

November 27, 2006

To the OSU Campus,

OSU's compassion for its own was on full display last week as an off-campus apartment fire spoiled the Thanksgiving holiday for more than 20 of our students. I was extremely proud of Lee Bird and her student affairs team as they responded quickly to care for those devastated by the fire.

We are thankful no one was injured in the blaze and we owe Stillwater emergency responders a huge thank you for their heroic work.

Students continue to deal with the aftermath of the fire and we can all help. In addition to words of encouragement and acts of kindness, Campus Life is working the American Red Cross to accept cash donations and gift cards from local merchants. Please drop off donations anytime this week at the Campus Life information desk, 060 Student Union. You can call 744-5488 for more information...

I hope as many faculty members as possible can attend the General Faculty Meeting 3 p.m. Tuesday at the Student Union Little Theater. I look forward to the opportunity to discuss our accomplishments for the fall semester, share my thoughts about the future, and answer questions...

The OSU Center for Executive and Professional Development in the William S. Spears School of Business has been serving Oklahoma through teaching and outreach for more than 50 years. Today the center annually offers about 200 executive and professional development programs to more than 14,500 individuals.

One of the center's highlights each year is its speaker series that brings some of the nation's biggest headliners to Tulsa and Oklahoma City. This year's series kicks off Dec. 5 in Oklahoma City with celebrated writer Malcolm Gladwell, who has a gift for making research understandable and valuable for business.

NBC's Tim Russert, AT&T Chairman and CEO Edward Whitacre, Jr., and Shell Oil President John Hofmeister round out the lineup. For the full schedule and more about the Center for Executive and Professional Development, go to www.cepd.okstate.edu <<http://www.cepd.okstate.edu/>> ...

While we did not get the Bedlam outcome we wanted Saturday, I was never prouder of our football team and our fans. The game could have gone either way. Mike Gundy's team made significant strides this year and it appears almost certain we will be rewarded with a bowl game. We should know our destination after this weekend's games...

David Schmidly