

Representative Gerrid Kendrix Inducted into Hall of Fame

The Western Oklahoma State College Alumni Association was honored to induct Representative Gerrid Kendrix into the Alumni Hall of Fame on Saturday, April 29th. The evening was filled with family and friends to celebrate the accomplishments of an outstanding Western Oklahoma State College alum and supporter. Representative Kendrix was born in Cherokee, Oklahoma, grew up in Altus, and is the third generation to call it home. Kendrix graduated from Altus High School in 1985 and attended Western Oklahoma State College from 1985-86. Kendrix was a music major and has fond memories of Mr. Duffy's music program. He was a member of The Prairie Singers, Barbershop Quartet and starred as Padre in the campus musical Man of LaMancha. Gerrid is a Lifetime Member of the WOSC Alumni Association. Entertainment for the evening was provided by VORTEX, a men's quartet featuring an array of Barbershop favorites. Dr. Jeff Moore from First Baptist Church of Altus spoke about memories with Representative Kendrix, and Randy Kendrix spoke about childhood and the lessons he learned from his brother throughout their lives.



From left to right: Monica Taylor, Director of Development and Alumni, Shelby Lucas, Hall of Fame Chair, Representative Gerrid Kendrix, Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President, and Jace Zacharias, Alumni Association President.

The evening concluded with a special presentation from Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President, providing Representative Kendrix with an official transcript from Western Oklahoma State College. Although Representative Kendrix transferred to a 4-year university without graduating from Western, thanks to the "reverse transfer" option, he is now an official graduate of Western. The "reverse transfer" option allows students who have 15 or more credits with Western to transfer back usable hours from another school and receive their associate's degree. The advantage to this is that universities in Oklahoma must accept the associate degree as satisfaction of the general education requirements. For more information about the "reverse transfer" option, email admissions at records@wosc.edu.

UPCOMING AT WESTERN

- May 11 | Commencement Practice | 2 PM | Gym
- May 11 | Nursing Pinning Ceremony | 6 PM | Gym
- May 12 | WOSC Commencement | 7 PM | Gym
- May 22 | Summer courses begin
- May 29 | Memorial Day | Campus closed

The WOSC Alumni Hall of Fame was established in 1996 and recognizes and honors Altus Junior College and Western Oklahoma State College alumni who, through leadership, character, and hard work, have made exceptional contributions in their field, in their community, and at WOSC. For more details and information on nominations for the 2024 Alumni Hall of Fame, visit wosc.edu/alumni or contact the Development and Alumni Office at 580-477-7706.



Dr. Chad Wiginton (left) presented Representative Gerrid Kendrix, (right) with his official WOSC diploma.

CHANGES COMING TO WESTERN'S ONLINE BOOKSTORE SUMMER 2023

- No more \$25 book fee
- Each textbook must be purchased through Western's Online Bookstore or through an independent seller
- Financial Aid vouchers will be given through Western's Financial Aid office

Huckabay and Sanders named 2023 President's Excellence Award Recipients



From left to right: President's Excellence Award Recipients, Kyra Huckabay, Mena Sanders, and Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President

Western Oklahoma State College faculty and staff members honored the 2023 President's Excellence Award nominees at a luncheon on April 26th in the Pioneer Heritage Center. Nominees must be considered sophomore students, highly active on campus, and have a 2.5 GPA or higher. Nominees were required to submit a video, then the top ten were selected for an interview by a group composed of faculty, staff, and an outstanding freshman. Each of the 14 candidates this year embodied qualities of excellence, which was evident by all of the kind words said by those who nominated them at the luncheon. Students nominated include:

Sydney Hamm, Altus, OK
Paige Yates, Altus, OK
Mena Sanders, Duke, OK
Rhey'lyn Sanders, Olustee, OK
Kariann Morse, Olustee, OK
Star Sims, Altus, OK
Joshlyn Sanders, Merritt, OK

Karsyn McQueen, Hollis, OK
Adison Warren, Altus, OK
Kyra Huckabay, Mangum, OK
Joseph Garringer, Tulsa, OK
Melanie Sanchez, Vernon, TX
Liberty Carothers, Granite, OK
Ethan Eskew, Wichita Falls, TX

The luncheon provides an opportunity for faculty and staff to speak about their nominee and celebrate their accomplishments during their time at Western. This year's winners were Kyra Huckabay from Mangum, Oklahoma, and Mena Sanders from Duke, Oklahoma.



