



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

A report to the OSU/A&M Regents from the Office of the OSU System CEO and President.

September 2006



Message from David J. Schmidly

The new school year is off to an exciting start and I am pleased to share some of the latest news and successes at Oklahoma State University through this new, expanded version of *Accomplishments*.

We have welcomed the Class of 2010 with its 3,236 students from around the world. Of our new freshmen, nearly a quarter were ranked in the Top 10 percent of their high school graduating classes and almost half were in the top 25 percent. A total of 480 new freshmen come to us with 4.0 GPAs. Many of these students are residing in our residential learning communities where they have mentors and can learn and share with peers pursuing similar areas of study.

Our new freshman class boasts an ACT average of 24.7, an all-time high and an increase for the fourth consecutive year. Eleven percent, or 359 of our new freshman class, will be participating in the OSU Honors College. Our National Merit Scholars increased for the second year to 21. We look forward to what this strong class will accomplish at OSU and beyond.

Enrollment for our Stillwater and Tulsa campuses is 23,307, down less than a percent from last year. System-wide enrollment is down 1 percent at 32,402, with OSU-Okmulgee and OSU Center for Health Sciences experiencing slight gains. Freshman enrollment is down a bit due to increased admission standards and a drop in Oklahoma high school graduates, a trend expected to continue in the state for the next five years.

We are making sustained headway toward our strategic plan goal of elevating the value of an Oklahoma State University education and we are implementing a number of recruitment and retention efforts that I am confident will help us grow enrollment. For instance, we are working hard to attract students from beyond our state borders through recruiting offices in Dallas and Houston and other initiatives.

With domestic minority and international students accounting for nearly a third of our student body, OSU offers a wide range of views and cultures. I am pleased that we continue to increase our ethnically diverse domestic student body. Some of the highlights: freshman African-American enrollment on our Stillwater campus is up 16.5 percent, and system-wide, Hispanic enrollment increased 8.2 percent and the number of Asian-American students jumped 7.3

percent. At this time, there are 1,725 total international students at OSU representing 113 countries. While international student enrollment has declined because of high numbers of students graduating, an increase of 90 new international students indicates recovery in this area.

I am pleased to report that our 6-year graduation rate, the accepted higher education measuring stick, is at an all-time high of 59.8 percent.

OSU students are blessed to learn from a strong, dedicated faculty and I want to offer a special welcome to more than 100 new professors who have joined our team. We have made a determined effort to diversify our faculty and saw solid progress this year. A third of our new hires are minority. We appreciate all the hard work and commitment of our entire faculty and look forward to another great academic year.

Finally, I believe the historic opening of the OSU liaison offices in Puebla, Mexico, last week will lead to life-changing opportunities for students, as well as economic benefits for both our countries. I am confident that we have the partners and the commitment to succeed. Beyond the obvious benefits for those in international studies, this partnership will open doors for students in business, engineering, architecture, hotel and restaurant management, and many other disciplines.

The other benefit of this union is the opportunity for business exchanges as the Hispanic population grows in our country and our state, and the economy becomes even more global. The potential extends across the OSU System. Our technical training in the auto industry at OSU-Okmulgee and our technical Spanish translation and interpretation program at OSU-Oklahoma City are just two examples. America has a special relationship with Mexico that will only grow in significance in the years ahead. This forward-looking partnership with two outstanding Mexico universities will serve our school and Oklahoma well.

The following pages offer just a glimpse of what is happening as we start the fall semester. Enjoy!



OSU System CEO and President David Schmidly, left, joined with leaders of UDLA and UPAEP at a media conference to announce the opening of the OSU Mexican liaison offices in Puebla, Mexico. A large contingent of media turned out for the event held Sept. 7.

OSU Opens Mexican Liaison Office in Puebla

In an effort to expand learning and student exchange between Oklahoma and Mexico, Oklahoma State University has joined with two major Mexico universities to open liaison offices in Puebla.

The Universidad de las Americas and the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla are partnering with OSU to launch the OSU Mexico Liaison Office. OSU hosted a reception Sept. 7 in Puebla to celebrate the opening of the office.

“It is our hope this office will not only help in the recruitment of students to Oklahoma and OSU but also develop and support expanded cultural and business exchanges between Mexico, the OSU System and the state of Oklahoma,” said David J. Schmidly, OSU System CEO and President.

