New deans assume duties

Academic areas re-aligned

By Sara Livingston
Managing Editor

With the start of the 1999 fall semester, students will experience a change in the structure of the college. Moving from a system which featured six academic divisions, the college re-aligned the academic area to create three schools which are headed by deans.

Each academic dean will be responsible for four academic departments. Each department has a faculty member that is the head of that particular department. Also, joining the college administration as a dean of enrollment management and student records is Linda Oldham Barnes.

Oldham-Barnes, Oldham-Barnes will oversee admissions, the registrar’s office, and the testing center. She is also the head of the mathematics department.

Lucas, named director of the school of Agriculture and Natural Sciences, joined the college faculty in 1977. He will oversee the departments of agriculture, mathematics, natural sciences and technology.

Grenandt, dean of the school of Human Environmental Sciences, will oversee the departments of allied health and physical education, business and nursing.

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TAKING CALLS
Jo Ramsey, switchboard operator, answers a question during her daily activities in the Czech Library/Administration building.

Editor's note: The following article was written by Jim Staggs, Public Information Director at NEO.

A plan to bring bachelor’s degree level courses to Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College appears to be on course for the fall semester according to a new agreement reached between the two-year school and Portland State University.

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State colleges receive monies

By Sara Livingston
Managing Editor

Despite a 4.4 percent increase in state monies this year, Oklahoma's higher education's $12 billion operating budget will enable state colleges and universities to boost funding for faculty salaries, new faculty positions, library materials and student scholarships.

The funding boost is made possible in large part through increased student fees and gifts and grants as well as relaxation on college and university campuses.

The billion-dollar budget approved by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education today represents a 4.4 percent or $5.1 million increase over the 1998-99 budget.

It will support education and research opportunities for approximately 206,000 undergraduates in the state's 23 colleges and universities and two higher education centers.

"As a result of higher education's small increase in state funding, we will not be able to understand some priorities, such as initiatives to improve retention and graduation rates, equip electronic learning sites at colleges and universities, expand economic development activities and appropriately address higher education needs in Northeast Oklahoma," said Chancellor Hans Brich.

"Instead, the new state dollars will be used to help offset approximately $8.0 million in mandatory costs, such as health and dental insurance, retirement benefits and utilities," Brich said.

"However, increases in tuition and the revenue and enhanced efforts by colleges and universities to generate funds to top priority academic programs and student services will enable higher education to take some important steps forward," Brich said.

"In fact, approximately 91 percent of the total budget will go directly to institutions where it will be used to support those areas that impact students the most," Brich said.

Higher education operating funding comes from two sources: state appropriations and revolving funds, which include revenues from tuition fees, fees charged for services such as libraries and food services.

State appropriations for 1999-2000 total $712.2 million, up 4.9 percent or $34.3 million from $775.9 million in 1998-99.

Revolving fund income increased by $36.8 million, or 2 percent, from $1,919.8 million in 1998-99 to $1,956.7 million in 1999-2000.

Additional tuition and fee revenue resulting from an increase in 1998-2000 tuition rates and a projected 2.9 percent enrollment gain accounts for $25.3 million of the increase.

Regents reported funding for instruction at $5.253 billion showed the largest dollar increase of $14.9 million, or 2.9 percent from $508.1 million in 1998-99.

In response to the projected increase in system enrollment for fall 1999, college and university presidents will use the funds to offer 900 more course sections, expand library holdings, and create 156 new faculty positions.

The 1999-2000 budget also includes faculty and staff increases at most institutions averaging 3.8 to 4.0 percent.

"Oklahoma colleges and universities want to offer students the best quality education they can," Brich said.

"Because the quality of faculty determines to a large extent the quality of education provided to Oklahoma students, it is vitally important that our college and university offer competitive salaries in order to retain and recruit the nation's best faculty."

"Funding for college and university scholarship programs rose to $84.4 million, or 3.8 percent, or 4.9 million increase."

At the same time, funding for scholarship programs operated by the State Regents total $31.5 million.

"Increased scholarship funding has been a long time priority of Oklahoma higher education," said State Regents Chairman John Mudaly.

"The Regents want to ensure that students who have the desire and ability to go to college but not the financial resources can pursue their educational goals."

"In addition, higher education keeps administrative costs to a minimum."

"These costs constitute 9.4 percent of the total 1999-2000 budget, well below national, regional and peer averages."

