College Awarded $2.3 Million for Upward Bound Grants

Seminole State College received word that it will receive over $2.3 million in federal grant money for a Veterans Upward Bound Program and an Upward Bound Math – Science Program. The current Veterans Upward Bound grant was renewed for $273,278 annually for four years, and a new Upward Bound Math-Science grant for $250,000 annually was awarded for five years. These grants are in addition to two Upward Bound grants awarded to the College in the Spring of 2007.


Seminole State’s application for the Math-Science grant scored a perfect 100 percent as judged by three independent readers. The Veterans Upward Bound grant application received two scores of 98 percent and one of 96 percent.

The Veterans Upward Bound program is designed to generate skills and the motivation necessary to complete a secondary education and enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Services include individualized instruction in math, lab science, foreign language, composition and literature. The program also assists participants with career exploration, financial aid, study skills, cultural enrichment activities, tours of area colleges and enrollment assistance.

The grant funds offices both on the SSC campus and in Midwest City near Rose State College.

The program serves 120 veterans who have served at least 180 days of active duty after January 31, 1955, who were discharged or released from active duty under conditions other than dishonorable.

Areas served by the grant are: Canadian, Hughes, Logan, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Pottawatomie (continued on next page)

2007-2008 Student Government Association Officers Elected

Seminole State College recently held its 2007-2008 Student Government Association (SGA) officer elections, and Justin Huff of Prague was elected president. Ashley Greene of Shawnee was chosen as vice president and Lanika Barnett of Seminole was selected as secretary.

Sophomore senators are Chelsi Whitmire of Kirbyville, Texas and David Neuman of Harrah. Freshman senators include Morgan Whitmire of Prague, Jasmine Thompson of Norman, Keandra Savage of Fort Worth and Alexis Lopez of Miami, Fl. Each campus organization also has a SGA representative. Cynthia Yerby is the SGA sponsor.
Kennedy reappointed to Commission on the Status of Women

Dr. Rebecca Kennedy, Seminole State College vice president for academic affairs, has been reappointed to the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women.

The Oklahoma Legislature created the Oklahoma Commission on the Status of Women in 1994 to act as an advisory entity on equity issues relating to gender bias, monitor legislation to determine whether it is discriminatory toward one gender or the other, and act as a resource and a clearinghouse for research on issues related to women and gender bias.

Kennedy has been a member of the commission since its inception. Her latest appointment to the board was by the Speaker of the House of Representatives Lance Cargill.

Kennedy has more than twenty years of senior level experience in Oklahoma higher education. She was named Vice President of Academic Affairs at SSC in 2002. Previously, Kennedy was employed at East Central University in Ada and Redlands Community College in El Reno.

She has private sector management experience in newspapers and common education experience. She holds a doctorate in education and a master’s in public administration from the University of Oklahoma.

“It is an honor to have someone of Dr. Kennedy’s talent and character a part of the Seminole State College family. Her commitment to education, service, and equality extends beyond this community. Her consecutive appointments to the Commission are not by chance - she truly strives for the fair treatment of all mankind. We know she will continue to be a faithful servant of the Commission,” said SSC President Jim Utterback.

The Commission consists of thirty members who serve staggered five-year terms; ten members are appointed by the Governor, ten by the President Pro Tempore, and ten by the Speaker.

One year remains on Seminole State College’s current Veterans Upward Bound grant. The new award will fund the program for four years beginning Sept. 1, 2008 and continuing through Aug. 31, 2012.

The new Upward Bound Math-Science Program will provide intensive instruction in mathematics and science, including hands-on experience in laboratories, in computer facilities, and at field-sites.

The project will include a six-week summer residential camp. The summer program will include individualized instruction in various academic areas as well as ACT preparation workshops, cultural enrichment activities, tours of area colleges and enrollment assistance. The program also provides a summer “bridge” program for graduating participants to allow them to enroll in up to nine hours of college credit.

The program will serve 50 students in grades 9-12 from Butner, Holdenville, Macomb, Paden, Seminole, Shawnee, Strother, Tecumseh, Weleetka and Wewoka schools.


Dr. Jim Utterback, SSC President, complimented the college staff on their efforts to obtain these grants.

“TRiO Programs Director Kathy Hoover and her staff did an outstanding job in obtaining these grants. The benefits of the Upward Bound programs are far-reaching. Additionally, bringing these federal dollars to campus has a tremendous economic benefit on the College, Seminole and surrounding communities,” he said.

Utterback continued by saying that each time a new grant program is added, or expanded, at the college, it has the equivalent economic impact of bringing a new small business to the area.

Seminole State College now operates seven federal grant programs. With the new award, SSC federal programs will employ 21 full-time and 30 to 40 part-time people. The programs have a combined annual operating budget of approximately $2,096,672.

SEMINOLE NATION DAYS PARADE

Seminole State College participated in the Sept. 15 Seminole Nation Days parade held in Seminole’s downtown area on Main Street. SSC President, Dr. Jim Utterback, was invited to ride as one of the parade dignitaries with tribal leaders near the front of the parade. He was escorted by several SSC students, including: Larry Morgan, Hartshorne; Luke Yates, Seminole; Sarah Rooney, Shawnee; Brett Gowdy, Seminole; and Brooke Belles, Seminole. The SSC parade vehicle was driven by SSC Coordinator of Recruiting and Campus Activities Tracy Licas.

President Utterback and Seminole Nation Chief Enoch Kelly Haney visit prior to the Seminole Nation Days parade.

