WOSC Foundation Donors Celebrated

The Western Oklahoma State College Foundation, Inc. recognizes its valuable Partners in Education Excellence donors and their outstanding levels of giving to the Foundation. Donors contribute at three levels; Lectureships represent at $25,000 gift, Professorships, a $125,000 gift and Endowed Chairs a $250,000 gift. These funds are matched dollar for dollar through the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Trust Fund. Currently the WOSC Foundation holds endowment funds represented by 14 individual donors. When all endowments are fully matched the college will benefit from $1,750,000 of endowment funds.

The Oklahoma State Regents' Endowment Trust Fund has been established as a vital step in strengthening academic programs throughout Oklahoma's system of public higher education. With strong support of the Legislature and the Governor, state money was allocated to establish the program in 1988. The Regents' fund has continued with successful progress utilizing both private and public sources in funding. Additional private matching funds are on deposit in college and university endowment funds and foundation accounts.

The endowment program is designed to enhance the quality of higher education in Oklahoma by providing state funds as a match for private donations for the establishment of endowed chairs, distinguished professorships, visiting professorships, artists-in-residence, and lectureships. In addition, the program encourages the growth of public/private partnerships to support higher education. Concerned with Oklahoma's growth and development, the State Regents have specified that endowed chairs and professorships be established in academic areas that will contribute to the cultural, business, scientific, or economic development of the state.

The WOSC Foundation’s donor list is comprised of ten lectureships at the $25,000 level and include the two newest gifts, the Lucille O. Brewer Lectureship in Early Childhood/Child Development and the Ken and Mary Ann Fergeson Lectureship in Online Education. Other gifts at this donor level are the Chesser Family Lectureship in Art/History; the Randy Cumby Lectureship in Distance Learning Education; the Doughty Family Lectureship in Business; the Eunice Griffin Lectureship in Business; the Winston and Ethelda Higgs Lectureship in Business; the Russell Kirchoff Lectureship in Agriculture; the Jack and Jewell Walker Lectureship in Aviation and the Jeff and Kim Wilmes Lectureship in Business. Three Professorships at the $125,000 level include the JCMH Professorship in Nursing; the JCMH Professorship in Nursing and the JCMH Professorship in Radiologic Technology.

The Great Plains Regional Medical Center Endowed Chair in Nursing represents the $250,000 level.

Those interested in joining these donors in support of education excellence may contact Larry Duffy, Executive Secretary of the WOSC Foundation, Inc. at 580-477-7705.