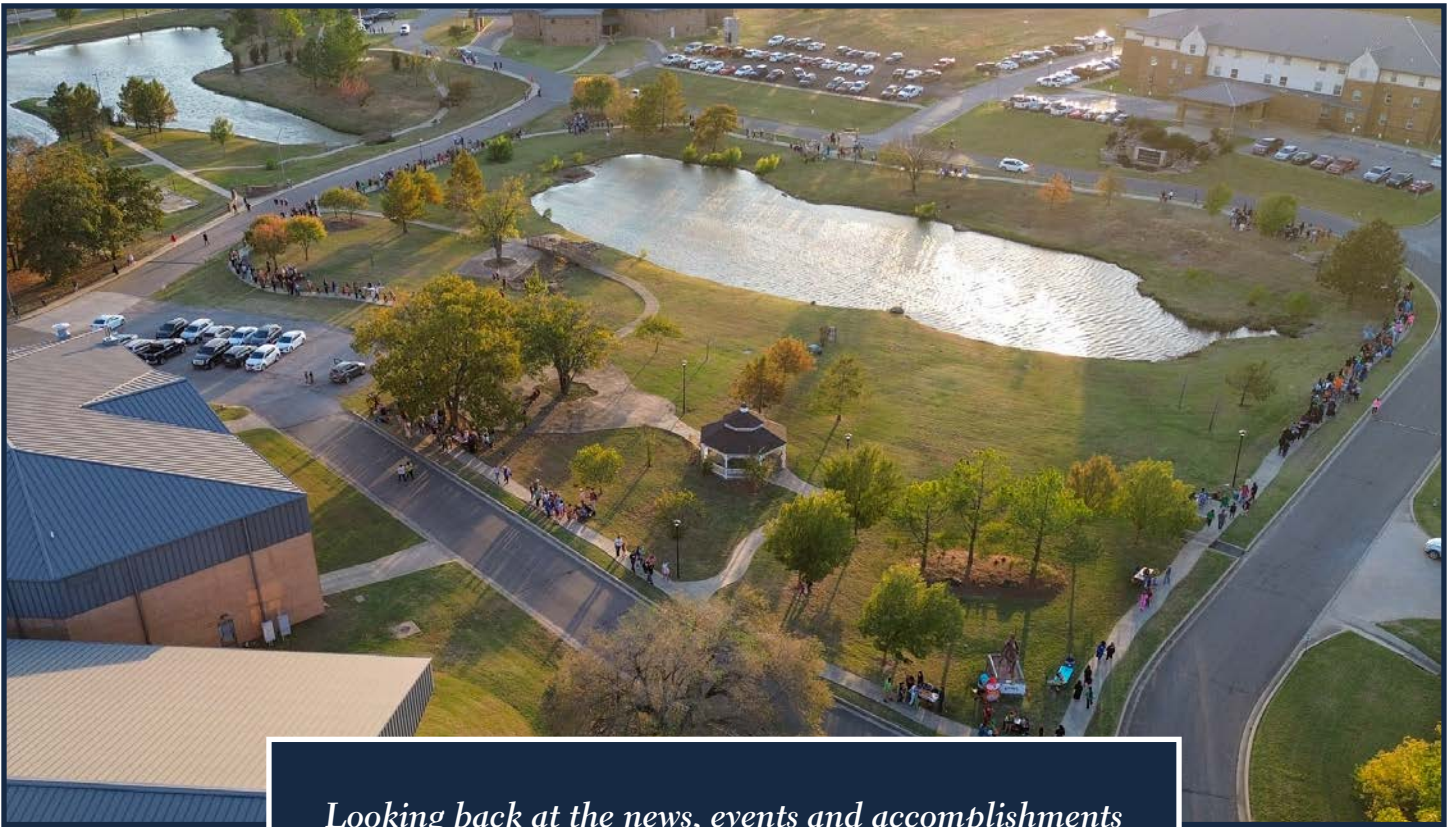




# 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



# 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW



*Looking back at the news, events and accomplishments  
of our campus community in 2024.*



# Letter from the President

Dear Friends of  
Seminole State College,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I introduce the Seminole State College *2024 Year in Review*. This publication celebrates the remarkable achievements of our students, faculty, and staff and highlights the vibrant initiatives that have strengthened our community and extended our impact far beyond our campus.

## Academic Excellence

This year, SSC students and programs have continued to shine. One cohort of our nursing students achieved a 100% pass rate on their NCLEX exams, a testament to their dedication and the exceptional support of our faculty. The reinstatement of full admission to the nursing program is a milestone that underscores our commitment to academic rigor. Fifty-eight of our student athletes were named Academic All-Americans for achieving a GPA of 3.6 or higher. We also celebrated numerous honor society inductions and scholarly accomplishments.

## Honoring Our People

Our campus community has been enriched by the dedication and achievements of our staff and faculty. From Chamber of Commerce

recognitions to statewide awards, SSC employees exemplify the values of excellence and service. This year, we welcomed a new Dean of Instruction, Jessica Isaacs, and Vice Presidents Dr. Bill Knowles and Melanie Rinehart took on expanded roles as part of our administrative restructuring.

