



2021

Year in Review

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



January 20, 2022

Dear Friends of SSC,

As we launch into a new year at Seminole State College, I find myself constantly reminded of our students and employees' abilities to persevere, adapt, and overcome obstacles. 2021 was another challenging year. Many of us experienced loss. Many of us faced economic hardship. Many of us saw career changes. Despite these difficulties, we've seen the campus community come together for food drives and veterans' appreciation projects. We've seen many provide gifts to low-income families during the holidays. We've seen staff members collect items for a former employee who now resides in a nursing home. These

acts of kindness, both big and small, are the key ingredients in what makes this College so unique. It is a place where new students and new colleagues quickly become family.

In 2021, we put our students at the forefront of our decisions. We used federal COVID relief funds to clear student account balances. We increased access to technology and developed a myriad of fully-online degree programs. We've prioritized the mental health of our students through counseling services, and we've offered telemedicine health care to our students and employees at no cost to the individuals. We are also proud of all the initiatives across campus to bolster diversity and inclusion.

Decades ago, when the College operated under the name

Seminole Junior College, the tagline "SJC - the place to be" was used on our marketing materials. As we carry the momentum from 2021 over into this new year, I feel this sentiment has never been truer. I'm excited to see what will be accomplished on this campus and what will be achieved by our graduates as they leave prepared to tackle their highest goals.



Lana Reynolds
SSC President

STORIES OF THE YEAR

COLLEGE CLEARS OUTSTANDING BALANCES ON STUDENT ACCOUNTS



Seminole State College cleared the outstanding balance on more than 660 student accounts through direct scholarships. This move was made possible through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) monies the College received to offset financial difficulties created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The College committed \$715,000 of these federal funds to clear account balances students incurred for tuition and fees during the pandemic.

No action was required on the part of students. The scholarships were automatically applied to student accounts.

“We understand that the pandemic presented many challenges that prevented a lot of students from achieving their educational goals. We sincerely hope that this will lift some of the burden put on them by the pandemic and that students will return to SSC to finish their degree,” President Lana Reynolds said.

SSC EXPANDS VIRTUAL OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS



The year began with SSC making online learning more accessible to students with the launch of its Laptop Loan Program. Later in the spring, the College held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the virtual learning lounge, a space designed for students to student and connect to online instruction. In the summer, the Online Degree Office was created, launching with three fully online degree programs. Throughout the remainder of the year, the online degree programs would expand to 13, including an LPN to RN option.

JANUARY

Belles Basketball Celebrates 50th Season

In 1971, the Blue Bell sewing plant donated \$10,000 to start a women's basketball program at then Seminole Junior College. This was one year before Title IX was mandated, ensuring young women the right to participate in collegiate athletics. Fifty years later, the 2020-21 squad celebrated half a century of Belles' basketball. In honor of the Belles' original colors, the team wore commemorative Columbia blue jerseys for the season.

Wrangler/Kontoor Makes Donation to SSC Food Pantry

Employees from Wrangler/Kontoor made a large donation of canned and other non-perishable food items to the Seminole State College Food Pantry. Members of the company's Distribution Center Activities Committee organized the canned food drives for the SSC Food Pantry and Seminole's community Interfaith Food Pantry.

PLC Celebrates Martin Luther King Day

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership class met to commemorate Martin Luther King Day. The group watched "The Green Book," a film based on a true story about an African American pianist, who embarks on a concert tour in the Deep South in 1962. President Lana Reynolds led a discussion with the group following the screening.



SSC Launches Laptop Loan Program

Seminole State College's Boren Library launched a new laptop loan program to assist students with their technology needs. With a growing number of students enrolling in online or hybrid courses due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the College wanted to offer the program to remove a financial barrier that students may face.

SSC Board of Regents Renews President's Contract

The Seminole State College Board of Regents met Jan. 21 to consider a recommendation to hire a professional auditing service and to review the terms of President Lana Reynolds' employment. President Reynolds contract was renewed, with Chair Curtis Morgan noting that President Reynolds declined a salary increase, given that the College was unable to provide a raise to faculty and staff last summer when employee contracts were renewed.