The office is the brainchild of Schmidly, who has done extensive research in Mexico. In fact, a species of deer mouse - the *Peromyscus schmidlyi* that is found in the pine oak forests of the Sierra Madre Occidental Mountains in west central Mexico - was named after the OSU president.

“Mexico is a special place and it is important for OSU to have a presence there,” Schmidly said. “We are excited about this opportunity to partner with our neighbors to facilitate and expand ongoing relationships, as well as develop new programs, partnerships and exchanges between OSU and Mexico.”

The Universidad de las Americas and the Universidad Popular Autonoma del Estado de Puebla will each provide office space and extensive administrative support for the offices, which will be run by Jose Sagarnaga, who earned a master’s of science in international studies at OSU.

In addition to the reception to recognize the opening of the offices, Schmidly and other OSU officials participated in a full day of activities on Sept. 7: ribbon cutting ceremonies at the OSU liaison office on both university campuses, a news conference with nearly 30 members of the media, a special ceremony where Schmidly became only the fourth person to be named professor emeritus at UPAEP, and a fund-raising presentation and discussion at UDLA.

“We are very proud of our association with OSU,” said Pedro Angel Palou, UDLA president. “The presence of the OSU office on the campus of the University of the Americas Puebla is a symbol of our joint commitment to strengthening cooperation among our institutions. There is a lot to gain from Dr. Schmidly’s initiative to bring OSU closer to our part of the world.”

The OSU-UPAEP alliance, initiated in 2002, has already rendered excellent results such as academic exchanges, a business incubator and the creation of 19 dual master’s degree programs.

OSU Awarded \$34 Million DoD Manuals Contract

OSU has again won a contract through competitive procurement to produce conventional weapons effects manuals for the Department of Defense, a contract it has held since 1967.

Potentially valued at \$34 million over five years, the contract continues funding for operations at the OSU Field Offices at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

For nearly 40 years, OSU has served as production contractor for the DoD’s Joint Technical Coordinating Group for Munitions Effectiveness and provided research and analysis in the preparation of the Joint Munitions Effectiveness Manuals. Bound in OSU orange at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma and known throughout the military simply as “the orange books,” the manuals have been used by American forces in every conflict since the Vietnam War. The manuals are now highly interactive systems on CD-ROM.

“The character of OSU has always been very supportive of the Department of Defense and its many agencies, and we have had many contracts through them over the years,” said Dr. Karl Reid, College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology dean. “The renewal of this contract is a major acknowledgement of OSU’s meaningful contribution to the nation’s defense.”

Universities Receive NTU Designation

OSU, the University of Oklahoma and Langston University announced at the state Capitol a partnership and congressional designation as a national university for transportation-related research and technology development. The effort to obtain the designation was led by Sen. Jim Inhofe and Oklahoma congressional members, who presented Gov. Brad Henry with a plaque from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Founded in 2001, the Oklahoma Transportation Center is one of only 10 in the nation to be designated as a National University Transportation Center. The focus of the center, whose executive director is Neal McCaleb, will be on innovative transportation systems and research.



Dr. Donna Branson

Branson to Receive Homeland Security Award Sept. 21

Dr. Donna Branson, director of the Institute of Protective Apparel Research and Development and OSU Regents Professor, will receive the Homeland Security Award from the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation on Sept. 21 in Washington, D.C.

The award honors individuals or companies that make measurable and constructive contributions in the area of homeland security that will result in a significant and positive benefit to society.

Branson, an internationally recognized apparel researcher and educator on protective apparel for military and emergency responders, was nominated for her research and leadership in the development of a lightweight armored suit to save lives by protecting soldiers against flying shrapnel.

She has conducted functional apparel research at the U.S. Army Research and Development Center in Massachusetts concerning nuclear, chemical and biological protective clothing and led an industry/academic team of researchers that developed a personal portable cooling system for emergency responders.

Currently, Branson and OSU colleagues are working with scientists from FS Technology, LLC and Navy and Army Research Laboratories to develop body armor for the U.S. Marines and Army.

Branson and co-authors have secured more than \$7 million in research grants and contracts, published more than 40 scholarly research papers and given more than 80 research presentations at national and international conferences.

Foundation Reports Record-Breaking Year

OSU Foundation officials reported Sept. 1 a record-breaking \$104.7 million received in private gifts for the fiscal year ending June 30, which included gifts from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation and Walter and Peggy Helmerich. The foundation also achieved a 21.7 percent total return on its pooled investment fund.

