SE GRADUATE, DR. ANGELA CARTER, PUBLISHES IN THE JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY

After graduating from SE with Chemistry and Biology majors in 2003, Angela worked in a research laboratory at the University of Texas – Southwest Medical Center in Dallas, TX. She originally wanted to pursue a M.D.-Ph.D. After working in the research lab at UT-SWMC Angela decided to pursue her Ph.D. in research instead of medicine. Dr. Carter earned her Ph.D. in Cell Regulation and is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at UT-SWMC with the American Cancer Society. Dr. Carter recently published two significant works in the Journal of Biological Chemistry that outline her doctoral work at UT-SWMC.

BIOLOGY STUDENTS WIN RESEARCH AWARDS

Dr. Wood, from the Department of Biological Sciences, and six students attended the Fall Technical Meeting of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society at OSU in Stillwater (October 10-12).

Two graduate students from the Master of Technology Biology program, Sara DeGarmo and Phillip Leonard attended and presented. Sarah DeGarmo presented her thesis work on Eurasian Collared-Doves in the graduate poster session. Phillip Leonard presented his thesis work on grassland birds and prairie management and won Second Place for Best Graduate Student Presentation.

Four undergraduates attended, including Gary Akin (Fish and Wildlife Science), Matt Argo (Fish and Wildlife), and Kristen Brooks.

“SE is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution.”
The 5th Annual Red River Sing-Off was held on the campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State University on Tuesday, October 14, 2014. Five high school choirs from Oklahoma and Texas faced off in a festival rating competition. The choirs, all invited to participate based on a history of outstanding performances at state and UIL events, impressed judges and audience members alike with commanding and beautiful performances of challenging choral literature. Dr. Stacy Weger, Director of Choral Activities at Southeastern said, “This event showcases the best of the best in high school choral music in this region. The performances by these choirs are examples of what fine teaching is taking place in the classroom and highlights the talented young people who choose to make music an integral part of their lives. For these directors to have prepared their students at this high level this early in the school year was astounding. I believe people in their communities should make it a priority to hear and support these fine music organizations. They represented their hometowns and states well.”

The awards ceremony, held in Montgomery Auditorium in historic Morrison Hall, was full of students and energy as award presentations were made. Dr. Joshua Nannestad, Assistant Professor of Choral Music Education at SE, led the audience in the National Anthem before the official greeting by SE Music Department Chair, Dr. Stacy Weger. Dr. Suzanne Pence (University of Texas at Austin), Brent Ballweg (Oklahoma Baptist University), and Dr. Joshua Nannestad (Southeastern Oklahoma State University) served as adjudicators and clinicians for this event.

After a performance by the Southeastern Chorale, each participating choir was presented with trophies along with their festival rating. Dr. Stacy Weger and Southeastern Chorale President, Darius Thomas, presented the trophies. Participating school choirs included Durant High School (OK) under the direction of Deborah Clements, Yukon High School (OK) under the direction of Darin Chapin and Sydney Steele, McKinney North High School (TX) under the direction of Steven Nelms and Rachel Gillispie, and Denton High School (TX) under the direction of Mark Baker and Nicholas Vance who received Superior Ratings. Cleburne High School (TX) under the direction of B. Weslee Vance received a Good rating.
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
WELCOMES NEW PROFESSOR

Southeastern’s Department of Social Sciences is proud to welcome Assistant Professor Patrick Schoettmer. Patrick earned his doctorate from University of Notre Dame where he studied American politics and international relations, specializing in religion and political behavior. He also holds a Master’s degree in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures from Indiana University, where he studied Islamic history, the politics of Muslim minorities in the West, and Arabic. Patrick was awarded several grants by the US State Department for the study of Arabic and for his research, including a 2009 summer fellowship in Morocco.

Dr. Schoettmer’s dissertation was on the topic of Muslim American politics and identity following the 9/11 attacks. As part of his doctoral research, Patrick partnered with Muslim American civic engagement organizations in order to conduct surveys of this difficult-to-study population. In addition to his dissertation, which he is developing into a book-length manuscript, Patrick has published articles in peer-reviewed journals such as Politics & Religion and Politics, Groups, & Identities, as well as having written a chapter of the forthcoming book Religion and Political Tolerance in America: Advances in the State of the Art, which will be published in 2015 by Temple University Press.

