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BRIEFING**
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SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE COLLEGIAN

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SSC CELEBRATES MLK DAY

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Submitting to The Collegian

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SSC Honors Veterans with Holiday Cheer Project



From Veterans Day until the end of the fall semester, SSC students, student athletes, faculty, staff and Administration signed thank you and holiday messages on festive cards and delivered the cards to veterans in the VA Hospital in Oklahoma City. This year more than 100 cards were signed

with notes of appreciation and cheer. SSC Professor of History Marta Osby (left) received a large number of cards gathered by Assistant Professor Sam Rivera (right) and his wife Stefanie (center).



**There's still time to enroll
for 5- and 8-week courses
this spring!**

Speak to your advisor today.

SSC Installs Greenhouse to Enhance Science and Agriculture Courses

The greenhouse will open for student use in the fall.



Assistant Professor and Title III Grant Specialist Dr. Deanna Miles stands inside the greenhouse recently delivered to campus for student use.

Seminole State College recently installed a greenhouse on campus to provide a hands-on experience for students. The 12' x 36' greenhouse was manufactured by Yoderbilt and paid for by the College's Title III Grant.

"The entire STEM department is excited to use the greenhouse for courses in Botany, Agriculture, Environmental Sci-

ence, Plant and Soil Science and possibly expanding the courses we offer to include Hydroponics and Horticulture," Assistant Professor and Title III Grant Specialist Dr. Deanna Miles said.

Dr. Miles launched the project with assistance from Life Science Assistant Professor Theran Hernandez, Title III Director Jeanie Nix and STEM Division

Chair Jason Cook.

The maintenance crew, led by Vice President for Fiscal Affairs Tony Crouch, made the greenhouse a standalone lab with plumbing and electricity.

The greenhouse will be available to students during the fall semester.

HLC Matters to Me

The Higher Learning Commission Will Make Their Accreditation Visit February 24-25, 2020

The Higher Learning Commission grants institutional accreditation for Oklahoma and 18 other states in the North Central region.

HLC will conduct a site visit in February 2020 to evaluate SSC's institutional effectiveness, future planning, academic programs, finances, assessment and much more.

SSC's accreditation ensures the validity of all credits transferred from this institution and the validity of each offered degree.

Campus leadership will keep the campus community informed during the lead-up to the visit.

SSC Hosts Appreciation Luncheon for the Seminole Pink Ladies



Seminole State College hosted an Appreciation Luncheon for members of the Seminole Pink Ladies hospital volunteer association on Dec. 11. For decades, the group has provided scholarships for nursing students at the College. The event was attended by 35, including Pink Ladies and representatives of Alliance Health of Seminole and Seminole State College.

Judge Tammy Kemp Speaks at MLK Day Event



In honor of Martin Luther King Day, Seminole State College hosted a special MLK program on Jan. 16 featuring guest speaker Judge Tammy Kemp of the Texas 204th District Court. During her presentation, “My Journey to the Courtroom,” Judge Kemp discussed her path to becoming a judge and all of her experiences along the way. She recently presided over the controversial case of Amber Guyer, a former Dallas policewoman who

was tried for the murder of Botham Jean. Judge Kemp is a native of Wewoka, Oklahoma. She earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance and a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Oklahoma. After graduating law school, she worked as an Assistant Attorney General and an Assistant Secretary of State for the State of Oklahoma, before relocating to the Dallas area.

Trojan Baseball Hosts Season Kickoff Event

Trojan alumni joined the 2020 team to celebrate the start of the new season.



SSC President Lana Reynolds welcomes guests to the Trojan Baseball Season Kickoff event on Feb. 1 at the Kelly Haney Center.



Trojan Baseball Head Coach Mack Chambers introduces this season's team.



Former Trojan Danny Zahl served as the event's guest speaker.



Trojan alumni gathered together following the event. Anniversary teams from 1990, 2000 and 2010 were recognized during the program.

SSC Hires Interim Nursing Program Director

Brown joins the College in a partnership with SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee.

Seminole State College recently named Linda Brown as the Interim Nursing Program Director for the spring 2020 and fall 2020 semesters. Brown comes to the College through a partnership between SSC and SSM Health St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee.

Brown most recently served as an Acute Care Registered Nurse at St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee. She also served as the Vice President of Support Services at St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee for seven years, the Vice President of Clinical Services at Unity Health Center for 11 years, Vice President of Operations at Shawnee Regional Hospital for one year and the Vice President of Marketing at Shawnee Regional Hospital for seven years.

During her time as the Vice President of Support Services, Brown oversaw a \$58 million, 119,000-square-foot new construction project and a 30,000-square-foot remodel project.