SSC Employees Recognized at Statewide Conference

Two Seminole State College employees were honored at the 53rd annual Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges Conference, held virtually this year on Jan. 29. During the event, SSC Recruitment Specialist Britney Honsinger was recognized as a Professional Staff Member of the Year and Assistant Professor of Business Brad Schatzel was named Faculty Member of the Year for the College.



FEBRUARY

Gateway to Prevention and Recovery Donates NARCAN Kits to SSC

Gateway to Prevention and Recovery donated 10 NARCAN drug overdose response kits to Seminole State College. NARCAN is a nasal spray containing the medication naloxone. The kits are designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose.

Morgan Named to SSC Rural Business Center Position

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation announced the hiring of former State Representative Danny Morgan to direct the SSC Rural Business and Resources Center (RBRC). The Center, established in 2004, is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Commerce to provide economic development assistance in the College's five-county service area.



Great Western Dining Honored by Chamber of Commerce

Seminole State College Food Service company, Great Western Dining, was honored by the Seminole Chamber of Commerce with an annual Director's Award in recognition of efforts to safely serve meals at the Chamber Forum and other community events during 2020.

Repair Efforts Undertaken at SSC Following Winter Storm

Seminole State College experienced an extensive amount of damage across its campus due to a winter storm in mid-February. Flooding due to frozen and busted water pipes occurred in several classroom buildings and a resident hall. A number of science labs and classrooms were flooded on south end of the Tanner Hall, resulting in approximately one-third of the campus' largest classroom building to be closed for repair.

SSC Recognizes Five Students of the Month

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were honored for the month of February. The students were Ayo Jones of Shawnee – Business and Education Division, Bethany Randall of Tecumseh – Language Arts and Humanities Division, Sierra Springer of Shawnee – Health Sciences Division, Michael Adair of Ft. Gibson – STEM Division, and AC Sloan of Seminole – Social Sciences.

MARCH

PLC Hosts Women's Leadership Luncheon

The President's Leadership Class hosted a Women's Leadership Luncheon in the Utterback Ballroom on March 4. Five women community leaders in business, tribal government, education, medicine and the non-profit sector spoke to the PLC students.



Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel

Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on March 11. For the month of December, Kelly Hankal was named the Faculty Member of the Month, and Britney Honsinger was named the Professional Staff Member of the Month. For the month of February, Dr. Deanna Miles was named Employee of the Month, and the Maintenance/Custodial staff were recognized as the Department of the Month.

College Offers Free Counseling to All Students

Seminole State College began offering free counseling services to all its students. Beginning the first week of March, Licensed Professional Counselor Heather Annis scheduled counseling sessions with students on campus, as well as virtually. These counseling services were organized and scheduled by the SSC Help Center and made possible through federal funding from the CARES Act.

PLC Attends Virtual Higher Ed Day

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class attended a Virtual Higher Ed Day on March 9 in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. The event featured four members of the Oklahoma State Legislature – Senator Zack Taylor (R- District 28), Senator Shane Jett (R-District 17), Representative Danny Williams (R- District 28) and Representative Dell Kerbs (R- District 26).

PTK Honor Society Inducts New Members

Twenty-seven Seminole State College students were inducted into the Alpha Theta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges on March 9. SSC Regent Ryan Pitts served as the event's guest speaker.

SSC Board of Regents Grants Tenure to Faculty Member

The Seminole State College Board of Regents met March 25 to grant tenure to Business and Education Professor Chunfu “Jeff” Cheng, to reaffirm the Board's commitment to opposing the presence of firearms on campus and to review a bid to replace the heat and air unit for the Raymond Harber Field House.

Students Complete Peer Mentor Certification

Sierra Josselyn and A-yo Jones, two Seminole State students, completed qualifications for a national certification in peer mentoring from the Peer Leader Center. Both students are employed by SSC Student Support Services as peer mentors.