This is the first time the foundation has raised more than \$100 million in gifts in a single year. The university has set two consecutive years of record-setting support, topping the \$56 million raised in FY05, up from \$36.8 million in FY04. The more than \$160 million raised in the last two years exceeds the total raised during the four years prior to FY05.

“Eclipsing \$100 million in private gifts is a tremendous milestone,” said Ken Greiner, OSU Foundation chair. “Our success is a testament to the immense loyalty and dedication of our alumni and friends who have responded to our call in making the OSU experience accessible to the best and brightest young people.”

In addition to the foundation’s record fundraising, the university, through its athletic foundation, received a \$165 million gift from alumnus and philanthropist Boone Pickens, the largest single donation for athletics to an institution of higher education and the largest gift received in OSU’s history.

“These are exciting times at OSU,” said Joe D. Hall, chair of the OSU/A&M Board of Regents. “The OSU Foundation

is doing an outstanding job raising record amounts of money to support OSU’s academic, research and athletic initiatives. We appreciate the leadership of President Schmidly and Kirk Jewell, president and CEO of the OSU Foundation.”

Two CEAT Graduates Honored by White House

Two College of Engineering, Architecture and Technology alumni were among 56 engineers and scientists honored by President Bush at a White House ceremony this summer with Presidential Early Career Awards, the government’s highest honor for America’s top up-and-coming scientists and engineers.

Receiving the honor were Dr. Jim Smay, ’96 mechanical engineering, now an OSU chemical engineering assistant professor, and Randy Bartels, ’97 electrical engineering, now an electrical engineering assistant professor at Colorado State University.

Awardees were selected from the 350-400 assistant professors who received National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Program grants in the same year as their nomination for the award.

“To have two of our graduates be among 56 scientists and engineers recognized this year by the federal government as the nation’s top young researchers is a major achievement and tremendous source of pride for our entire college,” said Dr. Karl Reid, CEAT dean.



Gov. Brad Henry, second from left, recently joined OSU faculty and administrators to honor members of his cabinet and state agency leaders who completed a customized executive management program presented jointly by OSU and the University of Oklahoma. From the left are Dr. Lee Manzer, marketing professor; Henry; Dr. Ken Eastman, head, Management Department; OSU-Tulsa Vice President for Academic Affairs Raj Basu; OSU Systems CEO and President David Schmidly; and OSU Spears School of Business Dean Sara Freedman.

Tierney Awarded Prestigious Cooke Foundation Scholarship

A May OSU-Tulsa graduate, Adrienne Tierney of Jenks, is the first OSU student to win one of the most prestigious and competitive graduate scholarships in the nation, a Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship worth as much as \$50,000 a year for as long as six years.

Tierney received an A.A. degree from Tulsa Community College and her B.S. degree in liberal studies from OSU. She plans to study fine arts and fiction writing at Sarah Lawrence College in New York.

She is one of 77 recipients from among 1,100 applicants representing 33 states and nine nations. She is the only student from Oklahoma to be honored this year.

“Adrienne’s significant achievement is representative of the high level of scholars that OSU attracts,” said OSU System CEO and President David J. Schmidly. “We are extremely proud that OSU students continue to exhibit their talents and leadership through academic excellence.”

OSU-Tulsa President Gary Trennepohl said the award demonstrates the high-quality academic experience that OSU students receive in Tulsa.

“Adrienne joins a select group of students in her accomplishment, including scholars from Stanford, Pepperdine, Columbia and Princeton,” he said. “Adrienne’s award reflects on her consid-

erable talents and hard work as well as OSU’s dedicated faculty.”



Adrienne Tierney

American Indians Excel In Ph.D. Psychology Enrichment Program

In 2006, the American Indians Into Psychology program at Oklahoma State University completed its ninth summer enrichment program.

As of August 2006, 70 percent of the students in the 1998 inaugural class have received Ph.D.’s in psychology.

Of the 100 plus undergraduate students who participated in the summer enrichment program over the past nine years, 40 percent have been accepted into graduate programs across the country. The national rejection rate in graduate programs for all applicants is approximately 90 percent.



American Indians Into Psychology Program

Norma DeVault, Tulsa nutritional sciences graduate student, will have a poster, “It’s All About Kids: Preventing Overweight in Elementary School Children in Tulsa, Oklahoma,” at the American Dietetic Association Food and Nutrition Conference and Expo in Hawaii this month.

