

Be Central

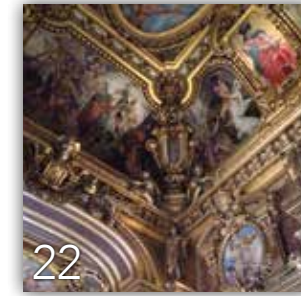
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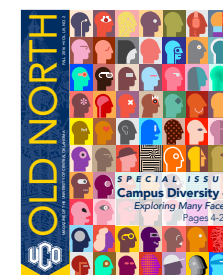
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...a magazine published by the University of Central Oklahoma for its alumni and friends.

On the Cover



UCO is committed to a campus that celebrates diversity in its fullest sense — the opposite of exclusion, beyond segregation and integration, to the ideal state of inclusion in its richest form. Hopefully, this issue of *Old North* magazine gives a sampling of the many ways diversity manifests itself on campus every day — and why efforts continue.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

UCO, Embracing Our Commitments

Dear friends,

Welcome to fall 2016 at UCO, a time when many come back to campus and, like us, welcome the cooler temperatures, the changing colors of autumn and the vitality of our nearly 16,500 students.

Our walks on campus this fall are filled with construction detours because of the many projects underway or in the advanced planning stages. UCO's physical profile continues to change as we build to meet the needs of our students, the OKC metro and the state.

Old North remains the focus of the energy and dedication of our construction partners as we look to reopening this icon of Oklahoma public higher education in the coming months, thanks in large part to fundraising efforts by the UCO Foundation. Reviving her from the inside out has proven to be the full challenge we anticipated, and then some. The outcome will be a venue like no other, with faculty offices, classrooms, gallery space on several floors, Central memorabilia, conference rooms and offices serving students. The president's office also will be returned to its historic location in Old North.

Mitchell Hall's exterior is dramatically changing as the two-story backstage facility rises. By late spring 2017, UCO's College of Fine Arts and Design will be eager to invite you to this unique addition to its rehearsal and learning space.

Plans are fully underway for the construction of the STEM Research and Teaching Center at UCO. In response to the state's enduring need for graduates in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, and to expand the capacities of Howell Hall, the STEM facility will advance and encourage our recognized programs in forensic science, undergraduate research and interdisciplinary learning, connecting the disciplines mentioned here.

As important as we believe these projects are to our future, we never forget the



President Betz congratulates 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient Scott Fischer (BS '05) during last year's Homecoming event. For the 2016 honorees, turn to page 28.

reason we are here — our students — and the many ways we are preparing them for their future roles as leaders in their families, professions and communities.

This issue of *Old North* magazine looks at one of the components we believe is vital to student success — diversity. We hope you enjoy reading about some of the ways we are ensuring our campus both reflects the changing demographic profile of our society while offering our students ways to engage in meaningful and transformational interactions.

Today, UCO also is collaborating with others in the OKC metro to stimulate innovation that will drive prosperity. We strive to fulfill our educational and civic duty to our community, instilling hope, embracing social justice, and living the values of integrity and inclusion. Our mandate was forged in the earliest days of Oklahoma

Territory — to build the quality, work ethic and social conscience of our citizens, and to do so, we must invest in people.

Our campus is changing to create the conditions for all of our students to become lifelong learners and builders of Oklahoma's future. We take seriously our commitment to education as a primal force shaping Oklahoma's tomorrow.

We enthusiastically embrace our responsibility, and we look forward to seeing you here soon.

My best wishes,

Don Betz
President

Diversity, Delivering the Benefits

Innovation through Diversity

This issue of *Old North* magazine looks at just a few of the many ways Central is working to create a more diverse community to better serve UCO students, giving them the skills needed for the global community in which they will work and live.

UCO joins colleges and universities across America striving to create not just more diverse student populations, but more diverse faculty and staff, as well.

“It’s important for us to have diversity on our campus, for our campus to reflect the world around us,” Provost John Barthell, Ph.D., said.

Diversity is not about being politically correct or meeting federal guidelines.

“It’s important for creativity and innovation,” Barthell said.

“Social, geographic and scholarly diversity, focused on issues, brings about the most innovation. And college campuses are a good place for that to happen,” he said.

However, institutions are finding that diversity itself does not win the prize. Great results come from having those diverse groups interact with each other, and learn about and from each other through meaningful interactions.

In a December column in *The New York Times*, Frank Burni decried the ability of too many college students today to “spend the bulk of their time on one of many homogenous islands” created on campuses everywhere.

“That’s consistent with the splintered state of America today,” he wrote. “But it’s a betrayal of education’s mission to challenge ingrained assumptions, disrupt entrenched thinking, broaden the frame of reference.”

Without any extra effort, UCO is becoming more diverse, Barthell said. The cultural competence of our faculty and staff is improving, but we need to continue to look for meaningful ways to interact at all levels.



Provost John Barthell, Ph.D., speaking about diversity at a campus forum for faculty and staff.

For the importance of that effort, he quotes Steven Johnson, author of “Where Good Ideas Come From,” who favors diversity as a way to encourage creativity and innovation.

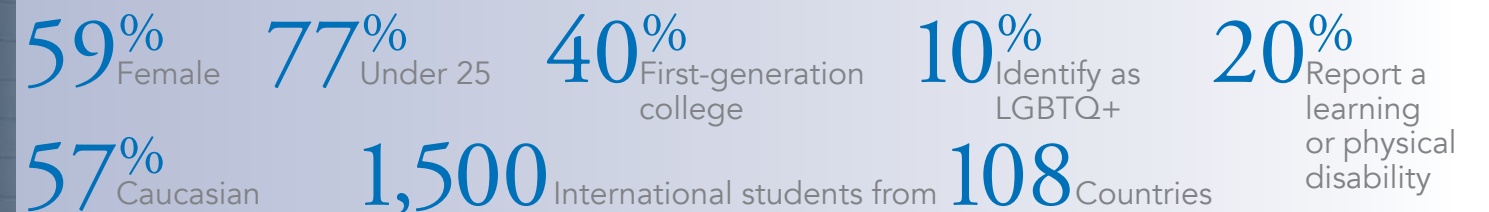
“Chance favors the connected mind,” he wrote.

Connecting the minds of many different people, bringing those connections to a common table — that’s the place with the power for new ideas and solutions.

That’s the place Central wants to provide its students.

UCO’s Committee on Diversity defines diversity as the self-identification processes of different identities in the areas of race, class, gender, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, ability and other aspects of self-identification. For more information about Central and its diversity efforts, visit www.uco.edu/DiversityCentral.

UCO’s Student Population



Building Relationships

*By Dennis Dunham, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Office of Global Affairs*

More than 20,000 international students — that's how many I calculated in my head one November evening in 2003 as I was returning to Oklahoma City. The last leg in a long flight from Korea had me reminiscing about my 25 years in higher education. Yes, 20,000 students that our teams had recruited and enrolled in classes. Who wouldn't be proud of that? As the wing took an abrupt dip and the view of the sparkling lights of Oklahoma City filled my tiny window, I started to calculate the countries — certainly more than 150. I was proud of that too. Faculty had told me, on numerous occasions, how much they appreciated the diversity that we had brought to the campus. Pleased thoughts, proud thoughts — and then, one day, a few weeks later, I became not so proud.

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DIVERSITY

On that day, I received a call from an international graduate student I'll call Chatchai, from Thailand. He and two former students from Burma and Indonesia had formed an import/export company in Oklahoma City. It seems this idea began to develop at a university international festival while they were working together and learning the art of squeezing sticky rice into little tiny sushi rolls. They were excited to show me what they had accomplished so far.

The next day, I found myself walking through the aisles of their offices which were reminiscent of those I had seen in Southeast Asia: contemporary, pristine, white. Chatchai was all smiles as he introduced me to each one of his more than 15 employees. At the end of the tour, while sipping his favorite English tea, I remarked, "I didn't see any American employees here."

"Well, yes there are," Chatchai said. "They were just born in other countries."

I rephrased my comment. "So you don't have any native born Americans here?"

"No," he said. "We were never able to connect with any at the university. We really don't know them. And they don't know us."

It was a low career moment and a comment that resided with me for several days, making me think about our campus community.

International students connected easily with each other. They made friends, formed partnerships and developed multinational businesses — all in between their classes and study groups. They created a robust, exciting environment of which I loved being a part. But I had noted numerous times that the American students were absent from these conversations, standing on the periphery and, quite frankly, looking the other way. The irony is that it seemed as though the Americans were viewing the internationals as the "outsiders." The opposite was true. With few exceptions, the Americans were not interacting, not connecting, not developing relationships and not building on what could be some of the greatest opportunities of their lives.

That's when I realized that diversity is more than just bringing differing peoples together.

— Dennis Dunham

That's when I realized that diversity is more than just bringing differing people together. Diversity is a two-step process: bring them, and then teach them how to build relationships.

When I came to the University of Central Oklahoma 10 years ago, I came with this new resolve. For us to harvest the benefits of the unique insights each student brought to the campus, diversity had to be less observed and more enacted. You don't put people in a room and ask them to be friends. You put people in a room and ask them to work together to squeeze sticky rice into little sushi rolls.

The UCO community enthusiastically has supported all these



UCO's popular International Festival was moved last fall from the Nigh University Center Ballrooms to the Edmond Farmers Market to accommodate a larger crowd.

efforts. We have built a Broncho Buddies program, which puts one American student and one international student together. They do projects together and attend at least one event a month. We have built up a CRISP program — Community Responding to International Students Program — bringing our international students into the community by way of area families that invite the students into their homes. And, best of all, thanks to strong UCO presidential and cabinet support, we have created the International House — a place for international and American students to come together and learn from each other — a bridge that facilitates global engagement.

So, now we have had more than 2,000 such partnerships begun here.

Broncho Buddy Julie Truong of Oklahoma City said of her partner, "I've learned so much more about my own culture through her eyes."

Daniele Hunter, Lawton, gushed over her international Broncho Buddy. "We've built a real lifelong friendship that I will cherish forever."

Luke Argo, Edmond, says of his buddy from Malaysia, "The friendship that we've built will carry on long after graduation."

Although we have just begun, the rewards are numerous.

Julie Dawkins of Edmond says it so simply, "I have gotten so much more out of it than I could ever explain." She stepped away from the periphery, looked inside, and now is able to see out.

Who knows what she will find.

Dunham was appointed Honorary Consulate of Korea in 2015. He has served in the Peace Corps in Korea and lived abroad for five years. He has numerous published books promoting English as a second language. His only novel, "To Teach a Fish to Swim," available on Amazon, is a fictional story which includes many of his overseas adventures.

Don't miss your chance to show off your UCO spirit in the

SPIRIT SPRINT 5K

Join us on the south side of Buddy's Cafeteria for one of two races beginning at 3:30 p.m. or 6 p.m on Tuesday, Nov. 1. Learn more about signing up at CentralConnection.org/Homecoming.



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UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Acting Outside the Box



*By Angela Morris
Staff Writer
College of Fine Arts and Design*

When Domonique Lindsey took a seat at her first Central theater rehearsal, she had an idea of what to expect. A third-year, transfer student and theater arts performance major, she was no stranger to the stage or directors. She was familiar with contracts that often accompany productions — promises to attend so many rehearsals, participate in so many performances, so on and so forth.

However, receiving a permission slip was new.

“The permission slip was from Kato Buss, our acting professor and the director of our production of ‘Woyzeck,’” explained Lindsey. “I couldn’t quote it for you word-for-word, but it said

that he, Kato Buss, gave us complete permission to push the envelope with this production.”

Lindsey quickly realized how the words “push the envelope” were internalized by Buss, Ph.D., an assistant professor and now interim chair of the Department of Theatre Arts.

“From the time I first attended drama camp during middle school until the time I transferred to UCO as a junior, I’d never been in a German play,” Lindsey said. “Not only was I gaining exposure to this lexicon of foreign drama through ‘Woyzeck,’ I also received a role, which shocked me because as an African-American, I didn’t expect to be cast in a play set in 19th century Germany.”

The play historically features eight Caucasian cast members, but to Buss, conventionality has never been a

guideline. Traditionally, a majority of Western theater has long highlighted mostly mainstream society, leaving any atypical actor/actress to be typecast or fill supportive roles. Marginalized by ethnicity, age, orientation or nationality, these groups are only recently being written into leading roles in Western productions, but such roles are still scarce.