## Athletic Triumphs

SSC athletics had another banner year! Our women's soccer team advanced to nationals for the sixth consecutive season, and our baseball team captured the NJCAA Region II championship. Individual athletes, like Caden Powell, who was named NJCAA National Baseball Player of the Year, have set records and inspired us all with their talent and determination. Additionally, golfer Carson Newton became the first in SSC history to place in the top ten at the Division II NJCAA Golf National Tournament, earning All-American honors.

## Engaging with Our Community

Our connection to the Seminole community remains at the heart of who we are. This year, SSC hosted events like the annual Trick or Treat Trail and Tribal Fest, providing opportunities for families and residents to gather and celebrate. Through initiatives such as the

Angel Tree program and Veterans' appreciation events, we have continued our long-standing tradition of giving back. Additionally, partnerships with organizations like the Avedis Foundation and OG&E have enabled us to enhance our facilities and expand programs that benefit both students and community members.

As we reflect on these successes, I am reminded of the unwavering support of our SSC family—our students, alumni, employees, and friends. Together, we are building brighter tomorrows, one student, one initiative, and one achievement at a time.

Thank you for your continued support of Seminole State College. I invite you to join us in celebrating all that we have accomplished in 2024 and to look ahead with us to the opportunities that await in 2025.



Lana Reynolds  
SSC President



### **Spring Semester Begins at SSC**

The spring semester began on Jan. 8. Prospective students were able to take advantage of extended office hours the prior week to enroll.

### **Avedis Foundation Awards Grant to Enhance Adaptive Field**

The Avedis Foundation awarded a \$70,000 grant to the SSC Educational Foundation to add a shade structure and update handicap-accessible seating to the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex's adaptive field.

### **SSC Participates in Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing**

Seminole State College hosted area colleges at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing at Pete's Place in Krebs on January 26. SSC attended the event with a delegation of state legislators



### **SSC Board of Regents Extend President's Contract**

The Seminole State College Board of Regents met Jan. 18 to discuss changes to the College's bereavement policy and review the terms of President Lana Reynolds' employment. President Reynolds' contract was extended with a three percent raise, mirroring the raises given to full-time employees in July of 2023.



# February

## State Regents Meet at SSC



The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) held a regular meeting at Seminole State College on Feb. 1. The meeting was part of the OSRHE’s ongoing effort to visit and learn more about the state’s public colleges and universities. SSC President Lana Reynolds greeted the Regents and made a presentation on the college’s history, academic initiatives, community impact, partnerships, athletics and opportunities for students. Following their meeting, the state regents toured campus and visited several classes.

## Carlisle Attends Nigh Leadership Academy

Sophomore Ryan Carlisle, of Arapaho, attended the Nigh Institute Leadership Academy held in Oklahoma City Feb. 3-6. Over the course of the event, Carlisle and his peers volunteered at the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank, enjoyed an OKC Thunder game, toured the Oklahoma City National Memorial, visited the Bob Funk Ranch and experienced the First Americans Museum.

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## Nursing Grads Achieve Perfect Pass Rate

December 2023 graduates of the Seminole State College nursing program recently achieved a 100 percent pass rate on their National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX).

## SSC Hosts Trojan Baseball Banquet

To kick off the 2024 baseball season, SSC hosted its annual Trojan Baseball “First Pitch” Banquet February 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. Former Trojan baseball Coach Lloyd “Z” Simmons served as the event’s guest speaker.



## Talent Search Students Cheer on the Thunder

The SSC Talent Search/FOCUS Program attended the Oklahoma City Thunder vs. Sacramento Kings game on Feb. 11. Forty-four staff and students representing 10 area high schools were able to enjoy the 127-113 Thunder win from the catered Sonic Patio suite.

## Board of Regents Ratifies Name of Trojan Baseball Field

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved a resolution to support the current law regarding firearm restrictions on college campuses and ratified the naming of the Trojan home baseball field after longtime coach Lloyd Simmons at their meeting on Feb. 15.

## Educational Foundation Honored with Community Award

The SSC Educational Foundation received the David L. Boren Community Achievement Award at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce's recent annual banquet in recognition of the economic impact their Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex had on the community of Seminole during 2023. The award was presented on Feb. 6 at the Utterback Ballroom on the College's campus.



## SSC Delegation Attends Higher Ed Day

A large delegation of campus and community leaders representing Seminole State College attended Higher Education Day at the Capitol in Oklahoma City Thursday, Feb. 8. The event, sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), is held annually to demonstrate the value and importance of higher education in the state.

## Physical Therapist Assistant Program Hosts Meet and Greet

SSC hosted a meet and greet event for students interested in enrolling in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program on Feb. 26 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Gordon Cooper Technology Center campus in Shawnee.

## Bagwell and Horne Families Make Donation to SSC

Seminole State College Educational Foundation Trustee and Vision Bank President and CEO Steve Bagwell donated several prints of artwork by Kelly Haney and other items to SSC. SSC Talent Search Advisor Damaris Haney, the daughter of Kelly Haney, and President Lana Reynolds accepted the donation on behalf of the College. The items donated were part of the late Bill Horne's private collection.





## Nursing Partners with Local Agencies for Disaster Training Event

Seminole State College nursing students got a hands-on experience in disaster response on Feb. 28 at the softball field parking lot on campus. Nursing students worked alongside local agencies to respond to a simulated school bus wreck.



