



Southeastern to resume face-to-face classes in fall

Southeastern Oklahoma State University employees will start returning to campus on June 1 as part of a phased in approach during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the first step as the University begins planning for the return of students for face-to-face classes this fall.

“We are looking forward to having our students back on campus as we begin fall classes on August 17,” said Southeastern president Thomas Newsom. “Until that time, we are working to ensure that we provide a safe and healthy environment for our students, faculty, staff, and community.”

On June 1, approximately 30% of the University’s workforce will be on site, according to a recommendation by a task force established by Dr. Newsom. Since late March, most employees have been teleworking, while students completed their studies online. Summer classes are currently underway in an online format.

On June 15, an additional 30% of workers are scheduled to be back on campus, with the goal of the entire staff being on board in early July.

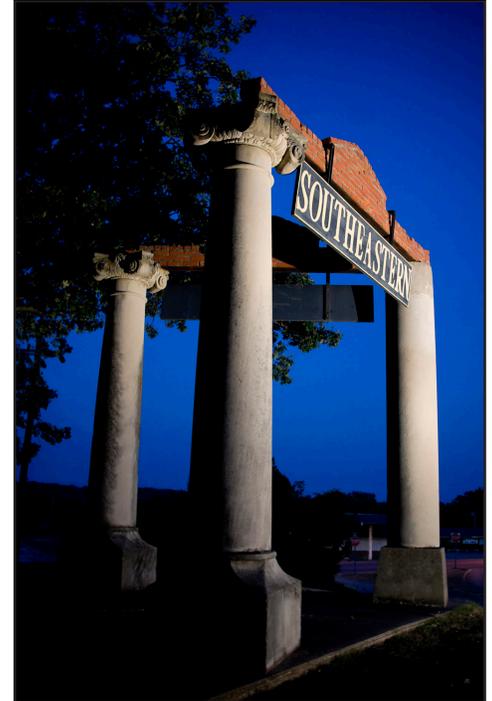
A date has not been set for when the campus will re-open to the public.

Before returning to work, employees will complete safety and health training. All facilities will be cleaned on a regular basis, and employees will be provided with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) kits. In addition, a comprehensive Return to Work plan has been developed and distributed to faculty and staff.

The 15-member task force includes University administrators, faculty and staff, a student, and community members. Dr. Newsom and Regent Amy Anne Ford of the Regional University System of Oklahoma are ex officio members. The group, which meets bi-weekly, is charged with making recommendations on how Southeastern can safely and responsibly repopulate the campus in anticipation of the Fall 2020 semester.

The task force is following guidelines provided by the American College Health Association.

In addition to the task force, subcommittees are being formed for issues related to instruction, on-campus living, events, and athletics.



University earns high marks for services during pandemic

Southeastern Oklahoma State University has been recognized as one of the top schools in the nation in providing a quality education during the COVID-19 economic crisis.

Educate to Career (ETC), a non-profit organization, ranks Southeastern among the Tier 1 schools (the top level). The 2020 ETC College Rankings rate 1,200 schools by their ability to offer a quality education under any conceivable scenario: in-classroom, online, and a blend of each format. Colleges that rank in Tier 1 must meet the following criteria:

- A physical campus for in-classroom instruction should the health authorities allow colleges to open in the fall
- Robust software and systems to support distance learning programs
- Faculty experience in teaching online
- Reasonable tuitions & fees on a relative basis

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Faculty Senate presents annual awards

The Faculty Senate at Southeastern Oklahoma State University recently announced its award recipients for this year.



Clark



Coker



Ridenour

Among the honorees were Dr. Bryon Clark, retired interim president, Lifetime Achievement Award; Riley Coker, Professor of the Year; and Alisha Ridenour, Adjunct Professor of the Year.

Awards were also presented for teaching, service, and scholarship in the School of Arts & Sciences (A&S), School of Education & Behavioral Sciences (EBS), and John Massey School of Business (JMSB).

