

## SSC Foundation Golf Tournament a Success



**Former Seminole State College Regent Melvin Moran (left) visits with U.S. Congressman Dan Boren and his wife Andrea prior to the start of the SSC Educational Foundation Golf Tournament held last Friday at the Shawnee Country Club. The benefit tournament, hosted by Boren, State Senator Harry Coates and State Representative Ryan Kiesel, raised funds for the College's Foundation, which will be used to support scholarship programs and special projects of the Foundation.**

### Volleyball September Home Schedule

September 13	Coffeyville CC	5:00 p.m.
September 17	Triangular Labette CC NCTC	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
September 28	U of Arkansas-Ft. Smith	6:00 p.m.

# GO TROJANS!

### Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

The Seminole State Collegian is published during the fall and spring semesters by the Seminole State College Office of Media Relations, under the direction of Shannon Webb.

The staff reserves the right to edit submitted material for spelling and style. Consideration is given to all submitted material, but submission does not ensure publication. No anonymous material will be considered. All views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of Seminole State College. The collegian is distributed on the SSC campus and mailed to over 200 friends of the college.

Seminole State College, compliance with Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and other Federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services.

This publication, printed by the SSC Print Shop, is issued by Seminole State College as authorized by the President of the college. At a cost of \$180.00, 1,000 copies have been prepared and distributed.

**CONTACT:**  
Shannon Webb  
Coordinator of Media Relations  
405-382-9525  
webb\_s@sscok.edu

# SEMINOLE *State* COLLEGE COLLEGIAN

Seminole, Oklahoma • Volume 34 • Number 1 • September 2005

## College Receives \$2.5 Million Grant

Seminole State College is set to receive the largest grant award in the institution's history. Over the next six years, SSC will be awarded over \$2.5 million dollars for a new federal GEAR UP program.

The first year of the grant award will total \$432,000. Area schools and businesses, along with SSC, will provide matching funds for the grant. The College received official notification of the award from the offices of U. S. Sen. Tom Coburn, U.S. Sen. Jim Inhofe, and U.S. Rep. Ernest Istook.

GEAR UP is a federally-funded program that works to encourage first generation college students. The program is intended to provide services to improve academic performance and preparation for college among fifth and sixth graders. It will work to increase the knowledge of both students and their families on college options, preparation and financing.

Approximately 540 students from nine area school districts will partner with SSC for their Dream Catcher GEAR UP program. Students from Varnum, Strother, Seminole, Sasakwa, Paden, New Lima, Justice, Butner and Bowlegs will be targeted for participation in the program. Area businesses and community partners, including the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum, Seminole County Retired Educators, Doug's Quick Stop, Sonic and Central Sheet Metal, will provide mentoring, tutoring and incentives for academic success.

Due to the amount of students expected to participate in GEAR UP, SSC anticipates adding six additional positions to assist with the program. A Gear-Up Coordinator, education co-

ordinator, instructional designer, adviser, office manager and Web design specialist will work specifically with Gear-Up students and their families.

"TRiO Programs Director Kathy Hoover and her staff did an outstanding job in obtaining this grant," said Seminole State College President Dr. James Utterback. "The benefits of this new program are far-reaching. The lives of hundreds of young students in the area will be positively affected through the SSC Dream Catcher GEAR UP program. Additionally, there will be a tremendous economic impact of this grant on the College and on Seminole and surrounding communities."

***"The lives of hundreds of students in the area will be positively affected through the SSC Dream Catcher GEAR UP program."***

-- Dr. Jim Utterback,  
President

Utterback continued by saying that establishing the GEAR UP program at Seminole State College can be considered as the equivalent of bringing a new business to the area.

GEAR UP will focus on three major areas of learning for its participants: PALS, *Fish!* and professional development for faculty. The PALS

program, which stands for Play and Active Learning Sessions, is designed to provide tutoring, mentoring, cultural field trips, summer camp and college/career advisement for students and their parents. The *Fish!* program will work to create more effective classroom learning environments for students. Science and math curriculums will be redesigned, and new learning technologies will be introduced into classrooms as part of GEAR UP's faculty development program.

