**National Ranking**

*Southeastern rates 6th in producing Native American graduates*

Once again, Southeastern Oklahoma State University has been recognized nationally for its work with Native American students.

According to “Diverse Issues In Higher Education,” Southeastern ranks sixth in the nation in producing Native American graduates (all disciplines combined) in the Baccalaureate degree category. (Last year, Southeastern ranked 10th in all disciplines combined).

In the undergraduate category, Southeastern has 14 different fields represented in the national top 30. The University ranks number one in Engineering Technologies and Engineering-related fields (Occupational Safety & Health).

Each year, the magazine publishes its top 100 rankings of minority graduates. The report is based on preliminary data from the U.S. Department of Education.

Following are Southeastern’s national rankings, by major, in the top 100 degree producers list (Native American students) as released by “Diverse Issues In Higher Education.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate (Native American unless otherwise specified)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 – Engineering Technologies and Engineering-related fields (Occupational Safety &amp; Health)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 – Communication, Journalism, and related programs</td>
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<td>2 – Education</td>
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<td>2 – Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 – Finance and Financial Management Services</td>
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<td>3 – Liberal Arts and Sciences, General Studies and Humanities</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 – Biological and Biomedical Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 – All Disciplines combined</td>
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<td>6 – English Language and Literature/Letters</td>
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<td>6 – History</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 – Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 – Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 – Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support services</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 – Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 – Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields (Total Minority category)</td>
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Amy Gantt, recruitment and retention coordinator for the Chickasaw Nation Education Services Department, offers instruction at a Chickasaw Language class. It was one of many events at the Chickasaw Summer Leadership Academy at Southeastern. For more on the academy, see page four.
Southeastern Oklahoma State University hosted a kickoff event for the Oklahoma Community Anchor Network (OCAN) Aug. 6 in the Glen D. Johnson Student Union.

Guest speakers included Chancellor Glen D. Johnson, Rep. Dustin Roberts, Southeastern Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Douglas McMillan, East Central University president John Hargrave, State of Oklahoma Chief Information Officer for Education Matt Singleton, Oklahoma Department of Transportation Director of Capital Programs Tim Gatz, and OneNet executive director Von Royal.

OCAN is a partnership among the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE), the Oklahoma Office of Management and Enterprise Services and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

At Tuesday’s event, officials announced the completion of the Network.

Funded by a $74 million grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, OCAN is designed to deliver high-speed broadband services to rural and underserved Oklahoma. OCAN’s expanded broadband network encompasses 1,005 miles, reaching 35 Oklahoma counties. The network connects 33 community anchor institutions, including state colleges, universities, hospitals and local libraries, to the state’s existing networks.

Communities will access OCAN’s expanded network through OneNet, a division of OSRHE and Oklahoma’s only statewide Internet service provider. Educational institutions, health care providers, public services, and nonprofits will have the opportunity to connect to the network through OneNet. In addition, local telecommunications providers can partner with OCAN to extend services to the private sector. Through these public-private partnerships, OCAN will provide opportunities for small businesses and spur economic growth in Oklahoma’s rural communities.

“In today’s knowledge-based society, our students, from kindergarten through higher education, need access to technology that supports and enables their learning,” said Chancellor Johnson. “OCAN offers that access, bringing Oklahoma’s rural schools, colleges and universities the technology they need to stay competitive in today’s economy.”

Southeastern Oklahoma State University and the Department of Public Safety’s highway patrol troop headquarters in Durant both serve as community anchor institutions. At the university, the high-speed connection will create new opportunities for students.

“OCAN offers our students a competitive advantage when it comes to accessing online resources and distance education,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “It is another great example of how collaboration benefits our students and community partners.”

Several state agencies operate technology networks throughout Oklahoma, including each of the project partners and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority. OCAN bridges these disparate providers to form an aligned network reaching remote areas of the state not served by current networks.

OCAN’s high-speed broadband options will not only bring technology opportunities to rural Oklahoma, but also will create new levels of efficiencies for state and local government agencies and other community services.

