Dear colleagues,

This is my last opportunity at NSU to wish you well and thank you for the work you are doing to provide a quality learning experience for NSU students. The core of any university is, and must be, learning. To that end, the classroom (regardless of whether that classroom is physical or virtual) and the relationship between the student and a faculty member/mentor is, and must be, the priority for a university. All time, energy, and resources possible must be dedicated to support and develop the learning environment and build the student/faculty relationship. Everything and everyone outside of that classroom environment is here as support for that priority.

I hope that my time at NSU has contributed to that understanding in visible, constructive ways. If so, I feel that my time here has been successful.

I wish all of you well, and applaud the work you are doing to elevate the learning environment for students who come to NSU to fulfill their hopes and dreams; those who will be our future friends, neighbors, colleagues, and leaders.

Martin Tadlock, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Jude Abia was an ambassador for NSU during an invited lectureship at the science seminar series at Tulsa Community College-SE campus. Dr. Abia lectured on the topic of Biomass conversion to Biofuel using Ionic Liquid on the night of February 14, 2012.

Dr. April Adams reviewed an online General Physics course for Quality Matters Certification. Dr. Adams reviewed a science education textbook. She participated as a member in the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation Program Accreditation Committee and attended the National Association for Research in Science Teaching International Conference in Indianapolis in March.

Dr. April Adams, Dr. Ratnakar Deole, Dr. Erik Terdal, and Dr. Kevin Wang met with the Jenks Public School Curriculum Director to discuss collaboration between Jenks and the Broken Arrow science faculty.

Dr. Pamela Christol made a presentation with Drs. McDowell and Parrott entitled, “Get Green for Blue: Water Quality Investigations” at the National Science Teachers Association National Conference. She collaborated with a colleague from IUPUC for an NSTA presentation entitled, “Integrating the NSTA Learning Center into Preservice Education”. Dr. Christol has been appointed by the president of the National Science Teachers Association to serve on a national Leadership Task Force.

On March 8, Dr. Cindy Cisar gave a short presentation to the Leadership Tahlequah Class 14. She described her research on antibiotic resistant bacteria and answered questions.

Dr. Diamantopoulos organized a group of six students to attend the 74th annual OK-AR MAA section meeting to participate in the student competitions (team jeopardy and individual integration bee). While both teams competed very well, team #1 advanced to the finals and captured second place! This was the first time in four years that one of NSU’s student teams was in the final three.

Team 1: Ryan Berkley: Mathematics major/senior/Owasso, OK
Abraham Middleton: Math/English double major/senior/Santa Barbara, CA
Joshua Killer: Math Major/Junior/Stilwell, OK

Team 2: Gregory Palma: Math BS/Musical Arts/BA double major/senior/Vinita, OK
Miranda Sawyer: Mathematics major (spanish minor)/junior/Westville, OK
Joshua Gregory: Mathematics Education major/junior/Glenpool, OK
Mandy Lambros, an Honors Biology student working with Dr. Cindy Cisar, was selected to represent NSU at Research Day at the Capitol on March 15. Mandy’s poster presentation on “Identification of qnrS Alleles in Fluoroquinolone-Resistant Environmental Bacteria” received third prize.

Dr. Edie Long, SLP Associate Professor, wrote "Integrating Dynamic Assessment and Response to Intervention" which was published in the April issue of ASHA LEADER LIVE.

Representing NSU, Diana Mashburn, nursing instructor, and Dr. Joyce Van Nostrand, nursing professor, co-sponsored for a third year with OU-Tulsa Nursing, the Annual Evidence-based Practice Symposium on April 19, 2012 in Tulsa. A total of 13 podium presentations were offered by 25 NSU senior nursing students. Each group also shared a poster presentation. All six nursing faculty served as evaluators. Dr. Van Nostrand gave a welcome from NSU, and Diana Mashburn co-moderated a panel discussing the use of research in EBP.

Dr. Mark Paulissen served as a reviewer for the peer-reviewed journals “Biology Letters” and “Zoological Studies” in February 2012.

Dr. Spence Pilcher successfully completed the Quality Matters Applying the Rubric online workshop. He performed a series of science demonstrations for Pre-K students at Kansas Elementary School.

Dr. Amy Smith hosted a job interview workshop for fish and wildlife majors.