According to Hoover, funding for the new program became available Sept. 1.

"We are in the process of hiring individuals to work with the program. We are anxious to get things up and running - and to begin delivering services to the students in our partnering schools," Hoover said.

GEAR UP will be the fifth federal grant program currently operating through Seminole State College. Upward Bound offers a six-week residential camp on the SSC campus and provides the skills and motivation necessary for students to succeed in secondary and postsecondary education. Talent Search, or FOCUS, provides academic services to students in the sixth-through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade in nine area schools. Veterans Upward Bound offers veterans the services necessary to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Additionally, the SSC has a Student Support Services program that provides academic support for qualified college students. These programs employ 13 full-time and three part-time people and have a combined annual operating budget of \$1,137,614.



# Seminole State Begins Fall Semester with Crowded Hallways and New Faces

Parking lots overflowing with cars are a sure sign that school is back in session at Seminole State College. On Wednesday, SSC welcomed both old and new students for the new academic year.

New students aren't the only new faces on campus. The College has welcomed a new Regent and has also hired new faculty and staff members.

Seminole resident Marci Donaho joined the SSC Board of Regents this summer. Donaho was named to serve on the Board by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry this spring. Donaho succeeds Ben Walkingstick, whose term expired in June. Donaho's seven-year term will expire in June 2012.

Bill Knowles, of Seminole, joins the College's Social Sciences as a new instructor. Knowles, a 1991 graduate of Seminole State College, went on to earn her Bachelor of Arts degree in law enforcement administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1993. He received his master's of criminal justice administration from Oklahoma City University. Knowles has served as an adjunct instructor for SSC since 1999.



**Bill Knowles**

Sharon Bryant will serve as the new Employment Readiness Director. Bryant comes to SSC from the Davis Correctional Facility where she was the Addictions Treatment Counselor. Bryant holds a master's degree in Human Resources from East Central University.

Greg Maphet will join the SSC faculty as an American history and national government instructor. Maphet holds a bachelor's degree from Panhandle State University and a master's degree from Midwestern State University. Maphet is currently completing

his Ph.D. in U.S. history from Oklahoma State University.

Kelli McBride joins the SSC faculty as an English instructor. She earned an associate of science degree from Seminole State College in 1990 and a bachelor's degree from East Central University in 1993. She went on to earn a



**Greg Maphet**

master's degree from the University of Oklahoma and is currently working on a doctoral degree from the University of Oklahoma.

Several current SSC faculty members will take on new roles in the coming year.

Pam Koenig, who has been a faculty member in the College's Social Sciences Division for nine years, will serve as the Division's new chair. For the past five years, she has served as the Title III Multicultural Curriculum Coordinator. Koenig earned her bachelor's of arts degree from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1989. She went on to earn a master's of



**Sharon Bryant**



arts in history from Oklahoma State University and is currently working toward her doctoral degree.



**Kelli McBride**

Earlier this summer, changes in the SSC administration took effect. Brad Walck was selected as Vice President for Student Affairs and Lana Reynolds was named Vice President for Institutional Advancement. Walck, who has been employed at the College since 1991, has held several positions including women's basketball coach, history instructor and chair of the Social Sciences Division. Reynolds, formerly Associate Vice President for Business and Community Relations, was hired as the College's Public Information Officer in 1989 and has served as Assistant to the President and Director of Public Relations.

Students who attend SSC continue to receive a

quality education from outstanding instructors and exceptional academic programs.

Several of the College's faculty and staff members were honored in 2003-2004 by "Who's Who Among America's Teachers." To receive recognition, a teacher must be nominated by former students who have been cited for academic excellence themselves in *Who's Who in American Junior Colleges* and *The National Dean's List*.

*Who's Who Among America's Teachers 2004* honored only five percent of the nation's teachers.

