

Engineering, Computer Science, Physics & Math Department

This year, Dr. Dave Eland sent two teams to the annual ACM South Central USA Regional Programming Contest. The region includes schools from Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. At the regional contest there were 71 teams from 30 universities. (At the international contest, there will be 100 teams selected from around 7000 teams from the regional contests all around the world.)

The regional contest was held at four sites: Louisiana State University, Oklahoma East Central University, Baylor University, and LeTourneau University. Dr. Eland and the students attended at the East Central University site in Ada, Oklahoma, since it is closest to Tulsa. All of the sites were linked over the Internet, and all problems submitted were judged at the Louisiana site.

The contest was held on Saturday, October 30, from 12:00 to 5:00. There were 8 problems to be solved. The team that won first place solved 8 problems. (The winner goes on to the international competition, held this year in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.)

The following students represented ORU at the contest:

ORU Blue -- Maria Hernandez, Jeyan Oorjitham, and Jonathan Paugh

ORU White -- Daryl Charron, Matthew Farah, and Jonathan LeRoux.

ORU Blue solved 3 problems and achieved position 8 (out of 19) for schools from Oklahoma, 12 (out of 24) for schools attending at the Ada site, and 41 (out of 71) for the entire region. ORU White solved two problems and achieved position 16 for schools from Oklahoma, 21 for schools at the Ada site, and 65 for the entire region.



Behavioral Sciences Department



Dr. Randall Feller with the new SMART Board system

The Behavioral Sciences Department is ready for an exciting spring semester. We are pleased to welcome back Dr. Randall Feller, who spent the fall semester on sabbatical working on several writing projects. Our special thanks go to Dr. Lanny Endicott, who served as chair for the fall semester. He will continue his role as Director of the Social Work Program, as they welcome a site visit by the Council on Social Work Education for reaccreditation early in February. The faculty are excited to begin using a new SMART Board system recently installed in one of the Behavioral Sciences seminar rooms. The upgrade was initiated this summer and is now ready for students and faculty to utilize in the classroom. The student clubs will have a new schedule of meetings and events coming soon. Come by and see all the great things happening in the Psychology and Social Work programs this spring.

Biology and Chemistry Department

Three faculty (Drs. John Korstad, Sarah Myer, Hal Reed) and 13 junior and senior biology and chemistry students participated in the recent technical meeting of the Oklahoma Academy of Sciences meeting held at the NSU-Broken Arrow campus on Friday November 5, 2010. Dr. Korstad and 6 students presented oral research papers while two other seniors presented posters of their research. The faculty also attended the luncheon and heard an informative talk on stem cell research by the dean of the College of Biological Science, University of Oklahoma-Health Sciences Center.

Three of our student presenters were awarded best papers in their sections:

David Bulger (BMC): Biodiversity in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park: Past and Present Measurements. Oral Presentation, Fish and Wildlife Section

Sai Vamsi Guda (BIO): Antibacterial Activity of Carvacrol Against Select Nosocomial Infection Causing Bacteria. Oral Presentation, Microbiology section

Joys Oyedepo (BMC): Comparison of Calculated and Measured Infrared and Raman Frequencies for Carvacrol and Thymol. Poster, Biomedical Sciences section

January ASA Meeting



The ORU Chapter of the American Scientific Affiliation will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2011 in GC 2114 at 7 pm. ORU Professor Mark Hall will speak on "Presupposition and Scientific Methodology: A Critique of C.S. Lewis' Views on Christianity, Evolution and Intelligent Design." Dr. Hall's talk will review an article in the January 2011 issue of the ASA Journal (Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith) entitled, "C.S. Lewis on Evolution and Intelligent Design" by Michael L. Peterson. The ASA is a group of scientists, engineers and theologians who periodically get together to discuss issues at the intersection of science and Christian faith.