

## Chamber Honors SSC Personnel at Forum



**Rick Hanson**

Two Seminole State College employees were honored for their outstanding dedication and work during Thursday's Chamber of Commerce monthly Forum. Kathy Hoover, Director of the SSC's federally funded TRiO programs, and Rick Hanson, Computer Technical Services technician, were recognized as "Educator and Staff Member" of the month.

The Seminole Chamber of Commerce recognizes SSC employees during Forum twice each year. Individuals are nominated from across the campus and chosen by SSC administrators, chairpersons and other directors of campus services to receive the honor.

Hoover was recognized as the "Educator of the Month" by the local Lions Club and Chamber of Commerce Education Committee.

Hoover holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Oklahoma Baptist University. She completed her master's degree in adult education and community service in 1990 from Central State



**Kathy Hoover**

University in Edmond.

A 20-year employee of Seminole State College, Hoover worked extensively in individual TRiO programs before she became TRiO programs director in 1997.

Rick Hanson was selected as the college's "Staff Member of the Month." The award is presented as a joint project of the chamber's education committee and Century 21 Blue Ribbon Realty of Seminole.

Hanson has been employed as a technician for Computer Technical Services at SSC for the past two years. He completed his associate's degree from Seminole State College in business in 2003.

Hanson and his wife, Bonnie, make their home in Seminole. They have four children: Doug Ogle, a coach in Blackwell; Dana Cunningham, a teacher in Dale; Dustie Gates, a homemaker in Seminole; and Christina Kinder, a loan supervisor in Oklahoma City.

### Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

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**CONTACT:**  
Shannon Webb  
Coordinator of Media Relations  
405-382-9525  
webb\_s@ssc.cc.ok.us

# SEMINOLE *State* COLLEGE COLLEGIAN

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## SSC Names Hall of Fame Inductees



**Herb Gunter**

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation's annual recognition banquet, set for 6:30 p.m., Thursday, May 5, in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center, will include recognition of outstanding college alumni, students and staff.

Former students, Herb Gunter, long-time civil defense director and community leader of Seminole; Ryan Franklin, Seattle Mariners pitcher and former Olympic Gold Medalist; and Simone Edwards, member of the Seattle Storm WNBA 2004 championship team will be inducted into the Seminole State College Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame honorees will be recognized for their contributions to their professions and communities. The alumni were chosen from nominations of graduates whose personal and professional achievements are a source of pride for the institution and other alumni of the College.

Portrait photographs of the inductees, donated by Tom Flora Photography of Shawnee, will be displayed in the Alumni Hall of the Tanner Hall administration building.

Honoring college alumni with



**Ryan Franklin**

induction into the Hall of Fame began in 1994. Portraits of this year's honorees will join those of the previous inductees, listed in order of induction - Bonnie Lee Grisso, Eugene and Frances Warrenburg, Win Case, Neil Molleur, Tricia Colclazier Butner, Bryce Hill, Dr. Jack Medlock, Sue Snodgrass, Jonna Bunyan, Karen James, Phillip Parks, Larry Smith, Jack Barrett, Bob Swearingen, Tinnie Tiger, Buford White, Chris Clark, Curtis Morgan, Jim Smart, Frank Patterson, Jane Start Bradley, Lester Cannon, Dr. Bryan McRay, Dr. Mary Jo Watson, Dr. Gerald Davis, Syd Morgan, Harvey Robinson, Julie Carr, Pete Moog, Rita Story-Schell, Jose Tolentino, Sharlene Hammons, Dr. Clay McLaughlin, and Paul and Darlene Smith.

Several Seminole State College employees will be recognized for their long-time service to the institution. This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> year of employment at the College for Jonna Bunyan, former Director of Learning Resources and current Student Support Services Coordinator. Marking her 25-year employment anniversary is Debbie Robertson, Asst. Registrar.



**Simone Edwards**

Patricia Cokeley, Business and Information Systems Division Chair; Dr. Richard Wood, Social Sciences Instructor; Ronnie Killian, Data Processing Director; Debbie Hammond, Admissions Clerk; Kathy Hoover, Director of TRiO Programs; and Joy Blanton, Receptionist for the Roesler Residential Learning Center, will be recognized for 20 years of service.

