

Grubaugh and Shimmin named President's Excellence Award Recipients



Left to Right: Dr. Chad Wiginton with President's Excellence Award recipients, Zoe Grubaugh and Elena Shimmin

Western Oklahoma State College celebrated academic excellence and student achievement during the 2025 President's Excellence Luncheon held on April 23. The annual event honored 12 outstanding students for their accomplishments in and out of the classroom.

Family, friends, faculty, and staff gathered to recognize the students and hear personal accounts of their leadership, perseverance, and commitment to excellence. The luncheon serves as a long-standing tradition at Western, highlighting the college's commitment to student success and community support.

Elena Shimmin and Zoe Grubaugh were announced as the recipients of the 2025 President's Excellence Award, the college's highest student honor.

Elena is pursuing a major in Nursing from Altus, Oklahoma. At Western, she is involved in the Science Club, is the Nursing Club Vice President, and is a Western Ambassador.

Zoe is also pursuing a degree in Nursing from Altus, Oklahoma. At Western, she is involved in FCA,

UPCOMING AT WESTERN

May 12- 16 | Finals

May 15 | Commencement Practice | 2 PM | Gymnasium

May 15 | Nursing Pinning | 6 PM | Gymnasium

May 16 | WOSC Commencement | 6 PM | Gymnasium

May 26 | Campus Closed | Memorial Day

June 2 | Summer Courses Begin

June 7 | Hall of Fame Induction

June 19 | Campus Closed | Juneteenth

is the Baptist Collegiate Ministries President, the Nursing Club Secretary, a peer tutor, and is a Western Ambassador. Western extends its congratulations to all nominated students and looks forward to continuing the tradition of honoring exceptional student achievements in the years to come.



President's Excellence Nominees from left to right: Zoe Grubaugh, Elena Shimmin, Isabelle Gloria, Alyssa Hickman, Rustin Fraser, Ashlynn Majors, Abygale Mashaney, Baylee Pence, Steve Tatsiguia, Roberto Mingura, Chance Orick, and Madilynn Barger.

Congratulations, CLASS OF 2025

Students Attend Higher Ed / OK Promise Day at the State Capitol



From left to right: Mike Dumesle, Aspen Freeman, Madi Barger, Adrian Gaytan, Senator Brent Howard, Quade Berry, Tanner Taylor, Emma Pantoja, Cody Bowland, Representative Gerrid Kendrix, and Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President

Western Oklahoma State College had a full and inspiring day at the Oklahoma State Capitol on Tuesday, April 15, as students participated in Higher Ed and Oklahoma's Promise Day.

The event, organized by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, celebrates the impact of colleges and universities on the state's economy and workforce while recognizing the success of the Oklahoma Promise scholarship program. The day allowed students from across the state to engage with lawmakers and share how higher education shapes their futures.

Western students proudly represented the college, speaking with legislators about their goals, challenges, and the transformative power of access to affordable, quality education. Many were especially grateful for the opportunities made possible through Oklahoma's Promise, which provides tuition assistance to qualifying students.

A special thank you goes to Representative Trey Caldwell, Representative Gerrid Kendrix, Senator Brent Howard, and Senator Daniel Pae, who took the time to visit Western's students, listen to their stories, and support the college and higher education across Oklahoma.

Western remains committed to advocating for student success and ensuring that education remains a top priority in our state's future.

Sheridan Recognized at ODSA Conference

Three dedicated staff members from Western recently attended a regional conference focused on expanding academic opportunities and support for students. Representing Western were Kimberlie Borrego, Upward Bound Assistant Director; Leigh Sheridan, WINDS Academic Coach; and Crystal Garcia, Upward Bound Academic Coach.

The event brought together educators and program leaders from across the region to share ideas, strategies, and success stories centered around college readiness, academic coaching, and support services for underrepresented student populations.

Borrego, Sheridan, and Garcia participated in workshops and networking sessions designed to strengthen student support programs such as Upward Bound and WINDS—both of which are vital parts of Western's mission to provide pathways to higher education for first-generation college students and those facing economic or academic barriers. Their presence at the conference underscores Western's ongoing commitment to student success, both inside and outside the classroom. The insights gained will help enhance programming and outreach efforts, ensuring that students have the resources and support they need to thrive.



Leigh Sheridan accepting her 3-year service award with ODSA representatives.



Left to Right: Kimberlie Borrego, Upward Bound Assistant Director, Leigh Sheridan, WINDS Academic Coach, and Crystal Garcia, Upward Bound Academic Coach



Congratulations!

PIONEERS GRADUATING WITH HONORS

4.0 HONOR GRADUATES

Laura Lynn Bustos
Crissa Symber Carter Φ
Bryan Dallas Chandler
Rustin James Fraser Φ

Lillian Emma Sue Gable
Brooklyn Paige Knight
Tessa Janay Hubanks
Yareli Margarita Nunez

Steven Chance Orick Φ
Addison Joy Smith Φ
Halle A. Waibel

Albertsz, Marshall Sharlon **
Banks, Jamie L. *
Beach, Kylee Renee **
Beals, Shaina L. *
Berrios Leon, Juan L. *
Bodine, James Dawson ***
Borghini, Rebecca Nicole **
Bravo, Rodrigo *
Browne, Vanesa Marie **
Bryant, Jaci L. ** Φ
Cervantes, Naomi *
Clemente Marin, Miguel A. *** Φ
Coleman, Lanee Dawn *
Craig, Daci Chyan *
Dejesus, Sammantha Marie **
Duerksen, Lyndi Ray **
Felix Lara, Julio Smith **
Funkhouser, Kya Danette ***
Galaz, Perla E. *
Garton, Holley Elizabeth ** Φ
Gaytan, Adrian Tomas ***
Gilbert, Grabiela Inez ***
Gloria, Isabelle Estella *** Φ
Gloria, Ramona H. * Φ

Gonzalez, Adriana Jazmin *
Guzman, Nakole Deann ** Φ
Hammock, Madison Grace ***
Hoppes, Robert Bryce ***
Jackson, Carson Lane **
Jones, Brittney M. *
Jones, Rowdy Keith *
Loe, Eric Michael *
Marshall, Meredith K. *
Martinez, Pilar Armely *
Mingura, Roberto J. **
Nading, Ashleigh Monique *
Novas Guzman, Rider Ismal *
Owenby, Caitlyn Grace ** Φ
Parry, Jillian Claire **
Puplampu, Believe *
Reynolds, Libra Love *
Rios Nobayashi, Juliana Maiumi ***
Rodgers, Airenamarie B. ** Φ
Rogers, Jennifer Marie **
Sawyer, David Wayne ***
Saxon, Tyler Jacob ***

Shelby, Hadli K. *
Shelby, Kaden Levi **
Shumaker, Kelby *
Smith, Abigail Logan *
Smith, Allison F. *
Sullivan, Kelsey Lea ***
Taylor, Tanner Dane *
Tillman, Lee Jay **
Turner, Baylee Madisyn **
Walker, Serena Lynn *
Whitfield, Brookelynn M. ***
Wilkins, Shelby Renee ***
Williams, Karsyn Rylee **
Williams, Lizzie Brock **



Academic honors are based on current Cumulative GPA (subject to spring exams)

Φ Phi Theta Kappa Member *** Summa Cum Laude (3.9-4.0 students) ** Magna Cum Laude (3.75-3.89) * Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 students)

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