"Oklahoma colleges and universities have made great progress in reducing administrative costs and eliminating program duplication and low priority academic programs," Brich said.

"As a result of these efforts, institutions have freed up resources for improvements in higher priority academic programs and student services."

We need help...

"As managing editor of The Norse Wind, I would like to welcome you either as a returning sophomore or as a first-time freshman."

"I hope you have a very good experience while you are here."

"I also want to encourage you to get involved with various campus clubs and organizations."

"If we are going to have a good year, then you must get involved and participate."

"This purpose of this letter is to invite any students interested in writing, art, or taking pictures to come and join our weekly newspaper."

"We have a limited number of tuition scholarships and work-study funds for anyone that wants to put in the time and effort it takes to produce a newspaper."

"If you are interested, please contact Monty Franks at 840-6383 or in room 204 of Dyer Hall."

"Once again, we're glad you are here and have a good year."

Sara Livingston
Managing Editor

Norse Wind

Norse Wind Staff

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Assistant Managing Editor: Monty Franks

News Editor: Steve Owens
Features Editor: Tiffany Kasner
Sports Editor: Adam Shelton
Photography Editor: Shewna Lewis

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Former NEO president passes away recently

Dr. D. D. Creech, former president of Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College and a key figure in the development of the Miami Senators' baseball team, died at 10:14 p.m., Monday, Aug. 2, 1999, at Freeman West Hospital, Joplin, Mo., after a short illness. He was 82.

Dr. Creech served as president at NEO from January 1970 until his retirement in July 1982. "The people who knew him and worked with him were impressed with how he always had the students in mind," said current NEO President Dr. Glen Mayle.

"I had some time last month to meet with him in June and he was always offering any services I needed," he said. "He was just a wealth of information. Everyone will really miss him."

The library-administration building at NEO was named in honor of Dr. Creech at the time of his retirement. Dr. Creech was very active in the Miami community.

He was president of the Miami Chamber of Commerce in 1958 and had been a vice president of the Cherokee Area Council, Boy Scouts of America.

He also had been on the board of the Miami United Way, the Miami Community Concerts Association, Northeastern Oklahoma Economic Development Association and the Oklahoma Junior Miss Pageant, Inc.

He was a member of the American Legion and the Miami Rotary Club.

One of his proudest moments was serving as the president of the board of directors that raised the funds and built the Miami Senior Center in 1993.

"He was instrumental in seeing that this thing was a reality," said Miami Senior Center administrator Bonnie Howe. "He put in a lot of man-hours and made a lot of contacts."

"He opened a lot of the doors for the seniors to have money."

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Miami and its Builders Sunday School Class.

"He was a nice man...they don't come any nicer," said Howe, who was a student at NEO during Creech's tenure.

"His shoes will be hard to fill. He always was very positive."

Dr. Creech was born Aug. 1, 1917, at Seling to Jesse B. and Frances Jackson Creech.

He graduated from the Oakwood High School in 1933, and Southwestern State College in 1938. He received his master's degree in science in school administration from Oklahoma State University and his doctorate in school administration from the University of Oklahoma.

He enlisted in the U.S. Navy on April 30, 1942, and served on the USS Arthur in the South Pacific.

In 1946, he was appointed national spokesman for public instruction for Oklahoma. He served in that position until being named president at NEO.

He married Dorothy A. Buie on June 5, 1947, at Woodward. She survives, of the home.

Additional survivors include his daughter and her husband, Jan and Mike Shannon, Edmond, two sons, and their wives, Jim and Pat Creech, Miami, and Dan and Valerie Creech, St. Louis, Mo., a brother and his wife, Fred and Carolyn Creech, Edwarsville, Ill.; a niece and her husband, Donald and Marie Nappi, Wichita, Kan., and six grandchildren.

A service is planned at the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Dawna Bridgewater officiating. Burial will be in the G.A.R. Cemetery under direction of the Cooper-Ashworth Funeral Home of Miami.

DR. D. D. CREECH
Former president Dr. D.D. Creech passed away at the age of 82 on Aug. 2 in Joplin, Mo., after a brief illness.

The First National Bank & Trust Company of Miami
2 North Main
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31 North Main
Miami (918) 540-0468

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24 Hour Crisis Hotline: 1-800-401-0883 Local: 542-1001

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LIPSOMBS LEAVE NEO POSITION FOR SAME SPOT AT NORTHEASTERN STATE

Editor's note: The following article was written by Mary Ellis and appeared in the July 26 issue of the Miami News Record.

