

To the OSU Campus,

I look forward to talking with students this week during a town hall meeting at the Student Union Little Theatre. The meeting is presented by the Student Government Association and my office.

The town hall is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday and will allow me to provide a brief update on the latest OSU news. Primarily though, I want to hear from students and discuss the issues important to you. I hope as many of you as possible can attend...

I want to take this opportunity to commend the OSU Student Government Association, which plays an important role on our campus. President Claire Carter, Vice President Matt Carter, Senate Chair Andrew Mathiasen and other student leaders are doing an excellent job this year.

The SGA will showcase our campus Nov. 16-19 when it hosts the annual Big 12 student government conference. This is a huge undertaking and I hope our entire campus will extend a friendly OSU welcome to our visitors. My thanks to the many students who commit their time and effort to student government...

Oklahoma State University is in the midst of historic change and growth and I am thrilled anytime I can tell our story. Today, I will be meeting with editors and writers at the Chronicle of Higher Education to brief them on all the exciting things happening at OSU.

The Chronicle is the leading national publication for higher education and we will be updating them on our unprecedented campus expansion plans, commitment to our land-grant mission, and varied research achievements. We also plan to demonstrate how OSU is working hard to be accountable to parents and others through our online academic ledger, which provides extensive performance data. This is a significant opportunity to take the OSU message to an important audience...

The OSU Center for Health Sciences took a major step in its growth last week when Tulsa Regional Medical Center became Oklahoma State University Medical Center, which is now the official primary teaching hospital for our medical school.

The OSU Medical Center is the largest osteopathic teaching center in the country, training 126 residents each year in primary care and sub-specialty areas. The hospital and the OSU medical school have trained more than 2,000 physicians, many of them practicing in rural Oklahoma. Congratulations to CHS President John Fernandes and his entire team...

Recent computer security lapses that have occurred elsewhere serve as serious reminders that security of data is vital to the successful operation of our university and the privacy of our students, faculty and staff.

Each of us must remain mindful of what is stored on our devices, making data security a top priority. If you are using laptops, thumb drives, CDs, or other tools, please secure the data by requiring user authentication and encryption. If you need assistance, please call your local IT support personnel or the IT Helpdesk...

Finally, we are planning an exciting announcement this afternoon that once again demonstrates the enormous generosity of Boone Pickens, who is giving \$425,000 to help create a preschool for special needs children. Thanks to Mr. Pickens' gift, the Mya Gonzales Foundation, in cooperation with the OSU College of Human Environmental Sciences, will launch The RISE School of Stillwater. Mya is the 1-year-old daughter of Jimmy Gonzales, director of OSU football operations...

Have a great week and be sure to vote Tuesday.

David Schmidly