Native American Professor Exhibits in Italy
Sooner Salute
A & S in the Military
Message From the Dean

This summer my wife and I had an opportunity to experience firsthand the international scope of the College of Arts and Sciences. It all began with an invitation for me to be the keynote speaker at the graduation recognition ceremony at the U.S. Naval base in Naples, Italy. During the ceremony, I congratulated the 17 students receiving Master of Human Relations degrees from OU, along with the 228 other students receiving degrees from 23 different college and universities. Naples is one of 31 sites around the world where the college is providing educational opportunities for members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families through the Advanced Programs division of OU’s College of Continuing Education. There are currently 2,400 students enrolled in one of six master’s degree programs and one doctoral program. As dean, I personally have the honor of serving as director of the Interdisciplinary Master of Arts with an Emphasis in International Relations degree program, which is offered at nine sites in Western Europe and three sites in the continental United States. This has allowed me to meet and correspond with many of our 580 military students to learn directly how we live up to our commitment to provide them with the best education possible, anywhere. The fact that many of our students are deployed “downrange” and away from the bases where we teach classes has led us to rely increasingly on the Internet and independent faculty-directed learning experiences to allow these students to complete their degrees in a timely manner.

While in Italy, I also visited the U.S. Air Force Base at Aviano, north of Venice, to welcome the inaugural class of students in the International Relations program at that site. I met them at the beginning of their first class – a course in International Economics taught by Professor Alex Kondonassios, who has the distinction of being the founder of Advanced Programs. Aviano Air Base, home to the 31st Fighter Wing, is beautifully located at the base of the Dolomitic Mountains. Many of the several thousand service members and their dependents stationed in Aviano are ideal candidates for the IR degree, which seeks to provide students with a strong theoretical foundation from which to analyze and understand the international situation in which they work.

In Venice, I spent two days with Edgar Heap of Birds, internationally acclaimed artist and professor of Native American Studies, who was invited by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian to participate in the Venice Biennale international art exposition. Edgar mounted two installations honoring the American Indians who died in Europe while members of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show. We also visited a glass foundry on the island of Murano, where Edgar worked with local master glassblowers to create several original works of art. It was both exciting and moving to watch the creative process at work.

Also while in Italy we spent a day in and around the hilltop town of Orvieto, where a group of OU students led by Professor Farland Stanley of OU’s Department of Classics and Letters is excavating an important Roman archaeological site. Among their finds is a Roman bath complex with rarely found lead pipe, seen on the cover, virtually identical to the lead pipe found at the baths in Pompeii.

The rest of our time in Italy was spent with students from OU’s Journey to Italy Program, led by Kirk Duclaux, an art historian and OU faculty member living in Italy, who travels with our students to Rome, Florence and Venice teaching them firsthand about the history and cultural significance of Renaissance art. Kirk is also spearheading our cooperative venture with the Arezzo campus of the University of Sienna, located about 30 minutes from Florence, which will become the future base for OU’s academic programs in Italy. Interest in Italy has grown so rapidly at OU that we are planning to start a major in Italian language beginning in fall 2008. I have only had space here to mention the college’s international activities in Italy. I could also have described our summer Arabic language program in Jordan that is the envy of our peers, our growing number of programs in China or any of OU’s 170 exchange programs with 60 countries, but I hope I have given you a flavor of the opportunities available to OU students to learn firsthand about the world in which we live.
he crimson and cream of the University of Oklahoma’s flag fly proudly alongside the red, white and blue of Old Glory at various United States military bases around the world as students in all branches of the armed forces show up to classes held by OU professors. OU has been a part of furthering the education of our military for more than 50 years, offering many different master’s degrees at locations in western Europe, the Pacific and North America.

The College of Arts and Sciences is proud to be a part of the education of military personnel and their families. Operating through OU Outreach, part of the College of Continuing Education, A&S offers the interdisciplinary master of arts degree with an emphasis in international relations, master of arts in communication, master of arts in economics, master of human relations, master of public administration, and master of social work. OU also offers a doctoral degree in organizational leadership on bases in Europe. OU Outreach has 30 sites with more than 2,400 students enrolled worldwide. This spring, 500 new graduates joined the thousands of others who are proud to call themselves Sooners.

The strength of the programs lies in the faculty, most of whom are drawn from the Norman campus faculty. The classes are taught in several formats. One-week compressed classes are available on base and online courses are available during regular semesters. If a student is deployed for long periods of time, he or she can arrange independent directed readings with a faculty member.

The interdisciplinary master of arts degree with an emphasis in international relations was established in 1998, and classes are available through bases in 10 locations in western Europe and North America. The MAIR degree is built around an understanding of global politics, supported by perspectives from international and area studies, communication, economics, geography, history and human relations. The degree program can be designed to be relevant to a wide variety of military missions and civilian careers.

Donna Cooksey, coordinator of the international relations program, oversees more than 500 students currently working on their master’s degrees. The MAIR is available on bases in Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States and, the newest addition to the program, Italy. Cooksey says there have been more than 350 graduates of the interdisciplinary MAIR program.