Following is the complete list of Faculty Senate Award recipients:

Teaching:

- Alex Spahn (A&S)
- Jack Ousey (A&S)
- Dr. Kate Shannon (EBS)
- Cody Bogard (JMSB)

Service:

- Dr. Karl Frinkle (A&S)

- Dr. Michael Scheuerman (A&S)
- Dr. Barbara McClanahan (EBS)
- Dr. Kitty Campbell (JMSB)

Scholarship:

- Dr. Jonathan Zhang (A&S)
- Dr. Randy Clark (A&S)
- Dr. Kathy Boothe (EBS)
- Dr. Martin Bressler (JMSB)

Professor of the Year: Riley Coker

Adjunct Professor of the Year: Alisha Ridenour

Lifetime Achievement: Dr. Bryon Clark

Buckingham, Webb named Athletes of the Year at SE



Buckingham

The celebrated basketball duo of Kevin Buckingham and Katie Webb was named Athletes of the Year at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Both Buckingham and Webb set numerous records in leading their respective teams to the NCAA post-season tournament.

The Athletics Department announced its 2019-2020 season awards virtually instead of the annual banquet due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The “Savage Sports Awards Home Edition” was presented by the Student Athlete Advisory Committee with awards and other recognitions being released daily in late May on www.GoSoutheastern.com as well as on athletics social media channels.

Awards featured the most valuable player from each sport, recognition of conference championships and All-Americans, and the male and female athletes of the

year.

Following is the complete list of Most Valuable Player recipients, listed by individual sport:

- Football—Josh Mulumba
- Cross Country--Rebekah Christman
- Volleyball—Caitlin Cosby
- Women’s Basketball—Katie Webb
- Men’s Basketball—Kevin Buckingham
- Baseball—Colton Buckner
- Softball—Symphoni Shomo
- Women’s Track—Rebekah Christman
- Golf—Jordan Holyfield
- Men’s Tennis—Manuel Pilotto
- Women’s Tennis—Elizareta Tregubova
- Men’s Rodeo-- Dylan Rigins and Gus Franzen
- Women’s Rodeo--Martie Shockley and Kaycee Hollingback

Athletes of the Year—Kevin Buckingham, Katie Webb



Webb

CARES Act distributes \$1 million to Southeastern students

Southeastern Oklahoma State University has distributed \$1,059,075 to Southeastern students as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

These funds have been designated to provide emergency financial aid grants to students for expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to coronavirus (including eligible expenses under a student's cost of attendance such as food, housing, course materials, technology, health care, and child care).

Some 2,557 students received the SE CARES Act grants, with the amount based on the number of credit

Shelter for the Storm fund created

In addition to the CARES funding, the “Shelter for the Storm” fund has been created through the Southeastern Foundation to assist students with challenges related to the pandemic and future issues that might arise.

This fund will assist students whose higher education journey has been impacted by the current health crisis; however, the fund will also become a permanent tool for the university to utilize in assisting students in the future.

To learn more about or to contribute to the Shelter for the Storm fund, visit <https://www.se.edu/giving/give-here/>

(except for those possessing a permanent resident card-Green Card), and students enrolled in fully online programs were not eligible.

hours in which they were enrolled in during Spring 2020.

According to federal guidelines, full or part-time students were eligible for the funds based on their ability to apply for or having previously applied for federal financial aid or Title IV aid, such as Pell, SEOG (Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant), federal work study, and student loans.

Based on federal guidance, concurrent students, students who previously identified as a felon, international students

Online learning, affordability key in ETC rankings

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“We are constantly looking for ways to assist our students, whether it be in academic delivery mode or financial assistance,” said Southeastern president Thomas Newsom. “Utilizing funding through the federal CARES Act, we were able to distribute more than one million dollars directly to our students recently to help with expenses related to the disruption of campus operations due to the pandemic. A total of 2,557 of our students received varying amounts of assistance. In addition, the University has established the “Shelter for the Storm” fund through the Southeastern Foundation to assist students with challenges related to the pandemic and future issues that might arise.”

In 2014, ETC first released a system for ranking colleges which was based upon the ‘economic value’ created by the colleges the organization scored.

