

# SEMINOLE STATE COLLEGE

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## Submitting to The Collegian

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## Students of the Month Recognized



SSC's October students of the month (pictured left to right) Spencer Sturgill, Georgia Ledford, Angela Copley, Allison Bray and Mark Ellis.

Five outstanding Seminole State College students were recently honored for the month of October. Each academic division selected one student to recognize based on work ethic, academic standing and campus involvement. The students were awarded a certificate from the Academic Affairs Office, a gift certificate to use at the Student Union Grill and a special parking pass allowing them

access to park in any spot on campus for a month. October's students of the month are: Allison Bray of Wetumka – Social Sciences; Angela Copley of Shawnee – Health Sciences; Mark Ellis of Shawnee – STEM; Georgia Ledford of Seminole – Language Arts and Humanities; and Spencer Sturgill of Shawnee – Business and Education.



### Stay up to date with campus COVID-19 safety precautions at SSC's Coronavirus Response page.

Here you'll find important updates, CARES Act scholarship information, mental health resources and links to Centers for Disease Control data.

Explore the Response Page [here](#).

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# Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel



Julie Green (left) and Wendy Rich (right) were honored by the Seminole Chamber of Commerce on Oct. 12

Two Seminole State College employees were recognized for their hard work and dedication during the monthly Seminole Chamber of Commerce Forum on Oct. 12. Assistant Professor of Agriculture Wendy Rich was honored as “Faculty Member of the Month” and Human Resources Associate Julie Green as “Staff Member of the Month.”

The Seminole Chamber of Commerce Education Committee, along with the Lions Club and Blue Ribbon Realty, recognize SSC employees several times during Forum each year.

Rich has worked at SSC for four years. In addition to teaching agriculture courses on campus, she is the degree mentor for the agricultural degree program, a faculty co-sponsor of the SSC Shooting Sports Club, faculty sponsor for the SSC Aggie Club, the Co-Principal Investigator for the National Science Foundation grant program and Faculty Senate President Elect.

Rich is also active in a number of community organizations. She is a member of the Brahman Breeders Association, a member of the Ag Business Management Advisory Committee at Gordon Cooper Technology Center, an alumni of the national FFA organization and

a volunteer soccer head coach at the Shawnee YMCA.

She received her bachelor’s degree in Agriculture and Applied Economics from Virginia Tech and her master’s degree in Agriculture Education from Oklahoma State University.

In her spare time, Rich enjoys ranching, showing cattle, running and duck hunting. She, her husband, Bob Rich, and their two children, Vivien and John Robert, reside in Prague.

Green has been employed by SSC for two years. She provides support for the institution and the Director of Human Resources in matters of employee relations and hiring.

Green received her associate’s degree from SSC, her bachelor’s degree in Health and Sport Sciences from the University of Oklahoma and is currently working on her master’s degree in Organizational Leadership at OU.

She is a member of the SSC Classified Staff Association, Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Outside of work, she spends her time researching family history, crocheting and cheering on OU sports teams. She and her husband, Jon, reside in Seminole.

Student Column

## Seasons

by Georgia Ledford



The shift from summer to fall at Seminole State college is subtle, nevertheless it’s still recognizable. Coping with the weather has been rather arduous as the remnants of summer continue to linger. Regardless, if you were to stop scribbling down notes in the middle of class, squint your eyes a bit, and look around, you would be able to see all the different ways autumn-weather has begun to creep in.

To get the best autumn viewing experience, don’t look for the trees, but instead look towards the ground. As I’m writing this article, it’s still October, and the trees haven’t really yet changed colors. However, fall is quite subtle. An assembly line of dead leaves can be seen displayed sporadically on the yellowing grass, as the wind occasionally carries them away. Along with the leaves, the wind also will also pester any student with long hair, pieces of paperwork, or dangly accessories as everyone struggles desperately to keep each item in its original place.

The shades of people’s outfits, the colors they choose to wear demonstrate a shift. Maybe people just do it subconsciously, but whenever I’ve walked into a classroom, or into the student union, or any place where there’s just overall a large group of people, I’ve seen a sea of vibrant, summer colors transfigure into a swamp of earthy tones.