In addition to teaching experience at the University of Notre Dame, Patrick taught civics in the Chicago Public School system as an AmeriCorps volunteer. He also co-founded and taught an Arabic language program targeted at pre-kindergarten and early elementary students in Monroe County, Indiana. Patrick is most proud, however, of his achievements as a little-league football coach, leading his team to two consecutive division championships.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY RECRUITS FOR VAN ALSTYNE CAMPUS

On August 7th, Matt Morris and Wayne Jones set up the SE display booth for the Grayson College - Van Alstyne “one-stop” registration and enrollment for the Fall, 2014 semester. They connected with several potential students working towards the occupational safety 2+2 program offered jointly between Grayson College and Southeastern Oklahoma State University.
OSH STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND FACULTY ATTEND MICHELIN US9 INTERN PRESENTATION DAY, 2014

On August 7, 2014, Dr. Nick Nichols attended an invitation-only Intern Presentation Day at Michelin Tire’s US9 facility in Ardmore, Oklahoma. Dr. Nichols was invited to the presentation by current Safety Engineer Intern, Mrs. Chelsea Connel. The day included a plant orientation and tour, lunch, and intern presentations from not only Mrs. Connel, but also 11 additional interns from various sections of the plant, including production, engineering, and Internet technology. Deans from OU and OSU, management staff, and each intern’s supervisor(s) were also invited to attend. Multiple projects that each intern had completed over the course of the summer were discussed, as well as plans for the future of each project once the interns have either left the plant or extended their internships into the immediate future.

OPERATION ORANGE AT SE

The Department of Chemistry, Computer, and Physical Sciences coordinated Operation Orange on June 4, 2014, in the Glenn D. Johnson Student Union Building. Operation Orange was put on by the Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences and was designed to introduce area high schools to the field of medicine. Students participated in a series of hands-on demonstrations provided by current medical students and faculty from the OSUHSC. Thirty-five area high schools came to the event that represented nine different high schools in the SE service area. Many students toured the campus at the conclusion of the program in the afternoon.

Area high school students learn how to intubate a patient using a simulator.

Pictured left to right are the Occupational Safety and Health personnel who were in attendance: Mrs. Chelsea Connel, Safety Engineer Intern; Mrs. April Anderson, current Michelin US9 Safety Engineer (and SE. Alumni); and Dr. Nick Nichols, Professor in the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, and On-Campus Advisor for the SE Student ASSE Section.

Area high school students practice clinical skills by listening to a patient’s heart and lungs.
COLLABORATION BETWEEN MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE PROVES SUCCESSFUL

For over three years Karl Frinkle of the Department of Mathematics and Mike Morris of the Department of Chemistry, Computer, and Physical Science have collaborated on “parallel programming” projects including research, curriculum development, network throughput methods and classroom teaching experimentation involving dozens of STEM-based students.

According to Morris, “Parallel programming starts with an idea as simple as the problem of a cook having a large amount of food that has just been cooked and needs to be eaten. Letting a group of people each eat a small portion of the meal is obviously a much faster and efficient way of solving the cook’s problem than an alternative method of letting one person eat and eat and eat until the food is all gone.”

In the computer world, the above is an analogy for a method of problem solving that breaks a problem into many pieces and assigns each piece of the problem to its own CPU (central processing unit). If you have obtained a new phone lately, chances are that it will have at least four processors in it, each of which is basically a very small yet powerful computer.

Frinkle and Morris see the proliferation of using many computers for the same problem at the same time, or “parallel computing,” as the major computing trend of the near future. Introducing this technique with its associated mathematical, computer science, logic and programming problems to our students is deemed by the collaborative pair as essential to our technical students’ success.