Recognizing the March Students of the Month

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were honored for the month of March: Abigail Daily of Earlsboro – Business and Education Division, Andrew Terrell of Prague – Language Arts and Humanities Division, Laura Jacene of Seminole – Health Sciences Division, Elizabeth Denney of Prague – Social Sciences Division, and Dassie May of Shawnee – STEM Division.

Women's Basketball Team Wins Conference Championship

The Seminole State College Belles women's basketball team won the Oklahoma Collegiate Athletic Conference title game on April 1. Seminole State defeated NOC-Tonkawa 78-62 to solidify their first-place position.

PLC Attends OKC Philharmonic Event

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class attended the OKC Philharmonic Pops Series presentation of "The Music of Queen" April 2 at the Civic Center Music Hall in Oklahoma City.

Board of Regents Convene for Special Meeting Concerning Winter Storm Damage

The Seminole State College Board of Regents held a special meeting on April 6 to ratify a Declaration of a State of Emergency as a result of damage caused by winter storms in February.

Women's Basketball Coach Named Coach of the Year

Seminole State College Belles Basketball Head Coach Rita Story-Schell was named the 2021 NJCAA Region II Coach of the Year. Story-Schell led her team to an overall win-loss record of 18-5 during the season.



Baseball Team Volunteers at A League of Their Own Games

Seminole State College Trojan baseball players worked with members of "A League of Their Own" at the Seminole Softball Quadruplex on April 5. The "League" is a co-ed softball league established to provide an avenue for individuals with cognitive or physical disabilities to play baseball. Trojan players volunteered for three games.

SSC Aggie Club Hosts Third Annual FFA Interscholastic Contest

The SSC Aggie Club hosted its third annual SSC FFA Interscholastic Contest on Thursday, April 8. Nearly 300 students from across the state of Oklahoma participated in the event.

Employees and Students Honored at SSC Event

Seminole State College hosted a SSC Honors Luncheon on Tuesday, April 20 in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. The event, sponsored by the SSC Educational Foundation, recognized outstanding students, campus leadership, retirees and employees reaching milestone years of employment.

SSC PTK Participates in Great American Cleanup Event

Seventeen members of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society participated in the Great American Cleanup even in honor of Earth Day. The group cleaned up areas of the Seminole municipal park, including the pavilion and Boomtown playground.

SSC Launches Virtual Learning Lounge for Students

Seminole State College held a small private ribbon-cutting ceremony April 27 for the new Virtual Learning Lounge on campus. Located in Room 100 of the David L. Boren Library, near the campus Food Pantry and the SSC Help Center, the old classroom was repurposed to provide space for students to study and connect for online instruction.

SSC Honors Alumni and Former President at Spring Recognition Banquet

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation honored four outstanding former students with induction into the SSC Alumni Hall of Fame and presented former SSC President Dr. Jim Cook with the Distinguished Service Award at its 26th Annual Spring Recognition Banquet on April 29. The four former students inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame were Heather Annis, Brooke Case, Holly Hanan and Will Hunt.



Senator Lankford Meets with SSC Students Before Chamber Forum

United States Senator James Lankford spoke with a Seminole State College nursing class on April 7. Senator Lankford thanked the students for taking an interest in the profession and stressed the need for nurses. Following his discussion with the students, Senator Lankford was the featured speaker at the Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum held in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center.

MAY

SSC Students Recognized by Statewide Organization

Three Seminole State College students were named to the All-Oklahoma Academic Team and one student received a President's Tuition Waiver from the Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges. SSC students Michelle Mayfield of Shawnee, Taryn Washburn of Shawnee and Tema Yargee of Okemah were named to the All-Oklahoma Academic Team. Concurrent SSC student Brent White received a \$1000 President's Tuition Waiver from the OACC.

