



# ***Seminole State College***

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## *Office of the President*

January 16, 2014

Dear Regents:

The following pages highlight the news items of 2013 at Seminole State College. While it is difficult to include all campus events and activities, as well as the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff, this documents provides an overview of what occurred during the past year.

This was a year marked by efforts to review and revitalize our academic degree programs and promote student success, the development of our international exchange program with Silkeborg College in Denmark, the beautification of Cook Commons, and the receipt of a pledge for the largest private gift in the history of the institution from the Chickasaw Nation for the construction of the Dan and Andrea Boren Center. Throughout the document, there is a prevailing theme of the Seminole State College community reaching out to help others. It was a very good year.

As we look to the future at this - the beginning of a new calendar year, we are thankful for the employees, Regents, Foundation Trustees and community supporters who are dedicated to this institution and its mission to serve students.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'James W. Utterback', written in a cursive style.

James W. Utterback, Ph.D.  
President



## JANUARY

- **A New Vision for Academics**  
Representatives from across the Seminole State College campus attended a strategic planning session Jan. 7 at St. Crispin's Lodge. The 32 attendees strategized about ways to reevaluate academic course delivery methods, examine the developmental education program and explore ideas to help students to be successful and graduate.
- **Supporters Attend Regional Higher Education Legislative Briefing**  
Supporters of Seminole State College were guests at the Southeast Oklahoma Legislative Briefing hosted by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in McAlester.
- **Students Read about Martin Luther King**  
President's Leadership Class students read books about the life of Dr. Martin Luther King at Betty L. Smith Early Childhood Center and Northwood Elementary in observance of Martin Luther King Day.
- **Karen James to Serve as Seminole State College Regent**  
Seminole County Resident Karen James was appointed by Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin to serve on the Seminole State College Board of Regents. She replaced Kenneth Henderson who resigned from the Board in October, 2012.



# FEBRUARY

- **Dr. Utterback to serve on ACCT National Award Committee**  
President Utterback was selected to serve on the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) Charles Kennedy Equity Award Selection Committee. Kennedy was a founder of the ACCT Minority Affairs Assembly that later became the ACCT Diversity Committee.
- **SSC Nursing NCLEX Pass Rate Above State Average**  
The College was notified that the SSC Nursing Program pass rate for the 2012 National Council Licensure Exam (NCLEX) was above the state and national averages. SSC nursing students passed the NCLEX at a rate of 97.22% compared to the state of Oklahoma at 91.46% and across the United States at 90.34%.
- **Delegation Visits Capitol**  
A large delegation of campus and community leaders representing Seminole State College attended “Higher Education Day” at the State Capitol on Feb. 12.
- **Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel**  
Campus Police Officer Houston Yeager and Associate Professor of English Rayshell Clapper were recognized as “Staff Member of the Month” and “Educator of the Month,” respectively.
- **Maddox Wins Sigma Kappa Delta Transfer Scholarship**  
Seminole State College graduate Caitlin Maddox of Wewoka received notification that she won the Dr. William C. Johnson Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship. The award is the highest scholarship recognition awarded by the English honor society for two-year colleges.
- **SSC Upward Bound Hosted ACT Workshop**  
SSC’s Upward Bound students on campus taught study tips and that are similar to the  Projects hosted 120 area high school for an ACT workshop. Students were able to see practice questions ones on the test.
- **Certified Healthy Oklahoma Awards**  
Seminole State College and the City of Seminole were honored at the Certified Healthy Oklahoma luncheon in Oklahoma City for helping create a healthy business and community environment.
- **Morgan to Serve as Seminole State College Regent**  
Seminole County Resident Jimmie “Curtis” Morgan was appointed by Oklahoma Governor Mary Fallin to serve on the Seminole State College Board of Regents. He replaced Regent Jeff Miller whose term on the Board expired at the end of June, 2013. Morgan’s seven-year term as a Regent concludes on July 1, 2017.
- **Emeritus Status Awarded by Board**  
The SSC Board of Regents awarded honorary Emeritus status to retired faculty members Perthena Latchaw, Travis Qualls and Dr. Jacqueline Stewart.

