

The Mix

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"The fact that I can plant a seed and it becomes a flower, share a bit of knowledge and it becomes another's, smile at someone and receive a smile in return, are to me continual spiritual exercises.

– Leo Buscaglia

SPRING DISSECTION



Whitney Noel and Steele Rasmusson dissect their fetal pig in Mr. Albright's biology lab class. *Statesman photo by Jayson Knight*

Seeds planted for the future

CAMPUS Horticulture Department plans to have plant sales directly out of new greenhouse

BY JAYSON KNIGHT
EDITOR

Eastern Oklahoma State College's students are growing. Thanks to a sustained effort by those involved in horticulture and botany classes, Eastern is preparing to go back to a tradition of growing and selling plants for the public.

A new greenhouse facility will be opening up across the highway from the EOSC campus.

"The current structure has been here 25 years; and it's well past its prime; it has structural problems," said Penny Raspotnik-Jones, Eastern's Agriculture Economics and Horticulture professor.

SEE GREENHOUSE PAGE 3

Bookstore contract renewal discussed at meeting

CAMPUS Texas Book Company representatives stress textbook rental as a way to keep down costs

BY JAYSON KNIGHT
EDITOR

Eastern Oklahoma State College held a Textbook and Instructional Materials Committee meeting that filled a conference room in the library March 27.

The special meeting was held to address concerns with the impending contract renewal with the Texas Book Company (TBC).

"It gave everyone there an opportunity to voice a question or concern," said Buddy Sande-

fur, committee chair and meeting facilitator, after the meeting.

"I really admired, first of all, that we had 25 people at the meeting. Also, the way all of our faculty and staff that were there had questions about how to best help the students."

Bookstore employees and administrators were in attendance, as well as two representatives from Eastern's Student Government Association.

During the meeting's opening remarks, LaDonna Howell, East-

ern's Vice President of Business Affairs, described the unifying effect that she feels TBC has had on Eastern students at the Wilburton and satellite campuses.

"Before, they would order them [textbooks] from some online place... so there really wasn't that identity of being an 'Eastern Student,'" explained Howell.

"Now, they actually stand in line and feel like they're a part of the college. There's other things that we're doing to try to make them feel that way as well."

Sandefur inquired early about the possibility of a partial amount of students' financial aid

being pre-loaded on students' Higher One cards for the sake of buying textbooks. He added that he believed this was being done at at least one university. That measure would allow students to choose a retailer of their choice.

"If I load that on that students' card and they happen to drop, or they happen to drop below [a full schedule], then they might not have enough financial aid," responded Howell.

"They'll end up owing for their books plus that \$500 plus

SEE TEXTBOOKS PAGE 8



NEWS BRIEFS

McAlester campus hosts College Night

Students interested in attending college in McAlester this fall had the opportunity to explore their options at College Night on March 28 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Eastern Oklahoma State College in McAlester.

"Unmask Your Potential" was the theme for the event. Representatives from Eastern, Southeastern Oklahoma State University and East Central University were available to discuss available courses and degree programs, as well as financial aid and scholarship opportunities.

Participants were able to take a campus tour and enter a drawing to win a one-time \$500 scholarship for EOSC, SE and ECU courses in McAlester.

Want to voice your opinion? Send a "Letter to the Editor" to statesman@eosoc.edu.

Local author visits Wilburton library

BY TAYLER RICHEY

STAFF WRITER

Eastern Oklahoma State College students were recently privileged to attend a reading by author Rilla Askew from her newest novel "Kind of Kin," hosted at the Latimer County Public Library.

From right here in the heart of the Sans Bois Mountains, Rilla returned to the region of her birth to share her story (fiction and non-fiction) personally with our student body and other members of the community. The sister of one of Eastern's most beloved professors, Ruth Brelsford, Askew grew up just down the road in Red Oak until the age of three. From there, her family moved to Bartlesville, which is where she spent the remainder of her childhood.

