SE assistant professor awarded grant from Regents

Dr. Mo. Chehbouni, assistant professor of chemistry, has been awarded a grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The grant is a part of the Oklahoma IDEA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) program. The grant, in the amount of $30,000, is in collaboration with Dr. Allen Apblett, a chemistry professor at Oklahoma State University. Its purpose is to improve the health and quality of life of thousands of Oklahoman dialysis patients as well as almost two million others worldwide by improving the current methods of treatment to adequately remove phosphate from the bloodstream. “Dr. Chehbouni has been with us for four years and has done a very good job in pursuing grants and research opportunities,” said Dr. Jerry Polson, chair of the Chemistry, Computer & Physical Sciences Department.

Pulitzer winner speaks at Spring Symposium

Award winning playwright-actor Tracy Letts returned to Southeastern in April to speak at the Honors Program Spring Symposium. Letts won both the Pulitzer Prize and Broadway’s Tony Award in 2008 for his play, “August: Osage County.” The event was held in Southeastern’s New Playhouse theatre facility. It preceded “Drama-palooza,” a three-night student performance showcase.
Chairs and Office Assistants

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<th>School of Arts and Sciences</th>
<th>Dean: Dr. Lucretia Scoufos</th>
<th>Administrative Assistant to the Dean: Mindy House</th>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Department Chair</td>
<td>Office Assistant</td>
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<td>Art, Communication and Theatre</td>
<td>Mr. Dell McLain</td>
<td>Sandy Bumgarner</td>
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<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Dr. Diane Dixon</td>
<td>Mary Pickens</td>
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<td>Chemistry, Computer, and Physical Sciences</td>
<td>Dr. Jerry Polson</td>
<td>Sandy Kirven</td>
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<td>Dr. John Mischo</td>
<td>Teresa Anderson</td>
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<td>Dr. Steven Emge</td>
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<td>Dr. Wayne Jones</td>
<td>Deanna Moody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>Dr. Kenneth Chinn</td>
<td>Karen Prus</td>
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</table>

Where are they now?

Lorne Segerstrom ('99) Occupational Safety & Health- Safety Officer, U.S. State Dept.-Europe/Africa

Jason Cole ('99) Occupational Safety & Health- Safety Director, Baylor Medical Center-Plano

Josh Allen ('05) Occupational Safety & Health- Loss Control Officer, Hartford Insurance, San Francisco

Spencer Aycock ('01) Environmental Science- Wetlands Specialist, Environmental Resources, Inc., Maryland

Cody Whittenburg ('06) Environmental Science- Stormwater Program Manager, City of Stillwater

Ryan Brown ('97) Biology/Interdisciplinary Media Sciences- Pediatrician, OU Health Science Center, Oklahoma City

Eric Wooley ('97) Biology/Interdisciplinary Media Sciences- ER Physician, Tulsa

John Joines ('98) Biology/Interdisciplinary Media Sciences- Pharmacist, Ada

Dan Tuckness ('81) Mathematics/Physics- Chief Engineer, Jacobs Technology, Houston

Anne Wintle Ortega ('89) Vocal Performance- Assistant Professor of Music, Edinboro U. of Pennsylvania

Lenore Pfaff ('03) English- Madill Middle School "Teacher of the Year"

Laura Hunter Battiest ('07) Biotechnology- Senior Research Assistant, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma City

Shelley Tate Garner ('04) Art Studio - Gallery Owner, Artplace Gallery, Denison

Robert Ostman ('05) Art Education - Art Teacher, Madill Elementary School

Edited by: Mr. Ray Gaskin, Journalism Instructor and Student Publications Adviser
Layout by: Mr. Jack Gurley, Visual Arts Associate Professor

Music department partners with area school

The Music Department is in a partnership with Rock Creek Elementary School to bring music education into the lives of 283 Pre-K-6th grade students. This affiliation began with a conversation between Principal Bill Neyman, a graduate of Southeastern, and Dr. Jeri Bonnin, Donna Massey Professor in Music Education, concerning the importance of music education in the lives of young children.

In addition, faculty development in Music Education has begun on the Southeastern campus and will be expanded in the 2010/2011 academic year. Durant teachers, teachers from surrounding towns such as Atoka and Meridian, and Southeastern Music Education students have already attended one session and are looking forward to additional training sessions in the fall.

Voice students compete in Oklahoma City

Betty Wintle and Jeremy Blackwood, SE voice teachers, served as judges for students from other schools. Southeastern students were accompanied by SE adjunct staff accompanist, Sung-Yun Kim.

Senior B. Weslee Vance, won 1st place in the Senior Men’s category.

Wintle’s announce retirement

Bill Neyman, a graduate of Southeastern, and Dr. Jeri Bonnin, Donna Massey Professor in Music Education, concerning the importance of music education in the lives of young children.

Dr. and Mrs. James Wintle are retiring from the Southeastern faculty after 39 years of teaching. Dr. Wintle will continue to direct the Musical Arts Series and Steger Institutes. Mrs. Wintle will serve at Southeastern as adjunct instructor in voice.

Southeastern voice students excelled in singing arias and art songs in competition with nearly 260 singers from other Oklahoma colleges and universities.

The annual competition, a part of the Oklahoma District Conference sponsored by the National Association of Teachers of Singing, was held April 10 at Southern Nazarene University.