After 15 years in Miami as co-directors of the Northeastern Oklahoma A&M Baptist Student Union, Bobby Lipscomb and his wife, Debbie, have assumed new duties at Northeastern State University BCM, Tahlequah.

"We've been told that this is what we're supposed to do," said Debbie Lipscomb. "But it was hard to leave Miami as it was the last one because we felt right. The plans were the same way we felt about coming here."

When they came to Miami, NEA BCM had an enrollment of nearly 3,000. According to Debbie Lipscomb, the school's current enrollment is approximately half the number making it simply impractical to have two directors.

Yet the Lipscombs knew that their calling was to work together to build a youth. "We were both called at the same time," she said. "We were attending the University of Central Oklahoma and went both a meeting. Although we were sitting in different parts of the room, one of us having come in later that the other, we each answered a call to missions and met at the altar."

"Later the call for us was clarified to students, to college work. The Lipscombs began thinking about moving two years ago and began packing what they didn't expect to need."

They put their house on the market then but only signed the contract recently. "It was just another sign that we were doing God's will," said Debbie Lipscomb.

Both of the Lipscombs had part-time jobs to finance their children's college education. They resigned in May, telling their bosses that they were leaving although they didn't know exactly when.

When their youngest son, Casey, received a complete football scholarship at Tulsa University, they felt it was a confirmation of their decision.

She explained that the move to Miami was difficult. Her aunt and uncle Becky and Bob Austin lived in Miami. She was familiar with the town and hating family here made the move easy. "We had to make sure that the move was God's will and not just family," she said.

There will be familiarity for the Lipscombs in Tahlequah too. "It's easier knowing the Lipscombs will be there," said Debbie Lipscomb. "It helps to know part of the family."

"We've always had a good working relationship with them," said Randy Gipson, the women's basketball coach.

Randy Gipson is the women's basketball coach and Larry Gipson is the men's basketball coach at NSU, having previously worked at NEA A&M.

It's easy knowing the Lipscombs will be there, having attended one semester at NSU. The Lipscombs came to Miami with the same goals that they take to Tahlequah to help the students know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior or to become more committed to Him.

"The only time will tell if we've met our goals," said Debbie Lipscomb. "We've seen some of our students go on to successful Christian lives but it is too soon to know how well the latest class will do."

"We try to make the kids more responsible coming through the program. Helping youth to find God is not complicated for the Lipscombs."

"Just love them as they are and see them through Christ's eyes," Debbie Lipscomb said, "so that they can become."

She feels that the building, now called Baptist Collegiate Ministries after a state-wide name change, is in better shape, painted, etc., than when they came.

Debbie Lipscomb expresses regret at leaving the couple's granddaughter, Lexi Lipscomb, behind in Miami as well as other family members, but sees their arrival as a reason to visit frequently.

"I'm really going to miss the Sidewalk Sale," she said with a smile.

One of her favorite activities of Miami is the way the community rallies around for special causes. "You see business owners there getting involved in Miami which you don't see in bigger cities," she said.

The couple knows about involvement. They began participating in Hearts & Hammers as individuals and later got the whole BCM involved helping to improve the homes of those in need in Miami.

They served at various associational and state camping programs such as Camp Judahs, Camp Nummy Chu Ha, and Falls Creek.

Under their direction, the BCM students have taken mission trips to Kansas City, Mo., Wyoming, Texas, Kansas, Canada and Mexico.

Almost 150 summer student missionaries have been sent to Oregon, Korea, and France. Bobby Lipscomb has done mission work in Brazil and Russia.

"We enjoyed helping out with the food and around here there was ample opportunity," she said.

In addition to their son, Casey, and granddaughter, Lexi, the Lipscombs have two children, Mica, Lexi's father and a student at UCO, and B.J. Dye, a student at SBU and her husband Johnnie.

The Lipscombs are grateful for their support of their ministry. "People accepted us like we are," she said, "and allowed us to experience who we are with the Lord."

GROUP SAYS GOOD-BYE!

Several members of the Baptist Collegiate Ministry pose for a picture after participating in the weekly Noon-Day activities held last year.
Special Thursday game opens season

Defending Southwest Junior College Football Conference champion Northeastern A&M College opens the 1999 football schedule, Sept. 2, with a special Thursday night game, according to Golden Norse head coach Dale Patterson.