After high school, she went on to earn her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Tulsa in 1980, and then on to earn her Master of Fine Arts degree from Brooklyn College in 1989. Since then, she has taught at such schools as Syracuse University, Brooklyn College, the University of Central Oklahoma, the University of Oklahoma, and the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She has also published four novels, and numerous short



Rilla Askew reads from her book "Harpson" when she visited the Wilburton campus to speak for Women's History Month.

stories and essays.

Her creations have won her many accolades, such as the PEN/Faulkner Award, the Dublin IMPAC Prize, the Oklahoma

Book Award, the Western Heritage Award, the American Book Award, the WILLA Award, and the Violet Crown Award, among others. Rilla's

life and artistic creations will continue to inspire for generations to come, and witnessing this reading was truly a special opportunity.

Applications now accepted for free summer academies on college campuses

This summer, middle and high school students can experience life on a college campus while exploring the exciting and varied fields of math and science at the free 2013 Summer Academies in Math, Science and Technology.

The free academies, sponsored by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education, are open to upcoming eighth through 12th graders. Each academy explores the latest trends in math, science and technology by using fun, hands-on activities and innovative software as students experiment both in the classroom and outdoors. Many academies also include field trips to some of the state's top companies, science facilities and museums.

The academies are being offered at 21 of Oklahoma's college and university campuses in June, July and August. Thirty-two different academies will be offered statewide and last from four days to two weeks. Some academies require students to live in the campus residence halls, while others require that students travel to and from campus each day.

"Summer Academies provide Oklahoma middle and high school students the opportunity to experience a college campus environment while exploring new and exciting career options," Chancellor Glen D. Johnson said. "This program offers young people the chance to study with top professors and explore hands-on learning that exceeds anything

they've encountered in a traditional classroom."

More than 17,000 Oklahoma students have attended Summer Academies since 1990. Seventy-three percent of Summer Academies students go to college immediately after high school, compared to 56 percent of all students. While in college, Summer Academies students are more academically prepared than their peers, requiring one-third fewer remedial courses than all other students. More than 80 percent of Summer Academies students earn at least a bachelor's degree, compared with 22 percent of all Oklahomans.

Applications are now being accepted for the academies, and many have deadlines. Because

the academies are free and enrollment is limited, students are encouraged to apply early. To qualify, students need to be entering eighth through 12th grade this fall. Officials emphasize the academies are not exclusive to top students but instead are designed to give all students an opportunity to increase their interest and confidence in math, science and technology and, ultimately, expand their career and educational aspirations.

Academy descriptions and contact information are available at www.okhighered.org/summer-academies. Students can also get information from their school counselors or by calling (800) 858-1840.

Spring activities include *Humans vs. Zombies*

BY JAYSON KNIGHT

EDITOR

Student activities have kicked off for the spring with kickball games every Monday and Thursday, with games starting at 5 p.m.

Lauren Polk, Residence Life Coordinator for Eastern Oklahoma State College, makes an effort to schedule student events around the club activities on campus.

"We want you to be able to go to your club events," Polk said.

There will be bingo April 2 at 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. "There

will be lots of prizes," Polk said. With 15 different types of bingo, all students are invited, including Eastern staff.

"What we're focused on is our Humans versus Zombies game," Polk explained. "It starts the 8th through the 15th, every day for a week. We would like to do bingo, the talent show and Humans versus Zombies as an annual thing. We would like to do it every semester if the interest is shown."

Volleyball will be available towards the end of the semester, but there will be other activities for the student body

to look forward to. An Eastern Easter egg hunt is scheduled for just after the Easter holiday. Keep an eye out to find out when the egg has been hidden.

"Eastern hides an Easter egg after Easter's over," said Polk. "And whoever finds it, that student gets \$100. It took two days for someone to find it once. Last time it only took an hour. We'll notify people with advertisements and flyers."

Another upcoming scheduled activity will be a Minute-to-Win-It game where people will work in teams to accom-

plish "slightly difficult" goals, Polk said. She gave examples of potential contests including one where the front of a cereal box, cut into eight pieces, will have to be put back in order. With only one minute for each contest, the Statesman will have more over this spectator sport.

