Over 400 Attend National Board Certification At SOSU

425 teachers and 27 trainers from across the state of Oklahoma spent May 27-28 on the Southeastern campus beginning their journey toward National Board Certification.

Jointly sponsored by Southeastern and the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation, the SOSU Center for National Board Certification provides support for teachers across Oklahoma who are seeking certification.

Dr. Susan Morrison, center director, reported, “Other than earning my doctorate, National Board Certification was the most rigorous reflective professional development I have ever undertaken. It is a process that can take up to three years, but the benefits are innumerable.”

According to Dr. Morrison, National Board Certification is analogous to an accountant becoming a certified public accountant (CPA) or a doctor becoming board certified. She believes “we are fortunate to live in Oklahoma where National Board Certified teachers are valued and compensated financially for this tremendous achievement.”

The workshop is held on the SOSU campus each year around the end of spring.

Seven Programs Nationally Recognized by NCATE

Seven education programs at Southeastern have been named Nationally Recognized programs by their learned societies. These programs are Elementary Education, Special Education, School Administration, English Education, Mathematics Education, Music Education, and Science Education. This recognition is part of renewing the Teacher Education Program’s accreditation with the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

According to Dr. Vivian Guarnera, these programs are in elite company. SEBS was one of only 10 universities to receive “Nationally Recognized” status for its Special Education program in the spring of 2008. The mathematics program was one of only seven to receive “Nationally Recognized” status in the spring of 2008. Science education was one of 27 and HPER was one of nine receiving similar recognition. A visiting team of examiners from NCATE will visit the campus during the spring of 2010.
The EIL Newsletter

New Faculty Join EIL

The EIL department welcomes 4 new faculty members for the 2009-10 school year.

Dr. Carol Southenerland, new assistant professor of elementary education, was formerly Reading Recovery Coordinator for the Sherman, Texas Independent School District. Dr. Southenerland’s certifications include elementary education, reading specialist, and English as a Second Language.

Dr. Cathy Stewart-Lightsey is well-known to Southeastern students and faculty from her work at SE’s McCurtain Campus as Carl Albert faculty. Beginning this year, Dr. Stewart-Lightsey begins her work as an assistant professor in EIL. She taught science in public schools in Arkansas and Oklahoma and enjoys playing golf and fishing.

EIL welcomes two visiting professors this year. Dr. Gail Romer is a former United States Air Force officer. She is a native of east Tennessee who holds a master’s and Ph.D. in educational psychology. She describes herself as an incurable optimist, enthusiastic encourager, a people watcher, and a “scrapbooker wannabe.” Dr. Romer teaches professional education courses.

Dr. Sheila Barnes is a visiting professor of elementary education. She has taught in Oklahoma public schools for 16 years and in higher education for 17 years. Her certifications include school counselor, school psychologist, reading specialist, elementary education and special education.

EIL Faculty Members Promoted

Congratulations! Two members of the EIL faculty, Drs. Nancy Hill and Susan Morrison, were granted tenure and promoted to the rank of associate professor at the conclusion of the spring, 2009 semester.

Dr. Nancy Hill began her career at Southeastern in the fall of 2004. Dr. Hill is an associate professor of elementary Education and currently serves as Coordinator of the M. Ed. in Reading program. Dr. Hill holds a B.S. degree from Southwestern Oklahoma State, an M.Ed. from the University of Oklahoma and an Ed.D. from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Susan Morrison, also an associate professor of Elementary Education, is a National Board certified teacher. She is the Director of the Center for National Board Certification. Prior to joining Southeastern’s faculty in 2004, Dr. Morrison taught 2nd grade at Northwest Heights Elementary School in Durant. Dr. Morrison holds B.S. and M.Ed. degrees from Southeastern and an Ed.D. from Texas A & M, Commerce.

Dr. Will Mawer named Dean of the School of Education

In April, 2009, Dr. William T. Mawer was named dean of the School of Education and Behavioral Sciences. Dr. Mawer formerly served as professor of business law and Coordinator for AACS (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) in the John Massey School of Business at Southeastern.

Dr. Mawer holds a bachelor’s degree in education from University of Toledo and a Doctor of Jurisprudence from the Claude W. Pettit College of Law, Ohio Northern University.

Dean Mawer is widely published in a variety of scholarly journals addressing issues in a number of diverse areas of the law and has served as editor of the Southern Law Journal.

Dr. Mawer’s office is Morrison Hall, room 223.
Morrison Hall Renovations

The summer of 2009 brought significant changes to the Morrison Hall. The wall between rooms 201 and 203 was removed to create one large, ultra-modern computer lab. New flooring was installed. The new computer lab includes 38 Dell computers, new computer desks, an 87 inch SmartBoard™, and an instructor’s station. The completed lab is used for classes, faculty development, and special projects.

Many changes have taken place in Morrison Hall. All classrooms on the second floor of Morrison Hall have been outfitted with new media carts and SmartBoards™. Each media cart holds a computer, multimedia projector, and a document camera.

EIL Faculty are currently completing training on using the new technology in their classes.

Dr. Barbara McClanahan Wins Awards

Dr. Barbara McClanahan, assistant professor of elementary education at SOSU’s McCurtain County Campus, was recently named Outstanding Doctoral Student in Elementary Education, and the winner of the Jerry and Marilyn Morris Distinguished Doctoral Student Award.

Dr. McClanahan joined the faculty of Southeastern Oklahoma State University in January of 2008 and was assigned to the McCurtain County Campus as Southeastern’s first full-time faculty member there.

The awards were presented by Dr. Brent Mangus, Dean of the College of Education and Human Services at Texas A&M University, Commerce.

Dr. Saundra DiPento Named Professor Emeritus

On April 28, 2009 Dr. Saundra DiPento was presented with a resolution from the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma bestowing on her the title Professor Emeritus. The presentation was made at the spring Kappa Delta Pi Initiation Banquet by Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Larry Minks and School of Education Dean Dr. William Mawer.

At the end of the spring 2009 semester Dr. Saundra DiPento retired, closing out a stellar career at Southeastern. During her tenure at Southeastern, Dr. DiPento served as professor of elementary education, Coordinator of the Elementary Education program, and as Senior Counselor of the Beta Delta Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. Her excellence as a classroom instructor was recognized with several Faculty Senate Awards for Excellence in Teaching. Congratulations, Dr. D!

“A Teacher is one who makes himself progressively unnecessary.”

-Thomas Carruthers
We’re on the web: homepages.se.edu/eil/

Calendar of Upcoming Events

**November**
- **4 or 11** Mentor Teacher Return Day 4-6 pm, SOSU Ballroom
- **4** Public Forum (held in conjunction with Mentor Return Day)
- **13** Last Day to Drop a Class
- **14** Last Oklahoma Certification Test Day. Regular registration deadline for this test administration is Oct. 9. Late registration is available until Oct. 23.
- **17** Student Teacher Return Day, begins at 8:30. Room 213, Student Union.

**December**
- **25-27** Thanksgiving Break
- **1** Deadline for Teacher Work sample and submission of Module IV items for portfolio.
- **7-11** Final Exam Week
- **9** Graduation Practice (3 pm in Bloomer Sullivan Arena)
- **12** Graduation

**January**
- **13** Spring classes begin
- **18** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, No Classes
- **20** Last Day to enroll in or add a class,
- **Last day to drop a class with no record**
- **Last day to drop a class with a refund/no charges**