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This page, published each week on the back page of the Daily O'Collegian, is but one source of OSU System news from the OSU Communications office.

OSU announces enrollment numbers

Oklahoma State University 2006-07 enrollment numbers includes a freshman class with the highest ever average ACT score. Of this year's freshman, nearly a fourth were ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class and about half in the top 25 percent. The class of 2010 has an average ACT score of 24.7. In addition, for the second year the number of National Merit Scholars increased with a total of 21.

System wide enrollment was down just one percent at 32,402. OSU-Tulsa and the Stillwater campuses combined have a total enrollment of 23,307.

When it comes to graduating students, OSU's six-year graduation rate is now at an all-time high of 59.8 percent.

By the numbers

Stillwater/Tulsa	23,307
Health Sciences	611
OKC	5,704
Okmulgee	2,780
Total	32,402



The following projects are currently in stages of architectural programming. The dates are projected groundbreaking and completion:

Multimodal Facility (Jan 07 - June 08)

Donald W. Reynolds Architecture Bldg. (Aug 07 - Dec 08)

Science & Technology Research Center (Oct 07 - May 09)

Classroom Bldg. (July 07 - Feb 09)

Old Central (Oct 07 - Nov 08)

Murray Renovation (July 07 - April 08)

OADDL (June 07 - Dec 08)

Vet-Med Academic Center (June 07 - July 08)

A three-dimensional computer rendering by School of Architecture students depicts the "East Commons," a concept for development of community space surrounding Chi-O Clock.

As campus projects move forward, OSU eyes future

The greatest capital improvement undertaking in Oklahoma State University's history will move forward dramatically in 2007 when ground is broken on seven major construction projects to enhance teaching and research on the Stillwater campus.

Those projects are part of more than the \$825 million in construction in the five- to seven-year master plan that will transform the OSU campus and enhance academics, student life, athletics and infrastructure.

While OSU is moving forward to begin construction on those initial projects, Joe Weaver, associate vice president and chief budget planning officer, is leading the effort to look even further into the future and determine what OSU will look like in 20 years and beyond. With help from the School of Architecture, Weaver and others have been gaining input from the campus to develop a long-term vision for OSU.

"Based on what we learned there is a need for an additional 1.5 million square feet of building space," Weaver said. "We were able to gain that space by locating buildings within the academic core of campus between Knoblock and Monroe while preserving green spaces and enhancing the quadrangle layout and architectural style set forth in the Bennett plan."

Weaver continued, "Not only did we make the space summaries and projections work, we showed the concepts to the deans, and they loved them."

Subsequently, the scope of the assessment was expanded to student services/residential life, the student union, parking and transit, areas west of Monroe and non-athletic sites north of Hall of Fame. With the increased scope, architecture faculty members Suzanne Bilbeisi, Moh Bilbeisi and Nigel Jones joined the planning group.

"We spent the rest of the summer talking to other people on campus," Weaver said. "We looked for a viable plan for parking and transit - where can we build garages and can we afford them? Where do we have real estate to work with and how best can we use it?"

Fifth-year students in the School of Architecture also made contributions to expanding the planning process. In the urban issues studio

taught by Suzanne Bilbeisi and Jeanne Homer, 26 students spent the first three weeks of the semester producing architectural materials as part of a case study of the 20-year campus master plan.

The study includes a historical examination of campus master plans and construction from 1895 to date as well as analysis of existing conditions, strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Divided into three teams, the students constructed models for display in Whitehurst and the Physical Plant Administration building and generated three-dimensional computer renderings, information and images that will be developed into packages for prospective donors as well as a set of design standards for professionals contracted to work on major construction projects.

The students' work explores in detail the potential enhancement or creation of community spaces by new construction on campus, including new commons areas and redevelopment of the International Mall, academic and research quads and campus-wide improvements in art, landscaping and parking.