Polk also mentioned that Student Services is accepting applications for Residence Assistants for the dorm halls. Students are also reminded that May 17 is the Friday of finals week. Graduation and commencement will be May 10.

"What we're focused on is our Humans versus Zombies game. It starts the 8th through the 15th, every day for a week. We would like to do bingo, the talent show and Humans versus Zombies as an annual thing."

LAUREN POLK

RESIDENCE LIFE COORDINATOR

GREENHOUSE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She also oversees the greenhouse project.

The commercial distribution of the plants could further develop the greenhouse project and the agricultural department.

"A strong FFA chapter needs a strong financial base," Raspotnik-Jones said. "The more money you bring in the more you can do with your students. Dollars and cents-wise, a good greenhouse program will make a lot more money than selling Blue Gold sausage.

"Our sale will be kind of small this year as we move into the new building, but we will expand next year. We will try to offer some herbs and have a lot of vegetables. Gardening has become more popular with the recession. People probably ask for vegetable plants more than anything."

A freeze a couple years ago set the horticulture program back. Prior to that, they were raising all of their plants in the greenhouse and then taking one day each semester and having a fall and a spring plant sale.

"We took our plants on flat-bed trailers before the freeze," Raspotnik-Jones explained,

"And sold them in front of the Chamber of Commerce building. We had to do that, because there's no parking by the greenhouse on campus."

That problem will be solved at the new facility where there is enough space to provide parking.

The new structure is located on the south side of Highway 270, right next to the Goddard building, which is our show facility. We will try to be open two days a week.

The plants are maintained by teamwork. "We all work together on the plants," Raspotnik-Jones said.

"I teach a lot of Ag Ed students. Some talk about spraying their lawns with Round-Up when they get to own homes of their own, because they are reluctant to the plants part of agriculture. Then I take them up to the greenhouse and once we start working, nine out of 10 times, they enjoy it.

"If they are hired by a school that already has an existing horticulture department, then they will be responsible for running the greenhouse there for that local FFA chapter."

A homegrown Wilburton and EOSC graduate, Jones' bachelors and masters degrees were both attained from OSU.



Eastern Oklahoma State College's new greenhouse is almost complete. The structure is located on the south side of Highway 270, next to the Goddard Building. When complete, the new building will accommodate sales to the public by the Horticulture Department. Because of the move to the new building, this year's plant sale will be small this year. *Statesman photos by Jayson Knight*

Men claim second straight Region 2 Championship

PRESS RELEASE

SHAWNEE - Eastern Oklahoma State College is headed to the NJCAA National Tournament for the second straight year after claiming back-to-back Region 2 Championships.

The Mountaineers played a four-game stretch March 4-9 and defeated Connors State College 98-88 in the finals on Saturday to win their second straight Region 2 Tournament.

"In some ways it's been a tough year because we were brand new. We came and won this last year with almost all sophomores. This team was a work in progress," said Scott Edgar, head men's basketball coach. "I'm honored and blessed and I'm happy for all our guys. Not many people get the chance to go to the national tournament once and we get to do it two straight years. Hopefully, we can win and survive and advance. That's what tournament play is about."

The Mountaineers will face the Salt Lake Community College Bruins in their first game of the NJCAA National Tournament on Tuesday, March 19 in Hutchinson Sports Arena in Hutchinson, Kan. Last year, Eastern finished fourth in the national tournament.

Sophomore Rod Lewis was named the Region 2 Tournament's Most Valuable Player and freshman Alfonzie Wilson was named to the All-Tournament Team. Both players are from Memphis, Tenn.

During the tournament, the Mountaineers defeated Redlands Community College 89-73 in the first round on March 4 and Northern Oklahoma College-Tonkawa 77-68 in the second round on March 6. Eastern then defeated Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College 92-68 in the semi-finals on Friday. The Mountaineers are now 19-15 overall.



