

June 21, 2006

June 30 student loan consolidation deadline approaching

The OSU office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is urging those with federal student loans to consider consolidating them by a June 30 deadline, just before interest rates are set to increase. A Direct Consolidation Loan allows borrowers to combine one or more of their variable rate loans into a fixed rate loan at the lower interest rate. They say a student with \$16,000 in student loans could save over \$2,000 by consolidating them now. Specifically, they're recommending students or parents contact the U.S. Department of Education's Consolidation Loan website at www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov <<http://www.loanconsolidation.ed.gov/>> or call 1-800-557-7392 to compare and review options. Information on consolidation is also available on the Oklahoma State University Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid website at www.okstate.edu/finaid.

OSU grad students take top honors at annual meeting

Two OSU graduate students placed first and second for their presentations at a regional meeting of the Society of Toxicology and Chemistry held recently in Texas. Kim Hays, a Ph.D. student working in the zoology department, won first place for her presentation titled "Population characteristics of *Trachemys scripta* from an anthropogenically disturbed site." Kendra Phelps, a M.S. student, won second place for her presentation titled "Ecological characteristics of small mammal assemblages inhabiting Tar Creek Superfund Site, OK." Both women work in the zoology department lab under the guidance of Dr. Karen Mcbee. They received checks to help defray the cost of attending the international SETAC meetings to present their research.

Alum to lead state chamber in 2006-2007

The State Chamber, a statewide business advocacy group, has elected Newkirk resident Ike Glass as the organization's new chairman. Glass, owner of Glass Operating Group, LLC, is the former vice chairman of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education and currently serves on the board of the Oklahoma Trucking Association and the Board for the OSU Alumni Association. Following four years in the U.S. Navy, Glass graduated from OSU in 1961 with a bachelor's degree in personnel administration. He and his wife, Marybeth, have two children, Rob and Jennifer.

Alum elected speaker-designate of Oklahoma House

Congratulations to State Rep. Lance Cargill, R-Harrah, who has been elected speaker-designate, which means he will takeover as leader of the legislative body in January 2007. Cargill earned an economics degree from OSU and a law degree from Vanderbilt University. At the age of 34, he will be one of the youngest speakers ever in the Oklahoma Legislature and the first speaker from Oklahoma County in more than 40 years. He and his wife Amber have two boys, Jackson, 4 and Henry, 2.

All-America Showcase this weekend

OSU-Oklahoma City will host its 14th annual All-America Showcase this Saturday from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., at the John E. Kirkpatrick Horticulture Center, 400 N. Portland Ave. Take a free tour of the All-America Selections flower and vegetable display and trial gardens and learn about some of the best selections for your Oklahoma gardens. OSU Extension Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions. The event will include fresh produce from the Farmers' Market as well as live musical entertainment from 10 a.m. to noon. Everyone is encouraged to bring cameras to this family friendly and free event. For more information, call 945-3358, or visit www.osuokc.edu/farmersmarket.

Library provides EndNote® X for Windows

New and current OSU users of EndNote®, an industry standard software for organizing references and creating bibliographies, can download the latest version for free. EndNote X is now available to OSU faculty, staff and students thanks to the license negotiated and purchased by the Library. EndNote X for Windows, can be downloaded at <http://www.library.okstate.edu/bibmanager>. Users will find several updates. If you have questions about using your bibliographic management software contact Digital Library Services at lib-dls@okstate.edu, (405) 744-9161 or toll free outside Stillwater (877) 744-9161. EndNote X for Mac OS X is scheduled for release in Fall 2006. It will also be available for download at <http://www.library.okstate.edu/bibmanager/>. The Library also provides Reference Manager, another bibliographic management software.

WalkAmerica set for Friday

Raise money for the March of Dimes during WalkAmerica 2006, set to start Friday at 6 p.m. on Willard Lawn on the OSU campus. For more information, contact Gianna Bell-Eunice at (405)744-4384.

Freedom Schools program underway at OSU-Tulsa

More than 150 Tulsa children are participating in the Children's Defense Fund "Freedom Schools" program this summer at Oklahoma State University-Tulsa. The program is a literacy-rich, five-week program designed to boost children's motivation to read and generate positive attitudes toward learning. The Greenwood Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with OSU-Tulsa, Langston University, and Tulsa Public Schools work together on the program. For more information, call the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce at (918) 585-2084.

Foster represented OSU at national finals

Congratulations to Candice Foster, a member of the OSU Rodeo team, on her wins this year in the Central Plains region. She recently traveled to Casper, Wyo., to represent OSU at the Collegiate National Finals Rodeo in the barrel racing competition. She placed in the top 15 of the 40-plus barrel racers with just hundredths of a second separating most of the contestants. Foster is a junior majoring in agribusiness with a concentration in pre-law.

Deadline close for state scholarship program

June 30 is also the deadline for students who just finished 10th grade to sign up for one of Oklahoma's most successful and popular state college scholarship programs. The Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP), also known as "Oklahoma's Promise," is a scholarship program that allows high school students from families whose annual income is \$50,000 or less to earn free college tuition. To save time, students are strongly encouraged to use the online application at www.okpromise.org. More information about the program is also available at that Web site, or students can call 1-800-858-1840.

Wellness tip: Eating out

Studies reveal that Americans consume 1/3 of their daily calories away from home. When dining out, consider trying one of these healthy eating tips: order half portions, ask for a side of veggies with your order, split your dessert, choose water or unsweetened tea instead of soda, skip the chips and salsa or bread and butter before your meal, and try to eat slowly (you're less likely to overeat). Wellness tips are brought to you by the OSU Seretean Wellness Center, dedicated to making OSU the Healthiest Campus in America. For more information about services for students, faculty and staff, call 744-WELL (9355).