SSC instructors and staff members honored in the publication included Business/Accounting Instructor Dawna Hamm; Director of Human Resources Mona Ridley; Vice President for Student Affairs Brad Walck; Social Sciences Division Chair Pam Koenig; Director of Enrollment Management Chris

Lindley; Employment Readiness Skills Instructor Normal Gillespie; Business/Information Systems Division Chair Patricia Cokeley; Government Instructor Marta Osby; History/Government Instructor Dr. Richard Wood; Language Arts and Humanities Chair Kelly Kirk; Biological Science Instructor Tony Yates; Psychology Instructor Dr. Jacqueline Stewart; Vice President for Institutional Advancement Lana Reynolds; and Nursing Instructor Donna Chambers.

Although the fall term is underway and enrollment for regular semester classes ends Tuesday, Aug. 30, the College will continue to offer mid-term and short-term courses throughout the coming months. The courses will be offered at times to accommodate working adults. The offerings will be announced throughout the semester.

For more information about SSC courses and admissions, contact the College's Office of Admissions at (405) 382-9950 or view the College's Web site at [www.sscok.edu](http://www.sscok.edu).



## Fall Calendar

### Labor Day

Monday, September 5  
NO CLASS

### Mid-term Classes Begin

Thursday, October 13

### Fall Break

Thursday-Friday, October 20-21  
NO CLASS

### Thanksgiving Break

Wednesday-Friday, November 23-25  
NO CLASS

### Last Day to Withdraw

Wednesday, November 9

### Final Exams

Friday-Wednesday, December 9-14

### Semester Ends

Wednesday, December 14

### Library Hours

Monday-Tuesday: 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Wednesday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Bookstore Hours

Monday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Tuesday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Friday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.



## SSC President Selected as Chairman OSRHE Council of Presidents

Seminole State College President Dr. Jim Utterback has been selected as chairman of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education's Council of Presidents. Utterback was elected to the position for the 2005-2006 academic year by his colleagues – the Presidents of all public two-year and four-year colleges and university in the state.

In addition to presiding at monthly meetings of the Presidents at the State Regents' Office, Utterback will serve as the Council's representative to OSRHE on a variety of educational and legislative issues. He will also represent the Presidents at various state meetings, conferences and special events.

Utterback, who is in his eighth year as President of Seminole State College, has presented at national and international conferences speaking on subjects related to economic development, student development, campus violence, and legal issues in higher education.

He has established a strong record of civic involvement and community service having served as President of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce, on the executive board of the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum, as a member of the Seminole Rotary Club and as a founding member of the Seminole Economic De-

velopment Council. He was honored last January as Seminole's 2004 "Citizen of the Year."

Utterback's involvement in economic development efforts includes his work in Kansas while he was Dean of Students at Dodge Community College. He served on the Legislative Committee of the Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Board of the Dodge City / Ford County Economic Development Corporation and the local Business-Education Roundtable.

He is active in state higher education organizations and has served as co-chair of the Council of Presidents' Legislative Committee. He served two terms as chair of the Council of Two-Year College Presidents, and one term as vice chair of the Council of Presidents for the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education.

Utterback is the fourth president of Seminole State College. He came to SSC after more than seven years as Dean of Student Services at Dodge City Community College in Kansas.

Utterback graduated from Carl Albert High School in Midwest City and attended Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology in 1978, and a Master of Science in



**Dr. James Utterback**

Applied Psychology in 1979 from Southwestern.

He received his Doctor of Philosophy in College Student Personnel Administration in 1992 from the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, Colo. While at the University, Utterback's distinguished achievements were recognized by his selection for the Graduate Dean's Citation for Excellence.

## Psi Beta Student Wins Third with Paper



**Schevetto (left) and other Psi Beta winners in Washington, D.C.**

Seminole State College student Jami Schevetto won third place in the 2005 Allyn & Bacon Publishers Research Paper Award competition. Schevetto will receive a one-year membership into the American Psychological Society.