Individual tickets for the banquet are available for \$25 each. Corporate sponsorships for the dinner are available for \$300 per table of eight.

Proceeds from the banquet benefit the SSC Educational Foundation.

Members of the Foundation's Board of Trustees are: Chair Sue Snodgrass, Vice Chair Harvey Robinson, Vice Chair Bob Swearingen, Steve Bagwell, Larry Briggs, Linda Capps, Chief Ken Chambers, Dale Elsener, Jon Ewert, Dorothy Forth, Craig Froelich, Rick Geist, John Gibbs, Jim Hardin, John Hargrave, Blake Hargrove, Kenneth Henderson, Gary Kinslow, Philip Landers, Leona Maxwell, Curtis Morgan, Kenny Pryor, Mark Schell, Jo Smart, Larry Smith, and Bob Weaver.

### Seminole State College

MAY MINIMESTER

May 16-June 3

SUMMER SESSION

June 6-July 29

FALL SESSION

August 17-December 14

## Phi Theta Kappa Graduates Honored



*Seminole State College Phi Theta Kappa members wear the medallions they received during the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Reception*

## SSC Athletic Post Season

May 6-8	Women's Softball NJCAA Region II Tournament	Oklahoma City, OK
May 7-13	Women's Tennis NJCAA National Tournament	Tucson, AZ
May 12-15	Men's Baseball NJCAA Region II Tournament	Bartlesville, OK
May 15-17	Men's Tennis NJCAA National Tournament	Plano, TX
May 16-19	Women's Golf NJCAA National Tournament	Daytona Beach, FL
May 24-27	Men's Golf NJCAA National Tournament	Scottsboro, AL

## SSC Regents Meet in February

In February, the Seminole State College Regents accepted an audit report, approved an increase in room and board rates for FY05-06 and several other contractual agreements.

During his report to the Regents, SSC President, Dr. James Utterback, informed the Board about two new members of the College's professional staff. Shannon Webb was hired as Media Relations Coordinator and Lisa Sylvester selected as a Veterans' Upward Bound adviser with the College's TRiO programs.

The President also informed the Board that SSC had received notification from the U.S. Department of Education that three congressionally-directed grants, totally \$173,600, were awarded the College for technology equipment, an accelerated nursing program and student retention and graduation rate improvements for 2005.

Utterback also announced the awarding of two grants for South Youth Academies sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The College's "Peek Into Engineering" (PIE) program has been renewed for the summer of 2005. Additionally, a partnership program with Oklahoma Baptist University has received a grant to host a chemistry academy in "Forensics and Evidence."

Also during the President's Report, Utterback told the Board about a recent campus visit by Chancellor for Higher Education, Dr. Paul Risser. The Chancellor was on campus to speak at the College's annual workshop for high school counselors and administrators.

Risser then visited with faculty and students in several campus classrooms.

The Board was informed about activities surrounding the Feb. 22 "Higher Education Day at the Capitol." A delegation of campus and community leaders attended the morning program. That afternoon, the Oklahoma State Senate unanimously passed the \$500 million state bond issue.

The President's Report concluded with a brief report by Kelly Kirk, Chair of the Language Arts and Humanities Division, on the College's International Studies Program. As the first item of business, the Regents accepted an audit report from BKD, LLP. The report was presented with recommendation for approval by the Board's audit committee composed of Regents Ben Walkingstick of Chandler, William Harrison, Jr. of Wewoka, and Roger Nansel of Seminole.

Next the Regents approved a proposal to increase room and board rates by five percent for the next academic school year. The increase will help cover mandatory cost increases in both food and utilities.

The Board also approved a contract with Ramona Munsell and Associates for consulting services in the development of a Seminole State College application for federal funds to establish an educational "Gear Up" program. The President told the Board that the College has used the Munsell firm for several successful federal grant applications over the past few years.

Another contract was approved by the Board to allow money,

appropriated by former State Representative Dan Boren through the Central Oklahoma Economic Development District to be used for the establishment of a business incubator at the College.

