Regent Terry Matlock will deliver remarks at Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Spring Commencement, scheduled for Saturday, May 11, at Paul Laird Field. The ceremony (for all schools) will begin at 10 a.m. A reception will follow at 11:30 a.m. in the Visual & Performing Arts Center.

Matlock, who currently serves as chair of the Regional University System of Oklahoma (RUSO) Board of Regents, is a Distinguished Alumnus of Southeastern. He earned bachelor (’85) and master (’87) degrees at the University.

From 1990-2002, he served in the Oklahoma House of Representatives, where he was elected by his peers to serve as the Speaker Pro-Tempore. In 2002, Matlock began a career with Choctaw Electric Cooperative, a distribution electric utility company, where he is the Chief Executive Officer.

While attending Southeastern, Matlock was a Presidential Leadership Scholar, member of the Student Senate, performed with the Chorvettes Show Choir, and was a Graduate Assistant for the School of Business.

He has been the Program Coordinator for what is now the Southeastern at McCurtain County campus and served as Special Administrative Assistant to then-Attorney General Robert Henry.

In 1998, Matlock was named “Outstanding Young Oklahoman” by Governor Frank Keating, and in 2003, he was selected by Governor Brad Henry as the “Southeastern Area Business Person of the Year.”

Matlock and his wife Kerrey (’84, ’89), a member of the Southeastern Alumni Association Board, have three children: Trevor (a Southeastern graduate), Taylor (current Southeastern student), and Kerrigan (high school student).

In case of bad weather, the schedule for Saturday, May 11, will be two ceremonies in the Bloomer Sullivan Arena, as follows:

**10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**
- School of Arts & Sciences
- Master of Technology
- Master of Science (Safety)

**11:30 a.m.**
- Commencement Reception (VPAC)

**2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**
- School of Education & Behavioral Sciences
- John Massey School of Business
- Master of Business Administration
- Master of Science (Aerospace)
- Master of Arts (Clinical Mental Health Counseling)
- Master of Education
- Master of Arts (Teaching)
- Master of Science (Sports Studies and Athletic Administration)
Choctaw U recognized as ‘exceptional program’

Over the years, the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Southeastern Oklahoma State University have teamed up on numerous projects for the benefit of students and the community.

One of the partnership’s latest efforts – Choctaw U – was recently recognized with the Exceptional Program Award (Credit) by the Association for Continuing Higher Education — Great Plains Region. The award was presented at the Association’s Regional Conference at Kansas State University.

Attending the conference to accept the award from the Choctaw Nation were Tana Sanders, Director of Learning and Development, and Jack Hedrick, Curriculum Designer and Instructor. Dr. Aaron Adair, Assistant Dean of Distance and Adult Education, represented Southeastern.

This unique program offers students the opportunity to earn credit hours at Southeastern while completing Choctaw U courses that are focused on leadership, communication, and business.

“Teaming up with Southeastern to meet our goals for the leadership and education programs of our employees is a giant step in succession planning for the Choctaw Nation,” said Chief Gregory E. Pyle.

“Choctaw U is a great example of successful partnership and collaboration,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “The Nation and University have combined resources to produce a truly unique educational experience that will benefit the participants and community for many years.”

The purpose of Choctaw U is to grow knowledge and skills of all associates by instilling a deeper understanding of their purpose within the organization. The five levels of training within Choctaw U mirror that of a standard university.

Participants receive professional development training, build knowledge, and improve their skills to be more efficient and productive leaders. Choctaw U includes two series for development, the Leadership Series and the Continuing Education Series.

The official launch of Choctaw U was Jan. 26, 2012, with more than 100 people making the first year-long commitment to the project. The participants attended the orientation at Choctaw Casino and Resort in Durant. During the meeting, participants learned how the program builds on Chief Pyle’s long-term vision of growing and sustaining the tribe. Choctaw U challenges this group of leaders to begin planning toward the next century of the Choctaw people.

In December 2012, 73 Choctaw Nation associates graduated from the program.

‘BrainStorm’ offers variety of events

Lectures on such diverse subjects as science, literature, business, and history, along with musical, dance, theatrical performances – there’s something for everyone at the third annual BrainStorm.

The event at Southeastern Oklahoma State University will be held April 15-27. BrainStorm will be held at various venues on the Southeastern campus and all activities are free and open to the public.