- **Regents and Trustees to Honor Borens**  
Following the receipt of a lead gift from Dan and Andrea Boren, the College Board of Regents and the SSC Educational Foundation entered into a partnership to support the construction of a new 7,600-square-foot office building to be named in honor of the Borens.
- **Leadership Students Discuss Business Etiquette**  
Members of the Seminole State College President’s Leadership Class had a lesson in business etiquette. Carey Sue Vega, owner of Etiquette Expert in Oklahoma City, spoke to the group over dinner at the Grangeville Tea Room in Shawnee.



## MARCH

- **Powell Attends Nigh Leadership Conference**  

 Clayton Powell of Stroud was one of 30 Oklahoma college and university students selected to attend the Nigh Institute Leadership Conference held in Oklahoma City. Powell received a 2013 George and Donna Nigh Public Service Scholarship through the Nigh Institute program funded by the Oklahoma Legislature.
- **Goeller Presents at NADA Conference**  
Assistant Professor of Math Dr. Linda Goeller presented on “Developmental Mathematics: Students’ Perception of the Placement Process” while attending the National Association of Developmental Education (NADE) Conference in Denver, Colo.
- **Students recognized as All-Oklahoma Academic Team Members**  
Callie Kirk of Meeker and Haley Perry of Davenport were selected as members of the All-Oklahoma Academic Team. The students were recognized at the Oklahoma Association of Community College (OACC) recognition ceremony at Oklahoma City Community College March 8.
 
- **SSC PTK Honor Society Inducts New Members**  
Thirty-three SSC students were inducted into the Alpha Theta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges. Students were selected based on their scholarship, leadership and community service qualities.
- **SSC Hosts OKADE Meeting**  
Seminole State College hosted the first Oklahoma Association for Developmental Education Mid-Year Meeting at the Enoch Kelley Haney Center. The March 8 Seminole event was coordinated, in part, by the College’s Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions Program (NASNTI).

- **Leadership Students Tour Tinker**  
Members of the President’s Leadership Class toured Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City and visited with Air Force officials learning about challenges the base faces in funding and military operations.
- **Student receives OACC Scholarship**  
Bethel High School senior Tayler Short was selected as an Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges Scholarship recipient and was recognized at the organization's annual conference. The OACC Scholarship program honors one outstanding student from each of Oklahoma's community colleges with a \$1,000 tuition waiver scholarship.
- **Mentors make Freshman Seminar a Success**  
Seminole State College successfully completed the first full year of a new Freshman Orientation Program.



- **Faculty Attend “Teach In” Event...**  
Seminole State College Assistant Professor of Government Jeffrey Christiansen, Associate Professor of History Dr. Steve Bolin and Social Sciences Division Chair and Professor Marta Osby attended the 2nd Annual “Teach In” event at the University of Oklahoma. Pulitzer prize winning author and historian David McCullough and Pulitzer prize winning historian David Kennedy were part of a day-long set of presentations culminating with a panel discussion.
- **Grant Staff Attends HEP Conference**  
Several staff members of SSC’s federally-funded grant programs attended the Higher Education Programs Conference in Washington, D.C. with more than 3,000 other directors from across the nation.
- **Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel**  
Bookstore Clerk Lanita Haynes and Assistant Professor of Mathematics Dr. Linda Goeller were recognized as “Staff Member of the Month” and “Educator of the Month,” respectively.
- **Upward Bound Program Tours NEO**  
Upward Bound Projects took 185 area high school students on a campus tour of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College. The group also had the opportunity to stay overnight at Sky Ranch in Quapaw where they had the chance to zip line, laser tag and horseback ride.

- **SKD Sponsors Award-Winning Author Guest Speaker**  
Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society sponsored a free “Reader’s Forum.” The special event featured award-winning author of *Fast Times in Palestine* Pamela Olson, as part of a nationwide book tour for her new book.
- **SSC Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society Inducts New Members**  
Twenty-three students were inducted into the Upsilon Alpha chapter of the English Honor Society Sigma Kappa Delta.
- **Denmark Student Exchange Goodbye**



Students from Denmark who stayed at Seminole State College during a two-week exchange program celebrated the end of their educational trip by gifting the college crabapple and pear trees to symbolize friendship. The emotional goodbye was celebrated at Henderson Park where the two trees were planted. A delegation of 43 students and instructors from

Denmark toured area museums, businesses and attractions as they experienced the culture of Oklahoma.