Next, was a request to redirect a contribution made for the purchase of land to build a community softball complex. With the City of Seminole's plans to construct the complex at another site, the original contributions were returned to the Seminole Recreation Authority. The Authority requested to use those funds for improvements to the Jimmie Austin Golf Course. The Board approved the Recreation Authority's request.

As their final action, the Board approved consent agenda items related to degree program reviews recently submitted to the State Regents. Utterback explained that the State Regents prescribe successful enrollment and graduation rates for academic programs, and due to low enrollment, the Board approved suspension of the programs. The first, the Office Management Degree Program, will be suspended with plans for elimination at the end of the Spring 2007 semester. This will allow current students to complete their degree program. The other two areas being recommended for suspension are the Native American Studies Degree Program and the Native American Studies Certificate Program. Utterback said that the College plans to seek input from local tribes about possible ways to restructure these programs in the future.

## Psi Beta Members Receive Honors

Five Seminole State College students were inducted into the Psi Beta National Psychology Honor Society recently.

Psi Beta chapters sponsor programs, activities and participation in community service projects. To become members of the honor society, students must have an overall GPA of 3.0 and at least a "B" average in psychology. They must also have completed at least 12 semester hours including one semester of a psychology or a psychology-based course.

This year's inductees were: Alisha Clemons of Meeker; Tanya Dillard of Seminole; Nena Drawbaugh of Wewoka; Deborah Grimmert of Tecumseh; and Jessica Young of Tecumseh.

Current Psi Beta members have been recognized for their accomplishments as well. SSC Psi Beta president elect, Nena Drawbaugh, has been elected as the National Student Psi Beta Communication Liaison from the SSC chapter. John Phelan serves as the National Vice President.

Dr. Jacqueline Stewart, SSC psychology instructor, was appointed by Phelan to serve as the Oklahoma State Liaison to the national organization. The organization provides opportunities to present research papers at regional meetings, attend national meetings and compete for national awards.

## SSC Instructor Gillespie Selected Oklahoma Territory Speaker

Seminole State College Employment Readiness instructor Norma Gillespie has been selected as an Oklahoma Territory Speaker by the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

Oklahoma Territory Speakers work to educate people with exciting, interesting and insightful program about Oklahoma history. Gillespie's two programs, "Reading Rocks" and "George, Henry, and Radclyffe Were Women," provide an interesting perspective on literacy in early Oklahoma.

"Being selected as a Territory Speaker is a great honor," said Gillespie. "As a speaker, I'm available to speak to various groups about one of my dearest loves. It's exciting."

Gillespie graduated from New Lima High School. She received an associate's of arts from Seminole Junior College and a bachelor's of arts from East Central University. She completed her master's of arts degree from the University of Central Oklahoma in May of 1993. She has been employed by SSC for the past 11 years, where she has worked with numerous state programs and served as an English instructor.

Territory Speaker programs cover a variety of topics ranging from Oklahoma's ethnic diversity, modern urban legends, Hispanic folklore, to women in the military. For more information on the Oklahoma Humanities Council Territory Speakers program, contact Linda Simms at (405) 235-0280.

## SSC Regents Convene for January

The Seminole State College Board of Regents approved terms of employment for the President at their January Board meeting.

The Board retired to Executive Session to "review and consider terms of employment of Dr. James W. Utterback." Opening returning to open session, the Board voted to renew the President's rolling three-year contract. He will receive a six percent raise, plus a \$10,000 bonus.

Following an unanimous vote for the increases in compensation, Walkenstick addressed Utterback, saying, "Since I've been associated with the College as a Board member, I have really been impressed with your leadership. We really appreciate the work you do."

Since Utterback's last salary increase in January, 2002, annual raises have been awarded to faculty and staff members; the College has set record enrollments; the roofs and heat and air systems have been replaced on campus buildings; and the Enoch Kelly Haney Center has been opened.

Utterback told the Board that the proposed \$500 million capital bond issue being proposed for higher education statewide was important to the future growth of Seminole State College.

