Southeastern Oklahoma State University held Spring Commencement on May 11 at Paul Laird Field.

Regent Terry Matlock, chair of the Board of Regents of the Regional University System of Oklahoma, was the commencement speaker. Regent John Massey of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education also offered welcoming remarks.

This year’s class included 106 first-generation graduates. This class also featured students from 20 states and a dozen countries.

Photos, clockwise from top left: Regent Terry Matlock congratulates a graduate; Southeastern president Larry Minks poses for a photo with a graduate; the view at Paul Laird Field; and Regent John Massey offers greetings from the State Regents. Please see page 4 for a list of this spring’s honor graduates.
OSRHE partnership award recognizes TAPS, Southeastern

Twenty-seven business and higher education partnerships throughout the state were recently recognized for innovative collaborations that strengthen Oklahoma’s economic development efforts and workforce.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education’s Economic Development Grant for the Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award is designed to highlight successful partnerships between higher education institutions and businesses and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents’ Economic Development Grants.

Among the honorees were Southeastern Oklahoma State University and TAPS Public Transit, who have partnered to provide transportation for students and business commuters from Texas to Oklahoma.

“These successful partnerships link real-world business experiences to the higher education process,” said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. “One of the key benefits from these partnerships is the results-driving solutions generated to resolve business problems.”

The Southeastern and TAPS two-state shuttle project began in Fall 2012. Through a grant from the Texas Department of Transportation, TAPS provides public transportation for students to the Southeastern campus in Durant and for employees to such Durant businesses as Alorica, Choctaw Casino, and Delaware North. The future goal for this service is to grow its ridership as it continues to connect Oklahoma and Texas while creating a positive economic impact on the region, its employers, and future Southeastern graduates.

Institutions involved in these partnerships provide $500 for tuition waivers to employees of the partnering businesses; internships for current students of the institutions to work at the partnering businesses; faculty externships with the partnering businesses; and/or enhancement of the partnerships with additional equipment, materials or supplies. The State Regents provide a $500 match to the tuition waivers.

Attending the awards ceremony were, left to right, Chancellor Glen D. Johnson, Kathy Hendrick, director of the Southeastern Center for Regional Competitiveness, TAPS CEO Brad Underwood, Dr. Aaron Adair, Southeastern Assistant Dean of Distance and Adult Education, and Oklahoma Lt. Gov. Todd Lamb.

Dates scheduled in June, July for SE Camp orientation sessions

Southeastern Oklahoma State University has scheduled Camp SE for June 23-24, July 21-22 and July 28-29 on campus.

Camp SE Online will not start until after the first week of school.

Camp SE ($80 per student) or Camp SE Online ($50 per student) are required for all new students attending Southeastern. The camp is an overnight experience involving students and parents, offering an introduction to campus life and the many resources available to Southeastern students. Information will be available on campus traditions, history and involvement opportunities. Activities include a night in Shearer Hall and Suites and meals in the University café.

For information on Camp SE and to enroll, please visit www.SE.edu <http://SE.edu>.
Dr. Blythe Duell named to Top 20 Professors’ List

Dr. Blythe Duell of Southeastern Oklahoma State University has been named one of the Top 20 Women Professors in Oklahoma. The goal of the top professors list is to highlight post-secondary educators who have been awarded recently for excellence in the classroom, on campus, and/or in the community.

Duell is an assistant professor of psychology. She joined the Southeastern faculty in 2008, and was the recipient of the University’s Faculty Senate Professor of the Year award in 2012. She grew up in Laramie, Wyoming, and received her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Wyoming. Duell earned her Master’s and Ph.D. in Experimental Social Psychology from Washington State University.

Duell teaches courses in statistics, research methods, social psychology, and psychology of gender. She enjoys music, reading, and spending time with her husband and 7-month-old daughter.

“I am incredibly honored and humbled to have been selected for this award,” Duell said. “I can’t tell you how much I enjoy teaching and engaging young people in discussions about psychology. I am profoundly lucky to make a living doing something that doesn’t even feel like “work” most days.”

“Dr. Duell is very deserving of this recognition,” said Southeastern president Larry Minks. “During her time at Southeastern, she has certainly distinguished herself in teaching, scholarship, and service. She serves as a great example of the quality faculty that we have on campus.”

Also honored in the Top 20 by Online Schools Oklahoma was Dr. Jeretta Horn Nord, professor of management science and information systems at Oklahoma State University’s Spears School of Business, and Dr. Amanda Minks, Reach for Excellence Assistant Professor in the University of Oklahoma Honors College.

Nord is a graduate of Southeastern who was honored with the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 2008, and is the author-founder of the “A Cup of Cappuccino for the Entrepreneur’s Spirit” book series. The third volume, “Women Entrepreneurs’ Edition,” was named among the Best of 2010 Small Business Books by SmallBizTrends.com. 2008.