The Eastern Mountaineers celebrate with head coach Scott Edgar after defeating Connors State College 98-88 to claim their second straight NJCAA Region 2 Championship. With the Regional Championship, the Mountaineers earned a spot in the NJCAA National Tournament March 18-23 in Hutchinson, Kan. This is the second straight year that the Eastern men's team has made the national tournament after a 40 year absence.

Mountaineer season comes to an end in first round



Dontavious Sears (23) and Donald Marshall defend against Salt Lake Community College in the opening round of the NJCAA Men's National Tournament March 19 in Hutchinson, Kan. *Marketing and Communications photos*



Left, Iman Johnson faces the goal and a Salt Lake defender as Head Coach Scott Edgar watches from the sidelines. Right, Rod Lewis drives to the basket in a 82-86 loss to the Bruins in the NJCAA National Tournament.

BASKETBALL Eastern's men's basketball team goes down in first game of National Tournament

BY JAMIE FINK

STAFF WRITER

HUTCHINSON, KAN. — For the second year in a row, Coach Scott Edgar had his Eastern Oklahoma State College men's basketball team in the NJCAA National Tournament. The Mountaineers entered the tournament seeded No. 22 after posting a 19-15 record and winning back-to-back Region 2 Championships.

Eastern was matched up with the Salt Lake Community College Bruins at noon on Tuesday for the first round of the NJCAA National Tournament. The Bruins were ranked No. 5 in the nation with a 28-4 record.

The Mountaineers won the tip at the beginning of the game, but were unable to score on their first possession of the contest. Salt Lake got the first points of the game from sophomore shooting-guard Skyler Halford. While it only took two possessions for the Mountaineers to get started, the Wilburton team found itself down for the most of the ballgame.

When Salt Lake needed a basket in the first half, all they needed to do was put the ball in the hands of Halford, who scored the first four points for his team. Eastern tied the game at four on a DeVaughn Purcell two-point shot, but the ballgame was a battle down inside as both teams fought for position and rebounds.

Turnovers plagued both teams, but caused less harm for the Bruins as the Mountaineers did not capitalize on them. The Mountaineers offense struggled at times, but their defense helped keep them in the game. The Mountaineers never lost focus, as they battled to keep themselves within a manageable reach. Rod Lewis got his first

"I'm very thankful that we made it this far. At this point in the season, teams don't lose. Just one team moves on and one team goes home - but you don't lose."

SCOTT EDGAR

MOUNTAINEER HEAD COACH

three-pointer of the ballgame for the Mountaineers at the 10:11 mark of the first half.

An up-tempo team, Eastern's pace kept them in the game early, cutting the lead to as little as seven in the first half. But the Bruins went into halftime with a 45-36 lead.

The Mountaineers came out to play in the second half as they tried to get as many possessions as possible by playing a good uptight defense. While the ballgame was a back and forth contest it seemed as if Salt Lake just could not miss from inside.

After a 5-0 run by the Mountaineers, Eastern was in the ballgame. Lewis took over the game for the Mountaineers, going 3-for-6 from the free throw line, 2-for-3 from the field and drawing two fouls on the Bruins. Lewis kept the Mountaineers in the game in the last minute, but calls within the last 30 seconds did not go the Mountaineers way. The Mountaineers lost 82-86.

"I'm very thankful that we made it this far," Edgar said. "At this point in the season, teams don't lose. Just one team moves on and one team goes home - but you don't lose. Time just ran out on us today. I felt like if we would have had two more minutes the game would have been ours."



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Mining roots still seen on campus

BY GUY FOLGER

SENIOR STAFF WRITER

"Loadin' coal, loadin' coal. I'm a double first cousin to a dad blamed mole. Never get rich for to save my soul and forty 'leven years a loadin' coal".

— From "Loading Coal" by Johnny Cash (album: "Ride This Train")

Eastern Oklahoma has long been an area rich in mineral deposits. The first commercial coal mine in Indian Territory was in the early 1870s. And, of course, Eastern Oklahoma State College had its beginning, in 1908, as the Oklahoma School of Mines and Metallurgy.

