

Survey lights up reaction from smokers

By Alissa Sheppard
Staff reporter

It's a matter of such concern that 189 people took the survey Student Government Association conducted about on campus smoking to see how some residents felt about it.

Students and faculty took a survey consisting of five questions.

Number one, have you ever been affected by the smoking on campus?

The answer: 55 percent said yes, 45 percent said no.

Number two, how would you feel if smoking places were limited on campus? The answer: 63 percent said satisfied, 29 percent said neutral, and 8 percent said unsatisfied.

Number three, are you aware of the recent legislation passed in the city of Winfield regarding smoking in public buildings? The answer: 70 percent said yes,

and 30 percent said no.

Number four, how would you feel if Southwestern was a smoke-free campus? 62 percent said satisfied, 28 percent said neutral and 11 percent said unsatisfied.

Number five, would you be willing to attend a student concerns panel regarding smoking on campus? 44 percent said yes and 56 percent said no.

The survey was conducted to weigh students' concerns. Tabatha McMullen, early childhood education senior, is president of SGA. "I hope we can compromise with people who are okay with it and people who are not okay with it and find some middle ground to make everyone happy," said McMullen.

The goal of the survey was to see how people feel and find an area designated on campus for smoking.

Although the majority of those on campus do not smoke, some do. "Smoking

probably gives off a bad impression to others, but it is not like I am blowing smoke in people's face," said Frani Bell, education freshman. Bell considers herself a "polite smoker." She limits herself to one area on campus to smoke and that is behind Cole Hall.

People should not be judged for what they do, but the people who do things should also be considerate of others.

Roger Moon, assistant professor of theatre, said many people have allergies or asthma or are just sensitive to cigarette smoke. Therefore they should not have to put up with it when they are walking around from class to class. Moon said he feels the college should enforce the 10 foot rule.

One person who smokes say that limiting smokers takes away their freedom. Claryssa Cura, theatre freshman, said that if she is lim-

ited to one area to smoke that she would be sad.

"I am not doing any harm by smoking. It is not as if I am blowing it in people's face," said Cura. Her favorite spot to smoke is in front of the cafeteria. She jokingly said, "If they leave us ashtrays, we would not leave our butts around."

People who don't smoke don't want to deal with the smell. Anna Macy, biology senior, said she thinks it should not be allowed on campus at all. "Since our campus does allow smoking, I feel there should be a secluded area for people to smoke."

Macy thinks the area should not be around building entrances or places where students congregate. Many smokers don't feel they're in the wrong when it comes to smoking on campus.

Mark Strecker, chemistry freshman, said he likes the way things are now. "I would

not feel positive if the rules changed to one area. I like my freedom," said Strecker.

He does not smoke in big groups so he feels that it is not a problem. Strecker is one of the few smokers who took the survey. He agrees with the law in Winfield of 10 feet away from the door is acceptable in places like work areas and nice restaurants but

not places like bars.

McMullen said that she hopes the survey shows some positive change for both sides. "We want students to see that we are actually addressing their problems."

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Smoking in the spotlight

Brian Nelson/Collegian photographer

Service learning groups receive award for second year

By Anthony Cook
Editor in Chief

Sometimes hard work goes under the radar. Recognition isn't always easy to find.

However, Southwestern College's hard work has recently been credited. The college was named to the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The award isn't new to the college. It is the second straight year receiving the honor.

Cheryl Rude, director of Leadership, sees good in the college receiving the honor. Rude said, "It's quite a feeling of satisfaction, and it's nice that someone has affirmed that we do those good

things."

However, the award is not a destination any of the service learning activities on campus search for. Its affirmation of what they do.

Rude said, "In our world it's not an award we all know about and we know all the rules and strive to earn it. We don't say there's 10 colleges that we want to compete with to get it. It's more that we do our thing and we get it. Most of our students don't even know it, she said.

"We are pleased to be honored and included with those institutions that learn through service, but it's not something that is our soul purpose for doing things. It's like inducting someone in the hall of fame. No one lives their life trying to get into a hall of fame, but all of the things

they did in their life get them there."

Roger Klein, biochemistry senior, is a four year member of Leadership Southwestern. Klein said, "Sure I'm excited about it. However, I'm not exactly going to change anything I've done. I just know that all this service work we are doing is getting noticed. Leadership focus's on service learning which is key to this honor."

The application process was handled by Sara Weinert, Vice President for Communications. Weinert spent an estimated two full days worth of time gathering information over the course of two weeks.

Weinert said, "The projects that were pulled out this year were Freshman Work Day, the football team work-

ing on Saturday clean-up in downtown Winfield and being mentors to Big Brothers and Sisters, the tracking of Southwestern College's carbon footprint, and community service by discipleship Southwestern. It's a fairly extensive application. It helps a lot that faculty and staff work in these areas and are enthused in their process. When I contacted people in these projects they already knew the hours they had logged."

Around 6,000 community service hours were logged by the students of Southwestern College between July 2007 and June of 2008, as part of receiving the award. Leadership, Discipleship and the Green Team all engage in service learning regularly, but service learning at South-

western College is not limited to those students.

Jason Speegle, director of the Green Team, said, "I think the fact that Southwestern is being recognized for service learning says a great deal about the type of students and their character that we have at SC I think it's the type of student that we recruit and the type of students that we attract. Generally they have an interest in things that are greater than themselves.

