Music faculty perform in France

SE Department of Music faculty members Dr. Brian Walker and Julee Kim Walker traveled to France to perform in the Franco-American Vocal Academy Opera Festival in Périgueux, France from July 25 to Aug. 15.

They performed selections including Jacques Offenbach’s La Grande-Duchesse de Gérolstein.

Performances took place in Excideuil, Saint-Yrieix, Lanouaille and Thiviers in addition to Périgueux.

Math education student completes internship with NASA

Jen Fowler, a junior math education major, was selected for a 2011 NASA Langley Aerospace Research Summer Scholars Program internship.

She spent 10 weeks at the NASA Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va., where she worked with her mentor Dr. Arthur Bradley to build circuit boards and measure performance parameters.

Southeastern’s NASA Oklahoma Space Grant Consortium funds partially covered her expenses.

“It was exciting to have our first SE student selected for one of these prestigious NASA internships and very impressive to watch Jen’s confidence grow over the course of her internship,” said Dr. Nancy Paiva, SE NASA Space Grant representative.
Alumna gives chemistry presentation

Alumna Dr. Leslie Sloan returned to SE’s Chemistry Department to present “Drug Discovery: Lead Generation and Lead Optimization” on Thursday, Aug. 25. Sloan then went to Yale University in Connecticut and received her Ph.D. in organic chemistry in 1999. While at Yale, she received a prestigious NSF Predoctoral Fellowship which covered all of her expenses and gave Southeastern, her undergraduate institution, a one-year scholarship for a student. She then worked for Eli Lilly for over nine years as a research chemist and then for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals where she is currently a senior director of worldwide medicinal chemistry.

Sloan graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor’s of Science degree from Southeastern in 1993 with a double major in chemistry and medical biology. While at Southeastern, she was in the Minority Biomedical Research Support Program and did research with Dr. Lucretia Scoufos.

Dr. Leslie Sloan talks to chemistry majors in her presentation “Drug Discovery: Lead Generation and Lead Optimization.”

In June, Dr. Meg Cotter-Lynch attended a Summer Institute in Literary Studies at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park, N.C. The seminar was titled “Reading the Golden Notebook” and focused on Doris Lessing’s 1962 novel and its subsequent reception, especially its equivocal place within feminist studies. The seminar was led by Toril Moi, an internationally acclaimed gender studies scholar. Cotter-Lynch was one of 14 participants in the seminar from throughout the U.S. as well as India and Canada. Participants were awarded a grant and are planning a follow-up three-day seminar at Brown University in March, in coordination with the American Comparative Literature Association Annual Conference.

Cotter-Lynch attends summer institute

Beach studies mural arts in Philadelphia

During the second week of August, Dr. Gleny Beach was part of a consortium of arts educators from across the United States and South Africa invited to the University of the Arts in Philadelphia to participate in a mural arts course, present a lecture and engage in art educational research.

In addition to Beach, program speakers included other participants of the South African People to People Art Education Delegation trip Beach attended in October 2010. Beach presented research on South African artist Mary Sibande, who used sculpture and public murals to make cultural critique of the prejudice remaining today from the Apartheid era in South Africa.

Over the week’s activities, Beach learned mural arts painting processes, techniques and history as part of the mural arts course offered by The University of the Arts Summer Institute, ArtsWeek, in partnership with the City of Philadelphia’s Mural Arts Program. In addition to a painting a collaborative art mural with other class members, Beach collaborated with K-12 teachers in the Philadelphia region who were enrolled in the ArtsWeek Institute.

In June, Dr. Meg Cotter-Lynch (bottom left) was one of 14 participants in a summer seminar led by Toril Moi, who is pictured beside Cotter-Lynch.
Rice participates in national evolution, botany meetings

Dr. Stanley Rice, professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, participated in two national meetings this summer. In June, he went to the Evolution 2011 meeting in Norman, where he chaired a session and presented a poster based on research conducted with biology colleague Dr. Erica Corbett and student co-workers. He also served as mentor for an undergraduate student from a minority-serving institution in Alabama. In July, Rice participated in the Botany 2011 meetings of the Botanical Society of America, which were held in St. Louis. He presented a paper about innovative botany teaching, based on laboratory research projects at Southeastern, and was a judge for student awards. Rice’s evolution trip was funded in part by the National Evolutionary Synthesis Center of the National Science Foundation, along with the Organized Research Committee at Southeastern that made financial contributions for both trips.

Hardgrove travels to Edinburgh

Kathleen Hardgrove, assistant professor of Theatre, traveled to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland this July. Hardgrove was selected by the International Collegiate Theatre Festival to attend a Familiarization Tour and join in the Fringe experience. While visiting the theatre arts festival, Hardgrove attended numerous plays and performances from around the world.

“I was particularly drawn to the experimental, physical, multidisciplinary theatre dealing with themes of war and politics,” Hardgrove said. “Being aware of what is new and exciting in theatre is invaluable in helping me prepare our students for a future in theatre.”