For a complete list of events, visit http://homepages.se.edu/brainstorm

Dr. Caryn Witten, Associate Professor in the Department of English, Humanities and Languages, is serving as chair for the 2013 event.

Witten said, “We have expanded BrainStorm to include the Education and Business departments. It will cover two weeks and involve the entire University community. BrainStorm is a showcase of all of the talents and research projects of the students and faculty of Southeastern.”
Hamill receives 2013 Newman Civic Fellows Award

Bridgette Hamill of Southeastern Oklahoma State University has been named as a recipient of the 2013 Newman Civic Fellows award by Campus Compact.

The award recognizes inspirational college student leaders who have worked to find solutions for challenges facing their communities. The students are nominated by their college and university presidents.

Hamill is a graduate student completing a Master of Science in Sport Studies and Athletic Administration at Southeastern. In addition, she works fulltime as administrative associate to the vice president for academic affairs.

“Bridgette is very deserving of this award,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “She sets a high standard as a student, in her work, and as a community volunteer. And she is a wonderful representative of the University who truly makes a difference by example.”

Hamill earned bachelor degrees in office systems management ('96) and criminal justice ('01) at Southeastern. The Durant native, who is married to Lee Hamill, is also very active in the community.

She has been involved with Families Feeding Families, the Tushka Tornado Disaster Relief, Students in Service Program, Relay for Life, Special Olympics, and coordinates the annual Academic Affairs Christmas Drive that supports an organization within the community.

Newman Civic Fellow awards are made in memory of Dr. Frank Newman, a founder of Campus Compact, who dedicated his life to creating systemic change through education reform. At the core of Newman’s leadership was a belief in the power of individuals to make a difference and in the power of connection with others. Frank Newman had a tremendous impact on American education and its role in the development of citizens who want to make a difference.

Hamill is one of 181 students from 36 states to receive the Newman recognition in 2013.

The Newman Civic Fellows Awards are made possible through the support of the KPMG Foundation.

Campus Compact is a national coalition of almost 1,200 college and university presidents who are committed to fulfilling the public purposes of higher education.

As the only national higher education association dedicated solely to campus-based civic engagement, Campus Compact promotes public and community service that develops students’ citizenship skills, helps forge effective community/campus partnerships, and provides resources and training for faculty seeking to integrate civic and community-based learning into the curriculum.

Campus Compact’s membership includes public, private, two- and four-year institutions across the spectrum of higher education.

Distinguished Research Award presented to Dr. Bressler

Dr. Martin Bressler, Associate Professor of Management in the John Massey School of Business at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, was recently honored with the Distinguished Research Award. This award was presented by the Academy of Legal, Ethical, and Regulatory Issues at the Allied Academies International Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Bressler’s paper, titled “Protecting your company’s intellectual property assets from cyber-espionage,” focuses on ways to protect and detect theft of company intellectual property assets.

The Southeastern professor is the author of more than 50 conference papers and more than 20 articles in academic journals and business publications.

In 1995, Bressler served as a Resource Panel Expert to the White House Conference on Small Business. He is also a Fulbright Scholar and Sam Walton Fellow.

Bressler joined the Southeastern faculty in 2010.

He earned his doctorate at the University of Sarasota, his master’s degree at Anna Marie College, and his bachelor’s at Worcester State College.
University hosts centennial Curriculum Contest

Southeastern Oklahoma State University hosted the centennial edition of the Oklahoma Inter-High School Curriculum Contest on March 28.

Dr. James Britton, Professor in the Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences Department, served as coordinator of the event.

The contest involved 2,000-plus students from 70 area high schools. They participated in 42 contests with trophies and medals awarded to winning schools and individuals.

Exams covered numerous subjects, including art, accounting, speech, journalism, literature, drama, modern languages, mathematics, science, English, social science, music, and computers.

The winning schools, by division, are listed below:

**Division 1**
1. Kiowa High School
2. Smithville High School
3. Coleman High School

**Division 2**
1. Latta High School
2. Calera High School
3. Haworth High School

**Division 3**
1. Plainview High School
2. Lone Grove High School
3. Valliant High School

**Division 4**
1. Durant High School
2. Broken Bow High School
3. Ardmore High School

The first Inter-High School Curriculum Meet, then known as the Southeastern High School Track Meet, was held May 7, 1910. By the spring of 1913, the event had expanded and the name was changed to “The Southeastern Oklahoma Inter-High School Track and Field Meet – Piano, Declamation and Oratorical Contest.”

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