The results of the three-year program were summarized in a paper that was submitted, approved and presented at the internationally prestigious XSEDE[14] - 2014 Annual Conference of the Extreme Science and Engineering Discovery Environment in Atlanta this past summer. The paper was entitled “A Three-Semester, Interdisciplinary Approach to Parallel Programming in a Liberal Arts Setting” and was so successful that the pair was invited to present the same findings to the OU Supercomputing Symposium in Norman this fall.

The parallel programming effort continues this fall with an entirely new course being developed that will re-cycle a retired SE lab of computers into a working supercomputer that will be built from the ground up and that will be parallel programmed by the students.

BIOLOGY STUDENTS WIN RESEARCH AWARDS

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life Science), Kristen Brooks (Biology with Zoology option), and Ben Singleton (Double major in Fish and Wildlife Science and Biology with Zoology option). Gary Akin presented his undergraduate research project on Lark Sparrows and won the Best Undergraduate Poster award. Dr. Wood mentored the work on research projects by all of the presenting students.
KENT DAVIDSON WINS THIRD PLACE IN THE STATE AT RESEARCH DAY

Kent Davidson, Chemistry/Biology Interdisciplinary Medical Sciences double major from Hugo, was selected to be an OK INBRE Summer 2013 Intern and worked in the lab of Dr. Robert J. Sheaff at the University of Tulsa Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. He was selected as Southeastern’s representative for the Research Day at the Capitol 2014 event which took place on April 1, 2014, in the State Capitol building. The presenters are scored in several categories, including how well they present their topic to both a scientific and a non-scientific audience, and how well they explain the societal impact of their work. Kent won third place in the Regional University and Community College category for his cancer cell metabolism research. Chancellor Glen D. Johnson presented the award. Kent also received a commendation from the OK Senate and House for his participation, a $250 cash prize for finishing in third place, and another $250 stipend to offset his expenses. The title of Kent Davidson’s Poster was “Role For The Tumor Suppressor Protein P27kip1 In Cancer Cell Metabolism,” by Kent Davidson1, Abdulah Mahayni2, Robert J.Sheaff2. Kent graduated in Spring 2014. (1=Southeastern Oklahoma State University, 2=Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, The University of Tulsa.)

SOUTHEASTERN MATH COURSES ADD UP

On Monday, November 10th, Kasie Taylor presented a talk entitled, “Euler’s Rotation Theorem: Rotating Objects in 3-Space” to the Southeastern Math Club. Kasie graduated with a Mathematics Education degree from Southeastern in 2010. She is currently teaching at McKinney North High School, and she recently completed her Master of Science degree in Mathematics at Texas Woman’s University. Her Master’s thesis was an extension of a research project that she worked on as part of a Senior Seminar project here at Southeastern. Kasie encouraged students in the Math Club, explaining that what she learned in the classroom at Southeastern—what they are studying now—helped her tremendously in the pursuit of her graduate degree. Kasie stated that, compared to her classmates at TWU, she was well-prepared for graduate classes.
LONG NAMED TOP GENERAL CHEMISTRY STUDENT FOR 2014

The Department of Chemistry, Computer, and Physical Sciences is proud to announce the recipient of the 2014 Top General Chemistry Student Award. This year’s recipient is Ms. Qi Long. Qi was selected among all the students taking General Chemistry II (CHEM 1415) based on her performance on the American Chemical Society’s Examinations Institute’s exam on General Chemistry, which is used nationally as an instrument to assess student learning in the field. Qi scored higher than 50 other students enrolled in CHEM 1415 in Spring 2014 who also took the exam.

Ms. Long is from Nanjing, China. She began her undergraduate studies in Fall 2011 but more recently became focused on Pre-Medicine/Pre-Professional studies. Qi is a Biology and Chemistry double major with plans to pursue medical school or pharmacy school. She enjoys music and watching movies to relax.

The award, sponsored by the CRC Press, includes a certificate of recognition and a copy of the 94th Edition of the CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. The CRC Handbook is a common reference text used by chemistry students and professionals and retails for $170.

Pictured left to right are Dr. Loide Wasmund, award coordinator; Qi Long, Top General Chemistry Student Award recipient; and Dr. Tim Smith, CCPS chair and Long’s instructor.