Campus sounds have shifted, too. What was once the first day of school mumbling and shuffling of limbs has

shifted to conversations filled with enthusiasm and wide-open hand gestures, slowly dying back down to casual chats and slouched bodies. People once unfamiliar with the union cashier now order their meals without the former awkwardness. Professors have fully memorized each of their student’s names. I’d assume that you, the reader, has become a bit more acquainted with the people who sit beside you in class, or the person who shares a dorm with you, or the people on your sports team, or your club, or whoever you’ve gotten to know over this first semester. Midterms have come and gone, and preparations for finals are soon to be underway. The heavy workload of a college student, or even the workload of professors can be extremely stressful. Maybe you haven’t had the time to focus on fun fall can bring, like sweaters, leaves, and weather, because you’ve been spending an immense amount of time buried in schoolwork.

The trees and plants die. People put less effort into their appearance, and even less effort into conversations. The temperature, just as all the excitement will die down, and will be replaced by stress, worry, and exhaustion over every day, routine-like work.

But you know what? As soon as finals are over, you’ll be able to relax. As our surroundings change, as a phase of our life or season ends, a beautiful new experience can emerge.

## Women's Soccer Team Clinches Region II Title



The SSC women's soccer team celebrates after their Region II Championship win in Enid on Oct. 30.

The Seminole State College women's soccer team won the NJCAA Region II Soccer Championship Oct. 30 in Enid. The ladies defeated Northern Oklahoma College Friday evening in double overtime and won over Rose State College on Saturday to clinch the title. Saturday's match ended 4-3 in a penalty kick shootout,

following another double overtime. The Trojans will face Casper College of Wyoming Nov. 6 at 5 p.m. at Rogers State College in Claremore for the District title. The winner of that game will advance to the NJCAA World Series in Daytona Beach, Florida.

## President's Leadership Class Visits Cultural Center



Bree Dunham, assistant manager of the CPN Aviary, shows PLC members an augur buzzard, a bird native to Africa.

Members of the Seminole State College President's Leadership Class toured the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Cultural Center and Aviary on Sept. 30. In addition to learning about the history of the Potawatomi

people, PLC also viewed the eagles under the care of the CPN Aviary staff. The Aviary offers a permanent home for injured eagles that cannot be returned to the wild.

## Students Attend Production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"

Several Seminole State College students recently attended the production of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" at the Oklahoma City Civic Center. The Student Support Services (SSS) and STEM Student Support Services (STEM SSS) Projects sponsored the event. The purpose of the trip was for participants of the programs to have an opportunity to experience a performing arts event that is not typically accessible to them and to enjoy an enriching cultural performance. Students were also treated to dinner at Charleston's in Bricktown and a brief stroll down

the OKC Riverwalk.

"I loved it. I had never experienced anything like it before, and I was so glad I went. I also really enjoyed meeting new people and how our group was able to bond," Destiny Combs, a Secondary Education major from Wewoka who attended the trip, said.

Janna Wilson-Byrd, Director of the Projects said, "Our SSS and STEM SSS team works very hard to make sure that our participants have every opportunity to succeed and grow. One of the best growth experiences we can give our participants

is to take them to cultural events. We look for different types of events, like performing arts, museums, festivals, or special artist lectures that will be enjoyable and new for our participants."

SSS and STEM SSS are two federally funded grants that are hosted at SSC. Both Projects serve first-generation, economically disadvantaged, and disabled students. For more information, contact Janna Wilson-Byrd, Director of Projects, at 405-382-9642. There is also a project web site at [www.sscok.edu/ss](http://www.sscok.edu/ss).



Participants of SSC's SSS and STEM SSS recently attended a production of the "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."



# College Employees Recognized by Statewide Organization



Outstanding Professional Staff Member Angela Harjo (left) and Outstanding Faculty Member Jeffrey Christiansen (right) pose for a photo with SSC President Lana Reynolds (center) at the OACC Annual Conference on Oct. 28 at Rose State College.



President Reynolds (left) recognizes Tina Morris (right) as this year's Outstanding Support Staff Member at the OACC Support Staff Conference on Oct. 29 at Seminole State College.

