



**Dr. Mindy Smith** and **Dr. Stephan Sargent** had the findings of their research study published in the 2010 Winter Edition of *Reading Improvement*, entitled: "Newspapers for Boys? Newspapers for Girls? Newspapers for Everyone!"

**Andrew Vassar** escorted NSU's very first visiting Fullbright scholar, Dr. Muhammed Syamsuddin from Gadjah Madjah University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, to over forty-five presentations throughout the Tulsa area through a unique program that brought direct access to the Muslim world via contact with the Tulsa Islamic Society, St. John's Episcopal Church, Tulsa, Tulsa Community College and Connors State College. At the end of Dr. Syamsuddin's visit he gave presentations in Miami Oklahoma, on Route 66: on October 8 he shared a double bill at the Miami public library with the famed Michael Wallis, speaking about his Route 66: The Mother Road. On November 24, in lieu of the opening of the Smithsonian Institution's "Journey Stories" travelling exhibit at the Miami Public Library, he had the opportunity to introduce the movie "Bones of the Old Road" at the beautiful Art Deco Coleman Theater in Miami with the filmmakers Jerry McClanahan and Jim Ross. He has been invited back to open the Journey Stories reading series for Miami's Let's Talk About it Oklahoma series with the Odyssey on February 11th.

**Allyson Watson** has been selected by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to serve as a board member on the Executive Council of Advisers for the Gates Millennium Scholars program. This is a tremendous responsibility and awesome opportunity. She is one of 8 representatives selected from across the country. The foundation will provide for her training in Washington DC with the President and council members March 5-7th. She will return on the 7th. She is excited to be representing Oklahoma and NSU! <http://www.gmsalumni.org/alumni-leadership.html>

During the 2009-10 academic year, **Dr. Allyson Watson**, **Dr. Stephan Sargent**, and **Dr. Mike Wilds** have served as visiting faculty for **Union Collegiate Academy**, a program providing a class addressing topics such as college selection and scholarship research, project-based learning, and leadership skills across different academic disciplines led by instructors from area colleges.

**Anne Watson** has had two clarinet literature reviews in *The Clarinet, Magazine for the International Clarinet Association*. She has also been asked to perform as a featured artist with the Claribel Clarinet Choir (Oostend kerke, Belgium) at the Texas Music Educators Convention in February 2010.

**Dr. Virginia Whitekiller** is the principal investigator on a grant awarded by the National Child Welfare Workforce Institute.

**Mike Wilds** taught forensics to 32 high school juniors and seniors at **Union Collegiate Academy** from January 4-22. In that the Academy is designed for students planning to attend college, it looks like NSU will net 7-12 of the 32 students!

### Other News

The Criminal Justice and Legal Studies Department will begin operation of a free legal clinic for veterans on the Tahlequah and Broken Arrow campuses on February 1, 2010. Office hours for Tahlequah will be Mondays 1:00PM-2:30PM in room 337 and Broken Arrow 3:00PM- 4:30PM in Room 156G every Wednesday. Department Chair Cari Keller and assistant professor David Madden will offer free legal advice on a range of issues for veterans in both locations. Students majoring in legal studies will assist Dr. Keller and Dr. Madden. Advertising for the project will be done through the University. This effort is the result of a Learning Services project submitted by Dr. Keller.

This semester SPAN 2313, Intermediate Spanish Conversation, is using a wiki rather than a traditional textbook. The wiki allows us to gather resources for current and future use in the course. It is still under construction, but it will eventually include all the vocabulary and major activities for all three units. It also has the instructions for speaking tasks that the students will complete using Google Voice and an online media album called VoiceThread. The wiki may be viewed at <http://span2313.wikispaces.com/>

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If you have any information that you would like to have posted in the April issue of the Academic Times newsletter, please send it to Monica Barnett at [barnettm@nsuok.edu](mailto:barnettm@nsuok.edu). The deadline for the April issue is March 15. Any information sent after that will be in the following newsletter.