## Professors Present at Popular Culture Conference

Four Seminole State College language arts and humanities professors presented at the 2024 Southwest Popular and American Culture Association (SWPACA) Conference during the week of Feb. 21-24 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

## Talent Search Attends TRIO Day at Capitol

Participants and staff with the SSC Talent Search/FOCUS Program attended TRIO Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Feb. 28. Attendees filled the House of Representatives Chambers and overflow rooms to raise awareness about the importance of educational opportunities for low-income, first-generation students.



## SSC Receives Community Health Grant from SSM Health

Seminole State College received a community health grant from SSM Health St. Anthony – Shawnee in the amount of \$10,000. The grant was used to continue offering free mental health counseling to students through the spring semester at the College's Help Center.

## SSC and Tourism Council Foundation Partnership Honored

Seminole State College and the Seminole Tourism Council were among colleges, organizations and businesses honored during a Business Partnership Excellence Awards Luncheon held March 7 at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

## TRIO Programs Attend Wicked Musical

During the month of March, all three Seminole State College TRIO programs – Talent Search, Upward Bound and Student Support Services – took groups of students to the OKC Civic Center to experience the musical “Wicked.”

## Attorney General Drummond Visits SSC



Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond was the featured speaker at the March Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on March 14. Drummond spoke about the priorities of his office to clamp down on the state’s epidemic of illegal marijuana operations and associated criminal activities.

## SSC Leadership Students Tour USA Softball Complex

Seminole State College President’s Leadership Class members toured the USA Softball Hall of Fame Stadium on March 14 in Oklahoma City.

## Stress Management Seminar Held at SSC

SSC hosted a stress management seminar on March 27 in the Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Center. More than 70 students, faculty and staff learned tips and tricks for coping with stress and managing mental health challenges. The event featured guest speaker Stephanie Hassell, a Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and SSC grad.

## Chamber of Commerce Honors Two SSC Employees

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication during the monthly Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on March 14. Assistant Professor of Life Sciences Truitt Eubank was honored as Faculty Member of the Month and Bookstore E-Commerce Specialist Lesley Ward as Staff Member of the Month.

## Student Support Services Launches “Mental Health Mondays”

Seminole State College grant programs Student Support Services (SSS) and SSS STEM began hosting “Mental Health Mondays” each first Monday of the month. The events feature informational presentations followed by discussions about different topics pertaining to mental health.

## Panel Discusses Native Language at SSC Event



SSC hosted “Native American Language in the Workplace: A Roundtable Discussion” on March 26 in the Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Auditorium. The event was sponsored by SSC’s Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions (NASNTI) grant program.

## SSC Hosts Retirement Reception for Employee

Seminole State College hosted a retirement reception for Fiscal Affairs Administrative Assistant Carol Landes in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union on March 28. Co-workers, family and friends gathered to celebrate her career and wish her well on her retirement.

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## Hundreds Compete in Interscholastic Meet

Students from 28 schools across the state competed in Seminole State College's 50th annual Interscholastic Meet on March 28. Nearly 600 students attended the event.

## Local Students Honored at Statewide Awards Ceremony



Two Seminole State College students and three area high school seniors were recognized at the All-Oklahoma Academic Team and Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges Presidents' Tuition Waiver Awards Ceremony on March 26 at the Oklahoma State Capitol.

## Board of Regents Awards Emeritus Status to Former VP

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved two bids for construction projects on campus, approved entering a contract for fleet management and awarded emeritus status to former Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Linda Goeller at their meeting on March 28.



# Trojan Baseball and Softball Teams Volunteer with A League of Their Own



Seminole State College Trojan baseball and softball players partnered with members of A League of Their Own at the Avedis Foundation Adaptive Field, located within the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex. The baseball team volunteered during the League’s season opener on April 2, while the softball team joined participants on April 8. A League of Their Own is a co-ed softball league created to provide individuals with cognitive or physical disabilities the opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball in an inclusive and supportive environment.

## OG&E and SSC Students Plant Trees at Sports Complex

OG&E employees and Seminole State College students planted 10 trees at the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex on April 4. As part of the company’s environmental stewardship program, OG&E donated 10 oak and cypress trees to SSC, as well as 40 trees to the City of Seminole. The company also gave away 90 trees to the public.

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## Chamber of Commerce Honors Two SSC Employees

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication during the monthly Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on April 11. Assistant Professor of Nursing Ann Benson was honored as Faculty Member of the Month and Head Baseball Coach and Academic Advisor Mack Chambers as Staff Member of the Month.

## Solar Eclipse Watch Party Held at SSC

Seminole State College students, faculty and staff gathered outside the E.T. Dunlap Student Union for a solar eclipse watch party on April 8. Everyone in attendance was given a pair of glasses designed to protect their eyes for the direct observation of the sun.

## Aggie Club Hosts Sixth Annual FFA Interscholastic Contest



The Seminole State College Aggie Club hosted its sixth annual SSC FFA Interscholastic Contest on April 11. Nearly 1,100 students from 100 schools across the state of Oklahoma participated in the event

## Flores Honored for 500 Wins at SSC

Trojan Softball Coach Amber Flores was honored on April 18 for her recent 500th career win at Seminole State College. On Saturday, April 6, Flores achieved the milestone with a 4-1 win against Eastern Oklahoma State.