“Based on the history of our country, it’s no surprise that the canon of theater works primarily surrounds Anglo-patriarchal story threads,” Buss said.

This can be problematic for an educational environ-

ment where marginalized theater arts students around the nation often have been given less opportunities at the stage — far less at the center stage. Buss has worked exceptionally hard to overcome this obstacle.

“I work to adapt my plays to break that mold and strive to find plays that address gender and race equality issues, issues with treatment of those of various sexual orientations and ongoing class and socioeconomic struggles,” he explained.

Buss’ work has long been motivated by ideologies formed at a young age. Having grown up in less than ideal circumstances, Buss

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Kato Buss, center, with his all-female cast in “Anton in Show Business,” just one of the productions that have helped solidify his reputation for diversifying drama and performers.



For *The Illuminati* — a typical two-person, post-apocalyptic drama — Kato Buss included a gospel choir with his diverse cast.

often found himself on the outside of society looking in, a position that attracted him to punk culture, a safe haven for outcasts, who in return often utilize their strength as a counterculture movement to take a stand for other underdogs and the marginalized.

“I grew up in poverty and took pride in a fight against ‘The Man’ — a corrupt system that isn’t fair or equal to all, a system that leaves some at a gross disadvantage,” Buss explained. “My way out of poverty was through education. I earned a bachelor’s and a master’s and eventually a doctorate. Ironically, I became part of the system I fought against in my teens. However, a great shift happened when I realized I can use my position in the system as a platform to promote positive change and elevate others still being treated unfairly by the system. Today, that’s my goal and responsibility to others.”

This goal of elevating others — i.e., diversifying the cast and content on the Central stage — not only has been recognized by his students, such as Lindsey, but by UCO leadership as well.

“Kato really works to cater to a variety of students, including those too often marginalized,” said Ruki Ravikumar, M.F.A., associate dean of the UCO College of Fine Arts and

Design. “It’s a very admirable endeavor, giving all students equal opportunities for the spotlight and not simply typecasting.”

His reputation for diversifying drama and cast has been evident in the lineup of productions Buss has directed since coming to UCO in 2012. His list has included:

- An all-female cast in “Anton in Show Business,” a comedic-drama depicting strong women characters addressing race, gender and social status in the 21st century professional world;

- A mélange of characters in “bobrauschenbergamerica,” a collage-style work of mainstream and atypical personalities journeying through a road-trip-like experience of Americana culture; and,

- An assorted cast and gospel choir in the adaptation of the two-person post-apocalyptic drama “The Illuminati.”

Buss’ practice of giving often-marginalized, atypical students leading roles inspired Ravikumar to establish a scholarship in Buss’ honor. The Kato Buss Outstanding Student in Theatre Performance Award, established in 2015, annually benefits one student from Central’s Department of Theatre Arts who has overcome adversity.

“The scholarship rewards the risk takers, the rule breakers and the problem solvers, and is named in honor of the educator who embodies such philosophies,” Ravikumar said.

Buss said he is motivated to provide equal opportunities to students as well as deliver a real, honest look into the lives and realities of all, not just the status quo or the norm.

“I strive to teach emotional intelligence and empathy with theater,” Buss said. “When I make works of art with my students — as a group, as an ensemble — we try to create empathy within an audience. We’re not there to profess or instruct, but to connect.”

Lindsey, the 2016 recipient of the Kato Buss Outstanding Student in Theatre Performance Award, felt an immediate connection when she first transferred to Central two years ago. She recalled communicating with Buss long before stepping on campus. She felt as if she already had an ally before making the cross-state move, she said.

“Kato is a phenomenal teacher, adviser, supporter and friend, and receiving anything in his honor truly meant the world to me,” Lindsey said.



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Alumni Association



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A L U M N I A S S O C I A T I O N

Introducing UCO's 'The Center'

In January, the university welcomed the new UCO Women's Research Center and the BGLTQ+ Student Center, known collectively as "The Center."

An official grand opening is expected in spring 2017. Meanwhile, the addition of these two centers provides institutional recognition and support for these programs that promote transformative learning in the areas of women's, gender and sexuality studies.

The Center also complements the addition of Central's new gender and sexuality studies minor, started in 2014.

Lindsey Churchill, Ph.D. and assistant professor of history, is director of The Center. She helped develop the new minor.

Churchill encouraged student efforts in 2013 to re-establish a National Organization of Women (NOW) chapter on campus.

The UCO group quickly grew from about six to more than 100 male and female students who regularly attend meetings and community events.

About 125 attended a January 2015 town hall meeting sponsored by NOW and UCO's American Democracy Project. An open microphone allowed participants to air concerns. "It was apparent that women's and BGLTQ+ issues remain incredibly important to students," Churchill said. That meeting since has led to campus work in the areas of women's health issues, childcare, the need for areas on campus for mothers to use breast pumps and other social concerns.

NOW member Mikhayla Westbrook participated in the town hall event. The senior from Midwest City is now an intern for The Center.

"Organizations such as NOW and facilities such as The Center give women and men the opportunity to feel confident and unafraid to fight gender roles, sexuality stigmas and racial inequalities," Westbrook said. "I am so fortunate to be a part of this local movement."

Both she and Churchill said they also see The Center as a catalyst for work that will support efforts to create a more open society in the broader Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

The Center is part of UCO's Academic Affairs division, headed by Provost John Barthell, Ph.D.

In its first year, The Center has secured more than \$38,000 in funding from Central's Student Transformative Learning Record (STLR) grant.

Current projects include an oral history project with the lesbian feminist activist group Herland, a transgender clothing exchange and the creation of a library of books on gender and sexuality. The Center held in September on campus the inaugural International Gender and Sexuality Studies conference.

Staff and students are now seeking financial support to host scholars and sponsor more research on campus, as well as create a permanent home for The Center.

For more information, about The Center and its programs, contact Churchill at lchurchill@uco.edu.

— Gypsy Hogan
Publications Editor
University Communications



J. David Macey Jr., Ph.D., and Lindsey Churchill, Ph.D., worked with students, faculty and staff to create The Center, one of UCO's newest affirmations for diversity. Macey assumed duties July 1 as UCO's assistant vice president for global and cultural competencies in Academic Affairs. Churchill is an assistant professor of history and the first director of The Center.

Finding Acceptance on Campus

Editor's Note: J. David Macey has served as adviser for more than a decade for the Student Alliance for Equality (SAFE, formerly the Gay Alliance for Tolerance and Equality). His first meeting on campus was six people behind closed doors, far from the more than 100 who now attend SAFE gatherings. Today, about 10 percent of the Central student body self-identifies as part of the BGLTQ+ community. Macey serves on the advisory boards for the Women's Research Center and BGLTQ+ Student Center.

The BGLTQ+ Student Center, part of UCO's new The Center, represents the culmination of three decades of work by Central students, faculty and staff.

Lindsey Churchill, Ph.D., is The

Center's first director. She believes the BGLTQ+ Student Center will "enhance the campus and community life of bisexual, gay, lesbian, transgender and queer students" and their allies, she said.

In 1986, sociology professor Lewis Irving, Ph.D., began exploring the possibilities for a social and support organization for lesbian and gay students. Three years later, Irving and Central undergraduate Glen Avery (BS '93) gathered a group of interested students to establish the Gay and Lesbian Alliance for Student Support (GLASS), which the university formally recognized as a student organization in 1990.

GLASS became the Gay Alliance for Tolerance and Equality (GATE) in the 1990s, then adopted its current name, the Student Alliance for Equality (SAFE), in 2012. The organization continues to sponsor social activities, educational programs, conferences, concerts and film festivals to foster awareness on campus and in the wider community of BGLTQ+ issues and to promote a safe and accepting climate at Central. In 2001, the organization created Central's Safe Zone Ally Program, which trains faculty and staff members to serve students with questions or concerns related to sexual orientation or gender identity. From a core group of six to 10 students in the late 1990s, the organization has expanded to become one of the most active student groups on campus, including a significant number of straight allies attending events.

Over the past 26 years, SAFE has partnered with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the Center for Counseling and Well-Being, the Student Programming Board, and student organizations including

the National Organization for Women and the Association for Women's Studies to develop programs that address the complex ways in which sexuality and gender affect all members of the Central community, both on campus and off.

During the same period, faculty members including Churchill, an assistant professor of history, and J. Kole Kleeman, Ph.D., a professor of mass communication, have worked to develop curricular offerings in BGLTQ+ and sexuality studies. These courses now support the new and rapidly expanding interdisciplinary minor program in Gender and Sexuality Studies.

UCO adopted an inclusive non-discrimination policy in 2012 that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The policy since has been expanded to protect BGLTQ+ students, faculty and staff.

"SAFE's presence on campus has been a beacon for young BGLTQ+ Oklahomans for years," SAFE's 2015-16 president Jon Lowrey, a junior computer science major, said. It "played a large role in my decision to come to UCO . . . because I knew I would be attending a university that supported its students."

By establishing The Center, Lowrey says, "UCO is cementing its leadership by devoting faculty and space to better support students" in making Central "a broadly welcoming place for BGLTQ+ students in a state that is often less than friendly."

— J. David Macey Jr., Ph.D.
Assistant Vice President for Global and Cultural Competencies
Academic Affairs

Exchanging More Than Knowledge

By Lorene A. Roberson

Coordinator of Communications and Public Relations
College of Education and Professional Studies



Turkish assistant professor Gülşah Şahin, Ph.D., brought a cross-cultural experience to UCO during her July visit to learn more about exercise for older adults.

Turkish professor Gülşah Şahin, Ph.D., was combing the internet last October, trying to find exercises for older adults, when she learned about an innovative program half-a-world away at a place called the University of Central Oklahoma.

Impressed, she began to look for a way to study it firsthand.

In July, the persistent Şahin — an assistant professor and head of the coaching education department at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University in Turkey — arrived on campus. For a month, she studied UCO's exercise program for older adults, known as the Center for Active Living and Learning, or by its acronym CALL. The program officially began in January.

To begin her trip, Şahin met with her university's foreign affairs department to set up the exchange, an example of the many meaningful cross-cultural educational experiences taking place at Central.

"Global and cultural competence is something we are working to help each student attain as one of the tenets of UCO's transformative learning commitment," James Machell, Ph.D., dean of UCO's College of Education and Professional Studies, said. "Being immersed in a different culture through an international study tour or completing international field experiences are truly transformative. They stretch a student's current perspectives and understandings of the world."

However, Machell said, not every student can go overseas.

"That's why we provide experiences such as hosting an international scholar like Dr. Şahin or offering programs like the Multicultural Education Institute or the UCO Passport program."

CALL is the brainchild of Melissa Powers, Ph.D., an associate professor in Central's Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies. Powers, along with graduate students Olivia Henderson and Michael Smith, planned Şahin's stay. Her itinerary included observing fitness testing, interviewing Kinesiology and Health Studies scholars and visiting senior exercise programs throughout the metro.

Since 1997, Şahin has taught physical education at Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University, which has an enrollment of more than 44,000. At UCO, she gave a lecture about the gyms and health club facilities in Çanakkale, noting that there aren't places for older adults to exercise.

"The older people are not active like you," Şahin said. "They live shorter lives than in the U.S. It is very uncommon to have special fitness classes for older adults in Turkey. I'd like to make a like-model of CALL in Turkey."

The CALL program includes fitness and health assessments that allow staff to determine safe and effective exercise levels, risk factors

and individual goals for their older clients. Activities include cardio, resistance training or mini-exercise routines such as stretching and weightlifting, supervised by graduate students.

Şahin's visit benefited UCO students in many ways.

"I did not know much about Turkish culture or Turkey for that matter. I only knew where Turkey was located on the map and what I learned in history classes," Henderson said. "It was very interesting to speak with Dr. Şahin about the dynamics of her university, specifically the classes they teach. Dr. Şahin's 'Fitness in Turkey' presentation was full of interesting information about the certifications and exercise facilities there."

Smith learned about different research methods in his meetings with Şahin. "Most of the research I have done has been collecting numerical data and processing the statistical data after the fact," Smith said. Şahin's research, however, involved interviews on how to establish a program like CALL in another country, such as Turkey.

"It was a very valuable experience for me as a graduate student planning to attend a doctoral program," Smith said.

