



ACADEMIC TIMES

SUMMER 2015

College of Science and Health Professions

CASSANDRA CRAWFORD CIGLAR, Instructor of Nutritional Sciences, **DR. ALEXIS JONES**, Assistant Professor of Medical Laboratory Science, **DIANE KIRK**, Instructor of Medical Laboratory Science, **DR. TROY LEE**, Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy, **DR. DIANA MASHBURN**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, **DR. JUDY MELVIN**, Professor of Occupational Therapy all manned information booths about their prospective programs at the Elevate Conference held in Muskogee on June 18, 2015.

CASSANDRA CRAWFORD CIGLAR, **DR. DIANA MASHBURN**, Assistant Professor of Nursing, and **DR. JUDY MELVIN**, Professor of Occupational Therapy, spoke to Camp MD students on July 8 and to Camp Mash students on July 15, 2015. These camps are geared towards junior and senior high school students interested in the health professions.

DR. SOMA DATTA, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, presented a talk "Introducing R as a First Programming Language" at the useR Conference June 30 – July 3, 2015 in Aalborg, Denmark. Her student, **ROY SMITH**, created a poster "Web Structure Mining Using R" that was presented by student **ROBERT BOND**.

DR. HEATHER FENTON, Assistant Professor and Chair of the MSN Nursing Program, presented "Collaboration as a Methodology to Improve Team Dynamics" at the 5th Annual Coaching for Nurse Educator (CANE) Conference in Oklahoma City on June 26, 2015. The CANE Conference is hosted by the Institute for Oklahoma Nursing Education and the theme for this year's conference was Critical Conversations Related to Nursing Education and Practice.

DR. ALEXIS JONES, Assistant Professor of Medical Laboratory Science, received a travel grant from the Council on Undergraduate Research to attend the Conference on Undergraduate Research Programs: Building, Enhancing, and Sustaining 2015 in Norman, OK June 23-25, 2015.

DR. EDGARITA LONG (Pawnee-Wyandotte), Professor in the Speech and Language Pathology Program, presented results of her research on language assessment of Native American Head Start Children to students and faculty at the Speech-Language-Hearing & Disorders Department at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, KS on June 8, 2015. She was invited by Dr. Matthew Gillespie (Muscogee Creek). Dr. Gillespie's federally funded grant to educate personnel in cultural competency for serving American Indian/Alaska Native people is in its second year. The grant collaborates with Haskell Indian Nations University, the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Early Childhood Center, Little Nations Academic Center at Haskell, and special education programs in two school districts.

DR. KATHI MCDOWELL, Associate Professor of Biology, **DR. PAMELA CHRISTOL**, Associate Professor of Science Education, and **DR. MARTHA PARROTT**, Professor of Mathematics, provided a STEM outdoor education summer academy for high school students the week of June 8 - 12. The academy was funded by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

On May 26, 2015, **JASON STEVENS**, Instructor for Nutritional Sciences Program, gave a presentation on Diet and Cancer Prevention to the Kiwanis Club of Tahlequah.

DR. MARTHA PARROTT, Professor of Mathematics

- Is the on-site coordinator for the June 2015 NSU-BA Geometry and Algebra Leadership Summer Institute for high school math teachers from Northeast Oklahoma. This institute is made possible by grant funding from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education - Improving Teacher Quality, Elementary and Secondary Education Act.
- Has a chapter in press in a book edited by J. Shrawder and P. Shrawder, Leadership and Influence in Higher Education Teaching. The anticipated publication date is summer 2015.
- Was elected to the Oklahoma Council of Teachers of Mathematics executive board.

DR. KAREN PATTERSON, Professor of Speech Language Pathology, received an Award for Continuing Education (ACE) from the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. To be eligible for an ACE, a person must obtain 70 hours of continuing education in a 3 year period, which is over double the number of hours required for certification and license maintenance. This is her 9th ACE.