DR. CHRIS MORETTI PRESENTS ON MATHEMATICA

On September 22nd, Dr. Chris Moretti gave a presentation to the Southeastern Faculty and the Math Club on the computer application Mathematica, a computer algebra system and programming language that makes all sorts of complex mathematical computations easy to do. Obtaining and analyzing large sets of data is relatively painless, and algebraic manipulation and graphing is effortless with Mathematica. This fall Southeastern obtained an unlimited license for Mathematica, so students, faculty, and staff can download a copy free of charge.

Dr. Moretti’s presentation was very well attended. For faculty members unable to attend, Dr. Moretti created videos presenting the topics discussed in his presentation. The SE University community can view videos by clicking on the link “See Dr. Moretti’s What is Mathematica talk” on his web page at http://homepages.se.edu/cmoretti.
SHARE CHILDREN’S CHORUS IN REHEARSAL

On Tuesday evenings the sound of children singing can be heard on the campus at Southeastern as the Southeastern Hub for Arts Resources (SHARE) Children’s Chorus rehearses. The Chorus, now in its 5th year, offers children in grades 3-8 the opportunity to participate in an extra-curricular vocal music program designed to introduce the best classical children’s music while developing singing and musicianship skills. This year the Chorus has 25 members.

SHARE is dedicated to providing all children in the Texoma region with excellent arts experiences to enrich their lives and the life of the community. This year our singers come from Silo, Caddo, and Durant. Durant schools represented are Durant Intermediate School, Northwest Heights Elementary, Washington Irving Elementary, and homeschool.

So far the SHARE Children’s Chorus has scheduled performances at the Denison Christmas Tree Lighting on December 4th and Southeastern Candlelighting program on December 8th. Previous performances have included Candlelighting and performances with the Sherman Symphony and with the Children’s Chorus of Greater North Texas.

The Chorus is directed by Dr. Jeri Walker, Donna Massey Professor in Music Education. She is assisted by Music Education seniors Brenna Dougherty and Kaela Ganz. New Chorus members will be accepted into the choir beginning in January.
MUSIC DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW PROFESSOR

Dr. Joshua Nannestad has joined the faculty of the Department of Music as Assistant Professor in Choral Music Education. Dr. Nannestad has come to Southeastern after completing his DMA in choral conducting from Boston University, with research on the works of Benjamin Britten. He holds a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from St. Olaf College and a Masters of Music Education degree from Gordon College. In addition to teaching music education courses, Joshua also leads University Singers and Symphonic Choir. He is married to Joanna and has one daughter, Miriam.

THE 3RD ANNUAL KATY MORRIS SHAKESPEARE SYMPOSIUM

The 3rd Annual Katy Morris Shakespeare Symposium took place on July 15th and 16th on the Southeastern campus. Produced by the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival and the Department of Art, Communication, and Theatre, the Katy Morris Shakespeare Symposium brings rural school teachers together with Shakespearean scholarship in order to keep the Bard alive and kicking in the 21st century education. Notable scholars and artists collaborate with local teachers, students, and community members to expand their knowledge and to inspire further exploration of the works of William Shakespeare.

In the photo are a few of the attendees with the Keynote Speaker. Front row left to right, Megan Cooper, Cara Gaddy, Dr. Teresa Rothrock. Back row l to r, Amanda Lyons, Kristen Auten, Samantha Manuel.
MCLAIN LEADS ONLINE VIDEO WORKSHOP

Dell McLain, Chair of Art, Communication and Theatre led a workshop on online video in July at the STAGE organization of Dallas titled “YouTube and the Artist.”

S.T.A.G.E. (Society for Theatrical Artists’ Guidance and Enhancement) promotes the theatrical, broadcast, and film industries, serving as an information clearinghouse, and providing training and education in many facets of the entertainment industry in the North Central Texas Region.

“YouTube, online video, and social media can be powerful tools for the performing and visual artist,” McLain said. “But folks can be intimidated by the technology.”

