Letter from the Interim Provost

Hello Faculty and Staff,

We are already issuing the last Academic Times for the fall semester. Good things continue to happen at this university. Many of our faculty, students and staff traveled to Lawton recently for Oklahoma Research Day. Banner go-live for student registration for Spring 2012 began the last week of October. We are on task for our HLC reaccreditation visit in March. Plans are being finalized for the first Professional Development Day on November 22 and many other activities are taking place. We will soon welcome our new President, Dr. Steve Turner to the NSU campuses. Take the time to introduce yourself to him and let him know the exciting things that are happening at NSU. Please be safe in your travels for the holidays and as we wind down the semester, I want to thank each and everyone for your hard work. Thank you to all who have contributed to this issue of the Academic Times. Happy Holidays!

Janet E. Bahr
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

NSU - Broken Arrow will be the host site of a 2012 Algebra I Summer Institute developed for in-service teachers. Tulsa Public Schools and Oklahoma City Public Schools will be partners in this project. Dr. Martha Parrott will be the host and coordinator for the Broken Arrow summer institute. “Change is Good: You Go First” was the focus of a Higher Education Invitational Forum sponsored by the DaVinci Institute. As part of the forum, Dr. Martha Parrott facilitated discussions related to teaching and learning among higher education administrators and faculty. The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science of Oklahoma Christian University recently recognized Dr. Parrott as the 2011 Outstanding Alumni for her contributions to mathematics teaching and learning.

Dr. Mark Paulissen published an article entitled “Geographic Variation in Learning of an Escape Behavior in the Little Brown Skink (Scincella lateralis)” in the JOURNAL OF ETHOLOGY. This article showed skinks (a small species of lizard) from Oklahoma were better learners than skinks from Louisiana.

Dr. Mia Reeves presented her research to the Indian Nations Audubon Society on September 15. Her talk was titled “Flooding: How does it affect Swainson's Warbler distribution, abundance, and reproductive success in Oklahoma?” This past spring it rained 11 inches in one week in southeastern Oklahoma, just as the Swainson’s Warblers had begun incubation their first clutch of eggs. Dr. Reeves discussed how this affected the nesting Swainson’s Warblers on the Little River National Wildlife Refuge, as well as the effect of flooding on their distribution in other parts of the state.

Dr. Joyce Van Nostrand was awarded the first Outstanding Nurse Educator Award by the Oklahoma League for Nursing at the October 27, 2011 annual meeting.

Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

Dr. Abia was an invited speaker at an NSF funded PIPESTEMS program at Tulsa Community College-Metro campus on September 28, 2011. His topic for presentation was “Biomass to Fuel, Ionic Liquid Leads the Way”.

Dr. April Adams hosted a booth at Oklahoma Science Teacher Association Conference to recruit teachers for the new Online M.Ed. in Science Education degree at the University of Central Oklahoma on October 1, 2011. Dr. Adams participated as a member of the Program Accreditation Committee of the Oklahoma Commission on Teacher Preparation on October 13, 2011.

Dr. Cindy Cisar chaired the student poster competition at the Oklahoma Water Research Symposium and Governor’s Water Conference in Norman, Oklahoma on October 18th and 19th.

Dr. Tiffany Maher attended training for Supplemental Instruction (SI) Leaders in Kansas City Missouri. SI will be implemented in the spring semester in a pilot study of four courses in the College of Science and Health Professions.

Ms. Lori Murray was recognized with a plaque for her service as the outgoing President of Region Nurses Association 03 at the Oklahoma Nurses Association 2011 Annual Convention.

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Dr. Bill Corbett, professor of history and chair of the department of social science, will receive the 2012 Public Humanities Award from the Oklahoma Humanities Council for his dedication to providing outstanding public programming across the state. Dr. Corbett has been an active and popular scholar for several OHC programs, including Let’s Talk About It, Oklahoma! and Territory Speakers. Dr. Corbett also served as the state scholar for the Council’s first Museum on Main Street exhibit, Journey Stories. Dr. Corbett will be honored at the Oklahoma Humanities Awards dinner, March 22, 2012, at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City.

