Welcome to another edition of the Academic Times. We appreciate all of you who contributed information to this edition, and we will continue inviting contributions every month. We share copies of the Times with our RUSO regents and with colleagues on other campuses. They have complimented us on the layout and design of the newsletter as well as on the content.

Feel free to share copies with those you know as well, and compliment your colleagues at NSU on the fine work they are doing.

**Letter from the Provost**

Dr. Jude Abia participated in a workshop at the Center for Functional Nanomaterials in Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island, NY. He reviewed two manuscripts for the journal Modern Applied Science. Dr. Abia was awarded an $11,000 INBRE grant to purchase an HPLC system.

Dr. April Adams presented a poster entitled “Adapting a Methods Course Concerning Inquiry Based Instruction to the Online Environment: Successes and Challenges,” at the International Association for Science Teacher Education in Minneapolis, MN.

The Science Education Program received National Recognition in its recent NCATE review (Science Program Committee: Dr. April Adams (chair), Dr. Pamela Christol, Dr. Tiffany Maher, and Ms. Monica Macklin.)

A paper by Drs. Cindy Cisar and John de Banzie was published in the Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education in December 2010. The title of the paper is “Coliforms Everywhere! Using Microbiology to Teach the Scientific Method.”

**John Diamantopoulos**, associate professor of mathematics, was nominated for Governor of the Oklahoma-Arkansas Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

Dr. Mia Revels and Dr. Amy Smith participated in the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Wildlife Diversity Workshop. Activities included review of recent ODWC activities and input on future priorities including State Wildlife Grants.

A paper by Drs. Cindy Cisar and John de Banzie was published in the Journal of Microbiology and Biology Education in December 2010. The title of the paper is “Coliforms Everywhere! Using Microbiology to Teach the Scientific Method.”

**Dr. Erik Terdal** and colleagues found evidence that margays (Leopardus wiedii), a small spotted cat, is less arboreal than previously assumed and discovered the presence of grison (Galictis vittata), a rare tropical Mustelid, in the Mountain Pine Ridge area of Belize in work supported by Coppola.

Dr. Joyce Van Nostrand was invited to be a member of the Northeast Area Health Education Center (NEAHEC) Advisory Board. She is co-chairing a Community Coalition Committee that will develop a Community Campus in Tahlequah. A HRSA grant to the Oklahoma AHEC supports this effort in Tahlequah and Enid.

Dr. Mia Revels and Dr. Amy Smith participated in the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Wildlife Diversity Workshop. Activities included review of recent ODWC activities and input on future priorities including State Wildlife Grants.

Dr. Mark Paulissen served as a reviewer of manuscripts for two journals: The Journal of Herpetology and the African Journal of Agricultural Research. He co-authored a note entitled: "HEMIDACTYLUS TURCICUS (Mediterranean Gecko) HERMAPHRODITISM" published in SSAR Herpetological Review in December. Dr. Paulissen was invited to serve as a reviewer for the NSF International International Research Experience for Students (IRES) Program.

Dr. Kevin Wang published a peer reviewed paper: “Method for Bxb1-Mediated Site-Specific Integration In Planta”, 2011. Methods in Molecular Biology, 701: 147-166. He submitted a Junior Investigator Awards (Low Cost Clot-dissolving Protein from Transgenic Plants for Stroke Treatment) grant and a Faculty Mini-Grant (Earthworm Fibrin-dissolving Enzyme in Transgenic Plants against Blood Clot) to INBRE. Dr. Wang submitted a proposal to the Eppendorf foundation to secure funding to equip the molecular biology and biotechnology program at the NSU-Broken Arrow campus. He has been invited to present “Gene Stacking and Deletion via Site-Specific Recombination Systems for Plant Biotechnology” at the Asian Congress on Biotechnology 2011 to be held May 11-15, 2011 in Shanghai, China.
Dr. Rui Zhang reviewed a paper for Physical Review E.

Dr. Michael Landry, professor of marketing, is lead author for “Commerce in the Recent Unpleasantness: Business Aspects of Civil War Railroads,” accepted for presentation at the April meeting of the Economic and Business Historical Society in Columbus, Ohio. He also continues to work on the marketing committee for a new children’s museum in Northwest Arkansas. During the spring semester, Dr. Landry is presenting workshops on marketing small businesses for Cherokee Nation and for a “lunch and learn” session presented by Rogers State University.

Dr. Castillo gave a lecture entitled “Advances in Ocular Diagnosis and Therapy,” at the Oklahoma Osteopathic Association Winterfest meeting in January. He attended a meeting of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry in February. He serves on the standards-setting committee.