Schevetto attended the 2005 American Psychological Association convention on August 19, in Washington, D.C. Schevetto was honored with special certificate and \$200 check for her achievements at the celebration.

Schevetto was eligible to receive this award through her membership in Seminole State College's chapter of Psi Beta. According to its official Web site, "The mission of Psi Beta honor society is professional development of psychology students in two-year colleges through promotion and recognition in scholarship, leadership, research and community service."

Schevetto has attended SSC for the past two years. She has served as Psi Beta president from 2003-2005. Schevetto plans to attend Oklahoma State University, where she will major in psychology.

## Donaho Sworn in as Regent in July

At their July meeting, the Seminole State College Board of Regents swore in a new Regent and elected new officers.

Marci Donaho of Seminole was administered the oath of office to serve as a SSC Regent by fellow Regent and Shawnee attorney, Jon Flowers. Donaho was named to serve on the Board by Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry this spring. Donaho succeeds Ben Walkingstick, whose term expired in June. Donaho's seven-year term will expire in June 2012.

SSC President Dr. Jim Utterback updated the Regents on personnel and presented a housing feasibility study, which was commissioned by the SSC Educational Foundation.

Utterback informed the Board of former SSC housekeeper Jimmy Underwood's retirement. He also informed the Regents of four new employees. Gregory Maphet was hired as an instructor in both history and government; Kellie McBride was hired to teach English; Sharon Bryant was chosen as the new Employment Readiness Director; and Bill Knowles was hired as a government instructor.

Utterback informed the board he had been chosen by the American Association of Community Colleges, to serve a three-year appointment as a Commissioner on "Diversity, Inclusion and Equity."

The President updated the Regents on the College's Business and Industry Training Program. He presented the Regents with a 2004-2005 annual report of the program's growth and enrollment.

The program's headcount enrollment and credit hours generated have increased dramatically and have been accelerated by having the Enoch Kelly Haney Center available for classes and seminars. This year, Business and Industry provided 1,453 credit hours of instruction during the academic year. The program's courses and seminars are coordinated by SSC Business and Industry Training Coordinator Carol Hartman.

Utterback also updated the board on the progress of the Rural Business and Resources Center. He said that SSC is completing its first year of partnership with Rural Enterprises, Inc. As part of this partnership, the Rural Business and Resources Center was established last spring and works with businesses in SSC's five-county service area on economic development.

Next, the President presented recommendations from the SSC Building Subcommittee on the construction of a residence hall and business incubator. The sub-committee recommended that Architects in Partnership of Norman be selected as the architectural firm for these construction projects. The sub-committee also recommended the new business incubator be constructed near the Sarkeys Dormitory on the east side of Hwy 3.

The President then presented the board with a housing feasibility study compiled by Ispier & Associates. The study was commissioned this summer by the SSC Educational Foundation to provide an objective view of Seminole State College's needs and to provide support for financing. In agreement with the study, the sub-committee recommended to the Regents that the new residence hall include 150 beds.

The President informed the board that Seminole State College psychology student Jami Schevetto won third place in the 2005 Allyn & Bacon Publishers Research Paper Award competition. She has been invited to the Psi Beta National Award Presentation, which was held Aug. 19, 2005, in Washington, D.C.

Under the first item of business, the Regents elected new officers for the coming year. Regent Derrill Cody of Norman was elected chair; David Wilson of Seminole as vice chair and William Harrison, Jr. of Justice as secretary.

Next, the board agreed to enter into the Oklahoma Two-Year College Insurance Consortium for student athletic insurance for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Then, the Regents approved the purchase of furniture from Oklahoma Cor-



**SSC Regent Marci Donaho**

rectional Industries for Roesler and Sarkeys Residence Halls for \$21,801. The purchase provided replacements for aging furniture, as well as new furniture needed for the facilities.