"Equally important is the effort

to restore funding for higher education. We must continue to make faculty and staff salaries a priority in order to keep good people. They continue to be the backbone of our institutions. This funding initiative will be high on our agenda," Utterback said.

The Board was informed of several college personnel matters, including the recent retirement of sociology instructor Vera Jones and the upcoming retirement of Director of Human Resources Judy James. Jones has taught part time at the College since 1984 and full-time since 1999. James has been employed at the College for the past 28 years. Her position will be filled by Mona Ridley, former Media Relations Coordinator for the College.

Utterback told the Board that SSC TRIO adviser Norma Gillespie has been transferred internally to fill a vacancy in the Employment Readiness Program as a skills instructor. Additionally, Veterans Upward Bound adviser Erica Seyfert has submitted her letter of resignation.

The Board received information about the SSC Educational Foundation Holiday event held December 10, 2004, at the Wewoka Country Club. Over \$13,000 was raised for the Foundation.

The President shared news regarding federal money recently appropriated to the College through special

Congressional Awards. A report from the College's Washington D.C. consultant, Suzie Brewster, itemized \$425,000 in special monies for 2005.

Under action items, the Board voted to renew their annual contractual agreement with Suzie Brewster and Associates of Washington. Since the College began using this firm, SSC has been awarded \$2,149,937. The 2005 contract was renewed for \$42,000.

In other action, the Board approved four separate technology purchases utilizing federal monies awarded last year in support of the Haney Center. Six 50-inch NEC plasma screens and two 61-inch NEC plasma screens with mounting equipment from CDW were approved for purchase at a cost of \$43,759. Also approved were five symposiums for lecterns and a touch screen plasma overlay for a lobby kiosk to be placed in the Haney Center lobby from J.L. Hein Service, Inc., in the amount of \$13,509. Six Gateway computers with 17-inch flat screens were approved for purchase at a cost of \$7,428. In the last order of business, the Board approved \$13,999 in interactive video classroom equipment for purchase from SKC.

Under the consent agenda, the Board approved the FY06 Academic Calendar and accepted the 2003-2004 Assessment Report.

## Scholarship Created to Honor Debaters



**Bill Wantland, H.B. Mitchell and Tommy Kelton**

Two young men who brought a national debate title home to Seminole in 1952 will long be remembered because of a gift to the Seminole State College Educational Foundation.

Seminole resident Bill Wantland recently made a \$10,000 donation to establish the Kelton-Wantland Scholarship for speech and debate students. Wantland, who graduated from Seminole High School in 1952, was partnered with SJC debater Tommy Kelton while concurrently enrolled in Seminole Junior College his senior year. Under the guidance of legendary debate coach H.B. Mitchell, the two young men advanced to the 1952 national debate tournament in Pueblo, Colorado, to win a national championship.

Wantland and Kelton pursued educational and professional careers that took them to different parts of the world, but remained life-long friends. Wantland was raised in Seminole where he was valedictorian of his high school class. He was also the top student in his class at the University of Hawaii, and received a Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University. After a brief career with the FBI, he returned

to Seminole to practice law as a partner in the Bishop-Wantland firm. He served as a municipal judge, adjunct law school professor at the University of Oklahoma and Attorney General for Seminole Nation. He also



**Lana Reynolds, Bill Wantland and Judy James**

authored several textbooks. Wantland, who also holds a doctorate in religion and is a Bishop in the Episcopal Church. He moved to O'Clare, Wisc. in 1980 to serve as Bishop for that area. He continues to be active in the Anglican Church on regional and national levels, serving from 2000 to 2004 as the Assisting Bishop to the Diocese of Dallas for Hispanic Ministries.

Wantland again returned to Seminole in 1999 to retire but, was soon drafted back into public life. He currently represents Ward 1 as a member of the Seminole City Council.

According to Wantland, Kelton was a brilliant man who faced severe health problems throughout his life. He was a minister for the Church of Christ and served as a missionary to Africa. Kelton was also an author. He wrote the book, "More Than A Conqueror." Kelton died approximately eight years while awaiting a kidney transplant. His widow, Jane, lives in Midland, Texas.