Beginning their fourth year as a member of the Southwest Junior College Football Conference, the Golden Norsemen face two non-conference opponents before playing seven conference games.

Last year the Golden Norsemen defeated Navarro Community College 28-25 at Robert Field in Miami to win the conference title. NED finished the regular season third in the conference with a 5-2 mark.

The Norsemen represented the league in the Red River Bowl at Shreveport. Texas defeated arch-rival Coffeyville (Kansas) Community College 30-0 to finish ranked 11th in the nation with a 9-3 record.

The league voted to change the playoff system this year. The Norsemen will have an open date after the final non-conference game on Oct. 30. Then we will have two playoff games on Nov. 13 and the two winners will meet Dec. 4 in the Red River Bowl. They won’t be inviting an outside team like in the past,” said Patterson.

NED opens the 1999 season against defending National Junior College Athletic Association National Champion Butler County Community College of El Dorado, Kan., on Thursday, Sept. 2 at 7 p.m. Last year Butler County defeated the Norsemen 25-14 in a perfect 12-0 season record.

We decided to play this game on Thursday evening because most of our students will be on campus and it should be a very entertaining game for our fans,” said Patterson.

NED returns home on Sept. 11 to host Kemper Military College of Boonville, Mo., at 7 p.m. Last year the Norsemen handed the Yellowjackets a 39-37 loss in Miami.

“Our football fans are excited about our program and help us start the season on a good, positive note. Our players are excited about the chance to play the defending national champions right here in our own house,” said Patterson.

“After that, we have to get ready for a typical conference schedule. It looks like we’re going to have even more balance in the conference than we did last year. I don’t really see any dominant teams. I think it will be a real dogfight for the four playoff spots. It might be like it was last year when the teams that leads the conference going into the playoffs, might not win the championship.”

Opening the conference schedule on the road, the Golden Norsemen visit Ranger, Texas, on Sept. 18 for a 3 p.m. game. The Norse beat the Rangers in Miami last year.

Traveling to Tyler, Texas, the next Saturday, Sept. 25, the Norsemen face the Apaches in a 7 p.m. contest. Last year Tyler defeated the Norsemen 35-17 in Miami during the regular season before suffering a 24-13 loss to NED in Tyler in the first round of the playoffs.

Returning home on Saturday, Oct. 2, the Golden Norsemen will entertain Trinity Valley Community College of Athens, Texas in a 7 p.m. homecoming game. Last year the Cardinals edged past the Norse 13-2 in Athens.

Visiting 19th-ranked Navarro College on Oct. 9 in Corsicana, Texas, the Golden Norse will play in the 6 p.m. homecoming game. Last year the Golden Norse earned a 30-23 victory over the Bulldogs in Miami during the regular season.

Navarro returned to Miami for the conference championship game with the Norsemen gaining a 28-25 win.

The Golden Norsemen return home Oct. 16 for a 7 p.m. showdown with Kilgore College. NED cruised to a 40-19 victory over the Rangers last year in Kilgore.

Concluding the regular season the Norsemen visit Cisco, Texas on Oct. 23 for a 3 p.m. game with the Cisco Wranglers. Last year the Norsemen posted a 48-10 win over the Wranglers in Miami.

Blinn College of Brenham, Texas will close out the regular season on Oct. 30 in Miami for a 6 p.m. contest. The Norsemen defeated the Beavers 41-10 last year.

Football tickets for five home games are available in the business office.

Offering football fans an opportunity to see the defending national champion along with two other teams that have won the national title four times in the last six years, the college has launched the sale of reserved season tickets for five home football games.

“This is possibly the most competitive home schedule we’ve ever had,” said Golden Norse Athletic Director Bob Maxwell. “Our fans should defiantly get the most of our entertainment dollars.”

Season tickets for the five games at Robertson Field are $25 each. General admission tickets purchased at the gate for each game are $6 for adults and $3 for children under 12. A family pass ticket is $50 which includes two adults and three children age 16 and under.

“Our home schedule this season gives us an opportunity to really gain some national prominence because of the quality of competition,” said Golden Norse head coach Dale Patterson.

“Our teams should be very exciting to watch,” Maxwell said.

Adding to the excitement of each home game will be the tailgate party before each contest.

“We want to encourage people to come out and enjoy some good food and exciting football,” said Maxwell.

