Message From the Dean

A liberal education often has been defined as an education that liberates people from the bonds of ignorance. Founded in 1892 as the College of Letters, the College of Arts and Sciences continues to provide all OU students with liberal arts foundation that still characterizes the university educational experience. Therefore, it is fitting that the college is now home to the new OU Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage.

The United States Constitution is the framework through which our hard-won liberties are protected. However, in these days of sound bite-based slash and burn politics, it is alarming how many people attempt to wrap themselves in the Constitution either without having read it or without having understood it. Concerned for the way that the Constitution may often be misunderstood and misused in contemporary American politics, President Boren decided that OU had an obligation to provide our students with an understanding and appreciation of the document on which our democracy is founded. He selected Kyle Harper, who majored in Letters as an OU undergraduate and subsequently earned a Ph.D. in Roman History from Harvard University, as founding director of the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage and the Department of Classics and Letters as its institutional home.

Although the institute will involve faculty members and students from across the campus, the Department of Classics and Letters is a natural home, because the U.S. Constitution has its roots in Greece and Rome and because the department is home to OU’s quintessential liberal arts degree – the Bachelor of Arts in Letters. Students majoring in Letters, besides being required to study both an ancient and a modern foreign language, create their own curriculum, selecting courses in philosophy, history, literature and a wide variety of other liberal arts courses. I often recommend the Letters major to our most talented undergraduates because it gives them a solid educational foundation that prepares them to do whatever they want to do in life. Letters graduates go on to become doctors, lawyers, professors, corporate executives, ministers and practitioners of just about any other human endeavor you can think of. But even more importantly, they become educated citizens who contribute to making our country better and our democracy stronger.

Although Letters majors will certainly benefit from having the Institute in their department, it is our fervent hope that OU students of all majors will take advantage of the opportunity OU is now providing to learn how and why the U.S. Constitution is important in their lives and in the life of our country. The vision does not stop with our students. The institute also will offer programs open to the public and sponsor symposia open to scholars from around the world. Perhaps some future politicians will benefit from the educational activities of the Institute.

The Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage is only one of many initiatives to provide OU students and faculty with world-class facilities for teaching and scholarship. In this issue of Kaleidoscope, you also will read about the Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center, new home of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Zarrow Hall, new home of the Anne and Henry Zarrow School of Social Work. This fall also will see the opening of the Mathematics Department’s new Mathematics Learning Center, designed to provide assistance for students taking classes in math as well as research space for advanced mathematics students.

In the College of Arts and Sciences we take seriously our commitment to provide our students with the best educational experience possible, anywhere.

Paul B. Bell, Jr., Ph.D.
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
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BACK COVER
A&S Alumni BBQ Bash

ON THE COVER:
Allyson Reneau struts her stuff with the Pride of Oklahoma in 1980.
Few documents are more heatedly debated, yet less understood — than the Constitution of the United States. More than two centuries after its creation, the Constitution continues to be one of the most fascinating and subtly complex documents ever written. America’s political infrastructure and civil liberties are rooted in it, and it is quoted every day in the halls of our nation’s schools and government. Yet some American citizens are ignorant of its origins, its meanings and sometimes its very content.

Recognizing that for America to have a future, citizens must learn about its past, University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren in 2009 called for the creation of the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage. The program aims to take a broad approach to the study of America’s most important legal document, with classes dedicated to helping students come to a better understanding of its philosophical underpinnings, historical context, legal substance and contemporary relevance.

“President Boren, like many of us, is alarmed by the cynicism and bitterness that characterizes our political culture,” says the institute’s director, Professor Kyle Harper. “A basic lack of understanding of our constitutional system, and its history, is partly to blame. The widespread ignorance of America’s past is a fundamental problem. As president of a top-tier public university, he felt he had a responsibility to respond. More than that, he and I both believe that we have an opportunity, with the exceptional team and the sense of common purpose we share, to make OU a model for the rest of the country to show that universities can offer a unique, high-level civics education.”

As a multidisciplinary effort, the program is appropriately housed in the OU College of Arts and Sciences’ Department of Classics and Letters.

“The project is a team effort, with absolutely essential support from Political Science, History and Law, as well as other departments,” says Harper. “I think this program brings together some of the traditional strengths of the College of Arts and Sciences in an innovative way.”

Harper believes that the institute has found its perfect home in the Department of Classics and Letters. “Letters provides a ready-made platform to integrate courses and curricula from different departments,” he says. “Moreover, the institute takes a broad view of constitutional history, and I believe it is essential to understand the ancient, classical roots of freedom and self-governance in Greece and Rome, which is the domain of the Department of Classics and Letters.”

Sam Huskey, chair of the department, agrees. “Because Greece was the birthplace of democracy, and because Greco-Roman civilization provided the foundation of the founding fathers’ education, it is appropriate for the institute to be closely associated with the academic department that most concerns itself with Greco-Roman antiquity.”

“It is important for all citizens of the United States of America to have more than a casual familiarity with the Constitution,” Huskey continues. “Real knowledge of that and other foundational documents is essential for civic engagement and the preservation of our civil rights.”

