

SC in Range at White Sands

Southwestern College has recently been selected as the official provider of baccalaureate degree completion and some graduate programs at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.



This Army post employs approximately 500 active duty military personnel and almost 5,800 Department of Defense civilians and contractors. (Although technically an Army post, range personnel also include Air Force and Navy service members.)

SC's professional studies was named provider over several institutions in a highly competitive process that began more than a year ago.

"We have been talking with personnel, articulating our ability to serve their needs," says Karen Pedersen, vice president for professional studies. "It's competitive, it's difficult, and it's hard to get

your foot in the door because there are a lot of other educational providers, but we were judged against others and found to be the best institution that fits the current needs of the WSMR community."

"The positive experience SC has had as an on-base provider at M^cConnell Air Force Base was critical in the decision," according to Angel M^cShan, acting educational services officer at the White Sands Education Center.

SC will be housed in White Sands' new state-of-the-art education facility, with 1½ full-time employees expected to be in place soon. Faculty members are being hired in the area to teach the common series of courses that nearly all undergraduate professional studies learners complete, after which learners are expected to complete major-specific courses online.

"Many of the learners are expected to come from the three surrounding military installations—Holloman Air Force Base, Ft. Bliss Army Post and White Sands Missile Range—and the civilian and contractor communities," according to M^cShan.

"We expect the greatest growth in our graduate program, the master of science in leadership," Pedersen says. Given the mission of White Sands, quite a few of the civilian personnel already hold bachelor's degrees but are looking to complete a graduate program, she adds.

Leroy Copeland, who is retired from the Air Force, is the first full-time staff member. Before joining Southwestern, Leroy was an educational counselor at Holloman Air Force base, so he's familiar with education, with educational programs, and with advising students, but he also comes with a wealth of knowledge about the military, military protocol, and how to work on a military installation, Pedersen says.

Professional studies programs now are housed at six distinct locations—downtown Winfield, east Wichita, west Wichita, M^cConnell Air Force Base, Oklahoma City, and now White Sands Missile Range.

A celebration of Southwestern College's 100th year of basketball is underway, and indications point to a team that will represent the long history with distinction.

Ranked 21st nationally in early polls, by press-time Coach Doug Hall's squad had reeled off four straight pre-season victories, scoring an average of 109 points in the lopsided wins. At this point, the Moundbuilders were leading the nation in scoring, field goal percentage, assists, and rebound margin. The team was predicted to finish first in the KCAC in polls of both coaches and sportswriters.

Alumni will have a chance to see the Moundbuilders firsthand during a series of decade reunions throughout the season. Fans can listen to broadcasts live via the internet. Schedules of the reunions and Webcasts are found on page 5 of this issue.



Be a Mound Myth-Buster

As the college prepares for the renovation of the Mound during the Heart of the Hill—Phase 2 campaign, take this short quiz to see what you know about the college's nickname-sake. Are the following statements true or false?

- 1• The first stones were thrown on the Mound when the college was founded in 1885.
- 2• Only Southwestern College students are allowed to throw rocks on the Mound.
- 3• The Mound was moved to its current location in 1962.
- 4• Any kind of rock can be used to paint and declare yourself a Moundbuilder.
- 5• The Mound never grows because every year rocks from the previous years are hauled away to make room for more.
- 6• Next year at this time, the Mound will be better than ever.

ANSWERS

1. **False.** The Mound was instituted in 1927 when Dean Leroy Allen proposed a new custom, unique among colleges of the world, "The Building of the Mound."

2. **False again.** Any friend of the college, whether a student or a faculty member or simply someone passing by during the ceremony, is encouraged to show allegiance to the college by participating in Moundbuilding. We're very inclusive—if you say you're our friend, welcome!

3. **True.** Had it not been moved, the Mound would now be under Darbeth Fine Arts Building, probably making an ugly lump in the carpet of someone's office. The new site of the Mound at the foot of the hill was excavated slightly to make room for the rocks that had accumulated during the first three-plus decades of its existence and to give expansion space for coming years.

4. **True.** Take a look at what has been incorporated onto the Mound (including bricks, pebbles, boulders, and this year, a bowling ball) and you'll know that our statement about inclusivity in #2 applies here, too.

5. **Definitely false.** You can visit your favorite rocks year after year, until they're covered by the offerings of newer of Moundbuilders. Why doesn't the Mound grow? Who knows? Maybe somewhere on the opposite side of the globe a mountain is slowly pushing upward in direct correlation to the start of fall classes at SC.

6. **Most true of all!** The Heart of the Hill—Phase 2 campaign encourages all who love Southwestern to "Rally 'Round the Mound" with gifts to renovate the Mound area. Improvements will include commemorative bricks, benches, pavers, and an amphitheatre to provide a center of activities for the lower campus. Contact Jessica Hornbostel, director of the annual fund, for more information—(620) 229-6155, or jhornbos@sckans.edu.

Moundbuilder Mom

Earns Top Jack Kent Cooke Award



Mornings are hectic at Sue Hogue's house.

With five children (ages 21, 13, 9, 7, and 4) and a husband whose job as a corporate pilot means erratic hours, Sue has learned to pack backpacks, sign permission slips, and take care of lunch money the night before. But even this pre-planning doesn't completely smooth out the morning rush.

"I don't need an alarm clock," she says with a laugh. "Someone is always practicing the piano at 6 a.m."

And now that Sue is a full-time student at Southwestern College, just making sure each child is in class on time (in three different schools) is a

challenge. The Hogue kids, though, are learning by her example the most important lesson Sue can teach:

"They know how much I like school," she explains. "They're learning that what you're learning is critical, whether it's schoolwork or music—or even a PlayStation game."

Sue's experience as student mom became easier this summer when she became one of only 25 students in the nation to be awarded the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation transfer scholarships. As a recent graduate of Cowley County Community College, Hogue was selected for the award worth up to \$30,000 per year to pay for her college expense. She will complete her bachelor's degree at Southwestern with a major in business education.

Hogue credits the scholarship with making her enrollment at Southwestern possible.

"I would not have done it, had it not been for this scholarship," she says simply. The bottom line was that unless I wanted to be in debt—which I can't afford to do, given my situation in life—I would not have returned to school. My education would have ceased."

The 18 Undergraduate Transfer Jack Kent Cooke Scholars were selected from 791 nominees of 519 institutions across the country. They represent 18 states.

There is no larger scholarship, or one involving such intense competition, available to community college students

"Because institutions on average reviewed more than three candidates internally before submitting their nominees, the number of students considered for the award totaled in the thousands," foundation sources say. "There is no larger scholarship, or one involving such intense competition, available to community college students."

Sue Hogue credits her life experience for helping her win the scholarship. She has been active in the Winfield community, especially in the arts as she supports dance programs. And now that she's at Southwestern, Sue has thrown herself into campus life with enthusiasm—she's participating in the SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team.

"Being a stay-at-home mom is a wonderful job, and being a mom is my number one priority, but I decided to go back to school for a lot of different reasons," she says.

"For someone who's in her mid-life—to be given this opportunity, is simply amazing."