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NORSE WIND
Friday, August 20, 1999
SPORTS
Sports

Making a Point

New Lady Norse head basketball coach B.J. Smith made a point during a press conference on campus to announce his hiring during the summer.

Assistants join football staff

Three new coaches assume various duties

With the start of pre-season workouts, several coaching staff changes have been completed, according to head football coach Dale Patterson.

Returning to the staff are offensive coordinator and quarterback coach Rob Green along with offensive line coach Chris Fecher. Third-year coach Charles "Chick" Thomas assumes the responsibility of defensive coordinator and defensive secondary coach.

Patterson had served the previous three seasons as defensive coordinator. Patterson will continue to coach the linebackers.

Joining the Golden Norse staff as running backs and tight end coach is Derek Ezmore. A graduate of Western High School in Oklahoma City, Ezmore earned a bachelor's degree in science from the University of Central Oklahoma in 1997. He lettered four years as a tight end for coach Gary Howard's Broncos and was a two-time Lone Star Conference All-American.

Ezmore replaced David Dens, who joined the staff at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah. Assuming the duties of wide receivers coach is Michael Rooney.

Following graduation from Picher High School, Rooney earned a bachelor's degree in science from Pittsburg (Kan.) State University. Last year he served as special teams coach for Wilie Ny's Picher Bronchos.

Rooney replaced Brad Bailey, who became a member of the Missouri Southern State College coaching staff.

Justin Roberts joined the Golden Norse staff as defensive line coach. A native of Columbia, Mo., Roberts lettered in football two years while earning a bachelor's degree in science at Missouri Southern in 1996. He served as an assistant offensive line coach and strength and conditioning coach for two years at Hickman High School in Columbia, Mo.

Roberts replaced Matt Parker who joined the staff of the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. Smith selected ladies cage coach

B.J. Smith, former women's basketball coach at North Arkansas College, was employed over the summer as Lady Norse basketball coach, according to Bob Maxwell, NEO athletic director.

Smith, who becomes the sixth head coach in 43-year history of the Lady Norse program, succeeds Randy Gipson. After guiding the Lady Norse to a third-place finish in the Region II Tournament, Gipson resigned in March to become head coach of the women's basketball program at Northeastern Oklahoma State University in Tahlequah.

Last year Smith compiled his first season as head coach of the Lady Pioneers at North Arkansas College in Harrison. The Lady Pioneers jumped out to a 9-2 season record and an appearance in the nation's top 15 before losing the Region II leading scorer Lindsay Clarkson (5-11) to a knee injury in December. North Arkansas finished with a 15-14 overall record.

"I am extremely familiar with the level of play that is required to be successful in the Bi-State Athletic Conference and on the National level. With the resources available at NEO, that goal is well within reach," said Smith.

A graduate of Pawhuska High School, Smith attended Eastern Oklahoma College in Wilburton during the 1983-84 season on a scholarship.

He transferred to Northern Oklahoma College in Tonkawa and was a starting point guard during the 1984-85 season. After serving as associate of arts degree at Northern, Smith was a two-year starter as a guard at Southwestern College in Winfield, Kan. He earned a bachelor of arts in speech and education at Southwestern in 1989. While playing at Southwestern, Smith earned All District X honors as a senior.

Following graduation from Southwestern, Smith served as girls' junior varsity coach from 1990 to 1992 at Arkansas City (Kan.) High School.

He returned to Southwestern to serve as junior varsity men's coach from 1992 to 1996. While also serving as an assistant varsity basketball coach, Smith received a masters of education degree at Southwestern.

Smith became Sports Information Director at Phillips University in Enid in 1998. He assumed the head coaching duties of both the men's and women's cross country and track teams during the 1997-98 seasons at Phillips. He also served as the top assistant in the Phillips women's basketball program from 1998 to 1999.

Attention Students!

The 1999 edition of the VIKING yearbook will be available beginning Sept. 8 in room 204 of Dyer Hall

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The Norsewind – the NEO A&M College Newspaper

Digital copies of The Norsewind, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College’s student newspaper, are available in .pdf format on the NEO website for non-commercial purposes only. Scans were created using the best available editions through the assistance of the Oklahoma Higher Education Historical Society from microfilmed images. Where stains, color-fading, contributed marks or ripped pages were visible on the original, they also appear in the digital copy. NEO newspaper editions that do not appear on the website are not part of the collection at present. If you would like to donate a missing, damaged or incomplete copy of The Norsewind, please contact the NEO Library.