Minks is the daughter of President Minks and Joan. She teaches with the Departments of Anthropology, Native American Studies, Gender and Women’s Studies, and Musicology. Her honors courses focus on music, language, and cultural politics in the Americas.

Dr. Jon Reid elected to lead organization board

Attendees of the 35th Annual Conference of the Association for Death Education and Counseling (ADEC) recently celebrated the inauguration of Jon K. Reid as President of the organization’s board of directors.

ADEC is a multidisciplinary, international, professional organization dedicated to promoting excellence and recognizing diversity in death education, care of the dying, grief counseling and research in thanatology (the scientific study of death).

Its membership includes a wide array of mental and medical health personnel, educators, clergy, funeral directors and volunteers in the field of dying, death and bereavement.

Dr. Reid is a Professor of Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, where he previously served as Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and founded the annual Behavioral Sciences Scholarship Workshop.

He is a Licensed Professional Counselor-Supervisor (Texas), a National Certified Counselor (NBCC), and a Fellow in Thanatology (ADEC).

Reid earned his Ph.D. at Texas Woman’s University, his master’s at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and his bachelor’s at Midwestern State University.

He has been a member of the Southeastern faculty since 1993.

“ADEC has been my professional home for almost 20 years, providing opportunities for networking, continuing education and professional growth,” Reid said. “I am honored to serve in a leadership role for ADEC to help perpetuate the organization for future professionals in the field.”

Prior to his installation as President of the ADEC Board of Directors, Reid served in several ADEC capacities, including 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, annual conference co-chair (2009), as well as on several ADEC committees and task forces.

He has been an active member of the organization for 19 years.
Thirty-five honor graduates recognized at commencement

Thirty-five students graduated with honors May 11 at Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Spring Commencement.

Below are the honor graduates, listed by permanent hometown:

Summa Cum Laude (with highest honors)
William Coltin Birdsong, Lane, Oklahoma; Rachel LeAnne Callicoat, Tushka, Oklahoma; Stacie Lauren Collins, Sherman, Texas; Kayli Marie Dyer, Velma-Alma, Oklahoma; Jacob Zack Leatherwood, Durant, Oklahoma; Alec Stephen Maloy, Houston, Texas; Brea Michelle McMillan, Dickson, Oklahoma; Cassidy Leigh Percer, Boswell, Oklahoma.

Magna Cum Laude (with high honors)
Dillon Clay Allred, Velma, Oklahoma; Austee Lynn Anderson, Palmyra, Missouri; Bryanna Chae Bradshaw, Pottsboro, Texas; Tony R. Clendening, Eufaula, Oklahoma; Ronald L. Daggs, Choctaw, Oklahoma; Jason Matthew Freeman, Wilburton, Oklahoma; Ronald Kirk Fuquay Jr., Tom Bean, Texas; Adam Ryan Grant, Ector, Texas; Chance Allen Grider, Blanchard, Oklahoma; Joshua Stephen Hightower, Ardmore, Oklahoma; Hem Raj Sapkota, Durant, Oklahoma; Houston Reed Slemp, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Charles Ray Smith Jr., Durant, Oklahoma; Angel DeJesus Vilchis, Bromide, Oklahoma; Darrin A. Wade, Houston, Texas.

Cum Laude (with honors)
Colton James Ammerer, Antlers, Oklahoma; Brooks Randolph Beall, Stillwater, Oklahoma; Emily Rose Garrett, Kemp, Oklahoma; Landon Kayne Johnson, Caddo, Oklahoma; Megan Mary Johnson, Troy, Texas; Wesley Kyle Johnston, Colbert, Oklahoma; Aaron Lee Jones, Paris, Texas; Joseph C. LaGrone, Athens, Texas; Raj Kumar Lamichhane, Bhaktapur; Kayla Rae Miller, Bartlesville, Oklahoma; Halley Ashlyn Palmer, Greenville, Texas; Gwendolyn Joy Simmons, Denison, Texas.

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Calendar of Events

June
3 Summer classes begin
4 E3 Summit with Chancellor Glen D. Johnson, keynote speaker, general classroom building, 8 a.m. -- 1:30 p.m.
14 Presidential Golf Classic, Chickasaw Pointe Golf Club
23-24 Camp SE orientation

July
4 Independence Day holiday
7-18 Chickasaw Nation Leadership Academy
21-22 Camp SE orientation
28-29 Camp SE orientation

August
6 Oklahoma Community Anchor Network (OCAN) kickoff event, Glen D. Johnson Student Union atrium, 10 a.m.
15 Faculty-Staff General meeting, Montgomery Auditorium, 9 a.m.
19 Fall classes begin

September
2 Labor Day holiday
7 Presidential Partners event, Visual & Performing Arts Center

October
4-5 Homecoming
17-18 Fall Break

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.

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