- **Medical Laboratory Technology Open House**  
SSC’s Medical Laboratory Technology Department hosted an Open House in celebration of National Medical Laboratory Week.
- **Tuley Named Head Basketball Coach**  
Don Tuley, who served as men’s basketball coach at Capitol Hill High School in Oklahoma City, was named the new coach for the SSC Trojans for the coming year. Coach Tuley has more than 30 years of coaching experience, 13 of which have been at the college level.

- **SSC Classified Staff Award Scholarships**  
The Classified Staff awarded scholarships to students Brittany Owens of Shawnee and Jacquelynn Sims of Jones.



- **Students Inducted into PSI BETA**  
Twenty Seminole State College students earned the honor in April to be inducted into College’s chapter of the PSI Beta National Psychology Honor Society.
- **GEAR UP Challenges School in College Knowledge Bowl**  
GEAR UP projects challenged seventh graders, teachers and staff at Thomas Middle School in Holdenville to a head-to-head challenge answering questions concerning collegiate facts, mathematics, history and cultural events. Thomas students won first place answering a tuition cost question “to the penny.”
- **Partnership with UpSource Recognized at Economic Development Program**  
Seminole State College and UpSource were among education and business partners honored during the Oklahoma State Regents’ Economic Development Partnership Recognition program. The program honors outstanding partnerships that lead to significant contributions in educating and developing Oklahoma’s workforce.



- **GEAR UP Students Learn about Agriculture**  
GEAR UP projects took Strother students on a tour of the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank and Oklahoma's organic garden - the Urban Harvest Garden. Students were able to learn how the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank is responsible for serving families in over 50 counties across the state.
- **Spring Recognition Banquet**  
Over 400 friends and supporters of Seminole State College attended the 19th annual Spring Recognition Banquet, sponsored by the SSC Educational Foundation, on May 2. Employees were honored for their service to the institution, students were recognized for their achievements and three former students were inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame. Hall of Famers included:  
Dr. Tschantre attending obstetrics and Londaryl school teacher  Dorsett, an physician in gynecology; Perry, high and coach; and Yariel "Papo" Ramos, Homeland Security Investigator. Also, legendary Belles Basketball Coach Dixie Woddall was presented the "Distinguished Service Award." Over \$30,000 was raised for the Foundation.
- **Students Inducted into MAT Honor Society**  
The Math Science and Engineering Division inducted eight students into the College's Mu Alpha Theta National Mathematics Honor Society.
- **Faculty Members Retire**  
Long-time faculty members Pam Koenig and Gerhard Laule were honored at a retirement reception on May 8. Ms. Koenig served as Professor of History, Past Dean of Instructional Compliance and Past Chair of the Social Sciences Division. Mr. Laule served as Professor of Physical Science and as Past Chair of the Math, Science and Engineering Division.
- **PTK raises money for Relay for Life**  
Phi Theta Kappa honor society raised over \$2,000 for the Tecumseh Relay for Life. PTK co-sponsors Jeffrey Christiansen and Dr. Steve Bolin motivated students by agreeing to shave their heads if the team raised at least \$1,000.
- **Dan Boren Delivers Keynote at 80<sup>th</sup> Commencement**  
The College's 80th Commencement Exercises were held on May 10. Former U.S. Congressman Dan Boren was the speaker for the event. A Nurse Pinning ceremony took place immediately following at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center. 

- **Kingsbury selected to participate in the N.E.W. Leadership Institute**



Sophomore Trisha Kingsbury was one of 36 women selected to attend the National Education for Women (N.E.W.) Leadership Institute in Norman. The mission of the Women's Leadership Initiative is to educate, inspire and empower women to become political leaders.



- **Area Students Participate in SSC Upward Bound Summer Program**  
Students from 22 area high schools had the opportunity to stay on campus and learn about financial aid, prepare for college and improve their academic performance through the SSC Upward Bound Summer Program. For five weeks, 225 students from schools in the College's service area participated in the residential program.
- **Student Begins Term on Student Advisory Board**  
SSC student Trisha Kingsbury was selected to serve on the Oklahoma Student Advisory Board (SAB) to the State Regents for the 2013-2014 academic year.
- **VF Jeanswear Boosts SSC Tornado Relief Project**  
Employees at the Seminole VF Jeanswear/Wrangler plant gave a boost to an effort by the Seminole State College Classified Staff Association (CSA) to offer assistance to those affected by the devastating Moore and Shawnee tornadoes. Wrangler employees donated funds which were matched by the company, and presented a check to the CSA for \$2,000.
- **Funding for Programs Renewed**  
Two programs, funded through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, received notification that their funding would be renewed. The Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding was renewed in the amount of \$228,104 and the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care (SECC) funding was renewed in the amount of \$84,990.
- **Regent Miller Completes Term**  
Chair of the SSC Board of Regents Jeff Miller completed his seven-year term in June. Mr. Miller, of Quinton, was appointed by Governor Brad Henry in 2006.