## Leadership Students Lend a Hand with Campus Cleanup

In an early observance of Earth Day, Seminole State College President's Leadership Class members heard from environmentalist and filmmaker K.C. Shulberg, watched a screening of his documentary "The Urgency of Now" and then picked up trash across the SSC campus.

## SSC Showcases Local Artists at Campus Event

Seminole State College welcomed faculty, staff, students and the local community to immerse themselves in the world of art at the "SSC, the Arts and Me" event on April 17. Taking place at the Cooks Commons and the Boren Library, the event showcased the creativity of SSC students and local artists.

## Reynolds Inducted into Hall of Fame

SSC President Lana Reynolds (center) was inducted into the Seminole Hall of Fame on April 19 at the Reynolds Wellness Center. President Reynolds has worked at SSC for 36 years. She was inducted alongside former SSC Booster Club President Hope Pickering (left), SSC Foundation Trustee Sue Snodgrass (right) and the Late Stu Phillips.



## Educational Foundation's Annual Spring Banquet Draws Large Crowd



The Seminole State College Educational Foundation hosted its 29th Annual Spring Banquet on Thursday, April 25 in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on campus. More than 400 people were in attendance. Former students Anthony Bowie and Doug Ogle were inducted into the SSC Alumni Hall of Fame. Dr. Thurman Edwards received the Distinguished Service Award. Edwards worked at SSC for 28 years.

## Talent Search Experiences the Magic of Harry Potter Concert

One hundred and four SSC Talent Search/ FOCUS students, staff, and volunteers enjoyed dinner together at Logan's Roadhouse and attended Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets in Concert at the OKC Civic Center on April 26.

## Students Complete President's Leadership Class Program

Ten Seminole State College sophomores in the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class received awards recognizing their completion of two years in the scholarship program on April 29.

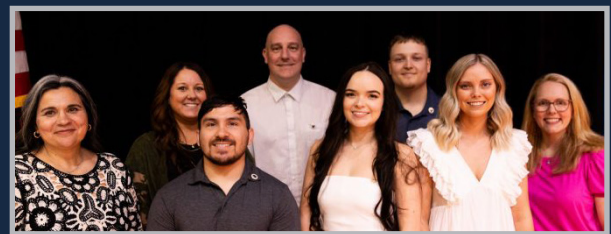


## Graduates Honored at SSC's 91st Commencement Ceremony



Seminole State College honored graduates at its 91st Commencement Ceremony on May 3 in the Raymond Harbor Field House. The capacity crowd cheered on students as they received their diplomas. Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives Charles McCall delivered the keynote address during SSC's commencement ceremony.

## Pinning Ceremonies Mark Achievement for Students



Seminole State College held a pinning ceremony at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on May 3 for 14 nursing students expected to meet degree requirements during the spring semester. The SSC Physical Therapist Assistant program also hosted its pinning ceremony on May 3 at the Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Auditorium.

## Longtime SSC Baseball Coach Honored at Field Dedication

SSC hosted the Lloyd Simmons Field dedication on May 3 at the BCM Sports Complex. Former Trojan baseball Head Coach Lloyd Simmons was presented with a plaque and customized baseball bat to commemorate the special occasion. Simmons also received a Citation of Recognition from the State of Oklahoma in honor of the field dedication by State Senator and Trojan Alumni Darcy Jech.



## SSC Hosts Regional Baseball Tournament

Seminole State College hosted the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Region II Division I baseball tournament at the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex May 9-11. In the 50-plus years that the post-season playoff tournament has been held, this was the first time for the event to come to Seminole.

## Board of Regents Approves Partnership for Ag Education Farm

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved a partnership with Seminole Public Schools for the development of an agricultural education farm at the Pleasant Grove School property at their meeting on May 16.

## SSC Baseball Wins Region II Tournament, Advances to Districts

Following their NJCAA Region II championship win on May 11, the Seminole State College baseball team faced off against Crowder College of Neosho, Missouri, in a best two-out-of-three series for the South Central District title at the BCM Sports Complex in Seminole. Crowder came away with the victory on May 18 and advanced to the JUCO World Series.



## New Regent Appointed to SSC Board

Governor Kevin Stitt has appointed Teresa Burnett to serve as a Regent for Seminole State College. Her appointment was confirmed by the Oklahoma State Senate Education Committee on May 21.

## Career Center Helps Students Prepare for the Job Market

Seminole State College opened a Career Center to help students prepare as they enter the workforce. Services provided include résumé writing/editing, practice interviews and a local job board. Students can also explore micro-credentials programs SSC offers to bolster their résumé.

## SSC Golfer Achieves Top Ten Finish at National Tournament

Carson Newton, a May 2024 graduate of Seminole State College, clinched a ninth-place finish in the Division II NJCAA Golf National Tournament held in Joplin, Missouri from May 21-24 at the Twin Hills Golf and Country Club. Newton's performance also earned him the honor of being named to the All-American Team, marking a milestone as the first SSC student-athlete to receive this distinction.



## June

### Reynolds Recognized for Service to the Council of Presidents

Seminole State College President Lana Reynolds was recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for her service as Chair of the Council of Presidents for the 2023-2024 academic year.