Dr. Erik Terdal gave a talk, “Distance learning, distance teaching: online Coral Reef Ecology taught from the Caribbean” at the Heartland Electronic Learning Conference at the University of Central Oklahoma on March 6. Dr. Terdal, with Belizean colleague Roni Martinez, submitted an abstract entitled, “MARGAY AND OCELOT CATS IN THE MOUNTAIN PINE RIDGE OF BELIZE: PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM A CAMERA TRAP SURVEY IN 2010” to the AAAS-SWARM meeting. It was accepted for oral presentation.

Dr. Frank Yuan-Yeu Yau and Dr. Kevin Yueju Wang, Department of Natural Sciences, co-authored a manuscript titled “The Bxb1 recombination system demonstrates heritable transmission of site-specific excision in Arabidopsis with their collaborators. After review, the paper was accepted and will be published in the peer-reviewed SCI Journal™BMC-Biotechnology. The paper describes the use of a novel Site-Specific Recombination system to remove unwanted DNA fragments from the plant genome. Dr. Frank Yuan-Yeu Yau and Dr. Kevin Yueju Wang (Department of Natural Sciences) co-authored research article “Site-specific deletions in the tomato genome by the CinH-RS2 and ParA-MRS recombinase systems have been accepted by the peer-reviewed Journal of Plant Biotechnology Reports; and will be published On-line First soon.

Dr. Michael Landry joined other members of the Tulsa Chapter of the National Association of Purchasing Managers along with members of the Association for Operations Management for a tour of M&M Manufacturing in Tulsa on April 10. M&M employs about five dozen people, uses advanced computer-based machining techniques, and makes parts for the aerospace, oilfield, and automotive industries. Meanwhile, on the Broken Arrow campus, NSU’s supply chain management program will host the monthly NAPM luncheon on May 15.

Dr. Rui Zhang gave a presentation on the American Physical Society Marching meeting in Boston, MA. It is one of the largest physics conferences in the nation, hosting couple of thousands of physicists. He was awarded the Inbre Faculty Mini-grant, $25,000, to perform his research on HIV assembly.
Dr. Richard Castillo was invited to present a series of lectures and a workshop on office surgery to students and faculty at the Illinois College of Optometry. This is the fifth consecutive year he has been invited back to conduct this course.

Dr. Stephan Sargent, Dr. Pamela Christol, and Dr. Martha Parrott will be working with a grant project in Osage County during the last two weeks of July. They will be teaching area educators how best practices in science, mathematics, technology, and literacy/reading education.

Dr. Stephan Sargent spoke to state public school teachers participating in the “Oklahoma Textbook Caravan” (part of the textbook selection process) about learning to read/write in a digital environment.

Dr. Stephan and Mrs. Meagan Eeg Moreland have prepared a research presentation entitled, “Using a Digital Reading Environment to Enhance a Love of Reading: A Study within a Fourth-Grade Reading Clinic.” The study will be presented at the annual conference of the International Reading Association in Chicago in May 2012.

Dr. Stephan and Mrs. Meagan Eeg Moreland have a research article that has been accepted for publication in Reading Psychology, a national, peer-reviewed reading/literacy journal. The manuscript is entitled, “Evaluating the Efficacy of Using a Digital Reading Environment to Improve Reading Comprehension within a Reading Clinic.”

Dr. Stephanie Sargent and Dr. Pamela Christol have a research article that has been accepted for publication in Reading Psychology, a national, peer-reviewed reading/literacy journal. The manuscript is entitled, “Evaluating the Efficacy of Using a Digital Reading Environment to Improve Reading Comprehension within a Reading Clinic.”

Dr. Mindy Smith and Mrs. Meagan Moreland are providing intensive professional development in reading/literacy to assist an area school.

Dr. Stephan Sargent and Mrs. Meagan Eeg Moreland along with Dr. Evan Ortlieb of Texas A&M (Corpus Christi) have prepared a research presentation entitled, “Using a Digital Reading Environment to Enhance a Love of Reading: A Study within a Fourth-Grade Reading Clinic.” The study will be presented at the annual conference of the International Reading Association in Chicago in May 2012.

Dr. Stephan Sargent and Dr. Jeanne Cobb (Coastal Carolina University) have prepared a research article entitled, “Navigating Mandates: Teachers Face Troubled Seas.” The manuscript has been accepted for publication in the reading journal, Language and Literacy.
Award Name: 39th Annual Symposium on the American Indian
Award Dates: March 1, 2012 – April 30, 2012
Award Amount: $5,000
Project Director: Dr. Phyllis Fife
Funding Agency: Oklahoma Humanities Council
Purpose of Award: Funds for support of the 40th Annual Symposium on the American Indian to be held April 9-13, 2012. The support for this program helps benefit the academic community as well as the general public of the State of Oklahoma. This year’s theme will be “The Journey of Sovereign Nations: Self-determination and Human Rights”. The topic will be a reflection of four decades of change for American Indians. Disciplines to be examined will be the history, education, human experiences, arts, social well-being and politics that impact the tribal governments.

