



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A report to the OSU/A&M Regents from the OSU President

January 23, 2009

## OSU launches creativity initiative

A major component of the Oklahoma State University Creativity Initiative is the OSU Creativity Festival to be held February 16 and 17 inside the Student Union.

“The festival has three goals: to celebrate current creative and innovative work at OSU, to ignite a passion for creativity and innovation on the campus, and to begin the process of achieving the vision of making OSU a national leader in creativity and innovation,” said John Mowen, director of the OSU Creativity Initiative.

Part of OSU’s annual Research Week, there are four ways to participate in the festival: develop a creativity and innovations booth, propose a creativity demonstration, propose a scholarly presentation that investigates creativity/innovation and/or enter the creativity challenge contest.

The contest, which is open to students, faculty and staff, invites proposals in five different areas of the campus: student life, instructional life, research life, service to the community and overall campus life. Contest participants are

OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

## creativity INITIATIVE

competing for \$10,000 in prizes and for \$10,000 in implementation funds.

The festival also features internationally recognized speakers, including Bob Mankoff, The New Yorker Cartoon Editor, and Chic Thompson, creativity guru to Fortune 500 companies.

“What we are trying to do is get people on campus to think out-of-the-box and share their ideas that can be implemented within a three-year period,” said Mowen.

The festival and contest is a way to introduce the campus to the university’s Creativity Initiative. The initiative is the brain-child of Mowen and OSU President Burns Hargis.

“The goal is for Oklahoma State University to become recognized as a leading land-grant university and a leader in creativity and innovation,” said Hargis. “The best way to achieve this goal is to

tap into the creativity and innovative ideas that are right under our noses and the best source of these are our students, faculty and staff.”

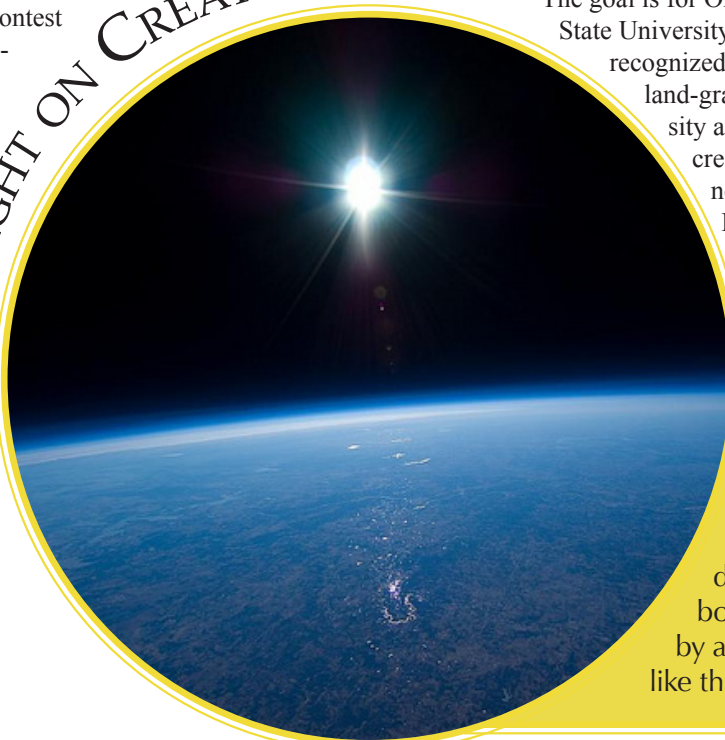
Another component of the OSU Creativity Initiative is the development of a booklet which will offer one-page descriptions of campus creativity in the area of academic scholarship.

“It’s important for everyone to remember that creativity doesn’t just take place in the arts and humanities, but also in the social, biological, physical and professional sciences,” Mowen said.

Mowen, a Regents Professor and Noble Foundation Chair of Marketing Strategy, has been at OSU for 30 years. He suggests that creativity at OSU is found in five areas: scholarship on creativity and innovation, creativity in instruction, creativity in basic research, creativity in application and commercialization, and creativity in community service.

“This initiative isn’t just about encouraging creativity and innovation at OSU. It’s about reconsidering what it means to be a land-grant university,” Mowen said.