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### SSC Freezes Tuition for Second Year in a Row

At their meeting on June 20, the Seminole State College Board of Regents approved the budget for the upcoming fiscal year, which included a cost-of-living raise for employees and no increase to tuition.

### Middle School Students Attend Rollercoaster Camp



Talent Search/FOCUS federal grant program hosted an engineering "Coaster Camp" for eighth-grade students on June 5 and 6. As students worked together and problem solved to build their own roller coasters, Mrs. Jenny Davidson, Wewoka High School Geometry and Trigonometry teacher, taught hands-on lessons related to force, motion, and energy.



## Infielder Named NJCAA National Baseball Player of the Year



Seminole State College infielder Caden Powell, of Clinton, was recently named the 2024 NJCAA Division I National Baseball Player of the Year. The last time the SSC Trojans had a national player of the year was in 2008. Powell had a standout performance this season, achieving a batting average of .502 with 109 hits and 104 RBIs. In 217 at bats, he recorded 32 homeruns, 17 doubles and 7 triples. Powell led the Trojans in runs scored, hits, RBIs, doubles, triples, homeruns and total bases.

## Employee Retires after 35 Years at the College



Seminole State College Medical Laboratory Technology Professor Malinda Browning was honored at a retirement reception on June 20. Browning has worked at the College for 35 years. In that time, she has served as the Phlebotomy Program Director, the Medical Laboratory Clinical Coordinator, MLT Program Director and most recently as a faculty member for the MLT Program.

## Staff Receives National Training



Members of the Seminole State College enrollment management team attended the national "Element451: Engage Summit" in Raleigh, North Carolina the last week of June. The group received training on the specialized Customer Relations Module (CRM) software, which SSC uses for their recruitment, marketing and communication efforts.

## All-Black Towns of Oklahoma Exhibited at SSC



Seminole State College hosted the Thirteen All-Black Towns of Oklahoma traveling exhibit in the lobby of the Enoch Kelly Haney Center throughout the month of June. The exhibit, curated by the Oklahoma Historical Society, explores the history of All-Black towns that are still incorporated today.



# Top Ten Photos





# of the Year





# July

## **Athletic Director Throws Opening Pitch at Spark Game**

Seminole State College Athletic Director Leslie Sewell was invited to throw the opening pitch of the Oklahoma City Spark's game against the Chattanooga Steam at Devon Park on July 3.

## **SSC Extends Scholarship Application Deadline Following FAFSA Delay**

Seminole State College announced an extension of the scholarship application deadline for the Fall 2024 term to July 31, 2024. This decision follows the delay in the availability of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which impacted many students' ability to complete their financial aid applications on time.

## **Isaacs Named Dean of Instruction at SSC**

Professor of English Jessica Isaacs was named the new Dean of Instruction at Seminole State College, effective July 15, 2024. Isaacs has worked full-time at Seminole State College for the past 22 years. She has served as the Division Chair of the Language Arts and Humanities Division and played a pivotal role in the college's reaffirmation of accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) in both 2020 and 2010.



## **PR Team Wins Awards at State Conference**

The Seminole State College Public Relations team was honored with two awards at the annual Oklahoma College Public Relations Association conference, held from July 14-16 at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Tulsa.

## **Summer Camps Create Memorable Experiences for Kids**

Seminole State College's Kids on Campus summer camps attracted dozens of students who participated in a wide range of sessions. This year's camps ran from June 24-27 and July 8-11. Over the two weeks, kids participated in 82 individual sessions with themes such as Fun Fitness, Outdoor, Art, Clay, Lego and STEM activities.

## New Regent Sworn in at SSC Board Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents swore in a new member, selected officers and approved a policy revision at their meeting on July 18. The meeting commenced with the formal swearing-in of new Regent Teresa Burnett. The oath of office was administered by her husband, Brad Burnett, Vice President of Enrollment Management at Oklahoma Baptist University and former Associate Vice President of Student Financial Services at the University of Oklahoma.



## Upward Bound Students Travel to St. Louis and New England

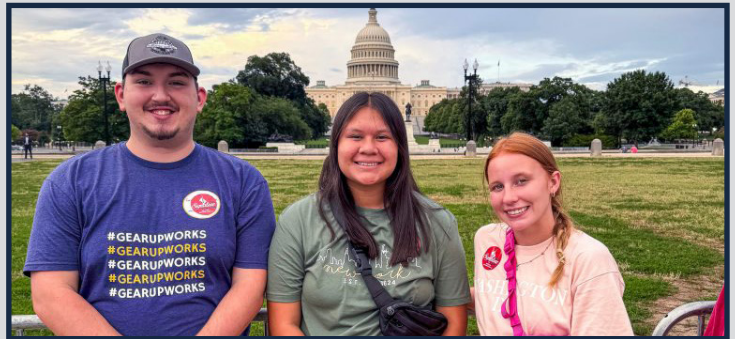
Seminole State College's Upward Bound program participants traveled on separate trips to St. Louis, Missouri, and New England in July.