The system revolutionized college rankings because it was based on economic metrics, including colleges’ abilities to graduate students at a reasonable total cost, and to get them into the labor market with high relative earnings.

With the COVID crisis everything has changed regarding college selection criteria. With ETC’s new rankings system, a ‘distance learning’ component is mandatory for a high ranking simply because there is a real possibility that at least some instruction will be done via the Internet. Schools that have systems and experience in distance learning, with a campus to support in-classroom teaching have the right formula for today. And factoring in that the U.S. is now in the midst of a deep recession, tuition is also a primary consideration.

Southeastern is one of 15 schools in Oklahoma to earn Tier I status.

Tri-County Honors program recognizes high school students

Ninety-five students from 15 area schools were recognized as part of the Tri-County Honors program this year.

The students received medals and certificates for their academic and leadership accomplishments.

First United Bank is the corporate sponsor of the program, while Southeastern Oklahoma State University is the education sponsor. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, an awards banquet was not held.

The honorees are listed below by school:

Achille High School: Austin Landrum, Paxton Hutchings, Leah Kelly, Sierra Morris, Trent Gibby

Bennington High School: Talon McWilliams, Anhelica Rubio, Kenny McDaniel, Makenzie Atwood, Alexis Gibson

Boswell High School: Jarrett McIntyre, Madelynn Phillips, Sloan Green, Jilyn Dawson

Caddo High School: Jordon Perrazo, Mikayla Crosslen, John Boyd, Karson Peevyhouse, Kinsey Dixon, K.W. Adair

Calera High School: Jaylie Garcia, Angelle Dotson, Joseph Perkins, Aaron West

Colbert High School: Wesley Booth, Areil Love, Jon Crowson, Tanda Usrey

Durant High School: Cooper McCoy, Carlie Cordell, Cayden

Abrams, Jameelah Ahmed, Bailee Arthur, Jessie Barker, Kyle Bolerjack, Lauren Collins, Mindy Corbin, Kathryn Herndon, Cody Hicks, Brenda Ugalde, Mackenzie Layman, Madison Layman, Bryson Lyday, Robert Lynch, Jazen McKee, Joshua McKim, Brooklyn Pilgreen, Kalee Rush, Emma Stafford, Sierra Sturch, Vivian Taylor, Issis Vera, Brylan Wandel, Zachary White, Seth Wilson, Winter Wilson, Isaiah Wright

Fort Towson High School: Jeffrey Scott, Micah Zachry, Josie Wright Jacob Stinnett, Kylar Wilson

Hugo High School: Madelyn Nash, Alizhe' Adamson, Downy Higgins, Jackson Trantham, Hannah McDaniel

Kiamichi Technology Center, Durant: Jacie Currie, Brenda Ugalde, Tabitha Wilson, Trevan Nelson, Makayla Shields

Kingston High School: Taylor Spence, Coltin Knappe, Tyler Blanchard, Britny Henderson

Madill High School: Kristen Chapa, Lydia Wiese, Hunter Elkins, Kayla Christie

Rock Creek High School: Leslie Klement, Tyler Munson, Elizabeth Pruitt, Cactus Williams, Bailey Hull

Silo High School: Madison Gordon, Savanna Shults, Carson Atwood, Kiersten Oakes, Cord McDonald, Madeline Milks

Soper High School: Kallie Clifton, Hallee Parker, Alex Resendiz, Savannah Herndon

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New viewbook now available online for prospective students, parents

The Office of University Communications and Marketing has recently released a new sixteen-page viewbook that will provide essential information to prospective students and/or their parents about the University.

Communications-Marketing collaborated with departments across campus -- including the Office of Admissions and Recruitment and Academic Affairs, among others -- to develop "Your Road To Success Begins Here."

The viewbook includes general information about the University, degrees and majors offered from the four different schools, athletics and campus life, housing and residence life, student support, financial aid and cost, admission requirements, and information about Durant and the Texoma region.

The viewbook can currently be found online at www.SE.edu/viewbook with a printed version expected to be available later this summer.

