



# Fall enrollment hits record high

With an enrollment of 4,824 students this fall, Southeastern Oklahoma State University has reached unprecedented heights.

Records indicate and University officials believe this to be the highest enrollment since the school opened its doors in 1909.

It also represents a 7.6% increase over last fall's enrollment.

"We are continuing to see impressive growth in our online graduate programs," said Southeastern president Sean Burrage.

"Online delivery is an attractive and convenient option for many students, and the demand for this service has spread across the country over the past few years. At the same time, we realize the importance of maintaining the quality academic programs offered in the traditional classroom



*Southeastern president Sean Burrage speaks at Freshman Convocation on Aug. 17 in Montgomery Auditorium.*

setting. With that being said, we believe that quality, accessibility, affordability and most importantly, our people -- are the attributes that set Southeastern apart and continue to drive our enrollment growth."

The University recently announced that for the second year in a row, students will not see an increase in tuition rates. In addition, thanks to a new pilot program initiated by the state, high school juniors in Oklahoma can receive tuition-free enrollment in concurrent courses at Southeastern.

*(see Growth, page 4)*

## *Historical perspective: Fall enrollment, year-by-year*

Listed below is the official Fall Enrollment (headcount) at Southeastern Oklahoma State University from 1961 to the present:

1961	1,864	1973	3,402	1985	4,105	1997	3,946	2009	4,229
1962	1,958	1974	3,524	1986	4,271	1998	3,859	2010	4,181
1963	2,315	1975	4,267	1987	4,064	1999	3,707	2011	4,127
1964	2,175	1976	4,384	1988	3,632	2000	3,776	2012	4,120
1965	2,238	1977	4,417	1989	3,714	2001	4,025	2013	3,840
1966	2,201	1978	4,391	1990	4,049	2002	4,033	2014	3,877
1967	2,202	1979	4,160	1991	4,182	2003	4,203	2015	3,751
1968	2,267	1980	4,328	1992	4,147	2004	4,070	2016	3,725
1969	2,445	1981	4,332	1993	4,202	2005	4,075	2017	3,956
1970	3,086	1982	4,248	1994	4,104	2006	3,872	2018	4,483
1971	3,740	1983	4,340	1995	3,912	2007	4,002	2019	4,824
1972	3,795	1984	4,032	1996	3,831	2008	3,889		

*Sources: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, Southeastern Office of Academic Affairs*

# Tuition-free concurrent classes offered to high school juniors

Thanks to a new pilot program initiated by the state, high school juniors in Oklahoma can receive tuition-free enrollment in concurrent courses at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

Qualified high school juniors may receive up to nine hours of credit over two semesters with no tuition costs. Students are responsible for University fees, books, and other course materials.

The concurrent students may take classes on the University campus or by electronic delivery.

The pilot program is being funded by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and Southeastern.

High school seniors are already eligible to earn up to 18 hours of credit tuition-free.



*Nineteen students participated in this summer's Take Flight Aviation Academy.*

## Southeastern receives grant for Take Flight Aviation Academy

The Oklahoma Aeronautics Commission (OAC) recently announced that it had awarded \$300,000 in grants statewide for aerospace education.

Southeastern Oklahoma State University was among the recipients, receiving an award of \$6,500 for its Take Flight Aviation Academy in 2020.

The Southeastern Take Flight Aviation Academy is an all-inclusive, 5-day, 5-night summer camp adventure for teenagers and features imagination-provoking, career inspiring, hands-on exposure to aviation and aerospace offered at the Aviation Sciences Institute.

This summer's academy was the fifth year that the program has been offered and attracted 19 students. It was also partially funded by a grant from the OAC.

## Ludrick named Faculty Athletic Representative

**Dr. Brad Ludrick** has been appointed to serve as Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



*Ludrick*

Ludrick, who serves as professor-coordinator of the Master of Science in the Native American Leadership program, has been a faculty member here since 1997. He also is a former coach of the women's cross country team.

Among his duties as FAR include the verification of student-athletes; assisting in institutional certification and recertification processes; participation in compliance reviews; perform duties related to NCAA and Great American Conference regulations and requirements; attend NCAA and GAC meetings and conventions; act as liaison with the Student Athlete Advisory Committee; administer and oversee student-athlete surveys; and consult with the director of athletics on major appointments in the Athletics Department.

Ludrick holds a doctorate from Texas A&M-Commerce and master and bachelor degrees from Southeastern.

A member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Ludrick is a 1989 graduate of Durant High School.

He served in the U.S. Military (Army Reserve) from 1989 to 2003, and separated as a Captain.

Ludrick joined the Southeastern faculty in 1997.

## *Blake Allen assumes role of Marketing Manager*

**Blake Allen** was recently named Marketing Manager at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



*Allen*

In his new role, Allen will lead the University's marketing efforts while working closely with creative marketing specialist David Campbell, as well as the Office of University Communications.

For the past six years, Allen worked in athletics at Southeastern, most recently as Associate Athletic Director for External Operations.

A Durant native, Allen holds a bachelor's degree in art from Southeastern, and a master's in Education from East Central.