DR. SALLIE RUSKOSKI, Program Director for the Medical Laboratory Sciences Program, recently had an article published in Veterinary Medicine Journal related to Histoplasmosis in Fox Hound Puppies.

DR. SALLIE RUSKOSKI attended the 115th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in New Orleans, LA from May 30-June 2, 2015. Dr. Ruskoski and two students from the program, **VERA MECHAM** and **ADAM CLARK**, presented research posters.

On June 3-4, 2015 **DR. STEVEN WILKINSON** provided four 1.25-hour teacher-training workshops at the conference "Teachers of Successful Students 2015" for the Cherokee Nation.

College of Business and Technology

On June 23, 2015, at the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet, **DR. DENISE DEASON-TOYNE**, Professor, College of Business and Technology, was named the 2015 recipient of the Heritage Award. The award was given in recognition of Dr. Deason-Toyne's impressive record of volunteerism. She has been a long-time servant of the community through such organizations as the Cherokee County Humane Society, Save the Illinois River, Help-in-Crisis, and the Cherokee County Bar Association, to name only a few.

In June **RAY MURPHY** made a presentation to a group of supermarket site selection specialists in Minneapolis at their annual user's conference hosted by Dakota Worldwide (a software and consulting firm for the grocery industry). Murphy's presentation focused on the methodology a supermarket (or any other retailer) may undertake to measure store performance and use this information to better allocate funds for future retail store development. The challenge was to show how:

- to reduce the risk of new site development
- to determine which stores should be relocated (given a store's current concept)
- to determine which store locations will always underperform

The methodology requires the client to provide their locations, facility characteristics and retail sales volumes. Combined with this client data are detailed demographic data items across a broad spectrum of areas. Through a series of steps utilizing both client and demographic data, a procedure was developed that created unique store signatures for high, medium and low performing stores. These results provided a platform to analyze performance of individual store locations to solve new site and remodeling issues within a retail network.

ACADEMIC TIMES

Oklahoma College of Optometry



Left to Right: Nimesh Patel, OD, PhD, (NSU-trained resident and former NSUOCO faculty member), the University of Houston School of Optometry, William Miller, OD, PhD, Associate Dean, The University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry (San Antonio, TX), and Richard E. Castillo, OD, DO, Assistant Dean and Chief of Surgery, NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry

DR. RICHARD CASTILLO, Assistant Dean and Chief of Surgery, representing Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry was a featured speaker at a conference hosted by the Optometric Association of Louisiana in Baton Rouge, June 2015. Dr. Castillo lectured and led the workshops on office-based surgery, and the management of eyelid tumors. The conference included representatives from Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry, the University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry, and the University of Houston School of Optometry. This is the first time representatives and the surgical program chiefs, from three different universities with optometry programs have joined forces to deliver an optometric surgical program. The conference was an unqualified success!

Oklahoma College of Optometry

DR. RYAN FENSKA, Clinical Assistant Professor and **DR. JOSEPH SHETLER**, Assistant Professor, along with 9 students from the Oklahoma College of Optometry, recently attended the Coalition of Hispanic Organizations health fair in Tulsa, OK. The optometry students providing services included **ALLISON BREWER, SARAH COOK, CECILIA DINH-NGUYEN, EVAN DUNN, LANA FISHER, KATIE GALBRAITH, CASEY GREEN, ANTHONY LUONGO** and **DEREK DUNCAN**. The health screenings took place at St. Thomas More Catholic Church from 9am-3pm, Saturday June 6. The organization assembles a broad spectrum of health professionals and this year the NSUOCO team was fortunate enough to attend. Over 500 local residents attended and approximately 300 were screened by our team. The screening consisted of a visual acuity test, anterior segment exam, intraocular pressure check and posterior exam. Referrals for extensive ocular health issues were made as needed. This opportunity helps remind us of how many patients do not have access or knowledge to receive the comprehensive care they may need. Other screenings being offered on site were cholesterol, BMI, glucose, ultrasound for pregnant women, and dental.