The program already has attracted a number of students to the College of Arts and Sciences. Less than two years after its inception, the first Constitutional Studies concentrators graduated in Commencement ceremonies last spring. And Harper is well on his way to recruiting many more.

“The program attracts pre-law students since it provides the ideal pre-law education by combining history, philosophy and law with a program that emphasizes writing and critical analysis,” he says. “But we’re also working hard to make it broader, too. My goal is for the Constitutional Studies minor to become a way for any student — especially those majoring in the sciences or our pre-professional programs — to round out their education with a great curriculum in the humanities.”

(Continued on page 3)
Future of Freedom (Continued)

In addition to focusing on student recruitment, the institute has developed an annual Constitutional Studies Symposium for scholars and students, the first of which was held in March 2011. This fall, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the program will host a series of scholars to speak on that conflict, which Harper calls “the most important event in American Constitutional history.” Also in the works are fundraising efforts to establish a postdoctoral fellowship for young scholars and a summer teachers’ workshop called “The Constitution in the Classroom,” which would bring Oklahoma teachers to the institute for classes in Constitutional history, the better to share with their students.

“I believe that to understand the constitution, you have to understand the long-term human search for freedom and justice,” Harper says. “You have to understand, in a philosophical sense, what liberty means, what rights are, what democracy means. Then, you have to know the foundations of American history, and America’s specific place within the human past, as well as the unique factors that led the founders to create a constitutional system that still works today. But just as important as understanding the founding of the country is understanding the key events that have shaped the Constitution, from the Civil War to the civil rights movement and beyond.

“In the long-term, what we are doing is good for the civic health of our country. Freedom and self-government require an informed, responsible citizenry, and only education can create a people prepared for the duties of our constitutional system,” Harper states.

For more information about this innovative new program in the OU College of Arts and Sciences, visit iach.ou.edu.
In the frigid temperatures of the January winter storm of 2011, members of the dean’s staff received the call that no one wants to get when they are trapped at home by icy roads. Ellison Hall was flooded by a broken pipe. Many members of the staff and members of the Native American Studies Program, who office in the building as well, carefully made their way onto a deserted campus to survey the damage.

The flooding began in the north wing of the third floor, and traveled through all three floors, leaving the teleconference room on the first floor in three inches of water. Staff members spent two days hauling out soggy ceiling tiles, moving furniture and computers out of wet offices, and vacuuming water out of wet carpets. In the end, the quick action by the staff saved all of the carpets and most of the building contents. Staff whose offices were most affected by the flooding were relocated to the old Chemistry Building for only a month while repairs were being carried out.
Allyson Reneau is a wife and mother of 11 – nine girls and two boys, ranging in age from 6 to 29 – co-owner of a successful gymnastics program, and co-founder of a nonprofit that helps children accomplish their dreams by providing world-class facilities and training in athletics, academics and the arts.

You’d think all that would keep this trim, vivacious and energetic woman busy 24/7.

Think again. Reneau, who just celebrated her 50th birthday, is completing requirements to receive a bachelor’s degree in communication from the University of Oklahoma, and has been accepted into Harvard University, and is now flying there once a week to begin pursuing a master’s degree in international law and business.

Reneau’s pursuit of an undergraduate degree at OU was interrupted in 1980, her junior year, when she left to get married and raise a family. While at OU, Reneau supplemented her studies by performing with The Pride of Oklahoma Marching Band as a baton twirler – a skill she had honed during her junior high and high school years.

She still vividly recalls how it felt to be accepted into OU. Growing up in the small community of Kremlin, located 10 miles north of Enid, Reneau knew early on that she wanted to be a Sooner, and to be a part of OU’s storied football tradition. “It was a dream come true. There were 142 applications (for the baton twirling position) from all over the country, and to be the one chosen from Oklahoma was such an honor. It felt very surreal,” she says.

With an undecided major, Reneau participated in the honors music program and took the usual required courses, plus some in communication. She excelled scholastically, and was named to the Top 10 Freshman list.

But her life took another direction after meeting her future husband, Dale, a fine arts major. She dropped out of school to get married, and they soon celebrated the birth of their first child, then their second … After each child’s birth, she promised herself that when the last one turned 5, she would go back to school to complete her degree requirements.

But in the meantime, she pursued other interests, and in late 2000, she opened Victory Gymnastics in Norman “with the goal of building great athletes and changing children’s lives by challenging them to discover God’s great destiny for them.” With proceeds from the gym, Reneau established a nonprofit organization, Victory Gymnastics/The Hope Foundation for Aspiring Youth, through which assistance and support are offered to young people with talents in wide-ranging fields, from music to athletics.

“I know what it’s like to have a lot of kids, but not all the resources to help them. This is my way of giving back,” Reneau says.

Despite her accomplishments, Reneau said she nevertheless maintained a feeling of incompleteness. Finally, after 30 years of marriage and following child No. 11’s 5th birthday in October 2009, she decided that the time had finally come to finish what she had started.

Reneau and her family.
She began classes in January 2010, carrying a heavy course load that first year – 43 hours. She took 18 hours last spring and 12 this summer. Despite juggling home, work and school, she has maintained a 4.0 grade-point average, was named undergraduate of the year in the communication department and was awarded merit scholarships every semester.