Each program is designed specifically for military personnel. Participating bases have site managers, who help interested military members get admitted to the university. Valerie Peterson-Borro is a site manager at Geilenkirchen, Germany. As an employee of the university, she is responsible for recruiting students for the MAIR and MHR programs, along with many other duties. “Site managers do whatever Donna doesn’t do,” said Peterson-Borro. “I like to think of myself as an interpreter for the students. So often they are reading things from a military perspective that it helps to have me available to explain the finer points in the programs.” In addition to recruiting, Peterson-Borro holds an orientation session for new students, which introduces the OU e-mail system, library resources, textbook ordering and the MAIR Web site for any questions they may have during their time in the program. “I am sure to tell interested students that nearly 90 percent of the coursework in the program may be done on the computer.”

When professors from the university travel to teach the compressed classes on base, Peterson-Borro takes them under her wing, offering instruction on base policies and procedures, site-seeing information and facilities support. She coordinates an average of three classes per semester, with two classes during the summer. Classes must have a minimum of 12 students, and they have been known to draw up to 21 students. Students are eligible to take program-approved courses offered by OU at any participating base.

“The best part of my job is the people I encounter. The students are always so grateful for the program and the opportunities it offers, and the people on the Norman campus are always so helpful that it is a pleasure to work with them,” said Peterson-Borro.

Students have five years to complete their degree, with most taking two and a half years to graduate. Instead of writing a thesis, comprehensive exams are held, which is another advantage of the program, according to Cooksey. Even when a student is discharged from the military, he or she can still complete the program. And the program isn’t just for military personnel, says Cooksey. “Relatives of service members as well as U.S. government contractors and allied military personnel also are eligible. This includes wives, husbands and even mothers of military members.” After completing the program, students may participate in OU graduation ceremonies held in Heidelberg, Germany; Naples, Italy; and Norman, Okla.

Capt. Patrick (last name withheld for security reasons), a member of the U.S. Air Force, learned about the MAIR during a visit to the Hurlburt Education Center in Okaloosa County. “I am sure to tell interested students that nearly 90 percent of the coursework in the program may be done on the computer.”

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Twice a year, students present their comprehensive exams to OU faculty who evaluate their work. The exams are graded on a pass or fail basis, and students who do not pass must retake the exams.

In May, Leadership Scholars member Christopher Sullivan, a graduating senior majoring in Sociology-Criminology, officially joined the U.S. Air Force as an officer by taking part in a commissioning ceremony by the University of Oklahoma Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. During the ceremony, Sullivan received the Oath of Office from his mentor, Board of Visitor member U.S. Army Gen. John Long. Sullivan’s family members had the honor of pinning on Sullivan’s rank insignia, the gold bar of a second lieutenant.

While Long is a member of the U.S. Army, Sullivan wanted to make sure his mentor was part of this ceremony and made a special petition to bring about Long’s participation.

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(Continued on next page)
Scholarships Needed for Members of the Military

by Von Allen

Few outside of the military can really understand the sacrifices made by those wearing the uniform and by their families, but advancing their education should not be one of the things sacrificed. A&S Dean Paul B. Bell Jr. has announced a call for private gifts to create scholarships for the men and women around the world who serve our country, as well as their spouses, who are enrolled in the college’s degree programs offered on military bases in Europe, Asia and the continental United States.

The scholarship initiative is part of the A&S Second Century Scholarship Campaign, designed to raise more than $2.007 million by the end of 2007, Oklahoma’s centennial year.

To participate in this important scholarship campaign, you can make a tax-deductible gift to the OU Foundation. For more information on how to help, contact Von Allen, director of development, at (405) 325-3724 or vonallen@ou.edu.

Sooner Salute (continued)

“My wife and I would like to use my international relations degree and my military experiences in Special Operations to address global issues such as terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and human rights abuses in developing nations,” says Capt. John Patrick, assistant professor in the A&S Department of Political Science. “Secondly, I would like to use this degree to develop and implement techniques and procedures to assist in ‘nation building’ in a post-combat operation environment.”

“Many former military personnel have told me of their interest in ‘nation building’ and the need for qualified and well-trained individuals to maintain a proper balance between law enforcement, public administration, and security for the country.”

“I feel that this is my contribution to my country,” says Cooksey. “I always try to go the extra mile for my students.” Her dedication to the education of our military members and their families has had a great impact on her students, who routinely write to the dean with praise for her commitment to her job.

For more information on the many OU degree programs available worldwide, visit the OU Outreach Web page at www.goou.ou.edu/degrees.

Advanced Programs by the Numbers:
Graduates from Summer 2006 to Spring 2007: 497
Sites where programs are available: 31
Total enrolled students: 2,425
Largest enrollment: North American Programs: 1,190

Military bases and other sites where Advanced Programs degrees are available:

North American Programs:
- Cameron University, Lawton, Okla.
- Fort Sill, Okla.
- Hurlburt Field, Fla.
- Mt. Home AFB, Idaho
- Nellis AFB, Nev.
- Norman, Okla.
- Offutt AFB, Neb.
- Tinker AFB, Okla.
- Washington, D.C.