Three Seminole State College employees were honored Oct. 28 and 29 at conferences hosted by the Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges. Each year, OACC's member institutions select three employees to honor – a professional staff member, a faculty member and a support staff member. Talent Search Advisor Angela Harjo was named the Outstanding Professional Staff Member of the Year, Political Science Professor Jeffrey Christiansen was named the Faculty Member of the Year and Social Sciences and Language Arts Office Manager Tina Morris was named the Support Staff Member of the Year for SSC.

Harjo and Christiansen were honored Oct. 28 at the 54th Annual

OACC Conference held at the Rose State College Student Union. The event featured dozens of breakout sessions both in-person and available via live stream. Lansing Community College President Steve Robinson gave the keynote address.

Morris was honored Oct. 29 at the OACC Support Staff Conference held at SSC's Enoch Kelly Haney Center. The event provided an in-depth discussion of diversity and inclusion by keynote speaker Becky Wood, an instructor at Rose State College's Professional Training Center.

The OACC is a statewide organization comprised of the state's 12 community colleges.

## Leadership Class Sponsors Food Drive



The Leadership Development class organized a campus-wide food drive from Oct. 21 to Nov. 1 to gather non-perishable food items, hygiene products and paper products. The group gathered hundreds of items and donated them to the campus Food Pantry and to the Salvation Army. The course is taught by Professor of History Marta Osby.



# Organizations Team Up for Domestic Violence Awareness Program



Seminole State College recently partnered with SwiftMD to offer telemedicine services to students and employees at no cost to individuals.

Seminole State College Student Support Services, STEM Student Support Services and People Recognizing Individuality Diversity and Equality (PRIDE) recently teamed up to offer an information session raising awareness about domestic abuse. The session was offered in-person at the SSC Virtual Learning Lab and remotely on Zoom, a video conferencing platform.

The two organizations invited Kayla Woody, a Domestic Violence Prevention Specialist from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation House of Hope, to present over domestic abuse, warning signs and prevention. Woody presented statistic for violence perpetrated against both men and women. She also discussed violence that is encountered in the LGBTQ+ community and among indigenous women. Both groups have been neglected in research but experience a high rate of abuse.

“In 2016, 5,712 native women and girls were either murdered or went missing. Only 116 of those cases

went into the Department of Justice database,” Woody said. Woody then covered topics like the cycle of abuse and services that are offered to abused persons at the CPN House of Hope.

“PRIDE is the first student organization of its kind on campus, and it is open to any SSC student or employee who is LGBTQ+ friendly. This was our first time to co-sponsor a program at SSC. We are a new student organization, and we want to help make a difference. All students need to feel safe in order to learn in the classroom. If PRIDE can help offer some resources for that, then we are happy to offer it,” Kimi Durr, President-Elect of PRIDE, said.

SSS and STEM SSS are two federal grants serving first-generation, economically disadvantaged and disabled students.

“In our programs, we will have students who are in unsafe situations. As academic advisors, we need to be aware of our resources and how best to help them. We are so grateful that

Kayla came to give us a wealth of information, not only to equip us, but also to help the students that were in attendance. We plan to offer more awareness events in the future,” Damon Craves, STEM SSS Advisor, said.

The Seminole State College SSS Project is 100 percent federally funded in the amount of \$294,725 annually. The Seminole State College STEM SSS Project is 100 percent federally funded in the amount of

\$261,888 annually.

For more information about SSS and STEM SSS, please contact Janna Wilson-Byrd at 405-382-9642 or visit [www.sscok.edu/ssc](http://www.sscok.edu/ssc)

For more information about PRIDE at SSC, please contact Lindsey Wise-Talmasey at [pridesscok@gmail.com](mailto:pridesscok@gmail.com)

For more information about House of Hope, visit [www.cpnhouseofhope.com](http://www.cpnhouseofhope.com).

## Student Government Names New Officers



Pictured from left to right are Secretary Katelyn Nguyen, Dustin, President Georgia Ledford, of Seminole, and Vice President Jenna Harrison, of Shawnee.