Franklin Reappointed to SSC Board of Regents

Former Seminole State College Trojan, St. Louis Cardinals pitcher and Olympic gold medal winner Ryan Franklin was reappointed by Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt to serve on the Seminole State College Board of Regents. The reappointment was confirmed by the Oklahoma State Senate Education Committee on May 4 and sent to the Oklahoma State Senate for final approval.

Three SSC Teams Compete in Regional Tournaments

Due to the realignment of seasons during the COVID pandemic, the SSC women's soccer team, softball team and baseball team all competed in NJCAA tournaments over the weekend of May 15. This marked the first time in the College's history where three major sports teams competed at the exact same time for regional titles across the state. The Trojan baseball team, led by Head Coach Mack Chambers, finished as runners-up in the NJCAA Region II Tournament in Woodward. The Trojans soccer team won the NJCAA Region II Soccer Tournament in Enid. The Trojans softball team won the Region II tournament in Muskogee.

Softball Coach Named Coach of the Year

Seminole State College Trojan Softball Head Coach Amber Flores was named the 2021 NJCAA Region II Coach of the Year. Flores has led her team to a win-loss record of 44-4 this season.



College Holds 88th Commencement Ceremony

Seminole State College held its' 88th Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 7, for students completing coursework requirements for their degree programs. Attendance was limited due to COVID-19 concerns, but the event was livestreamed for anyone unable to be there in person. The event's featured speaker was Oklahoma State Senator Roger Thompson.

JUNE

Women's Soccer Team Competes in National Tournament

Beginning June 4, the women's soccer team competed in the NJCAA Division I National Championship tournament in Columbia County, Georgia. The team wrapped the regular season with a win-loss record of 13-1.

SSC Graduate Selected for Climate Research Internship

Seminole State College graduate Asa Samuels, of Shawnee, began his internship through the Haskell Environmental Research Studies (HERS) program at the University of Kansas on June 6. The HERS program prepares tribal college students for graduate school and helps students meet the challenges of climate and environmental change.

SSC Women's Soccer Coach Named Coach of the Year

Seminole State College Trojan Soccer Head Coach Daniel Hill was named the 2021 NJCAA Region II Coach of the Year. The team finished the regular season as conference champions and Region II Tournament champions.

SSC Student-Athletes Receive Academic All-American Honors

Forty student-athletes and six athletic teams at Seminole State College were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements by the National Junior College Athletic Association. The NJCAA also recognized six SSC athletic teams for ending their seasons with a 3.0 GPA or above. Women's golf held a 3.65 GPA, volleyball held an overall team GPA of 3.56, the baseball team held a 3.24 GPA, softball achieved a 3.16 GPA, soccer held a 3.14 GPA, and men's golf reached a 3.11 GPA.

SSC to Launch Three Fully Online Degree Programs This Fall

The College opened enrollment into fully online degree programs. Three associate degree programs were offered completely online at the launch of the initiative: Business, Criminal Justice and Liberal Studies.



SSC Clears Outstanding Balances on Student Accounts

Seminole State College cleared the outstanding balance on more than 660 student accounts through direct scholarships. This move was made possible through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II (HEERF II) monies the College received to offset financial difficulties created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The College committed \$715,000 of these federal funds to clear account balances students incurred for tuition and fees during the pandemic.

JULY

SSC Joins Applied Technology Statewide Collaborative Program

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education (OSRHE) approved a request from Seminole State College and ten other institutions to offer an Associate of Applied Science in Applied Technology. The statewide pilot collaborative program provides a degree completion mechanism for adult learners who have received an industry-recognized credential, earned previous college credit in a technical field or required specialized interdisciplinary training.

McQuiston Named Chair of SSC Board of Regents

The Seminole State College Board of Regents held an election of officers at their meeting on July 15. The Board approved the selection of Ray McQuiston as Chair.

Students Build Tiny House for Person in Need at SSC Camp

Seminole State College hosted two Summer Academies for Mathematics, Science and Multidisciplinary Studies funded by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education from July 18 to July 23. In the Engineering and Construction Management camp, 15 students built a “Tiny House.”