When she completes her requirements for the bachelor’s degree in communication from OU in December, Reneau will join two of her children as OU alumni. Her second child, Kelsey, earned a degree in human relations in 2007, and her fourth child, Victory, will be completing her degree in broadcast journalism in 2012.

She will then dedicate herself to her pursuit of a master’s degree at Harvard, to which she also earned a scholarship.

Reneau says that age shouldn’t be an obstacle to anyone who really wants to pursue higher education opportunities.

“I was frightened,” she admits, “but the professors at OU were very warm and welcoming and treated me with respect,” she said.

Reneau said returning to school has at times been “emotionally overwhelming ... When I hear the fight song, I am so grateful for the opportunity. Probably only in the United States of America could this happen to someone with 11 children. When you’ve waited on something so long, you appreciate it all the more.”

Although she couldn’t identify one teacher or class as a favorite, Reneau said she has been “blown away by the level of academic challenge” she has found her second time around at OU. She says she now knows that President David Boren is speaking the truth when he says that OU offers an Ivy League-like education.

“I took something away from every class,” she declared, adding that her adviser, Kathy Martin in the Department of Communication, was there every step of the way, guiding and encouraging her.

“She never doubted me,” Reneau added.

The other major difference she saw between her first and recent experience at OU? All of the students today have laptops, she said, adding, “But I still did it with paper and pen.”
Sarah Swenson, a University of Oklahoma majoring in zoology, is the recipient of the 2011 Carl Albert Award, presented each year to the outstanding senior in the OU College of Arts and Sciences. Swenson, who also is OU’s 28th Rhodes Scholar, plans to pursue a master’s degree in philosophy at the University of Oxford before attending Mayo Medical School. She represented the college at OU’s Commencement ceremonies in May and delivered the college’s convocation address.

In the essay she submitted in her application for the Carl Albert Award, Swenson reflected upon a past automobile accident that left her with a severe brain injury. It is this injury, and the two months’ recovery she cannot remember, that caused her to seek “a purposeful life through focused action.” Following her full recovery, she returned to the hospital as a volunteer, where nurses showed her the room where she had stayed.

“Though I could not remember the environment as a patient, their warmth showed me how intricately a career with scientific rigor could be woven together with humanitarian kindness,” Swenson said.

Swenson says that at OU, “the most important lesson I learned was that the sciences and humanities articulate complementary ways of viewing the human condition. Such understanding aids me as I seek meaning in a strange and beautiful world.” In pursuing a master’s degree in philosophy at the University of Oxford next year before attending school at the Mayo Clinic, she hopes that “by bringing together the scientific and the social, I will maintain an awareness that is crucially important to the work of an accomplished physician. Additional training that integrates history and science will improve my ability to understand a patient’s history and the impact of science on his or her well-being. Through engagement with bioethics and the history of biology and medicine, I may understand more completely the inherent interdependence of intellectual disciplines, the practical science of medicine and the personal lives it touches.”

Shizuka Tatsuzawa, instructor of Japanese and coordinator for Japanese Instruction in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, received the inaugural John H. and Jane M. Patten Teaching Award in the spring. The $5,000 annual award recognizes outstanding classroom instruction in the social sciences and humanities disciplines.

Tatsuzawa received a master’s degree in TESOL from New York University, where she concentrated on teaching Japanese and English as a second language in college. As part of her master’s degree, she participated in Summer Institute In Japanese Language Pedagogy at Columbia University. She also received a master’s degree in American literature from Showa Women’s University in Tokyo, Japan.

She has taught all levels of Japanese language and culture in several high schools in New York City and Long Island, New School University, and Business language institutions in New York City.

The Patten Award is given annually to a regular full-time faculty member who has shown exemplary dedication to students and classroom
teaching. Applications will be evaluated both on long-term classroom teaching/mentoring of students as well as recent semester evaluations.

Julia Abramson, associate professor of French and Francophone Studies, received the Kinney-Sugg Outstanding Professor Award last fall. The $5,000 award recognizes a full-time faculty member with at least two years of service in the college as an assistant professor or higher, who has established a record of outstanding teaching and scholarship.

Abramson graduated summa cum laude and with honors from Bryn Mawr College and received her master’s and doctoral degrees from Princeton University. She joined the faculty at OU in 1999 as an instructor in French, film and video studies and international studies. She is the recipient of many awards and grants, including a State Research Scholar for the Smithsonian Institution’s “Key Ingredients: America by Food,” Outstanding Professor, Oklahoma Education Leaders Academy, Presidential Dream Course for the honors class Food, Culture and Society and the Cecil W. Woods Award for Excellence in Teaching a Modern Foreign Language.

The Kinney-Sugg Outstanding Professor Award, established by OU alumna Sandy Kinney and her husband, Mike Sugg, was first awarded in 2002 to help the college reward and retain outstanding professors.

Kyle Harper, assistant professor of Classics and Letters and director of the Institute for the American Constitutional Heritage, received the Irene Rothbaum Outstanding Assistant Professor Award in the spring.

The $2,500 award is giving to an assistant professor with at least two years at OU who has established a record of outstanding teaching and scholarship.

