August 6, 2009

Southeastern Faculty and Staff:

The Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO) Insurance Committee is working with a consultant, Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc., to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to seek other vendors interested in providing health, vision and dental insurance along with COBRA/Retiree billing administration. Southeastern’s representatives are: Ross Walkup (VP Business Affairs), Cathy Conway (Direct of Human Resources), Dr. Charles Mathews (faculty rep) and Dan Moore (staff rep).

There are seven (7) other institutions participating in the RFP besides the core group represented by the six (6) RUSO institutions and the RUSO Board Office. They are: Rogers State University, Cameron University, University of Science and Art, Seminole State, Western Oklahoma State, Murray State and Northern State. These institutions are independent in making their own decision to stay with their current providers or change. If there is to be a change for the core group, a decision will be made by the RUSO Board no later than August 31st to meet the effective date of January 1, 2010.

Only one vendor provided a proposal for health insurance - Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK). Vendors responding to dental insurance were BCBSOK and Delta Dental. Vendors responding to vision insurance were EyeMed, Standard, Superior Vision and VSP. Vendors responding to COBRA/Retiree billing administration were Ceridian, Conexis, Discovery and HealthSmart. A vendor presentation is scheduled with the RUSO Insurance Committee on August 14th.

Additional information pertaining to the RFP process is being placed on the Human Resource website at www.se.edu/hr to keep you up-to-date on this process. Please review the information and submit any questions to Cathy Conway at cconway@se.edu. A question and answer (Q&A) list will be placed on the website for all to see.

Information currently available on the website:

- April 2009 Health Project Announcement and Time Line
- Health Insurance Project Update - August 5, 2009
- Health Insurance – Projected Premium Cost
- RUSO Insurance Committee Q&A to BCBSOK
- Health Benefit Comparison – High Option, Basic Plan and HAS

Information to come:

- Southeastern Q&A (Added to web on 8-11-09)
- Pros and Cons

For those of you who may be researching providers on the Blue Cross website, the network name is the Blue Choice Network. The website address is www.bcbsok.com.

Ross A. Walkup
VP Business Affairs