Grants

SUMMER MENTOR PROGRAM 2015

Award Dates: 05/01/2015 -08/31/2015

Award Amount: \$8,800 each receiving \$2,200

Project Director(s): **DR. SAPNA DAS BRADOO, DR. JOSEPH AHLANDER, DR. SEAN KIM, DR. KYEORDA KEMP**

Funding Agency: OSRHE-OK

Purpose of Award: Mentors will provide summer training to (4) students that participate in this program. Mentors will receive funds to purchase lab supplies for this training program.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT OKLAHOMA 2015

Award Dates: 05/19/2015 - 11/30/2015

Award Amount: \$958.70

Project Director: **DR. PAMELA LOUDERBACK**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma Humanities Council

Purpose of Award: The project will feature (5) books, with a scholar presenting a session on each book. Sessions will also include group discussion.

SUMMER RESEARCH - CLIMATE CHANGE 2015

Award Dates: June 1, 2015 - July 31, 2015

Award Amount: \$12,500

Project Director: **DR. SUNEETI JOG**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR through OSU and the National Science Foundation

Purpose of Award: The proposed project will look at relationships between historical and current weather and climate data obtained from Mesonet, and relate expected and observed trends with vegetation indices in order to separate effects of climate change versus effects of anthropogenic disturbances on plant assemblages in wetlands of Oklahoma.

Grants

SUMMER RESEARCH: UNFOLDED PROTEIN RESPONSE 2015

Award Dates: June 1, 2015 - August 31, 2015

Award Amount: \$12,500

Project Director: **DR. KYEORDA KEMP**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR through OSU and the National Science Foundation

Purpose of Award: Global mean temperatures and CO2 levels have increased significantly over the last 100 years. It is projected that temperature and CO2 levels will continue to increase with an estimated temperature increase of 4 degrees Celsius by the end of the century. This research will study the plant immune responses to biotic and abiotic stressors using field samples to better protect crops from the effects of climate change.

MCM10 YEAST PROTEINS 2015-2016

Award Dates: 05/01/2015 - 04/30/2016

Award Amount: \$31,549

Project Director: **DR. SAPNA DAS BRADOO**

Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health through Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center

Purpose of Award: Cancer results when cells suffer defects in DNA replication that affect chromosome stability. A network of conserved proteins function to protect cells from DNA replication defects, and mutations in these proteins are associated with cancer. This project uses yeast to study how these conserved proteins work to protect the genome, and to study the molecular consequences when they are disrupted.

ODOC-OCRD 2015-2016 OK CENTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Award Dates: 07/01/2015 - 06/30/2016

Award Amount: \$47,193.50

Project Director: **MR. RAYMOND MURPHY**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma Department of Commerce

Purpose of Award: Funding will support economic development partnerships and Oklahoma communities' analysis reports in areas such as demographic summary rep.

Grants

RESEARCH PROJECT: ARD1 DROSOPHILIA 2015-2016 YEAR 2 OF 3

Award Dates: 05/01/2015 - 04/30/2016

Award Amount: \$104,276

Project Director: **DR. JOSEPH AHLANDER**

Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health through Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center

Purpose of Award: Experiments in mammalian cancer models have shown that over expression of Ard1 promotes tumor growth, while its inhibition causes tumor cell death, yet the molecular mechanisms that underlie these observations have not been fully elucidated. The PI's preliminary data suggest a novel mechanism for the role of Ard1 in cell survival, and this research will make an important contribution toward understanding cancer.

SUMMER RESEARCH: WATER MANAGEMENT 2015

Award Dates: June 1, 2015 - July 31, 2015

Award Amount: \$12,500

Project Director: **DR. SANCHARI GHOSH**

Funding Agency: Oklahoma EPSCoR through OSU and the National Science Foundation

Purpose of Award: To build a small integrated model of water use and current trends in water demand, for the two border cities of Nogales, AZ and Nogales, MX, incorporating physical, economic and institutional constraints faced under events like severe droughts. The research hopes to determine the impacts of changes in stream flow variation and increase in population growth on water demand, availability and the economic costs of water allocation.

