Scott Crain to address fall graduates

Local businessman and alumnus J. Scott Crain will be the speaker at Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Fall Commencement.

Commencement will be held on Saturday, December 14, in Bloomer Sullivan Arena. Two ceremonies will be held as follows:

**10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**
School of Arts & Sciences
John Massey School of Business
Master of Technology
Master of Science (Occupational Safety & Health)
Master of Business Administration
Master of Science (Aerospace Administration and Logistics)

**2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**
School of Education & Behavioral Sciences
Master of Arts (Clinical Mental Health Counseling)
Master of Education
Master of Arts (Teaching)
Master of Science (Sports Studies and Athletic Administration)

Scott Crain is a 1984 graduate of Southeastern, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Management. He is currently owner-operator of Texoma Manufacturing, LLC, and started his first manufacturing company (now Waste Quip) 25 years ago in Durant.

Crain has twice been a finalist for the Oklahoma Investment Forum’s Grace & Franklin Bernsen Oklahoma Venture of the Year Award, and has also been nominated for the SBA small business of the year.

A graduate of Durant High School, he is active in the community, having served as a founding member of the Durant Sports Association, which raised funds for the Durant Sports Complex. He was also a member of the Durant Community Facilities Authority, which oversaw the construction of the complex as well as the improvements at Paul Laird Football Field.

An ordained minister, Crain is a charter member and elder at Fusion Bible Church in Durant.

Crain and his wife Carol are the parents of Drew (a Southeastern graduate) and Chase. His father, Jim Crain, also graduated from Southeastern.

Scott Crain, a 1984 graduate of Southeastern, will be the Fall 2013 Commencement speaker.
Southeastern celebrates Native November with symposium, special events

Southeastern Oklahoma State University celebrated “Native November” with a number of special activities and events.

The 10th Native American Symposium was held on Nov. 14-15. The theme of this year’s symposium was “Native Ground: Protecting and Preserving History, Culture, and Customs.”

The keynote speaker for the Symposium banquet was Dr. Brad Lieb from the Chickasaw Nation’s Division of History and Culture. He also serves as president of the Mississippi Association of Professional Archaeologists.

Other activities throughout the month included the Native American Center for Student Success Open House Reception, SE Live and Native American Visitation Day, the Chickasaw Nation’s Cultural Renaissance and the Development of Family Ways of Thinking, the Chickasaw Cultural Center Field Trip to Sulphur, Oklahoma, Social Dancing and Stickball on the Front Lawn, and Native Student Debate and Traditional Storytelling.

Top 10 Freshman recipients recognized at ceremony in student union

The Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Office of Freshman Programs hosted the Top 10 Freshman Awards Ceremony recently in the Glen D. Johnson Student Union.

The honorees were selected by a committee of representatives from faculty, student government and University administration. The honorees have a collective grade-point average of 3.8 and are involved in numerous activities and leadership roles across campus.

The goal of the Top 10 Freshman Award is to recognize, celebrate and nurture the success of first-year students.

The 2012-13 Top 10 Freshman honorees are listed below by hometown (Oklahoma unless otherwise noted) and field of study:

- Madison Barr, Owasso, English Education; Sarrysa Eaves, Durant, Chemistry/Biology; Madison Elliott, Durant, Psychology; Morgan Hartwell, Bonham, Texas, Aviation-Professional Pilot; Sarah Hodson, Durant, Elementary Education; Aaron McAdams, Boswell, Mathematics; Michael Noah, Battiest, Communication; Taylor Scalf, Marlow, Early Childhood Education; Maddison Williams, Calera, Political Science/Sociology; and Kelecy Yanez, Wilson, Medical Sciences.

SE Live and Native American Visitation Day, college fair held on campus

A substantial number of prospective students were on the Southeastern campus recently at two events hosted by the University.

On Oct. 24, the Texoma Area College Fair was held at Bloomer Sullivan Arena. High school juniors and seniors were able to learn more about their higher education opportunities by visiting with representatives from 30 colleges and universities.

SE Live and Native American Visitation Day was held Nov. 6 and featured informative sessions, an organization fair, and campus tours. A total of 267 prospective SE students and 39 parents and/or teachers attended the event.

Dr. Wayne Jones named new Faculty Athletics Representative

Dr. Wayne Jones, chair of the Department of Occupational Safety & Health, has been appointed Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) at Southeastern.

