

*Seminole State College*  
**CAMPUS MEMO**

*From Dr. Jim Utterback – President*

*March 3, 2011*

*As we enter the mid-point in our semester, and begin the rush time that marks the end of the academic year, I want to take this opportunity to offer my personal congratulations to a number of our employees and students.*

## ***Congratulations!***

### **Tenure Awarded**

Five members of our faculty were awarded tenure last week at the February meeting of the Board of Regents. **Dr. Steve Bolin**, instructor in the Social Sciences Division; **Annette Troglin**, **David Helseth**, instructors in the Math, Sciences and Engineering Division; **Rayshell Clapper**, instructor in the Language Arts and Humanities Division and **Malinda Browning**, instructor in the Nursing and Health Sciences Division all received tenure. All of these individuals are highly respected by their students and peers, have met and exceeded every aspect of the tenure process and are most deserving of this important status. As I stated at the meeting, the granting of tenure is a statement to fellow faculty, to our community and to our students that we have faith and trust in all of these faculty members. The honor of being awarded tenure designates them as being among the very best educators.

### **Community Recognition**

We were proud to see top community service awards at both the Shawnee and Seminole Chamber of Commerce banquets recognize individuals associated with Seminole State College. The President of Arvest Bank in Shawnee, **Chris Clark**, was awarded the 2011 Gordon Richards Sr. Service Award. Mr. Clark is a member of the SSC Alumni Hall of Fame and is a former Trustee of the SSC Educational Foundation. Current Foundation Trustee **Ray McQuiston**, who is the manager of the Wrangler VF Jeanswear plant in Seminole and current President of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce, was honored as Seminole's Citizen of the Year.

We also had two employees receive recognition at the Chamber banquets. Coordinator of Media Relations **Dustie Butner** was recognized as a graduate "with honors" of the Greater Shawnee Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class 2010. Also, Educational Talent Search Coordinator **Mary Ann Hill**, who serves as President of the Seminole Humane Society, accepted the David L. Boren Award for Community Service at the Seminole Chamber banquet on behalf of her organization. The Humane Society was recognized for their local efforts to rescue, feed, nurture and find permanent homes for unwanted animals.

### Students Honored

Congratulations are in order to several SSC students for recent honors. **Tatum Colburn and Joel Penuel**, both of Shawnee, are being recognized as members of the "All-Oklahoma Academic Team" at the Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges annual meeting in Oklahoma City this week. At the same conference, **Jordan Bumgarner** of Wewoka will be named a 2011 OACC Scholarship Recipient. Also this past month, **Brittain Withers** of Strother was honored as a Nigh Institute Leadership Scholar.

Three members of the Belles Basketball Team are also being honored this week at the NJCAA Region II Basketball Tournament for their performances on the court. **Teshia Griswold** of Milledgeville, Georgia, was named 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference and to the All-Region Team. **Fanta Toure**, from Bamko, Mali in Africa, and **Audrey Pernell**, from Atoka, Oklahoma, were named Honorable Mention for the All-Conference Team.

### Annual Foundation Banquet

The SSC Educational Foundation will host its annual Spring Dinner on **Thursday, May 5, 2011**. Former students will be inducted that evening into the SSC Alumni Hall of Fame. The announcement of this year's inductees will be made in the coming weeks. That evening, we will also be recognizing employees reaching milestones in their years of service to the institution. Among those milestone honorees will be Art Instructor **Kelly Kirk** and Business and Information Systems Instructor **Fred Bunyan** for their 35-year anniversaries at SSC. We also have four employees marking 20 years at the College: Nursing and Health Sciences Division Chair **Donna Chambers**; Business and Information Systems Instructor **Dawna Hamm**; Vice President for Student Services **Dr. Brad Walck**; Head Cashier **Mona Griffin** and Educational Talent Search Coordinator **Mary Ann Hill**.

For the first time in several years, the SSC Founders Award will be presented. Long-time supporters **Ben and Bonnie Walkingstick** will be recognized for their involvement with the College. Their philanthropic activities and commitment to Seminole state College have had a major impact on this institution. Also that evening, a special presentation will be made to former SSC Baseball Coach **Lloyd Simmons** for distinguished service to students, the College and the community. Proceeds from this event support the foundation in providing student scholarships and assisting with numerous campus projects. I hope that you will mark your calendars and plan to attend this wonderful event.

*I hope that you have enjoyable plans for our upcoming Spring Break. Best wishes and thank you for your continued support and efforts on behalf of Seminole State College.*