## Student-Athletes Earn NJCAA Academic Honors

Fifty-eight student-athletes and six athletic teams at Seminole State College were recognized for their academic achievements this year by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

## GEAR UP Students Attend Leadership Summit in D.C.

Three Seminole State College GEAR UP students were selected alongside other students from across the United States to attend and participate in the 2024 Youth Leadership Summit (YLS) during the annual National GEAR UP conference July 21-24, in Washington D.C.



August

## College Extends Textbook Waivers for National Guard Members

For the second year in a row, members of the Oklahoma National Guard had the cost of their tuition, fees and textbooks covered when attending Seminole State College. Beginning with the fall semester, SSC extended textbook waivers to add to the benefits members of the National Guard receive through the Oklahoma National Guard Educational Assistance Program (EAP).

## SSC Embraces Building Brighter Futures at Fall In-Service



Seminole State College hosted its annual in-service event for all full-time employees on Aug. 14 in preparation for the fall semester, beginning Aug. 19. This year's theme was "Building Brighter Tomorrows."

## SSC Receives \$6.5 Million in GEAR UP Federal Grant



Seminole State College received notification from the U.S. Department of Education that it will receive \$6.5 million through the "GEAR UP – Believe and Achieve" grant. The grant will provide \$934,400 annually over a seven-year period, beginning September 1, 2024. This funding will serve approximately 1,168 students across 12 school districts.

## SSC Announces Men's Basketball Coaching Change

Seminole State College Men's Basketball Coach Lucas Hunter announced at the beginning of August that he would be departing the college. Assistant Men's Basketball Coach Austin Bogle was appointed as the Interim Head Coach of the Trojans. Bogle brings six years of experience at the collegiate coaching level.

## College Hosts New Student Orientation

Seminole State College hosted "SSC Unwrapped," a new student orientation event, on Aug. 17 at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. The event was designed to welcome incoming freshmen and their families to the college community and provide information for a successful start to the academic year.

## SSC Welcomes Students Back to Campus



With classes beginning Aug. 19, Seminole State College welcomed students back with a wide range of free campus activities throughout the week, including a pretzel bar, a free movie, custom street sign crafting and a pop-up game show.

## SSC Announces New President's Leadership Class

Seminole State College has selected 28 freshmen students for Class XVIII of the President's Leadership Class. PLC is a two-year scholarship program created to help students develop leadership skills and provide personal and professional growth opportunities. The leadership students, along with their parents, attended a reception held at the Jasmine Moran Children's Museum on Tuesday, August 27.



# September

## Leadership Students Participate in Teambuilding Exercises

The Seminole State College President's Leadership Class visited the University of Central Oklahoma's Boathouse and Challenge Course at Arcadia Lake on Sept. 12. Students worked together in a variety of teambuilding exercises, rope climbing and ziplining.

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## Students Compete in Constitution Day Game Show

Seminole State College hosted a Constitution Day celebration on Sept. 17 in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center lecture hall. Social Sciences Division Chair and Professor of Government Jeffrey Christian served as the host of Constitution Jeopardy, where students answered questions related to the country's founding document.

## Congresswoman Bice Speaks with Leadership Students at SSC



U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Bice visited Seminole State College on Sept. 3. She spoke with President's Leadership Class students about her political journey and her day-to-day responsibilities in Washington D.C.

## Educational Foundation Hosts Golf Tournament

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation hosted its 28th Annual Golf Tournament at the Jimmie Austin Golf Course in Seminole on Sept. 13. This year's event raised nearly \$38,000 for student scholarships and campus capital projects. A total of 116 players, comprising 29 teams, took to the links to show their support for the College.



### Leadership Students Tour Capitol Dome

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class toured the Oklahoma State Capitol Dome on Sept. 19. During the tour, students met with State Senator Grant Green (District 28) and listened to presentations from representatives of the Oklahoma Academy and the Oklahoma State Election Board.

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### Mobile Petting Zoo Makes Stop at SSC

The Little Bitty Acres Mobile Petting Zoo brought a wide variety of animals to Seminole State College on Sept. 18. Students and employees interacted with the animals in the courtyard outside of the E.T. Dunlap Student Union. The event was hosted by SSC Campus and Activities.

### Board of Regents Review Bids for Campus Projects

The Seminole State College Board of Regents reviewed bids for the institution's sidewalk and drainage repairs, as well as a secured motor pool parking lot at their special meeting on Sept. 24.

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### Presenters Speak on Native Language at SSC's AI Symposium

The Seminole State College Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institution's (NASNTI) federal grant program hosted "The Methods of AI in Preserving and Revitalizing Native American Languages" symposium on Sept. 26. Deidre Holmberg delivered the event's keynote with a presentation on generative AI and education. Holmberg is the Principal Tech Education Strategist at Amazon Web Services.





## Educational Foundation Trustees Donate Utility Vehicles to Sports Complex

Three utility vehicles were recently donated for use at the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex by two SSC Educational Foundation Trustees. Trustee and Owner of Sullivan-Dollar Insurance David Wilson and his wife Cindy Wilson donated two golf carts. SSC Educational Foundation Trustee Jim Hardin and his wife retired SSC English Instructor Dr. Donna Hardin donated a John Deere Gator utility vehicle.



## Students Explore Educational Opportunities at SSC Transfer Fair

Seminole State College hosted a College Transfer Fair on Oct. 2. Students were able to speak with representatives from twelve different universities.