McLain asked Southeastern staff Nick Growall and Terran Sherwood and students Tanner Risner, Collin Mills, and Dustin Curry to assist him in delivering “an informative and practical workshop to help the artists ‘broadcast’ themselves.” The Southeastern group helped attendees set up a channel, manage accompanying social media sites, shoot and edit their first video. The group also shared information on low-cost and free additional software.

McLain began a major multi-year research project in online video in the spring of 2013. Since then, he has participated in national conferences in Florida and Los Angeles; launched an independent multi-channel video network; created an online video production space on the Southeastern campus; started integrating online video into public and arts events on campus; and begun working with programs, faculty, and student organizations on how online video can be a useful tool in communicating with targeted constituencies or stakeholders.

FIFTH ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN BAND DAY A "ROUSING SUCCESS"

Nearly 250 high school and middle school band students from throughout the Texoma region were on campus at Southeastern Oklahoma State University to participate in the Fifth Annual Southeastern Band Day on Saturday, September 13th. These students participated in several events throughout the course of the day, including rehearsing with the Spirit of Southeastern Marching Band, participating in master classes with Southeastern music faculty, and performing during halftime at Southeastern’s football game against the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

“This year’s Band Day was a rousing success,” said Southeastern’s Director of Bands, Dr. Jacob Wallace. “We had our largest participation ever as a part of this event, and those involved had a great time with the events on campus. I’m exceptionally grateful to all those on campus who made it possible, including President Burrage, who spoke to the students as they started their day, and our wonderful applied faculty who presented great workshops during the afternoon on the Oklahoma and Texas All-State audition music.”

The Band Day students included participants from Antlers, Atoka, Broken Bow, Comanche, Denison, Durant, Ringling, Springer, Talihina, Valliant, and Whitesboro Schools.
JEREMY BLACKWOOD COMPLETES REQUIREMENTS FOR DOCTORATE

Jeremy Blackwood presented a lecture on his doctoral dissertation titled “Under the Influence of Marc Blitzstein: Examining Leonard J. Lehrman’s Uses of Serial Techniques for Dramatic Purposes in Karla” at the University of North Texas. This lecture fulfilled the final requirement to complete his Doctorate of Music Arts degree. Dr. Jeremy Blackwood is an Assistant Professor of Voice and Opera Theatre at Southeastern.

SIGMA TAU DELTA HOSTS PIZZA PARTY

Sigma Tau Delta, the English honor society, hosted a pizza party for the students and faculty of the English, Humanities, and Languages Department on Wednesday, November 5th.

Faculty supported the event by allowing Sigma Tau Delta members and faculty sponsor, Dr. Jani Barker, to promote the pizza party and honor society in English classes during the week, and by sharing a few minutes of class time so that majors with classes scheduled throughout the lunch period would have time to grab a slice and join in some lively discussions. Dr. Meg Cotter-Lynch encouraged her students in Critical Approaches to Literature, the gateway course for literature classes, to take this opportunity to get to know veteran English majors. Eight faculty members and more than 35 students dropped in during the hour-and-a-half event to enjoy the pizza and chat with colleagues in the department.

Madison Barr, Sigma Tau Delta president, has announced plans for further activities this semester, including collecting toys and children’s books for charitable giving, in partnership with the Honors program and Families Feeding Families, and holding a Christmas party with Dirty Santa book exchange for members, alumni, and faculty. New members will be inducted to the society in the spring.
Dr. Ning Wu, the newest faculty member in the Biological Sciences Department, spent his summer in China presenting his research and working on future collaborations for Southeastern. Dr. Wu is an M.D. and teaches Physiology, Anatomy, Developmental Biology, and other courses related to the health sciences. He has a wide range of research projects involving everything from plant genes to neurology. In the future he would like to bring students from China to Southeastern as well as take Southeastern students and faculty to China to visit and perhaps work on research at universities there.

*Dr. Ning Wu presents a seminar titled “Genome research and the application of next generation sequencing technology” in the Department of Biological Engineering at Henan University of Animal Husbandry and Economy in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, China from June 20 – 22, 2014.*