

SSC Constitution Day Emphasises Diversity



Michael Korenblit served as the featured speaker during a Constitution Day observance.

In celebration of Constitution Day 2006, Seminole State College hosted a public presentation featuring author and president of the Respect Diversity Foundation, Michael Korenblit, on campus Monday, Sept. 18.

Korenblit, who was at the college earlier this fall speaking to faculty and staff during their back-to-school in-service program, was invited back to campus by the SSC Phi Theta Kappa chapter and the Student Government Association.

Korenblit, whose parents were survivors of the Holocaust, draws on his family history of survival and perseverance in discussions about social injustice and intolerance in today's society. His presentation focused on the importance of participation in the political process and the role that citizens play in protecting the principles of freedom.

Korenblit, is co-founder and president of the Respect Diversity Foundation, a non-profit, tax- exempt educational organization, founded with the purpose of teaching respect and tolerance for all people. Through its speaker's bureau and numerous programs they work with students, teachers and adult groups offering seminars, diversity workshops and interfaith panels.

He worked 19 years for the Close Up Foundation, an educational organization in Washington, D.C. Korenblit taught students and teachers about the governmental process and current domestic and foreign policy issues for six years, then directed Close Up's television and video department, winning two ACE awards for television series and numerous awards for documentaries.

Korenblit served as vice president of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and served on the Second Generation Advisory Committee to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. He is the author of *Until We Meet Again* - the true story of his parents experience during the Holocaust.

Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

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SSC Elects New SGA Representatives



Seminole State College elected new officers for the 06-07 school year. SGA officers are elected by the SSC student body.

Pictured are individuals representing student organizations across campus. (Front Row L to R): SGA Vice President Patricia Hulburt of Stroud; Nina Kirk, Student Nursing Association Adviser; Cynthia Yerby, SGA Adviser; Rachel Molleur, SGA President of Seminole; (Back Row L to R): Amanda Ramirez, SGA Sophomore Senator of Shawnee; Justin Huff, SGA Freshmen Senator of Prague; Sara Rooney PTK Representative of Shawnee; and David Neumann, SGA Sophomore Senator of Harrah.

SSC's Red-letter Week of Progress

The last few days of September, 2006 will be remembered as red-letter dates in the history of Seminole State College.

Several milestones were reached in beginning a new phase of construction and development on the College's 81-acre campus. The Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (ODFA), acting on behalf of SSC, issued revenue bonds for the construction of a new 150-bed student housing facility. The bonds were sold on Sept. 29. Preliminary construction activity is occurring at the site.

Dr. Jim Utterback, SSC President, said "This is the beginning of historic changes that will shape the future of the College forever."

The steps taken in late September bring long-time plans for the College into reality. The need for additional

housing for SSC students has been on the College's master plan for decades. The need was partially met when the Roesler Residential Learning Center

"For a small college we are truly making incredible advancements."

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

opened in 2000. However, the 82-bed Roesler facility was filled to capacity when it opened – and the need remained a pressing matter.

Breaking ground on the residence hall this past week sets in motion plans for other major construction to be done on the campus in the coming year. Through funding provided by the 2005 Higher Education Bond, a maintenance building, a softball complex and wellness facility, and additions to Tanner Hall consisting of classrooms, labs, offices and a one-stop student enrollment and success center will be built.

Utterback said that the recent accomplishments are a result of literally years of planning and teamwork between many entities and individuals. "For a small college we are truly making incredible advancements. What's happening at Seminole State College shows what can be achieved when diverse groups pull together to work for a common good," Utterback said.

He credited the leadership and
(story continues on page 3)

SSC Welcomes Back Students with Ice Cream Social and Area Service Fair

Area business and organizations met in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union Wednesday, Sept. 13, and Thursday, Sept. 14, to participate in the College's 13th Annual Area Services Fair. The fair provided SSC students and faculty a chance to learn about goods and services available in the community, and gave area businesses the opportunity to promote their products and services. A special feature of this year's fair was a booth hosted by the Seminole County Election Board where students and employees could register to vote. The event was co-sponsored by the SSC Student Services and Public Relations Office.

The Area Services Fair was held in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on both days. In conjunction with the event, the annual Back-to-School Ice Cream Social was also held in the exhibit area of the Union. SSC faculty and staff served free ice cream and students could build their own sundaes.



AmeriContact Building Grand Opening Scheduled for October 23



The old Nichols grocery store prior to renovations.



The Nichols' Building after extensive renovations by the Seminole State College Educational Foundation. The building will be the new home of the AmeriContact call center after the official grand opening on October 23.



The front entrance of the renovated building.



New carpeting and electrical wiring are part of the new interior of the building.

The AmeriContact call center is moving into a new home at 600 W. Strother. The call center was recruited to Seminole in late fall of 2003 by the Seminole Economic Development Council with assistance from Seminole State College. A temporary business incubator was created for the company in the Haney Center on the SSC campus. The college has continued to provide space, resources and support for the business over the past three years.

After opening on Dec. 15, 2003, the company quickly grew to 50 employees and began extended shifts to accommodate business contracts. The Seminole business employs over 75, and has plans to expand to 200 in the new facility.

Through the efforts of the Seminole State College Educational Foundation, the former Nichols Grocery Store, was purchased last year and has been renovated for a state-

of-the-art business incubator. The project's financial assistance was acquired by former State Representative, now U.S. Congressman, Dan Boren, through the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District (COEDD). The building will be named in his honor at a ribbon cutting ceremony on Oct. 23, at 2 p.m..

The partnership between the College and the AmeriContact call center was recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in late April. The award was part of a State Regents' program honoring higher education institutions and businesses for their outstanding collaborations which lead to furthering the education of Oklahoma's workforce.