The FAR is designated by the President to represent the institution and its faculty in the institution’s relationships with the NCAA and Great American Conference. In addition, the FAR works in conjunction with the President and Athletic Administrators to ensure a quality student-athlete experience and student-athlete well-being; ensure the academic integrity of the Athletics program; and ensure institutional control of the Athletics program.

Effective January 1, 2014, Dr. Jones will replace Dr. Jerry Polson, who is retiring and who has served as FAR for the past 18 years.
SE CARES assists students, receives grant from AT&T

College students may face numerous obstacles when working toward their goals. Academic preparedness and financial hardship are two such challenges.

But thanks to the SE CARES (Curricular Alternatives to Remedial Education Subjects) program, these issues are being addressed at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

SE CARES has three components that have been identified as best practices for college remediation. These include accelerated experiences, provided through summer workshops for new students; embedded remediation provided by incorporating remediation into gatekeeper credit-earning courses; and tutors to work with students through remediation.

The students participating in the summer accelerated programs do not pay extra for remediation and can take credit-earning courses in the fall, as opposed to having to pay full tuition and fees for these remedial courses. This allows the students to progress academically at the same rate as non-remediation students, and saves the student the extra expense of remediation. The embedded programs are also provided at no additional cost to the student.

For the summer and fall 2012 cohort, a total of 38 students participated in SE CARES. According to the most recent data, the SE CARES students outperformed their expected retention rate by 14.8 percentage points and had a higher grade point average than their peers.

And as a result of a $10,000 grant from AT&T, Southeastern is in a position to double the size of the cohort at no cost to the University.

“We’re proud to partner with Southeastern Oklahoma State University in this investment in our future,” said Jason Winborn, Area Manager of External Affairs for AT&T Oklahoma. “This investment in college readiness fuels and widens the talent pipeline for our business as well as every other business in our state and the nation.”

World champion cowboy Roy Cooper returns for clinic, ceremony

Legendary cowboy Roy Cooper was back in Durant Oct. 17-18 to host a breakaway and calf roping clinic at the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Equestrian Center.

In pre-game ceremonies at the Southeastern-Southwestern football game at Paul Laird Field, Cooper presented his 1975 championship saddle to University president Larry Minks, SE rodeo coach-equestrian center manager Christi Braudrick, and Cooper Ratliff. Cooper is a sophomore at Southeastern and is the son of the late SE rodeo coach Betty Gayle Cooper-Ratliff and the nephew of Roy.
Retirement reception honors Dr. Polson

A retirement reception honoring Dr. Jerry Polson was held Dec. 2 in the Visual & Performing Arts Center at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Currently Professor of Physics and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs – Outreach and Research/Dean of Graduate Studies, Polson will retire effective December 31, 2013, after 44 years of service.

He served as Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Computer and Physical Sciences for 20 years and also contributed to the University by his membership and involvement with the Curriculum Committee, NCA Steering Committee, Budget Committee, General Education Committee, Academic Council, Administrative Council, Distance Learning Council, as well as Chairman of the Faculty Senate and Faculty Athletics Representative.

Polson is also active in the community as a member of the Durant City Council.

Dr. Jerry Polson was honored with a retirement reception after 44 years of service to the University.

Calendar of Events

December
13 University Candlelighting Ceremony, Montgomery Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
14 Commencement, Bloomer Sullivan Arena, 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.
24-27 Christmas vacation
30-31 Christmas vacation

January
13 First day of Spring classes
20 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service (no classes, offices open)

February
5 SE Live
11 Higher Education Day at the Oklahoma State Capitol

March
1 Alumni Association Gold & Blue Scholarship Gala
6 Founders’ Day
17-21 Spring Break

April
18 Easter holiday

May
10 Spring Commencement

Southeastern Oklahoma State University, in compliance with Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, disability, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices, or procedures. This includes but is not limited to admissions, employment, financial aid, and educational services. This publication is issued by the Southeastern Oklahoma State University Office of University Communications and was printed by SE Printing Services of Durant, Oklahoma. One-hundred-fifty copies have been prepared for distribution at a cost of $120 to the taxpayers of the State of Oklahoma.

Update Editor
Alan Burton
Director
University Communications

www.SE.edu
1.800.435.1327

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