“The Department of Transportation is not only a necessary partner in the routing and construction of this new network, but many of our remote facilities and operations enjoy enhanced Internet access and network connectivity,” said ODOT’s Director of Capitol Programs Tim Gatz. “Now that it’s operational, OCAN will have an important role in helping us take full advantage of the benefits and efficiencies offered by advancements in transportation business, asset management, communications and traffic operations technologies, and software.”
State group names SE’s Campbell ‘difference-maker’

The Journal Record has named Michele Campbell of Southeastern Oklahoma State University as one of its “50 Women Making A Difference in Oklahoma.”

Campbell serves as executive assistant to Southeastern president Larry Minks. Prior to her current role, Campbell served as Director of Continuing Education and served in various capacities in the TRIO program for 19 years. She was a TRIO program director for 10 of those years.

The 50 honorees will be honored at an awards gala and dinner on Oct. 3 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City. Also at that time, the “Woman of the Year” will be announced.

“Michele is very deserving of this recognition,” President Minks said. “It is a great honor not only for her but for the University as well. She is a great example of the quality of faculty, staff, and students that we have representing Southeastern.”

“There are so many amazing and accomplished women in Oklahoma and it is such an honor to provide them with the recognition they deserve,” said Mary Melon, president and publisher of The Journal Record. “The Journal Record started the Woman of the Year program in 1981 to recognize what was then called a growing segment of the workforce. Today, women play such a critical role in leading businesses, organizations, and communities and it is critically important to continue highlighting the difference they make and to build up future generations of leaders.”

Campbell was recently elected by the Leadership Oklahoma (LOK) Board of Directors to its executive committee for the upcoming year. In that capacity, Campbell will serve as Chair of the Adult Program Committee.

She is a graduate of LOK (Class XXIII) and is a class ambassador. LOK is a statewide leadership development program designed to identify, educate, and challenge the leaders of the state.

In addition, Campbell has been named to the Board of Advocates for the Peggy and Charles Stephenson Cancer Center at the University of Oklahoma. As an advocate, her primary responsibilities are to provide outreach opportunities in the Durant community and access to the Cancer Center system for their family, friends, or community members.

“I am very pleased to have been named to The Journal Record’s 50 Women Making A Difference in Oklahoma,” Campbell said. “I believe through education we can have significant impact on our students and ultimately all Oklahomans. I am privileged to have the opportunity to be a part of a team of people here at Southeastern that believe that as well and are truly making a difference.”

A Healdton native, Campbell earned bachelor and master degrees at Southeastern and is a Licensed Professional Counselor.

Student Union Lounge

Over the past year, a few additions have been made to the Glen D. Johnson Student Union at Southeastern. At left is a relaxing student lounge, which is located next to a new racquetball court. Also located nearby in the union are a gymnasium, walking track, and the Magnolia Eatery.
Southeastern hosts Chickasaw Summer Leadership Academy

The Chickasaw Summer Leadership Academy was held on the campus of Southeastern Oklahoma State University July 7-18.

The academy was sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation in coordination with the Native American Center for Student Success. Fourteen Chickasaw students participated in the two-week event. The purpose of the academy was to provide a college-like experience to the students.

Those experiences included living in Shearer Hall, attending classes, eating meals in the university cafeteria, and completing various assignments and tasks. Additionally, the students participated in cultural and recreational activities.

A highlight for the students was learning how to make traditional style woven baskets and learning the history of stickball with some hands-on experiences. Each student attending the academy was presented an iPad to assist them with note taking, web surfing, and photography of events.

“This was a truly remarkable academy for the students,” said Chris Wesberry, director of the Native American Center for Student Success at Southeastern. “Not only did they get the college experience at Southeastern, but they also participated in cultural activities and went to some fun places and met some special people. State Representative Lisa Johnson-Billy and Speaker of the House T.W. Shannon met with the group during an outing at the Chickasaw Nation in Ada.”

Fall classes begin Aug. 19

Fall classes at Southeastern Oklahoma State University will begin on Monday, August 19.

Prior to that, on Saturday, August 17, Southeastern president Larry Minks will welcome students and their parents at Freshman Convocation. That event will begin at 4:30 p.m. in Montgomery Auditorium (Morrison Hall).

Other key dates this fall include Parents, Family, and Friends Day on September 21, and Homecoming, October 4-5.