

Eastern Oklahoma State College  
Hank Mooney, Office of Public Information  
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## College staff visit with US Congressman

(Press Release 07-30-10)

Eastern Oklahoma State College GEAR UP Project Director Linda Morgan and Vice President of Student Affairs Vic Woods recently visited with US Congressman Dan Boren during the 2010 NCCEP/GEAR UP Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

One afternoon of the conference was set aside for project directors across the nation to visit with their Congressmen about their GEAR UP projects. Morgan and Woods shared information about Eastern's grant and the successes of the program. They also visited with representatives from the offices of Congressman Tom Cole, Congressman Frank Lucas, Senator Tom Coburn and Senator James Inhofe.

In 2006, Eastern Oklahoma State College received a \$6.7 million federal GEAR UP grant and is in its fifth year of implementation. Eastern has partnered with 23 area schools to provide students with additional educational opportunities and teachers with professional development opportunities. The *GEAR UP for a Brighter Tomorrow* grant application was one of 27 selected nation-wide to receive funding.

The grant is currently serving 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Antlers, Bokoshe, Buffalo Valley, Canadian, Clayton, Crowder, Indianola, Keota, Kiowa, LeFlore, McCurtain, Moyers, Panola, Pittsburg, Quinton, Red Oak, Whitesboro, and Wilburton Public Schools. The grant is serving 11<sup>th</sup> grade students at Haileyville, Hartshorne, McAlester, Rattan, and Talihina Public Schools.