The Seminole State College Student Government Association has selected its officers for the 2020-2021 academic year. Elected to officer positions were Secretary Katelyn Nguyen, President Georgia Ledford and Vice President Jenna Harrison. The three officers were welcomed into their

new roles at a luncheon on Oct. 11 with President Lana Reynolds.

SGA is dedicated to promoting the interests of the total student body by formulating and proposing ideas to the SSC administration. Financial Aid Specialist Caitlin Brown serves as the sponsor for the student organization.



# Spring Enrollment Now Open



Prospective and returning students may enroll for the spring semester by visiting the admissions or advising offices located inside the Ben and Bonnie Walkingstick Student Services building.

Seminole State College opened enrollment for the spring semester on Nov. 1. A current course schedule can be viewed on the College's website at [www.sscok.edu](http://www.sscok.edu).

Spring courses are set to begin Monday, Jan. 10, 2022. Students and area residents can take advantage of open enrollment now through Saturday, Jan. 14.

SSC is also currently enrolling for the December-January intersession, which begins Dec. 13, 2021, and ends Jan. 5, 2022.

For help with enrollment, students may visit with advisors in person inside the Walkingstick Student Services Center or call (405) 382-9230. Current students may enroll with their academic advisor.

SSC students can receive associate degrees in 18 transfer degree programs including majors in agriculture, art, biology, business, child development, computer science, criminal justice, elementary education, enterprise development business administration, enterprise development general studies, health, physical education and recreation,

health sciences, liberal studies, pre-engineering, psychology, secondary education and social sciences.

The College also offers several enter-the-workforce degree programs, including business technology, engineering technology, medical laboratory technology, nursing and physical therapist assistant.

Many degree programs are also offered 100 percent online. Perspective students seeking to learn remotely may contact the Online Degree Office at (405) 382-9577.

Regular office hours for SSC are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday; and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday.

SSC offices will be closed Dec. 20 through Jan. 2 for winter break.

For additional information about enrollment at SSC, please call the College's Office of Admissions at (405) 382-9230. If you're needing help with academic advisement, contact the advising team at 405-382-9797. For information about financial aid, please call the Office of Financial Aid at 405-382-9247.

# Health Departments Administer Flu Shots and COVID Vaccines at SSC



Health workers from the Seminole and Pottawatomie Health Departments hosted a joint flu shot and COVID-19 vaccine clinic at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on Seminole State College's campus on Oct. 27. The health workers administered 112 COVID-19 vaccine and booster shots, as well as 108 flu shots.



SSC President Lana Reynolds receives a COVID-19 booster shot during the health clinic on campus Oct. 27.

# Educational Foundation Trustees Appointed to New Terms



*Dan Boren*



*Steve Degraffenreid*



*Doug Humphreys*



*Lance Ruffel*



*Sue Snodgrass*



*Reggie Whitten*



*Justin Wood*

Seven Seminole State College Educational Foundation trustees were reappointed at the Foundation’s quarterly meeting on Oct. 13. Dan Boren, of Oklahoma City; Steve Degraffenreid, of Jones; Doug Humphreys of Holdenville; Lance Ruffel of Oklahoma City; Sue Snodgrass, of Seminole; Reggie Whitten, of Oklahoma City; and Chief Justin Wood,

of Stroud all agreed to serve additional three-year terms.

The Foundation’s Executive Committee will remain the same, with Lance Wortham, of Shawnee, as Chair; Mark Schell, of Seminole, as Vice Chair; and Andy Tucker, of Okemah, as Vice Chair.

The Board approved an “Agreement for Exchange of Services” with

Seminole State College. The agreement is presented for renewal every two years to both the SSC Educational Foundation Board of Trustees and the College’s Board of Regents.

The Trustees also heard reports and updates from SSC Rural Business and Resources Center Director Danny Morgan and SSC President Lana Reynolds during the meeting.

The SSC Educational Foundation was established in 1972 to supply aid for charitable, benevolent, educational, scientific and literary purposes. During the 2020-2021 academic year, nearly \$90,000 in scholarships were awarded to SSC students by the Foundation.