



## University's strategic plan unveiled by President Newsom

"Vision 2040 – Strategic Plan for Southeastern Oklahoma State University" – was unveiled by University president Thomas Newsom March 21 in a shared governance forum.

The forum was held in the General Classroom Building, and was also available via Zoom.

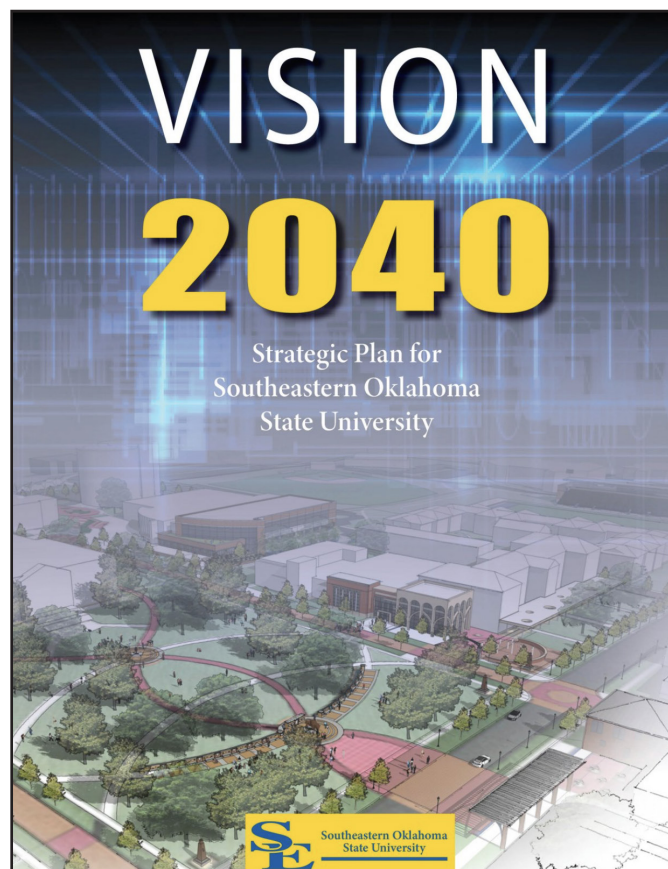
The five focus areas of Vision 2040 are Academic Excellence, Affordability, Sustainability, Campus Facilities and Infrastructure, and Student Ready University.

The plan was developed over the past several months and then submitted to President Newsom by a 14-member strategic planning committee co-chaired by Dr. Mike Davis and Dr. Jeremy Blackwood.

The committee was composed of faculty, staff, and students.

The entire 20-page plan is available for viewing at <https://www.se.edu/strategicplan/>

Also available for viewing is the proposed campus master plan at <https://www.se.edu/campus-master-plan/>



### *Massey Scholars Day*

*The first-ever John Massey Leadership Scholars Day was held at Southeastern on February 25. Nearly 100 high school seniors applied for this unique scholarship opportunity, which was provided by a generous gift from the Massey family.*



# Four schools compete in Safety Olympics hosted by SE

Four universities competed in the Safety Olympics on March 24.

The University of Central Missouri claimed the championship, followed by Oklahoma State University, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and Pittsburg State University (Kansas).

Students in Occupational Safety & Health competed in such events as accident investigation, hazard identification, training presentation, safety culture presentation, safety innovation presentation, and safety jeopardy.

All events were held on the Southeastern campus.



*The Safety Olympics featured a number of competitive events, top, while the Safety Career Fair attracted a record number of prospective employers and students (right). Southeastern hosted the events on campus March 24.*



*Spring Commencement will be held in Bloomer Sullivan Arena.*

## *Spring Commencement scheduled for May 5, 6*

Southeastern Oklahoma State University will hold two spring commencement ceremonies in May.

On Friday, May 5, master's degrees will be conferred at 6 p.m.; on Saturday, May 6, baccalaureate degrees will be awarded at 9 a.m.

Both ceremonies will be held in Bloomer Sullivan Arena.

Live ceremonies will be available for viewing online and on the SE Facebook page.



## Biology, chemistry students participate in Research Day

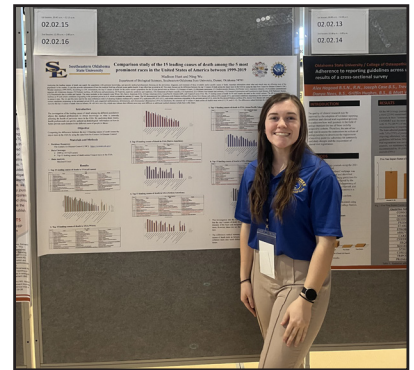
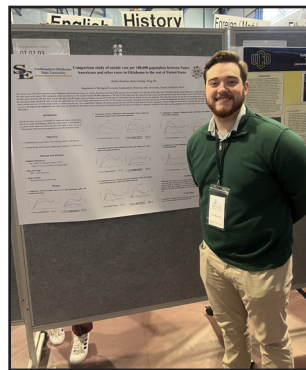
Eleven Southeastern Oklahoma State University biology and chemistry major students attended “Oklahoma Research Day” at the University of Central Oklahoma on March 3.