## Talent Search Students Attend “MJ” Musical

Seventy SSC Talent Search/FOCUS students, staff, and volunteers enjoyed dinner together and attended the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical “MJ” at the Oklahoma City Civic Center on Oct. 5. The musical tells the story of Michael Jackson’s life and career.

## SSC Partners with Local High Schools for Early College Program



At their September 5 meeting, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education approved Seminole State College’s request to establish the Seminole State College Early College High School program. The new initiative will be launched in partnership with Seminole Public Schools, Shawnee Public Schools and The Academy of Seminole (TAOS). The Early College program is set to begin in the Spring 2025 semester with an initial five-year approval period, concluding at the end of the Spring 2030 term.

## Employees Recognized at Statewide Conference



Three Seminole State College employees were honored at the 57th annual Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges Conference held on Oct. 4 at Tulsa Community College. During the event, STEM Division Chair Emily Carpenter was named SSC Faculty Member of the Year, Talent Search-West Advisor Tina Savage was named Professional Staff Member of the Year and Maintenance Technician Dwayne Castle was named Classified Staff Member of the Year.

## Hundreds Attend Tribal Fest at SSC

Seminole State College hosted its third annual Tribal Fest on Oct. 9 at the Cook Commons on SSC's campus. Hundreds of attendees browsed the tribal resource fair, which featured more than 30 vendors. Attendees also enjoyed art demonstrations, traditional dance performances and Native American cuisine.



### Chamber of Commerce Honors Two SSC Employees

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their dedication and service during the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Oct. 10. Assistant Professor of Math Cullen Birney was honored as Faculty Member of the Month, and Custodian Carmen Wright was named Staff Member of the Month.

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### Board of Regents Reviews Annual Audit

The Seminole State College Board of Regents convened on Oct. 24 to accept the College's annual external audit report and ratify a Declaration of a State of Emergency due to storm damage to the SSC softball field.

### Educational Foundation Appoints Three New Trustees

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation welcomed three new trustees during their meeting on Oct. 9. Adam Baker, Vice President of First United Bank of Seminole, Kim Hyden, President of Gary A. Crain, Inc. and Carla Tollett, Director of Communications and Member Engagement at Canadian Valley Electric Cooperative, were appointed to the Foundation Board.

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### Local High School Students Attend ACT Workshop at SSC

Seminole State College Talent Search/FOCUS and Upward Bound programs hosted an ACT prep workshop on Oct. 21, with 87 local high school students in attendance.

## SSC Welcomes Retirees Back to Campus

Seminole State College welcomed 24 retirees back to campus for a luncheon in their honor on Oct. 23 in the Utterback Ballroom of the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. SSC President Lana Reynolds welcomed the former employees and provided an update on campus activities.



## Students Plant Flags Ahead of Military and Veteran Resource Fair

Seminole State College students and employees planted 5,000 American flags for an honor field on Oct. 24 at the intersection of Highways 9 and 3. The flags were planted in recognition of the Veteran's Day holiday and the college's Military and Veteran Resource Fair on Nov. 7.



## SSC Offers Hands-On Succulent Terrarium Course

Seminole State College STEM Division Vice Chair and Assistant Professor of Agriculture Wendy Rich guides attendees through the process of creating a succulent terrarium during a community course on Oct. 24. SSC's Business and Industry program organized the event. More than 40 people were in attendance.

## Representatives Attend Oklahoma Academy Town Hall

Amberlynn Mathews, a sophomore at Seminole State College, was selected as one of only eight student participants from across Oklahoma to attend the 2024 Oklahoma Academy Town Hall. This marks the second time that an SSC student has been chosen for this honor.

## Trick or Treat Trail Draws Large Crowd at SSC

Hundreds of little ghosts, goblins, superheroes and princesses visited Seminole State College to load up on candy Oct. 29 for the College's annual Trick or Treat Trail event.



## Women's Soccer Team Heads to Nationals for Sixth Year in a Row

Seminole State College's women's soccer team captured the NJCAA Region II and South Central District Championships with a 2-0 win over Rose State on Nov. 3 at the Advance Soccer Complex in Enid, Oklahoma. This victory secured the team's sixth consecutive trip to the NJCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship, which was played Nov. 17-23 at the Stryker Sports Complex in Wichita, Kansas.



## Military and Veteran Resource Fair Draws Crowd

Seminole State College hosted its second annual Military and Veteran Resource Fair on Nov. 7 at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on campus. The event drew nearly 80 veterans and active service members seeking essential support and resources.

## NASNTI Program Secures \$157,000 Supplemental Grant

The Seminole State College Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions (NASNTI) federal grant program was recently awarded a supplemental grant, totaling \$157,500. The funding will support an array of initiatives at the college, including mental health services, faculty training and enhancements to the Computer Science curriculum.

## Area Schools Attend High School Visit Day at SSC



Seminole State College welcomed students to campus for its annual High School Visit Day on Nov. 12. Nearly 200 students attended the event.

## Oklahoma Board of Nursing Approves SSC's Appeal



Seminole State College has announced the reinstatement of admissions to its nursing program following the Oklahoma Board of Nursing's approval of an appeal on Nov. 14. The decision comes after the program was placed on conditional status in November 2023 due to three consecutive years of low student pass rates on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) in 2020, 2021 and 2022.