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival was the birthplace of fringe theatre festivals, known for presenting new and uncensored works by artists of all walks of life.

Collaborative effort garnishes a ‘LittleFe’

Dr. Nick Nichols

In the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Dr. Nick Nichols has recently been promoted to professor and Dr. Chris Bradshaw recently completed his doctorate. Nichols obtained his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in Occupational Safety and Health from Murray State University in Murray, Ky. He obtained his Doctorate in Vocational Education (with direct applications in occupational safety and health) from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

His safety and health experience in the corporate world includes employment with companies such as Mobil Chemical Corporation, MK Ferguson Construction and Martin Marietta Energy Systems. His areas of specialty include systems safety, construction safety, ergonomics and safety program management and application.

Dr. Chris W. Bradshaw graduated from Hardin Simmons University in 1977 with a degree in Medical Technology. In 1978, he attended the IMCO school for drilling fluid engineers in Houston and worked the next seven years in the oil field as a “mud man.” He began working for Texoma Peanut Company in 1986 and helped create their safety department.

Bradshaw graduated in 1997 with a Master’s of Science in Industrial Hygiene from the University of Oklahoma Health Science Center. In 1998 he joined the Department of Occupational Safety and Health as an instructor in industrial hygiene and hazardous materials management. He began working on his doctoral through Texas A&M at Commerce in Secondary Higher Education in 2000.

Dr. Chris Bradshaw shaking hands with the president of Texas A&M Commerce

Nichols promoted, Bradshaw completes doctorate
Barker promoted to associate professor

In the English, Humanities and Languages Department, Dr. Janet (Jani) L. Barker was promoted to associate professor and received tenure. A member of the Southeastern faculty since 2006, Barker holds doctorate and master's degrees in English from Texas A&M University, College Station, and earned a bachelor's degree from Hardin-Simmons University. While her academic background includes teaching a variety of literature and writing courses and coordinating and teaching in a community college ESL program, Barker's teaching and research specialization—and passion—is literature for children and young adults. Her recent and current research projects focus on audience and racial identification in African American children's fiction, subjective and didactic uses of fantasy and historical fiction, narrative perspective and cultural memory.

Biological Sciences faculty recently promoted

Three faculty members in the Department of Biological Sciences were recently promoted. Dr. Teresa Golden received promotion and tenure, and both Dr. Erica Corbett and Dr. Tim Patton received promotion from associate to full professor. Golden, who was recently appointed chair of the Biological Sciences Department, began at Southeastern in fall 2006. Her areas of specialty include molecular biology, genetics and cancer. She currently has two research grants involving cancer and how cells respond to antioxidants like lycopene. Corbett began teaching at Southeastern in fall 1999. Her areas of specialization are ecology, biostatistics and GIS. Her research includes an ongoing study of both aboveground and belowground ecology in prairie restoration and also research in forest diversity around Lake Texoma. Patton started teaching at Southeastern in 1998. His is actively involved in the Fisheries and Wildlife program at Southeastern and has a range of interests focused on ecological issues surrounding fish and aquatic ecosystems as well as amphibians and reptiles in aquatic ecosystems. He has numerous grants that involve students in his research.

Weger promoted to full professor

Weger is also the director of choral activities. Under his direction the Southeastern Chorale has become a recognized ensemble of excellence, having performed at Carnegie Hall, the St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans and in over 100 high schools in the region. Weger received his B.M.E. and M.M.E. from the University of Southern Mississippi and his D.M.A. in Choral Conducting from University of Texas at Austin.

Chehbouni, Qian promoted to associate professor

Dr. Ming-Shan Su and the Durant Open Men's Doubles Tennis trophy

The Department of Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences is proud to announce the tenure and promotion of Dr. Mo Chehbouni and Dr. Lie Qian to the rank of associate professor. Chehbouni received his M.S. in Polymer Chemistry from the University of Applied Sciences in Aachen, Germany. He earned his Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. During his tenure at Southeastern, Chehbouni has presented his research at 20 national and international conferences and authored or co-authored several publications. In addition, Chehbouni obtained over $60,000 in external research and travel grants.

Dr. Mo Chehbouni
Dallas. In 2006, he joined Southeastern Oklahoma State University as an assistant professor in computer science. His research areas include Multimedia Quality of Service in Network, Network Multicast, wireless networks and web application integrated with database. Qian has made numerous presentations at national and international conferences.
Theatre student receives high scores with magic show

Dustin Curry brought his one-man magic show, "Mister Gremory’s Cabinet of Curiosities," to the Kansas City Fringe Festival in Kansas City, Mo., where he received positive reviews, including a "4.0 out of 5.0" from KCStage.com, the festival’s primary critic site. Curry was assisted by sophomores Clint Poling and Tanner Risner, who acted as stage manager and technical crew, respectively. The show features spooky illusions and storytelling aimed at frightening audiences. "During most magic shows, audiences can relax and enjoy the spectacle," said Curry. "In Cabinet of Curiosities, however, audiences are forced to get caught up in the storytelling." "Mister Gremory’s Cabinet of Curiosities" will be presented on campus in April as part of Theatre at Southeastern’s Dramapalooza theatre festival.