SSC Hires New Vice President for Fiscal Affairs

Seminole State College named Kristie Newby to the position of Vice President for Fiscal Affairs. The College’s Board of Regents approved the hire of Newby at their meeting on July 15. From March of 2015 to July of 2021, Newby served as the Manager of Administrative/Business Operations at OSU, where she oversaw all business operations of the College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology and performed internal audits.

Flores Coaches in All-Star Game

Seminole State College Softball Coach Amber Flores was selected to coach in the Alliance All-Star Game on July 27 at Hall of Fame Stadium in Oklahoma City. The game featured the top 50 High School players in the nation and was broadcast live on ESPN.

SSC Upward Bound Students Visit New York

Students involved in Seminole State College's Upward Bound program returned from a trip to New York City. The 16 students who participated in the trip graduated from high school in May. Throughout the visit, students engaged in cultural and academic learning activities, alongside taking tours of many notable attractions in New York City.

AUGUST

Talent Search Program Awarded \$3.3 Million in Federal Grants

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Seminole State College Talent Search Program two grants totaling approximately \$3,329,000. The grant application process was spearheaded by Talent Search Director Mary Ann Hill. The Talent Search Program identifies qualified high school and middle school students with potential for education at the postsecondary level and encourages them to complete high school and pursue higher education opportunities.

SSC and SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital – Shawnee Partnership Honored

Seminole State College and SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital – Shawnee were recognized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education with a Business Partnership Excellence Award. The award program annually honors outstanding partnerships that lead to significant contributions in educating and developing Oklahoma's workforce.



SSC to Offer LPN to RN Online Degree Program

Seminole State College Nursing received approval from the Oklahoma Board of Nursing to start a new LPN to RN online option. The SSC Nursing Program hoped to launch the on-line course in November. Students will need to complete five online nursing courses to complete their degree. The program will take approximately 10 months to complete.

Welcoming Students Back with Campus Activities

As students returned to campus for the beginning of the fall semester on Aug. 16, the College hosted its annual Welcome Week, featuring activities and giveaways each day.

SSC Announces New President's Leadership Class

Seminole State College welcomed 30 freshmen students for Class XV of the SSC Presidential Leadership program. PLC is a two-year scholarship program created to help students develop leadership skills and provide personal and professional growth opportunities.

SSC Board of Regents Approve Purchases at Special Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents held a special meeting on Aug. 26 to approve a bid for a new heat and air system in the Raymond Harbor Field House, the purchase of a passenger bus, a renewal of the College's athletic insurance and to approve an agreement with a telemedicine service.

Congresswoman Bice Speaks with Students

U.S. Congresswoman Stephanie Bice visited with several members of the President's Leadership Class during a visit to campus on Aug. 18. The Congresswoman, who represents Oklahoma's 5th Congressional District in the House of Representatives, also met with community leaders and toured local businesses.

SSC PLC Visits St. Crispin's Conference Center

Seminole State College President's Leadership Class students completed teambuilding exercises at St. Crispin's Conference Center on Aug. 31. The students participated in puzzle solving, group jump rope activities, rock climbing and swinging on the challenge course.

Governor Stitt Visits Campus

Gov. Kevin Stitt made a stop at SSC during a tour of Seminole County to speak with business and community leaders on Aug. 31.

SEPTEMBER

SSC Launches Telemedicine Program for Students and Employees

Seminole State College launched a telemedicine program for students and employees on Sept. 1. The College's Board of Regents approved an agreement with SwiftMD on Aug. 26, based on recommendation from campus administrators. The agreement with SwiftMD was purchased through a consortium of Oklahoma two-year colleges.

Sen. Roger Thompson Receives Higher Education Distinguished Service Awards

Oklahoma Sen. Roger Thompson was recognized with 2020 and 2021 Distinguished Service Awards for Higher Education during a meeting of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. He was honored for his support of higher education in his role as Chair of the Appropriations Committee, co-chair of the Committee on Pandemic Relief and as a member of the Finance and Rules committees.