Isaac Washam, Stillwater music performance junior, won the International Trombone Society’s Classical Trombone Competition in Birmingham, England. He won a new custom-made bass trombone as part of his prize.

OSU-Okmulgee’s Eighth Annual **Collision Endowment Golf Tournament**, “Fairways for Education,” is set for Sept. 20 at Owasso’s Bailey Ranch Golf Club. Open to the public, each player’s contribution includes green fee, cart, lunch and donation to OSU-Okmulgee’s Collision Repair Technology Program.

For the second year in a row, an OSU student group took top programming honors

at the Association of Student Advancement Programs International Network Convention. The **OSU Student Alumni Board** won the Silver Award for its high school Leadership Conference and Legacy Day 2006, “Big Hair, Guitars and Leadership.”

Barry Howard, Tulsa MBA student, has been offered an international, one-year internship at TRICO, a Warsaw, Poland, investment banking firm. The internship was the idea of the International Young Presidents Organization and was arranged through the OSU-Tulsa president’s office and Paul Cornell, deputy CEO of Spirit Bank and an OSU alum.

Jeffrey Missal and **Robert Gorbet**, 2006 music graduates, have been admitted to the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. Stillwater native Missal plays trumpet while Gorbet, from Pryor, plays bass trombone. Juilliard is the nation’s top school for the performing arts, and admission is highly competitive.

The American Dietetic Association Foundation presented **April M. Canaday** of Tulsa, May nutritional sciences graduate, with the Oklahoma Dietetic Association President’s Scholarship. She currently is an intern at New York-Presbyterian Hospital in New York City.

Approximately **100 reading tutors** and **40 math tutors** from the Randall and Carol White Reading and Math Center in the College of Education are providing after-school tutoring for Stillwater elementary and middle school students this fall. The program, offered through the School of Teaching and Curriculum Leadership, serves the dual purpose of preparing OSU students to teach and helping young students with math and reading.

The Achafoa chapter of **Mortar Board** was one of 19 chapters to receive the Golden Torch Award for 2005-06 at the national conference. It is presented to chapters that go above and beyond timeliness and excellence while exemplifying the ideals

Vet Med Class Holds White Coat Ceremony

The Class of 2010 veterinary medicine students received a plain white coat symbolizing the beginning of their journey during the traditional White Coat Ceremony.

Of the 80 students, 56 are Oklahoma residents and 24 are non-residents. The class is comprised of 56 females and 24 males.



Dean Michael Lorenz shows his White Coat spirit with some of the Class of 2010 during their White Coat Ceremony.

of scholarship, leadership and service. Mortar Board is a national honor society that recognizes college seniors.

An OSU agriculture student team took first place in the AGCO National Student Design Competition in July in Portland, Ore. Students studying engineering in agricultural, food and biological systems had the chance to devise a system, component or process to meet a real need. Winning team members **Joe M. Biggerstaff** of Medford, **William R. Haar** of Elkhart, Kan., **Matt S. Kilker** of Oologah, and **Taylor F. Miller** of Chandler received a \$1,250 cash award for the national best design for their manual cattle chute. Eight other OSU students also placed in various categories.

Vignesh Rajaman, electrical engineering doctoral student from India, received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers' Electromagnetic Compatibility Society President's Memorial Award in August for a member dedicated to the field of experimental electromagnetism.



Students Ryan King, Tulsa; James Watt, Sapulpa; David Burton, Kellyville; Michael Fazi, Weleetka; and Heather Brackett, Stilwell, recently flew by corporate jet to the Chevron Mid-Continent's oil production facility in Midland, Texas. Executives and field technicians had visited the campus and were impressed with the program and wanted to help students with informed career decisions. Faculty adviser Dolph Hayden, right, accompanied the students.

Students Make Healthier Dining Choices

OSU students are using a new logo to make healthier food choices on campus.

The full-color logo is an orange with the words "choose orange" and is used on menus and menu boards throughout campus.

"We simply want to make the healthiest alternatives easy for students to identify, and that's how the new logo will be helpful," said Elizabeth Lohrman, Seretean Wellness Center registered dietitian.

Lohrman and student assistants analyzed

the recipes on the Stillwater campus to designate ones that deserve the "choose orange" logo as a healthy food option.