Next, the Regents agreed to purchase approximately one half-acre of land adjacent to the Sarkeys Residence Hall across from campus on the east side of Hwy 3 for \$5,000. Currently, the land is owned by the Community of Christ Church. The purchase provides a potential location for the construction of the new business incubator.

On the Consent Agenda, the Regents approved a modification of the Certificate of Mastery in Child Development. The change included the addition of a "Program and Curriculum Planning" course to the certificate program. The change requested was initiated statewide by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

Finally, the Regents approved the purchase of computer equipment for the nursing and federal TRiO programs with federal grant money for \$53,988.46. The purchases, being made from Gateway and Dell, were to be used to update student labs and administrative systems for the programs.



## Walkingstick Retires at June Meeting

At their June meeting, the Seminole State College Board of Regents approved the College's FY 06 fiscal budget. They also said good-bye to outgoing chair Ben Walkingstick, and Seminole State College President Jim Utterback gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the College's significant achievements over the past year.

Under the first item of business, the Regents approved the College's FY 06 Educational and General Budget. The budget included a 4 percent raise across the board for all College employees. It also provided increases in adjunct and overload pay, increases pay for Division Chairs, and provided merit increases for outstanding classified staff, as well as longevity pay for employees who have been at SSC several years.

"This is the best raise package we have been able to give in many years. As always, increasing salaries remains a major priority," said Utterback. "It is important that our salaries stay competitive among other institutions in order to attract and keep quality employees. I am pleased that we were able to do everything requested by the faculty welfare committee."

Next, the Regents approved the purchase of approximately one acre of land across from Highway 9, south of the SSC campus for \$4,000. The land is located

adjacent to the 18.59 acres the College purchased several years ago.

The Regents then approved an agreement with the International School of Nursing to accept students from their new campus on the island of St. Kitts, British Virgin Islands, as transfer students into the second year of Seminole State College's nursing program. The first transfer students will be admitted to SSC in May 2006. The partnership has the potential to dramatically increase enrollment in nursing and provide financial support for the SSC nursing program.

On the Consent Agenda, the Regents approved the College's 2005-2006 holiday schedule. They also approved annual contracts with: Elsener & Cadenhead for legal services for \$250 monthly fee plus hourly rate; the City of Seminole for use of Oiler Park Baseball Facility for \$1; Pleasant Grove School for use of softball field for \$1,000; Novell for computer software maintenance agreement for \$15,498; Symantic/Norton for campus-wide anti-virus software for \$4,690.25; Web CT for on-line course software in the amount of

\$11,000 utilizing federal funds; Avaya, Inc., for Telephone Systems Maintenance for \$26,662.68; Microsoft for computer software agreement for \$8,800; computer software maintenance agreement/perpetual license with Campus America Incorporated of Tulsa, Okla., for \$88,174; Kaycee Software Inc., for bookstore software for \$4,260; and Business Imaging Systems maintenance agreement for \$2,626.



**Regents Chairman Ben Walkingstick receives a plaque of recognition from Dr. James Utterback.**

## SSC International Studies Visits Europe



**Seminole residents Keith and Sassy Shaw pose in front of an Irish castle.**



Over 30 individuals participated in SSC's Global Studies tour this summer. The group toured England, Ireland and Wales. Two trips are scheduled for 2006: a Spring Break trip to London and Paris, as well as a tour of the Mediterranean, Rome and Athens in June. For more information about up-coming tours, contact Language Arts and Humanities Chair Kelly Kirk at 405-382-9251

**Tour participants enjoy an evening of European cuisine.**

## Projects Approved at May Meeting

At the May meeting of the SSC Board of Regents, the Regents approved the hiring of two vice presidents, leased property to the SSC Educational Foundation in order to proceed with two building projects and voted to raise tuition and fees for the 2005-2006 academic year.

During his report to the Board, Seminole State College President, Dr. Jim Utterback, gave a personnel update to the Regents. He also discussed the recent Higher Education Bond Issue, recommendations from the SSC Building Committee and various campus activities.

