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news@wosc.edu

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Sawders named new President's Partners

Hunter and Patricia Sawders are Western's newest President's Partners.

The **WOSC** Foundation, Inc. President's Partners Program is designed to enhance educational opportunities and student learning experiences by providing necessary funding for scholarships, program funding, endowments and other development for the college. Each President's Partner pledges an annual contribution to the WOSC Foundation, Inc. of at least \$1,000 to support college programs.

The Sawders came to Altus in 2019 from the San Angelo, Texas, area. Hunter spent 26 years with the United States Air Force, and the last 10 years as an executive in nuclear security. He currently serves as the physical plant coordinator at Western.

The couple decided to move to Altus to be closer to their grandchildren when their daughter and son-in-law retired from the Air Force and made a home here.

"Twenty-six years in



From left: Dr. Chad Wiginton, Hunter Sawders, and Debbie Valerio.

the Air Force came with a lot of moving; 13 to be exact," Hunter said. "As we made the decision to move to Altus, we were ready to be a part of a community. We wanted to commit with our whole heart. We've learned to put our money where our heart is."

The couple decided to commit to the community and Western by becoming President's Partners.

"Although he's only been on our campus for a few months, Hunter is already an invested employee," said Dr. Chad Wiginton, Western president. "He has a true heart for serving and empowering people, and we are thrilled he is a part of the Pioneer family."

The Western Oklahoma State College Foundation provides the opportunity to invest in the future by offering many ways to give. The WOSC Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 organization and exists to generate support for the students and programs of Western Oklahoma State College. For more information on the WOSC Foundation and ways to give, visit wosc. edu/give.

UPCOMING AT WESTERN

December 13 - 19: Finals Week

December 19: Fall Semester ends

January 15: Spring Semester begins

January 20: Martin Luther King Day, Campus Closed



FCCLA hosts District Meeting on Campus

Students from around southwest Oklahoma visited campus for the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America district leadership meeting. Each year, FCCLA holds a district leadership meeting. This year, Altus was responsible for hosting the meeting.

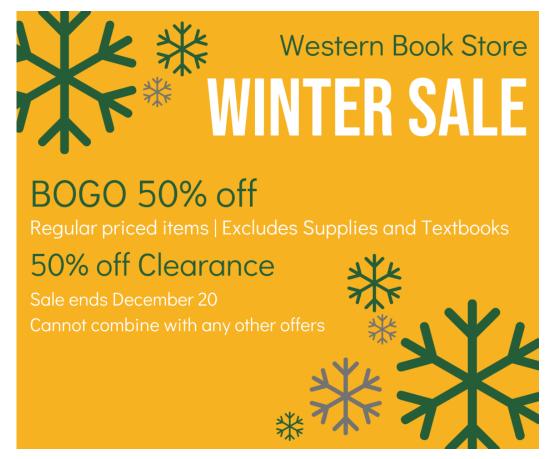
Western partnered with Altus High School, and the event was hosted on campus in the auditorium. Roughly 400 FCCLA students attended the meeting, which was conducted by the district officers: Weatherford student Dacia Miranda, Livia Denton

from Cache, Katie Cardenas of Clinton, Altus student Alexia Kidder, and Chandy Kirby from Weatherford. These students have several leadership opportunities throughout the year. FCCLA state officer Cliffton Daily also attended the meeting and shared his story of how FCCLA leadership opportunities have improved his life.

The meeting included a keynote speaker, David Flood, who encouraged students to be kind to one another. The Altus High School Blue Harmonics sang and the Junior ROTC

presented the colors for the meeting.

Oklahoma Western State College is the oldest original municipal twoyear college still in existence in the state of Oklahoma. Its mission is to provide high quality education, support student success, and empower individuals to become productive members of local, regional and global communities. Western offers high-quality associate degrees and certificates to its five-county service area and beyond. For more information, visit wosc.edu.



Save the Date

Homecoming & Casino Night February 3, 2020

WESTERN FCA PRESENTS

GOD'S NOT DEAD

December 13 | 6:30 p.m. Western Auditorium Popcorn & Drinks Served



Western and Cameron host "Become a Teacher"

The Cameron University School of Graduate and Professional Studies and Western Oklahoma State College partnered to host this year's CU Become a Teacher!

Community members considering entering the field of teaching were invited to attend "CU Become a Teacher" -- a free, specialized workshop presented by the Cameron University Department of Education. The workshop covered the multiple pathways for becoming a teacher including options for individuals with an earned degree in a non-education field and for

working professionals seeking a Bachelor's degree in Education.

Roughly 20 people attended the Altus Workshop on Thursday, Nov. 21 at Western Oklahoma State College in Altus. Dinner was served and those who attended had the opportunity to learn more about pursuing a career in education.

CU Become a Teacher is made possible through an Oklahoma Teacher Shortage Grant from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Oklahoma Teacher Connection.

For more information about opportunities at Western, visit wosc.edu/

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