Dustin Colegrove, osteopathic medicine, received a Special Olympics Healthy Athletes Health Professions student grant for a symposium on improving care for the developmentally disadvantaged. It brought together experts in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities to address and discuss the needs of individuals and how physicians can better address those needs. He also received a \$500 student researcher travel grant to the inaugural Special Olympics National Games in Ames, Iowa.

The **Cowboy football team** achieved a 93 percent graduation rate this past year, ranking sixth nationally and No. 1 in the Big 12 Conference. Fourteen student-athletes out of 15 entering freshmen from 1998 have earned an undergraduate degree. This marks the highest ranking in school history for the football program. Only Boston College, Georgetown, North Carolina A&T, Stanford and Richmond were ranked ahead of OSU.

If you've been put on hold through the university phone system, you may have noticed some new voices. Journalism and broadcasting students **Katie Lamerton**, **Brandon Hart**, **Catherine Ratliff** and **Sharone Malone** recorded messages that give OSU information, history and important facts to callers. Messages are continually updated.

Deborah Carmichael, Stillwater English Ph.D. student, has edited a book published by the University of Utah Press, "The Landscape of Hollywood Westerns: Ecocriticism in an American Film Genre." OSU Regents Professor Peter Rollins wrote one of the chapters.

The OSU **Theatre Department** will be presenting "School for Wives," "The Lion in Winter," "Julius Caesar" and "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

Business Faculty Receive Poole Awards

Four William S. Spears School of Business faculty members were recognized recently with awards honoring the school's former dean, Dr. Richard W. Poole, who served from 1965-72.

The 2005-06 Richard W. Poole Research Excellence Awards were presented to outstanding faculty members who are published in top-tier research journals and who have been identified as the best in their fields. Receiving the awards were Dr. Tom J. Brown, marketing professor and Ardmore Professor of Business Administration; Dr. K. Matthew Gilley, management associate professor; and Dr. Rathindra Sarathy, management science and information systems professor and Ardmore Professor of Business Administration. The first Richard W. Poole Faculty Outreach Excellence Award went to Dr. L. Lee Manzer, marketing professor who is known for his presentations on service quality.

"The Spears School is fortunate to have outstanding faculty who contribute to both the research and outreach mission of the school," said Dr. Sara M. Freedman, dean and the Norman and Suzanne Myers Chair for Excellence in Business.

"Professors Brown, Gilley and Sarathy have demonstrated the highest level of scholarly activity in their fields. Professor Manzer has developed an exemplary record of outreach through his activities with the Spears School Center for Executive and Professional Development and his involvement with the Oklahoma business community."



The OSU Child Development Lab took part in a nationwide attempt in August to set the world record for the largest shared reading experience. Early childhood education students and faculty in the College of Human Environmental Sciences invited parents of the children at the lab to read "The Little Engine that Could" to their child.



Dr. Tammy Henderson

Henderson to Research Hurricane and Aging

Dr. Tammy Henderson, director of the Gerontology Institute in Human Development and Family Science, has teamed with Dr. Karen Roberto of Virginia Tech and Dr. Yoshinori Kamo of Louisiana State University to research the impact of Hurricane Katrina on aging families.

The team received a \$108,860 grant from Small Grants for Exploratory Research related to the hurricane and will develop a research brief for distribution to community leaders, service providers and policymakers to assist with the understanding of how disasters impact human development.

OETA, Oklahoma's Public Broadcasting television station, interviewed **Dr. Lowell Caneday**, leisure studies professor, about research on Oklahoma State Parks and his role as chair of the Board of Trustees at Quartz Mountain Arts and Conference Center and Nature Park.

Dr. Emily Lim, assistant director of telemedicine and distance learning at OSU-CHS, is one of The Journal Record's "50 Making A Difference," the state business publication's special tribute to Oklahoma's leading women.

Drs. David Yellin and Nadine Olson, teaching and curriculum leadership, will lead five elementary education majors to San Jose, Costa Rica, for their fall semester student teaching experience. The students will live with Costa Rican families and experience the Spanish language and culture.

Kelly McCormick, OSU NASA Teaching from Space Office, received the NASA Space Flight Awareness Award for initiative,

innovation and dedication to maximize the value and impact of International Space Station education downlinks for more than 30 million students and educators.

Horticulture and Landscape Architecture chose **Lynda Wells**, senior research specialist for the vegetable crops program, as the 2006 outstanding staff member.

