



connect to Central

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UCO Again Named ‘Best for Vets’ College

Central again earned recognition as a top school for student veterans and active military, as The Military Times recently announced UCO as No. 9, among all surveyed four-year colleges and universities in the U.S., on its “Best for Vets: Colleges 2019” list. UCO jumped up one spot on the list, as The Military Times recognized Central for its dedication to veterans for the fourth consecutive year.



Central Ranked Top Public Regional University

UCO remains among the top colleges and universities in the nation, once again ranking as the top public regional university in the state on the 2019 Best Colleges list from U.S. News & World Report. UCO ranked No. 24 in the list of Tier One institutions in the “Top Public Schools: Regional Universities - West” category and No. 77 in the overall list of regional universities in the west. U.S. News & World Report releases its list of Best Colleges annually. Regional Universities are divided into four categories: North, South, Midwest, and West and are defined by U.S. News as universities that offer “a full range of undergraduate programs and some master’s programs but few doctoral programs.”



UCO Building Named in Honor of Betz

The Regional University System of Oklahoma Board of Regents approved the naming of Central’s newest building in honor of current university president Don Betz. The distinction recognizes Betz’ contributions to higher education, including eight years as UCO president, as he plans to retire next year. The Donald Betz STEM Research and Learning Center will serve as an interdisciplinary hub for the university’s various science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs, including biology, chemistry, engineering, forensic science and nursing. The interdisciplinary nature of the facility makes the naming a particularly relevant honor for Betz. He has been known throughout his tenure in higher education for building connections that advance institutions and the communities they serve.



Central Recognized as ‘Most Affordable’ University

Central ranks as the most affordable public university in Oklahoma according to College Consensus’ list of the “100 Most Affordable College and Universities” in the nation. Central ranks no. 75 on the list. To create its list of the “100 Most Affordable Colleges and Universities,” College Consensus began only with schools that qualify for a “College Consensus score.” This score combines the average results of reputable college ranking publishers and real student reviews. College Consensus then ranked qualifying schools according to the cost of their tuition, based on the most recent out-of-state tuition and fee information from the National Center for Education Statistics.



Homsey Named UCO MBA Program Director

The UCO College of Business recently named Dini Homsey, Ph.D., the new Master of Business Administration (MBA) program director. Homsey also is an associate professor in the marketing department. She has been with the UCO College of Business since August 2008 and began teaching in the MBA Program in fall 2016. After receiving her bachelor’s degree from Boston College in communication, Homsey completed her master’s degree in communication from the University of Oklahoma. Homsey received her doctorate in organizational communication from the University of Oklahoma and completed her post-doctoral bridge program in marketing and management from the University of Florida.



Central Hosts Teacher Advocacy Forum

UCO recently hosted the “Teachers and the Legislature: Advocacy and Issues Forum” on its campus, during which educators, issues experts and leaders in education from across Oklahoma presented on a range of K-12 topics. The forum included information on the basics of statehouse advocacy, the initiation of K-12 policy measures and an overview of public policy issues that remain before the Oklahoma legislature. The free event addressed details on best practices for successful advocacy, advice on how best to frame issues – particularly those that impact classroom education support, and insights into the complex nature of a range of political issues that are still being addressed by legislators.



UCO Professor Named ‘Outstanding Educator’

The Oklahoma Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators recently presented Central professor Kelly Baker, Ed.D., with the 2018 Outstanding Early Childhood Teacher Educator Award. For more than 30 years, Baker has contributed to early childhood education, a field that focuses on children in preschool through third grade and their families. She recently served as the coordinator for UCO’s Early Childhood Education program.



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