"The most beneficial aspect for the students was being able to analyze the campus utilizing proven methods of urban analytical techniques, as well as see firsthand how personalities, politics and economics influence architecture," Suzanne Bilbeisi said. "And they worked their tails off to get it all done in three weeks."

The students' models, illustrations and spatial explorations will be on display in the School of Architecture gallery as Weaver convenes campus meetings in the coming months to gather input and feedback on the concepts.

"You should be able to stand in the midst of any quadrangle and know you're at OSU, and the campus master plan should advance that sense of place with guidelines for the design and location of buildings," Weaver said. "We're going to go out to the campus, talk about these big issues and ask 'Are we sticking to the guiding principles we outlined in the beginning? Are there any issues we've overlooked?'"

"If they suggest something logical and practical that should be part of the concept, let's make sure it's in there," he said. "We're in a process of developing a long-term vision and really just getting started."



Gill to retire

OSU Alumni Association President and CEO Jerry Gill has announced he will retire July 1, 2007. Gill has headed the alumni organization for more than 22 years and worked for OSU more than 34 years.

Experience the GAME!

Count Down 'til Game Time Events

10 a.m. - Watch the giant GoVision live on north side of stadium

12 p.m. - "Made in Oklahoma" vendors open on the south side of Boone Pickens Stadium and east side of the Athletics Center

2:30 p.m. - Watch the college football game voted by OSU fans at www.okstate.com on GoVision live on north side of stadium

3p.m. - Pistol Pete Partners - Will Call gazebo opens on south side of Boone Pickens Stadium

3 p.m. - Music from the Jason Savory Band, live from Bennett Hall

3:45 p.m. - Witness "The Walk" from the Student Union to the Stadium

4:30 p.m. - Cowboy Sports Network Broadcast live from the OK State Corral

4:30 p.m. - Cheer and Pom Pep Rally at Bennett Hall

5:40 p.m. - Head inside the stadium for the Cowboy Shootout, Pistol Pete and the Band pre-game show

6:05 p.m. - Kickoff for the Cowboys vs. Owls

Students, faculty experience the future of higher education

Laptops, Internet communications and visual media are replacing the rows of desks for students and a lectern for the instructor, changing the definition of a classroom. Uniting the high tech tools of today's classrooms and the potential for peer teaching and learning, OSU's Institute for Technology and Learning Excellence is allowing students and faculty to experience the potential future of higher education.

Classrooms within the ITLE feature round tables and Bluetooth wireless technology, allowing students to engage in group activity without time restrictions. Simultaneously, instructors using the classrooms are trying out new ways of teaching.

"It's all based on the idea that instead of pouring the information into a student's head, we, as facilitators, guide them to it," said Alan Cheville, associate professor of electrical engineering. "This allows students to seek their own knowledge, and research indicates this makes retention more effective."

Plans for the classrooms began in the late 90s with a grant from the National Science Foundation. The ITLE has been working since to provide technologically facilitated instruction and professional development opportunities for faculty, such as workshops for technology implementation. The institute also serves as a place for collaborative learning research.

As part of the institute's advancement, a system called VBrick was installed this summer at OSU branch sites to allow multimedia to be stored on Web-based databases, permitting faculty and students Internet access to

course-related multimedia.

"This was an important step in moving OSU into the next phase of becoming a high tech learning environment," said OSU Provost and Senior Vice President Marlene Strathe. "Web-based databases are much faster and more efficient than traditional uploading systems."

The ITLE is housed in the OSU Telecommunications building. Additional modern classrooms on campus are planned with the renovation of Murray Hall and construction of the new classroom building at Hall of Fame and Monroe.



Displaced Anger

Islamic fanaticism did not exist prior to the establishment of Israel, says Raymond Habiby, and has flourished since.



Countin' Critters

Zoology students help determine potential for new hunting seasons in Oklahoma.



'Dump the Pump' Week, Sept. 18 - 23

No need to cruise for a parking spot. Forego the drive to campus.