European Sites:
- Aviano AB, Italy
- USAG Asbach, Germany
- Gellenkirchen AB, Germany
- USAG Heidelberg, Germany
- USAG Hohenfels, Germany
- Lajes AB, the Azores
- Lakenheath RAF, U.K.
- Mildenhall RAF, U.K.
- NSA Naples, Italy
- Ramstein AB, Germany
- USNS Fota, Spain
- SHAPE, Belgium
- Spangdahlem AB, Germany
- Teubrek, Netherlands
- Rose Barracks, Vilseck, Germany
- USAG Wiesbaden, Germany

Pacific Sites:
- Anderson AFB, Guam
- Hickam AFB, Hawaii
- Kadena AB, Okinawa
- Osan AB, Korea
- USAG Yongsan, Korea
- Yokosuka NB, Japan

Donna Cooksey, left, coordinator for the MAIR program, and Valerie Peterson-Borro, site manager for Gellenkirchen, Germany, enjoy catching up during Peterson-Borro’s visit to the Norman campus over the summer.

“Thank you for your service, and God Bless America!”

Blast from the Past—

Treasured Trophy – University of Oklahoma football coach Don Orsillo, left, and Dr. Gene A. Braught, director of OU bands, seem to be having a friendly tug of war, but actually they are admiring the bell clapper, the traditional trophy awarded to the winner of the annual OU-Oklahoma State University gridiron tilt. Until 1930, when it was removed from the Stillwater campus by a group of OU students, the clapper rang the bell in Old Central Hall at OSU. Since it became the game prize in 1931, the clapper has been in the Cowboys’ possession only four times, but coach Phil Stull’s charges will be doing their best on Saturday, Dec. 3, 1965, to take the clapper home. The band directors at the two universities are charged with the care of the trophy between games.

From an A&S archive publicity photo from the 75th anniversary of the university, dated December 1965. Share your memories of the classic clapper trophy with us at www.ou.edu/cas/.
Kaleidoscope Evening Honors Alumni, Raises Money for Students

Craig Lavoie Named 2007 Carl Albert Award Recipient

German Professor Named Rothbaum Award Winner at OU
Archeological Dig in Italy Continues

Farland Stanley, professor of classics, completed his second dig in an archaeological dig in Orvieto, Italy. The archaeological project involves the excavation of an extensive villa complex only 15 minutes northwest of Orvieto in the Roman province of Umbria. Members of the archeological team spent 35 days this summer working at the dig site and visiting many sites in Italy.

The excavation has produced numerous artifacts that support the interpretation of the villa as important and significant. This summer, student archaeologists exposed new walls and found many artifacts. The artifacts included lead water pipes, a ceramic lamp, a column base, many small mosaic tesserae of unique colors, coins, numerous fragments of fresco wall painting “band” designs, a large amount of pottery sherds and roof tiles. The discovery of a large dolium or earthenware vessel was of special interest because it is of a type frequently associated with a burial or religious rite. Such a large villa suggests the need for a necropolis and the dolium may be a clue. The quality and quantity of the artifacts found hold the promise for the discovery of many more important cultural features at the site as the excavation continues over the coming years.

To learn more about the dig, visit the Center of Classical Archaeology and Civilizations Web site at www.ou.edu/cccac.

Hawkins Receives Inaugural Roberson Outstanding Senior in the Humanities Award

Emily Hawkins received the first the Rev. Dr. Henry P. Roberson Outstanding Senior in the Humanities award at the A&S Student Awards Ceremony in April. Dr. Roberson was on hand to present the award personally. Hawkins received a trophy and a check for $1,500.

While at OU, Hawkins was a member of the Honors College, the National Scholars Program, Alpha Lambda Delta, Classics and Letters Society and Classical Archaeology Society and served as the president of the World Literature Today Book Club. She received a National Merit Scholarship at OU, along with the Patti Johnson Wilson Foundation Scholarship, Heritage Scholarship, A&S Second Century Scholarship and the Neustadt Fellowship.

Hawkins graduated in May with a bachelor’s degree in letters, maintaining a 4.0 grade-point average throughout her undergraduate college career. Daughter of Roger and Amy Hawkins of Billings, Mont., Hawkins plans to attend graduate school and pursue either a master’s in public health or in dietetics.

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To learn more about the dig, visit the Center of Classical Archaeology and Civilizations Web site at www.ou.edu/cccac.

Epistemology Workshop Held in April

The Department of Philosophy held a weekend workshop titled “Why Formal Epistemology?” in April, with great success. Eight philosophers from three continents visited the Norman campus that weekend for presentations and discussions about the ways in which formal methods may contribute to epistemology.

Epistemology is the branch of philosophy that studies the nature of knowledge, in particular its foundations, scope and validity. Participants enjoyed the opportunity to talk in-depth with people on the cutting edge of research. “I want to say how spectacularly successful the workshop was. Jim [Hawthorne] and Wayne [Riggs] were fantastic hosts, the facilities were excellent and the participants are the sort that make one wish for a ‘Why Formal Epistemology?’” writes Jonathan Kvanvig, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at Baylor University. Visit the department’s Web site at www.ou.edu/phil for more upcoming events.