Additionally, the College was also awarded a competitive economic development grant through the State Regents in December, 2005 to aid with this project.

SSC Haney Center Hosts Terrorism Drill

Seminole State College's Haney Center was the site for a Mass Immunization Prophylaxis exercise for four counties in central Oklahoma.

The bioterrorism drill handled 429 "would be patients" with an additional 89 participants serving as volunteers in the exercise's simulated clinic.

The exercise was the first of its kind in the state. The Pottawatomie County Local Emergency Planning Committee along with Hughes, Seminole, Okfuskee, Lincoln and Pottawatomie County Health Departments participated. The focus of the exercise was the simulated treatment and prevention of a pneumonic plague outbreak.

Students from the Seminole State College nursing program participated in the exercise serving as both patients and staff members throughout the event. Along with other law enforcement agencies from across the area, the SSC police department assisted with traffic and other event logistics.

Another mass immunization exercise is scheduled to take place in two years.



HALLOWEEN

Global Studies Announces 2007 Tours

The Seminole State College's Global Studies program has released its 2007 itinerary. The "Dublin and London" and "Rome, Tuscany, the Riviera and Paris" tours are now enrolling participants.

The costs of the nine-day "Dublin and London" trip ranges from \$2,254 to \$2,544; the twelve day "Rome, Tuscany, the Riviera and Paris" tour ranges from \$3,155 to \$3,520. The price per individual for both tours is dependent upon sleeping arrangements and the date of trip registration.

The cost of the trip includes all transportation, the tour, transfers, tips, tickets into the cited tour venues, two meals a day, college tuition and fees. Participants will be responsible for the lunch, optional trips, and souvenirs.

As with past trips, participants can take the college course for credit or audit the course. The tours will be lead by SSC Language Arts and Humanities Division Chair Kelly Kirk.

The program is open to members of the general public and SSC students who are 18 years of age or older and are interested in a convenient, economical and educational way to travel. Those under 18 can participate in the trip if accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The SSC Global Studies program is in its eighth year. The program is based in SSC's art department and emphasizes travel as a means to experience "the art of living." The trips are designed to give



participants a hands-on understanding of cultures, art and history. Past trips visited Mexico, Italy, Greece, France, Scotland and England.

"The program has been a tremendous success," noted Kirk. "Each year, we have more and more students and members of the general public traveling with the college. It is an excellent form of global education."

"Touring other countries is one of the best forms of education you can experi-

ence. You can't even compare seeing St. Paul's Cathedral in person to looking at a picture of it in a book. It's amazing."

For additional information on the Seminole State College's Global Studies program, or to schedule a slide presentation for a club or organization, contact Kirk at (405) 382-9251. Informational meetings will be held throughout the fall semester. Interested individuals should contact Kirk for the times and locations of the meetings.

Hide and Seek

Can You Find the Hidden Word?

The word HALLOWEEN is hidden in a story somewhere in this publication. The first person to report his/her findings, will receive a FREE 20 oz. Seminole State College insulated car mug from the SSC Bookstore.

Participants must report their findings to the SSC Media Relations Office, in person, on the first floor of the SSC Haney Center. The winner will also be pictured in the November COLLEGIAN.

All readers are eligible. Participants are limited to one win per semester. The type of contest is subject to change every month. Good luck, SSC Fans!!!



(continued from page 1)

commitment of the SSC Board of Regents and the SSC Educational Foundation Board of Trustees for their efforts in helping the College grow.

"Our Regents have been consistently supportive as we have explored different avenues to get these building projects started. Their vision for this institution has been the driving force in planning for future growth.

"The Foundation has been instrumental in bringing these projects to life. Lead gifts from private donors such as SSC Founder Award recipients Jimmie and Marie Austin, Melvin and Jamsine Moran and Dennis and Leilani Roesler have provided the necessary foundation for this growth.

"The individual and community support we receive for Foundation fundraising events has been overwhelming. Receiving support from groups such as AT&T, Chickasaw Nation, MBO, Choctaw Nation, PSO, OG+E, Seminole Nation, Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, among many others, speaks to our relationships in this area and across the state. Having all of these entities behind us, helps make possible accomplishments that are only dreamt of by other colleges," Utterback said.

SSC Educational Foundation Chair Harvey Robinson participated in a document signing ceremony on Sept. 28 regarding the residence hall project. He said members of the Foundation are also excited about the recent accomplishments.

Robinson said, "This is an exciting time for the College, City of Seminole and students in the surrounding area. With the addition of these student housing units we can provide a great initial college experience for many more students.

"Dr. Utterback and all of the Seminole State College staff are to be commended for their commitment to the quality educational opportunities offered at the College. The Seminole State College Educational Foundation is proud to be associated with such dedicated professionals."

The new residence hall will be built to the immediate north of the Roesler



David Wilson, Chair of the Seminole State College Board of Regents, Harvey Robison, Chair of the Seminole State College Educational Foundation, and Dr. Jim Utterback, Seminole State College President, signed papers Thursday morning formalizing transactions regarding the real estate and bond sales for the College's new residence hall project.

Residential Learning Center on the campus' Marie Austin Drive. A three-story, 150-bed, 48,800 square-foot facility is being planned.

Lana Reynolds, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, said there are items such as furnishings for the new residence hall which will not be covered in the bond financing.

"The SSC Educational Foundation will be leading the charge over the next few months to raise funds for this project as well as scholarships and other capital improvements. They will be calling on everyone who loves this institution to provide special gifts in order to continue the growth of the College," Reynolds said.

A formal ground-breaking ceremony for the residence hall project and other campus construction projects will be held later this fall in conjunction with the College's 75th anniversary celebration.