As for Şahin, she said she was taking back to Turkey more than the practical knowledge she gained.

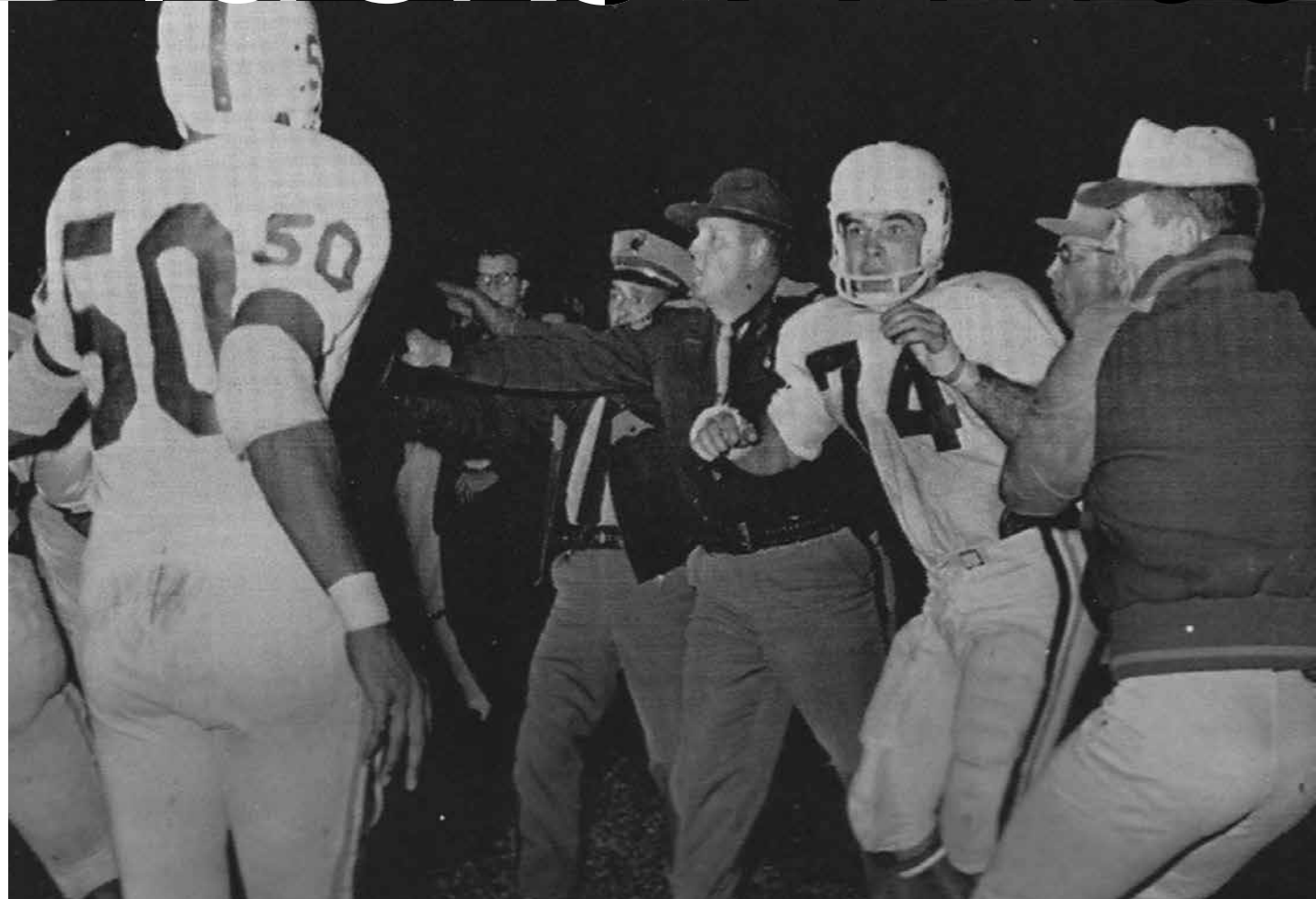
"What I learned during my time at UCO is that you are not different. You may speak a different language, but there's no difference in movement," she said. "I'm going home with beautiful feelings and beautiful friendships."

CALL exercise participants are accepted year-round. To learn more, phone 405-974-5309 or email call@uco.edu or visit the website ucocall.com.



UCO exercisers Kay Miller, left, and Carolyn Duvall.

Black & White



Racial threats and comments turned into an on-the-field battle that required highway patrol troopers to step in during Central's 1962 game against Southeastern State College in Durant, an event vividly remembered by some players.

Editor's Note: Recent racial events across the country prompted alumnus Jack Scammahorn (BSED '63, MT '70), a member of Central's 1962 national championship football team, to think about his experience on that team and how it shaped his life in so many ways — including how he moved over his lifetime from a segregated to an integrated culture. For him, the positive interaction with black teammates made him a believer in the benefits of integration. Those experiences became a cornerstone for how he approached his career as a teacher and school superintendent, as well as in his personal life, he said.

UCO's athletic diversification began as early as 1957 when Athletic Director and football coach Dale Hamilton quietly recruited two outstanding black athletes — Raymond Hays from Oklahoma City's Douglas High School and J.W. Lockett from Tulsa's Booker T. Washington High School. Both became All Americans at Central and later played in the National Football League (NFL).

Coach Hamilton soon relinquished his coaching responsibilities to Coach Al Blevins, who quickly took Central to two conference championships and a national championship. The rapid improvement of the college's football program was tied directly to the recruitment of minority players.

This past fall, UCO took the unprecedented step of inducting the 1962 National Championship football team into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Inducting an entire team was unusual because the Hall of Fame is reserved for individuals who have demonstrated exemplary accomplishments in the field of athletics. Al Jones, director of the UCO Stampede Club, said it well when asked why the entire team was being inducted: "because it was the first team championship for UCO, and because that team was very special in so many ways."

Al was the '62 team manager, a guy who can still cite team statistics: a perfect 11-0 record, outscoring our opponents a combined 350-59 while recording five shutouts.

The statistics shout that something was very special about that 1962 team.

Maybe more remarkable was that our backfield consisted of three future NFL players — fullback R.L. Briggs, and halfbacks Bobby Williams and George Hughley — and all three were black athletes who came from Texas, Nebraska and California, respectively. Our team had other outstanding players, with All American Ed Nowlin from Oklahoma City's Capitol Hill High School and All American Billy Jones from Amarillo, Texas. The team also had a high number of football transfers from Oklahoma, Tulsa and Oklahoma State universities. Looking back, however, it's significant that there were nine black players on our team in 1962, a time when minority presence on a college team was very unusual, if not prohibited.

Obvious to everyone on that 1962 team was team chemistry. We got along. All of us had one purpose — to win football games, said tackle Jerry Brown of Lawton.

There also was strong mutual respect.

In the last year, I telephoned R.L. Briggs, and his wife, Gayle, who dated R.L. in college. R.L. is the only surviving black player on the '62 team. He and Gayle both remembered well the pervading

attitude toward blacks in the 1960s. They vividly recalled traveling to Southeastern State College in Durant. The team could not stay together in Durant — there were motels for the white team members and different motels for the black team members. So the team stayed in Texas for lodging and meals at a motel that would accommodate our entire team.

During the game, R.L. was verbally threatened by opponents. Racial comments were so bad that both teams emptied their benches in a fight in the middle of the field. R.L. recalled that he was no fighter and calmly walked to our sideline to stand by the highway patrol trooper. R.L. may not have participated in the fighting, but he did rush for a record number of yards, something around 200-plus for that game.

Another essential part of our success was the leadership of our head coach Al Blevins and his assistants. Coach Blevins recruited top athletes from all over the country, regardless of ethnicity, and he expected his staff to treat every player with respect.

I think it's safe to say that everyone on that 1962 team was aware of the discrimination that was prevalent in the early 1960s. Yet, we all came together that year to do something very special for ourselves, our teammates, our coaches and our school. To a man, I'd say we feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to be a part of something very special at Central.

Note: R.L. Briggs played for Central 1961-64 and ranks third in Central rushing with 3,208 yards, and second in scoring with 211 points. He played one season in the NFL with the Washington Redskins.

— Jack Scammahorn, Ph.D.



From Central's 1963 yearbook: A season's hard work is finished with a smile, a handshake and a trophy signifying Central's first national championship. Coaches Al Blevins and Bobby Hunt congratulate each other at an after-game banquet.

‘We Are More Alike, My Friends, Than We Are Unalike’

Central’s 2016 Fall Forum — a traditional start of the fall semester for faculty and staff — opened with students from UCO’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion sharing their thoughts on various aspects of diversity.

Each student entered the packed Nigh University Center Ballrooms reading his or her own words.

Then, once assembled in front of the stage, they read together the late American writer Maya Angelo’s poem, “Human Family,” with its powerful ending:

I note the obvious differences between each sort and type, but we are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.

We are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.

We are more alike, my friends, than we are unalike.

The following are each student’s personal sharing of what some aspect of diversity means to them.



Felix Yobany Yanez
Sophomore

Equality: It’s coming to the realization that we depend on one another to progress in life and accomplish all of the dreams we have set forth. It is being able to see past the asymmetry of our physicality, the contrast of our skin tones, and rather contemplate our essence through the beauty of our mentalities and the experiences that have shaped us as individuals. Equality is acknowledging that every human being carries the same significance as you and that there is no one who will ever change that.

Donovan Cousan
Junior

Diversity: When asked how to define diversity, I immediately think about living in a society, or attending a university, that displays eagerness to acknowledge the underrepresented and/or those who have been brutally criticized just because of their ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. Diversity is developing a supportive community where inequality barriers are stripped, and people are not scrutinized for living out their heritage. It is creating an environment and atmosphere that welcome all despite the color of their skin, the person they love and the manner they worship. Diversity in its simplest form is giving equal opportunities for everyone to flourish in this land we call home.

Keyanna Irby
Senior

Pride: Like billions of other words, pride has been broken down in every aspect of life. But pride, to me, is taking note that I am able to do anything and that I am important. My pride isn’t to negate your ability or your worth. It’s simply to say I can value me, and I am still more than capable to value you, your culture, your religion ... without being prejudiced.

Zoha Qureshi
Graduate Student

Social Justice: Stop focusing on ourselves. Stop thinking that if someone else gains, we lose. Stop thinking that if it is different, then it is deficient. Stop being afraid of what we don’t understand. Start focusing on furthering others. Start taking time to learn the person and his or her story. Start using our voice to speak loud against injustice, even if it is the only voice. Start working in love.

Bo Elias
Junior

Privilege: It’s the lens through which we see the world around us, that is relative to each individual. It is not something somebody should be ashamed of, but rather be used as a driving force to become a catalyst for change and equality.

Malana Bracht
Senior

Cultural Competence: It’s a way for me to love and respect my neighbor. It allows me to understand who I am and how my culture impacts how I view other cultures. It exposes the best and worst sides of myself because it shows my weaknesses in working or having relationships with others. I can’t rely on media or assumptions or stereotypes about others — I am now taught to ask and seek. And if I don’t know the firsthand truth, I do not express an opinion. Cultural competency is the control of the tongue, the opening of the heart and the humbling of self. It reminds me that my culture and what makes me who I am is no greater, yet no lesser than any other individual’s experience and culture. It is awareness and action.

Jenna Sullivan
Senior

Advocacy/Advocate: To advocate is to be someone else’s voice. It is to speak out against injustices that may not personally affect you. It isn’t to persuade someone to agree with your beliefs, but rather it’s that voice inside that tells you to stand up for what’s right and speak out against what’s wrong, even if you are standing alone.

No One Said This Was a Vacation

Becoming International Travelers with Professor Saba Bahouth

By Gypsy Hogan
Publications Editor
University Communications

When Saba Bahouth, Ph.D., takes a group of students to Paris, he wants them to do more than see the sights and eat great food. He wants them to learn the history, understand the culture, visit French businesses and — perhaps most of all — learn to become world travelers for life, ready to plan their own trips in the future.

Travelers with Bahouth spend hours learning about where they are going and what they will see. That includes at least 10 hours in the classroom, several hours watching French films and many more hours doing research — writing biographies for 40 important people in French history and summarizing various important historical periods.