Rhapsode of Homer, Greek poet

Professional rhapsode Mark Minor performs Homer’s Iliad with the help of an English translator. Minor’s visit was sponsored by the Department of Classics and Letters.

Student Films Featured at Local Festival

Three A&S students recently had their films screened in the Okie Shorts screenings at the deadCENTER Film Festival, held mid-June in downtown Oklahoma City.

Cassie Ketrick, a Film and Video Studies senior, submitted her film, XX, XY, to the film selection board. “Last year, I went to the deadCENTER Festival and when they opened the festival for the 2007 entries, I thought, ‘Why not’ and went for it,” said Ketrick. “Local film festivals in Oklahoma are few and far between. When you are a filmmaker, you benefit immensely from being there with your film, so it’s important to submit your work to festivals that you can attend.”

Mark Potts, a Film and Video Studies and Journalism senior, and Cole Sefla, a Film and Video Studies senior, screened their short, For the Love of Family. “We love the deadCENTER Festival,” said Potts. “Cacky POUCH, the director of the festival, is so nice to us and even goes as far as to treat us like real filmmakers. It’s such a great environment to meet other filmmakers and get contacts.” Their company is Singletree Productions.

Singletree Productions also garnered praise for its short, Building Imagination, which was featured on mtvU’s Best Film On Campus Web site and was a finalist for the IFC Independent Spirit Award. “Building Imagination is a bit of a surprise for us. It’s received a lot of praise that we didn’t expect. We made it just for fun ‘cause we like working with the child who was in it (he was in For the Love of Family). It feels nice that a lot of people have connected with it.” To see more examples of Singletree Productions work, visit the company’s Web site at www.singletree-productions.com.
A gene chip for studying biogeochemical, ecological and environmental processes developed by an A&S researcher and colleagues is described in an article published this week in The ISME Journal, the publication of the International Society of Microbial Ecology. The GeoChip, a genomics-based tool that can detect functional genes and processes within a microbial community, was developed by Joe (Jizhong) Zhou, Presidential Professor of Botany and Microbiology and director of the Institute for Environmental Genomics at OU, with support from the U.S. Department of Energy’s Environmental Remediation Sciences and Genomics: G10 programs, Office of Biological and Environmental Research and Office of Science.

The GeoChip has many potential applications. It was successfully tested in a bioremediation field study to monitor a microbial community as it reduced uranium levels in contaminated groundwater. The results from the GeoChip showed which genes were correlated with geochemistry during the process and which populations of microbes were the most active. Bioremediation is only one of the many possible applications of the GeoChip. The authors believe that it has great potential, and should have an impact on a diversity of areas affected by microorganisms – including human health, agriculture, global climate change, environmental cleanup and restoration. The authors have applied the developed GeoChip to a variety of systems such as forest, grassland and agriculture soils, marine and river sediments, hydrothermal vent, deep marine biosphere, bioreactors, and wastewater treatments.

Little currently is known about microorganisms and how they function as a community, despite their having a direct impact on our daily lives and the planet we live on. The GeoChip should help to address this. Essentially, GeoChip consists of a collection of microscopic DNA spots on a tiny chip – each spot representing a different gene probe. The GeoChip contains more than 24,000 probes from all the known microbial genes involved in various biogeochemical, ecological and environmental processes. The probes used are highly specific and cover more than 150 functional groups of genes involved in nitrogen, carbon, sulfur[b] and phosphorus cycling, metal reduction and organic contaminant degradation. This is the most comprehensive gene chip yet developed for studying biogeochemical, ecological and environmental processes.

Rice Receives Inaugural Outstanding Senior in the Natural Sciences Award

Heather Rice was named the first recipient of the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Senior in the Natural Sciences Award. Rice received her trophy and $1,500 at the A&S Student Awards Ceremony in April. Rice is a 2007 OU graduate, earning a bachelor of science in zoology/biomedical sciences. She is the daughter of Wade and Debbie Rice of Watonga, Okla. She served as chair of the Leadership Scholars during her senior year and also was active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Society for Neuroscience, the Student Advisory Committee for Zoology and worked as an undergraduate teaching assistant for cell biology.

Following graduation, Rice plans to study neuroscience at Harvard University. See more about Rice in the LS Report, on Page 5.

Department of Botany and Microbiology Celebrates 100 Years

George Lynn Cross Hall was filled with celebrants March 31, when the Department of Botany and Microbiology commemorated 100 years at the university. Activities began at 9:30 that morning with tours of the facilities, followed by presentations by Gordon Uno, chair of the department, and faculty members and guests Marielle Hoefnagels, Phil Gibson, Ralph Tanner, Yiqi Luo, T.H. Milby, Juneann Murphy and Dwight Adams.

Following the presentations, guests enjoyed a reception and faculty roast. For more information or to contribute to the Centennial Fund, contact Gordon Uno at guno@ou.edu or visit the department’s Web site at www.ou.edu/cas/botany-micro.
The Department of Health and Exercise Science continues to expand, adding five new faculty members to its ranks. Four of the new faculty – Joel Cramer, Jeff Stout, Chad Kerksick and Travis Beck – will contribute to the Exercise Physiology program, and Danielle Brittain will support the Health Promotion program.