Dr. Jason Dovel, assistant professor of music, was a guest artist at the University of Memphis, University of Louisiana at Monroe, and Arkansas Tech University during October 2011, where he presented the solo recital, “Music for Trumpet and Computer.” While in Louisiana, he was featured in a radio interview with KEDM, the Monroe NPR affiliate. He also traveled to Kansas with members of the NSU trumpet studio to the Midwest Trumpet Festival, where he performed with the NSU Baroque Trumpet Ensemble and served as guest faculty on the “Careers in Music” panel discussion. In Oklahoma, he played trumpet in the Tulsa Opera production of The Barber of Seville and played in a joint concert by the Tulsa Symphony Orchestra and Tulsa Oratorio Chorus.

Ryunsuke Hamada, NSU senior, performed in a masterclass with Ralph Sauer, retired principal trombone of the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Hamada is a student of Dr. Norman Wika.

Dr. Norman Wika, assistant professor of music, was invited to serve as an adjudicator for the 2011 Capital City Band Expo held at Sanderson High School in Raleigh, NC on October 22, 2011. The competition featured 20 of the top high school marching bands from North Carolina.

The NSU Faculty Brass Quintet, Dr. Jason Dovel, Dr. Robert Bailey, Dr. Norman Wika, Marsha Thompson, and Kevin Miller, performed recitals at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center, Owasso High School, St. Joseph's Catholic School, and Northeastern State University in October 2011.

The NSU Geography Club and Geography faculty are sponsoring activities for Geography Awareness Week Nov 13-19th. This year’s theme is “DISCOVERING GEOGRAPHY THROUGH COMMUNITY EXPLORATION”. Dr. Martin Tadlock will launch Geography Awareness Week at 3p.m. on Monday November 14th in the Seminary Hall conference room. Several community speakers will present afternoon talks related to city planning, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), business, local food systems, and emergency management issues. Talks will be Tuesday through Thursday in WEBB 614, with most of the presentations occurring on Wednesday (GIS Day). A walking tour of downtown Tahlequah will conclude the week’s activities. All are welcome. For more information contact, Dr. Mark Carper, Dr. John Milbauer, or Dr. Christine Hallman.

“Communicating with Babies”, a chapter from Being with Babies: Understanding and Responding to the Infant in Your Care by Beverly Kovach and Dr. Denise Da Ros-Voseles was reprinted in the March 2011 issue of Young Children which is published by NAEYC.

Dr. Angel Kymes, Dr. Pamela Louderback and Dr. Barbara Ray presented "Project I'M READY" at the John Hope Franklin Reconciliation in America National Symposium in June, 2011.

Dr. Angel Kymes published an article titled "Media Literacy and Information Literacy: A need for Collaboration and Communication," in the summer 2011 issue of the Journal Action in Teacher Education.

Dr. Deborah Landry and Ms. Bonnie Giese attended the Kappa Delta Pi Convocation in Indianapolis, IN, on November 3-5th with two undergraduate students, Angela Fancher and Ruthann Slape. Dr. Landry presented on "Enlivening Your Classroom with Oral History" and Dr. Landry and Ms. Giese presented on the "Controversial Issues in Children's Literature". Angela Fancher and Ruthann Slape each presented a poster on the "Celebration of Teaching" and "Kappa Rho and Kid's World 2010".

Ms. Jodi Legnon, faculty member in Curriculum and Instruction, was a panelist for "Autism Like: Graham's Story" at the 2nd International Infant and Toddler Conference held in Tulsa.

ECED graduate candidate, Ms. Charity McCann, under the direction of Dr. Denise Da Ros Voseles, had her article, "Puppetry in the Preschool Classroom" published in Focus on Pre-K & K, vol 23, no. 3, a quarterly publication from the Association for Childhood Education International.