RESEARCH PROJECT ISCHEMIC STROKE 2015-2016 YEAR 2 OF 3

Award Name: Research Project Ischemic Stroke 2015-16 Year 2 of 3

Award Dates: 05/01/2015 - 04/30/2016

Award Amount: \$101,651

Project Director: **DR. KEVIN WANG**

Funding Agency: OUHSC through National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Purpose of Award: To develop an alternative plant seed-based platform for large scale and low cost production of functional DSPAs for the treatment of acute stroke patients.

Grants



IRE 1A IN IL-4 2015-2016

Award Dates: 05/01/2015 - 04/30/2016

Award Amount: \$31,375

Project Director: **DR. KYEORDA KEMP**

Funding Agency: National Institutes of Health through Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center

Purpose of Award: Over abundant production of IL-4 associated with many pathologies, and research into drug therapies for these diseases that target cytokine IL-4 have been met with success in clinical trials. This work uses a commercially available drug specific to IRE1a to illuminate how UPR promotes IL-4 production and lends itself in the long-term to the development of UPR specific drug for the treatment of TH2 mediated diseases.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION- EARLY SETTLEMENT EAST PROGRAM 2015-16

Award Dates: July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

Award Amount: \$82,111

Project Director: **ANN WILKINS**

Funding Agency: State of Oklahoma Supreme Court

Purpose of Award: To provide mediation services according to the Dispute Resolution Act and other directives and forms provided by the Administration Director of the Courts. Dispute mediation services shall be provided to northeast Oklahoma as determined by need.

Faculty Support for Recruitment & Enrollment

The following faculty volunteered their time this summer to support to NSU's recruitment and enrollment efforts. They met with SOAR students, interacted with transfer students, made presentations at career fairs and schools, and worked booths at conferences. Their gift of time is appreciated!

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

- Samantha Benn-Duke, Curriculum and Instruction
- Jim Ferrell, Educational Leadership
- Anthony Rothfork, Curriculum & Instruction
- Sonia Tinsley, Health & Kinesiology
- Lisa Tritschler, Curriculum & Instruction
- Allyson Watson, Eddings Endowed Chair

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

- John Clark, Criminal Justice
- Brett Fitzgerald, Criminal Justice
- Toni Hail, Social Work
- Diane Hammons, Criminal Justice
- Sylvia Hunter, Art
- Chris Miller, Theatre
- Robyn Pursley, Theatre
- David Scott, Speech
- Kat Shahan, Social Work
- Melina Smyres, Art
- Jeff Wall, Music
- Virginia Whitekiller, Social Work
- Norm Wika, Music

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

- Amy Bradley, Marketing
- Ken Jones, Management
- Mike Landry, Marketing
- Jim Phillips, Management
- JT Tewari, Marketing
- Joan Williams, Hospitality and Tourism Management

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- April Adams, Biology
- Joseph Ahlander, Biology
- Vicki Brown-Racy, Human and Family Sciences
- Jody Buckholtz, Chemistry
- Craig Clifford, Biology
- Pamela Christol, Science
- Cassandra Crawford Ciglar, Nutritional Sciences
- Cindy Cisar, Biology
- Ratnaker Deole, Chemistry
- Patrick Harrington, Computer Science
- Alexis Jones, Medical Lab Science
- Kyeorda Kemp, Biology
- Diane Kirk, Medical Lab Science
- Troy Lee, Occupational Therapy
- Darryl Linde, Mathematics
- Diana Mashburn, Nursing
- Judy Melvin, Occupational Therapy
- Kevin Wang, Biology
- Sue Woods, Biology