Four of the students displayed their research results in poster presentation:

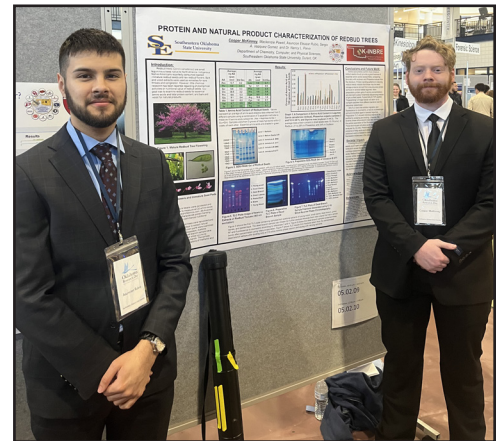
-- Bobby Boehme, a senior biology major from Atoka, and Madison Hunt, senior biology/chemistry double major from Lone Grove, are mentored by Dr. Ning Wu (Department of Biological Sciences)

-- Cooper McKinney, a senior, biology/chemistry double major from Durant, and Asuncion Rubio, biology major from Bokchito, are mentored by Dr. Nancy Paiva (Department of Chemistry)

Oklahoma Research Day is an annual state-wide research conference showcasing undergraduate and graduate student and faculty research, creative, and scholarly projects in the form of poster presentations.



*Participating in Research Day from Southeastern were, clockwise from top: Bobby Boehme, Madison Hunt, Asuncion Rubio, and Cooper McKinney.*



## Debate students excel in state, national competition

Caydee Kennedy, a freshman at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, reached the quarterfinals in Novice International Public Debate Association (IPDA) at the Pi Kappa Delta Nationals Comprehensive Tournament.

The event was held March 15-18 on the campus of West Chester University in West Chester, PA.

There were 55 teams in the Novice IPDA tournament field, and Kennedy finished fifth overall. During preliminary rounds, she amassed a record of 4-1; Kennedy also competed in Impromptu and Extemporaneous Speaking.

Kennedy is a marketing-psychology major from Denton, Texas, and Rockford, MI.

Danielle Paddor, a sophomore Elementary Education major from Durant, also competed in IPDA and the individual events of Impromptu and Extemporaneous Speaking.

Pi Kappa Delta is a national forensics honorary that is dedicated to promoting excellence in speech and debate. Each year, Pi Kappa Delta hosts a comprehensive national tournament (NCT) that is often among the largest tournaments in the country.

In earlier competition, Emilie Thiry, a junior at Southeastern Oklahoma State University, claimed state championship honors in Extemporaneous Speaking at the recent Oklahoma Intercollegiate Forensics Association (OIFA)

State Tournament.

Thiry is a psychology major from Oklahoma City. Other Southeastern Speech and Debate Association (SSDA) students competing at the tourney were Caydee Kennedy, and Katie Rogers, a sophomore communication media studies major from Durant.

It's the second year in a row that Southeastern has claimed a state championship in Forensics, said Dr. Fendrich Randy Clark, associate professor and speech and debate advisor. Kat Hodges from SE took the state title in IPDA debate last year.



*Southeastern students excelling in debate competition were Emilie Thiry, Caydee Kennedy, and Danielle Paddor.*

## Calendar of Events

### April

- 5 – Prospective Teacher Academy, Ballroom
- 6 – Chautauqua at the Museum
- 7 – Holiday
- 21 -- Aviation Career Fair, Magnolia Room
- 22 -- Aviation Alumni Golf Tournament & Fish Fry
- 22 -- Jazz Fest
- 25 -- Tri-County Honors, VPAC

### May

- 5-6 -- Commencement, Master's degrees, Bloomer Sullivan Arena, 6 p.m.
- 5-6 – Commencement, Bachelor's degrees, Bloomer Sullivan Arena, 9 a.m.

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### *Freshman Success reception*

*Some 132 full-time freshmen with a grade point average of 3.25 or higher were recognized at the Freshman Success reception on March 3 in the Hallie McKinney Ballroom. With a large crowd of family members present, the students were introduced individually and received t-shirts.*

## Freshman earns scholarship to study in Brazil this summer

A Southeastern Oklahoma State University Honors Program student is the recipient of a Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) from the U.S. Department of State.

Chelsea Maxwell, a freshman from Broken Bow, will travel to Rio de Janeiro for eight weeks this summer to study Portuguese. Maxwell is a computer information systems major, with a minor in computer science.

Maxwell's mother and two brothers are Southeastern graduates.

"I've always wanted to travel abroad and see the world, but didn't know if I would ever have the opportunity," said Maxwell, who is Choctaw. "This scholarship will afford me that opportunity. I was interested in going to Rio de Janeiro and Brazil because of the history of the colonization there and the similarity to the colonization of

Native Americans here in the United States."

The CLS program is exceptionally competitive, with a 10% acceptance rate out of 5,000 applications from all 50 states plus U.S. Territories. The scholarship supports Americans learning languages deemed to be of critical importance to national economic, diplomatic, and defense interests.



Chelsea Maxwell