Sophia Sweeney and Bill McComas (University of Arkansas) presented their paper “Early Elementary Teachers’ Beliefs about the Nature of Science” at the International Conference of the Association for Science Teacher Educators in Minneapolis. Sophia also served as a session presider at the same conference.

Dr. kevn David took the students in his Positive Psychology class to the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma in Tulsa to volunteer for 2 hours. This was part of a service learning assignment in this class.

Cindi H. Fries took seven Education Pre-Internship II teacher candidates in Nov. 2010 to do an intensive one week internship at the Vienna International School, which serves the children of the United Nations, diplomatic and international business community in Vienna, Austria. This internship provided the Pre-II interns an understanding of international culture, language, and educational perspectives which allowed candidates to apply the experiences to their own classroom curriculum. The interns were well-received at the school and the impressions they made on VIS faculty were positive. Mrs. Fries served as the coordinating teacher for the interns and to the VIS faculty who hosted the interns.

Dr. Stephan Sargent, for the past year, has volunteered to supervise a Girl Scout in the pursuit of the highest award in scouting, the Gold Award. Together with the Girl Scout, he has brought together several community partners for the purpose of planning and implementing a school wide literacy event at Rosa Parks Elementary in Union along with representatives from the Tulsa County Library and Girl Scout Troop 403. This event has made possible a sustainable response to the issue of literacy that will impact the lives of young children at Rosa Parks for years to come.

Dr. Mindy Smith, Dr. Stephan Sargent, and Ms. Meagan Eeg are coordinating clinical literacy services between Union Public Schools, Tulsa Public Schools and NSU. Teacher candidates at NSU are learning theory on campus and applying it with children in these school systems, helping real people in real time.

Ms. Meagan Eeg has successfully defended her prospectus as part of her doctoral degree in Literacy Education at The University of Oklahoma. With this accomplishment and her completed classwork, she only needs to finish the dissertation process to complete her doctorate. Ms. Eeg’s study will focus on clinical aspects of successful reading clinics and labs.

Dr. Kevn David took the students in his Positive Psychology class to the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma in Tulsa to volunteer for 2 hours. This was part of a service learning assignment in this class.

On February 12, Pam Hathorn and Martin Tadlock presented a session at AASCU’s Academic Affairs Winter Conference in Orlando, Florida titled: “A Campus-Wide Approach to Student Retention”. Tadlock also facilitated the AASCU Workshop for New Provosts at the same conference.
Dr. Kathi McDowell, Dr. Pamela Christol, Dr. Martha Parrott and the College of Science & Health Professions received a grant in the amount of $14,175 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The funds will be used for a summer academy entitled “Get Green for Blue: Outdoor Investigations to Connect Water to You”. During this one week academy, students will collect and analyze water quality data, determine the threats to water quality, and develop possible solutions. Students will conduct water experiments, take field trips, and explore related career opportunities. Ultimately, students will be transformed into potential researchers, scientists and statisticians who will present findings through technology driven presentations to parents. This is the second year for this award.

Dr. Erik Terdal and Dr. Pamela Christol and the College of Science & Health Professions received a grant in the amount of $14,410 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The funds will be used for a summer academy entitled “Science at the Zoo 2011”. Acting as scientists, academicians will utilize methodologies that integrate multidisciplinary techniques to move beyond memorizing facts about nature. Through observation and critical thinking skills, they will formulate hypotheses about animals, their adaptations for survival, and their relationship to environmental issues. Digital video will be used to record data to test their hypotheses. They will apply math and science knowledge, as well as build leadership, team building, and deductive reasoning skills. On the final day of the academy, students will present their findings to their families. This is the second year for this award.

Dr. Thomas Salmon and the College of Optometry received a grant in the amount of $36,000 from CooperVision Japan. The purpose of the grant is to perform research for CooperVision Japan (CVJ) by evaluating how well CVJ contact lenses correct astigmatism. Data collection and statistics will enable CVJ the ability to assess optical performance of these lenses. This is the fifth year for Dr. Salmon to receive an award from Cooper Vision Japan for his research activities.

Laura Boren and the Office of Student Affairs received a grant in the amount of $47,410 from the U.S. Department of Justice through East Central University. The grant will provide continuation of the programs established throughout the past three years at NSU for the prevention of violent crimes against women on campus. This is a two year award extension for this program.

Dr. Mia Revels and the College of Science & Health Professions received the Little River Wildlife Refuge 2011 grant in the amount of $10,000 from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The purpose of this grant is to monitor the Swainson’s Warbler to gather biological data and habitat requirements of the species in order to guide forest management.
Dr. Deborah Landry and the College of Education received the Celebration of Teaching 2011 grant in the amount of $7,000 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for fiscal year 2011. The purpose of this grant is to support the Celebration of Teaching Conference held in Spring 2011. The conference will focus on university students in the teacher education program and minority students from public school systems in northeastern Oklahoma.

