Students, faculty, staff, and administrators from throughout Oklahoma participated in Higher Education Day at the State Capitol on February 21. In this photo, members of the Southeastern Oklahoma State University delegation gather with Rep. Dustin Roberts, Rep. R.C. Pruett, and Sen. Josh Brecheen. Throughout the day, college officials had the opportunity to promote higher education through discussions with their elected officials. The six Regional University System of Oklahoma institutions also hosted a breakfast, which included comments from Chancellor Glen D. Johnson.
Southeastern participates in Choctaw U initiative

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Learning & Development Department in partnership with Southeastern Oklahoma State University is proud to announce the launch of its newest endeavor, Choctaw University.

The purpose of Choctaw University (Choctaw U) is to grow knowledge and skills of all associates by instilling a deeper understanding of their purpose within the organization. Participants will receive superior 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.

According to Susan Stockton, executive director of Human Resources for the Choctaw Nation, “Developing highly skilled, highly qualified workers is the goal of every organization. Choctaw University is about more than professional development … it’s about empowering our associates to advance and succeed in the organization while achieving the dream of higher education.”

The five levels of training within Choctaw U mirror that of a standard university. The official launch of Choctaw U was Jan. 26, 2012. More than 100 people have made the first year-long commitment to Choctaw U.

The participants attended the orientation at Choctaw Casino and Resorts in Durant. During the meeting, participants learned how the program builds on Chief Greg 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.

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma and Southeastern Oklahoma State University have created a partnership with a goal of achieving college credit for the Leadership Series of Choctaw U. Courses included in this agreement are Leading Generational Diversity, Transformational Leadership, Managing People, Effective Coaching and Mentoring, Change Management, and Succession Planning.

“We are enabling our associates to grow into positions across our many business enterprises while helping them complete their college education,” says Tana Sanders, director of Learning and Development.

Gold & Blue event raises funds for scholarships

Southeastern alumni president Mark Webb, event chair Mary Frank, and auctioneer Scott Moore are at work at the Gold & Blue alumni fundraiser on February 11. The live auction raised more than $10,000 for the alumni scholarship fund. Dinner, dancing, a silent auction, and casino games were also a part of the evening’s “Denim & Diamonds” theme.

SE Live features campus tours and more

High school seniors and juniors are shown taking a campus tour February 8 at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. The tours were in conjunction with SE Live Open House, which provides an opportunity for students to experience what life is like as a Southeastern student. Students attended workshops on Scholarships and Financial Aid, Southeastern Traditions, and a College Success class. Other highlights of the day included entertainment by several of Southeastern’s performing groups, including the Sparks Dance Team.
Students enrolled in a business management course at Southeastern Oklahoma State University are using a new textbook this semester – a textbook with a cover that features a photograph of the namesake of the John Massey School of Business.

The photo, taken by University photographer Dan Hoke, shows Regent Massey standing outside the Russell Building, which houses the John Massey School of Business.

“Management and Organizational Behavior” is the title of the course (MNGT 3113) and the textbook, which is designed as an introductory text to the management curriculum at the school. It also includes a one-page preface that dedicates the book to Regent Massey.

A group of business faculty members, including Dr. C.W. Von Bergen (John Massey Endowed Chair in Management), Dr. Kitty Campbell (Interim Chair of Management & Marketing), and Dr. Jane Licata (recently retired), came up with the idea for the project.

“We worked with the publisher (McGraw-Hill) to design a customized textbook to specifically meet the needs of Southeastern students,” Von Bergen said. “At the same time, we thought it would provide a great opportunity for the business faculty to recognize Regent Massey for his support of Southeastern and higher education.”

Massey has been a tireless advocate for higher education, and is currently serving his third nine-year term as a member of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

“I’m very grateful for this honor and I’m excited about Southeastern’s School of Business,” Massey said. “I’m truly optimistic about the future and proud of the quality of education young people can get at Southeastern.”

Massey earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1960. In 1984, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Southeastern; in 2005, the School of Business was named the John Massey School of Business. At his alma mater, Massey has established seven endowed chairs and four professorships.

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**Miles’ article appears in ‘Chronicles’**

Dennis Miles, Technical Access and Public Services Librarian for the Henry G. Bennett Memorial Library at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, is a featured author in the Fall 2011 edition of the “Chronicles of Oklahoma.”

This is the official publication of the Oklahoma Historical Society, and it features several scholarly articles on Oklahoma history in each issue.

Miles’ article – “Educate or We Perish; The Armstrong Academy’s History as Part of the Choctaw Educational System,” is an in-depth look at the Armstrong Academy, one of eight boarding schools established by the Choctaw Nation in the 1840s. Armstrong Academy was built to educate Choctaw boys.

“It was a fun project,” Miles said. “I enjoy doing research. The hard part is putting it all together in form to write.”

Copies of the Chronicles of Oklahoma may be found in the Southeastern library and at most libraries in the state.

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**Skip Robinson authors textbook**

“Proper Form, Pure & Simple” is the title of a new textbook by Horace ‘Skip’ Robinson, Director of Southeastern Oklahoma State University’s Center for Rhetoric and Professional Development.

This is a guide for English grammar that reads as easily as a story. It’s a fresh, simple approach to the basic fundamentals of proper English form, designed to communicate in understandable terms with the learner who is unsure of his/her language skills.

“Proper Form, Pure & Simple” uses a one-step-at-a-time formula that begins at the beginning and does not assume the reader has a given amount of skill in using proper form.

Robinson taught Latin and speech at Sherman (Texas) High School and spent some time in the business world before a four-year stint in Southeastern’s John Massey School of Business, followed by seven years in the English Department.
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For a complete schedule of Southeastern athletic events, visit www.GoSoutheastern.com

Update Editor
Alan Burton
Director
University Communications

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March
8 Educational Technology Fair, Bloomer Sullivan Arena, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
19-23 Spring break
29 Curriculum Contest

April
3 SE Live! Transfer Enrollment Day, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
5 Tri-County Honors program, Visual & Performing Arts Center
6 Good Friday holiday
14 Aviation fish fry
23 Faculty-Staff recognition banquet
26 President’s Leadership Class orientation
30 President’s Leadership Class graduation

May
11 Last day of spring classes
12 Commencement

Campus police chief retires

Southeastern Oklahoma State University president Larry Minks, left, presents a resolution to Jon Clouse, who retired at the end of February as Director/Chief of Security and Safety at the University. Clouse served Southeastern for 24 years, working as a Patrolman, Lieutenant, Director of Security and Safety, and finally as Director/Chief of Security and Safety. Stacy Ballew will assume the duties of Interim Chief of Police, and Steve Harman will serve as Interim Chief of Environmental Safety & Health.

McMillan named VP for Academic Affairs

Dr. Douglas N. McMillan has been named Vice President for Academic Affairs at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. He had previously served as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The action was approved at the February 24 meeting of the Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents, which was held on the Southeastern campus.

McMillan joined the University in 1990, and has served in such capacities as Professor of Psychology and Counseling, as well as Vice President for Educational Outreach and Project Development.

He earned his Ph.D. at Oklahoma State University and his bachelor and master’s degrees at Midwestern State University and the University of Southern Mississippi, respectively.