a graduating class of 15 nurses. Students are able to enter the nursing program on both the Enid and Woodward campuses, which both feature state-of-the-art skills labs. Nursing courses are also offered at the University Center in Ponca City. All four sites have experienced, full-time faculty.

For more information on any of Northwestern's nursing degree programs visit [www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing](http://www.nwosu.edu/school-of-professional-studies/nursing) or contact Wells at (580) 327-8489 or [scwells@nwosu.edu](mailto:scwells@nwosu.edu).



## Fisher honored with emeritus titles

Dr. Deena Fisher, professor of history and dean of the Northwestern Oklahoma State University Woodward campus who is retiring at the end of June, has been conferred the title of Professor Emeritus and Dean Emeritus by the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents.

The emeritus title may be bestowed on retired professors and administrative officers who are specially recommended to the board by university president Dr. Janet Cunningham in recognition of exemplary service to the university. Nominated individuals who are approved by the board receive a copy of the resolution.

On June 8 at the Woodward Chamber meeting, Oklahoma Rep. Carl Newton (District 58) awarded Fisher with the appointment of Dean Emeritus of the Woodward campus and Professor Emeritus of History at Northwestern.

"Dr. Fisher has been instrumental in the success of our Woodward campus," Cunningham said. "She creates an environment where students thrive under her direction and has been a great mentor to those around her. We will miss her being on campus, but are excited for her future endeavors."

For more than 20 years, Fisher has provided outstanding leadership at Northwestern.

The strongest component of Fisher's leadership ability is helping others become better leaders through her guidance and direction. Fisher has been a very visible, external advocate for both Northwestern and the Woodward community.

She has served on the executive board of directors for Leadership Oklahoma, currently serves on the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, and is the president of the board to the Oklaho-

ma Historical Society. In addition, she serves as a board member on both the Oklahoma African American Educators' Hall of Fame and the Oklahoma Educators' Hall of Fame. She is an OK-CEO Program Outreach Consultant Champion for the Potts Foundation in northwest Oklahoma.

In her community, she is active as a board member of the United Fund, as a vice president of Friends of Historic Fort Supply, with Plains Indians and Pioneers Museum (past president), on the William S. Key Correctional Institution Citizen Advisory Board, and on the Woodward Industrial Foundation Advisory Board. She is a past chair of the Woodward Chamber of Commerce. In 2009, Fisher was recognized as the "Woodward Citizen of the Year." As an active member of Rotary International, she currently serves as past president of her club and current district governor nominee. She has been an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma Psi Chapter for 25 years and P.E.O for 10 years.

"I'm deeply appreciative of this honor," Fisher said. "Northwestern Oklahoma State University has been my

home for the past 24 years. The emeritus status makes it my home for life."

She holds a doctorate in higher education administration from Oklahoma State University and master's degrees in social science education as well as school counseling from Southwestern Oklahoma State University. In 2006, Fisher attended the "Institute for Management and Leadership in Higher Education" at Harvard Graduate School of Education. She is a contributing editor for the textbook "Oklahoma—Land of Contrast." In 2012, Fisher was inducted into the Journal Record Woman of the Year's "Circle of Excellence." She is a proud graduate of the Leadership Oklahoma Class of XXIV.

The Northwestern Foundation and Alumni Association staff will host a reception for Fisher and other retirees this fall semester.

Dr. Fisher's Years of Service at Northwestern:

1996-2002 Director of the Woodward Campus

2002-2020 Dean of the Woodward Campus

2010-2020 Professor of History



Dr. Deena Fisher recently was honored with an appointment to Dean Emeritus of the Woodward campus. She is pictured with the entire panel who came to speak at the Woodward Chamber meeting June 8. (Left to Right) Rep. Mike Sanders, Sen. Casey Murdock, Fisher and Rep. Carl Newton.

## 2 alums to be inducted into Coaches Hall of Fame

Northwestern is pleased to announce two alumni will be inducted by the Oklahoma Coaches Association into the Oklahoma Coaches Hall of Fame.

Former student-athletes at Northwestern David Glover and Jeff Myers are among the 10 people in the 2020 Class to be inducted into the OCA Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony and banquet have been postponed by the OCA Board of Directors due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 Class will be honored and inducted in 2021.

“These are two great Rangers who were ultra-successful as student-athletes at Northwestern and have gone on to tremendous success in the state of Oklahoma sports,” said Brad Franz, athletic director. “All of Northwestern is so proud of all their accomplishments and congratulate them on their induction to the Hall of Fame.”

A native of Woodward, Glover

graduated from Northwestern in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts in English education. He was a member of the Ranger basketball team.

Glover currently works for the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association as an assistant director in charge of basketball, cross country and golf while living in Kingfisher.

He served as superintendent two years at Newkirk (2003-2005), six years at Bethel Acres (2005-2011), and two years at Okarche (2011-2013).

Of his 22 years coaching basketball, 21 were spent as a head coach. He served as an assistant one year at Woodward before coaching seven years in Okeene and then 14 at Fairview.

He coached both boys and girls at Woodward and Okeene and then led the Fairview girls’ program while being an assistant for the boys. Glover won more than 350 games during his career.

“It really is unexpected,” Glover

said. “For the career I had, it feels great to know people respect me enough to put me in with this group of coaches. I am very humbled by this honor.”

Myers, who was a member of the Ranger football team, graduated from Northwestern in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science in health and physical education and in 1993 with a Master of Education degree.

Myers has been the Kingfisher High School head football coach for 16 years. Since taking over the program in 2004, the Alva native has led the Jackets to a school-record 162 wins. That includes making the playoffs all 16 seasons and winning at least one playoff game 15 times.

The Jackets have reached a state championship game five times under Myers, including the 2013 state championship.

He said, “It’s very humbling to be mentioned in the same company with coaches I’ve admired and coached against through the years.”

## Face-to-Face is intent for fall semester

University officials have announced the university’s intent to resume face-to-face instruction for the fall 2020 semester.

“While we have reason to be proud of how we have all adapted to these challenging circumstances, we also realize that the physical campus with its full classrooms is the vital heart of our institution,” said Dr. Janet Cunningham, university president. “We would once again like for our

students, faculty and staff to be fully engaged, and for our learning community to offer all course options: face-to-face, ITV, hybrid and online.”

Northwestern will continue to follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Gov. Kevin Stitt’s guidelines according to the Open Up and Recover Safely Plan.

Working with faculty representatives, Northwestern’s campus leadership is currently formulating a variety

of plans to ensure the safety and health of Northwestern students, staff, faculty and communities during the fall semester. Due to the unknowns related to COVID-19, this situation could change quickly. The Northwestern community appreciates all who have worked seamlessly, both on-campus and off, to ensure the well-being of the Ranger family. Everyone’s resilience and diligence during this time is commended.



The department/division chairs took a minute at the end of their last meeting of the spring semester to wish everyone a happy, healthy summer. They hope to see many people back on campus this fall! Be well!