In 1927, with the dwindling of mining classes, the School of Mines was reorganized and renamed Eastern Oklahoma College. Of course, mining continued in the state, but not as active as at the turn of the century.

When incoming Governor Leon Phillips first addressed the Oklahoma legislature, in 1939, he identified the need of adequate male housing at Eastern and also recommended the college be placed under the authority of the Board of Agriculture. With these changes implemented, Eastern Oklahoma Agriculture and Mechanical College was born.

Oklahoma Senate Bill No. 342 of 1967 changed all A & M colleges to the name of State College. Officially, Eastern was to be known as Eastern Oklahoma State College of Agriculture and Applied Science, but over the years it has become our more familiar Eastern Oklahoma State College.

Mining returned to Eastern in 1988 when the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute (OMTI) was officially made a part of the college. OMTI had actually started in the mid-70s when most of their training was done out of their bus or at the mines.



Finally in the late-70s, OMTI was located in a building at the abandoned Carbon No. 5 underground mine near the community of Carbon which is between Krebs and Adamson.

The first director of OMTI, after its move to Eastern, was Ron Cunningham who is currently a Commissioner-At-Large with the Oklahoma Mining Commission. Cunningham is credited with the development of OMTI at Eastern. After his retirement, Judy Tate became the director and when she retired in 2010, the current director, Aaron Farris, took over at the beginning of 2011.

The current staff consists of Farris, Danny Thornburg, instructor and Danita Oller, secretary. With close to 700 mine sites in Oklahoma, this staff of three is kept quite busy throughout the year. They provide new miner training, safety training, annual refresher training and basically all the training required for mines by both state and federal regulations.

"If you look at the training we do for the Federal, the training we do for the State and you



In the late 70s, the Oklahoma Miner Training Institute (OMTI) was located in a building at the abandoned Carbon No. 5 underground mine near the community of Carbon which is between Krebs and Adamson. The building, pictured top, is still standing and is a private residence today. Currently, OMTI is located in Baker Hall on Eastern's Wilburton campus. *Statesman photos by Guy Folger*

add it all up, we have in excess of 4,000 people a year that go through our program," said Farris. "And doing so, instead of having everyone come here to Wilburton, which is nice, we also try to accommodate the mining industry. That's why we try to have classes all over the state. We try to go to Tulsa every quarter, Oklahoma City every

quarter, Tishomingo every quarter and we also go out to Altus once a year."

In addition to the basic miner training, OMTI also provides supervisor training and certification and blasting training, certification and licensing. The blasting training is for both mining and non-mining operations.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW...

Eastern Alumni making an impact on the world

*Col. Denise Haggerty Corley***By MIKE CATHEY**

EOSC 1983 OF INDIANOLA

Col. Denise (Haggerty) Corley, U.S. Army, Ret. (EOSC 1984 of Talihina) currently resides in Bradenburg, Ken. where she is now working at Fort Knox as a Department of the Army civilian as a Director, Army Officer Accessions and Coordination for the Director Military Personnel Management. Col. Corley retired from uniform in November 2010.

She began her military career with attendance at the Leaders Training Course in Fort Knox, Ken. and subsequently contracted with the Army Reserve, 701st Personnel Service Company in Ada and ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program.

In 1987, she was a Planning Officer for the Third Army Adjutant General. During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm she served as a Plans and Operations Personnel Officer for the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Upon return, she served as Chief, Personnel Actions Branch in the 101st Personnel Services Company, Fort Campbell, KY. From 1993 to 1996 she served as the Adjutant General School in Doctrine and Force Development, then Company Commander during a BRAC move from Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN to Fort Jackson, SC; culminating as a Battalion Intelligence/Operations and Training Officer for the 369th Adjutant General Battalion leading Advanced Individual Training for the newest Finance and Adjutant General Soldiers at Fort Jackson, SC. She served as Strength Manager for the 2nd Infantry Division in South Korea and then served at the Army's Personnel Command as Chief,

Command Strength Brand for enlisted Soldiers. In 2001 she worked at the Pentagon as a Strategic Analyst and Personnel Transformation Division Chief for the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel. COL Corley was the Army Professor of Military Science at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK from 2003-2005 and Commander for the remaining MEPS in Texas 2005-2008. COL Corley was the Chief, Officer Accessions Branch for the Director, Military Personnel Management (DMPM), Office of the DCS,G1 until August 2010. COL Corley's military awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medals, Army Commendation Medals, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, and various other service and unit awards.