Harper joined the faculty at OU in 2007, after earning his doctorate in history at Harvard University. He graduated summa cum laude from OU with a bachelor’s degree in letters. He teaches a range of courses on Greek and Roman history, early Christianity, late antiquity and ancient law. He has authored a book that will soon be published by Cambridge University Press and was recently offered a contract from Harvard University Press for his second book.

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 promising assistant professor in the college.

(Continued on page 9)
**Ryan Bisel**, assistant professor of organizational communication, receives the Longmire Prize for Teaching, a $1,500 prize presented to a full-time faculty member in the college who has shown exemplary dedication to students, teaching and the scholarship of teaching.

Bisel received his doctoral degree in communication studies from the University of Kansas in 2008 and he began working at OU that fall. Ryan has received high teaching evaluation scores, and his engagement in the scholarship of teaching and his informal efforts to improve teaching in his department lead to his receiving the award. In addition to this, he has devoted some of his research effort to better understanding how students learn communication theories, publishing two papers on teaching strategies.

The Longmire Prize is named to honor the late William and Jane Longmire, who created a fund through their estates to improve teaching at OU. The prize is given annually to a faculty member of the college who, in addition to exhibiting exemplary dedication to students and teaching, also is active in the scholarship of teaching and actively shares this knowledge with others.

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**Outstanding Seniors**

At the A&S Student Awards Ceremony held in May, four students were recognized as outstanding seniors in their division of the college.

- Don Carlock
  Outstanding Senior in the Social Sciences

- Neikia Franklin
  The Professor Thomas Jay Hill Outstanding Senior in the Natural Sciences

- Rachel Gallant
  Outstanding Senior in the Professional Programs

- Kyle Williams
  The Rev. Dr. Henry P. Roberson Outstanding Senior in the Humanities
College Honors Distinguished Alumni and Service Awardees at Kaleidoscope Evening

At the end of February, the college celebrated its diversity with the Focus on A&S Week, culminating with lectures by the 2011 Distinguished Alumni and its annual Kaleidoscope Evening.

This year’s theme was Route OU: Motor on Down to Soonerland, invoking memories of the Mother Road: Route 66. Guests were treated to traditional diner food and finished with a build-it-yourself sundae bar. The evening raised nearly $34,000 for the college’s Leadership Scholars program.

At the dinner, the 2011 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients shared memories of their time at OU. Distinguished alumni who spoke included Robin Cauthron, recognized by the humanities division; Elaine Mardis and Richard Wilson, recognized by the natural science division; Bernard Albaugh, recognized by the division of professional programs; and Dennis Kimbro, recognized by the division of social sciences.

Cauthron graduated from OU in 1970 with a bachelor’s degree in English. She also earned her master’s degree in education from the University of Central Oklahoma and graduated from the OU College of Law.

Appointed by George H.W. Bush to a United States District Judgeship in April 1991, she later became Chief Judge in 2001. She was the first woman in the state of Oklahoma to be named to the federal trial bench. Previously, she had been the first woman to be appointed to full-time Magistrate Judge in the six-state Tenth Circuit. She also has been a state judge and practiced law in a private firm in Idabel, Okla.

Mardis graduated Phi Beta Kappa from OU with a bachelor of science degree in zoology. She then completed her master’s and doctoral degrees from OU in chemistry and biochemistry in 1989. Following graduation, Mardis became senior research scientist for four years at BioRad Laboratories in California. In 1993, she joined The Genome Center at the Washington University School of Medicine. As director of technology development, she helped create methods and automation pipelines for sequencing the human genome. She currently orchestrates the center’s efforts to explore next generation sequencing technologies and to transition them into production sequencing capabilities.

Wilson graduated from OU in 1986 with a doctoral degree in chemistry. Following his graduation, he worked as a research fellow at California Institute of Technology before joining the research faculty at the Washington University School of Medicine in 1990. He has been named a member of National Human Genome Research Institute National Advisory Council, co-chaired The Cancer Genome Atlas executive committee and has been a fellow for the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Originally from Kent, Ohio, Wilson was inducted in the Kent City Schools Hall of Fame in 2005.
Dedication Ceremony Held in April for OU’s Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center

The 160,000-square-foot, three-story Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center that houses faculty and student researchers in a facility designed to foster collaboration was dedicated in a public ceremony in April, on the University of Oklahoma’s Research Campus.

Speakers included President David L. Boren, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Chair George Richter-Addo, and Peggy and Charles Stephenson, for whom the life sciences center and its companion facility, the Stephenson Research and Technology Center, are named.

“The University of Oklahoma family and all Oklahomans are deeply grateful to Peggy and Charles Stephenson for their generous and visionary gift which made possible this exceptional research facility,” said President Boren. “It will serve to both advance knowledge and help create a knowledge-based economy to give new opportunities to the next generation.”

The Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center houses the research and administrative functions of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as well as a number of chemists, biochemists and other life science researchers and some 30 research teams composed of graduate and undergraduate researchers, technical staff, faculty, postdoctoral fellows and visiting scientists. It also houses several Research Support Services units, some of which also will serve the larger OU Research Campus as new units move to the area.