- **Assistant Professor Travels to Guatemala as part of HELPS International**  
Dr. Linda Goeller, Assistant Professor of Math and Science, was accepted to be a part of the HELPS International Mathematics Professional Development Team and traveled to Santa Avelina, Quiche, Guatemala for nine days to help teachers in the classroom teach mathematics and provide professional development.

- **Vice President Walck Retires**

Long-time employee Dr. Brad Walck retired at the end of June. His 22-year career at the College included service as Belles Basketball Head Coach, a history instructor, Chair of the Social Sciences Division and Vice President for Student Affairs.



- **Reynolds selected as “50 Making a Difference” by Journal Record**



Seminole State College Vice President for Institutional Advancement Lana Reynolds was selected by the *Journal Record* as one of 50 women “Making a Difference” in Oklahoma for 2013. Ms. Reynolds was one of eleven women named to the “Circle of Excellence” for being selected three times for the honor.

- **Degree Plans Reviewed and Revised**

As part of the “Focus on Graduation Initiative” and Complete College America, Academic Affairs began a several month process of reviewing curricula and revising degree plans for all 23 of the College’s academic programs.

- **Baker Elected Secretary for OCPRA State Board**

Dustie Baker, Seminole State College’s Coordinator of Media Relations, was elected Secretary of the Oklahoma College Public Relations Association.



- **GEAR UP Hosts Technology Boot Camp**

GEAR UP hosted a Technology Boot Camp Aug. 1-2 at the Enoch Kelly Haney Center for their area partner schools. The group learned about iPad carts, All-in Learning Clickers and Texas Instrument Graphing Calculators that were being placed in the schools through the SSC grant program.

- **Staff and Faculty Attend In-Service**  
Faculty and staff were welcomed back for the Fall term during a three-day In-Service program. During a training and professional development session, guest speaker Rita Murray talked to employees on the topic, "Oklahoma Strong: Instilling Strength in Our Students to Succeed." Employees were presented shirts with a logo designed to demonstrate the strength of the state and SSC.
- **'Road Tripping' in Seminole**



President Dr. Jim Utterback visited with Terre' Gables, the Morning Feature Reporter with FOX Channel 25 News, during a "Road Tripping" segment filmed in Seminole. The segment featuring Seminole aired during the Thursday, August 22, 2013 morning show on the Oklahoma City television station.

- **SSC Rural Business Center Receives Grant Funds**  
Security State Bank, working through the Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka, secured a \$25,000 grant, for the Seminole State College Educational Foundation Rural Business and Resources Center (RBRC).
- **Farewells to Bunyan and Robertson**  
Former Seminole State College President Dr. Jim Cook and current President Dr. Jim Utterback were among those who gathered at a reception on Aug. 22 to celebrate the retirement of employees Jonna Bunyan and Bunyan, who worked at the College for the past 38 years, and Robertson, for the past 33 years, had both worked for all four Presidents who have served the institution.



SEPTEMBER

- **Locals Attend State Chamber Event in D.C.**  
Representatives from Seminole State College joined the incoming President of the Oklahoma State Chamber Chuck Mills of Shawnee at a reception hosted by the State Chamber in Washington D.C. on Sept. 8.

- **Leadership Students Grow Through Challenges**  
Freshmen members of the President’s Leadership Class worked “high and low” on team building activities and to accomplish personal goals on a ropes challenge course at St. Crispin’s Conference Center. The students participated in a number of activities which challenged their abilities to work through difficult tasks.