In addition to adding new faculty, the department has expanded its doctoral program, which now has 22 candidates from the United States, Norway, Turkey, England and South Korea. Starting this fall, Michael G. Bemben, C.B. Hudson Presidential Professor, has taken over the reins from Laurette Taylor as director of the program.

To learn more about the programs and activities of the department, visit the Web site at http://hes.ou.edu/.

Van Fleet Named President of ALISE

Connie Van Fleet, professor of Library and Information Studies, is serving as the president of the Association for Library and Information Science Education for the 2007-08 academic year.

The association was established in 1915 and promotes research that informs the scholarship of teaching and learning for library and information science, enabling members to integrate research into teaching and learning.

Van Fleet joined the faculty at the university in 2000. Since coming to the university, she has been recognized with many awards, including Mentor at the Leadership Gold Institute for the Oklahoma Library Association; the Award for Teaching Excellence in Library and Information Science, given by the Association for Library and Information Science Education; and the 2001 Outstanding Alumna Award at Louisiana State University School of Library and Information Science.
Ewing Fellows Enjoy Washington, D.C.

The 2007 Cortez A.M. Ewing Fellows began their time in Washington, D.C., late May. Skip Stephens and Peter Robertson, former members of the program, hosted a welcome reception for the students in June, with other former fellows invited.

The Ewing Fellowship was established in 1971 to honor Cortez A.M. Ewing, a professor of political science at OU from 1928 to 1962. Four to six Ewing Fellows are selected by the Department of Political Science each year to receive a $4,000 grant for living and travel expenses while they work for federal agencies.

This year’s students are Elsie Ureta, working with Congressman Tom Cole; Kallie Cope, working with Congressman Dan Boren; Kayla Downing, with Congressman Frank Lucas; Kian Ball, with Congresswoman Mary Fallin; and Tara Tannehill, with Congressman John Sullivan.

The application deadline is Dec. 3. For more information, log on to www.ou.edu/cas/psc/ewingfellowship/home.htm.

Kahn Named A&S Outstanding Senior in the Social Sciences

Adeel Kahn, son of Azhar and Khishla Khan of Edmond, Okla., became the first recipient of the A&S Outstanding Senior in the Social Sciences Award. Kahn was recognized at the A&S Student Awards Ceremony held in April. He received a trophy and a check for $1,500. He will be attending the University of Michigan Medical School in the fall, pursuing his M.D./Ph.D.

Darryl McCullough, professor of mathematics, wrote in his nomination letter, “Wherever Adeel’s career leads him after graduation, he will be a fine representative of our mathematics program, our college and our university.”

Native American Studies Professor Exhibits Art in Venice

This summer, visitors to the waterways of Venice enjoyed a series of signs erected by artist Edgar Heap of Birds, member of the faculty in Native American Studies. The signs, titled “Most Serene Republics,” were part of the 2007 Venice Biennale and were sponsored by the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian.

The biennial is an international art exhibit that was founded in 1895. It features avant-garde art, promotes new artistic trends and organizes international events in the contemporary arts in accordance with a multidisciplinary model.

The first installation of Heap of Birds’ work, located in the Royal Gardens, consisted of eight text panels examining elements of Venetian history. The second installation of 16 panels was located along the Viale Garibaldi and paid homage to the Native actors and warriors who traveled to Venice and other European cities as part of the Wild West shows in the 1880s. Many of them suffered and perished through illness, mistreatment or accidental death as a result of the European encounters and are still buried around Venice.

The exhibition was on view through Sept. 30. Heap of Birds’ work is featured on NMAI’s Web site at www.nmai.si.edu/.
1940s —
Robert Weg谱写。 ’48 BA 
Sociology. Served for 38 years as a 
teacher for the deaf and hard of 
hearing in the Jersey City Public 
Schools. He also served for 
15 years as a reference librarian 
in the Newark (N.J.) Public 
Library. He currently resides in 
Jersey City, N.J.

1950s —
Frank A. Iddings, ’56 MS 
Chemistry. ’59 Ph.D. Chemistry, is 
professor emeritus at Louisiana 
State University and recently 
presented the keynote address at 
the annual meeting of the 
American Society for 
Nondestructive Testing in Houston. 
His presentation was part of the 
Lester Honor Lecture Award, which 
he received. Iddings also is 
known for his monthly column in 
Materials Evaluation magazine and 
currently is teaching a freshman 
chemistry class at Palo Alto 
College in San Antonio, Texas.

1960s —
Bill Galvaní。 ’69 BA History, serves 
as the director of the Naval 
Undersea Museum in Washington. 
He received the Bob Morrissey 
Life-time Achievement Award from 
the Kitsap Peninsula Visitor 
and Convention Bureau in Washington 
State in February 2007.

Molly Levito Griffith。 ’60 BA 
Speech and English, is a writer liv-
ing in Oklahoma. Her newest book, 
Paradise on the Prairie, received 
the Oklahoma Centennial Seal of 
Approval from the Oklahoma 
Centennial Commission. This is 
her eighth book.

