For immediate release

Maegan Martin, Director of Public Relations 580-477-7875

maegan.martin@wosc.edu

WOSC and Western Equipment Partnership Recognized

ALTUS, Okla. – Western Oklahoma State College (WOSC) and Western Equipment were among 26 businesses and higher education partnerships, throughout the state, that were recently recognized with a Business Partnership Excellence Award by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The award program annually honors outstanding partnerships that lead to significant contributions in educating and developing Oklahoma's workforce.

WOSC is extremely grateful for the longstanding relationship with Western Equipment. What started out as a family-owned business in 1916 has grown into a multi-location equipment dealership, with 21 locations in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico and a service area that spans much of the southwest. Western Equipment has a rich history in the business of agricultural, residential, and commercial equipment, specializing in all types of equipment parts, sales, and service.

Western Equipment provides WOSC with valuable resources that assist in providing quality experiences to students in the classroom as well as in extracurricular activities. The organization annually provides scholarships for the agriculture program and assists physical plant and athletics with equipment and consultation necessary to maintain a well-groomed campus and functional athletic facilities.

Western Equipment values hands on training and regularly employs WOSC students in a variety of capacities. The two partners not only share the name Western along with the signature green and yellow colors, but also a deep desire to provide opportunities for future leaders in the agriculture industry.

The Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award is designed to highlight successful partnerships and to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents' Economic Development Grants. Institutions involved in these partnerships provide \$500 in other financial support AND receive a matching \$500 State Regents' Economic Development Grant. This grant may be used for tuition of an employee of the business being recognized, paid internship for a current student of the institution to work at the business being recognized, a faculty externship with business being recognized, or enhancement of the partnership with additional equipment, materials, or supplies.

For more information about RBPEA and this year's partnerships, visit https://www.okhighered.org/econdev/partner-excellence.shtml

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