University, community celebrate open house

Southeastern Oklahoma State University celebrated its history June 14 with a community-wide open house that featured speakers, a ribbon-cutting, live music, campus tours, and cold watermelon.

An impressive crowd of civic leaders, community members, faculty, staff, and students gathered on the front lawn of Morrison Hall to take part in the festivities.

Speakers on the program included Southeastern president Larry Minks, Student Government Association president Demetra Wilkerson, mayor Jerry Tomlinson, city manager James Dunegan, executive director of the chamber of commerce Janet Reed, chamber members of the month Vann Dixon, Tommy Kramer, and Cindy Kirkpatrick, and David Norris, professor emeritus of history.

“The University is indeed proud to be a part of this dynamic community, and we thank you for celebrating this historical day with us – as the first day of classes at Southeastern Normal School were held on June 14, 1909,” Minks told the audience.

A symbolic ribbon-cutting concluded the program, and music was provided by Logan Russell and Zach Ray.

The crowd poses for the symbolic ribbon cutting in front of Morrison Hall at the June 14 open house.
Business professor receives ACBSP teaching award

The Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) proudly announces that Dr. Lawrence S. Silver of Southeastern Oklahoma State University has received the 2012 ACBSP Teaching Excellence Award for the Southwestern Council (Region 6).

The ACBSP recognizes individuals each year who exemplify teaching excellence in the classroom. The University of Indianapolis – Athens Campus is the financial sponsor for the 2012 award.

Silver, associate professor of management and marketing, will be honored, along with other regional recipients, at the 2012 ACBSP Annual Conference, June 15-18 in Baltimore, Maryland. He will receive a medallion and a $100 check.

Two International Teaching Excellence Award recipients will be announced at a special Salute to Regions luncheon, one from a baccalaureate/graduate degree-granting institution and one from an associate degree-granting institution. As a regional recipient, Silver is now a candidate for the international award.

“I am honored to receive this award and I am proud to represent the truly outstanding faculty of the John Massey School of Business,” Silver said.

“Dr. Silver is very deserving of this recognition,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “His ability to relate to students is a real asset and enhances the learning process in the classroom. The quality teaching of such faculty members as Dr. Silver plays a big role in the recruiting and retention of students (to Southeastern).”

Silver, who joined the John Massey School of Business faculty at Southeastern in 2006, earned his bachelor’s degree at Tulane University and his graduate degrees at Louisiana Tech University.

The Associate Degree Commission of ACBSP established the International Teaching Excellence Award in 1995 to recognize outstanding classroom teachers. In 2002, the Baccalaureate Degree Commission created a similar award to recognize excellence in teaching at the baccalaureate degree level. ACBSP is the only specialized accrediting body for business schools that presents an award recognizing excellence in teaching, open to application by the entire membership.

“It is more important than ever for business programs to produce graduates who are ready to enter the global marketplace,” said Douglas Viehland, ACBSP executive director. “ACBSP has a mission to develop, promote and recognize best practices that contribute to continuous improvement of business education. Recognition of teaching excellence is one way we achieve this goal,” he stated.

ACBSP currently has more than 1,051 member campuses in 50 countries and 10 regions.

National counseling publication includes Dr. Weigel in recent article

Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Dr. Daniel J. Weigel was one of six members of the American Counseling Association recently interviewed in the “Counseling Today” publication.

This was the second interview this year for Weigel, Associate Professor of Counseling in the Department of Behavioral Sciences.

Weigel’s first interview with the publication was for his volunteer work in New York City for the 10-year anniversary of 9/11.

The most recent interview concerned the thought processes behind individual counselors’ decisions on whether to specialize or develop a more general practice.

“Counseling Today is a publication that reaches more than 50,000 counselors nationwide,” Weigel said. “I am glad to give a voice to the rural mental health counselor since most of our students in the Counseling Master’s degree program fit into this category.”

Weigel earned his bachelor and master’s degrees at the University of South Dakota and completed his doctorate at Idaho State University.

He joined the Southeastern faculty in 2002 as an Assistant Professor in Psychology and Counseling and was promoted to Associate Professor of Counseling in 2007.
Presidential Golf Classic attracts large field

Durant’s Vision Bank fired a 51 on June 8 to claim the championship of Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Presidential Golf Classic at Chickasaw Pointe Golf Club.

