

SSC Regents Hold December Meeting

The Seminole State College Board of Regents convened in December for the last time in 2005. At their December meeting, the SSC Board heard about progress regarding a new Educational Foundation business incubator and selected new internal and external auditors for the College.

During the President's report to the Board, Dr. Jim Utterback provided a personnel update and presented a list of proposed dates for the 2006 Regents meetings. He also announced that Higher Ed Day at the Capitol will take place Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2006.

The president updated the Board on a variety of campus activities, as well provided information pertaining to the SSC Educational Foundation. Utterback discussed the status of the Rural Business and Resources Center grant, as well as the hiring of Larry Smith as the RBRC's director.

Under the first item of business, Utterback told the Board that Seminole State College was one of only five institutions in the state to receive the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Economic RESOLUTION Development Grant. The \$150,000 award SSC received is the maximum amount granted. The Board voted to assign the grant money over the SSC Educational Foundation in accordance with the grant application and intent of the OSRHE award. The Foundation will put the money toward establishing a new SSC Educational Foundation business incubator in the former Nichols Grocery Store at 600 W. Strother in Seminole.

Next, the Board reviewed proposals from firms who responded to the solicitation for bids to become the College's external and internal auditors. BKD out of Tulsa was selected to perform the internal audit for the next year. The Oklahoma City accounting firm of Cole & Reed was chosen to provide external audit services for a five-year period.

Under the next item of business, the Board voted to renew SSC's annual contract with Suzie Brewster & Associates for consulting services in Washington, D.C. The terms and conditions of the contract remained unchanged from the 2004-2005 agreement.

For the last item on the agenda, the Board voted by consent to accept the Seminole State College 2004-2005 OSRHE Assessment Report.

Board members present at the meeting included: Derrill Cody, David Wilson, William Harrison, Jr., Roger Nansel, Jon Flowers, Bill Huser and Marci Donaho.

The SSC Board of Regents' next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 19, 2006.

Library Hours

Monday-Tuesday: 8 a.m.-8:30 p.m.
Wednesday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Bookstore Hours

Monday: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.
Tuesday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Seminole State College COLLEGIAN

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Fall Semester Concludes with a Host of Activities for Students & Staff



Far Left: SSC faculty and staff gather for Coffee with the President. SSC science students spend the day at the Oklahoma City Zoo exploring the atrium and aquarium (left & below). Center Left: SSC students and staff gather during the annual SSC strategic planning retreat.



Far Left: Community leaders gather at the annual SSC Educational Foundation fundraiser in Shawnee. SSC Chi Alpha members lead a holiday song service at the Seminole Pioneer Nursing Home (left).

Smith Named Director of College's Rural Business & Resources Center

The Seminole State College Educational Foundation has announced the hiring of Larry K. Smith to direct the SSC Rural Business and Resources Center. The Center was established last year as a partnership program between the College's Foundation and Rural Enterprises, Inc., of Oklahoma (REI) to assist with economic development efforts in the College's five-county service area. The program is funded through a Small Business Administration (SBA) federal grant.

The SSC Rural Business and Resources Center (RBRC) assists business owners and individuals pursuing entrepreneurial projects by providing counseling services and directing them to other business resources. Additionally, the director serves as a liaison for REI and Seminole State College with communities in Seminole, Pottawatomie, Lincoln, Okfuskee and Hughes counties.

Smith, who retired in December from OG+E after 32 years of service to the state-wide utility company, began work for the SSC Educational Foundation January 2.

SSC President Dr. Jim Utterback and SSC Educational Foundation Chair Harvey Robinson said they were pleased that Smith was interested in this position.

Utterback said, "Larry Smith is one of the most effective and highly-respected community leaders I have ever known. His vision, enthusiasm, and integrity, coupled with his proven knowledge of economic development will be a tremendous asset for this entire region. I am extremely excited and proud to have him in this important position."

Robinson added, "We feel very fortunate that the timing worked out for Larry to accept this position. I am confident he'll do a great job. Larry's background in economic development and familiarity with these communities will make him of great service to the Rural Business and Resources Center, the College and Foundation."

During Smith's extensive career with OG+E, he has served as a meter reader, field man, clerk, accounting supervisor and regional credit manager. He was District Manager for the Seminole area, and later Regional Manager for Shawnee, Seminole, Wewoka and Holdenville. Following service as Regional Manager for Southern Oklahoma, based out of Ardmore, Smith was promoted to serve as Coordinator for Governmental Relations for OG+E corporate.

Smith has been highly involved in community service in the towns in which he has lived and worked. He has been an active member of civic clubs and Chambers of Commerce in Wewoka, Holdenville, Madill, Shawnee and Ardmore. He served as president of the Seminole Chamber of Commerce in 1993 and was named Seminole's "Citizen of the Year" in 1990. He is a past chairman of the Seminole State College Educational Foundation, and has served as a trustee for the Foundation for the past 15 years.

Smith has also been involved with economic development organizations in several towns. He is a past member of the Seminole Industrial Foundation and the Shawnee Industrial Economic Foundation.

He has volunteered for numerous charitable entities, including Ducks Unlimited, Salvation Army, Wilson Boys and Girls Club, Shawnee United Way, Ardmore Development Authority, Ardmore-Carter County United Way, Madill Summer Youth Program and the Shawnee Convention and Visitor Bureau.

A graduate of Seminole State College, Smith was honored with induction into the College's Alumni Hall of Fame in 1995. He attended East Central University in Ada and has done additional study at the University of Idaho College of Business and Economics.

Smith said he is excited about this opportunity. "I was born and raised - and have worked - in this five-county area most of my life. I am honored to have been selected for this position. I plan to devote my full attention to moving the Rural Business and Resources Center, the SSC Educational Foundation and Seminole State College forward as part of a great team," Smith said.

Smith and his wife Sandy make their home in Shawnee. They have two children, Ryan Smith of Midwest City, who is Junior High School basketball coach at Jones Middle School, and Kelli Smith, who is a speech pathologist for Moore Public Schools.



Larry Smith

'06 Spring Semester Calendar

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 16
NO CLASS, OFFICES CLOSED

Presidents' Day

Monday, February 20
NO CLASS, OFFICES CLOSED

Interscholastic Meet

Wednesday, March 1
NO CLASS

Spring Break

Wednesday-Friday, March 13-17
NO CLASS, OFFICES CLOSED

Last Day to Withdraw

Wednesday, April 12

Final Exams

Tuesday-Friday, May 9-12

Semester Ends

Friday, May 12

Final Exams

Saturday, May 13

Hide and Seek

Can You Find the Hidden Word?

Congratulations to Vice President for Student Affairs Brad Walck for finding the hidden word in the December COLLEGIAN! He won the SSC travel mug.

The word RESOLUTION is hidden in a story somewhere in this publication. The first person to report his/her findings in person, will receive a FREE 20 oz. Seminole State College insulated car mug from the SSC Bookstore. The mug can be continually refilled in the SSC food court for a discounted rate of 50 cents!

Participants must report their findings to the SSC Media Relations Office, in person, on the first floor of the SSC Haney Center. The winner will also be pictured in the February COLLEGIAN.

All readers are eligible. Participants are limited to one win per semester. The type of contest is subject to change every month. Good luck, SSC Fans!!!



December COLLEGIAN "Hide and Seek" winner, Brad Walck