"I don't think it's limited to just Leadership, the Green Team and Discipleship, we may have the title of service learning, but I think you see the majority of students in general who are involved in some way in some form of service that benefits the community."

Ashlee Alley, director of campus ministry, sees this throughout all aspects of the campus. She said, "Different organizations do projects from time to time, I know football has done some, Leadership does some. Within organizations we have a high value of service to the community. I think freshman workday is a great example. You are barely on campus before you start giving back. I think that's a great message that we value the community and serving others."

To celebrate the honor, the college will host a get together Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 11-1 p.m. in the Java Jinx.

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Organizers plan women's ministry retreat for fellowship, relaxation

By Colin Baker
Staff reporter

When you think of retreat, you think of somebody backing out like they're in a war zone or are getting attacked. This retreat is a little different, something special and a time for bonding.

"There is a retreat every where for the women of ministry," said Megan Martin, biology junior. "There is a different theme every year at each retreat. This year's theme is worship and praise."

The retreat will be at a Nazarene church on the weekend of Feb. 27 and 28. There will be speakers flown in to speak

to the women. "We are flying in a speaker from Georgia and the other one is from Abilene," said Martin. "They will come in and talk about praise."

The guest speakers are graduates of Southwestern. "Monica Morrison is a graduate from the 2005 class and Natalie is a graduate of the 2006 class," said Martin. "Monica is the worship director for her own church and Natalie will be talking to us about praise."

With all that is going on to set everything up, there is some kind of supervision. "I am the advisor for what all goes on," said Ashlee Alley, director of campus ministry.

"I help advise the group on how to do things."

Along with helping set up the speakers, there is a committee that helps plan what goes on during the retreats. "The planning committee has nine people in it," said Alley. "Those help plan the Friday nights when we first get there."

Alley is also responsible for finding guest speakers for the retreats.

"I find the speakers to come and share with the women," said Alley. "I like to try and get people who are Southwestern graduates and were a part of ministry. They can share their experiences with the group."

There will be quite a few activities during the retreat. "We have craft projects and other things that involve bonding," said Martin.

"This is just a great time to come together and become closer as a group.

Although males are not allowed to be at the retreat, there is one activity that allows them to be there for a certain amount of time.

"There will be a drum circle, which allows males to come into the church," said Alley.

"This is the only time during the weekend that males are allowed."

Overall the environment is great to be in and able to have

fun. "This is just a really nice place to be at," said Martin. "It is a great time to have fun and become closer with the women in the group."

Some of the women going on the retreat have been every year.

"I personally have been to three retreats," said Jennifer Edwards, business senior. "This year will be my fourth."

Edwards also helped plan the retreat. "I have had the opportunity to plan it," said Edwards. "This is the third one I have helped plan and attend."

The retreat is different from other things ministry does. "It is different because

we are able to have the ladies get off campus and stay overnight," said Edwards.

"It is fun to be able to get away and relax. It helps us forget about what makes our daily lives so hectic."

There are many things that make this retreat so enjoyable. "We enjoy the delicious food, the fun games, girl time and refocusing ourselves on what is really important," said Edwards.

"It is so special when the ladies of the campus take time to fellowship and worship together."

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Builders in Ministry



Anthony Cook/Collegian photographer



Above: Faculty, alumni, and current members of campus ministry listen to the opening workshop of campus ministry week in Darbeth Rehearsal Hall.

Left: Justin Lefto, director of youth and camping ministry for the Kansas West Conference of the United Methodist Church, speaks during the opening workshop for Builders in Ministry week. There are events today and tomorrow.

Student Success Center soothes for students studies

By Inger Marie Furholt
Staff reporter

Having a good study environment is not only important for those struggling in school, but for everyone who needs an extra hand or a relaxing place to do homework.

In August an old storage room in Sutton was transformed into the Student Success Center and since then, students have taken advantage of it.

Ashley Boucher, Student Success Center coordinator, said it is important for students to have a comfortable place to do their studies and to get help. "We have English and math tutors who work here. Math tutors work here three to four times a week, and English tutors all week," said Boucher.

Boucher said that the main focus for the Student Success Center is tutoring. "If someone's looking for a tutor, we can find tutors and get them connected," said Boucher. "Our math tutors aren't here as much anymore because there isn't as much of a demand as we thought it would be." There are seven English tutors and two math tutors. It is important to make an appointment.

Raymond Schnack, education freshman, is taking advantage of the Student Success Center and its extra help. "Tutoring makes me understand things better and it helped me get an A in writing and pass another one of my classes. It helps my performance in school," said Schnack.

"The main problem is that students will come the day of

or the day before to see us. When a whole class comes, we can't always help everyone. They can't get the help that they need," said Boucher. "You don't have to make an appointment, but it is better if you do. If 10 people show up and you're the one with an appointment, you're first priority."

Tami Pullins, associate vice president for advising and student success, said she thinks it is important for students to get some extra help. "I think it is important for students to get extra help. Even good students could use another set of eyes, and that's where we can help," said Pullins. "It is not only where the struggling goes. A B plus paper can go up, just by having someone look at it one time."

The Student Success Cen-

ter is also staffed to assist international students with some extra help since English is their second language.

"We have eight ESL students who we work with on weekly basis. They come in two to four hours a week, depending on how much help they need.

"Don't wait until the last minute or last half of the semester to get help, because we can't get you caught up in an hour," said Boucher.

Hours:
Monday–Thursday
9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Friday
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday
7 to 9 p.m.

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