College Hosts Constitution Day Event

Seminole State College hosted its annual Constitution Day event on Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. in the Utterback Ballroom, located in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. The event featured guest speaker John Guinn, the Oklahoma Convention of States Director. Attendees also had the opportunity to register to vote at stations set up by the Student Government Association and the Phi Theta Kappa honor society.



Seminole County Honors First Responders

First responders, and their guests, representing 26 emergency response departments across Seminole County were honored Sept. 11 at a "Patriot's Day Dinner" sponsored by community leaders and businesses. The event included a special visit and comments by Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt. The event was held outdoors at the Seminole State College Trojan Softball Complex.



Foundation Hosts 25th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation hosted its 25th Annual Golf Tournament at the Jimmie Austin Golf Course in Seminole on Sept. 17. The event raised more than \$30,000 for student scholarships and campus capital projects. A total of 95 players, comprising 24 corporate teams, took to the links to show their support for the College.

SSC Offers Another Round of COVID Relief Funds to Students

Seminole State College offered COVID relief funds to students through an allocation of the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) III that was provided by the U.S. Department of Education, as authorized by the American Rescue Plan.

SSC Treats Students to Fair Day Event

Seminole State College Student Activities hosted Fair Day on Sept. 22 in the courtyard just outside of the E.T. Dunlap Student Union. The event featured fair cuisine, such as cotton candy, popcorn, turkey legs and corn dogs, as well as several games for students to play, including inflatable axe throwing, basketball, ring toss and more.

SSC NASNTI Program Awarded \$2.25 Million in Federal Grant

The U.S. Department of Education awarded the Seminole State College Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions program \$2.25 million in a new grant. NASNTI will receive \$450,000 annually for the next five years. With these funds, the grant program plans to expand SSC's accessibility for disabled students, deepen the College's computer science course offerings and extend programming and support for Native American students. The grant application process was spearheaded by NASNTI Director Carol Parker.

September Students of the Month Recognized at SSC

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were honored for the month of September. September's students of the month are □Rodney Ackerman of Holdenville – Language Arts and Humanities, □Kegan Magee of Aurora, Texas – STEM, □Sophie Augustin of Augsburg, Germany – Business and Education, □Donna Rupe of Shawnee – Health Sciences, and Raedyn Pierce of Shawnee – Social Sciences.

OCTOBER

PLC Visits Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Center

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class toured the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Center and Aviary. In addition to learning about the history of the Potawatomi people, PLC also viewed the eagles under the care of the CPN Aviary staff. The Aviary offers a permanent home for injured eagles that cannot be returned to the wild.

Streater Makes Large Donation to SSC Educational Foundation

Brandon Streater, owner of Streater Construction, donated \$10,000 to the Foundation, with \$5,000 supporting construction efforts on the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex and \$5,000 for the President's Leadership Class (PLC) program. Streater was a member of PLC when he attended the College and said the program inspired him.

Student Government Association Names New Officers

The Seminole State College Student Government Association selected its officers for the 2020-2021 academic year. The officers selected were President Georgia Ledford, of Seminole, Vice President Jenna Harrison, of Shawnee, and Secretary Katelyn Nguyen, of Dustin. Financial Aid Specialist Caitlin Brown serves as the sponsor for the student organization.

Honor Society Inducts New Members

Thirty-four Seminole State College students were inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges on Oct. 5. The induction ceremony was conducted virtually, utilizing Zoom video conference software. Oklahoma State Senator Zack Taylor served as the event's guest speaker.

Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication during the monthly Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Oct. 12. Assistant Professor of Agriculture Wendy Rich was honored as "Faculty Member of the Month" and Human Resources Associate Julie Green as "Staff Member of the Month."

