

OKLAHOMA STATE
Portraits

Celebrating the Centennial
of Oklahoma Statehood

A great holiday gift

Available at the Student
Union Bookstore or order
online at okstate.edu

Pick one up today!

NASA powwow returns to campus

OSU's Native American Student Association will hold its annual powwow Saturday, Oct. 27 from 1 – 11 p.m. in the Colvin Center annex on the Stillwater campus.

The event, free and open to the public, will include traditional American Indian dancing, drumming and other cultural activities. An authentic American Indian dinner will be provided.

NASA faculty adviser Robin Williams expects as many as 600 people will attend the traditional festival, significantly higher than the attendance of previous powwows.

Prizes will be awarded to the top child, adult and senior dancers. An open drum contest also will be held.

In addition to the free performances and food, American Indian art and memorabilia will be on display and available for purchase from Native artisans.

For more information, visit the OSU Native American Student Association's website at <http://www.orgs.okstate.edu/nasa/default.htm>.

OSU donors set new giving record

The generous support of alumni and friends has made the past year another outstanding fundraising year for the OSU Foundation with gifts totaling more than \$85 million. Fundraising efforts were punctuated by several record-breaking totals secured in the areas of planned giving, endowments and annual giving, with more than \$349,000 secured for the general scholarship fund.

"The success of OSU's fundraising demonstrates how far our university has come over the years and means great promise for the years ahead," said interim OSU System CEO and President Marlene Strathe. "This promise is ensured by the many OSU supporters who have demonstrated forethought and commitment to sustain the university's progress well into the future.

"We applaud and thank all of our many supporters, and I congratulate our entire foundation staff on a job well done," she said.

The foundation secured more than \$54.6 million in planned giving commitments, more than triple the largest amount OSU has ever received within one year. Annual giving totals also eclipsed \$1 million for the first time in the organization's history and grew by 51 percent from last year.

Of the \$85 million raised in the last year, \$14.4 million was designated for endowments that will provide permanent support to the university. OSU's endowment has doubled in the last three years and is now valued at more than \$300 million.

"At a time when state appropriations account for a smaller and smaller portion of OSU's budget and tuition and fees continue to rise, private support provides the margin needed to support our students, faculty and programs," said Kirk Jewell, OSU Foundation president and CEO.

OSU Foundation officials attribute the continued success to the increased commitment from alumni and friends of the university in the areas of planned giving as well as to a donor-centric fundraising strategy that includes initiatives from the university's academic leaders.

Niblack Scholars announced



OSU undergraduate students selected for the 2007-2008 Niblack Research Scholars Program are (front, L-R) Takahiro Nago, Heather Schemet, Jessica Abbey, Tripti Shrivastava, Matt Atkins, Brian Herrin and (back row) Justin R. Alexander, Chris Hoover, Marla Carrick, Will Woods and Braxton Nottingham. Not pictured is Edward Manda. Seeking to foster interest in scholarly research within the science disciplines at OSU, the program pairs undergraduates and graduate students who work under the guidance of a faculty adviser. It was funded by OSU alumnus John Niblack, retired vice chairman of Pfizer Inc. and president of Global Research and Development at Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.

OSU-Okmulgee program lands national diversity honor

The Information Technologies division at OSU-Okmulgee is one of three programs in the nation selected to receive the ABET President's Award for Diversity.

ABET is the premier accreditation agency that provides leadership and quality assurance in applied science, computing, engineering and technology education. OSU-Okmulgee's Information Assurance and Forensics program is accredited by ABET.

The 2007 President's Award for Diversity recognizes extraordinary success in achieving or facilitating diversity and inclusiveness in the technological segments of society. A letter from ABET President William S. Clark to OSU-Okmulgee President Bob Klabenes read, "We



Left to right: Amir Radmard from Oklahoma City, IT Instructor Sunita Rajanala, Kate Dowell from Tulsa and Waldemar Robledo from Lawton.

are honored to acknowledge your commitment and contribution to the diversity goals of the nation's higher education community."

Klabenes will accept the award later this month at the ABET Commission Summit in Lake Tahoe, Nev.

"OSU is committed to preparing students to think and act in ways that will embrace and promote a more inclusive society," said interim OSU System CEO and President Marlene Strathe. "This is a shining example of that mission in a critical area of study and President Klabenes, Scott Newman and others are to be commended for this outstanding honor."

In keeping with its diversity and inclusiveness focus, OSU-Okmulgee offers IT classes at Rose State College in Midwest City, at OSU-Tulsa, on its own campus in Okmulgee and over the Internet.

"When ABET visited our campus and talked with our students, the one factor that impressed them most was that our students refer to themselves as 'we,'" said Scott Newman, Information Technologies division chair. "Our students pride themselves on being part of something bigger than themselves."

OSU-Okmulgee's IT Division offers a four-semester Associate in Science in Information Technologies, a five-semester Associate in Applied Science in Information Technologies and a three-year Bachelor of Technology in Information Assurance and Forensics.



Heroic Play

OSU senior cornerback Martel Van Zant is one of four athletes whose stories will be highlighted during the nationally televised, "The United States Marine Corps Presents: The 2007 ARETE Honors for Courage in Sports." The one-hour special airs Sunday, Oct. 28 at 4 p.m. on CBS. Van Zant's story will be narrated by Oscar-nominated actor Michael Clarke Duncan. The ARETE Honors for Courage in Sports recognizes athletes who have overcome challenges and adversity and achieved greatness in their sport. Van Zant is the only collegiate athlete among the 2007 recipients who were chosen from more than 300 nominations from 500 clubs, schools, sports teams and organizations around the world.

Academics at a glance. . .



Theatre department, Arts and Sciences

Offers Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in theatre, and a master's degree in theatre • 7 faculty and approximately 63 undergraduate and 9 graduate students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Judith Cronk, MFA (2007) • Oscar-nominated actor Gary Busey is an alumnus of the department.



Horticulture and Landscape Architecture department, Agriculture

Offers bachelor's degrees in horticulture, landscape architecture, landscape contracting, public horticulture and turf management; master's degrees in horticulture; and Ph.D. degrees in crop science with specializations in horticulture and environmental science, plant science and food science multidisciplinary programs • 18 faculty and approximately 191 undergraduate and 4 graduate students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. Dale Maronek (1989) • Students and faculty in the department developed the landscaping master plan for the Stillwater campus in 2002.



Political Science department, Arts and Sciences

Offers bachelor's degrees in political science, and master's degrees in political science and fire and emergency management administration • 18 faculty and approximately 229 undergraduate and 70 graduate students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. James Scott (2006) • Political science student Matt Stiner in 2007 became OSU's latest Truman Scholar, and the 10th from OSU in the past 12 years.



School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Engineering

Offers bachelor's degrees in civil and environmental engineering, and master's and Ph.D. degrees in civil engineering with specializations in construction, environmental/water resources, geotechnical, structural/mechanics and transportation • 17 faculty and approximately 173 undergraduate and 55 graduate students • DEPARTMENT HEAD: Dr. John Veenstra (2006) • The department leads OSU's participation in the Oklahoma Transportation Center, an initiative that since 2001 has secured more than \$27 million in federal transportation research funding for the state.