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Mentor program assists middle school youths

Four SE Theatre students participated in the Girl Power mentor program, directed by Dr. Charla Hall. The program partners college-aged young women with middle school-aged girls in a mentor atmosphere where they can share experiences and encourage self esteem. Pictured (left to right) Megan Mackey, Sarah Roelse, Rebecca Sparks and Connie Melton.

Witten and Garza present research

Dr. Caryn Witten and Ms. Kathy Garza of the English, Humanities and Languages Department attended the Oklahoma Higher Education Teaching and Learning Conference in Broken Arrow on April 8-9. They presented research regarding students’ attitudes and performance in online and face-to-face Elementary Spanish classes. The conference was attended by several members of the Southeastern faculty and presented a good opportunity to share ideas and research.

Barnes publishes spring paper

Southeastern Associate Professor David Barnes, a member of the Art, Communication and Theater Department, will have a paper published in the spring issue of “KronoScope: The Journal for the Study of Time” vol. 9.1-2 (2010). “KronoScope” is the official journal of The International Society for the Study of Time. Barnes’ paper is entitled “Time in the Gutter: Temporal Structures in Watchmen” and deals with sequential art conventions found in the art and narrative of the popular graphic novel “Watchmen” by Alan Moore.

High school student works with SE Biological Sciences

Taylor Runyan, a senior at Atoka High School, is working with Dr. Teresa Golden from the Southeastern Department of Biological Sciences to continue her research project (originating in previous years with Dr. Penelope Perkins from the USDA Lab in Lane, OK) examining lycopene, an antioxidant found in tomatoes and watermelon. Taylor presented her work at the Eastern Oklahoma Regional Science and Engineering Fair held at Wilburton and more recently at the Oklahoma State Science and Engineering Fair in Ada. She won major awards in both competitions.

Chemistry students participate in San Francisco meeting

Earlier this spring five Southeastern students and one faculty member attended the American Chemical Society (ACS) national meeting in San Francisco. The theme of the meeting was “Chemistry for a Sustainable World.” Students attending from Southeastern were Ashely Lewis, Sadira Abu-Arja, Tracie Jay, Anthony Banks and Daniel Perdue. Dr. Nancy Paiva was the trip sponsor. The Southeastern ACS chapter received honorable mention recognition at the meeting’s awards banquet.

Mclain is recipient of teaching award

Professor Dell McLain, chair of the Department of Art, Communication & Theatre at Southeastern, is a recipient of the 2010 Oklahoma Higher Education Conference Excellence in Teaching Award. “Dell is very deserving of this recognition,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “His enthusiasm, coupled with his innovative teaching methods, have benefited many students over the years. He is indeed an outstanding representative of the University.” In addition to his chair and teaching (Theatre) duties, McLain is also the Associate Artistic Chair of the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival.

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New direction for journalism students

Southeastern Journalism students won five awards this spring at the annual Oklahoma Collegiate Press Association Conference in Stillwater.

A major topic at the conference involved the conversion of traditional printed newspapers to online format.

“The Southeastern” staff is enthusiastic about the future of online newspapers.

SE student Bret Moss said readers “would be able to check it anywhere at any time, and updates could be made daily.”

Radio station undergoes major changes

Southeastern has seen several changes with the campus radio station over the last year, under the direction of Art, Communication and Theatre Chair Dell McLain.

The station has started a new campaign and is now known as “U92.”

The newest event in the works is a battle of the bands competition, which is in the planning stage for August.

SE grad performs at Kennedy Center

Megan Crews Hamm, a 2007 SE Vocal Performance graduate, was presented in Recital in March at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. as a representative of the Cleveland Institute of Music where she is pursuing a Certificate in Opera Performance.

Occupational safety students attend conference

Six juniors from the Department of Occupational Safety & Health attended the American Society of Safety Engineers Region III Student Leadership Conference at Texas A&M University in College Station. The students were involved in an intense two-day series of lecture and practical application presentations on topics such as Emergency Program Management, Networking, Lessons from Seasoned Safety Professionals, Certifications and Workplace Influence. The group was sponsored by Dr. Wayne Jones.

Patton conducts field work

Dr. Tim Patton, associate professor of Biological Sciences, recently conducted field work in New Mexico. Patton’s project involved the analysis of channel catfish diets in the San Juan River in New Mexico.

The project is funded by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

To assist in the process, Patton has the help of two of his students, Joey Dyer and Chris Cheek. Their positions are also funded by the grant.

“To date, we have collected about 450 catfish for analysis,” Patton said.

SE is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution.
Math is represented at Arkansas conference

Southeastern Mathematics faculty members and Southeastern student Michael Tilles attended the annual regional conference of the Mathematical Association of America at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas in March. Tilles is majoring in mathematics.

Dr. Chris Moretti presented a lecture at the conference entitled, “Mathematical Manipulations in the Classroom,” a talk on using a computer algebra system to improve understanding in various mathematics courses.

Other Southeastern professors Dr. Brett Elliott, Dr. Charles Matthews and Buddy Pierce also attended the conference.

From left to right, Buddy Pierce, Michael Tilles, Dr. Chris Moretti, Dr. Charles Matthews, and Dr. Brett Elliott.