## SSC Rallies for Women's Soccer Team Before National Tournament

Seminole State College hosted a sendoff for the women's soccer team ahead of their appearance at the NJCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship on Nov. 15 in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union.

## Employees Attend Women in Higher Ed Conference

Twenty Seminole State College employees attended the Oklahoma Women in Higher Education Fall 2024 Conference at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond on Nov. 22. The full-day agenda included sessions on topics such as leadership development, work-life balance, empowerment, leveraging AI for success, mentorship and prioritizing self-care.



## Soccer Returns Home Following National Tournament Play

The Seminole State College women's soccer team recently competed in the NJCAA Division I Soccer National Tournament in Wichita, Kansas. The Trojans secured a decisive 3-0 victory against Cowley County on Nov. 19 but were unable to advance out of pool play following a first-round loss to Daytona State College on Nov. 17. The team concluded the season with a record of 19-1-2.



## SSC Lights Up the Night with Holiday Fun



Seminole State College hosted its annual Night at the Lights event on Dec. 2 at the Reynolds Wellness Center in Seminole. Local families enjoyed the community Snowman Wonderland light display, as well as cookies and hot chocolate provided by the College.

## SSC Participates in Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing



Seminole State College participated in the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing on Dec. 3 at Pete's Place in Krebs. SSC was joined by delegations from other higher education institutions and state legislators for the event.

## SSC Provides Christmas Gifts to Local Children

Seminole State College employees and students recently participated in the Angel Tree program, providing gifts to 25 children in need through the Salvation Army and the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. The SSC community purchased clothing and toys, carrying on a tradition of giving the college began in 1997.

## Chamber of Commerce Honors Two Employees

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their dedication and service during the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Dec. 12. Assistant Professor of Microbiology Amanda Soward was honored as Faculty Member of the Month, and Director of Human Resources Holly Wilson-Byrd was named Staff Member of the Month.

## Sen. Pugh Meets with Students and Regents at Forum



Prior to speaking at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Dec. 12, Oklahoma State Senator and Chair of the Senate Education Committee Adam Pugh met with members of the Seminole State College President’s Leadership Class. Following Forum, Senator Pugh spoke with SSC President Lana Reynolds, members of the College’s Board of Regents and Senator Grant Green.

## Regents Approve Agreement to Streamline Esports Lab Construction

The Seminole State College Board of Regents convened on Dec. 12 to deliberate on an interlocal cooperation agreement for consortium purchasing, a utilities cost-saving initiative and updates on major campus renovations.

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## SSC Spreads Holiday Cheer to Veterans

Seminole State College students, faculty, staff and administrators once again made the 2024 Veteran Appreciation “Holiday Cheer” project a success, continuing a nearly decade-long tradition of honoring veterans during the holiday season.

## Retirement Reception Held for Employee



Seminole State College hosted a retirement reception for IT Technician David Cobb in the E.T. Dunlap Student Union on Dec. 13. Cobb worked for SSC for six years. Prior to working for the College, he served as the IT Director for Seminole Public Schools for 11 years and an instructor at Tecumseh High School for 13 years.

## Nursing Students Celebrate Achievement at Fall Pinning Ceremony

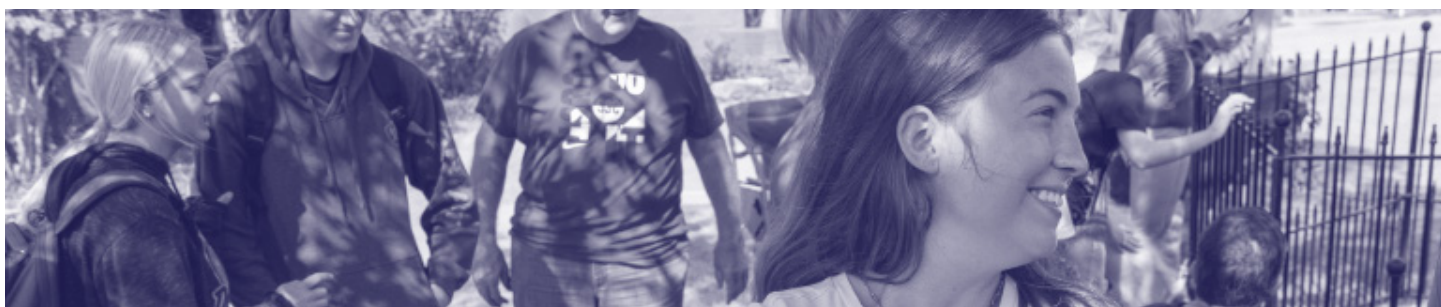
Seminole State College held a pinning ceremony at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on Dec. 13 for 12 nursing students expected to meet degree requirements this semester. The pinning ceremony also included candle lighting, signifying the transition from student to one of service.



## Educational Foundation Raises Nearly 30,000 at Holiday Event



The Seminole State College Educational Foundation hosted its annual Holiday Reception fundraising event on Dec. 16 at the Crossing Hearts Ranch in Tecumseh. The event raised more than \$29,000 for scholarships and capital projects at the College.



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# SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE

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