Students are expected to learn how to navigate a world airport as well as the French rail system, all with Bahouth's pre-trip and on-trip lessons. Understanding the currency, how and when to exchange dollars and what it should or shouldn't cost — and why — are all part of the class experience.

"When I moved to New York City, I was able to get around on the subway and buses because of my Paris trip," said Tookah Sapper, who went to Paris in spring 2013 before pursuing a graduate degree at the Manhattan School of Music.

Pre-trip studies aside, once on the ground, Bahouth continues to lecture throughout the trip. Sometimes he arranges for audio tours, such as at Versailles. Sometimes, he believes a local tour guide will meet his standards, such as at Moët & Chandon's international champagne headquarters in Epernay and at Fragonard, a French perfume factory in Paris.

His schedule of stops makes for long days on his 10-day trips to Paris, none starting later than 8:30 a.m. and all lasting until at least 10 p.m., some closer to midnight.

"This really hasn't been a vacation," one student said on the most recent trip to Paris, expressing feelings of tiredness and lack of sleep.

Bahouth, always seeming to find amusement at such remarks, was quick to correct.

"No one ever said this was a vacation. This is a college class, for

three hours of credit," he told her. "You can rest when you get home."

The voice of Bahouth can be heard long after any trip.

"If you want a nice hotel room where you spend time, stay in America. There's more to see in Europe than a hotel room," he advises. Make the most of time overseas is his mantra.

Bahouth himself is very much the international traveler, although it takes a bit of his own history to learn how the professor of operations management became the university's Paris guide.

Bahouth grew up in Beirut, Lebanon, one of the oldest cities in the world, inhabited for more than 5,000 years, and in more recent history known as the Paris of the Mideast because of its French influence that began after the collapse of the Ottoman Empire. The UCO professor attended schools where lessons were in French, and the French influence dominated much of the curriculum, he said. Bahouth developed a fascination with France that, combined with later business travel, resulted in him making about 30 trips to Paris before leading tours.

Once he decided to take students, he made two trips at his own expense to consider what would best serve his group. Which tour guides were worth the time and expense? What should be the main takeaways? How best to organize possible site visits? Bahouth considered it all.

Bahouth went in 2009 with a group of students and another professor. In 2010, he started taking students as the sole professor and has continued to do so, in the spring



UCO Professor Saba Bahouth, back row, with his summer 2016 travelers, who not only saw Paris, but also Strasbourg (above) on the eastern border of France and Germany. The group walked across a pedestrian bridge over the Rhine River into Germany without even showing passports, making them realize the ease of travel in the European Union.

and summer. The summer 2016 study tour was his 14th student group. In between, a local church group enlisted him to take them on a tour, sharing with them the sizable amount of French history — including the heavy influence of the Christian faith — that Bahouth easily recalls.

Probably no amount of advance study prepares any visitor for the sheer size of the Louvre, nor the overwhelming feeling of where to go and what to see. Bahouth, however, spends two hours making sure students see major pieces, walking quickly from one to the next, with clear instructions to stay with him. He allows two hours of free time afterward for students to revisit or seek other exhibits.

And if four hours seem short, consider that Bahouth has worked out reservations that move the group quickly from the entrance to inside, leaving behind long lines waiting for admission. And, there's never enough time to see the Louvre, so every visit needs to be targeted, his students learn.

As the trip progressed, students began to realize that they were seeing and doing more in less time because of the experienced professor.

"I think he said that we would see and do in 10 days what might take others a month — and I now believe it," Yvan Lam, a marketing major said.

One of Bahouth's favorite comments about his tour came in a recent email from a former student traveler.

"I can't believe it has been three years. High time we go on a trip again."



Want to know some of the travel tips Saba Bahouth, Ph.D., shares with his students?

1. Travel with carry-ons only. Lost luggage, especially for group travel, makes everyone's trip awful. That means one piece of luggage no bigger than 22-by-14-by-9 inches for his 10-day trip to Paris, which is actually doable to the surprise of many.
2. Plus, you get one carry-on that must fit under your seat. Pack inside this bag a smaller bag that you can use daily to carry your umbrellas, water bottle, a snack, maps, etc.
3. Keep your passport and money on you at all times, in a passport bag worn around your neck. Never leave your hotel room without it.
4. Take just one pair of shoes, comfortable ones that can walk on cobblestones, up and down hills, in pea gravel and fields.
5. Email yourself a scanned copy of your passport and keep it in your email box.
6. Print and tape emergency numbers inside your passport.
7. A small umbrella is a must.
8. Before leaving, enroll in the Smart Traveler program with the U.S. State Department.
9. Sign up for travel miles and alerts with the airline carrier being used.
10. Check with your personal cell phone carrier for overseas rates and coverage.



Professor Bahouth gives each of his travelers a special UCO journal, right. Presented in his first of five classes before the journey begins, the journal is where each is expected to write their research of 40 important French historical figures as well as write two pages at the end of each day of travel. Above left, one of the trip's many ornate ceilings, this from the Palais Granier opera house in Paris. Above right, statue outside the headquarters for Moët & Chandon, which includes the Dom Perignon label.



Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry and narrow-mindedness, and many of our people need it sorely on these accounts. Broad, wholesome, charitable views of men and things cannot be acquired by vegetating in one little corner of the earth all one's lifetime.
— Mark Twain

After participating in UCO's recent trip to Paris, I appreciate Mark Twain just a little more, having been reminded of the humbling experience travel can be.

Not being able to speak French was humiliating as I tried to find a bathroom, order from a menu or buy a pack of gum. How grateful I was for the large number of French who seemed to understand my combination of cheat-sheet French — badly pronounced, at best — and feeble charades. The fact that many spoke English was such a relief, but made me realize even more my shortcomings.

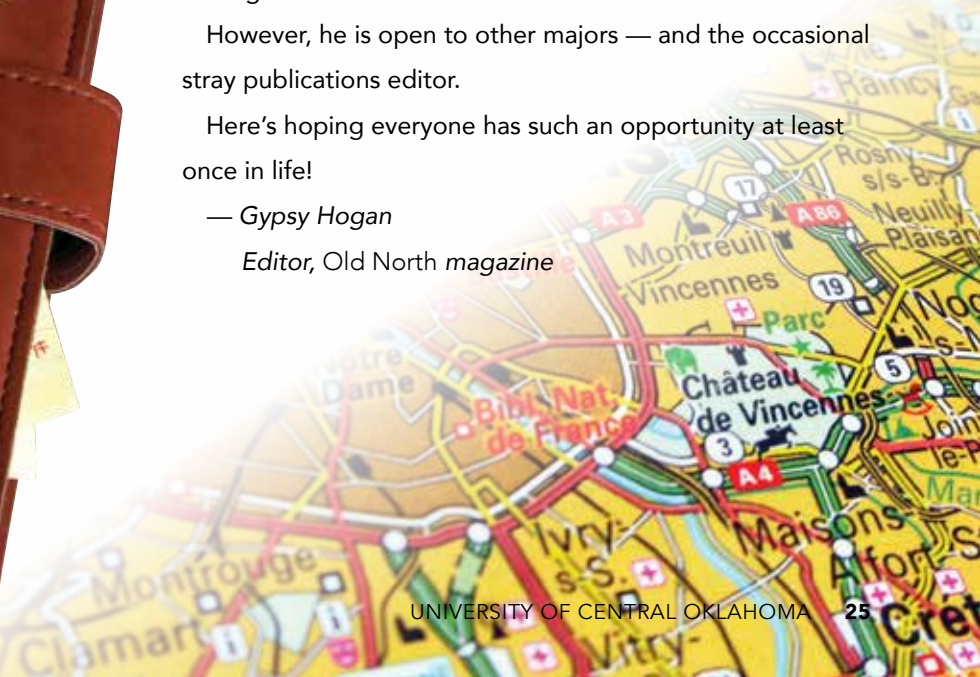
And it's always a reminder of our country's relatively short history when faced with a culture that has relics dating back to early man and historic sites that make American history look like yesterday.

Still, I'm grateful for the opportunity to accompany a group of 12 students who traveled with professor Saba Bahouth, Ph.D. Twice a year he takes a group on a rigorous 10-day study tour. His travel students are primarily from the College of Business where he teaches operations management in the Department of Information Systems and Operations Management.

However, he is open to other majors — and the occasional stray publications editor.

Here's hoping everyone has such an opportunity at least once in life!

— Gypsy Hogan
Editor, Old North magazine



UCO Offers Several Ways to See the World

By David Macey, Ph.D.

*Assistant Vice President for Global and Cultural Competencies
Academic Affairs*

During the 2015-16 academic year, 217 Central students participated in international experiences, including short-term study tours, long-term study abroad programs, and international internships and research programs. These experiences expand and enrich students' global and cultural competencies, which are critical components of the transformative learning that defines Central's curriculum.

Study tours introduce students to new cultures, new ideas and new ways of thinking through an intensive academic program that is generally no more than two weeks in length. Under the guidance of faculty members who have received specialized training, groups of six to 30 students follow a carefully structured itinerary designed to make the most of their time abroad, while achieving specific academic objectives.

In recent semesters, business students have visited Lloyd's of London and observed international business practices firsthand, while French language and fashion marketing majors have immersed themselves in Parisian culture and haute couture. Music students have enriched their professional knowledge by attending the performances of some of Europe's most renowned orchestras, and teacher candidates have participated in international student-teaching experiences.

In addition to participating in study tours, Central students may choose to pursue longer-term programs of study at partner institutions of higher learning in any one of more than two dozen countries or to participate in a variety of international research projects. In any given semester, Bronchos may be taking courses at Korea's Pukyong National University, conducting biological field research in Turkey or working toward a doctoral degree through Central's partnership with Swansea University in Wales.

Global learning exposes students to new ways of thinking and being, and it helps them to develop the critical thinking, problem-solving and cross-cultural communication skills that are essential to their success, both as students and as graduates. In the process, these global learning experiences help Central to fulfill its mission of providing transformative educational experiences so students may become productive, creative, ethical, and engaged citizens and leaders serving the global community.

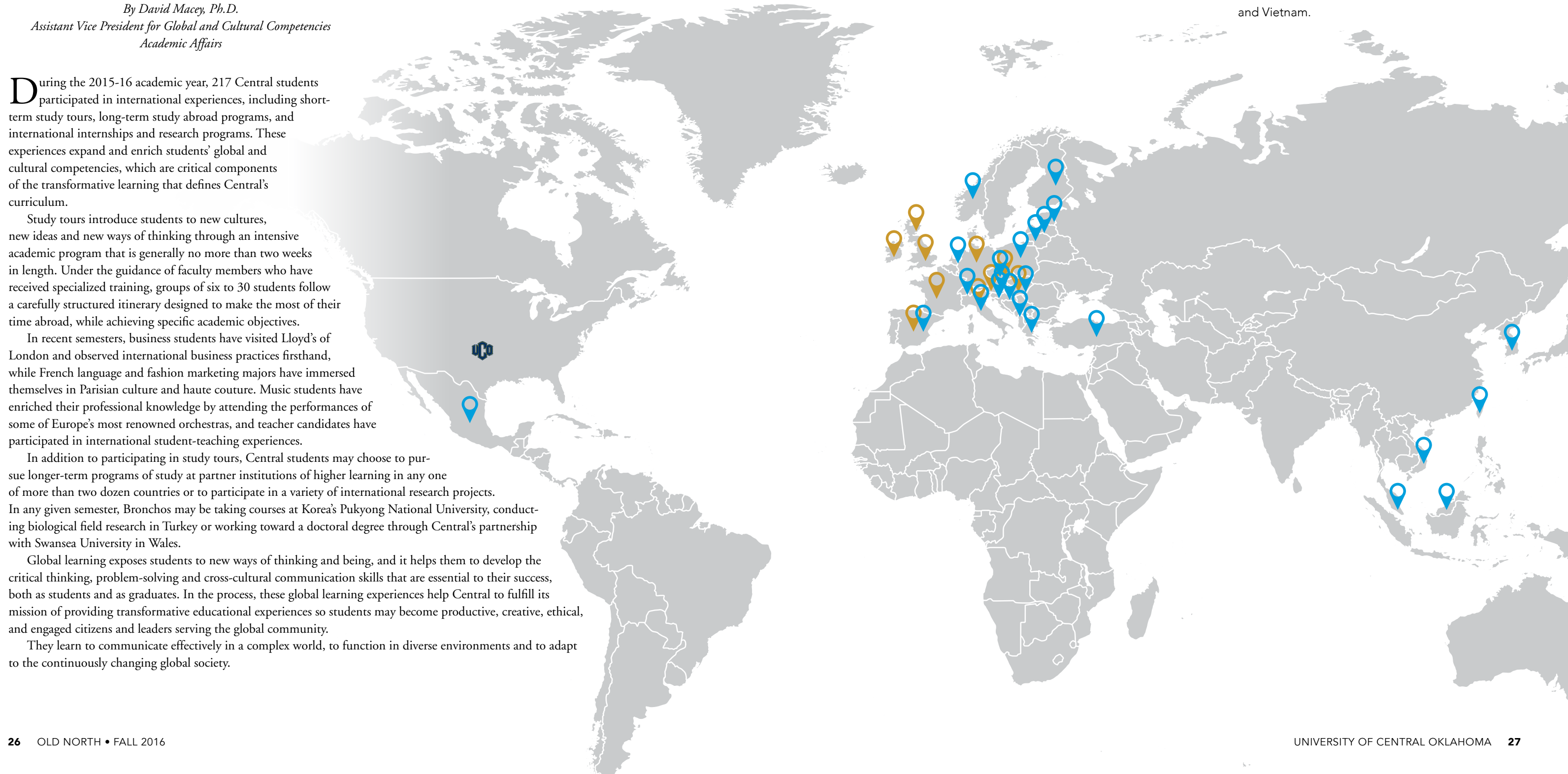
They learn to communicate effectively in a complex world, to function in diverse environments and to adapt to the continuously changing global society.