The Oklahoma Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (OAECTE) Fall meeting was held at the NSU-BA Reading Clinic on September 30th. Dr. Stephan Sargent provided a tour of the facilities for 14 university faculty from 5 other universities across the state. Dr. Peggy Lisenbee, President of OAECTE, invited Ms. Jeannie McDaniel, State Representative for House District #78, to attend and provide tips to faculty for working with legislators on higher education and common education issues.

Dr. Deborah Landry, Ms. Bonnie Giese and Dr. Roxanne Fillmore from the College of Education attended the 2011 Critical Questions in Educational Conference, in Kansas City, KS, on October 17 and 18. They presented on “Digital Media and the Concerns for our Youngest Students”. This presentation focused on how teachers must learn how to teach using digital media effectively since it has become a primary source in society. Concerns of how the roles/methods in teaching and learning have changed were discussed.

Dr. Deborah Landry, Ms. Bonnie Giese and Dr. Tobi Thompson, Ms. Meagan Moreland, and Ms. Ingrid Ahrens-Massey are members of the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Country Reading Council (TCRC). Ms. Meagan Moreland serves as the 2011-2012 President of TCRC.

Dr. Stephan Sargent is attending Scholastic’s Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Conference in New York City. This in in preparation for holding a family literacy summit at NSU-BA in January for area school teachers, coordinated by Dr. Stephan Sargent and Dr. Mindy Smith.

Dr. Stephan Sargent, program chair for Reading, was selected to write a book review for the cover of You Can Teach Someone to Read, 2nd Ed. by Lorraine Peoples.

Dr. Stephan Sargent, Dr. Mindy Smith, NSU Reading faculty, along with Nancy Hill and Susan Morrison from SEOSU, and Stephen Burgess from SWOSU had their article, “What is old is new again: Is the foundation of comprehension knowledge still solid?” published in Mentoring Literacy Professionals: Continuing the Spirit of CRA/ALER after 50 years, a publication of the College Reading Association.

Dr. Mindy Smith and Dr. Mary Swanson attended the Scholastic Book Summit in Orlando, Florida.
• Dr. Mary Swanson, Dr. Denise Da Ros-Voseles and Dr. Peggy Lisenbee, three faculty in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, will each have chapters published in an upcoming book entitled, Unintended Consequences of Technology.

• Dr. Mary Swanson and Ms. Meagan Moreland brought Dr. Douglas Buehl to the NSU-BA Campus. Buehl, a noted reading specialist in Wisconsin, is the author of multiple books on secondary literacy. Over 180 area teachers attended his lecture.

• Dr. Mary Swanson recently co-authored the article, “K-8 Preservice Teachers’ Attitudes, Knowledge, and Confidence in Application of Content Literacy Strategies.” This article will appear in the National Teacher Education Journal.

• Dr. Mary Swanson is currently serving as the Vice-President of the Oklahoma Higher Education Reading Council, the Oklahoma IRA affiliate council for Oklahoma reading professors.

Two of Linda Wilson’s classes volunteered at the Vietnam Traveling Wall of Remembrance at Union 6th & 7th Grade Center. NSU students and professors at that event logged over 60 volunteer hours. They helped in various areas as well as assisted families and individuals with “rubings” of their friends’ and loved ones’ names. They were honored to have the opportunity to visit with several Vietnam Veterans who also volunteered at the site. Over 54,000 names are included on the traveling wall of remembrance. The Union Jr. ROTC worked for two years to raise funds to bring the traveling wall to the Tulsa area.

The Elementary Education Program in the College of Education (COE) offered a second study session for the OSAT Exam on November 9th. Since the OSAT Exam covers many content areas outside of the ELED program, NSU faculty members within the COE and from partnerships with other colleges at NSU are collaborating to review teacher education candidates for their OSAT Exam. The review was free to teacher education candidates since the following NSU faculty is volunteering their time and expertise: Dr. Joan Wipf, Dr. Tobi Thompson, Ms. Ingrid Massey, Mrs. Meagan Moreland, Dr. Peggy Lisenbee, Dr. Linda Wilson, Ms. Suzanne Dovel, Ms. Rhea Johnston, Dr. Pam Christol and Dr. Dorothy Radin.