John B. O’Hara。 ’60 MA Speech 
Communication, ’62 Ph.D. Speech 
Communication, retired from the 
University of Central Florida, 
where he served as dean of the 
College of Extended Studies and 
on the faculty in the School of 
Communication. He serves as 
president at the National Preaching 
Academy, which he helped organ-
ize. NPA provides training opportu-
nities for Protestant preaching min-
isters to increase the clarity and 
persuasive power of their procla-
mination.

Duane W. Roller。 ’63 BA Letters, ’66 MA Latin, has been named to 
the Karl-Franzens Distinguished Chair of Cultural Studies at the 
University of Graz, Austria, as a 
Fulbright position for the 2007-08 
academic year. Roller is a professor of 
Greek and Latin at Ohio State University.

Gerry O. Wood。 ’65 BS 
Chemistry, owner of Gerry O. 
Wood Consulting Co., received 
the Edward J. Baier Technical 
Achievement Award from the 
American Industrial Hygiene 
Association at its annual 
conference in Chicago last 
summer. The award honors an 
individual who has made the 
most significant contribution to 
industrial hygiene in recent years. 
Wood received the award for his 
work in developing a mathemati-
cal model to help protect workers 
from inhaling hazardous organic 
vapors. He served for 35 years as 
a research chemist at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

1970s —
Bradley E. Cantrell。 ’79 BA Law 
Enforcement Administration, 
retired from the U.S. Marine Corp 
as a lieutenant colonel with more 
than 27 years of service. He 
served as a designated aviator with nearly 
3,000 flight hours in the A-6E 
Intruder and F/A-18D Hornet and 
served in a variety of leadership 
positions, staff billets and complet-
ed seven overseas deployments to 
include two combat tours. Cantrell 
and his family have returned to 
Oklahoma and are living in Broken 
Arrow, where he divides his time 
between volunteer activities and 
enjoying the outdoors. “It’s great 
to be back home close to family and 
old friends.”

Jacci Clark Gantz。 ’70 BA English, 
is a teacher for Edmond Public 
Schools and recently became a 
national board certified teacher; 
one of the first 10 Master Teachers of 
Secondary English in Oklahoma.

Vicki ImMasche Robertson。 ’70 
BS Mathematics, was selected as 
State Trial Judge of the Year by the 
Oklahoma Chapter of American 
Board of Trial Advocates. Robertson is a district 
judge for Oklahoma County.

Peter Anthony Sangirardi。 ’79 BA 
Business Education, is head base-
ball coach at Bixby High School in 
Oklahoma and was inducted into the 
Oklahoma Baseball Coaches 
Hall of Fame this year.

Diane J. Willis。 ’70 Ph.D. 
Psychology, is professor emeritus of 
pediatrics at OU Health 
Sciences Center and recently was 
elected president of the American 
Orthopsychiatric Association. She 
also serves as a board member on 
the Committee on Rural Health 
and the American Psychological 
Association.

1980s —
William S. Goldman。 ’82 BA 
Psychology/Pre-Med, is a board cer-
tified physician specializing in foot 
and ankle surgery and has opened 
new offices in Greenville, Texas; 
Paris, Texas; and Hugo, Okla.

Cathie Stanford。 ’82 MSW, 
delivered the Dallas area from the 
McCormick School of Business at 
University of Texas-Austin. She 
is now an assistant dean of 
undergraduate education at 
University of Texas-Dallas.

Chris Barnes。 ’97 MPA, works for 
the U.S. Department of State and is 
traveling in Russia to serve as a 
diplomat in Yekaterinburg.

Connie S. Cooper Eigemann-
Malik。 ’95 Communication, has 
returned to the United States after 
nine years abroad, where she taught 
business communication in Oman, 
served as dean of the 
Indianapolis College of Business 
and Computer Science in Pakistan, 
and taught communication theory 
in Thailand and English communi-
cation in China. Her latest book, 
Practical Communication Skills, is 
available through Zhaojiang 
University Press, Hangzhou.

Carolyn McClellan。 ’98 MA 
Anthropology, serves as the chief of the 
Division of Cultural and 
Paleoanthropological Resources and 
Tribe Consultation for the U.S. 
Department of Interior; Bureau of 
Land Management, in Washington, 
D.C. She provides oversight for 
cultural resource compliance, 
heritage education activities and 
developing partnerships with local 
entities to better manage the 
nation’s public lands located prima-
rily in the western United States.

Gloria Se-Lloyd。 ’92 MSW, has 
joined the counseling and consult-
ing offices with Paul Tobin, PhD 
and PC, and Ann Benjamin, Med 
Inc. in Edmond, Okla. She is a 
licensed health service psychologist 
working with children, couples and 
families. She has helped people 
with depression and anxiety as well 
as worked with those exhibiting 
child behavioral problems and rela-
tionship difficulties.

Melissa Stimpson。 ’98 BA 
Psychology and Sociology- 
Criminology, works as a 
probation/parole officer supervising 
sex offenders for the state of 
Oklahoma’s Department of 
Corrections.