For three hours of credit, students may opt for study tours to Paris, Scotland, Italy, Spain, Germany, London/Dublin, Berlin/Prague/Vienna/Budapest, Marseille to Madrid, London/Rome, Pauda/Venice, and the British Isles.



For students who want to spend more time abroad, semester studies are available in Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Vietnam.



Honoring Our Own

The UCO Alumni Association will hold its annual Alumni Awards Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in the Grand Ballrooms of Nigh University Center.

Receiving the 2016 Distinguished Alumni Awards are Freda Deskin, Ph.D., (BSEd '70); Jay Krottinger (BM '06, MM '12); Michael G. Moore (BBA '83, MBA '87); Brad D. Parrott (BA '75); and Gerry Pinkston, Ed.D., (MEd '75).

Read more about the honorees in the following pages.

Then, plan to join them at the awards luncheon. Tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased by calling UCO Alumni Relations at 405-974-5056 or registering online at CentralConnection.org/DAA.

Tickets must be reserved by Friday, Oct. 21.

For a complete listing of UCO alumni homecoming activities, visit CentralConnection.org/Homecoming or call 405-974-2421.

Freda Deskin, Ph.D. (BSEd '70)

Distinguished Alumna Freda Deskin, Ph.D., has always kept her eye on the sky, spending more than 46 years weaving together her passion for children and championing STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs.

Deskin is an award-winning educator with 46 years as a teacher in Oklahoma's rural, suburban and inner city schools. She also taught at the University of Oklahoma (OU) College of Education where she received the Career Achievement Award before becoming the founding dean of STEM education at Oklahoma City University (OCU). She is superintendent and founder of ASTEC Charter School, an inner-city public school with a highly diverse student body in Oklahoma City.

Out of necessity, Deskin began working at 13. That drive and determination continued through her studies while she earned a bachelor's in elementary education from Central and a master's and doctorate from OU. She also holds a certificate in strategic management from Harvard University, has completed post-graduate work in international finance at OCU and has more than 2,500 clock hours of training in the aerospace sciences.

"I didn't know much about higher education since neither of my parents had the opportunity to attend college," wrote Deskin. "I had high school teachers who talked about the best teachers' college in the state — Central State in Edmond."

After high school, Deskin moved to Edmond with money she had saved from her various jobs. It wasn't until on campus that she realized she was \$100 short. "My grandmother loaned me the \$100 I needed, and I went back and completed enrollment with the help of several employees."

The investment paid off.

Deskin has been placed in the Journal Record's Circle of Excellence and was named Woman of the Year by the Girl Scouts.



She was selected in 1985 from a field of more than 11,000 applicants to become a national candidate in NASA's "Teacher-in-Space" project. She then founded the Oklahoma Aerospace Academy summer space camps, introducing tens of thousands of students to STEM subjects for 26 summers and earning her a place in the National Women in Aerospace Hall of Fame.

She founded the Oklahoma Odyssey of the Mind, the OU and OCU Ropes Leadership courses, and she is the co-founder of For Youth Initiatives, a dropout awareness program.

She is a graduate of Leadership Norman and Leadership Oklahoma City, and a lifetime member of Leadership Oklahoma. Deskin is the current education chair for the Annie Oakley Society of the Cowboy Hall of Fame and Western Heritage Center, and she is in the Oklahoma Educator's Hall of Fame. What might she tell others? "My advice would be to seek out and take advantage of everything available at UCO. I would also advise that success is nothing more than passion paired with tenacity. The path to higher education is difficult for most. However, thousands have been through the difficult challenge of balancing work with study and socializing, and so can they."

Jay Krottinger (BM '06, MM '12)

Tony Award winner Jay Krottinger epitomizes what so many say about Central — students come here expecting a general college experience and leave with so much more. While a student, Krottinger found himself pushed to perform beyond his own expectations. He now carries that passion and drive into the management of multiple companies and creative projects.

Krottinger is chief operating officer and co-founder of Tanning Cos., with interest in biotech development and marketing, neurologic diagnostic technologies, restaurants, real estate development, film and Broadway.

Over the last 10 years, he and his husband, Ryan Jude Tanner, have developed and partnered with other community investors,



Photo by Tony Li - The Tony Li Project

launching IQ Surgical, a healthcare marketing firm; MixCo, a Tulsa gastro pub; and the historic renovation of Tulsa's Kendall-Whittier square's Swinney Hardware building.

His Square 1 Theatrics received the Tony Award for the 2013 Broadway revival of "Pippin." Currently, Square 1 has Grammy nominee Sara Bareilles' hit, "Waitress," running on Broadway, where it's garnered four Tony nominations and run neck-in-neck with "Hamilton" for weekly attendance. Square 1 also earned a 2015 Olivier nomination for co-producing the 2009 Tony Award-winning musical "Memphis," in London's West End. The company is developing "Body Electric," a documentary that looks at body image issues in the LGBTQ+ community. Square 1 is close to releasing Del Shores' "A Very Sordid Wedding," starring Academy Award winner Whoopi Goldberg and Emmy Award winner Leslie Jordan.

At UCO, he said he found dedicated, powerful and inspiring faculty. "The campus was in the midst of a major beautification project, and students were discovering UCO had more to offer than realized, even though our professors were often challenged to work with less than ideal circumstances with lack of state funding," wrote Krottinger. "It allowed me the opportunity to dig deeper and focus on me as a student, honing my craft and doing what most of us do best when we are in college — discovering ourselves before we embark on the big world."

Krottinger serves on the board for TulsaCARES, delivering social services to HIV/AIDS patients, and Central's College of Fine Arts and Design Advisory Board. He and his husband co-chaired the 2016 Red Ribbon Gala, raising nearly \$1 million.

With bachelor's and master's degrees in music theater and opera, he credits several professors with making lifelong impressions on him, including Marylyn Govich, DMA; Greg White, Ph.D.; Ted Honea, Ph.D.; and Hui Poos, who told Krottinger, "If you can learn to dance in this world, you can do anything."

As for what he might tell others, Krottinger wrote, "Be you — follow your goals, dreams and aspirations. Live up your college life while it lasts!"

Michael G. Moore (BBA '83, MBA '87)

"Mike" Moore knows the value of hard work. Growing up in Oklahoma City, he worked full time while attending what was then Central State University. Now he finds himself at the helm of one of Oklahoma's leading oil and gas producers, Gulfport Energy Corp.

Moore chose Central for its flexible scheduling and location. He never imagined the relationships he would form with faculty and staff along the way.

"I needed a university that could provide a robust schedule of classes both during the day and at night so I could work full time and support myself and my wife, along with paying my tuition at the same time," wrote Moore.

His fondest memories of his days at Central involve the faculty and staff, who he felt took a personal interest in both him and his fellow students.

"I had many great professors in both my undergraduate and graduate programs. However, Dr. Donald Fleming in finance was not only a great teacher, but also a very special mentor for me. I always felt like he saw something in me that I did not even see in myself. His encouragement, friendship and guidance gave me the confidence to realize my goals," wrote Moore.

Moore is president and chief executive officer of Gulfport Energy and was named to its board of directors in April 2014. Previously, he was the chief financial officer, secretary and vice president. Before Gulfport Energy, Moore was vice president and chief financial officer of Indian Oil Co. and served as controller for DLB Oil & Gas Inc. and LEDCO.

"The education I received at UCO and the attention and mentorship from my professors definitely shaped who I am today," said Moore, who has a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance and his Master of Business Administration from UCO.



As for the future of his alma mater, Moore deemed the possibilities endless.

"There are many new buildings and enrollment records set each year," wrote Moore. "As OKC's premier metropolitan university, I would like for UCO to continue to grow and add more doctoral programs. In addition, I would hope that we continue to find ways to connect more alumni back to the university."

As for advice for others, "I would encourage fellow alumni to find a way to give back to UCO either financially or through service," Moore wrote.

"To students, I would encourage them to spend time getting involved in the many clubs, organizations and leadership opportunities available on campus. Prospective employers want well-rounded employees, not just academics. In addition, I would encourage them to access their great educational resource — the amazing professors we have here at UCO!"

Brad D. Parrott
(BA '75)

Communication has always played a big role in Brad Parrott's life. From his time at Southwestern Bell to his years working to ensure the University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) saw its place in Conference USA, Parrott credits his choice to attend UCO as one of the best decisions of his life.

Parrott's high school journalism teacher introduced him to journalism professors at both the University of Oklahoma (OU) and what was then Central State University. His next decision prepared him for where he is today, he said. OU offered him a \$500 scholarship, while UCO offered a job at The Vista, Central's student-run newspaper.

Parrott served as The Vista sports editor and news editor before transitioning his junior year to sports editor at the Edmond Sun Booster. Just nine months later, he was working as a sports writer for The Daily Oklahoman and The Oklahoma City Times.

"About the time I would have been able to work on the OU student newspaper, I was working for a major daily newspaper," wrote Parrott. "The hands-on experience provided by The Vista gave me an 18-24 month jump on other journalism graduates. This writing and reporting experience has been the foundation of my entire business career."

Parrott spent 23 years with Southwestern Bell, now AT&T, working in various areas before being named area vice president-external affairs where he managed community and government relations in South Texas.

He now serves as senior associate athletic director at UTSA. During his 15-year UTSA career, he has been responsible for revenue development, marketing, communications, ticket sales, strategic planning, special projects and community relations for the UTSA Athletic Department. Over the last eight years, he has helped bring football to UTSA and moved the program to Conference USA.



A native of Midwest City, Parrott is a 1975 Central graduate with a bachelor's degree in journalism.

One of his fondest memories includes the time he spent covering Central athletics.

"Mark Winters, Phil Ball, Jimmy Rogers, Bobby Hunt and the other Central coaches were extremely good to me and gave me full access to their programs," wrote Parrott.

As for advice he might leave to alumni and students, Parrott wrote: "Adopting a greater vision for the athletic department will build equity in a UCO degree. You are who you run with. Running with a more visible set of peers will increase UCO's visibility and the value of all UCO degrees — those already earned and those earned in the future."

Gerry Pinkston, Ed.D.
(MEd '75)

Gerry Pinkston, Ed.D, has spent her professional career helping students rise to their highest potentials. A mainstay in Central women's athletics for 22 years, Pinkston still advocates for the women's programs through her volunteer work with UCO Athletics. She may have walked away from the field in 1997, but now she is back, helping raise funds for a new softball complex worthy of her Bronchos.

Pinkston is a professor emeritus at Central where she taught for 31 years in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Studies in the College of Education and Professional Studies. She also served as head women's softball coach for 22 years and head volleyball coach for seven years.