Safety faculty, students attend industrial hygiene seminar

Faculty and students from the Department of Occupational Safety and Health recently attended the "Specialized Topics in Industrial Hygiene Seminar" sponsored by the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) North Texas Local Section, U.S. Department of Labor/OSHA and University of Texas at Arlington.

The event was held on the campus of UT-Arlington on Aug. 17.

The half-day seminar addressed several specialized topics in industrial hygiene including size selective sampling, ethics, heat stress and fire scene investigation. Those attending included Dr. Chris Bradshaw, Dr. Halet Poovey and graduate students Michael Claborn and Les O’Riley.

Poovey was the opening speaker for the seminar, presenting on the theory and use of physiologically related size selective sampling to evaluate workplace exposure. The seminar gave students the opportunity to meet and network with occupational health and safety professionals from academia, industry and government.

Renovation of research labs continues

At this time, the renovation of the three chemistry and biotechnology research labs in the Department of Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences is about 98 percent complete and has included the replacement of the 1960s-style avocado green hoods and dysfunctional plumbing. The next step will be to complete the installation of the new reverse osmosis water purification system and begin the giant task of moving equipment back into the rooms.

Beach participates in African art institute

At Hutchinson Community College in Kansas July 11-16.
During the week-long institute, Beach worked with three Ashanti artists and one Ewe artist from southern Ghana, West Africa. Beach and other participants worked in small groups as apprentices under each of the Ghanaian artists, learning to weave kente cloth on an authentic West African loom, to make pottery and fire glass beads and to cast small bronze beads and objects using the traditional firing processes of West Africa.

Paiva participates in computational chemistry course

The National Center for Computational Chemistry, an opportunity institution, was held in Stillwater July 24-30. Not only was the course content extremely useful for supplementing chemistry and biochemistry classes, it also provided an excellent opportunity to meet and compare observations with chemists from across Oklahoma and the U.S.

Morris continues contract work with Colorado lodge

This past summer, Mike Morris, a faculty member of the Computer Information Systems program, independently contracted with the Christie Lodge in Avon, Colo. The Christie Lodge is one of the largest independently operated timeshare resorts in the country and is located in the west end of the Vail Valley. The Christie employs about 110 associates during peak season and can accommodate about 1,500 guests on any given day, so it takes quite a bit of computing power to take care of business. Since 1995, Morris has been performing various computer-related tasks for the lodge, and he routinely composes a semi-annual newsletter that is sent to approximately 11,000 timeshare owners affiliated with the lodge. This summer Morris was invited to consult with lodge IT personnel on network application software and some minor hardware enhancements. On at least two occasions, Morris has directed SE students in internships with the Christie Lodge, both resulting in permanent employment in the IT field and one of whom was actually retained by the lodge.
Fritts named Top General Chemistry Student for 2011

Three students receive summer research awards

Su hosts Chinese international students welcome party

Slawson interns for Inhofe in D.C.

McLain coaches Creative Expressions class
SE students participate in a novel summer science course at OU

Three SE students participated in a two-week pilot course from July 24 to Aug. 5 at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. Dr. Bradley Stevenson, assistant professor in the OU Department of Botany and Microbiology, organized this new undergraduate workshop on environmental microbiology and biotechnology.

The SE students who participated were Judith Zounon, a senior biotechnology major; Patricia Pace a senior biology major; and Sushma Ale a May 2011 biology graduate and current Master’s of Technology student.

The students went to outdoor sampling sites, including the Norman landfill, to collect microbial-filled samples for analysis, grew and tested the bacteria, prepared their results for presentations and reports and recorded their impressions in the course online blog. The students also listened to guest lecturers from OU, OSU and the Noble Foundation.

Oklahoma’s National Science Foundation EPSCoR Educational Outreach program and the University of Oklahoma provided all of the students’ housing, food and laboratory fees, plus a small cash stipend.

SE Theatre play begins tour

Theatre at Southeastern announced that “The Time Is Out of Joint: A Study of Hamlet” will tour to multiple venues across Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas this semester.

“The Time Is Out of Joint” was performed as an alumni event in New York in 2009 and was featured on-campus at the Dramapalooza theatre festival last year.

The show was adapted from William Shakespeare’s Hamlet by late SE Theatre Director Dr. Molly Risso and current Chair of Art, Communication and Theatre Dell McLain. The show features six actors in a variety of roles as they examine the character of Hamlet through his intellect, heart and passion.

‘Raku Rumble’ in Denison

SE art major Russel Poole glazing pots at Denison’s Fall Art Tour and Raku Rumble 2011.

SE graduate Robert Ostman explaining the Raku process.

SE art instructor Jack Ousey glazing a pot at Raku Rumble.

The fired results, Raku Pots.