Allison J. Thummel。 ’97 BS 
Health and Sports Sciences, 
released a fitness DVD for par-
ents and children ages 4 months 
to 6 years. It’s titled “Get Fit 
Together.” The DVD has three 
workouts, including cardio, 
toning and a combined 
cardio/toning workout. The 
cartoon-like background is 
stimulating and keeps children 
entertained throughout the 
video and the music is enjoyable 
for parents and children. For 
more information, visit 

Laura A. Wilson。 ’90 PhD Public 
Administration, is a professor at 
the University of Baltimore and 
was named executive director of 
the School of Public Affairs. The 
school has more than 400 students 
and offers baccalaureate, master’s 
and doctoral degrees in government, public administration 
and health systems management.

Mike Bell。 ’94 BA Economics, is 
the owner of the Cool Bean, a 
drive-through coffee shop located 
on West Main Street in Norman, 
Okla. The Cool Bean serves coffee, 
espresso, fresh fruit smoothies and 
lattes. Bell felt a need for a coffee 
shop that brews coffee correctly 
and guarantees a fresh beverage 
at any time of the day. “I would like 
to invite everyone to stop by if you 
are visiting Norman. Stop by and 
have the best coffee in town. I 
promise.”

Whitney A. Campbell。 ’03 MPA, is 
a project manager for DHL 
Express. She resides in Texas.

Amy Ragan Copeland。 ’80 BS 
Health and Sport Sciences, is a 
captain in the U.S. Air Force, 
where she serves as a dentist. She 
and her husband completed an 
Advanced Education in General 
Dentistry residency at Scott Air 
Force Base and currently are 
stationed in Misawa, Japan, “fight-
ing terrorism one cavity at a 
time.”

Brint Montgomery。 ’93 PhD 
Philosophy, attended the Open 
Theology and Science Seminar 
at Eastern Nazarene College in 
Boston. The seminar brings 
together open theologians to 
converse with prominent scien-
tists, building a new field in 
the science and religion discussion 
to explore the issues of cosmol-
ogy, biology and human sciences 
as they relate to open theology. 
Montgomery is an associate 
professor of philosophy at 
Southern Nazarene University and 
editor of the Wesleyan 
Philosophical Society’s online 
journal.

2000s —

Notes Continued on Next Page
James Charles Amspacher, 38 BS, died May 21, 2007. While at OU, Amspacher was a member of the golf team. He attended OU Health Sciences Center and graduated in 1945 with a doctorate in orthopaedic surgery. He interned at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. During World War II, he attained the rank of captain, and following the war, opened his private orthopaedic practice in 1948. During the following 40 years, Amspacher became president of the Clinical Orthopaedic Society, member of the Young Doctor’s Dinner Club and a charter member of the Oklahoma Teachers’ Retirement Board. He was known as a physician, friend and sportsman.

John Scott Arnoldy died March 13, 2007. He graduated from OU in 1988 with a degree in psychology. He leaves behind a wife and two children.

Mark Lee Elder died May 20, 2007. After serving in the U.S. Army, Elder earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism/professional writing and eventually his master’s degree at OU in 1964 and 1973, respectively. He held the position of director of research administration at OU before moving to Arizona State University and University of North Texas. He was a member of the National Council of University Research Administrators and served in a variety of offices, including president. He authored three novels, one of which, The Prometheus Operation, was nominated for the Edgar Award.

Danney Goble, professor of Classics and Letters, passed away March 8, 2007. Goble is best remembered as a favorite son of Oklahoma, publishing many books about the state and educating millions with a weekly column in the Oklahoma City newspaper. Goble also worked on the historical overview section of the Oklahoma Centennial Celebration. Goble also worked on the historical overview section of the Tulsa Race Riot Commission report. In 1990, Goble joined the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center, where he also served as a professor of history. His biography of Carl Albert, titled Little Giant, is presented to the A&S Carl Albert Little Giant Scholarship Recognition Luncheon.

IN MEMORIAM

D. Lawrence Weider, professor emeritus of Humanities, died May 20, 2007. Weider was a noted scholar and writer who contributed to many articles and books on the history and culture of Oklahoma. He was a member of the Oklahoma Historical Society and served as editor of its quarterly journal, Oklahoma History. Weider also served as a professor of history at the University of Oklahoma and was instrumental in establishing the Carl Albert Congressional Research and Studies Center.

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Thomas James Patrick O’Brien, ’60 BS Geology, died Dec. 28, 2006. O’Brien worked with the William E. Davis Co. and owned many small businesses in Norman. In his last working years, he served as an employee assistance program counselor for business and government clients.

D. Lawrence Weider, professor emeritus of communication at OU, died in December 2006. He served as a visiting associate professor of sociology at OU from 1975 to 1976 and as interim chair of the Department of Communication from September 2000 to June 2001. He retired in January 2004 as an associate professor of communication, associate professor of sociology and adjunct associate professor of philosophy. “There was an undeniable sense of nobility in his way of being a scholar,” said Young Kim, professor of communication. “When he spoke, few doubted his enormous intellect, truthfulness and integrity. Larry was an authentic scholar. It has been truly my good fortune to have known Larry.”
How Do You Graduate 1,300 Students in Two Hours?