During her softball tenure, Pinkston had an overall record of 418-271-1. She coached 12 All American players, along with



many players with district and regional honors. Her UCO team was selected to play against the first-ever U.S. Olympic Softball Team as it traveled the country in preparation for the Olympics. She also served as the head coach in 1987 for the U.S. Athletes in Action softball team that toured Sweden and Finland.

Pinkston earned both her undergraduate and doctoral degrees from Oklahoma State University. She received a master's in health and physical education from Central in 1975. During her time pursuing the master's degree, Pinkston credits Central faculty with motivating her to stay at the university.

"All the professors I had were very good, and I really looked forward to coming to class. They were so knowledgeable and cared about each student. It made me want to be a part of their faculty," wrote Pinkston.

Pinkston has been the recipient of many awards and recognitions including induction into the National Fastpitch Softball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, the Oklahoma State University College of Education Hall of Fame, the UCO Athletic Hall of Fame and a recipient of the Oklahoma Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance Honor Award.

Pinkston stays active on campus with her work with the UCO Foundation Board of Trustees and the Emeritus Faculty Association.

"Because of my involvement with athletics at UCO, I am excited that athletic facilities will be upgraded, and in particular a new softball stadium. UCO outgrew the athletic facilities some time ago," wrote Pinkston.

She hopes other alumni and friends will jump on board.

"I would advise fellow alumni and current students to stay involved with UCO. Join the Alumni Association so that you can be informed of all the things that are happening at UCO. Then maybe there will be opportunities to give back by using your time, your talents, your gifts and your service. Go out and make UCO proud!"

TALES FROM THE FOOTBALL FIELD



Editor's Note: Since 2009, John Fitzgerald has been the color analyst for UCO football radio broadcasts. One of UCO football's biggest history fans, Fitzgerald is also one of Central's more decorated football players. He was named an All-American offensive linemen in each of his final three seasons with the Bronchos and was inducted into the UCO Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010. During his career at UCO, the Bronchos posted a 35-10 record, won two Lone Star Conference Championships, three Lone Star Conference North Division Championships and finished the 1998 season undefeated and ranked No. 1 in the nation. Fitzgerald was named to The Daily Oklahoman's State College All-Century Team in 1999, the UCO All-Century Team in 2005, the Lone Star Conference All-75th Anniversary Team in 2006 and has appeared on the ballot for the College Football Hall of Fame since 2015. A national account executive for Stryker Orthopaedics, Fitzgerald lives in Edmond with his wife, Kristin, and their children, Haley, age 11, and Tyler, age 9. The following are just some of the great stories he has collected from the history pages of UCO football.



*By John Fitzgerald (BBA '00)
UCO Football Color Analyst*

UCO has a deep football tradition, dating back to 1902 or 1904 — depending on whom you ask. However, it's a history that almost died before it started.

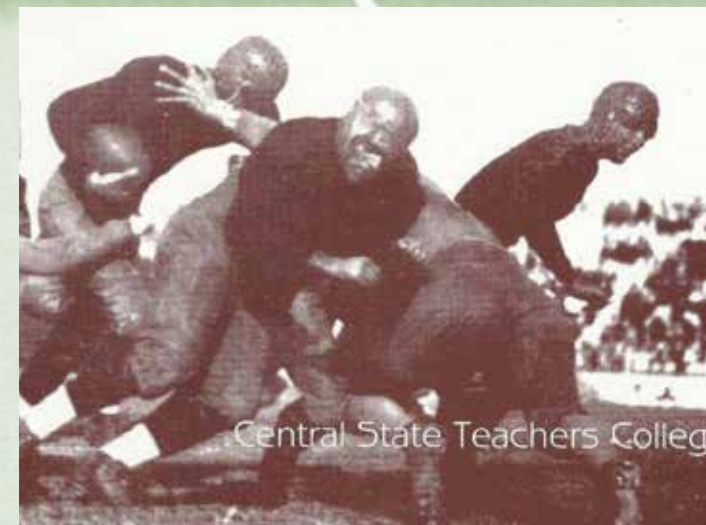
In 1905, college presidents all over the country were arguing about the sport and its violent nature. Several players had been catastrophically injured in previous seasons.

However, Central's president was having none of that. "I must confess that the game has been a good thing for Central Normal, in that it has increased the virility of the young men to a great degree. I know of no other athletic game that would have the same result," Central President Edward Umholtz said.

His concern was about competing with big universities. "The greatest objection I have to the game is the fact that Eastern colleges have the money with which to buy up the best players. In the United States, there are not more than 200 men weighing over 200 pounds, and it is this class of men the big institutions are trying to get hold of."

During those early years, the lack of rules and the informality of the game ensured that things were done in a way that, by today's standards, seem insane:

- In 1906, Central played the University of Oklahoma (OU) and the coaches of the two teams were the officials.
- In 1908, Central and Northwestern Oklahoma State played a contest that satisfied neither team. So, they agreed to get together the next week and play again!
- As if having a coach officiate his own game wasn't weird enough, in the 1909 contest against OU, Central's coach PLAYED in the game.
- In 1918, OU and Central were supposed to open the season against each other. However, Central "needed more practice," so Coach Wantland simply called OU and rescheduled the game for the next week.
- In 1932, Central and Southwestern tied for the conference championship. There was no conference championship game, so the two teams decided to get together and decide the champ on the field. Central won.
- Also in 1932, Central played Oklahoma State University (OSU) in what was the first game of a double header for O-State. Yes, they played two football games back to back.
- In 1933, a Central player was in his second season as a Broncho after he had played four years at two other universities.
- In 1938, in a game against Oklahoma Baptist, no officials showed up. A local official was telephoned, and the game was delayed 30



Central, in the dark/white helmets, beats OU in a 1924 game.

minutes so he could get there. He didn't have his uniform, so he officiated the game in "an old pair of pants and a leather jacket."

WAR YEARS

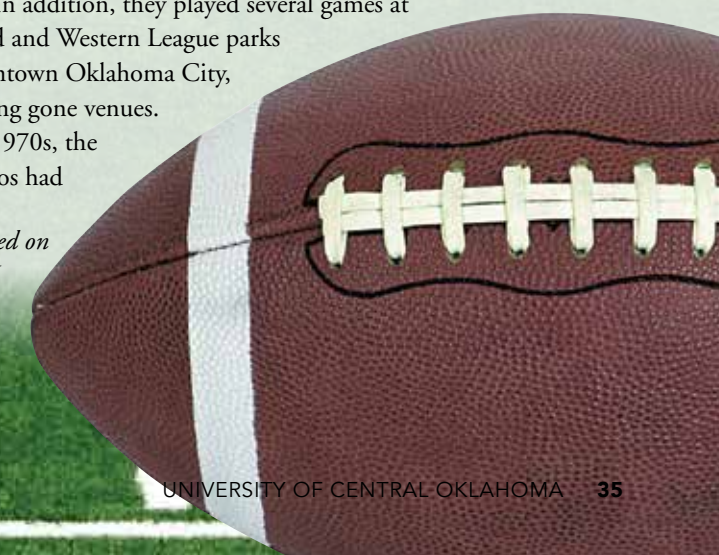
Prior to World War II, Central's last game of each season was typically a Thanksgiving Day contest. Most of the time, it was against East Central. These would be big family events to celebrate the holiday. It was also common for Central to schedule games against high schools, military bases and even an intramural team on one occasion.

After the 1942 season, football was discontinued due to the war. It would not return until 1946.

NEUTRAL SITES

Another common practice over the years was playing games at neutral sites. From 1908 to 1927, Central was a featured attraction at the State Fair of Oklahoma, mostly playing OU. The Bronchos also played at the Texas State Fair (vs. Baylor), the Shreveport State Fair (vs. Centenary) and the Muskogee Fair (vs. Northeastern State). In addition, they played several games at Colcord and Western League parks in downtown Oklahoma City, both long gone venues. In the 1970s, the Bronchos had

*continued on
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a four-year arrangement with Langston to play at Taft Stadium in Oklahoma City.

Speaking of playing OU and Baylor, Central defeated both of those teams (and Tulsa) during the 1924 season. OU and Baylor both won their conferences that year, but not before losing to the mighty Bronchos.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Travel arrangements to games definitely have changed over the years. In the early days, road trips were by train, even for games that today wouldn't seem far away. Playing Oklahoma City University, for example, was an all-day affair. Students would board the train with the team, taking a "vacation day." They would all return to Edmond on the night train, or sometimes a special train just for the team and its fans.

Buses and planes became more common in later years, but travel still wasn't like it is today. In 1962, when UCO made it to the national championship game in Sacramento, California, a charter plane flew the team. However, that plane originated in North Carolina, where it picked up UCO's opponent, Lenoir-Rhyne College. The Lenoir-Rhyne players took all the aisle and window seats, so the Bronchos were forced to take seats between two players from their opponent — unimaginable in today's sports world. However, there was sweet payback on the trip home. Central, having won the national title, boarded the plane first.

CONFRONTATIONS

Football is a tense, emotional game, sometimes leading to confrontations — some verbal, some physical. Central has seen plenty of both on the field. The year 1907 was particularly rough for the Bronchos. The team lost at Epworth (now Oklahoma City University),

but blamed the loss on the spectators tripping the Central ball carriers when they

got near the sidelines. Central also claimed spectators interfered with passes thrown close to the sidelines, and the officials did nothing about it. That same season, Oklahoma A&M (now OSU) came to Edmond to play the Bronze and Blue. The first half was marred by spectators from both sides interfering with game play. One Central player was disqualified for punching a fan. In the second half, the A&M team didn't like a call that the referee made, so they left. They just left. Game over.

In 1911, it was Central's turn to quit during a game. The Bronchos traveled to Tonkawa to take on University Preparatory School (now Northern Oklahoma Junior College). In a game marred by several skirmishes, a Central player was thrown out in the third quarter for fighting. The Bronchos felt like the referee had been unfair, so they just hopped in cars with spectators and went home.

The Bronchos had bench-clearing brawls in 1962 at Southeastern and in 1963 at Northeastern. Both required law enforcement to get things under control.

Central and Texas A&M-Kingsville had quite a rivalry during the Lone Star Conference years. In 2003, the Bronchos went to Kingsville for the quarterfinals of the NCAA playoffs. During the game, a Kingsville ball carrier went out of bounds on the Central sideline. A fight broke out. Some of Central's key position players were in danger of being ejected, so when the referee asked Broncho coach Chuck Langston who was involved, he sacrificed his kicker. AJ Haglund was ejected from the game, although he was not even involved in the altercation. In a return trip to Kingsville the next season, there were more skirmishes in the pregame. Unfortunately, Kingsville won both games.

In 1978, Central routed the Langston Lions. After the game, the Langston head coach would not shake hands with the Central staff. Broncho assistant coach John McGivern was quoted as saying, "We've always had a good relationship with Langston until this guy took over. He is too stupid to properly coach a football team, so he has to rely on his mouth, and you can quote me on that." Imagine that press clipping in today's major college football environment.

In 2002, UCO hosted Bacone College. UCO rolled up 56 points, including an "uncontested" two-point conversion. After Central scored its last touchdown, Bacone's coaches took their defense off the field for the extra point. They thought UCO was running up the score. After the game, Bacone's head coach said that it looked like UCO wanted more points, so he decided to give them two more. UCO Coach Gary Howard said the Bronchos would never play Bacone again.

So far, they haven't.



Central, in crazy striped uniforms, beat Iowa State in 1922.

BIG SCORES

With the quick passing game that exists in today's college arena, lots of points are put on the board. However, scores are nothing like the early 1900's. In 1916, Central defeated Oklahoma Methodist (now Oklahoma City University) 183-0. That's more than 17 touchdowns. The Bronchos amassed point totals of 157, 118 and 104 in other games, all before 1923.

In 1949, students from Northwestern Oklahoma State came to Central and painted "Beat Central" signs all over campus. They knew they would get a return visit from Central students seeking revenge, so they had 50 students guard all roads leading to their university on the eve of the Central/NWOSU game. Despite their guarding efforts, 13 Bronchos used an old ambulance to sneak on campus, painting "Beat Northwestern" all over NWOSU. However, they got caught. While running away, one was taken "prisoner." As the other 12 men tried to escape in their ambulance, a wheel came off and they crashed into a ditch. So, seven more men were taken captive. The "prisoners" were generally treated well, and the Northwestern students even gave them \$75 to fix the ambulance wheel.