From left to right: Joseph Garringer, Ethan Eskew, Joshlyn, Sanders, Adison Warren, Kariann Morse, Melanie Sanchez, Mena Sanders, Kyra Huckabay, Rhey'lyn Sanders, Karsyn McQueen, Paige Yates, Liberty Carothers, Sydney Hamm, Star Sims, and Dr. Chad Wiginton, WOSC President

Hispanic Student Association Scholarship Presentation

After a successful school year, the WOSC Hispanic Student Association ended the semester by hosting Spanish Bingo, a scholarship presentation, and broke a pinata to celebrate Cinco de Mayo.

Throughout the year, HSA has hosted many events, fundraisers, and cultural field trips for students. Some include the Day of the Day Festival in OKC, the Day of the Dead Alter with AAFB Hispanic Club, and Salsa sales and tasting.

Money raised throughout the year provided active HSA students with scholarships. This year those students included: Allan De Freitas, Melanie Sanchez, Melissa Gonzalez, Mena Sanders, Yamilet Benitez, Rheylyn Sanders, Lilian Marignan, David Rodriguez Poggio Aleix Moreno, Miguel Clemente, Bernice Lopez, and Jukwan Russell.



HSA sophomores receiving their graduation cords from left to right: Melanie Sanchez, Rhey'lyn Sanders, and Mena Sanders

HSA sponsor, Pia Bauer surprised sophomores, Melanie Sanchez, Rhey'lyn Sanders, and Mena Sanders with turquoise cords to be worn during the commencement ceremony. The main purpose of the WOSC Hispanic Student Association is to promote Hispanic culture by



Front row, left to right: Allan De Freitas, Allan Gonzalez, Melanie Sanchez, Melissa Gonzalez, Mena Sanders, Yamilet Benitez, Rheylyn Sanders. Back row, left to right: Lilian Marignan, Danilo Zea, David Rodriguez Poggio, Aleix Moreno, Miguel Clemente, Rachel Stout, and Ms. Pia Bauer, HSA sponsor.

providing opportunities to meet and socialize with other Hispanic students, promoting awareness of Hispanic cultures, people, traditions, and language, providing educational opportunities to members as well as the campus community, and creating a sense of community within the Latino student body.

Thank you to the sponsors and volunteers who help make this organization one of the top organizations on campus!

WOSC-CU Agreement Expands Degree Option for Southwest OK Early Childhood Education Majors



Left to Right: Dr. Chad Wiginton, President of Western Oklahoma State College, and Dr. John McArthur, President of Cameron University

Western Oklahoma State College and Cameron University have entered into an agreement that will enable students majoring in early childhood studies to earn their associate degrees at WOSC, then more easily work toward bachelor's degrees at Cameron.

The articulation agreement was announced today by the presidents of both higher education institutions and goes into effect immediately. "Preparing individuals for the workforce is often a team effort," said Western president Dr. Chad Wiginton. "We are grateful for the relationship with Cameron University and pleased to provide our early childhood majors with this guarantee of a seamless transition."

Often called "2+2 articulation agreements" because they combine two years of lower-division study at the community college level with two years of upper-division work at a university, these agreements allow Western students who complete associate degrees in early childhood to be admitted directly into Cameron. They can work toward a bachelor's degree without losing any college credit earned at WOSC.

Specifically, students working toward an Associate in Science degree in Early Childhood will seamlessly transfer into CU's psychology program after they graduate from Western. There they can work toward a Bachelor of Science degree in Family and Child Studies, which offers concentrations in child development or family studies.

In most cases, Western's lower division coursework in this area is identical to Cameron's. In situations where courses are not identical, an equivalent core course is assigned. Hours earned by transferring WOSC graduates will count toward CU bachelor's degrees.

"I am excited by another seamless opportunity for the outstanding graduates of Western Oklahoma State College to continue their educational journey at Cameron University," said Dr. John McArthur, President of Cameron University. "Together, we help support the pipeline of professionals committed to serving our youngest learners."

Both institutions agree to help students complete their degree programs in a timely manner. As part of the five-year agreement, Cameron will assign a specific advisor to WOSC graduates to help them progress through the program successfully.

"Everyone knows that Oklahoma needs more qualified educators, and Western and Cameron are working together to do our part in addressing the issue," Wiginton said.

NJCAA REGION 2 DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS SOFTBALL & BASEBALL BEGIN MAY 11TH

Pioneer Baseball

Western vs. NOC-Enid | Thursday, May 11 at 1 PM
David Allen Memorial Ballpark | Enid, OK

Pioneer Softball

Western vs. Seminole | Thursday, May 11 at 4 PM
Piedmont High School | Piedmont, OK

LET'S GO, PIONEERS!!

Congratulations,

JATE SAULTS!

Finished 3rd in regular season and heading to the

2023 BUSTER RECORD NATIONAL FINALS STEER ROPING

College Division

May 29 | Clarendon, TX



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