SSC Offers Introduction to Painting Course

Seminole State College’s Business and Industry Training Program is offering a special five-day introduction to painting course starting Saturday, Feb. 11.

The class, “Introduction to Painting,” will meet Saturdays, Feb. 11, 18, March 4, 25 and April 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in room 104 on the Colclazier Technical Building on the SSC campus. The course cost $80.

The key features of the course will be an introduction to materials for watercolor, acrylic and oil painting, basic elements of composition and design and basic elements of color theory. Beverly Williams, an award winning artist, will instruct the five-day seminar. Williams, who has been employed with SSC since 1991, currently serves as a science instructor.

“This course will allow students to dig into painting with new media while having fun,” said SSC Business and Industry Training Coordinator Carol Hartman.

Those wanting to enroll in the introduction to painting course are encouraged to call the College’s Admissions Office at (405) 382-9950. The Office of Admissions is located in the Tanner Hall Administration Building. The Admissions Office is open Mondays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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...And the winner is...

Seminole State College President and Seminole’s 2004 “Citizen of the Year” Dr. Jim Utterback congratulates Sue Snodgrass as the 2005 recipient of the “Citizen of the Year” recognition at the Feb. 7 Seminole Chamber banquet. Snodgrass is a trustee and former chair of the SSC Educational Foundation. She is co-owner of TS&H Shirt Company and a past Seminole Chamber President. She is also a member of the College’s Alumni Hall of Fame, a member of the first Belles basketball team, and an avid SSC athletic supporter.

Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

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SSC Baseball Hosts Diamond Dinner

Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher and 2003 Cy Young Award winner, Eric Gagne, speaks about his experiences as a Seminole Trojan baseball player (left). Read more about the Diamond Dinner on Page 3.

SSC Regents Hold January Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents convened for the first time in the new year. At their January meeting, the SSC Board hired an architectural firm for campus building projects, approved fee increases and accepted a Cooperative Alliance Agreement with Gordon Cooper Technology Center.

An agenda item, presented annually, to review and consider terms of employment of the president was tabled by the Regents following comments by the Board Chairman and other Regents praising Dr. Jim Utterback for his service at the College.

Board Chairman Derrill Cody, who is in his seventh year as a Regent for SSC, said he had been thinking on his drive from Norman to the College about the accomplishments at the College he has seen during his tenure as a Regent.

“This is just amazing. The things that are going to happen here are going to be even more amazing. I can’t describe what a wonderful job that I think he has done at this institution. ’I’ve spent my whole career in the corporate world. I’ve had a lot of people that have reported to me. I’ve seen lots of people that have had lots of positions as either the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Executive Officer, but I’ve not seen anyone – in any job – that’s accomplished what that job requires like this man has,’” Cody said.

Regent Marci Donaho added to Cody’s comments, saying, “Not only has Dr. Utterback done a great job at the College – but he has committed the College to the community. In a lot of communities you don’t see that.”

Regent Roger Nansel complimented Utterback on his efforts to help the call center company recruited to Seminole in 2003. He said, “Speaking as a banker, economic development is important to allow Seminole to continue to grow. Dr. Utterback has been directly responsible in getting a building (the former Nichols Grocery Store) purchased and remodeling it to keep a viable employer in town,” Nansel said.

Cody recommended that the Board table action regarding Utterback’s terms of employment. He appointed Regent Jon Flowers and Regent Roger Nansel as a Regent Jon Flowers and Regent Roger Nansel.”

“...I’ve not seen any one-in any job- that’s accomplished what... this man has.”

-- Derrill Cody
SSC Regents Chairman
Trojan Baseball Hosts First Annual Diamond Dinner to Kick Off Spring Season

Seminole State College baseball alumni, current players and supporters of the program, gathered in Foundation Hall of the Enoch Kelly Haney Center for the Trojan Diamond Dinner.

Nearly 300 people were in attendance — including guests from throughout the state, as well as from Colorado, California, New York, Kansas, Texas, Arkansas, Arizona and Florida.

The guest speaker for the event was Eric Gagne, a 1995 Trojan who now pitches for the Los Angeles Dodgers and was the recipient of the 2003 Cy Young Award. Gagne, a native of Canada, was recruited to Seminole by former Trojan Coach Lloyd Simmons.

Gagne told the crowd about the important role his decision to come to SSC played in his life. He praised his former coach for teaching him how to be a better man and how to work hard to reach his goals. He also said that Seminole was where he learned to speak English.

Following the banquet, Gagne was joined by Trojan alumni Ryan Franklin, who pitches for the Philadelphia Phillies, and Shane Halter, who has been with the Chicago Cubs organization, in signing autographs for fans.

The Trojan Diamond Dinner was the official kick-off for the 2006 baseball season. The Trojans open their season at home on Saturday, Feb. 11 with a double-header against North Central Texas and Laredo, Texas. The games begin at 1 p.m.
---Regents Continued---

gent David Wilson to serve on a compensation committee to review the salary and benefits of other institution presidents to ensure that Seminole State College remains competitive. The committee is scheduled to report back to the full board during the February meeting.

During the President’s report to the Board, Utterback provided a list of the college’s accomplishments during 2005, as well as an update on the Robert Ross International University of Nursing partnership. The President also invited the Regents to attend Higher Education Day at the Capitol scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 15, and gave an update regarding the SSC tennis program.