The President reported that English faculty member Rachel Jackson tendered her resignation, effective this month. Additionally, three employees announced their plans to retire. Employment Readiness Director Sherley Reaves and Social Science instructor Dr. Carmen Notaro will retire this year, and English instructor and TRiO program adviser Carol Hamm will retire in 2006.

In its first order of business, the Board approved the hiring of Mr. Brad Walck as Vice President for Student Affairs. Walck fills the position left vacant by Dr. Sean Fox early last fall. Walck has been a member of the SSC faculty since 1991. He currently serves as the SSC Social Science Division Chair. Walck holds a B.A. from Oklahoma Baptist University and two M.A. degrees from East Central University. He is currently finishing his doctoral program at the University of Oklahoma.

Next, the Board approved the appointment of Associate Vice President for Business and Community Relations Lana Reynolds to the position of Vice President for Institutional Advancement. As Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Reynolds will serve as the chief development officer for the College and as chief liaison officer with the Seminole State College Educational Foundation. Reynolds will be responsible for fundraising, alumni affairs, public relations, legislative affairs, publications, internal and external communications and special events.

The Board also voted to approve a retirement incentive program for the 2006

fiscal year. The program is being proposed again this year as a cost saving measure for the College.

The next three items on the Regents' agenda dealt with increasing both tuition and fees for the 2005-2006 academic year. The Board approved a 5.7 percent tuition increase, raising tuition from \$44 to \$46.50 per credit hour. The Student Technology Fee was also increased \$1 per credit hour, as was the Infrastructure Fee. Utterback shared information about current tuition and fee rates at other Oklahoma institutions, which reflected SSC's tuition and fees to be within a few dollars of each. According to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the need to raise tuition and fee costs at state colleges can be attributed to record enrollments, guaranteeing the retention of quality programs and faculty and rising mandatory costs.

"Our first and foremost priority is our people," said Utterback. "The budget being proposed by the State doesn't even cover rising mandatory costs. We are proud we can keep our increase under six percent."

The Board then approved the resolution to allow the College to purchase items prior to the receipt of bond proceeds and be reimbursed upon receipt of those funds. The resolution was recommended by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education as a method for proceeding with the approved capital projects.

The Board voted to table a vote authorizing the purchase of a 7-foot bronze sculpture of the "Guardian" from Haney, Inc. in accordance with Senate Bill 1347 that requires 1.5 percent of state funded capital monies be spent on art. Since the College is undertaking several large building projects, Utterback felt it was an appropriate time to discuss business regarding compliance of the new "Arts in Public Places" legislation. The proposal was deferred to the SSC Building Committee, a 30-member committee comprised of campus and community representatives, for future study and recommendations.

The Board also approved two ground lease agreements with the SSC Educational Foundation. The agreements will allow the Foundation to proceed with plans for constructing a business incubator and a residence hall. Utterback reminded the Board that the Roesler Residential Learning Center was financed by bonds through a public trust. The same type of financial structure is planned for the proposed residence hall project. Brent Clark of the Glenn Floyd Law Firm in Norman and investment adviser Tommy Thompson, who handled bonds for the construction of the Haney Center, attended the meeting to answer questions from the Board.

---

**"Our first and foremost priority is our people."**

**-- Dr. Jim Utterback,  
President**

---

Next, the Board voted to approve a contract with the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District. During the February Board meeting, the Regents entered into a contract with COEDD to accept a special appropriation of \$300,000 for the construction of a business incubator. Because the SSC Foundation has agreed to proceed with the project, the Regents voted to assign the COEDD contract to the Foundation.

In its final order of business, the Board voted by consent to approve the Fiscal Year 2006 Campus Master Plan project for submission to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, to approve the annual lease agreement with the SSC Educational Foundation for office space for the Oklahoma Employment Readiness program for \$7,200 annually, effective July 1, 2005; and to approve the Graduate Opinion Survey Report for 2003-2004.