It's fun to look back on the wins and losses on the field, but the stories around the games are what makes football such an interesting sport. UCO will surely make more unique memories in the seasons to come. Hopefully, someone will be there to document them.

There are several games in Central's history that are not in the record books because, for one reason or another, they never happened.

In 1915, Central was to open the season against OU at the State Fair. However, the game was canceled because the field was too muddy.

In 1918, the Bronchos were slated to travel to Henry Kendall College (now the University of Tulsa), but the Spanish Influenza was a nationwide epidemic that year, and the game was called off for a lack of healthy players. The flu outbreak was so bad that when Central played OU that year, no spectators were allowed to view the game.

A 1948 game at Oklahoma Panhandle State was canceled because of too much snow.

In 1957, the flu came back to Edmond in full force. With 24 players out with the illness, the Bronchos were forced to cancel a conference game at Southeastern.

One game that almost didn't happen ended up being the longest game in UCO history. In 2012, the Bronchos traveled to the University of Central Missouri. UCO jumped out to an early lead, stunning their highly ranked hosts in a light rain. Then lightning moved in. After seven hours at the stadium, only one quarter of the game was completed. The decision was made to come back on Sunday and play the rest of the game. The team had to find enough hotel rooms to stay another night. Central Missouri provided use of their laundry facilities for the team to wash and dry their uniforms for the next day. The worst part about the plan was that it allowed the Mules to regroup. They ended up besting the Bronchos when the final whistle blew on Sunday afternoon.

The weather was also a factor in the only "road" game Central ever played at Wantland Stadium. The Bronchos were slated to go to Texas A&M-Kingsville during the 2008 season, but Hurricane Ike was hammering the Texas coast. So, Kingsville was the "home" team at Wantland Stadium. Central wore road uniforms in a game that was played in a downpour.

Central Reads

By Joe Hight
E.K. Gaylord Endowed Chair
Of Journalism Ethics, Mass Communication

Books can make a major difference in our lives by changing perspectives on how we live, think or are conditioned.

Four recently published books all fit in that category. And their authors all have connections to Oklahoma, two to the University of Central Oklahoma.

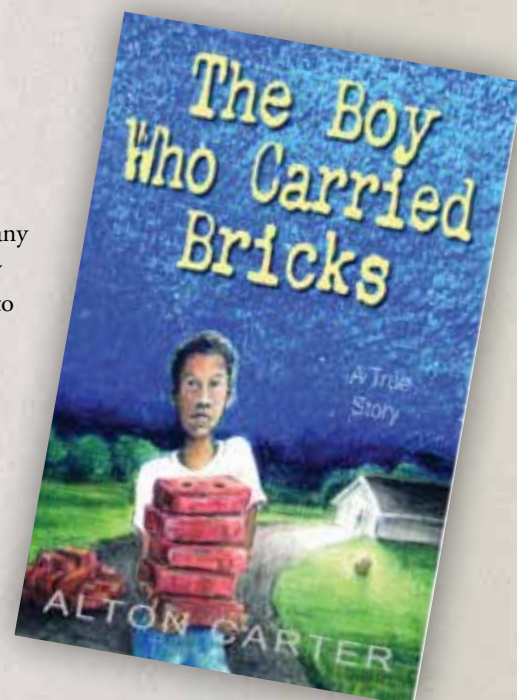
They are the nonfiction "The Boy Who Carried Bricks: A True Story" by Alton Carter; "The System of European American (white) Supremacy and African American (black) Inferiority" by Paul R. Lehman; "Ugly" by Robert Hoge; and "Tribe: On Homecoming and Belonging" by Sebastian Junger.

I've read and would recommend all of the following books for those wanting to look at diverse segments and perspectives in our society:

"The Boy Who Carried Bricks"

Carter is an inspiring speaker who has spread his message of hope and faith to many children since his book was published. It's about a decision he had to make at an early age: whether to remain in a neglectful and abusive lifestyle in his own family or go into Oklahoma's foster care system.

This eye-opening book from Oklahoma's RoadRunner Press keeps you intrigued as Carter goes from one home to another. It also will cause you to question the state's system, including its release of children when they are 18. It is an Oklahoma Book Award winner for young adult/children's books.

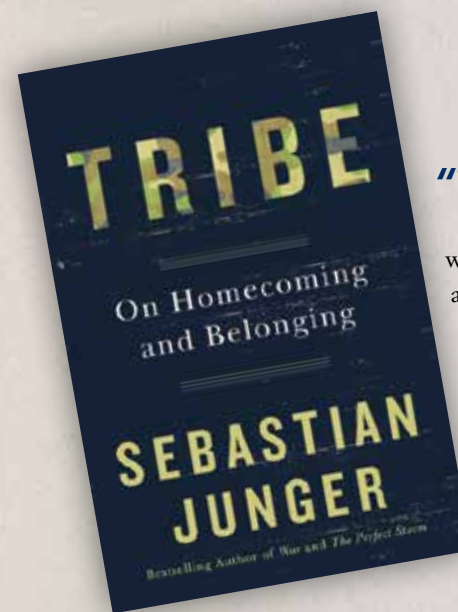
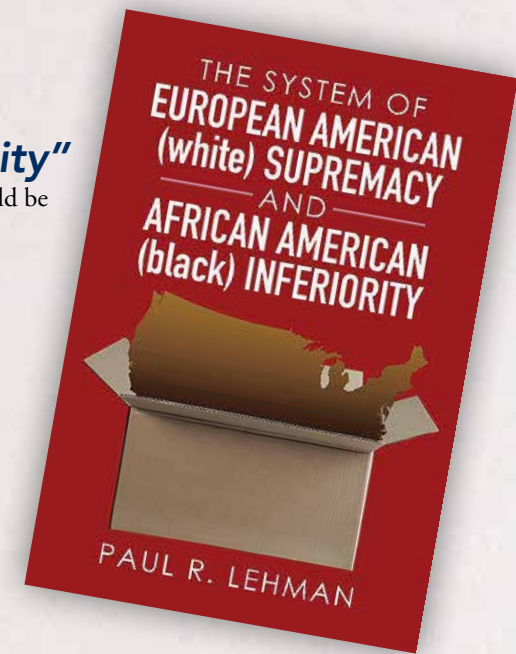


"The System of European American (white) Supremacy and African American (black) Inferiority"

The UCO professor emeritus detests labels. He thinks the words "race" and "racism" should be eliminated from our vocabulary because they tend to separate us.

Lehman's book is an in-depth look at the many issues concerning the emphasis and enforcement of white superiority over blacks in our society.

"If you accept the concept of the human race, then there is only one race," Lehman said during his recent signing at Best of Books. "European Americans don't see themselves as part of a race, but representatives of the human race. They have been socially conditioned to see themselves as superior and the black population as inferior."



"Tribe"

Junger's "The Perfect Storm" has been acclaimed as one of the best-written narrative nonfiction works. "Tribe" is much different in that it examines how we in our society have changed and remained the same from our deeply rooted tribal instincts. It also uses Junger's personal experiences in covering war as a journalist.

Junger was featured in April during the Metropolitan Library System's 14th Literary Voices dinner in Oklahoma City. "Tribe" was released the next month.

The book will make you reflect on veterans, how tribal customs of the past relate to who we are today, and why our society was more outraged by one soldier's actions than those of bankers during the 2008 financial collapse.

"Ugly"

This children's book is about the life of an Australian writer who was born with a large tumor on his face and leg deformities. A series of surgeries risked Hoge's life in removing the tumor and seeking to correct issues with his legs. As a teenager, he had to decide whether to face another risky surgery or remain ugly, as he calls it.

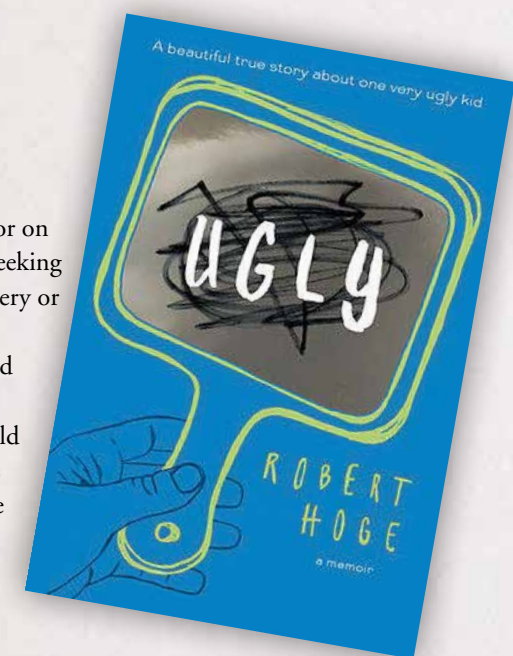
"We can acknowledge differences in appearance without attaching value to them," Hoge told Time magazine.

Hoge came to UCO and two Edmond schools to promote his recently released book. He told a packed crowd at the College of Education and Professional Studies that parents and educators should teach children not to let name-calling define them, to intervene in bullying and let those who are being bullied know they are not alone.

His and the other three books will change your perspective, if you're open to their messages.



Joe Hight (BA '80) is a Pulitzer Prize-winning and Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame editor who is UCO's E.K. Gaylord endowed chair of journalism ethics and president of Best of Books, an Edmond bookstore.



Construction Updates

Campus construction continues with spring 2017 completion dates now set for both Old North and Mitchell Hall. Sidewalks around both buildings are blocked, making campus travels innovative. Construction of the new west entrance to campus has been completed with landscaping underway. Visitors' parking has been moved to a new pay-lot on the northwest corner of University and Campbell. Meanwhile, work continues on the new UCO Softball Field, expected to be completed in time for games this spring. Visit blogs.uco.edu/central to see recent construction photos.



Staying Safe

Late nights out just got safer for Central students. The UCO Student Association (UCOSA) is partnering with Uber this fall to offer free rides for UCO students from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursday through Saturday. The program covers up to \$20 of an Uber ride within the designated safe ride zone, which extends from Covell Road to Interstate 40 and I-44 to I-35. Trips that exceed \$20 or take place outside the zone will be charged to the student's Uber account. To learn more about the safe ride program, visit www.uco.edu/UCOSA.



Making the Grade

UCO once again has ranked among the top colleges and universities in the nation on the 2017 Best Colleges list from U.S. News & World Report. Central was No. 32 in the list of Tier One institutions in the "Top Public Schools: Regional Universities — West" category and No. 88 in the overall list of regional universities in the west.



UCO has been climbing the list since 2011. The rankings affirm Central's commitment to helping and educating students through transformative learning experiences. "At a time of significant challenge and profound

change, our students, faculty, staff, alumni and community are forging a pathway to excellence and distinction," said President Betz.

Just A-Swingin'

This fall, one of the more fun additions to campus has been the hammocks. Thanks to the Housing and Dining Office, Central now has some new places to hang out, study or even sleep.

Students are taking advantage of these relaxing spots, which can be found near Buddy's, in the Commons' courtyard and in the West Hall courtyards.



– Central Happenings by Lauren Lewis, University Communications intern



1890 Legacy Society: *A Plan with a Purpose*

Countless scholarships, professorships, research funds and program support have been funded with planned gifts. And, thanks to you and others like you, Central will continue to thrive as a leading public university far into the future.

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ALUMNI NOTES

1960's



Gary Howard (MT '67), a former Central head football coach, was honored for distinguished service at the Oklahoma Coaches Association

Hall of Fame induction. Howard was recognized for his 34 years of football coaching, including 24 years as head coach at Central. In 2014, Howard was named to Central's Luminary Society's inaugural list of 125 honorees.

1970's

William Jones, (BS '73) joined Clark Seif Clark's management group as the vice president of industrial hygiene. Graduating

with a degree in chemistry from Central, he has worked in the environmental and safety profession for more than 30 years.