Dr. Deborah Landry and the College of Education received the Tulsa Public Schools FEA Chapters’ grant in the amount of $5,770 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for fiscal year 2011. The purpose of this grant is to support programs which help recruit and retain teachers in Oklahoma. This project includes connecting members of Future Educators associations in the Tulsa area with teacher education candidates who are members of the Student Oklahoma Education Association in the NSU College of Education, thus creating a “student on student” relationship that will introduce, encourage, assist and sustain all those involved to become educators who have the desire and ability to become teacher leaders serving as or with underrepresented populations.

Dr. Deborah Landry and the College of Education received the ACE Partnership with Union High School 2011 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in the amount of $3,225. The purpose of this grant is to allow for the “College Connection” between the ACE program at Union High School and teacher education candidates and faculty in the NSU College of Education. The partnership between the school and College of Education would provide another venue for the ACE curriculum, and activities to come alive as an immersed experience into the many facets of teacher education and the teaching profession.

Dr. Deborah Landry

Dr. Satara Armstrong’s paper was accepted for presentation at New York University’s 2011 Forum on Theatre and Public Health. The paper is titled, “Theatrical Storytelling: Culturally Relevant Health Promotion to Decrease Health Disparities in Organ Transplants with Native American Nations.”

Dr. Satara Armstrong


David Madden took a group of students to compete in the American Mock Trial Association regional competition in Richardson, Texas. Students competed against Southern Methodist University, University of Houston and five other Texas institutions. Student participants were Tammy Doughty, Melissa Weems, Johnny Aman, Kelsey Dibler, Katie Fallen, Zechariah Trimm and Kailo Vann. These students all worked very hard in their preparations for the competition.

Jason Dovel played trumpet with the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra for their January “Broadway to Buenos Aires” concert. He also presented clinics for the band programs at Okmulgee High School, Fort Gibson High School, Muskogee High School, and the Muskogee 7th/8th grade center. As a result of an audition CD and phone interview, Jared Wallis, NSU freshman trumpet student, has been hired as a staff member for the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Twin Lake, Michigan. He will play trumpet in staff ensembles, study with camp faculty, as well as supervise and instruct (high school) students from June through August. They only hire 8-10 trumpet players from colleges and graduate schools across the country for these positions, so this is a very prestigious honor.

The Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce’s Beautification Committee took the top honors at the 20th annual “Keep Oklahoma Environmental Excellence Awards” recently. The project was moved into competition at the national level and received the top award. Dr. Dana Eversole’s Public Relations Campaigns class in the Spring 2010 orchestrated the entire project, arranged all the social media sites and all media for the event. Eric Covey, who is an NSU graduate and now works for University Relations at the Broken Arrow campus, was the student leader for the project.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 2011

Dr. Deborah Landry

Kimberli Lee
NSU Theatre Faculty Robyn Pursley, Tim Saucier, Chris Miller, and Scott Pursley hosted the annual NSU Theatre Festival on Feb. 17. Approximately 100 high school students visited the NSU campus to participate in theatre-related workshops and attend a matinee performance of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [abridged]. Communications instructor Kris Copeland also joined the theatre faculty as a special guest workshop leader.

Norman Wika was invited to conduct the 2011 Mid-East Oklahoma Band Directors’ Association High School Honor Band on Feb. 14-15. The band consisted of students from nine high schools who were selected by audition for the band. The concert was held on Feb. 15 at the Oologah High School Auditorium.

Two current Northeastern State University students took home ADDY awards this weekend from the American Advertising Federation of Tulsa. The top Addys went to three “Best of Show” entries, one of which was the Best of Show, Student - Consumer or trade publication, campaign: Saxon Campbell, NSU, MaxFactor Makeup. In the student category NSU also won for: Editorial design, cover: Lindsay Sinclair, NSU, Lovely Bones, book illustration. Saxon Campbell is a senior from Sallisaw, majoring in Visual Communications - Photography, with a minor in Graphic Design. Lindsay Sinclair is a post graduate student from Tahlequah (undeclared) but taking coursework in both Graphic Design and Communications. The students produced the winning designs as part of their Art department coursework during the 2010 Fall semester. KUDOS to Jacob Cotton for encouraging their participation in the competition.

If you have any information that you would like to have posted in the March issue of the Academic Times newsletter, please work through your dean’s office. Please submit information in the form of a word document. If you have any questions, contact Monica Barnett at barnettm@nsuok.edu. The deadline for the March issue is March 15. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter.