Regents Elect Officers During August Meeting

At their monthly meeting held August 21, the Seminole State College Board of Regents approved the purchase of several supply items and services for the construction of the Student One-Stop Shop services building and approved a cross-deputization agreement of officers from several area police departments.

In his “President’s Report,” Dr. Jim Utterback updated the Board on several personnel developments. Language Arts Instructor Rusty Beene has tendered his resignation, effective the end of this month, to accept a position as athletic director at Fort Scott Community College in Fort Scott, Kansas. Beene has worked at the college for the past 16 years as an instructor, public information officer, athletic director and chair of the health, science and physical education division. Upward Bound Adviser Marilyn Goll also submitted her letter of resignation.

Additions to the SSC staff include GEAR UP Adviser Courtney Lee and Assistant Volleyball Coach Whitney Segrist.

The majority of action items on this month’s Board agenda were requests to approve the purchase of various supplies and services related to the construction of the Student One-Stop Student Services Building.

The Board reviewed and approved the lowest and best bid from Cole Plumbing Company for labor and materials for plumbing in the amount of $79,000, Ben’s Electric for electrical services in the amount of $28,000, and B-Cool for mechanical (HVAC) labor and materials in the amount of $112,000. Additional bids were approved from Steven K. Fox Concrete Construction for labor in the amount of $24,950 and Van Eaton Ready Mix, Inc. $79.00 per yard/3000 psi, $81.00 per yard/3500 psi for the concrete slab for the student services facility.

Under the last action item, the Board approved the cross-deputization agreement with Seminole Nation, the City of Seminole, City of Wewoka, Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police Department and Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthorse Police Department. The agreement will provide more comprehensive law enforcement services to the SSC campus and to citizens of the area communities.

Members present at the meeting were: Roger Nansel, Chair; Jon Flowers, Bill Huser, Marci Donaho, Jeff Miller, David Wilson and Marilyn Bradford.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 15.
Seminole Faculty/Staff Get in Gear for Fall Semester

SSC employees kicked off the beginning of the year by holding Fall In-Service on Aug. 13-14. Employees recapped last year’s accomplishments and heard about events planned for the coming year.

First on that Wednesday’s agenda was the welcome from President Dr. Jim Utterback. He then turned the floor over to Human Resources Director Mona Ridley to introduce the new personnel members who have joined the SSC family since last fall.

New employees include: Christy Abbott-France, GEAR UP advisor; Mark Allen, assistant men’s baseball coach; Williams Bundy, housekeeping evening supervisor; Sherry Combs, accounting and travel claims clerk; Steve Cotner, financial aid advisor; Dr. Paul Gasparro, vice president for academic affairs; Nathan Jahn, men’s and women’s golf coach; Jeffrey Jordan, nursing instructor; Courtney Lee, GEAR UP advisor; Janna Manlapig, employment readiness director; Lorrian McKay, nursing instructor; Whitney Segriest, assistant volleyball coach; Sharon Smith, secretary to the vice president for academic affairs; Gale Stinnett, learning resources clerk; Jarrod Tollett, math/science upward bound coordinator; and Cheryl Woods, veterans upward bound advisor.

President Utterback mentioned the progress of several campus projects. In particular, he discussed the excitement concerning campus building expansion and the upcoming ribbon cutting and open house for the Seminole Nation Residential Learning Center, slated for Sept. 18.

Attendees also heard from Dr. John Nicoletti, a clinical/police psychologist from Denver.

Nicoletti provides national training and consultation to various state and private institutions on identifying, assessing and defusing attack related behaviors and violence in workplaces, campuses and schools.

Nicoletti spoke to the SSC personnel on the theme “Threat Assessment-Building Barriers to Violence.”

Following Nicoletti’s presentation, employees filled the Haney Center Foundation Hall and enjoyed lunch and special entertainment provided by the musical group “Too Old to Die Young.” Members of the band are: Rusty Dawson, Howard Byerly, Larry Vickers, and Travis Qualls.

Thursday’s meeting was filled with more sharing of information as personnel heard from Dr. Andrew Lootens-White, the College’s liaison for the Self-Study Review by the Higher Learning Commission. Lootens-White explained the assessment process and fielded questions from the audience.

“It is exciting when we can come together and fellowship. This is a great way to start the school year,” said SSC President Jim Utterback.
Gasparro Named Vice President for Academic Affairs

Seminole State College welcomed several new employees to the campus this fall. Among the group was Dr. Paul Gasparro who was named Vice President for Academic Affairs. Gasparro succeeds Dr. Rebecca Kennedy who retired in June.

As Vice President for Academic Affairs, Gasparro will oversee faculty as well as academic programs of the institution. He joins the SSC administrative team, led by Dr. Jim Utterback, President.

From 2007 until his recent appointment, Gasparro served as president of Chalk Talker Training, a business that provides teacher program leadership/consultant services for education institutions and businesses.

Gasparro has many years of experience in higher education and academic leadership. He began his higher education career by serving as managing director of computer science, programming and networking in 1994 at Tyler Junior College in Texas - a position he held for eight years.

He also served as the dean of computer information systems and engineering technology at Chattanooga State Technical Community College in Tennessee before taking the position as vice president of student affairs at Chattahoochee Technical College in Georgia in 2004.

Prior to his higher education career, Gasparro served more than a decade in the United States Air Force in several positions from chief information officer to chief of information systems requirements.

Gasparro obtained his Bachelor of Science in electronic engineering technology from Colorado Technical College. He received his Master of Arts in computer resource management from Webster University and his Doctor of Education in higher education administration/curriculum from Nova University.

“As I researched Seminole State College, I was very impressed with the reputation the College has as an institution that is very involved with and concerned about its student body. I am honored that I will be joining the administration of such a great institution. I am looking forward to making Seminole home for myself, my wife, Mary, and our dachshund, Captain Jack,” said Gasparro.

Gasparro, who is relocating to the area from his home in Marietta, Georgia, said he was impressed with those he met when he came to Seminole to interview for the VPAA position. “From the attendant at the gas station, to the reception I received at SSC during my interview, everyone made me feel like I was already at home,” Gasparro commented.

In addition to his professional affiliations, Gasparro is a member of Kiwanis International.

SSC President Dr. Jim Utterback said he is looking forward to Gasparro’s arrival on campus.

“I am confident that Dr. Gasparro will be a great addition to the SSC family. His experience in higher education has been far-reaching and will be extremely beneficial as we plan for the College’s future and work to provide the best educational experience for our students. I am excited to see what new innovations he will bring to the College,” Utterback said.

The Seminole State COLLEGIAN is published during the fall and spring semesters by the Seminole State College Office of Media Relations, under the direction of Yashanda Anderson Scruggs. The staff reserves the right to edit submitted material for spelling and style. Consideration is given to all submitted material, but submission does not ensure publication. No anonymous material will be considered. All views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of Seminole State College. The COLLEGIAN is distributed on the SSC campus and mailed to over 200 friends of the college. Seminole State College, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Executive Order 11246 as amended, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, and other Federal laws and regulations, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, handicap, or status as a veteran in any of its policies, practices or procedures. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. This publication, printed by the SSC Print Shop, is issued by Seminole State College as authorized by the President of the college. At a cost of $280; 1,000 copies have been prepared and distributed. Questions, concerns, can be directed to Yashanda Scruggs at (405) 382-9525.
Back to School Dance and Game Night
Funding Renewed For Two Special DHS Programs at SSC

Seminole State College received word in late July that two of its programs, funded by federal pass-through dollars provided by the Department of Human Services, have been renewed for the coming year. In a written notification from Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Chancellor Glen Johnson, the College was informed that the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program, and the SSC Employment Readiness (ER) program were renewed for the coming year. The Scholars for Excellence program and Employment Readiness were awarded $79,952, and $251,973, respectively, for the FY09 fiscal year.

The Scholars Program awards scholarships to eligible child care professionals to complete coursework in the area of child development or early childhood education, as well as the child development associate and certified childcare professional credential assessment. These scholarships enable child care providers in Oklahoma to improve their skills through education, receive an educational stipend and continue the availability of quality child care in local communities.

The Employment Readiness Program helps educate Department of Human Services welfare recipients and place them in productive jobs. The ER Program is designed to allow Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients to enroll in classes and receive “employment readiness” training.

“I was delighted to learn that these programs have been renewed. The Scholars program and Employment Readiness program are vital to the development of our community. I am glad that these vital services will continue to be offered through our institution,” said SSC President Jim Utterback.

Same Faces, New Places Several SSC employees have taken new positions. Check out the list!

Dr. Thomas Mills
Athletic Director/Men’s basketball coach/Science instructor

Donna Chambers
Nursing Division Chair

Kristina McSweeney
Head Softball Coach

Carlene Armour, Full-time Social Sciences Secretary
Malinda Browning, Full-time Medical Laboratory Technology Instructor
Sharon Bryant, Veterans Upward Bound Coordinator
Nyree Cunningham, Veterans Upward Bound Advisor, now housed on Campus
Charles Duvall, Full-time Math Instructor and Assistant Baseball Coach
Keith Gunter, Assistant Softball Coach
Tina Jones, Testing Center Supervisor
Sherry Keisman, Full-time Business and Computer Science Secretary
James Martin, Groundskeeper
Susan McLaughlin, Nursing Division Vice Chair
Darren Wise, Upward Bound Coordinator
The early phases of construction have begun for the College’s new Student One-Stop Shop. The new student services and enrollment center will be located near the southeast edge of campus on the site of the former tennis courts.

The former maintenance building is receiving a face lift - including a new roof. The facility is used as a storage area for computers and other technology-related items. Once renovations are complete, the MIS office will also be housed in the building.

The latest campus beautification was made to the Cook Commons area of campus located in from of the Raymond Harbor Field House. Dr. Thomas Mills was responsible for the landscaping in this area.
While on the Seminole State College campus to speak at the Seminole Rotary Club luncheon Wednesday, Aug. 20, Oklahoma’s 5th District Congresswoman Mary Fallin toured the College’s Medical Laboratory Technology (MLT) student-learning laboratory to view the new equipment the Program received from a congressionally directed grant.

Federal funding for the program was secured by U.S. Senator Jim Inhofe (R-Oklahoma) working in cooperation with Fallin’s office.

SSC’s MLT program received $95,305 for the FY09 year to purchase equipment to enhance the capacity of the program by allowing more students to experience newer technologies with the intent of shortening the clinical rotation time. Funds are being used to acquire new microscope technology and upgrade computers and software.

In turn, graduates will be ready to enter the marketplace more quickly and faculty will be able to train more students, more efficiently with updated equipment. These upgrades will be used in all courses of the program. Funding of this activity will also be used to positively address the critical national shortage of medical laboratory technologists and technicians.

Seminole State College’s Medical Laboratory Technology Program has been successful in providing certified medical laboratory technicians to rural Oklahoma in the college’s five-county service area for the past 28 years.

“Many qualified students apply to our program each year and we are faced with turning some of them away due to clinical space. By shortening the clinical experience, we will be able to increase our class size and prepare more students to enter the field,” said MLT Program Director Perthena Latchaw.

“We are doing a good job, but receiving funds such as this helps us do a better job in providing a quicker, smoother transition to the workplace for our students. This equipment will help us better serve our students, and in turn, help them better serve patients,” Latchaw continued.

“Congresswoman Fallin has always been a great supporter of higher education. We are fortunate to have her as a representative and grateful that she takes an active role in making this community a great place to live and learn,” said Dr. Jim Utterback, President.
# Seminole State Volleyball
## Fall 2008 Schedule

**Head Coach:** Amy Gillespie  
**Assistant Coach:** Whitney Segrist  
**Office Phone:** (405) 382-99559

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>9/3</td>
<td>Frank Phillips College</td>
<td>Seminole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>9/8</td>
<td>Coffeeville</td>
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<td>Fri-Sat</td>
<td>9/12-13</td>
<td>North Central Texas Tournament</td>
<td>Gainsville, TX</td>
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<td>Chanute, KS</td>
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<td>9/23</td>
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<td>9/26-27</td>
<td>Hutchinson Tournament</td>
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<td>Northern Oklahoma College *</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Nov 20-22</td>
<td>National Tournament</td>
<td>Council Bluffs, Iowa</td>
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*Region

**Home Court:** Raymond Harber Field House  
Seminole State College  
Seminole, Oklahoma

**Gate Admission:** $3  
Adults - $1  
Students - SSC students and personnel admitted free with proper I.D.  
Season ticket information: (405) 382-9541