With a lot of planning and a lot of help from your friends...

Saturday, May 12, beginning at 4 p.m., Darci Tucker, director of outreach for the college, and her band of volunteers watch with pride as more than 1,300 students celebrate the end of their college career with their friends and family at the A&S Spring Convocation. Let’s take a look at how her day goes:

2:15 p.m. Arrive at Lloyd Noble Center to begin unpacking boxes and setting up supplies and banners.

2:45 p.m. Volunteers begin to arrive and pick up their packets. Gym volunteers prepare for the rush of students with pencils, cards, bobby pins, safety pins and bandages. Each department lines up in order: banner carrier, faculty marshals, master’s degree graduates and bachelor’s degree graduates.

3:15 p.m. Department chairs line up behind the deans, while line volunteers fetch students in the A-L departments from the gyms and head down the south ramp. College banner carriers Heather Rice and Justin Lucas lead the pack.

3:45 p.m. Pomp and Circumstance begins and our happy grads walk into Lloyd Noble Center, talking on their cell phones and waving at family members.

4:20 p.m. Graduates take their seats. Dean Bell welcomes the crowd and introduces Craig Lavoie, 2007 Carl Albert winner, who speaks. Other presentations are made by associate deans.

4:40 p.m. Graduates rise and line up to proceed across the stage.

6:05 p.m. Chaos ensues as the new alumni leave. Volunteers pack up the banners, diploma covers and the flotsam and jetsam left in the gyms. Everyone goes home, tired but happy.

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Craig Lavoie (continued)

Network in New Orleans in August 2006. In his winning Carl Albert Award essay, Lavoie recalls earning a 67 on his first exam, in Latin, at OU. Rather than give up on his goal of obtaining a perfect 4.0 grade-point average his first semester, he renewed his efforts, studying late nights and early mornings.

“Although, admittedly, I’ll never be able to translate the Iliad, the challenge presented by the course required the establishment of strong study habits that have served me well throughout my college career,” he writes, adding that he now realizes that he was fortunate to have encountered a professor early on who cared enough to challenge him.

He added that he now realizes the importance of volunteering. “I now understand that it [volunteering] is the rent we pay for our space on Earth,” he writes. “Though I ... the lives of others is the only challenge worthy of those with ability and privilege, and that is what I hope to do.”

After completing a fellowship in the OU Honors College Leadership Center and working for Teach for America, Lavoie said he plans to pursue a career in public service law in Oklahoma.

The Carl Albert Award, the most prestigious given to a student by the OU College of Arts and Sciences, is based on academics, moral force of character and promise of future service to the state and nation. First presented in 1966, the award was established to honor Carl Albert, OU alumnus and former U.S. Speaker of the House, for his distinguished undergraduate career and national service. Julian Rothbaum, former state regent and longtime friend of Albert, endowed the award in 1965.

German Professor (continued)

recognizes the importance of studying foreign languages and literatures as a central facet of the liberal arts education,” said Baer. “As a professor of German language, literature and culture, my goal is to introduce students to new ways of thinking about and representing the world. I hope that this will help them not only to understand other cultures better, but also to reflect critically on their own cultures.”

Necia Chronister, a former student of Baer and 2003 Carl Albert Award recipient as the most outstanding graduating senior in the college, received a Fulbright grant to study in Germany under Baer’s tutelage.

“Dr. Baer has remained a mentor for me, long after I have graduated from OU. During my Fulbright year, she suggested graduate programs, helped me develop my application materials from abroad and found supplemental fellowship programs for me. I owe much of my success to Dr. Baer’s advice and support,” wrote Chronister.

The Irene Rothbaum Outstanding Assistant Professor Award was established 12 years ago by the late Julian Rothbaum in honor of his late wife, Irene. It is awarded to a young faculty member’s career and to care for his younger brother, Kierstan, for whom he became legal guardian last fall.

OU Scholar Athlete Pendleton Gives A&S Winter Convocation Address

Carl Pendleton, former defensive tackle for the OU Sooners football team and recipient of a $1,800 National Football Foundation scholarship, gave the convocation speech at the December A&S Convocation. Pendleton gave up his senior season of football to concentrate on graduate school and to care for his younger brother, Kierstan, for whom he became legal guardian last fall.

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19

20
"I CANNOT DO EVERYTHING. BUT I WILL DO EVERYTHING I CAN."

"WE ALL HAVE DIFFERENT GAME PLANS, BUT WHEN THE ISSUE IS HEALTH, OUR OBJECTIVE IS THE SAME: CHOOSING THE BEST MEDICAL CARE AVAILABLE, WHY SETTLE FOR PUTTING YOURSELF IN THE HANDS OF ANYTHING LESS?"

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In fact, there are more treatment options for women's cancer at OU Physicians than any other place in the region. That's why doctors at breast cancer research have led to new procedures that can detect disease before you even know it.

Specialists and technology that take you further than anyone else can. When you choose OU Physicians, you're doing everything you can for your health — and so are they.