Glass is a dominant feature throughout the facility. Even the faculty offices feature glass walls, enabling students to observe their teachers as well as the reverse. Rather than dozens of isolated small laboratories dedicated to individual researchers, the Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center is home to interconnected flexible work spaces designed to encourage cross-disciplinary studies critical to human safety and wellbeing.

“We are a participant in the Carnegie Foundation’s Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate, and we provide real-life hands-on training to all our students so that they can meet the challenges of tomorrow,” said Richter-Addo. “The open-laboratory concept allows students in one specialty area to interact with other students and faculty in a general concept area. Such interactions promote a wider, deeper understanding of the problems being tackled by funded research.”

Also as a means of encouraging collaboration, the facility was designed with common spaces. Three large commons – one on each floor – encourage

George Richter-Addo, second from left, the Borens, the Stephensons and special guests and family members cut the ribbon for the new Stephenson Life Sciences Research Center.
George Richter-Addo, chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, welcomes guests to the dedication ceremony and share the accomplishments of his department with attendees.

interaction between the scientist researchers, students and members of the community. All feature floor-to-ceiling windows, affording panoramic views of the Oklahoma skyline and OU’s landscaped grounds.

One space, in particular, was created with an eye to drawing visitors. The interactive education laboratory – designed to showcase how chemistry and life sciences research impacts everyday life – features a large picture window for close-up viewing from the second-floor community area. Richter-Addo noted that the merger between functional lab space and an open community commons is intended to entice the larger community to inquire and explore about what the building’s research teams are doing. To help draw interest, commonly found objects like birds’ nests, dirt and twigs (displaying inherent biological chemistry) are juxtaposed with scientific tools like centrifuges and high-powered microscopes.

“The building’s design takes the concept of chemical synthesis and applies it in a whole new way; by blending research and public space, it encourages a fusion between science and community,” Richter-Addo said.
Social Work Scholarship Will Help Single Mothers Earn Master’s Degree

_Courtesy of The University of Oklahoma Foundation_

When Eloise Evans Mc Curtain died in a car accident in 1966, her son Mike and daughter-in-law Christina knew they wanted to establish a memorial to honor her achievements in social work. The couple knew the discipline well, both from Eloise and from completing their master’s degrees in social work at OU in 1965. But they had children to raise and Mike’s career was just taking off in California.

Their children now grown and settled back into their native Oklahoma for retirement, the Mc Curtains are seeing their longtime wish fulfilled with the unveiling of the Eloise Mc Curtain Graduate Scholarship in Social Work.

The $1,400 award will benefit single mothers pursuing a graduate education in social work. The scholarship is intended to mirror the life of Eloise Mc Curtain, who earned her 1953 master’s in social work following the death of her husband, Randolph Mc Curtain. Eloise juggled her studies as a single parent while raising two children in junior high school.

“This woman was magnificent,” said Christina Mc Curtain, whose relationship with her mother-in-law began when she herself was a graduate student in OU’s School of Social Work. Christina’s practicum took her to the Pauls Valley State School, which Eloise had helped to establish for children and young adults with mental disabilities. She served under Eloise to learn the basics of social work and gained a passion for her new vocation. “I just fell in love with her,” Christina said.

She later fell in love with Eloise’s son, also an OU social work student. When Mike and Christina announced their plans to marry, Eloise realized her hopes of hiring Christina as a social worker had been derailed. “She was fit to be tied. It was very sweet; I felt such a bond with her and that place.”

Eloise Mc Curtain gave her life to helping others, Christina said, adding that her mother-in-law’s journey started out very differently than it ended. The only child of a wealthy Citizen Potawatomi Nation family from Lexington, Okla., Eloise attended a private high school out of state in the late 1920s. The first indication that she would not be meeting societal expectations was a senior thesis on prison incarceration.

Many years later, Eloise continued to break the mold as a single mother with a master’s degree. Before most professionals were pursuing continuing education, she was forward-thinking enough to learn as much as she could about her profession. Eloise was an early member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers, a fellow of the American Association on Mental Retardation and a member of the Council on Social Work Education.

Mike and Christina followed in her footsteps with their own careers in social work. At the time they retired, Mike worked for the Menninger Clinic in Topeka, Kan., and Christina was a social worker for the Topeka State Hospital. Their $35,000 gift to the Eloise Mc Curtain Graduate Scholarship will continue to grow as the family builds the fund to the $50,000 level.

Christina is quick to point out that the memorial scholarship should not be considered a sacrifice for her family.

_“This was not a labor for us at all,” she said. “This is Eloise’s legacy through us.”_

Zarrow Hall, dedicated this fall, is the new home of the School of Social Work.
OU Professor Awarded Guggenheim Fellowship

Linda Zagzebski, Kingfisher College Chair of the Philosophy of Religion and Ethics and George Lynn Cross Research Professor of Philosophy at the University of Oklahoma, was awarded a fellowship from The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for her project “Epistemic Authority: A Theory of Trust, Authority, and Autonomy in Belief.” The project is a development of Zagzebski’s eight Wilde Lectures in Natural Religion, delivered in April and May 2010 at Oxford University.

Zagzebski was one of 180 chosen out of nearly 3,000 applicants by The John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. This year’s applicants represent 65 disciplines and 74 different academic institutions. Their projects will take them to all parts of the world.