SPOTLIGHT ON CREATIVITY



### Creative Research and Instruction

Professor Andy Arena gives his freshman Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering students hands-on experience and the opportunity for interdisciplinary research. Each semester students build boxes filled with flight hardware which are launched by a large balloon. They collect data and take pictures, like this one taken at 98,514 feet.

# OSU opens doors to new state-of-the-art classroom building

OSU students in Stillwater began the spring semester in classes in the newly constructed North Classroom Building, a 50,000-square foot building used by OSU and Northern Oklahoma College.

“The North Classroom Building is another example of OSU’s commitment to better serving our students,” said OSU President Burns Hargis. “The building offers the latest in teaching tools and a beautiful learning environment. In addition, the location of the building is much closer to the majority of our residence halls, which are located on the north side of campus, and across the street from Northern Oklahoma College.”

The new building, which is wireless and features the latest multimedia equipment in all classrooms, is located at the southeast corner of North Monroe and Hall of Fame Avenue. It has 14 classrooms that seat 30 to 48 students each, two 125-seat auditoriums, a Student Success Center and café located on the first floor, and a faculty work area located on the third floor. More than 70 OSU classes, mostly undergraduate level and general education courses, have been scheduled this semester in the

building.

“This facility provides every amenity a student needs to be successful,” said OSU Provost and Senior Vice President Marlene Strathe. “I’m certain the Student Success Center will be a favorite study area for our students, and in early February we will introduce a laptop checkout procedure for students using the study area.”

OSU took several steps to address sustainability in the three-story building, which is equipped with energy efficient lighting, windows, and heating and air conditioning.

The \$15 million facility was partially funded through the Oklahoma Higher Education Capital Bond Program. In 2003, OSU and Northern Oklahoma College entered into a memorandum of understanding for NOC to provide remedial and general education classes as well as select lower division coursework on the OSU-Stillwater campus. Currently NOC rents space in the



Cowboy Mall facility and in 2005 the two schools agreed to cooperatively finance the new classroom facility.

The new classroom space was completed three months ahead of the construction contract. The construction manager on the project was Manhattan Construction and the architects were DLR Group/LWPB Architecture, Oklahoma City.

## OSU ranked as one of nation’s best values

OSU has once again been ranked in Kiplinger magazine’s top 100 of Best Values in Public Colleges for 2009. OSU is the highest ranked school from the state of Oklahoma.

Kiplinger bases its college rankings on a combination of outstanding academic quality and an affordable price tag. In addition to cost and financial aid, the rankings look at freshman ACT and SAT scores, admission rates, freshman retention rates, student-faculty ratios, and four- and six-year graduation rates.

“Oklahoma State University has long offered students an outstanding learning experience and excellent value and we are pleased to be recognized among the nation’s best,” said OSU President Burns Hargis.

“In today’s challenging economic times, we are more committed than ever to provide our students a top-quality education at the best price possible. An OSU education offers unique learning and research opportunities that better prepare students for success in a rapidly changing world,” Hargis said.

Based on tuition and mandatory fees, OSU is the best bargain in the Big 12 Conference. OSU is a comprehensive land-grant university that offers students more than 350 undergraduate and graduate degrees and options, as well as professional degree programs in medicine and veterinary medicine.

To view the Kiplinger rankings, go to: <http://www.kiplinger.com/tools/colleges/>



## OSU receives interdisciplinary USDA grant

Three OSU scientists have received a \$376,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to study the effects of fire on disease control and pollination in native grasslands.

Lead investigator is Kristen Baum, zoology, and co-investigators are Mason Reichard, veterinary pathobiology, and Samuel Fuhlendorf, natural resource ecology and management.

So far studies indicate there may be a smaller tick population among cattle that forage in a patch-burned area than in a whole-field burn area. The three scientists each bring a different expertise to the project. Baum is a pollination expert and Reichard a tick expert, while Fuhlendorf focuses on fire research.

Loren Smith, head of the zoology department, attributed the hefty grant to team work.

The project is funded by the USDA-CSREES-NRI-Managed Ecosystems program.

# A new tartan tradition for OSU

The official OSU Tartan is now a part of the university's tradition. Oklahoma City design, housing and merchandising junior Stephanie Michalko's weave of oranges, black, gray and white received the most votes for her original tartan plaid design in on-line balloting.

In September, OSU students who had completed a course in textiles were eligible for the competition to design an original plaid that reflects the OSU spirit. Four finalists were selected and voting began in October.

Michalko said she was excited to have her design chosen. "I am an interior design major, but I am very interested in textiles and their use in interior design," Michalko said. "This was a great experience to be able to apply what I have learned."

College of Human Environmental Sciences professors Paulette Hebert and Lynne Richards directed the competition.

"We felt this would be a meaningful

way design, housing and merchandising students could learn how a product is developed from the idea to the creation," Hebert said.

Pendleton stadium blankets and scarves will be the first items produced using the OSU Tartan. Judy Barnard, OSU director of trademarks and licensing, who assisted with the project, expects a number of products from stationery to kilts to be available soon in the plaid.

As in Scotland and Ireland where tartans are used to identify families, the OSU Tartan will be another sign of membership in the OSU family.



## UML brings new jobs, helps to re-brand Oklahoma

With the receipt of two more \$500,000 checks from ConocoPhillips and the Ponca City Development Authority, OSU is continuing its impact on sensor research and development through the University Multispectral Laboratories. In turn, the UML is making an impact on Oklahoma.

Since 2006, the UML has brought more than 30 new jobs to North Central Oklahoma. By 2012, that total will quadruple to 120.

"The UML is making a very significant impact on the diversification of the economy of Ponca City," said David Myers, executive director of the PCDA. "At a time when the global economy is both expanding and contracting, we are seeing scientists, technicians and technical specialists move into town – all with good salaries, all with good education – and that's making a big difference with respect to our community."

The UML made more than \$2.3 million in revenue for FY08. In FY09, the UML expects that total to increase to more than \$4 million. By 2012, the UML is projected to make more than \$20 million a year.

For Ponca City, Myers said that translates into more than \$233,000 in annual sales taxes and more than \$6.6 million in annual retail purchases.

Myers believes the UML will ultimately help shape Oklahoma's future. "It's really attracting a lot of attention to the state that we didn't used to get," Myers said. "We've got researchers, principal investigators, etc. looking at Oklahoma as a place where they can come and push the boundaries of their field while at the same time earning competitive compensation and enjoying a lifestyle few thought really existed."

The checks were the third installment of a combined \$4 million committed to OSU by the organizations in 2006. Part of ConocoPhillips commitment includes the donation of the UML's current 70,000 square-foot headquarters in Ponca City.



## OSU-Tulsa partners with ENERGY STAR with commitment to energy efficiency

OSU-Tulsa has been named an ENERGY STAR partner for its efforts to protect the environment and cut utility costs through energy efficient practices.



ENERGY STAR, a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, is a dynamic government/industry partnership that offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions.

"Our goal is to minimize OSU-Tulsa's impact on precious energy resources, as well as reduce energy-related expenses that could be redirected toward our educational and research initiatives," said OSU President Gary Trennepohl. "We've made great strides in the last year and will work hard to continue those efforts."

In its first seven months of 2008, OSU-Tulsa saved \$144,295, representing a 22.8 percent savings in energy costs. OSU has saved more than \$2.2 million across its five campuses during the same time period.

OSU began the energy conservation effort last year under the direction of Energy Education, Inc., an energy conservation company founded by OSU alumnus William S. Spears. The national company specializes in people-oriented energy conservation services and has helped more than 950 clients save more than \$1.6 billion in 23 years.

# OSU student attends historic Presidential inauguration

The United States swore in its new president Jan. 20, and one fortunate OSU student witnessed the historic event in person. Journalism Senior Alex Elliott attended the inauguration of Barack Obama thanks to Rep. Frank Lucas.

Elliott, an avid Obama supporter, said the experience was absolutely amazing.

"I have never seen or felt anything like it; it is really hard to put into words," Elliott said.

Tickets to the inauguration were hard to get, as state legislatures only had so many to give to constituents. "Rep. Lucas had ten requests for every ticket that he had available," Elliott said.

"I first thought that I might have a ticket the Sunday before Christmas," Elliott said, "I was telling my mom how Bruce Springsteen was going to be playing at the inauguration and she had this big grin on her face."