- **SSC Honors Constitution Day**  
In observance of Constitution Day, SSC hosted “Constitution Jeopardy!” on Sept. 17 Assistant Professor of Government Jeffrey Christiansen, Social Sciences Division Chair Marta Osby, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice Bill Knowles and Associate Professor of History Dr. Steve Bolin assisted students in the Constitution-themed quiz show competition. Student contestants included Destine O’Brien representing Phi Theta Kappa, Trisha Kingsbury representing the President’s Leadership Class, Gregory Votaw representing Sigma Kappa Delta and Clayton Powell representing the Student Government Association.

- **SSC Hosts Service Fair**  
Students and faculty learned about goods and services available in the community during the college’s 20th annual “Area Services Fair” held in conjunction with the annual “Back-to-School Ice Cream Social.”



- **SSC Representatives Participate in National Radio Show**  
President Dr. Jim Utterback, Dean of Instructional Compliance Dr. Tom Mills, and Math Instructor and Athletic Academic Advisor Jamie Mills, were interviewed via conference call by Larry Jacobs, host for the national Higher Education Talk Radio program. The live program on “Community Colleges and Athletics: A Look at the Positive Impact of Sports on a Community College Campus,” aired Friday, Sept. 27.

- **Faculty Travel to Denmark**  
Faculty members Christian Morgan, Rayshell Clapper and Brad Schatzel travelled to Denmark in late September to instruct classes and prepare Denmark students for participation in an October study-abroad program at Seminole State College.



- **Improvements to Cook Commons**  
Phase I of long-standing plans to renovate and improve Cook Commons began in October. The mall area between the David L. Boren Library and E.T. Dunlap Student Union is named in honor of former SSC President Dr. Jim Cook.

- **Downey Elected ACCT Vice President**

Mechell Downey, Administrative Assistant to the President, participated in the Association of Community Congress in Seattle, Vice President of the national information and training for who support governing boards focuses on continued



the President, participated in the College Trustees - Leadership Washington where she was elected organization. The group provides individuals at community colleges and presidents. The Network development of professional skills,

the sharing of expertise and best practices, and keeping abreast of new developments in higher education.

- **Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel**

Housekeeping Supervisor Timothy Powell and Assistant Professor of Psychology and Sociology Kendall Rogers were recognized as “Staff Member of the Month” and “Educator of the Month,” respectively.

- **New Trustees Elected to Foundation Board**

Area businessmen Bryan Cain, Jack Sherry, Roy Sisco and Lance Wortham were elected to serve three-year terms as Trustees for the SSC Educational Foundation Board during the October meeting of the Foundation.

- **SGA Students Attend National Summit**

Student Government Association President Clayton Powell of Stroud and Vice President Trisha Kingsbury of Prague along with Faculty Advisor Bill Knowles recently attended the National Student Government Summit in Washington D.C.

- **NASNTI and Math Department Host Open House**

The Native American-Serving Nontribal Institutions Program (NASNTI) staff, in conjunction with the Math, Science, and Engineering Division faculty sponsored an open-house for their new developmental math computer lab. The lab, equipped with 20 computers, a printer, and several tables, will serve as the designated location for students needing to complete assignments on MyMathLab, access their cruiser accounts and use the internet.

- **SSC PTK Honor Society Inducts New Members**

Twenty-seven SSC students were inducted into the Alpha Theta Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society for Two-Year Colleges. Students were selected based on their scholarship, leadership and service qualities

- **Students Volunteer for Backpack Packing**

Members of the President's Leadership Class and visiting students from the Silkeborg Business College in Denmark volunteered at the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. The students packed food for 2,202 backpacks to be sent home with kids from schools across the state. The students packed, weighed, sealed, boxed and stacked pallets of boxes for shipment. Collectively, the group prepared 367 cases with a total weight of 8,441 lbs. which equated to preparation of 7,034 meals.



# NOVEMBER

- **SKD Sponsors Award-Winning Author Guest Speaker**

Sigma Kappa Delta English Honor Society sponsored a free Reader's Forum on Friday, Nov. 1 in the Jeff Johnston Fine Arts Center featuring author Hardy Jones. Mr. Jones' novel *Every Bitter Thing* was published by Black Lawrence Press in 2010, and his memoir *People of the Good God* is forthcoming.

- **Students Get Tested**

Approximately 200 students took the Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP) Test given in the Haney Center on campus on Oct. 30. Part of the SSC assessment process, the academic test is designed to measure general education foundational skills typically attained in the first two years of college.