Zagzebski argues that emotional trust in the self is rational and inescapable, that consistent self-trust commits us to trust in others, that some others satisfy conditions for epistemic authority modeled on well-known general principles of political authority, and that authority in communities can be justified by principles of trust endorsed by the self-reflective person. Moral and religious authority can be defended in this way. She concludes that the ideal of epistemic self-reliance is incoherent.

“To me, the most significant thing about the Foundation may be the continuity of our mission, a commitment to funding individuals at the highest level to do the work they were meant to do,” says Foundation President Edward Hirsch in a release. “We don’t support groups or organizations. We have always bet everything on the individual, which seems to me increasingly rare in a corporatized America.”

The full list of the 2011 Fellows may be viewed online at www.gf.org.

Oklahoma Screenplay Earns Top Honors at Film Festival

A screenplay on the infamous Osage Reign of Terror of the 1920s by two Oklahomans earned top honors at the 2011 Sacramento International Film Festival.

Screenwriters Jim Butcher of Tulsa and Andy Horton of Norman won the Lew Hunter Award for Outstanding Feature Screenplay with their 119-page “Headrights!” a romantic/crime drama and thriller about the early days of the FBI investigating the Osage Indian murders of the 1920s, when oil made them the richest people in the world.

Horton commented, “I think it says a lot when a script with no vampires or alien creatures that tells an American story not yet on the screen is awarded!”

“Andy and I are thrilled with this award. Our goal is to secure financing and a producer to bring this story to the big screen,” Butcher said. “It is an important part of Americana and should be told. Winning the grand prize is an important step forward in achieving our goal.”

Horton is an award-winning screenwriter and author of 24 books on film, screenwriting and culture. He is the Jeanne H. Smith Professor of Film and Video Studies in the University of Oklahoma College of Arts and Sciences. His films include Brad Pitt’s first feature film “The Dark Side of the Sun.”

Butcher is a veteran journalist and former publisher of The Tulsa Front Page and executive editor of Neighbor Newspapers. Before coming to Tulsa, Butcher was editor and general manager of the Pawhuska Journal-Capital newspaper. Pawhuska is the county seat of Osage County and capitol of the Osage Nation.

The two writers also have written a screenplay on Oklahoma’s famous aviation pioneer and pilot, Wiley Post. That script currently is under a two-year contract with a Hollywood producer.
Nonprofit Leadership Program  by Emily Mapes

I have been involved in the College of Arts and Sciences’ Nonprofit Leadership Program since my freshman year in 2008. Before coming to college, I always said I wanted to volunteer for my career, not knowing that this very option existed in the nonprofit sector. Like many people, I had no idea that nonprofit organizations have paid experts running them, nor that the sector is so large that it has its own professional organizations and certifications.

I discovered the Nonprofit Leadership Program and the career of my dreams at a freshman involvement fair. The program, aside from having the only undergraduate nonprofit education program in the state, has two student organizations. The Nonprofit Leadership Student Association, in which I became a chair, is one. It is an organization that brings speakers from local organizations to teach students how to be a leader through planning events to raise awareness and funds for nonprofits.

The first committee I was fortunate enough to chair is in charge of planning the Nonfilm event, combining a nonprofit cause and a documentary film. We show a documentary, invite a panel of professors and community leaders to speak on the topic and ask for donations for a local nonprofit instead of charging admission. As chair of the Nonfilm committee, I received actual experience running a committee, planning the event and working with the community; all skills I will use in my future career.

The second student organization is the Sooner Collegiate Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. My sophomore year, I was elected president of AFP. One of our graduating seniors began this organization during the spring of 2009, working with the Oklahoma City chapter, which had extended the opportunity of a collegiate chapter to OU. I was tasked with organizing the function of our chapter, as we were one of the first chapters in the nation and the only collegiate chapter in Oklahoma, which remains true today. We have grown into an organization that not only educates its members on how to ethically fundraise for nonprofits through continuing education and speakers, but also serves the OU community by educating student leaders on how to fundraise for their student organization or philanthropy.

Last spring I took the job as assistant to the director of Nonprofit Leadership Program, Susy Jorgenson. In my position, I help our student organizations, assist Susy with coordinating the courses our students take and look for nonprofit opportunities for our students. By minoring in the program, completing a 300-hour internship with a registered nonprofit, being a member in good standing with at least one of the student organizations and attending the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance’s Management Institute held each January, students may graduate as a Certified Nonprofit Professional. OU is the only university in the state that offers this nationally recognized certification, and 86 percent of students who completed their certification requirements in our program were hired at a registered nonprofit upon, or in some cases before, graduation. I am confident that with the education I’ve received from the Nonprofit Leadership Program that I will join that group of successful graduates when I graduate in May 2012.

Distinguished Alumni and Service Awardees (Continued)

Albaugh earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology, master’s degree in social work and master’s degree in public administration from OU. He then served six years in the U.S. Army. Following his time in the service, he started his career with the Oklahoma State Department of Child Welfare, where he became an assistant director, and also served as a child therapist for the Bureau of Indian Affairs. While with the Indian Health Service, he developed a treatment methodology for addiction that became one of the most widely used treatment approaches for Native American alcohol and drug addicts throughout the United States and Canada. Later, he consulted with the Oklahoma State Department of Mental Health to obtain funding and develop the community mental health service programs for the northwest quarter of the state.