Drs. Linda Wilson, Martha Parrott and Donna Shelton attended the First Invitational Higher Education Forum on October 14 at OKC Community College. The event was sponsored by the DaVinci Institute.

NSU Reading faculty have actively spoken and presented results of research projects at the annual convention of the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers – ALER (www.aleronline.org). The following presentations were given by NSU Reading Faculty:

• Using a Digital Literacy Environment to Measure and Promote Growth, Dr. Stephan E. Sargent
• A Study of the Transfer of Literacy Practices from Reading Methods Courses/Reading Clinics to Student Teaching Experiences, Dr. Stephan E. Sargent and Ms. Meagan Moreland
• Reading Teaching Self-efficacy: A Study of Nationally Board Certified Teachers, Dr. Stephan E. Sargent, Ms. Meagan Moreland, and Dr. Mindy Smith
• Leisure Reading Habits and Knowledge of Children’s Books of Teachers: The Relationship to Classroom Literacy Teaching Practices, Dr. Stephan E. Sargent, Ms. Meagan Moreland, Dr. Mindy Smith, Dr. Mary Swanson, and Dr. Tobi Thompson.

Dr. Richard Castillo had an article published in the September 2011 edition of Ophthalmology Management over surgical instrumentation for cataract surgery. Dr. Castillo was invited to give 5 hours of continuing education lectures over medical eye care to the Missouri Optometric Association in Branson, MO. He attended the Applied Basic Science item selection committee meeting of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry where he chairs the systemic disease section.
Ms. Paula Settoon and Dr. Melissa Mahan were selected to present on NSU’s First Year Experience Task Force at the 10th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Education in January 2012.

Linda West served on the workshop planning committee for the fall workshop of the Oklahoma Library Association, Technical Services Roundtable.

Award Name: Student Support Services
Award Dates: September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012
Award Amount: $297,920
University Indirect: $19,637
Funding Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Principal Investigator: Ms. Connie Wright

Award Name: S-STEM for Talented Undergrads - Math/Science; Year 5 of 5
Award Dates: September 15, 2011 - September 14, 2012
Award Amount: $139,565
Principal Investigator: Dr. Rick Matzen
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation

Grant Name: Burying Beetle 2011-2012
Award Dates: September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012
Award Amount: $45,154
Funding Agency: Oklahoma Military Department
Project Director: Dr. Amy Smith

Award Name: Development of Reservoirs of Antibiotic Resistance 2011
Award Dates: 10/01/2011 - 12/31/2011
Award Amount: $10,462
Principal Investigator: Dr. Cindy Cisar
Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE)

Award Name: NCAA Coach Enhancement Grant 2011-2012
Program Dates: July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012
Award Amount: $16,000
Principal Investigator: Matt Cochran
Funding Agency: National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA)

Award Name: Sure Step 2011-2012
Award Dates: 06/01/2011-05/31/2012
Award Amount: $62,750
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation through the University of Central Oklahoma
Principal Investigator: Dr. Kathi McDowell

Award Name: Alliance for Minority Participation 2011-2012
Award Dates: September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012
Award Amount: $36,127.00
Principal Investigator: Dr. Jody Buckholtz
Funding Agency: National Science Foundation through Oklahoma State University
During the month of October, NSU students, Lindsey Taylor, Madison Hayes, Rachel Taylor, and Haley Stocks, went on an exchange program to Weifang, China. They had the opportunity to speak to Chinese students about NSU and coming to study in America. The students participated in Chinese language classes and culture classes during the four weeks they were there. They also planned their own travels to cities including Beijing to see the Great Wall, Forbidden City, and Tiananmen Square. For three of the girls it was their first time out of the country. Each student kept a blog recording their time and experiences in China that was shared with family and friends. This was the first exchange program with Weifang University.

If you have any information that you would like to have posted in the next 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 January issue is December 30. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter.