

January 8

Father of modern environmental movement to speak at OSU

Oklahoma State University will welcome one of the most distinguished scientists in the world, Edward O. Wilson, on Thursday, Jan. 18. at 7 p.m. in Click Alumni Hall in Stillwater. Wilson, considered the originator of one of the world's most important social, political and scientific movements, will speak about proper stewardship of the earth's biodiversity. "Each year OSU is fortunate to have the opportunity to hear experts from across a variety of disciplines," said OSU System CEO and President David Schmidly. "I am particularly excited about hearing Dr. Wilson speak and giving our students, faculty and the entire state the opportunity to hear someone considered one of the most influential Americans of our time." Pellegrino University Research Professor Emeritus at Harvard University, Wilson is a two-time Pulitzer prize-winner for his books *The Diversity of Life* and *The Future of Life*. His latest work, "Creation" offers hope for saving the planet through the union of religion and science.

Foundation to fund students' proposals for local improvements

Congratulations to Oklahoma State University students Fatima Pina from Jordan and Andrew Hawkins from Mountain View. The Carter Foundation has selected their separate project proposals for funding at two local non-profit organizations in Stillwater. Each agency will receive \$1,000. The Stillwater Senior Center will receive funding for Pina's project to upgrade nutritional and personal health support. Hawkins' project will provide financial education materials for clients at Mission of Hope Homeless Shelter as well as middle school and high school students in Stillwater. State Regents for Higher Education say the Carter Foundation was impressed with the quality of the proposals from Pina and Hawkins.

U.S. State Department honors alum for Baghdad accomplishments

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security and the U.S. Department of State have selected OSU alum Roger Scott Owens as the 2006 Department of State Employee of the Year following an array of accomplishments during a one-year tour in Baghdad. Owens (engineering '99) earned the honor after leading a major upgrade of the emergency address system at the Palace compound in Baghdad, planned and installed a complete security system for a new compound within the dangerous Green Zone, upgraded security at four Regional Embassy Offices, and planned and set up a classified project that provided improved protection for high-level information. Owens, a security engineering officer in the Engineering Service Center at the American Embassy in Bangkok, was also recognized for his personal bravery while under fire in Baghdad. He received a \$10,000 cash award and a certificate presented by the Secretary of State.

Oklahoma City alum wins OSU Library's highest award

Claud Kniffin of Oklahoma City recently received the thirteenth annual Edna Mae Phelps Award, the highest honor presented by the Friends of the OSU Library. A valuable and contributing member of the Friends Board, Kniffin attends every meeting and provided for the long-term success of the University through a generous planned gift that will benefit both the Library and the College of Education. A staunch advocate for the best educational support for OSU students, Kniffin has been a member of the Friends of the OSU Library Board of Directors since 1998. However, his connection with the library actually began 70 years ago when he accepted a student position there working in the Reserves Room as a freshman in 1936. For more information on the award and how to nominate someone go to www.library.okstate.edu/friends/profiles/phelps.htm or call (405) 744-7331.

OSU center hosts open house this week

The OSU Center for Innovation and Economic Development, Inc. invites you to an open house Wednesday, Jan. 10, 3 - 5 p.m., at 505 South Main Street in Stillwater. The event is open to Oklahoma State University faculty, staff, and students as well as members of the Stillwater community. This is an opportunity to become familiar with CIED and see its new facilities while enjoying refreshments. The center serves OSU's commitment to economic development by sharing university "know how" (research), building entrepreneurial strengths (instruction), and participating in regional strategic alliances (outreach) that create jobs and wealth for the citizens of Oklahoma. If you have any questions, phone (405) 744-2325 or visit the center's website at www.cied.okstate.edu.

St. Petersburg Russian Ballet coming

The St. Petersburg Ballet will present a celebration of traditional Russian ballet with a number of classical works by composers such as Tchaikovsky, Berlioz and Verdi at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 16, in the Seretean Center Concert Hall. For tickets to this OSU Allied Arts presentation, phone (405) 744-7400. For additional information, phone (405) 744-7509.

OSU health care survey still available for your input

There is still time to participate in the brief health care survey for all benefits eligible employees. The survey will be used as part of the effort to better control health care costs and improve wellness on campus. The Flexible Compensation Benefits Committee is trying to assess the coverage status of dependents and possible reasons for "no coverage." The survey also is asking some general questions that will assist in make decisions for progress. Click here to enter the Health Insurance Survey <<https://sharepoint.ad.okstate.edu/HR/default.aspx>> . A link to the survey is also available on the Human Resources home page (http://www.okstate.edu/osu_per/). You will be required to use your O-Key login user name and password to access the survey. However, your identity is not tracked within the system. The survey will be electronically tabulated with no reference back to individual employees. Remember to "Save and Close" prior to leaving the survey so your answers will be counted.

Scholarship application deadline moved up

The deadline for submitting the 2007-08 OSU Scholarship Application for Continuing and Readmitted Undergraduates has been moved ahead to Feb. 1. The application is available online only at www.okstate.edu/finaid <<http://www.okstate.edu/finaid>> . There is no paper application. It takes only a few seconds to apply. Only the student's name and ID number are necessary, nothing else is required. Continuing OSU undergraduate students and readmitted OSU undergraduate students should apply. Some awards are based primarily on academic excellence, while others are based on a combination of demonstrated financial need and academic excellence. Students who plan to demonstrate financial need are encouraged to complete the 2007-08 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students selected for an award will be notified by the end of March. For more information, contact the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at (405) 744-6604.

New shuttle stop added at OSU-Tulsa

Starting today, OSU's Big Orange Bus will pick-up and drop-off riders at a new shuttle stop in the east parking lot at OSU-Tulsa. In hopes of enhancing safety and reducing traffic congestion, BOB will stop directly across from the east entrance to Main Hall. The new permanent shuttle stop location should also provide more parking for riders. OSU provides nine round trips daily between Tulsa and Stillwater, creating more course options for students by making it more convenient to enroll in classes on either or both campuses. More than 65,000 passengers rode the shuttle last year. Shuttle reservations will still be made in Tulsa at the Information Center at (918) 594-8332 or in Stillwater at the Shuttle Office in 202A Student Union at (405) 744-7100. Visit www.okstate.edu.

osu-tulsa.okstate.edu/current/shuttle.asp for a complete shuttle schedule.

Partnership to help diabetics

A partnership between the Creek Nation and OSU-Okmulgee is making it easier for diabetic tribal members to get the treatment, care and customized help they need to deal with the results of diabetes. The partnership will get help from a new Orthotics and Prosthetics Technician Program that OSU-Okmulgee launched last summer to provide students with multiple skill sets, including technician skills, fitting skills, and pedorthic fabrication skills. Graduates of this new program will find jobs in three categories: as a technician, fitter or pedorthist. Click here <http://www.osu-okmulgee.edu/news_and_events/view_news.php?news_id=341> to read more or go to www.osu-okmulgee.edu .

Next up on Wellness Wednesday - Exercise 101: Creating a plan and sticking to it

Join the staff of the Seretean Wellness Center as they discuss creating a basic exercise plan and strategies for sticking to it during the Wellness Wednesday presentation Jan. 17 from noon to 1 p.m. in the Seretean Center Wellness Center. Topics that will be addressed include building a successful exercise program, how to make exercise a habit, and the benefits of exercise, and the services available to you through the center. A free, heart-healthy lunch will be provided, but you must pre-register by Friday, Jan. 12, at noon. To register, email Kendria Cost at kendria.cost@okstate.edu or contact the Seretean Wellness Center at 744.WELL.

O-Zone Fitness Center offers new “Friends and Family” rate

The Seretean Wellness Center has developed a new “friends and family” rate at the O-Zone Fitness Center. Two people, related or not, can join the fitness center for a total cost of \$29.91 per month, or \$14.96 per person per month. This fee includes use of all fitness facilities, including group exercise classes, cardio equipment, and weights. Methods of payment include cash,