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# Message from the President

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September 18, 2006

To the OSU Campus,

One of Oklahoma State University's strengths is its powerful state-wide reach through extension offices in every county and our five campuses. I want to share with you some of the highlights from our other campuses.

Our College of Osteopathic Medicine at the OSU Center for Health Sciences in Tulsa is ranked among the best in the nation by U.S. News & World Report and recently wowed Gov. Brad Henry and State Treasurer Scott Meacham, who visited the campus at the invitation of students.

Acknowledging the crucial role the school plays in improving the health of Oklahomans, Gov. Henry called the students the best of the best and encouraged them to stay in the state to practice. The Governor and Meacham were presented medical white coats and a doctor's bag filled with OSU memorabilia.

The mission of our medical school is to train and educate primary care physicians for rural and underserved Oklahoma. The school is looking to increase faculty and student enrollment, which will boost its impact on the health and economy of Oklahoma. The Governor and State Treasurer left their visit totally impressed with the quality and impact of our medical school.

On Wednesday of this week our world-renowned watchmaking program at OSU-Okmulgee will be in the spotlight when members of the Swiss watch industry visit our Okmulgee campus to renew their financial commitment to our school with the announcement of a major gift.

Our watchmaking program started in 1946 to assist World War II veterans re-entering the workforce and today is one of only five in the U.S. and 14 worldwide to partner with the Swiss watch industry. Graduates from a Swiss watch partner program join the ranks of the top craftsmen in the world.

The OSU Board of Regents on Friday approved the first four-year degree at OSU-Oklahoma City – a bachelor of technology in emergency responder administration, which will equip students with the skills to coordinate and respond to a natural or man-made crisis. This is an exciting step for OSU-OKC. The degree, which now goes to the state regents for approval, will be the first in Oklahoma and one of only a handful in the nation.

Construction continues at OSU-Tulsa on the Helmerich Advanced Technology Research Center, which will open next year and launch a significant new chapter in the history of the school. The center will allow us to attract faculty to focus on four areas critical to Tulsa and our region – materials science and engineering, bio-based technologies, energy technologies, and information and control technologies...

One final thought, OSU is blessed with students who have a deep and broad range of talents and we heard that loud and clear when the Burnin' Black Gospel Choir provided entertainment at a dinner prior to Friday's Board of Regents meeting on our campus...

I hope you have a great week.

David Schmidly