Wantland's donation, made to honor his friend, will be endowed through the SSC Educational Foundation, with interest awarded in scholarships to students excelling in the areas of speech and debate.



**Tim Tingle**

## SGA Hosts Speaker

Award winning author and storyteller Tim Tingle spoke at Seminole State College's Jeff Johnston Auditorium on Wednesday, April 20, 2005.

Tingle's book, *Walking the Choctaw Road*, is the winner of "Oklahoma Reads Oklahoma Book of the Year for 2005."

As an Oklahoma Choctaw, Tingle explored the lore of Native American cultures through his entertaining, personal and traditional stories. He often accompanied his stories with authentic Choctaw songs, and an assortment of drums and rattles.

*Walking the Choctaw Road* is a collection of Choctaw stories based on Tingle's interviews with tribal elders in Mississippi, Texas, Alabama and Oklahoma. The book was chosen in 2004 as a "Notable Book for a Global Society" by the International Reader's Association and was selected as the "Alaska Reads! Book of the Year" for 2005 as well.



## James Retires from SSC

For the better part of three decades, Seminole State College has been a big part of Judy James' life. She has served as secretary to each of the College's four presidents, provided staff support to the College's Board of Regents as secretary, and handled bookkeeping duties for the SSC Educational Foundation.

James' association with Seminole and the College began in the early 1970s when she and her husband, Jim, moved to Seminole. Jim was the store manager for Anthony's Department Store in downtown Seminole. Judy took a job with Seminole Public Schools, working for a time at Wilson and Roosevelt Elementary Schools, before transferring to the superintendent's office.

The couple moved to Norman for a few years while Jim managed the Norman Anthony's store, and returned to Seminole when he began working for Wall's Bargain Center.

"When we moved back, Dr. Tanner called and asked if I wanted a job. At the time I wasn't interested in working, but, when I was ready, I took him up on his offer," she said.

James began working at the College in the financial aid office in August, 1976, and soon moved to the president's office. She remained there until 2001 when she was named Director of Human Resources.

In her position as secretary to the president, James worked directly for Dr. Tanner and his successors - Gregory Fitch, Dr. Jim Cook and Dr. Jim Utterback - a distinction that no one else on campus holds. A distinction that also often prompts co-workers to joke that she "knows where all the bodies are buried."

If she does, she's not telling anyone. James speaks of her "SSC family" and the pride she has in her long association with the College. She credits the presidents she served with leadership that literally built the college, increased the student population, insured the academic integrity of programs, and secured the financial status of the institution.

During her tenure, James wit-



**Judy James**

nessed the construction of the Colclazier Technical Building, Scott Building, Sarkeys Dormitory, Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Center, Phillips Building, Roesler Residential Learning Center and the Haney Center. James even saw the name change from Seminole "Junior" College to Seminole "State" College.

Throughout the years, James and her husband have been avid supporters of SSC sports programs. They've attended games, helped with Booster Club activities and provided financial support for the programs.

Judy and Jim have traveled six times to Grand Junction, Colorado, to watch the Trojan baseball team participate in the JUCO World Series.

She said the best thing about working at SSC is the feeling that your co-workers are your extended family. "It's small enough that you know everyone, and they know you. It's a comJames' son, Jeff James, works for Tri-Power Resources as a production superintendent for Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas and Illinois. Jeff and his wife, Heather, make their home in Seminole with their daughters Jensen, age 8, and Jacey, age 6.

SSC President, Dr. Jim Utterback, said James has been a valuable resource for his administration and will be greatly missed. "Judy's contributions to this institution have been great. We will miss her, but, we wish her well in her retirement," Utterback said.



**Zack Horn**

Seminole State College student Zack Horn of Seminole was one of the Oklahoma college and university students selected to attend the Nigh Institute Leadership Conference in Oklahoma City in late February.

Horn was selected to receive a 2005 George and Donna Nigh Public Service Scholarship through a program funded by the Oklahoma Legislature.