Elliott received his ticket from Rep. Lucas as a result of a chance luncheon seating arrangement which placed David Bosserman, OSU vice president for administration and finance, next to Rep. Lucas. Bosserman asked Rep. Lucas if he knew of any way to get one ticket for a student (Elliott) who he said was more excited about this election than anyone he had ever known. Rep. Lucas said he would try. He not only tried but succeeded.



"When I found out that I was going to get to go my heart stopped," Elliott said.

Bosserman had Elliott in mind for the ticket the whole time. "He told me the story of how he had gone to see Kennedy's inauguration, and how being able to give me the chance to go would be his chance to pass on the torch," Elliott said.

Bosserman said, "I probably wasn't as excited as Alex but I could hardly contain myself to be a part of making his dream come true. This country needs young people to get excited about public service and our government. Alex will fill that role and I know he represented OSU and Oklahoma with pride and dignity."

When **Ankit Bhatia** recently graduated from OSU-IT with an Associate in Applied Science in electrical and electronics technology and a bachelor of technology in instrumentation engineering technology, Chevron flew in a team of executives from Texas to welcome their newest employee as soon as he walked off the stage. Bhatia, a Kanpur, India, native, moved to Oklahoma a year ago, after finding out about OSU-IT from a search on Google.

OSU-OKC Fire Protection and Safety Technology graduate **Ian Wolfe** has been employed by Oklahoma County as a safety coordinator and graduate **Casey McKinney** has been employed by Accord Human Resources as a safety and loss control specialist. Both positions have traditionally been held by candidates with bachelor degrees, but the OSU-OKC FPST associate degree program is becoming well-known for the excellent preparation given to its safety, environmental and fire protection students.

**Gwen Jankowski,**

**D.V.M. 2008,** has been selected for the Chicago Zoo and Aquatic Animal Residency, a prestigious residency approved by the American College of Zoological Medicine and supervised

by two of its Diplomates. She currently serves as the Louisiana State University of Veterinary Medicine bird, Zoo and Exotic Animal intern in Baton Rouge.



## IMSA officers elected

The International and Multicultural Student Association recently elected officers for the academic year 2008-09 at OSU Institute of Technology. The purpose of the organization is to enhance and embrace multiculturalism on the OSUIT campus and the surrounding community.

This is one of the globalization initiatives being implemented on all OSU System campuses, says Dr. Thomas Kipkurgat. "The goal is to prepare all students to live and work across cultural barriers."

Officers are Junior Orlando Henry, Jamaica, president; Manu Manohar, India, vice president; Dorothy Mwakina, Kenya, secretary; Sadhana Thapa, Nepal, communications; Jodie Lewis, Bahamas, historian; Brittanie Riley, U.S., treasurer; and club representatives Pedro Moreno, U.S. – Mexico, Gideon Esomonu, Nigeria, and Rodney D. Chaney, Jr., U.S.-China.

**Front row from left: Dorothy Mwakina, Jodie Lewis, Sadhana Thapa and Brittanie Riley. Back row from left: Junior Orlando Henry, Pedro Moreno, Manu Manohar, and Rodney D. Chaney, Jr.**



**Rachel Cameron** of Kingfisher won the OSU-OKC Enrollment Sweepstakes drawing, which provides up to 12 hours of free tuition this semester. She will graduate in May with an A.A.S. degree in health administration and a B.S. degree in nursing from the University of Oklahoma. Already a registered nurse, she also plans to pursue a family nurse practitioner master's degree. She hopes to open a state-of-the-art wellness center for holistic healing in Kingfisher some day.



**Jerry Brooks, OSU-OKC's Finance and Operation's vice president congratulates Rachel Cameron on receiving the OSU-OKC Enrollment Sweepstakes scholarship tuition waiver.**

The **Salvation Army's annual Motorcycle Toy Run** on Dec. 7 brought more than 1,000 bikers from across the state to **OSU-Tulsa**, where riders and spectators collected holiday toys for area children.

**OSU-IT students Mandi Clapp of Okemah, Jennifer Wynne of Lawton, Jami Chaffin of Weleetka and T.J. Stryker of McAlester, go over financial aid forms with scholarship coordinator Angela Leal, far right, as they plan for an "Afternoon with Pete" event on Feb. 8. OSU mascot Pistol Pete will welcome high school seniors, their parents and prospective students.**



## Nash wins Rotary Scholarship

Kelly Nash, an animal science and Spanish junior from Oklahoma City, has received the Cultural Ambassadorial Scholarship for six months to study at a foreign university.

She will use the \$15,000 scholarship, funded by Rotary Club 29 in Oklahoma City, to pay for tuition, travel expenses and room and board.

Nash has chosen to do her studies in Argentina, where she hopes to work on her Spanish language skills. The scholarship requires students to do volunteer work and Nash plans to devote her time with Argentineans on either literacy programs or voter initiative.

"I'm trying so hard to become fluent in Spanish," Nash said. "I'd like to eventually work as a humanitarian in the education field on an international scale, so going to Argentina and being immersed in a different language and culture will be a great way for me to gain the skills that I will need for my future."

Paulette Woods, District Ambassadorial Scholarship chair, said that Nash was chosen for the scholarship because she is an outstanding student and exceptional communicator.

"Kelly holds a deep conviction and compassion for the need of the people of a third world country," Woods said. "Her attitude is positive and she seems to find solutions to problems. She displayed maturity beyond her years and demonstrated enthusiasm and a caring attitude. Together, Kelly and Rotary can impact the world."



## OSU senior goes bowling

OSU advertising senior Cassidy Denton won the City of Stillwater's Count Stillwater logo and design competition. Her entry was chosen from 90 submissions, and had the slogan "It's OK to be a number" and a design featuring a pair of orange dice. She was awarded two OSU Holiday Bowl tickets and round trip airfare to San Diego. The competition was sponsored by Stillwater National Bank and was geared towards increasing awareness and participation in Stillwater's 2010 census. Denton was presented the tickets by OSU President Burns Hargis at the Stillwater Chamber of Commerce headquarters. With Hargis and Denton are Stillwater Mayor Roger McMillan, far left, and Kevin Fowler, far right, of the Stillwater National Bank.

# Steward receives Carter Academic Service Entrepreneur Award

Cory Steward of Tulsa is one of the 2008 recipients of the Carter Academic Service Entrepreneur Award, sponsored by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and administered by the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Partnership Foundation.

This award recognizes the best volunteer work of university students, faculty and staff as they partner with community groups and community agencies. The Carter Foundation selected Oklahoma Campus Compact to present the \$1,000 grants based on the organization's reputation for outreach and student, faculty, and community participation.

Steward's proposal focused on hunger. In collaboration with the Central Oklahoma Community Action Agency, he will work to increase the quantity of food and to extend the length of time that the regional food bank can distribute food to individuals and families in the area. Working with local businesses and the university community, he will spread awareness and work for more efficient food collection methods. The grant will be used primarily for food purchases and some advertising.

The winning applications indicate the most innovative and promising use of the grant to establish or significantly deepen a partnership between the student, his or her school, and a community non-profit organization. These three community agencies will each receive a \$1,000 check to fund the student's proposal, the student will receive a certificate signed by Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter recognizing his/her participation in the project. The projects will begin during the 2009 spring semester and must be finished by the end of the semester.

The Carter Foundation and the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education commend the students for their work. If the students' schedules permit, the check and certificate will be presented at the Feb. 12 State Regents' meeting in Oklahoma City.



**Students of Westwood Elementary School display some of the 13 cartons of educational supplies donated by OSU-OKC employees recently. OSU-OKC has been in partnership with Westwood for several years in projects to benefit their students and encourage their education. Academic Affairs administrative assistant Janet Stricklin coordinates the partnership projects.**



**Gary A. Thompson, professor and head of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology,** has been accepted into the prestigious Food Systems Leadership Institute.



FSLI is dedicated to advancing and strengthening food systems by imparting new leaders with the skills and knowledge necessary to invent and reinvent the food systems of the future. The program is part of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, with funding support provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Additional funding for Thompson's participation was made possible by the division and OSU.

"It's a significant honor to be accepted into the national institute, which helps participants prepare for important responsibilities and upper-level leadership roles in food systems programs and organizations," said Robert E. Whitson, dean and director of the division and OSU vice president of agricultural programs.

FSLI scholars participate in a rigorous two-year leadership development experience that focuses on personal leadership skills, leadership for organizational change and broadening food systems perspectives.

