

## AAUW/OK State Board 2016-2018

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## TECH TREK SWOSU 2016

For the fourth year, the Weatherford AAUW branch hosted Tech Trek at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU). From June 12 to 18, 2016, 44 girls from 30 different schools and 18 counties across the state of Oklahoma stayed on the SWOSU campus in Weatherford, OK, to experience this Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) camp for rising 8th grade girls. The general format is for each camper to attend one core course on three mornings to learn about one STEM subject more in-depth, and then for all campers to experience workshops in the afternoons and evenings featuring additional topics in team-building, personal development, professionalism, and STEM.

This year, all girls were exposed to computer science by the addition of a Cybersecurity Workshop, plus more math via a financial workshop hosted by Midfirst Bank. Lacie Lowry from News9 made a [video](#) for Professional Women's Night (attended by forty mentors) to encourage the campers to pursue their goals in STEM. Also new was a field trip to Devon Energy headquarters and the STEM exhibits at the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum. As a result of this collaboration, Devon Energy is featuring Tech Trek at SWOSU on its [website](#).

For the first time, five former campers who attended the inaugural camp in 2013 participated as Junior Counselors this summer. In addition, the camp's Health Director (who now resides in Texas) recruited a high school student from Texas to help her.

The Weatherford branch is grateful for the continued support received from AAUW Oklahoma branches, as well as other [sponsors](#) such as OK EPSCoR, OK INBRE, Devon Energy, the City of Weatherford, and Verizon. In 2016, a total of twenty-one camps were conducted in the United States, with the California Tech Trek camps joining the [national AAUW program](#). Contact [techtrek@swosu.edu](mailto:techtrek@swosu.edu) or 580-774-3148 for more information. Submitted by Lisa Appeddu



2016 Campers are excited to visit STEM professionals at Devon Energy, Oklahoma City.



Evaluating water quality in Deer Creek during the Blue Thumb Workshop.



Compounding anti-itch gel in the SWOSU Pharmacy Calculations Workshop.



Live radio interview at Wright Radio with three campers and one Junior Counselor.

## AAUW/OK State Board 2016-2018 - continued

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Evaluating different building materials and arrangements to withstand natural and man-made disasters at the interactive STEM Exhibit at the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum.

Determining the effects of climate change during the OK EPSCoR workshop.

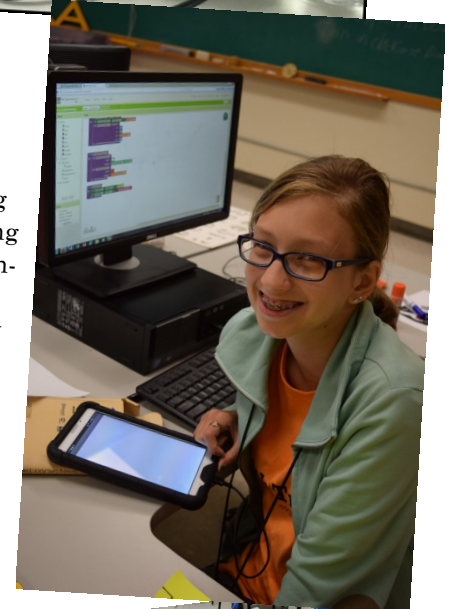


Learning about how fossils become energy from STEM profession-



The AAUW Most Valuable Participant in the Lime Green Dorm Group. From left to right: Angie Lewis (AAUW OK President-elect), Shelli Wasson (AAUW OK Co- President), Carly Gordon (Camper), Erika Plyushko (Counselor), and Alex Jordan (Counselor).

Developing Apps during the Verizon-sponsored Technology



Campers learn that diamonds really are girls best friend from Kelley Jewelers during the OCAST Science Core Course.



Engineering an octopus to display sound, lights, and movement in the Marathon Oil Robotics Workshop.