SSC Educational Foundation Trustees Appointed to New Terms

Seven Seminole State College Educational Foundation trustees were reappointed at the Foundation's quarterly meeting on Oct. 13. Dan Boren, of Oklahoma City, Steve Degraffenreid, of Jones, Doug Humphreys of Holdenville, Lance Ruffel of Oklahoma City, Sue Snodgrass, of Seminole, Reggie Whitten, of Oklahoma City, and Chief Justin Wood, of Stroud all agreed to serve additional three-year terms.



Career and College Transfer Fairs Held at SSC

A Career and College Transfer Fair took place Oct. 5 and 6 and featured a wide array of employers and nonprofits who provide services locally. The event was organized in a partnership between the Seminole Chamber of Commerce and SSC Student Activities. In addition to the Career and Resource Fair, SSC hosted a College Transfer Fair on Oct. 6. Twelve different universities and U.S. military recruiters had booths on campus. Army recruiters set up a rock wall for students to enjoy.

SSC Board of Regents Approve New Emergency Alert System

The Seminole State College Board of Regents met Oct. 21 to review the College's annual external audit report and ratify the purchase of a new emergency alert system. The Alertus System will be used as a public announcement and siren system to be utilized across campus. The company will install speaker and siren arrays at three different locations around the College. The system will be purchased with COVID-19 federal relief funds.

October Students of the Month Recognized at SSC

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were honored for the month of October. October's students of the month are Allison Bray of Wetumka – Social Sciences, Angela Copley of Shawnee – Health Sciences, Mark Ellis of Shawnee – STEM, Georgia Ledford of Seminole – Language Arts and Humanities, and Spencer Sturgill of Shawnee – Business and Education.

Local Health Departments Administer Flu Shots and COVID Vaccines at SSC

Health workers from the Seminole and Pottawatomie Health Departments hosted a joint flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on Seminole State College's campus on Oct. 27. The health workers administered 112 COVID-19 vaccine and booster shots, as well as 108 flu shots.

SSC Employees Recognized at Statewide Conferences

Three Seminole State College employees were honored Oct. 28 and 29 at conferences hosted by the Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges. Talent Search Advisor Angela Harjo was named the Outstanding Professional Staff Member of the Year, Political Science Professor Jeffrey Christiansen was named the Faculty Member of the Year and Social Sciences and Language Arts Office Manager Tina Morris was named the Support Staff Member of the Year for SSC.

NOVEMBER

SSC Organizations Team Up to Offer Domestic Violence Awareness Program

Seminole State College Student Support Services, STEM Student Support Services and People Recognizing Individuality Diversity and Equality (PRIDE) teamed up to offer an information session raising awareness about domestic abuse. The session was offered in-person at the SSC Virtual Learning Lab and remotely on Zoom, a video conferencing platform.

Trojan Baseball Team Raises Money for Indoor Training Facility

The Seminole State College Trojan baseball team donated \$16,500 to the SSC Educational Foundation to help with the construction of an indoor training facility. The facility will be part of the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex.

Leadership Development Class Organizes Food Drive

The Seminole State College Leadership Development class organized and collected donations for the SSC Food Pantry and the Shawnee area Salvation Army from Oct. 21 to Nov. 1. Approximately 400 canned and boxed food items along with health products were donated.



Soccer Team Punches Ticket to National Tournament

The Women's soccer team competed in the NJCAA Division I National Tournament in Daytona Beach, Florida from November 15-20 at Daytona State College. The SSC women's soccer team earned their place on the national stage after clinching the West-Plains District Championship in a matchup against Casper College of Wyoming 1-0 on Nov. 6 at Rogers State University in Claremore. This marks the team's third consecutive appearance at the national tournament.

SSC Board of Regents Approves Bid on Cooling Tower at Special Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved a bid for a replacement cooling tower for the Roesler Residential Learning Center at their special meeting on Nov. 9. The stainless-steel, closed-circuit cooling tower will be installed by Hunter Mechanical & Controls. The project cost of \$115,125 will be covered with Title XIII funds.

