

Eastern Oklahoma State College  
Hank Mooney, Office of Public Information  
<http://www.eosc.edu>

## **Eastern receives grant to help preserve historic collections** (Press Release 04-16-10)

Oklahoma Department of Libraries, in partnership with the Oklahoma Historical Records Advisory Board, awarded Eastern Oklahoma State College library a \$1,000 “Threats to Your Collection” grant to protect and preserve Eastern’s historical archives.

The archival collection housed at the Bill H. Hill Library consists of photographs, newspapers, newsletters, local history books, yearbooks, personal archives/collections, oral histories, faculty and administrative reports, class bulletins and course catalogs.

According to Eastern Director of Library Media Services Maria Martinez, the collection spans the time period from the 1920s to the present. As a whole, the archival collection represents the academic, cultural, social and economic history of Eastern Oklahoma State College as it progressed from a mining/metallurgy school to an agricultural school and finally to its current state as a comprehensive community college.

“The archival collection is accessible to the students, faculty members, and the general public. The library encourages anyone who would like to visit the archival collection to contact Eastern Archivist Kim Pendergraft at any time during the school year,” she said.

Director of the Oklahoma Department of Libraries Director Susan McVey said the grants are to help preserve historical documentation across the state.

“In presenting this grant to Eastern, it is our intention to help further its commitment to providing the best possible care of the historic materials in its collections,” McVey said.

“We hope that these grants will facilitate increased local support for the care of historic collections held by organizations such as Eastern Oklahoma State College’s library.”

According to McVey, the “Threats to Your Collection” grant opportunity was an outcome of a statewide survey that assessed the condition of collections held by Oklahoma’s 800 museums and libraries. The study found that almost all organizations have lost historic materials through theft, environmental damage, and other causes.

“It is our goal to stem the loss of Oklahoma’s heritage by providing funding for secure storage, environmental controls, archival storage supplies, fire detection, and other projects that address threats to collections,” she said.

Support for the grant program was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, the funding arm for the National Archives and Records Administration. Grants totaling \$50,000 were awarded to 27 Oklahoma institutions.

For more information on the Eastern Oklahoma State College Library contact Director of Library Media Services Maria Martinez at (918) 465-1711.