The **OSU-IT Faculty Staff Council** sponsored a food drive among employees and students and gathered more than 350 food items to donate to the Okmulgee County Homeless Shelter and the Okmulgee County Family Resource Center during the holidays.

**Michael Davis, physiological sciences professor,** is garnering attention for his research on Alaskan sled-dogs. They are among nature's finest athletes, and also may be key in finding ways to prevent and treat obesity and type-2 diabetes. "The dogs could help solve diseases in humans," said Davis, who left on his annual research trip to the Alaskan tundra, where races such as the Iditarod and Yukon Quest are held.

**Robert Fulton, veterinary pathobiology professor**, received a \$193,789 grant from Pfizer Animal Health to fund his project “Bovine Coronavirus in Respiratory Disease: Methods of Study, Pathogenesis and Development of Challenge Model for Efficacy Studies.”

**Janelle Ballard**, lead animal technician for Lab Animal Resources, recently passed her



Laboratory Animal Technologist Certification. Authorized by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, certification signifies that applicants have met specific education and work experience requirements. Ballard earned a B.S. degree in animal science from OSU and has worked for Lab Animal Resources for more than 10 years.

**Dianne McFarlane** has received an \$111,930 grant from Elanco Animal Health. She is seeking horses afflicted with Equine Cushing’s Disease also known as Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction (ECD/PPID) to participate in the research study. OSU is recruiting cases of ECD/PPID to document the efficacy and safety of pergolide in support of FDA approval. An FDA approved pergolide product for horses afflicted with ECD will assure the access to and the uniformity and quality of a pergolide therapy for horses in the United States.



**Scott Newman, chair of the OSU-IT Information Technologies Division**, was named a Premier 100 IT Leader for 2009 by Computerworld Leadership to recognize the nation’s most innovative information technology executives.

**Ellen Stockton (top) and Michelle Trudell** received OSU Pride Works! Awards at the OSU Center for Health Sciences. The program acknowledges employees who exhibit OSU Pride as demonstrated through customer service, in working with teammates, and personal conduct.



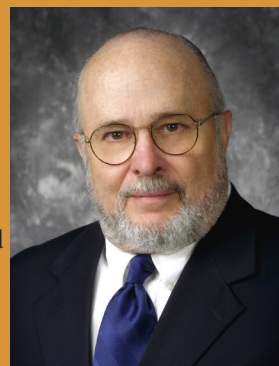
The annual OSU-OKC Cowboy Kids Christmas gift drive provided 72 children with three gifts each, totaling more than \$3,000, according to Karen Kruse, director of the The Learning Center and coordinator of the project.

**Jeff Cathey**, senior director of development for the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences, announced that the Small Animal Critical Care Unit renovation in the Teaching Hospital is the benefactor of a family foundation challenge. The Stewart Family Foundation in Tulsa challenged the Merkel Family Foundation, also in Tulsa, to match the Stewart’s \$5,000 gift to the SACCU project, and they did.

**Christina M. Barnaby, Kevin L. Holmes**, and **Denise F. Ware** at the OSU Center for Health Sciences have earned designations as certified fraud examiners by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

**Damon Smith and Eric Rebek**, assistant professors of entomology and plant pathology, and **Mike Schnelle**, Extension floriculture specialist, received the Blue Ribbon Public Award from the Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Science for their publication “Managing Storm-Damaged Trees EPP-7323.”

**R. Tom Glass, D.D.S., Ph.D.**, is among Dentistry Today magazine’s Top Clinicians in Clinical Education for the third consecutive year. Forensic dentistry, oral health/appliances and systemic diseases are among his education topics.



**Emily Cheng**, counselor and adviser to Students with Disabilities in Student Services, and **Mari Buckley**, Human Services ITP secretary, received the OSU-OKC Distinguished Staff Awards for 2008-09. They were selected from nominations provided by students, staff and faculty.

**James Cross**, OSU-OKC Fire Protection and Safety Technology associate professor, is now a Certified Fire Protection Specialist. CFPS is a credential administered by the National Fire Protection Association and the American National Standards Institute. He is also a Certified Safety Professional, a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager and a Registered Environmental Manager.