Kimbro graduated from OU in 1972 with a bachelor’s degree in political science and in 1973 with a master’s degree in human relations. Currently, he is on staff at the Clark Atlanta University School of Business Administration; a speaker; and author of several books. He is the recipient of the Dale Carnegie Personal Achievement Award and the Award of Excellence from the Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education. His speaking engagements keep him on the road all year, speaking to a worldwide audience about the power of the human potential.

Also recognized that evening for their service to the college were Craig Adkins, outgoing chair of the Board of Visitors, and Yves Badaroux, former board member.
**1930s**

Mary Bashara Norris, ’36 BS
Physical Education, was a teacher for 32 years. She has one son who is a 1962 graduate of OU, as is his wife. She is a proud grandmother to three and great-grandmother to five, and celebrated her 100th birthday in November 2010.

**1950s**

William G. Paul, ’52 History, was named the American Bar Foundation’s 2011 Fellow of the ABF Outstanding Service Award. The Outstanding Service Award is given annually to a fellow of the ABF who has adhered for more than 30 years to the highest principles and traditions of the legal profession and to the service of the public. Paul serves as counsel attorney for Crowe and Dunlevy in Oklahoma City.

William A. Hamilton, ’58
Political Science, and his wife have published their third novel, *The Berlin Conspiracy*, under their pseudonym William Penn. The novel is the third adventure of Buck and Dolly Madison, taking them around the world in a hunt for terrorists.

**1960s**

Paul McCoy, ’64 PHD Organic Chemistry, recently published *Scripture Insights from Science and Archaeology* through winexpressbooks.com. Retired as a research chemist at Cities Service Research and Development, the book is a result of his interest with seven seasons of excavation in Israel and is designed for pastors.

Leon Ginsberg, ’66 BA Political Science, taught social work at OU from 1963 through 1968 while finishing his doctoral degree in political science. Following his time at OU, he was the director and then-dean of social work at West Virginia University. He also served as the Human Services Commissioner for West Virginia from 1977 through 1986 and chancellor of higher education for West Virginia University from 1984-1986. He has since been a Carolina Distinguished Professor, dean at the University of South Carolina College of Social Work, and director and interim chair of the social work program at Appalachian State.

**1970s**

Gerald R. Anderson Sr., ’76 BA Psychology, has spent the time since graduation in information technology. This includes stints as director of IT and systems engineer for IBM to president and CEO of Smart Business Concepts, a company Anderson founded in 2008. He is an inventor and was selected as a finalist for the ABC Television show “Shark Tank.” He’s a big fan of OU sports.

**1980s**

Richard Wilson, ’86 PHD Chemistry and Biochemistry, was appointed by GenomeQuest to its Science Advisory Board. Wilson, a professor of genetics and director of The Genome Center at Washington University School of Medicine, was named a 2011 College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumnus.

**1990s**

Nia Hill, ’93 BA Communication, is the co-founder and owner of Strange Fruit Films and TV. She and co-executive producer D’Angela Proctor Steed received the Best Reality Show at the 42nd NAACP Image Awards for their series *Sunday Best*, BET’s gospel singing competition.
Lester Claravall, '95 MHR, received the Public Service Award from the United Nations Association of Greater Oklahoma City and the 2011 National Public Service Award from the American Society for Public Administration and the National Academy of Public Administration. Claravall, child labor supervisor for the State Department of Labor, was recognized by state and national groups for his innovative Teen Safety Program. The interactive program helps to educate young people about best practices in the work environment. He also is the recipient of the 2012 A&S Distinguished Alumnus Award.

Rory Patterson, '00 Library and Information Studies, works as a reference and instruction librarian at Liberty University. He was promoted from assistant to associate librarian because “as a Reference and Instruction Librarian, he plays a crucial role in our public services, serving on the Reference Desk, teaching information literacy in the classroom, and creating online tutorials to serve our residential and distant students. Patterson has been active in university, professional, civic and church service opportunities as his schedule allows.” Additionally, Patterson serves on the Board of the Association of Christian Librarians.

Lonnie D. Martin, '04 MPA, graduated from the Quantico satellite campus on the Marine Base in Virginia. He is a chief warrant officer with the United States Marine Corps and volunteered for another tour in Iraq, where he was assigned to be the elections liaison and action officer on the Elections Division Staff for the U.S. Forces-Iraq. He worked as liaison with the Iraqi government within the Iraqi Independent High Electoral Commission and assisted with the preparations for the 2010 Iraqi National Parliamentary Elections. “It was amazing to be part of a budding democracy’s history and it has left me with a deep appreciation of the freedom and democratic government that we enjoy every day.”

David Timothy Dewberry, '08 BA Philosophy and Linguistics and minor in classical Greek, received his master of divinity from the School of Theology at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has been accepted to attend Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia.

Amber Mae Peavler Dewberry, '08 BA Linguistics, received her master’s in divinity from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky. She will be moving to Philadelphia with her husband, David Dewberry.