The Classic is the major fund-raiser for the Southeastern Foundation and proceeds go for scholarships and other University needs.

The final figures aren’t complete, but the 2012 Classic should produce between $20,000 and $25,000 as a great turnout made this one of the more successful events over the 15-year history of the Classic.

Vision Bank nipped Landmark Bank and the team of Dr. Chris Sturch, M.D., by one stroke with Landmark Bank taking second place on a card playoff.

Members of the winning team had their names engraved on the President’s Cup and each member received $100 Chickasaw Pointe Pro Shop gift certificates.

Go Red River to assist Texas students with transportation

Public transportation across the Red River will be a reality this fall when the Texoma Area Paratransit System (TAPS) bus route will transport riders between Texas and Oklahoma.

The Go Red River project is a grant-funded partnership between the two states to assist students and employees who travel state-to-state.

TAPS Public Transportation has teamed up with Southeastern Oklahoma State University, SORTS Public Transportation, Choctaw Nation Career Development, and Victory Life Academy to make this service possible.

Kathy Hendrick, Director of the Center for Regional Competitiveness, is Southeastern’s representative for this new project.

Hendrick said, “This project has been a long time coming and we are so excited that it is now a reality. With the job growth in our region, traffic has increased significantly. This service will provide a safer and more cost-effective solution for our students who travel to and from campus each day.

“The shuttle service will also be a benefit to the employer and employee. The shuttle will allow employees to save money on gas and vehicle maintenance as well as provide an alternative if car trouble is experienced, which will aid in getting the employee to work safely and on time.”

This new service will be a tremendous help to Southeastern students from Texas. It will provide worry-free transportation, allow extra time for study and eliminate the need for parking places on campus in an absolute win-win situation for all concerned.

TAPS already has highly successful routes to Austin College and Grayson College. Numerous inquiries for rides across the river formed the basis for this new service.

Riders will be able to sit back, relax, save on fuel, enjoy free WIFI, and enjoy the ride from state-to-state.

There will be three routes: Southeastern will have the Storm Route; the Eagle Route serves Durant’s Victory Life Academy; the Go Red River route provides transportation for employees commuting between the two states.

The shuttle service is also considered public transportation. The public will be able to access the shuttle at the drop-off and pick-up points.

Costs have been established at $1 per trip or $20 per month for unlimited trips.
TRIO open house

Southeastern president Larry Minks, left, and Dean Bruce King, far right, join Julie Jefferson, Guidance Specialist – Talent Search, Michelle Frazier, Guidance Specialist – Educational Opportunity Center, and Terence Butler, Guidance Specialist – Upward Bound, outside the newly-renovated TRIO offices at the Southeastern McCurtain County campus. Some 30 people attended the TRIO Office Suite open house on June 28, including SE-MCC Advisory Board members Ted Brewer, Danny Coursey, and Betty Pollard.

Classes begin August 20

Fall 2012 classes will begin at Southeastern Oklahoma State University on Monday, August 20. Prior to that, on August 18, Freshman Convocation will be held in Montgomery Auditorium.

Calendar of Events

July
1-2 Camp SE orientation
15-16 Camp SE orientation
29-30 Camp SE orientation
30 University returns to five-day workweek

August
15 New Faculty orientation, 8 a.m.
16 Faculty and Staff general meeting, Montgomery Auditorium, 9 a.m.
18 Freshman Convocation, Montgomery Auditorium, 4:30 p.m.
20 Fall classes begin
23 True Blue Community Spirit Kickoff, Paul Laird Field, 5 p.m.
25 Southeastern Athletics Hall of Fame reception and banquet, Visual & Performing Arts Center, 4:30 p.m & 5:30 p.m.

September
3 Labor Day holiday
8 Presidential Partners event, Visual & Performing Arts Center
15 Parents Day
28-29 Homecoming

October
18-19 Fall Break
25 Texoma Area College Fair

November
7 SE Live open house, Montgomery Auditorium, 8 a.m.
21-23 Thanksgiving holidays

December
3 University Candlelighting, Montgomery Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.
14 Last day of Fall classes
15 Commencement

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