Denise earned an associate's degree in music before transferring to East Central Oklahoma University in Ada, where she graduated with a bachelor's in K-12 Instrumental Music Education and a minor in Military Science.

She has also completed a master's in Adult Education and Executive Development for Public Service from Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

While at EOSC, Denise was Student Senate Treasurer, a founding member and President of the EOSC SoundWaves Music Club, a homecoming queen candidate, and member of both the EOSC Choir and Jazz Ensemble.

"I had a diverse set of excellent academic experiences while at Eastern and multiple teachers that influenced and motivated excellence in their



field, regardless of the student's major," shared Corley.

"That diversity is key to future success. In fact, when it was learned that I had agreed to join Army ROTC, a member of the Eastern academic faculty linked me up with the Director of Physical Education for a one-on-one class to teach me the finer points of Army Physical Fitness.

"I really did not know at the time how fortunate I was to get that assistance. Push-ups and running were not part of my high school activities and not my strong suits. I was in the band, not on the sports teams in high school or college. That individual mentoring had a lasting impact on my future success. I am certain my initial entry Army training would have been a much different experience without that targeted fitness push from the Eastern faculty during my sophomore year.

"Also while at EOSC I worked part time at the local Kentucky Fried Chicken in Wilburton and to this day I point out to young people how important that opportunity and others like it



Col. Denise (Haggerty) Corley graduated from Eastern Oklahoma State College in 1984. She began her military career with attendance at the Leaders Training Course in Fort Knox, Ken. and subsequently contracted with the Army Reserve, 701st Personnel Service Company in Ada and ROTC Simultaneous Membership Program. Submitted photos

were to me. I often hear from youth the intent to avoid working while in school so that they can focus on their studies. Perhaps a solid plan; however, I encourage considering a different perspective and recognize that part-time jobs can often be part of your skills collection and your overall college experience. A part-time job does not have to have "intern" in its title to be career enhancing or resume and character building."

Segueing back to Corley's professional and personal life there remained two different reflections that seem to very nicely wrap up this feature on a great public servant and human being.

"Unlike most people who remember where they were on Sept. 11, 2001, I remember most where I was NOT on that day.

"It was my office in the Pentagon that was hit on 9/11. I was on a trip to Fort Jackson, SC

or I would have perished with my friends. My desk and everything in and around it was destroyed on that day.

"Finally, I have had numerous wonderful opportunities and held different titles, but in the end I would trade all of them to be only Cole and Megan's mommy, the greatest title ever. And as Paul's wife, I am blessed to have the type of support that enables me to continue with a fulfilling career and still be a mother to our 9 year old twins."

Mike Cathey is a lifetime member of the EOSC alumni association. While at Eastern, Cathey was also a staff writer for The Statesman and the Vice President of the Student Senate. Cathey is also a graduate of the University of Oklahoma and resides in Chicago, Ill.

TEXTBOOKS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all of their tuition and all of their things. We try to get their financial aid as soon as possible. We have to do as much as we can to protect them."

"I think if the students had the money up-front, then they would have more choices," responded Sandefur.

Sources for cheaper textbooks can sometimes come from instructors that know of the cheapest locations for the textbook they use in a particular class.

Eastern Business Administration instructor Dr. Kaben Smallwood's issue at the meeting was his inability "to provide students with the same information that I had to go out and find alternatives."

A provision in the contract prevents staff and faculty from suggesting more cost-efficient sources for textbooks to students. Smallwood's comments were in reference to the "effective gag order" the book company placed within the contract.

"I think that it should be within our ability as faculty to point them in the correct direction," commented Smallwood.