## Horn Attends Nigh Leadership Academy

Students visited with members of the House of Representatives and the Senate, as well as attended sessions concerning Oklahoma's environment, local government, government relations, Oklahoma's economic future, legislation and governmental affairs, and the role of education in Oklahoma.

During the sessions, the students heard from national and state leaders, including Governor Brad Henry, former Governor George Nigh, Director of the Nigh Academy, Carl F. Reherman; Economic Development Specialist Lance Johnson; Dr. Jim Bidlack, University of Central Oklahoma Professor; Oklahoma Representative Treber Worthen; Former First Lady Donna Nigh; Democratic Party Chairman Jay Parmley; Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives Todd Heitt; State Secretary of Personnel Management, Oscar Jackson; State Chamber President, Richard Rush; Okla-

homa Representative Ryan McMullen; Oklahoma Representative Joe Dorman; Jeff Cloud of the Oklahoma Copratation Commission; Chancellor of Higher Education, Dr. Paul Risser; State Treasurer Robert Butkin; Oklahoma Senate President Pro Tempore, Cal Hobson; Lt. Governor Mary Fallin; Oklahoma Senator Angela Monson; Oklahoma Senator Todd Lamb; Oklahoma Senator Mike Morgan; Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court, Joe Watt.

The group also had the opportunity to attend briefings from the Oklahoma Supreme Court, House of Representatives and Senate, as well as visit the Oklahoma City Bombing Memorial and attend a Blazers' Hockey game.

Horn is the son of Jack and Nancy Horn of Seminole. A freshman, he plans to continue his education and become a pediatrician.

## Schevetto to Attend "NEW" Women's Leadership Workshop in Norman

Seminole State College student Jami Schevetto has been selected to attend the National Education for Women's Leadership workshop at the University of Oklahoma, May 20-24, 2005.

NEW is a five-day residential program designed for undergraduate woman considering careers in politics and public service. The program will provide students the opportunity to interact with some of Oklahoma's female public officials and community leaders. The students will also work with each other in hands-on scenarios and on public policy issues.

"I really appreciate the faculty at Seminole State College for helping me to accomplish my academic goals," said Schevetto. "I am grateful to Dr. Jackie Stewart, Dr. and Mrs. James Utterback, as well as the Math, Science and Engineering Department, the Social Sciences Division and the English Department."

The NEW workshop hopes to teach students about the role of women in policymaking, improve their communication and decision making skills and help participants appreciate the challenges facing today's diverse society.

NEW sessions will be held on the University of Oklahoma's Center for Continuing Education and at the Oklahoma State Capitol.



**Jami Schevetto**

## Holmes Selected for Geraldine Burns Excellence in English Studies Award

Seminole State College student Jill Holmes has been selected as a winner of the 2005 Geraldine Burns Award for her excellence in English studies. Holmes was selected as the recipient of the award for Seminole State College and will receive a one-year membership into the Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English.

Holmes attended the Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English Teaching and Writing Celebration on April 6, at Oklahoma City University. Holmes and the other Geraldine Burns Award winners were honored with special certificates for their achievements at the celebration.

The Geraldine Burns Award for

Excellence in English Studies was created in 1988 by Dr. Jerry Nye, past president of the Oklahoma Council of Teachers of English. The award honors one undergraduate student from each higher education institution in Oklahoma.

Jill is the daughter of Thom and Susan Holmes, and resides in Chandler, Oklahoma. She attended Seminole State College where she is currently majoring in Pre-Medicine.

At SSC, Holmes is involved in numerous activities and organizations. She currently serves as president for Sigma Kappa Delta, is a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and is a vocalist with SSC's band Permanent Issue.



*Jill Holmes*

## Employment Readiness Speakers Prepare Students for the Workforce

What do a retailer, two cosmetologists, a brick mason and an insurance agent have in common? They have all recently been guest speakers for Seminole State College's Employment Readiness Program.

Seminole State Farm Insurance Agent Darren Frederick discussed how to prepare résumé and cover letters, as well as proper interview etiquette with students. Frederick also highlighted the responsibility of representing a nationally-known company.