Dr. Igor Karaca, music assistant professor, will have one of his compositions premiered at the national College Music Society annual meeting in San Antonio in September.

George Speed, music assistant professor, completed a two-week engagement with the Boston Pops Orchestra performing concerts on a tour of New England.

Dr. David Meinke, Regents Professor of Botany, was awarded a three-year \$1 million National Science Foundation grant, "Arabidopsis 2010: Saturating the Arabidopsis knockout collection with lethals."

David Robinson, OSU-OKC library services director, was invited to serve on the Library Advisory Board for the National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism.

Dr. Leah Engelhardt, associate director of professional education, has been reappointed by Gov. Brad Henry to a second term on the Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation.

The Bradford Wiley Memorial Best Paper of the Year Research Award went to **Dr. David Njite**, hotel and restaurant administration assistant professor, at the International Council on Hotel Restaurant and Institutional Education Conference.

Research of **Dr. Arpita Basu**, nutritional sciences assistant professor, reported in the European Journal of Clinical Nutrition that their research supports that the health benefits of tomatoes, particularly processed tomato products and extracts, is stronger than pure lycopene.

Oklahoma Rural Health Care Leaders Meet

The OSU Center for Rural Health at OSU Center for Health Sciences brought together more than 50 community leaders, health care providers and legislators from across the state for a first-hand look at OSU's existing and future impact on rural health care in Oklahoma.

The event marked the first meeting of the Rural Health Advisory Council, created to involve and solicit feedback from stakeholders who can influence the future of health care in rural Oklahoma.

With council input, the center will produce an annual State of the State of Rural Health report beginning in early 2007.

Lifelong Learning Center Receives Osher Grant

The Bernard Osher Foundation of California has awarded the OSU Emeriti Association's lifelong learning program a \$100,000 grant. The program's name will be the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Oklahoma State University, according to Dr. Ed Arquitt, program president and retired OSU sociology professor.

Classes, sponsored by OSU's College of Education Outreach, began as the Stillwater Academy of Lifelong Learners in 2005.

Anne Scott, OSU Alumni Association program director, has been invited to chair the Council for Advancement and Support Education International Conference on Homecomings and Reunions to be held in January in Vancouver, B.C.

The U.S. Fire Administration, under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security, awarded **Dr. Steve Edwards**, applied health and educational psychology professor, a grant to attend the National Emergency Training center in Emmitsburg, Md., in November to study fire cause determination and arson investigation.

"Charm pricing as a Signal of Listing Price Precision," a paper co-authored by **Dr. Bill Dare**, marketing associate professor, won the best paper award in the "Housing" category at the American Real Estate Society 2006 Annual Conference.

Dr. John Mowen, Regents Professor of marketing, is on the editorial board of the Journal of Marketing, the second most cited journal in the business field.



Joyce
Montgomery

Montgomery Elected Jump\$tart President

Joyce Montgomery, Service Learning Volunteer Center coordinator, site supervisor for Oklahoma Money Matters-OSU and adviser to Students In Free Enterprise, is president of Oklahoma Jump\$tart, a national grassroots coalition with a mission of educating community youth and other citizens about responsible money management, including income and savings, budgeting and banking.

Oklahoma Money Matters is an AmeriCorps educational award program sponsored through the Oklahoma Guaranteed Student Loan Program housed at the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education that helps to educate Oklahomans about money management skills and resources.

Dr. Nicholas C. Romano Jr., management science and information systems assistant professor, was named the European Journal of Information Systems associate editor.

Dr. Don Herrmann, accounting associate professor, is president of the International Accounting Section of the American Accounting Association.

Cancer Sucks, Inc., an Oklahoma nonprofit organization, donated \$2,500 to support the cancer research of **Dr. Rashmi Kaul**, OSU-CHS immunology assistant professor. The organization provides a forum for those who have lost loved ones to cancer and raises money to find a cure.

The Fall 2006 **Peanut Field Tours** continue Sept. 26 at Erick and Sept. 28 at Fort Cobb.

Dr. Amanda Morris, human development and family science associate professor at OSU-Tulsa, received a \$142,000 grant from the National Institute for Child Health and Development and the National Institutes of

Veterinarians/Extension Agents Mentor High School Students in Careers

OSU veterinarians and Extension agents have teamed up for a program to encourage high school students to explore food animal veterinary careers in rural communities where the need for their expertise continues to grow.