**Daniel D. Claborn, information technologies**, received the 2008 Oklahoma State University/A&M Regents Distinguished Teaching Award for OSU Institute of Technology. An OSU-IT employee for 27 years, Claborn teaches courses in software development and employment readiness, and is the Information Technologies Division’s internship coordinator.



# OSU Deans take to the skies

Peter M.A. Sherwood and Thomas A. Wikle recently had the opportunity to be strapped into military fighter planes at Vance Air Force Base. Traditionally, they are used to provide rewards to military personnel for outstanding service or to familiarize those who have aviation-related responsibilities with the Air Force aircrafts.

Sherwood, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at OSU, and Wikle, the college's associate dean for academic programs, each took to the skies on Nov. 24 in a T-38 Talon. The T-38 is used to prepare pilots for front-line fighter and bomber aircrafts.

"After our cadets are commissioned here at OSU, Vance is often the next step for many of them," said Col. Kevin Kriner, commander of Air Force ROTC Detach-

ment 670 at OSU. "The goal in planning this trip for Deans Sherwood and Wikle was to offer them a new perspective of ROTC and Air Force training."

Before Sherwood and Wikle were eligible to fly they had to pass a physical from the flight surgeon's office and complete physiological training to prepare for experiencing G-forces.

The one-hour flight took the OSU officials to about 20,000 feet over western Oklahoma in a pair of two-seater aircrafts, which took off and landed together. Both Sherwood and Wikle took turns at the wheel guided respectively by Capt. Chris "Canoe" Kanewski and Capt. Jonathan "Jersey" Burd.



Shown after flights at Vance Air Force Base are, from left, Peter M.A. Sherwood, OSU College of Arts and Sciences dean; Col. Chris Nowland, 71st Flying Training Wing commander; Col. Kevin Kriner, OSU Air Force ROTC Detachment 670 commander; and Thomas A. Wikle, college associate dean for academic programs.

## OSU donations capture Bedlam Canned Food Drive title



Students Maisha Cazenave, Esmeralda Lopez and Roland Williams organized OSU-Tulsa's donations for the Bedlam Canned Food Drive.

For the second consecutive year, OSU was victorious in the record-breaking Bedlam Canned Food Drive benefitting the Community Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma.

OSU Cowboy fans scored the most points by donating 7,065 pounds of food items, while Sooner fans collected 6,615 pounds.

The drive was sponsored by the Tulsa Chapter of the OSU Alumni Association, the OU Club of Tulsa and Arvest Bank.

## Grant received for screenings

For the second consecutive year OSU Medicine's Department of Surgery has received a grant to provide free colorectal cancer screening to qualifying individuals in Oklahoma. The program is a collaborative effort between the OSU Center for Health Sciences and the Oklahoma State Department of Health.

## OSU band hits high note

The following letter was sent to Mike Holder, OSU vice president for athletics, by a California resident staying in San Diego during last month's Holiday Bowl.

December 31, 2008  
Dear Mr. Holder,

We live in Huntington Beach, California. My husband and I were lucky enough to book a one night stay at the Omni Hotel in San Diego, California on December 29. As you know, the OSU band was staying at the hotel.

Both my husband and I could not help but notice how well-mannered, well-behaved, respectful, friendly and polite the OSU kids were. As the parents of 20- and 24-year-old sons, we remarked many times how pleasant the entire group was. We toured the Gas Lamp district of downtown and saw only exemplary behavior on the part of the OSU people, both students and their supporters. To a person, the OSU folks were a class act.

When we were leaving the hotel, so was the OSU group. As you know, trying to get an elevator when there are hundreds of people leaving at the same time is relatively problematic. After waiting for 20 minutes, seeing countless elevators crammed with OSU students, we decided to go one at a time to the lobby. I jumped into a very crowded elevator, packed with OSU band members. We joked and laughed all the way to the ground floor where the male students around me said "Go ahead, Ma'am" and let me off first. When my husband reached the lobby, we again remarked how nice the kids were. We were overheard by a man who works for NBC Sports, who said that these were the nicest kids he'd ever seen, and that it is usually impossible to sleep when large student groups are in a hotel because of the partying and carrying on.

They are a credit to the University, the State of Oklahoma, but most of all to their parents and mentors. You can be justifiably very proud of them.

Sincerely,  
Zona Cranmer