Clay Gillespie, former bookstore manager for Family Christian Stores and Barnes and Noble, shared the importance of completing job applications in their entirety. He also stressed being well-groomed and properly dressed for interviews.

Seminole cosmetologists Carolyn Kernal and Stephanie Jay emphasized the importance of job satisfaction. Kernal discussed the positive and negative aspects of owning a business vs. working for an employer. Both Jay and

Kernal agreed that liking people is vital when working in a personal service industry.

Lewis Gillespie, owner of Wewoka Masonry, discussed reputation with the students.

"A good reputation comes from having good work ethics," said Gillespie. "Word of mouth is the best advertisement. And, stand behind your work. This gets referrals."

Oklahoma's need for the ER Program developed when the state responded to welfare changes passed by Congress and signed by the President. In 1996, Oklahoma signed a contract with the federal government to reduce the state's welfare rolls by 25 percent. The changes are designed to provide job training for welfare recipients and place them into productive employment.

The Employment Readiness Program helps educate Department of Human Services welfare recipients and place them in productive jobs. The

Employment Readiness Program, ER for short, is designed to allow Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) recipients to enroll in classes and receive "employment readiness" training. In order to complete the ER program, students must have taken classes in job training and successfully found part-time or full-time employment.

The Employment Readiness Program is housed in the College Community Services Building, 210 Oak Street, Seminole, Okla. For more information



## Abreu Named Volleyball All-American



*Juliana Abreu*

Seminole State College volleyball stand-out Juliana Abreu has been

named Second Team All-American for Division I of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Abreu, a 5'11" sophomore from Contegem, Minas Gerais, Brazil, is a graduate of Bairro Amazonas High School. She tallied 54 service aces and 502 kills on the season, averaging a .301 hitting percentage for the season. Abreu helped lead the Lady Trojans volleyball team to a Region II championship last fall which qualified them for the NJCAA national tournament held in late November in Missouri. It was the first time in the history of Seminole State College volleyball that the College's team competed in nationals.

After a heart-breaking loss to Frank Phillips of Texas in their opening match, the Lady Trojans rebounded

to defeat teams from North Carolina, Texas and Idaho. SSC completed the tournament as the top team in the consolation bracket finishing the season ninth in the national standings.

SSC Volleyball Coach Erin Pick said Abreu is a great player and a great person. "She has a tremendous work ethic both on and off the court. Plus, she's one of those people that everyone seems to know. She's a nice person and extremely outgoing," Pick said.

Abreu plans to continue her athletic career at Northwestern Louisiana University, said Pick. Abreu's photo and recognition appeared, along with 23 other volleyball All-Americans, in the January, 2005 issue of *JUCO Review*. It is the official publication of the National Junior College Athletic Association.

## Trojans End Season with Trip to NJCAA National Tournament

### Season Honors

**Dr. Tom Mills**  
*Region II Coach of the Year*

**Dee Ayuba**  
*All-Region Team*

**Darold Crow**  
*Region II All-Tournament Team*

**Reggie Bibb**  
*Region II Tournament MVP*



**2004-05 Seminole State College  
NJCAA National Men's Basketball Tournament Team**

## Foundation Hires Rural Business and Resources Center Coordinator

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation has named Leslie Pritchard Daugherty as the Coordinator of SSC's new "Rural Business and Resources Center." Daugherty is originally from Seminole, Oklahoma. She holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

"Leslie is a wonderful addition to our staff," said Lana Reynolds, SSC Associate Vice President for Business and Community Relations. "I know she will be a tremendous asset for both Seminole and the Rural Business and Resource Center. We are thrilled to have her on board."

Daugherty will primarily be "in the field" working with businesses and economic development efforts in SSC's service area. The center's office is housed in the Foundation's community service center downtown across from

the Seminole post office, at 229 N. 2nd. Daugherty's position and the new program are being funded by a federal grant from the Small Business Administration through a partnership between the SSC Foundation and Rural Enterprises of Oklahoma, Inc. (REI).

The center will serve as an extension of services provided by REI out of their Durant office.