"A rental component is one of the larger trends," said Darren Croom, Vice President of Texas Book Company. "A student wants the lowest cost alternative and normally that's a rental book. It's our job to be able to provide the lowest cost alternative to that student; rental allows us to do that."

Cheryl Woods-Myers, Professor of Psychology and Sociology, asked what could be done if a student asked for a cheaper place to buy a book. Croom's advice was to refer students to where they could have the legality of the situation explained to them by Eastern representatives.

The conclusion was that teachers are allowed to provide the ISBN number that is used to identify individual textbooks. Students could use that number to shop around.

Woods-Myers raised another issue by saying that students feel

as if they are forced into buying books from the bookstore because of financial aid.

Croom did estimate that around 75 percent of students that purchase from the bookstore are using some form of financial aid.

"That's one reason we push the rental so strongly," answered Croom. "We believe we can make the rental model work as a corporation. By getting the rental price, we're getting them one of the lower prices possible. Can you go online and shop and find a few cheaper? Yes, without question."

"If you rent a book for the same price you can purchase one online, you're still negating the sell-back price they get," responded Smallwood.

"Some (students) have talked about the price of the books," said ESGA President Reilly Cloud. "I understand that you've tried to keep it as cheap as you can, but a lot of them go online and get the books for less than half the cost."

"There are places online that you can get them cheaper," Croom said. "We're not trying to disguise that or hide that. Obviously the cost of acquiring those units is something we take into account and then the price is contractually-driven. The way to get a cheap book is for us to find the lowest cost to the student. Hey, that's why we push rental."

Representatives from the Idabel and McAlester campus sites both presented the same issue requesting more book-buying opportunities. Conditions selling books at the McAlester site were described as "a very short window and we have a lot of students here. It takes a long time," Janet Wansick, McAlester Dean, said. Croom said that a new "seamless transaction" system would address that.

During the meeting, those in attendance raised questions concerning different aspects of textbook buying.

Marilynn Duncan was concerned about the timeliness for students to be able to acquire their books. "I don't like for stu-

dents to have failing grades because of this," said Duncan.

There was also a question on electronic textbooks from Kristen Turner, Mass Communication instructor.

"With the fact that e-books are outselling books, not textbooks, but just books in general, what is your plan for that? Is it going to be a rental situation?"

Turner's question was in relation to the cost of e-textbooks. In reference to the Kindle Rental Program through amazon.com, an article by Time Staff Writer Kayla Webley from business.time.com reads: "For example, a new copy of David P. Clark's Molecular Biology retails on Amazon for \$104.31. Used copies begin at \$40 and the Kindle edition is \$39.99. But still cheaper is the rental price of \$18.36. To rent "Molecular Biology" from July 20 to the end of this year is \$34.08 — still cheaper than buying the book full price.

"The book company cannot provide e-books in rental form. Croom's response was that a "paradigm shift" would happen in the "market" that would bring down publisher prices. "If the title is going to be available digitally, it's important that we make those available," Croom said. "We make all of those titles available now if there is a digital copy of a book adopted. Cost is a big challenge to that."

David Juarez's issues were dealing with stipulations on "students once they end up getting the rentals," he said.

"As long as it's not falling apart, as long as it's not dog-chewed or water damaged, I'm not going to turn too many away short of missing pages," Croom said.

The Texas Book Company has donated promotional materials and scholarship funds as well over the last four years in the amount of \$13,376.

The final decision on the Texas Book Company's proposed contract renewal will be held at 10:30 a.m. on April 26 during the Board of Regents meeting at the McAlester campus.

WARMING UP



The Eastern Lady Mountaineer softball season heats up this week as they host Northern and Rose State Tuesday and Thursday.

"BEST MIX"
Mountaineer Radio
www.radio.eosc.edu

Would you like to join the *Statesman*?

The Eastern Statesman is looking for writers, graphic designers and anyone interested in maintaining our website. Contact Kristen Turner at 918.465.1720 or ktturner@eosc.edu.

Find us online at
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