Utterback told the Board that a delegation consisting of nursing faculty and administrators from SSC and Northern Oklahoma College, along with State Representative Shane Jett (R-Tecumseh), just returned from a comprehensive review of the Robert Ross International University of Nursing this week.

The College entered into a partnership agreement last summer to provide training for students from the University. SSC Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Rebecca Kennedy and SSC Nursing Division Chair Nina Kirk praised the institution for their quality facilities and experienced faculty.

Utterback also informed the Board that, upon recommendation of SSC Athletic Director Rusty Beene, he has suspended recruitment for the Seminole State College tennis program. Due to the NJCAA elimination of Division II competition in the sport and a temporary lack of adequate housing for athletes, Utterback said that the College needed to carefully weigh its options before continuing to recruit students for the program.

The Board’s first item of business was to hire an architectural firm for the College’s upcoming construction projects related to the 2005 State Higher Education Bond Issue. Utterback informed the Board that in compliance with state guidelines for selecting an architect, requests for proposals were sent out last fall. He said that close to 30 firms submitted proposals for consideration. A campus committee reviewed the proposals and identified six firms to visit campus and make presentations to members of the College’s building committee. Through independent evaluations of the presentations, Meyer Architecture Plus, LLC of Oklahoma City, received the highest ranking.

Paul Meyer and Gary Armbruster of the firm attended the meeting and provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting their recent work on educational facilities. Following the presentation, the Board voted to hire Meyer Architecture Plus LLC for the SSC projects.

Under the next item of business, the Board approved a proposal to increase the College’s infrastructure fee from $3 to $4 per credit hour. The additional funds would help offset the costs associated with construction of future Capital Bond projects and maintenance for the structures.

The Board also voted to approve an increase in the cost of annual parking permits from $15 to $25; parking fines from $5 to $10; late enrollment fee from $5 to $10; and created a $50 late payment fee. The increase in parking fees would be used to aid in the development of new parking spaces across campus, as well as maintain existing parking areas. The increase in the parking fine fee will help offset the labor costs associated with the police department. The late enrollment fee and late payment fee will encourage early enrollment and compensate SSC for the funds lost when turning outstanding accounts over to an outside collection agency.

The Regents approved the addition of three additional fees for the FY07 fiscal year. A $20 international student fee will help offset the cost of processing I-20 documentation to the Department of Homeland Security-Student Exchange Visitor Information System. A $10 per credit hour outreach/non-campus fee was created to help reimburse mileage to faculty who teach off-campus and provide tech support for faculty and students with Web or on-line courses. The $15 per credit hour nursing fee will go toward required technical skill supplies for nursing students and travel for nursing faculty during clinical study.

In the next item of business, the SSC Regents voted to enter into a Cooperative Alliance Agreement with Gordon Cooper Technology Center in Shawnee. The alliance will allow eligible high school and adult students at GCC to earn credit at SCC that will be immediately transcripted. The agreement had already been approved by the GCC Board of Education. It will now be presented to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education for final approval.

Board members present at the meeting included: Derrill Cody, David Wilson, William Harrison, Jr., Roger Nansel, Bill Huser and Marci Donaho. The SSC Board of Regents’ next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2006.

Oklahoma Delegation Visits International University of Nursing

A delegation from Oklahoma visited the Robert Ross International University of Nursing campus in St. Kitts, Jan. 14-18. Presidents of Seminole State College and Northern Oklahoma College were joined by nursing division chairs from each school, along with other administrators and Oklahoma State Representative from District 27 Shane Jett (R-Tecumseh). Seminole State College has established a partnership with RRIUON to accept international transfer students into the SSC nursing program.

SSC Reaches Out to Fire Victims

Seminole State College hosted an American Red Cross meeting for Seminole area wildfire victims on January 10. Over 175 individuals were in attendance. Sixteen service providers set up booths to offer assistance to the victims. Services ranged from agricultural assistance to banking.
SSC Students Comparable on National Standardized Academic Profile Test

According to the results of a recent Academic Profile Test, the general education of Seminole State College students is comparable to other higher learning institutions across the nation. The Academic Profile Test, developed by the nationally recognized College Board and Educational Testing Service, is a national standardized test used by colleges and universities across the country to assess college-level reading, mathematics, writing and critical thinking in the context of humanities, social sciences and natural sciences classes. The test focuses on academic skills which should be developed through college general education courses, not on knowledge gained about the subjects taught in each course. The goal of the test is to measure general education outcomes among college students so higher education institutions can improve their teaching methods.

“The results of the Academic Profile Test confirm what other assessment tools have previously indicated—Seminole State College is fulfilling its academic mission,” said Larry Vickers, Seminole State College Assessment of Student Learning Coordinator. “In addition, the data indicate that the general education students are receiving at SSC is comparable to that of other institutions nationally.”

National averages for the test are based on over 38,000 students from 71 colleges who offer an Associate of Arts degree from across the nation. Preliminary analysis of SSC students’ scores showed that Seminole State College students have comparable skills to students from other institutions across the nation.

The Academic Profile Test is in its fourth year at Seminole State College. In the Fall 2005 semester, 144 SSC students were tested. Assessment standards require SSC to use the test results of students with 45 or more credit hours for a Mid-Level assessment, which is required by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education.

For more information on the test, contact Vickers at (405) 382-9239.