PLC Lends a Hand at Food Bank

The Seminole State College President's Leadership Class volunteered at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, located in Oklahoma City, on Nov. 9. The thirty-five students unloaded, weighed, and packaged food to help families facing food insecurity issues.

Professor Attends Town Hall on Mental Wellness

Seminole State College Professor of Psychology Christal Knowles attended the 2021 Oklahoma Academy Town Hall. This year's event was held at the River Spirit Hotel in Tulsa from Nov. 7-10. The Oklahoma Academy is a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan organization established to provide citizens with the opportunity to discuss public policy and make recommendations.



SSC and Workforce Oklahoma Partner to Provide Winter Clothing

The Seminole State College Employment Readiness Program and Workforce Oklahoma provided hats, scarves, gloves and socks for those in need at their shared location in downtown Seminole. The clothing items were arranged on a Christmas tree outside of the Employment Readiness office and available to the public.

November Students of the Month Recognized at SSC

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were honored for the month of November. November's students of the month were Rylee Bentley of Shawnee – Business and Education, Sydni Chilcoat of Ada – STEM, Lacie Moon of Shawnee – Language Arts and Humanities, Aylin Salazar of Madill – Social Sciences, Audrey McAdams of Shawnee – Health Sciences.

SSC Organizations Host Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Programs

Student Support Services and STEM Student Support Services, two federal grant programs hosted by SSC, sponsored a week of diversity, equity and inclusion events to support goals of the task force and the grant programs.

DECEMBER

LPN to RN Online Degree Program Receives Accreditation

The Seminole State College Nursing Program's LPN to RN online degree program was accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing. In August, the Oklahoma Board of Nursing approved the online option.

SSC Delivers Holiday Cards to VA Hospital

From Veterans Day, November 11, through Dec. 3, Seminole State College students, employees and community supporters signed thank you and holiday messages on festive cards and delivered the cards to veterans in the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City.

Board of Regents Approve Purchase of Cooling Tower and Update to Drug-Free Policy

The Seminole State College Board of Regents met Dec. 9 to update a policy regarding a drug-free workplace, approve a bid to replace a heat and air system and ratify the 2022-2023 academic calendar.

Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication during the monthly Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Dec. 9. Assistant Professor of English Dr. Andrew Davis was honored as “Faculty Member of the Month” and Advisor for Student Support Services Sarah Ledford as “Staff Member of the Month.”

Employees and Students Provide Christmas Gifts to Local Children

Seminole State College employees and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) honor society students provided gifts to 47 children participating in the Angel Tree programs sponsored by the Salvation Army and the Oklahoma Department of Human Services. The Angel Tree program connects donors with children in need.

SSC Board of Regents Approves Bid on Cooling Tower at Special Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved a bid for a replacement cooling tower for the Roesler Residential Learning Center at their special meeting on Nov. 9. The stainless-steel, closed-circuit cooling tower will be installed by Hunter Mechanical & Controls. The project cost of \$115,125 will be covered with Title XIII funds.

Foundation Hosts Annual Holiday Reception

The Educational Foundation hosted a holiday fundraiser reception on Dec. 13 at the Shawnee Country Club. The event raised nearly \$30,000 for student scholarships and campus capital projects.



SSC Holds Pinning Ceremony for Nursing Graduates

Seminole State College held a pinning ceremony at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on Dec. 9 for nursing students expected to meet degree requirements this semester. Due to the program’s continued growth, this marked the third year the College has hosted a pinning ceremony in the fall.

Online Program Expands Degree Offerings

Seminole State College has widened its online degree selection from three degrees to 13 for the spring 2022 semester. SSC’s first three 100% online degrees were launched in the fall 2021 semester.

Reynolds Makes Donation to Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex

Seminole State College President Lana Reynolds fulfilled her pledge of \$25,000 to the SSC Educational Foundation to assist with the construction of the Brian Crawford Memorial Sports Complex. The seven-field complex will serve as home to the Trojan baseball and soccer teams. The facility also includes an adaptive field for people with special needs.

