

Academic Press to publish two projects

By **Hanna House**
Staff reporter

Once you graduate from high school, things start to speed up. Instead of just learning about how other people do their job, you start doing that job as well.

In communication classes, during the first semester of your freshman year, you start writing stories that immediately get put online for all to see.

A couple weeks ago you had never even written in that format, you had just seen other people's work. Another class that students dive right into the actual work is the Academic Press.

You may not have heard of an Academic Press on campus before and that's because it isn't a regular group. There isn't always a need for the group.

This year there is a very special reason the group has assembled. Last winter, Pamela Thompson, adjunct professor in the English department and editor of the Academic Press, and her colleague, Jerry Wallace, co-author with Thompson, put together all the history of Southwestern College and sent it to Arcadia Publishing to apply for the opportunity to be published as part of a college history series.

"It began with an idea from Andy Sheppard. He wanted to

publish academic texts that were somehow related to either faculty or concepts connected to Southwestern," said Thompson.

After a school sends in their application with photos and captions telling a story of the college's history, the board then decides if the school has an interesting enough past to be published in the series.

After about a month of tense waiting, Thompson and Wallace heard back that their application had been accepted and they started making plans.

Being accepted is a big honor for Southwestern. Not only are there strict guidelines, but it is also financially stressing.

The college had to pledge to buy a minimum of 600 copies of the finished project. Books aren't cheap! But the school also decided publishing our school's history is important so they agreed.

The story is going to have seven chapters starting with of course, the opening of the college's doors in 1885 when only two of the students were women. It then winds through stories like the Christy fire and finally ends with Dick Merriman's era coming to an end. The only other school in Kansas to be a part of this series is Emporia College.

"I really want to tell the story of Southwestern as best I can. It is a long history dating from 1885

up to today and that is a long survival time for a Midwestern college," said Jerry Wallace, co-author with Thompson.

To meet the criteria of the publishers, they have to have a minimum of 180 but no more than 240 photographs. The book will really only consist of photos with detailed captions. They decided to give credit to students interested in helping with the process. A group of eight students are currently enrolled in the class.

"So far we have looked through the archives, looked at pictures, and learned how to make captions," said Aniefiok Ukim, business sophomore.

Some might say this sounds like an easy task but telling a story with only 180 pictures and some captions is a timely task. Thompson stressed how big of a challenge it is going to be selecting what makes the cut for the final submission.

The class is in charge of completing two projects. Not only are they getting this book ready to be published as part of the college history series, they are also in search of some other pieces of work from local writers as Thompson explained.

"We want to put out a call for submissions of literary works, poetry, fiction and nonfiction, by regional writers. We want those

submissions to come in this spring," said Thompson.

After receiving these new works, a board will look over them and will piece the works together to make a new volume ready to be printed in the fall of 2015.

Although also working on getting more submissions, the main focus of the class as of now is searching through the many years of Southwestern history and piecing it together to tell our rich

history in only a couple hundred pages.

"It is a story of people who built this place—we are all builders and we want to try and convey that as best we can in the book and how that produced the people that it has over the years. Why Southwestern is special," said Wallace.

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Jerry Wallace talks about the long history of Southwestern College. Pam Thompson, adjunct professor in the English department, Brenna Truhe, English junior, Alyssa Richardson, communication senior, Jonahs Joudrey, communication junior, Maecy Charleston, communication senior, and Aniefiok Ukim, business administration senior, listen and take notes on his speech. (Angel Vellido/Collegian photographer)

Grandson finds family's Builder history in yearbook

By **Dalton Carver**
Staff reporter

Imagine looking through an old yearbook. It's like peering into a window to the past that shows how students thrived at college. It features the things they accomplished, as well as the clothing they wore and the words that they said. Suddenly, amongst all the other faces, you come across a familiar one.

It's not every day that you discover a piece of your past in your college yearbook. However, for Aniefiok Ukim, business administration senior, it was knowledge of a family member that had an impact on his and his family's lives that led him to the discovery.

While doing an assignment for one of his courses, Ukim found

himself flipping through an older edition of the Moundbuilder yearbook. There, he found a relative who had also attended Southwestern College.

"The relative I found in the yearbook was my grandfather, Chief Elder Daniel Udoh Ebong," said Ukim. "He was born in Nigeria in 1917 and died in 1993 at the age of 77."

Ebong was Ukim's mother's father, who was born in 1954, only a few years before Ebong decided to come to the United States. "During that period, the nation was racially divided and my grandfather left America because he suffered great injustices."

Ukim's grandfather first walked the grounds of Southwestern College in 1961, deciding to study secondary education, history and

political science. "After graduating SC, my grandfather went on to be the headmaster of the primary school back in Nigeria for several years," said Ukim. "He was also a deacon at the church and a well-respected member of the community."

Ebong's success didn't stop at becoming the deacon of the church, also known as an Elder. "Eventually, he became crowned the village head," said Ukim. "He was the first man from his village to build a two-story, 10-room mansion that still stands today."

Even though Ukim was young when his grandfather passed away, he remembers a few things about him. "I do remember he taught me that men ate with forks, not spoons. Ever since then, I ate with a fork," he said. "I also re-

member I was the last grandchild he saw before he passed away in December of 1993."

Ukim, like his grandfather, was also born in Nigeria. His recent move to Kansas last August was made to attend Southwestern College. "I came to America at the age of 10 and lived in Rhode Island with family members," he said. "Years later, I moved to Houston and worked for a while."

In addition to studying business administration, Ukim is a team leader in an economic development group called enactus. He also has an internship with Cowley First, a Cowley County economic development partnership. Ukim's talents further span to the arts. "I also play drums at a local church," he said.

Ukim plans to graduate from

Southwestern with a degree in business administration. "I hope to learn more about economic development and someday get a job within that field," he said. "I will work for a few more years and then move back to Nigeria to assist my mother with running her pharmacy."

With Ukim's eventual return to Nigeria, it seems that he will follow his grandfather's footsteps, even if there are a couple generations separating them. Someday, one of Ukim's grandchildren may find his face in an old yearbook and their family's story will continue.

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