The top 12 high school applicants from Oklahoma rural areas spent three days in hands-on activities with veterinarians caring for food animals. The program, funded by the Center for Veterinary Health Sciences, seeks to establish a relationship between students and mentors to link students as they get their undergraduate degrees in preparation for veterinary college.

Bus Increases Ridership

Riders of The Bus increased 27.6 percent over the previous year, an increase of 243 percent over the first year of service in 2003-04, according to Hugh E. Kierig, OSU director of Parking and Transit Services. Since August 2005, the number of on- and off-campus riders has averaged 3,486 a day.

Health to study emotion regulation, social relations and children's adjustment to school.

Dr. Christine Johnson, associate dean for research and graduate studies, and **Dr. Nancy Betts**, head of nutritional sciences, are part of a two-year leadership development project through Kappa Omicron Nu honor society.

At the 67th American Convention of Meat Processors held in San Diego, **Kyle Flynn**, OSU's Food and Agricultural Products Center meat plant manager, took first prize in the 2006 Sharpest Knife Competition in which contestants had three minutes to sharpen a dulled knife. Also attending the convention was **Jacob Nelson**, FAPC value-added meat processing specialist.

Dr. Stephen Eddy, OSU-CHS family medicine associate professor, is one of 49 people selected for Leadership Tulsa.



The designation of 1600 N. Washington, the residence of Oklahoma State University presidents since 1962, as the Willham House was completed with a stone marker and sign at its entranceway. Though President Oliver S. Willham and his wife, Susan, never lived there, their personal contributions funded three-fourths of the cost. Its current residents, David and Janet Schmidly, recommended the distinction to the Regents last October.

OSU Produces Solar Arrays for Space Station

When NASA shuttle Atlantis took off on mission STS-1115 to the International Space Station, solar cells in hardware designed and manufactured by OSU students were on board, carried by astronaut and pilot Chris Ferguson.

During STS-1115, the Atlantis crew will install a city bus-sized set of solar arrays on the space station, doubling its ability to generate power from sunlight. Ferguson conceived an educational component to the mission and turned to OSU's Aero-

space Education Services Program for assistance.

From space, he will use a small OSU-designed array to conduct demonstrations for students at NASA Explorer Schools throughout the nation. Using their own arrays, students will conduct their own solar power experiments this fall.

OSU's College of Education has held NASA's contract to maintain the Aerospace Education Services Program for 40 years. In addition to support for the Explorer Schools, OSU maintains a Teaching from Space Office at the NASA Johnson Space Center.

When Ferguson approached AESP director Dr. Steve Marks for help in developing the arrays, Marks turned to the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department.

Aaron Bookout, Sand Springs mechanical engineering technology junior, and Dan Hern, Wakita aviation and space education graduate student, undertook

the project under the direction of Warren Lewis, mechanical engineering technology assistant professor, and Marks. They produced more than 200 arrays for NASA, including the one Ferguson carried in his pack.

OSU-OKC Receives Work Force Grant

OSU-OKC has received a three-year, \$300,000 per year Department of Commerce Federal Work Force Investment Act grant to establish a Business Service Team. People representing education, employment and economic development entities will work together to provide a comprehensive business solution within a local area. This is an OSU-OKC/Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board partnership with the Oklahoma Employment Securities Commission.

Celebration of Books Set for OSU-Tulsa

More than 70 writers, artists and musicians, including award-winning novelists Alexander McCall Smith and Pat Conroy, are set to participate in the Celebration of Books, Sept. 29-30, at Oklahoma State University-Tulsa, according to Teresa Miller, founder and executive director of the center. The celebration is the premier event for the university's Oklahoma Center for Poets and Writers. Tulsa area high school English teachers and librarians can apply for 100 scholarships to the celebration that are being offered by the OSU College of Education.

Alumni Center Wins Meeting Award

The ConocoPhillips OSU Alumni Center won the Silver Platter Award, which is how the Oklahoma Chapter of Meeting Professionals International designates its favorite meeting place over the past year. Open for nearly a year and located in the heart of campus, the Alumni Center has state-of-the-art technology and historical displays to complement luxurious meeting space.



Residential learning communities have seen explosive growth at OSU this semester with 19 communities established, many in the new four-story suites on the west side of campus. Every OSU college has some type of residential learning community that provides mentoring and regular interaction with peers in similar majors or in groups with a specific focus or need, such as journalism, career exploration or honors.