2000s
Jason Albano, '00 BS HES, is completing his two year fellowship in neuropsychology at the University of Virginia. He was elected “Chief Fellow of the largest neuropsychology postdoctoral training program in the country.” Once he finishes his studies and travel, he looks forward to moving back to Oklahoma.

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Sidney DeVere Brown, Professor Emeritus of History, died Dec. 8, 2010, after a long illness. He attended Southwestern College in Kansas, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, then finished his education at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where he specialized in Japanese history. He completed his MA and PhD at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He joined the faculty at OU in 1971 and taught courses in East Asian history, including Chinese history and Korean history. Brown led the inaugural OU tour to China in 1980. He was a leading expert on Kido Takayoshi and Okubo Toshimichi, winning the Japan Cultural Translation prize in 1986. Brown was inducted into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame in 2000.

Walter L. Dillard, Professor Emeritus of Zoology, died May 7, 2011, from lung cancer. Born in Chicago, he attended Fisk University before joining the U.S. Army. Following his discharge, he attended OU and received his BS and PhD in Zoology from OU. He completed his post-doctorate fellowship at the Max Planck Institute in Germany from 1966-1969. He moved to Dayton, Nev., and joined the Board of Directors of the Reno Chamber Orchestra. He also was a docent at the Jack C. Davis Observatory.

Ming Chao Gui, Professor of Chinese and Linguistics, died Dec. 13, 2010. Born in Kunming, Yunnan, China, Gui studied English and linguistics in China. He attended the University of Texas at Arlington, where he earned his master’s and doctoral degrees. In 1994, Gui joined the faculty at OU, where he developed the bachelor of Chinese program and helped to establish the OU Confucius Institute. While at OU, he received the UOSA Outstanding Faculty Award and the Cecil W. Woods Memorial Award for outstanding excellence in teaching.

Mary Louise Rainbolt, instructor of zoology, died Dec. 21, 2010, in Ardmore, Okla. She received her doctoral degree from OU and taught here before joining the faculty at Illinois College in Jacksonville. She contributed data to the permanent collection at OU’s Biodiversity Collection Initiative. She was selected as Woman of the Year for the local chapter of the American Business Women’s Association of 1969. She was a member of Beta Beta Beta, American Scientific Affiliation, the ABWA and the American Physiological Society. She was the chair of the Biology Department at Illinois College and was named the Hitchcock Chair of Natural Science.

Melvin B. Tolson Jr., Emeritus Professor of Modern Languages, died July 31, 2011, after a lengthy illness. Tolson joined the OU faculty in 1959, two years after arriving in Norman as a doctoral student. He taught French for 31 years, won a Regents’ Award for Superior Teaching in 1967 and was elected into membership of OU’s chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa national honor society. He was the first full-time African American faculty member at the University.
A&S Continues Efforts for Getting Grads Hired

This August, the College once again invited area corporate recruiters to the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art for Recruiters Day. Nearly 50 individuals from 15 companies attended the eighth annual event.

Participants were treated to a presentation by Dean Bell on the value of a liberal arts education followed by a presentation by Bette Scott, director of OU Career Services.

A panel discussion led by four faculty members allowed audience members to learn more about the four divisions of the college. Ryan Bisel, from Communication, shared the skills taught in his department, including being able to communicate complex ideas to different audiences. “The best skill of communication students is we teach them to listen,” he shared.

Jonathan Kujawa, from Mathematics, explained about the misperceptions mathematicians have about them. “They learn the language of numbers before analyzing issues. It’s not about being a math major, it's about all the other skills you learn that makes math students great employees,” said Kujawa.

Mark Morvant, in the Chemistry and Biochemistry Department, talked about how students in the natural sciences are faced with extraordinary time management issues, as they are enrolled in not only a regular class load, but also in several labs at once. “This makes them learn how to prioritize jobs, classes and labs,” he said.

Recruiters attending agreed that the information provided was very helpful to them, noting that the round-table discussions during the luncheon were most useful. Table topics included making meaningful connections with faculty, social media usage and internships. All agreed they look forward to the event each year.

Is your company interested in attending? For more information, contact Adrienne Jablonski at ajablonski@ou.edu.
A & S Alumni BBQ Bash

The College is set to host its inaugural A&S Alumni BBQ Bash before the OU vs. Texas Tech game, Saturday, Oct. 22, at the Arts and Sciences Plaza, located on the east side of the home of the college, Ellison Hall. The Arts and Sciences Alumni BBQ Bash will begin three hours prior to the kick off for the OU vs. Texas Tech game and will close one hour prior to kick off.

“We decided to have a big, blow-out tailgate to reach more of our alumni,” says Kristi Morgan, director of outreach for the college. “So many of our alumni are back on campus for football games and we were missing the opportunity to celebrate and share our Sooner pride with them. This is a great opportunity for our alumni to interact with current students and celebrate with other OU fans prior to the football game.”

The bash coincides with the college’s fall Board of Visitors meeting and the university’s Homecoming 2011 – Paint the Town Crimson. Alumni may watch the homecoming parade and then head over to the plaza to enjoy BBQ and fun with family and friends.

To register for the event, visit cas.ou.edu/tailgate and fill out the online form. Registration deadline is Oct. 12.