Award Name: Oscillatoria limnetica, Bio-energy Production 2012
Award Dates: May 1, 2012 – August 31, 2012
Award Amount: $10,000
Project Director: Dr. Ratnakar Deole
Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR-Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
Purpose of Award: To determine the genome sequence of Oscillatoria limnetica, a blue-green algae. This cyanobacteria provides a unique opportunity for the production of chemicals and materials. Its genome sequence will provide insights not only on its unique aspect of the combination of oxygenic and anoxygenic photosynthesis and production of biohydrogen, but it will also help understand combination of two mechanisms functioning at high salt concentrations.

Award Name: Spectroscopic Analysis-Biofuels 2012
Award Dates: May 1, 2012 – August 31, 2012
Award Amount: $10,000
Project Director: Dr. James Hicks
Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR-Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research
Purpose of Award: To explore whether infrared absorption coefficients can be used to assess the reactivity of bio-oils compounds in various liquid media. The primary motivation is the prediction of reactivity from spectroscopic information. A side product of the research could be a novel method to assess solvent polarity. A second motivation is the application of spectroscopy for the quantitative analysis of complex reaction mixtures with high time resolution.

Award Name: OSRHE - Quasilattice Structure 2012
Award Dates: April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013
Award Amount: $25,000
Project Director: Dr. Chris Burba
Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - OSRHE
Purpose of Award: To discover a routine method for assessing the amount of charge ordering present in ionic liquids. Charge organization is a consequence of long-range ion-ion interactions among the constituent ions, and has implications in the technologically important properties of the ionic liquids.

Award Name: OSRHE - Membrane Elasticity HIV 2012
Award Dates: April 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013
Award Amount: $25,000
Project Director: Dr. Rui Zhang
Funding Agency: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - OSRHE
Purpose of Award: The long-term objective of this study is to understand the effect of membrane elasticity in the assembly and budding of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), which allows progeny viruses to form, to break off the plasma membrane and to target other host cells.
The Circle of Excellence Awards were handed out on April 26. This annual award recognizes outstanding faculty members for research, teaching and service.

Awarded for service, Dr. Stephan Sargent, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, College of Education is being honored for service.

Awarded for teaching, Dr. Isaac Dianni, Department of Accounting and Finance, College of Business and Technology

Awarded for research, Dr. Jessica Martin, Department of Natural Sciences - Chemistry, College of Science and Health Professions;

Deans and Division & Department Chairs

College of Liberal Arts
Dr. Mike Chanslor - Interim Dean
Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford - Communication, Art and Theater
Dr. Mark Bighley - Music and Humanities
Dr. Audell Shelburne - Languages and Literature
Dr. Bill Corbett - Social Sciences
Dr. Kathryn Shahan - Social Work
Dr. Cari Keller - Criminal Justice and Legal Studies
Major Jason Junkens - Military Science

College of Education
Dr. Deborah Landry - Interim Dean
Dr. Allyson Watson - Interim Assistant Dean
Dr. Louis White - Assistant Dean
Dr. Peggy Lisenbee - Curriculum & Instruction
Dr. Mark Giese - Health & Kinesiology
Dr. Richard Williams - Psychology & Counseling

College of Business & Technology
Dr. Roger Collier - Interim Dean
Dr. Kathy Reese - Interim Associate Dean
Dr. John Yeutter - Accounting & Finance
Dr. Anne Davey - Business Administration
Dr. Michael Turner - IS & Technology

College of Science & Health Professions
Dr. Martin Venneman - Dean
Dr. Pam Hathorn - Associate Dean
Dr. April Adams - Natural Sciences
Dr. Darryl Linde - Mathematics & Computer Science
Dr. Joyce VanNostrand - Health Professions

College of Optometry
Dr. Doug Penisten - Dean
Dr. Kippi Wyatt - Assistant Dean
Dr. Michelle Welch - Associate Dean

Muskogee Campus
Dr. Tim McElroy - Dean

Broken Arrow Campus
Dr. Christee Jenlink - Dean

APRIL 2012