BIG LEAGUES

During a recent trip to Washington D.C., Dr. Jim Utterback, President, had the opportunity to visit with former Trojan baseball player Chris Schroder. Schroder, who graduated from Seminole State in 1999, is now a relief pitcher for the Washington Nationals. He is a native of Okarche, Oklahoma. Other Seminole State College alums currently active in major league baseball include: Reggie Willits with the California Angels, Adam LaRoche with the Pittsburgh Pirates, Eric Gagne with the Boston Red Sox, Kelly Stinnett with the St. Louis Cardinals, and Ryan Franklin with the St. Louis Cardinals.
Fallin-Coates-Kiesel Invitational Golf Tournament raises over $17,000 for SSC Foundation!

Congresswoman Mary Fallin

Senator Harry Coates

Foundation Trustee Bob Swearingen

Representative Ryan Kiesel

Foundation Trustee Dorothy Forth and Regent Marci Donaho check in golfers Regent Jeff Miller and Regent Jon Flowers.

Foundation Trustee Curtis Morgan is recognized for his selection to the JUCO World Series 50th Anniversary Team.
College’s Medical Laboratory Receives New Equipment

Seminole State College students working in the medical laboratory will be trained with some of the latest technology available, thanks to an award from the Labs are Vital™ grant program.

SSC’s Medical Laboratory Technology Program is one of 15 clinical education programs from across the United States selected to receive diagnostic equipment, supplies and service through a $1 million donation sponsored by Abbott Diagnostics.

SSC’s laboratory is now the home to a new a CELL-DYN 1800, a hematology analyzer. The machine is the same equipment currently used at Seminole Medical Clinic. The donation of the state-of-the-art equipment, valued at $30,000, included free supplies and service for three years – worth an additional $30,000.

Perthena Latchaw, Medical Laboratory Technology Program Director, received word in July of the award. Last week, the equipment was delivered to the campus. Latchaw said access to current equipment allows students to have real experience working with modern technology and effectively reduce time spent in clinical experiences.

“Many qualified students apply to our program each year and we are faced with turning some of them away due to clinical space. I believe that if we are able to shorten the clinical experience, then we will be able to increase our class size and prepare more students to enter the field,” said Latchaw.

The donation is a major component of Labs Are Vital™, an Abbott Diagnostics initiative that seeks to revive the laboratory profession and improve the quality of lab life. According to the Labs are Vital™ website, the program seeks to address one of the most serious problems facing the clinical lab today: college and hospital-based training programs that are increasingly underfunded and in short supply.

“We are doing a good job, but I know we will do a better job with a quicker smoother, transition to the workplace for our students. We cannot thank Abbott Diagnostics enough for their contribution. This equipment will help us better serve our students, and in turn, help them better serve patients,” Latchaw continued.

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Honor Roll Recognizes Summer Students for Academic Achievement

Seminole State College has released the names of honor roll students for the 2007 summer semester. Two separate honor rolls recognize students enrolled in six or more credit hours for their academic achievements.

The President’s Honor Roll is comprised of students who maintain a perfect 4.0 grade-point-average. Students named to the Vice President’s Honor Roll must have a 3.5 grade-point-average or better and no grade below a “C”.

Students named to the President’s Honor Roll include:

ADA
Theresa Martin

APPLETON, Wis.
Jeremy Rowe

ASHER
Sherri Whittle

HOLDENVILLE
Laura Merriman
Alex Sherry

JAMAICA
Melessa Mattis

LEXINGTON, Ohio
Brian Weirich

MACOMB
Emma Nicely

MCLOUD
Jamie Bugos

OKEMAH
Laura Borges
Steven Brandt
Glendon Gunter
Kimberly Witham

PRAGUE
Catherine Brown
Adam Grant
Lindsay Mcgee
Leslie O’Neal
Michelle Richardson

SEMINOLE
Donna Armour
Jonathan Bennett
Katy Brinlee
Monique Cruz
Denise Fixico
Stephen Fritz
Georgia Ramsey

SHAWNEE
Radhika Bhakta
Charlsie Bowlan
Jessika Carrington
Jaclyn Cullum
Shawn Day
Lisa Fipps
Tonya George
Kirbey Goodnight
Stacey Hill
Britany Lakins
Kelsey Ledford
Shayna Legg
Derrick Mcanally
Bruce Mitchell
Cody Pearson
Griffin Santino
John Shoemaker
Jennifer Trapp
Laina Wagner
Sara Whitesides

SPARKS
Zach Tyra

ST PAUL, Minn.
Margaret Dickinson

TECUMSEH
Tiffany Fowler
Rebecca Hale
Tina Hutchinson
Trace Lenaburg
Jonathan Strickland
Melissa Timperley

WELLETKA
Cheryl Fisher

WETUMKA
Jamie Baldwin

WEWOKA
Robin Chesser
Barbara Kincade
Juanita Porter

WILLOWBROOK, Ill.
Lauren Piasecki

Students named to the Vice President’s Honor Roll include:

ADA
Blake Walker

EARLSBORO
Michael Munguia

HOLDENVILLE
April Gentry
Doyle Hooks
Amber Walton

MACOMB
Amanda Parker
Michelle Seifert

MAUD
Casaundra Garren
Stella Gibson

MCLOUD
Elizabeth Orsburn

OKEMAH
Anthony Banks
Stephanie Walker

PRAGUE
Jarryl Short

SAINT LOUIS
Thea Dean

SEMINOLE
Meganne Chivers
Zachery Hughes
Jalin Keawphalouk
Paige Kiesel
Laura Lashley
Tina Mills
Marcela Vega

SHAWNEE
Mary Burger
Alexander Christie
Sherry Combs
Kellie Etheridge
Lindsay Gayler
Patricia Leverett
Holly Neely
Jacob Wilson
Janice Wingfield

TECUMSEH
Tiffany Schuringa
Jessica Spurlin

WETUMKA
Lori Williams

WEWOKA
Misty Byrd
Rachel Farani
Michael Mccoy