Brown is active in several civic and non-profit organizations. She serves on the Oklahoma Baptist University Alumni Board of Directors, the United Way of Pottawatomie County Board and is a founding member of the Volunteer Health Clinic of Pottawatomie County, where she

served as Vice President for three years and completed a term as President.

“Linda’s clinical and administrative experience in the medical field make her an ideal fit for this role,” SSC President Lana Reynolds said. “The College has had a longstanding working relationship with SSM Health, one that provides our nursing students so many opportunities.

“We are so appreciative of St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee President Chuck Skillings for his willingness to help us fill this critical role in nursing education. This partnership is a great example of private industry and higher education working together for the common good of our communities.”

SSC reached out to St. Anthony Hospital - Shawnee when the College’s Nursing Program Director and Health Sciences Chair Valarie Watts received active duty orders from the Army Reserves for a 12-month deployment. While Brown serves as the Interim Nursing Program Director, Assistant Professor of Life Sciences Dr. Noble Jobe will serve as Chair of the Health Sciences division.

Brown began her new role at the College on Feb. 1.



In a partnership with SSM Health St. Anthony - Shawnee, Linda Brown will serve as the Interim Nursing Program Director for the Spring and Fall 2020 semesters.

Board of Regents Convene for January Meeting

The SSC Board of regents reviewed the terms of President Reynolds' employment.

At their meeting on January 21, the Seminole State College Board of Regents approved a revision to a policy regarding the reappointment of personnel and reviewed the terms of President Lana Reynolds' employment.

During the President's Report, Reynolds informed the Board about recent activities and events at the College. The President also provided Board members with a 2019 Year-in-Review document which is available to the public online at: www.sscok.edu/2019yearregents.pdf

Under the first item on the agenda, the Regents approved a revision to a policy regarding how personnel are notified about reappointment. This action changes the obligation to notify all faculty and professional staff by April 15 of each year regarding the College's intent to rehire

them. After the revision, now the institution will only notify those it does not intend to rehire. The change was supported by the SSC Administrative Council, Faculty Senate and Professional Staff Council.

Under the second item on the agenda, the Board retired into executive session to discuss the terms of employment for President Reynolds' 2020 contract. Earlier this month, Reynolds met with a committee consisting of Regents Curtis Morgan, Ray McQuiston and Kim Hyden to receive a formal evaluation of her performance. The committee reviewed progress on goals set last January and provided input on goals to consider for 2020.

Reynolds was hired in July, 2017, but in accordance with Board policy the President's contract should be

reviewed for extension each January. After returning to open session, the Board made a motion to extend Reynolds' three-year contract for another year with a 3.5 percent increase to her salary.

"I appreciate the support of the Board," President Reynolds said. "The success we've had over the last year has been a team effort. It is an honor to continue to serve this institution, and I cannot wait to see what we accomplish over the next year."

Board members present at the meeting were: Chair Curtis Morgan, Marci Donaho, Ryan Franklin, Kim Hyden, Ray McQuiston and Paige Sherry.

The next meeting of the SSC Board of Regents is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 20, 2020.

Night at the Lights Draws Large Crowd



Seminole State College hosted its annual "SSC Night at the Lights" event Dec. 2 at Magnolia Park in Seminole. Local families enjoyed the community Snowman Wonderland Light Display, as well as cookies and hot chocolate provided by the College. Dozens of SSC student athletes manned crafting stations inside the Reynolds Wellness Center, helping children create holiday crafts. Elliot Belle Ross, daughter of SSC Campus Police Chief Louis Ross, enjoyed expressing her creativity at the event.



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SSC Hosts Legislative Briefing



Seminole State College hosted area colleges at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing at Pete's Place in Krebs on Jan. 15. SSC attended the event with a delegation of 24 representatives.

Dr. Glen D. Johnson, Chancellor of the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education, met with the group of area legislators and friends of higher education to discuss the importance of higher education in improving the economy and business climate of the state.

Chancellor Johnson explained the importance of STEM degrees and certificates to meet growing workforce needs.

Those representing Seminole State College at the event were SSC

President Lana Reynolds, Director of SSC Rural Business and Resources Center Larry Smith, SSC Foundation Advancement Coordinator Kelsie Guy; SSC Regent Kim Hyden; Foundation Trustees Mark Schell, Lance Wortham, Jim Hardin, Jeramy Rich, Andy Tucker, David Wilson and Suzanne Gilbert; Seminole City Manager Steve Saxon; Seminole Chamber Executive Director Amy Britt; SSC Consultant Karel Brewster; St. Crispin's Lodge Director Joanne Kovac-Roberts; SSC students Tijah Johnson of Shawnee, Kelsey Edminsten of Okemah and Cale Ashcraft of Seminole; Senator Roger Thompson and Representatives Danny Sterling, Zack Taylor, Dell Kerbs, and Logan Phillips.