- **Special Showing of "Sewing Hope" Film Featured at SSC**

SSC was chosen to showcase the 2013 Napa Valley Film Festival Selection film "Sewing Hope" in the Enoch Kelly Haney Center on Nov. 18. "Sewing Hope" is a documentary film named Sister Rosemary about a Uganda nun Nyirumbe who opened a school for young girls that were abducted and abused by Joseph Kony and Resistance Army. For the last 30 years, she and other nuns have worked to save and protect young women who are victims of the violent civil war that dominated northern Uganda and South Sudan. Sister Rosemary and Oklahoma philanthropist and Seminole native Reggie Whitten were on campus to speak about the film.



- **Holiday Food Drive**

Students in the Student Government Association and PSI Beta joined forces to collect food items for the Salvation Army before the Thanksgiving holiday. The Food Drive collected over 300 cans of non-perishable items.

- **Students Tour Chickasaw Cultural Center**



Members of the Native American Student Association and several Danish exchange students toured the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur. In addition to visiting various exhibits and hearing presentations on Native American culture, the students were invited to join in a Stomp Dance performed on the grounds.

- **SSC Honors Native American Indian Heritage Month**

The SSC All Nations Student Development Center (NASNTI) and Native American Student Association hosted Chief Leonard Harjo on campus as part of "Native November." Chief Harjo discussed higher education opportunities and career choices for Native American students.

- Students Learn about Oklahoma’s Fight Against Illegal Drugs**  
 Students in the President's Leadership Class and Denmark students visiting SSC from Silkeborg College were guests at the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. The group heard a presentation from OBN Director Darrell Weaver about the department's law enforcement responsibilities and activities.
- Students See the Big, Big Bomb**  
 Members of the President's Leadership Class toured the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant and were able to see the GBU-43/B Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB). The MOAB, commonly known as the "Mother of All Bombs," is one of fifteen massive bombs produced in McAlester in 2003 in support of the "shock and awe" effort during the Iraq War. The McAlester plant is the premier bomb loading facility and the largest conventional munitions storage facility in the Department of Defense.
- Stewarts Donate to SSC Educational Foundation**  
 Bob and Sharon Stewart of Tecumseh donated 14 original prints of Enoch Kelly Haney art to the Seminole State College Educational Foundation. The prints will be displayed around the campus of SSC and duplicates will be sold to raise money for the Educational Foundation.



## DECEMBER

- Psi Beta Helping Local Families**  
 SSC’s PSI Beta Psychology Honor Society took time out of their busy end-of-the-year school schedules to collect and donate toys for area children in need. The students worked with the Wewoka Head Start Program's Seminole Center to give toys to children who, without help, may not have a Christmas.
- Finals Breakfast**  
 Seminole State College faculty and staff served a late-night breakfast at the beginning of finals week on Monday, Dec. 9 to over 100 students from the college’s residence halls. Students were invited to bring their books to the E.T. Dunlap Student Union to study for final exams while they were served a full-course breakfast starting at 9 p.m.
- Santa's Helpers**



Members of the Classified Staff Association and Professional Staff Association organized a campus-wide effort to provide Christmas gifts for “Little Angels” identified by the Salvation Army and the Department of Human Services. The gifts were to be distributed to children in the Seminole County area.

The college organization sponsored 20 Salvation Army and 15 DHS angels.

- **Seminole Chamber Honors SSC Personnel**

Two employees were honored for their outstanding dedication and work during the monthly Chamber of Commerce Forum Thursday, Dec. 12. Administrative Assistant to the Vice President for Fiscal Affairs Natasha Rodgers and Math Instructor Jamie Mills were recognized as “Staff Member of the Month” and “Educator of the Month,” respectively.

- **Computer Learning Center Established**

Using funds from the Native American Serving Non-Tribal Institutions grant, a space in the David L. Boren Library was renovated to add two classrooms - computer learning centers to serve transitional and other students.

- **Holiday Helpers**

The Leadership Development Class hosted a Toy Drive on campus as part of a service learning class project. The students provided toys to be distributed to area children by the Seminole Police Department and Family Resource Center.



- **GEAR UP hosts Forestry Career Day**

Seminole State College’s GEAR UP projects hosted a Forestry Career Day at Seminole High School. Over 110 ninth-grade GEAR UP students were given the chance learn about the forestry profession and hear about current projects taking place in the forestry industry from three professionals in the field.