"Seminole is close to my heart," said Daugherty. "I am excited for any opportunity to benefit SSC and the communities in its service area. This is an exciting program, and I'm proud to be a part of it."

Daugherty and her husband, David, who is employed as a project coordinator for Carl Albert State College's State Assessment Services, make their home in Shawnee. She is the daughter of Seminole residents Jeff and Terri Pritchard.



**Leslie Daugherty**

Daugherty will have regular, posted office hours in the downtown Seminole office on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. She will also be available at that location at other times by appointment. She can be reached by phone at 405-303-2949.

## Webb Selected as Media Coordinator



**Shannon Webb**

Seminole State College has named Shannon Webb as the new Co-

ordinator of Media Relations. Webb is originally from Cordell, Oklahoma. She holds both a bachelor's and a master's degree in agricultural communications from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

"We are very excited about having Shannon as a member of the Seminole State College professional staff. She will be the day-to-day contact between area media and the College, as well as have the responsibility for campus publications," said Lana Reynolds, Associate Vice President for Business and Community Relations. "I know she will be a tremendous asset for the College as well as the community."

While at Oklahoma State, Webb served as the graduate assistant for Oklahoma State University Student Union Marketing and the Office of University of Research Services. She was also selected as an executive mar-

keting director for Orange Peel 2002. In 2003, Webb was recognized as the Outstanding Graduate in Agricultural Communications and as a Dean Fred LeCrone Top Five Graduating Senior in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources. She was a member of Phi Kappa Phi, Order of Omega, Mortar Board, Alpha Zeta, Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Eta Sigma honor societies.

"I am thrilled to be at Seminole State College," said Webb. "SSC has a tradition for excellence, and I am excited to be a part of such a wonderful institution."

Webb fills a vacancy created by Mona Ridley, who now serves as the College's Director of Human Resources.

Webb's office is located in the main lobby area of the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. She can be reached by e-mail at [webb\\_s@ssc.cc.ok.us](mailto:webb_s@ssc.cc.ok.us).

## Administrators Speak on Economic Development at National Workshop

Seminole State College officials were invited to speak about "Building Partnerships for Local Economic Development" at a national conference this week in New York City.

Dr. Jim Utterback, President, and Lana Reynolds, Associate Vice President for Business and Community Relations, made the presentation at the "Innovations 2005" conference sponsored by the League of Innovation. The League, an international consortium of more than 700 institutions, works to improve community colleges through innovation, experimentation and institutional transformation.

The workshop presentation by Utterback and Reynolds highlighted Seminole State College's activities working with local and state agencies and councils in the area of economic development and business training. With economic development as a key function in SSC's mission, as approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, the College began developing a Business and Industry Training Program five years ago. Efforts in this area were expanded with the completion of a new training and community facility - the Enoch Kelly Haney Center - in 2002.

Utterback and Reynolds discussed the College's response to the announcement of the layoffs at Seminole's Wrangler/VF Jeanswear plants in the fall of 2003. Included in the response were a series of special events and workshops hosted at the College to assist the displaced workers. A Town Hall Meeting, "Services Fair," "Job Fair" and "Service of Hope" were among the major events held in the Haney Center for the Wrangler employees.

Additionally, the College partnered with other educational and service agencies to present entrepreneurial seminars and specialized training workshops.

Conference attendees were also told about the establishment of a tem-



**Dr. James Utterback and Lana Reynolds**

porary re-employment center at SSC, as well as the College's role in recruiting and providing temporary incubator space for a new call center business. The SSC Educational Foundation's purchase of a building in downtown Seminole to house a one-stop shop for community service organizations related to employment was discussed.

Reynolds said, "The College has been able to coordinate the efforts by agencies and organizations offering assistance to the workers affected by the layoffs. We have also had the opportunity to play a role in bringing jobs to Seminole. Many communities across the nation can identify with our story of a rural community facing economic challenges due to the loss of manufacturing jobs.

"There were many questions and much interest in our presentation from conference attendees from all parts of the country. We to share ideas on how our colleges can better provide training and services to improve the economic climate of our respective areas," said Reynolds.

According to Utterback, "We have