## Homecoming Distinguished Award honorees announced

Southeastern Oklahoma State University will celebrate homecoming on October 24-25-26. Traditional events include the parade, alumni golf tournament, the Alumni Association banquet honoring the Distinguished Alumni and Former Faculty award recipients, tailgating, and football game. Kickoff is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 26 at Paul Laird Field as the Southeastern Savage Storm host Henderson State.

This year's award recipients are as follows:

### Distinguished Alumni

**James Parrish**, Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Executive Director of Education/School Programs and Senior Director of the School of the Choctaw Language

**Col. Tuan That Ton**, U.S. Army Senior Defense Offi-

cial and Defense Attache' to Vietnam

**Rick Wells**, Principal and Founder of Wells Hospitality Group, LLC, One Heart Ventures, LLC, and The Seed Project Foundation

**Dr. J. Herbert Taylor** (Posthumously), molecular biologist and geneticist

### Distinguished Former Faculty

**Dr. Mary Ann Craige**, music professor

**Vicki Hudson**, health, physical education and recreation professor

For a complete schedule of events, visit <https://www.se.edu/alumni/>

## Greg Guymon among Stuteville Tailgate Alley concert performers

Country, rock and Americana are among the musical styles being offered by local and regional acts this fall as part of the Stuteville Chevrolet Tailgate Alley concert series at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.



Local favorite Greg Guymon will perform as part of the Stuteville Chevrolet Tailgate Alley concert series prior to the East Central football game on Nov. 16.

The free concerts begin three hours prior to the kickoff of Saturday Savage Storm home football games and are held in Tailgate Alley, adjacent to Paul Laird Field.

Among this year's musical acts are Time Machine, a dance-party band from Dallas, and local favorite Greg Guymon, who wraps up the series on November 16.

Following is the schedule of concerts:

**September 5:** (Thursday night): No band

**September 21:** (True Blue BBQ Cook-off) Wasetta Switch (Red dirt, rock,

Americana band formed in Caddo in 2012) Concert begins at 3 p.m., kickoff vs. Oklahoma Baptist at 6 p.m.

**October 12:** Shakedown (Classic Rock, country, red dirt band from Texoma) Concert begins at 11 a.m., kickoff vs. Arkansas-Monticello at 2 p.m.

**October 26:** (Homecoming) Time Machine (Dance band from Dallas) Concert begins at 11 a.m., kickoff vs. Henderson State at 2 p.m.

**November 9:** Logan Russell & the Young Guns (Country music and Classic/Southern rock band formed in Ardmore in 2009) Concert begins at 11 a.m., kickoff vs. Harding at 2 p.m.

**November 16:** (True Blue Chili Cook-off) Greg Guymon (Country musician who performs extensively in the area) Concert begins at 11 a.m., kickoff vs. East Central at 1 p.m.

Tailgaters are invited to bring their tents and cookers to Stuteville Chevrolet Tailgate Alley, located in the parking lot at the corner of 2nd Ave. and University Blvd.

## Oklahoma Higher Ed Hall of Fame to induct Dr. Gordon Eggleton

The Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society will welcome seven individuals into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in 2019.

Among the group is **Dr. Gordon Eggleton**, professor emeritus at Southeastern Oklahoma State University.

The 26th annual induction ceremony and banquet will be held Nov. 4 in the Nigh Center at the University of Central Oklahoma.

Eggleton joined the faculty of Southeastern State College in 1971 after receiving his bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Iowa State University. He earned his master's in Science Education and Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of Iowa.

A consummate educator, he spent 40 years sharing his knowledge and love of learning with students in the areas of General Chemistry, Advanced Inorganic Chemistry, Earth Science, Field Geology, Science for Elementary Teachers and Scientific Thought for Honors Students.

He retired from Southeastern in 2011.

In 2016, Eggleton was presented the Distinguished Former Faculty award by the Southeastern Alumni Association.



Eggleton



### *Safety training*

*Southeastern police captain Jody Hall offered a two-hour safety training program during the Faculty Symposium on Aug. 14.*

## Growth trend continues

*Continued from page 1*

High school seniors were already eligible to earn up to 18 hours of credit tuition-free.

And Southeastern has also increased its scholarship funds available to students this year.

“We’re doing everything we can think of to ensure that a college education is affordable,” Burrage said. “Ninety-percent of Southeastern students receive some type of financial aid, and each year, about 50 percent of our graduates are first-generation college graduates. As a University, we have the opportunity to make a lasting impact on the lives of our students. Playing a role in this life-changing experience is something we take a great deal of pride in.”

This fall’s record enrollment continues a recent upward trend: in Fall 2018, enrollment reached a 40-year high, while the Spring 2019 numbers were the highest for a spring semester since 1983.

## Update Calendar

### September

- 2 Labor Day holiday
- 21 Band Day

### October

- 10-11 Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents meeting, Hallie McKinney Ballroom
- 22 Women’s Entrepreneur Seminar, Hallie McKinney Ballroom, 10 a.m.
- 25-26 Homecoming

### November

- 1 Native American Symposium
- 9 Gold & Blue Gala, Visual & Performing Arts Center, 6:30 p.m.
- 15 Southeastern Rodeo Hall of Fame, Visual & Performing Arts Center, 7 p.m. (induction)
- 25-29 Thanksgiving holidays

### December

- 14 Commencement, Bloomer Sullivan Arena

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