1980's

Hugh Earnheart (BS '85) has been named vice president and officer at Coilmaster Corp., a manufacturer of heat transfer equipment located in Moscow, Tennessee. He previously served as the director of information technology. Earnheart holds a bachelor's degree in computer science and mathematics from Central. **Stacy Blackburn Crabtree** (MBA '85) has been named



president of Landmark Bank of Ada. A native of Ada, Crabtree worked in Wichita, Kansas, at Intrust Bank for 19 years before accepting the position at

Landmark. She is the bank's first female president. **Mike Sherman** (BA '86) was named the new sports editor of the Tampa



Bay Times in St. Petersburg, Florida, after leading The Oklahoman's sports department for more than 14 years. Brig. Gen. **Alicia Tate-Nadeau**

(BS '87, DAA '15), the Illinois National



Guard's first female general, was appointed as the executive director of the Office of Emergency Management and Communications. Joining the military in 1984, Tate-Nadeau graduated

as a second lieutenant through Central's

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Ebony Iman Dallas



Ebony Iman Dallas (BA '03) celebrated the courage of women with her solo art exhibition "Women in War Zones," that opened in February 2016 at the Project Box in the Paseo Arts District. Sponsored by the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition, the exhibition had 15 portraits of women, each facing a different hardship or challenge.

Dallas said she is "inspired to share tales of those who have faced trauma and injustice rarely highlighted in our media. This is an effort to increase awareness and understanding beyond the veil. To see the humanity in individuals who don't look, sound or pray like us is a precursor to sustainable peace worldwide."

Dallas earned her bachelor's degree at Central before moving to California to work in advertising and obtain her master's in fine arts. She returned to Oklahoma to work for The Oklahoman as a creative designer. Her next exhibition, titled "Women at War," will be at the Owen's Art Place Museum in Guthrie, Oklahoma, on Dec. 10. For more information, visit www.ebonyimandallas.com.

Leia Johnson

Leia Johnson (BAEd '02, MA '05) serves as the president of Somebody's Mama, a nonprofit benefiting impoverished women worldwide by investing in partnerships that bring communities of women together to make a difference. Started as a mission to raise awareness about women's healthcare, education, economic empowerment and ending violence against women, the organization has funded projects in Sierra Leone, India, Uganda and South Sudan, among others.



Johnson attributes her success to Amy Carrell, Ph.D., in the UCO English department.

"As a student at UCO, I was certainly inspired by Dr. Amy Carrell, whose life as a professor, wife and mother is an example of a woman who wears many hats and leads with integrity, much like all of us involved with Somebody's Mama's work," Johnson said.

The current goal of Somebody's Mama, partnered with the Preemptive Love Coalition, is to raise \$10,000 for economic empowerment grants for refugee women in Syria and Iraq, to help start a self-sustaining soap-making business. All Somebody's Mama projects are funded through Love Clubs, volunteer-run events where women gather with friends to raise money.

For more information about Johnson and Somebody's Mama, visit www.somebodysmama.com.

Margret Flansburg, Ph.D.



Margret Flansburg, Ph.D., a UCO emeritus professor, was inducted into the Chickasaw Nation Hall of Fame in May. A retired professor in the Department of Humanities and Philosophy, she was a department chair, acting assistant dean for the College of Liberal Arts and field director for international study trips. She retired in 2002. Her artwork has been displayed nationwide, including the Denver Art Museum in Colorado. She serves on the boards of KUCO classical radio, Chamber Music Oklahoma and Wilson Arts Inc. Flansburg has won multiple awards for her art and has been inducted into the Duncan Public Schools Foundation Hall of Fame.

ROTC program. **Keith Beeman**, Ph.D., (MEd '85) joined Victor Valley Union High School in Victorville, California, as its new assistant superintendent of human resources. A native of Kansas City, Missouri, Beeman previously worked for school districts throughout California.

Cherie Scudamore (BSEd '89) was named the 2016 Teacher of the Year at the Owasso Seventh Grade Center. Working in education for more than 25 years, Scudamore is a special education teacher.

1990's

Philip Hixon (BBA '90) has been named a new shareholder at the GableGotwals Law Firm at their Tulsa location. Representing clients in a variety of legal matters, Hixon is a recognized attorney with Martindale-Hubbell and a Super Lawyers Rising Star. **Mary Teal**, CPA (BS '94, MBA '02) was honored with the Oklahoma Society of Certified Public Accountants 2016 Outstanding Accounting Educator Award at the Oklahoma Accounting Educators Conference. An assistant professor of Accounting at Central, she is the 35th recipient of the award. Quail Creek Bank has promoted **Lacey Biffle** (BS '98) to vice president. The president of the Village Lions club and board member of the Central Oklahoma Clearing House Association, Biffle graduated from Central with a degree in business. **Bryan Scott** (BBA '98) has been



Katie Saylor writes Alumni Notes and In Memory. She is a marketing assistant for UCO's Office of University Communications. Please send notes to UCO, University Communications, 100 North University, Box 201, Edmond, OK 73034, or email ucomm@uco.edu with "Alumni Note" in the subject line.

named vice president at Quail Creek Bank. Graduating with a degree in business administration from UCO, Scott joined Quail Creek Bank in 1996. **Rich Tortorelli** (BA '99) was selected as the 2016



Sports Information Director of the Year by the Sooner Athletic Conference. Graduating with a degree in journalism from Central, he directs sports information and publicity for Oklahoma City University.

2000's

The Riley Exploration Group has promoted **Corey Riley** (BS '00) to president after his serving as its chief financial officer since 2012. **Julie Crowell** (BBA '01) was promoted to vice president/human resources at Quail Creek Bank. Certified as a senior professional in human resources, she graduated from Central with a degree in business management. **Justin Coffelt** (BSEd '01, MEd '10) was named in March as Edmond Public School's new director of facilities and district operations. He served as the principal of Edmond Memorial High School for more than two years before accepting the new position. Northwestern Oklahoma State University has hired **Tasha Turney Diesselhorst** (MEd '07) as its women's basketball coach. Previously the head coach of the Lady Panthers at Pond Creek-Hunter High School, she was selected as the Skeltur Conference Coach of the Year seven times. **S. Shane Pate II** (MA '07) has been named the new city manager of Nichols Hills. Previously serving as an attorney for Nichols Hills, he holds a master's degree in public administration from Central.

2010's

Smith, Carney and Co. CPA announced the promotion of **Matt Holland**, CPA, CVA (BS '10) to tax manager. Holland graduated from Central with a bachelor of science in accounting in 2010. **Jordan**



Adkisson (BS '11) was selected as one of the 2016 National Safety Council's Rising Stars of Safety. Currently the safety coordinator at Timberlake

Construction in Oklahoma City, Adkisson was chosen from more than 100 nominees. He earned his bachelor's degree in industrial safety. **Tony Rose** (MEd '11) was named principal of Edmond Memorial High School. Beginning his teaching career as a science teacher at Cheyenne Middle School, he was selected as the Cheyenne Teacher of the Year and Edmond Teacher of the Year for the 2010-11 school year.

Terry Sloan (BS '13) joined Rocket Federal Credit Union as the new president and chief executive officer in August 2016. Sloan graduated with a bachelor of science in general studies from Central. The Associated Press Oklahoma News Editors named **Kyle Schwab** (BA '14) Best New Journalist of the Year. Schwab has been a courthouse reporter at The Oklahoman for more than two years, covering high-profile trials in the Oklahoma City metro. **Rachel Tessier** (BA '15) joined MA+ Architecture as the director of marketing and communications, generating content and serving as a liaison to clients. A native of Whittier, California, she graduated with a bachelor's degree in mass communications-photographic arts from Central.

IN MEMORY

1940s



Thelma Livingston Dibble (BS '40) died April 26, 2016. A longtime teacher, she was named Teacher of the Year by Rising Sun Middle School and Senior Volunteer

of the Year at the Indiana State Fair. She was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Central Oklahoma.

1950s



Warren Smith, Ph.D., (BS '50) died June 12, 2016. A retired Central professor, he also served in the Navy and was a nuclear researcher.

1960s

William "Bill" McVay (BSEd '61, MEd '71) died May 3, 2016. He was a teacher with Oklahoma City Public Schools, retiring in 1990 as the arts curriculum coordinator. He also served as president for Oklahoma County Retired Teachers. **Jeane Ann Boydston** (BSEd '62) died February 28, 2016. Earning a degree in elementary education from Central, she worked as a teacher for Oklahoma City Public Schools until resigning to be a stay-at-home mom. She was active with many different organizations, including the Junior Service League, Salvation Army Auxiliary and Jaycee James. **Maridale Bitterfield** (BSEd '67) died March 25, 2016. A member of the Delta Zeta sorority, she graduated with a degree in health and physical education from Central.

1970s

Randell “Randy” Lloyd Cook (BBA ’73) died April 18, 2016. During his career, he served at the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant as the director of quality assurance, the director of logistics operations and the director of ammunition operations. **Ralph Warren Crum** (BS ’76) died June 10, 2016. Enlisting in the Marines at age 18, he served in Korea and Vietnam before retiring as a captain after 22 years. He obtained his bachelor’s degree in accounting from UCO, earning his CPA and eventually starting his own accounting firm. **Eldon Leon Anderson** (BBA ’77) died May 6, 2016. Having worked at Lucent Technologies and First American Title and Trust, he enjoyed country music, playing the guitar and spending time with his dog, Scooby. **Stephen Warren Miller** (BBA ’79) died April 9, 2016. A member of the Dewey United Methodist Church, he served as board chair. He also coached Special Olympics volleyball for many years, and played in tennis and bowling leagues.

1980s

Franklin Harold Hudson (BBA ’80) died February 8, 2016. After serving in the Marines, he worked as an accountant at Leeway Trucking Co., the Oklahoma Tax Commission and the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. **Mona Sutton Gardner** (BSEd ’84, MEd ’89) died April 23, 2016. Teaching elementary school for several years, Gardner also was an Indian youth counselor in Putnam City Schools.

1990s

John L. Elder (MA ’91, MA ’95) a former Central faculty member, died March 4, 2016. He served in the Army before becoming a musical composer, performing with his band “Twelfth Street.” He taught in the multimedia and history departments



at Central. **Patricia E. “Pat” Fowler** (BS ’90) died July 12, 2016. A graduate of Central High School, she worked at Central Bank in Oklahoma City before getting a

bachelor’s degree at UCO. **Lynn Crockett Clarke** (MA ’95) died March 20, 2016. She attended Durant Public Schools and Oklahoma A&M University before obtaining a master’s degree at Central. **Edward Timothy Dehan II** (BA ’98) died May 30, 2016. Working as a recruiter for various oil and gas companies, he initiated and developed Chesapeake Energy’s junior military officer hiring program. Dehan enjoyed classic rock, Star Wars and the Oklahoma City Thunder basketball team.

2000s

Christopher R. Mackey (BS ’01, MS ’06) died July 21, 2016, in McAlester, Oklahoma. After graduating with a degree in physics engineering from Central in 2001, he returned to obtain his master’s degree in physics engineering in 2006. A member of UCO’s Presidential Partners, Mackey worked at Northrop Grumman for 15 years, was a member of the Henderson Hills Baptist Church and played trombone in the church orchestra at First Baptist Church of Edmond. **Dennis Lee Portis III**, Ph.D., (MEd ’05) died May 8, 2016. He received his master’s degree in education at Central, later becoming the associate superintendent

of instruction at Metro Technology Centers. A member of the Omega Psi Phi fraternity, he enjoyed fishing, golfing and traveling with his wife.

2010s

Mandy Lynn Johnson (BBA ’11) died June 27, 2016. After graduating from Central, she worked for Dell Computers.

Former Students

Jerry Lynn Eaton, a former student at Central, died May 5, 2016. He spent 23 years working for the Village Police Department, becoming chief of police in 1971 and retiring in 1983. He enjoyed renovating homes, golfing and fine art.

Former Faculty

James Brewster, Ed.D., a Central emeritus professor of management, died May 12, 2016. He served in the Navy and worked as an FBI agent, retiring as an assistant special agent in charge in the Oklahoma City office. He began teaching at Central in 1982, retiring from the College of Business in 1995.

Kenneth Elsner died April 3, 2016. He served Central for more than 22 years before retiring as dean of the College of Education. He also was a former principal and superintendent of Butner Schools, and he worked for the Oklahoma State Department of Education.



Old North Staff

UCO President Don Betz
Vice President, University Communications Charles Johnson
Editor Gypsy Hogan (BA ’74)
Art Director Craig Beuchaw (BA ’92)
Photographic Services Daniel Smith (BA ’77, MEd ’93)
Alumni Records Wendy Lackmeyer

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Tom Daniels

Retired Brig. Gen. **Tom Daniels** (BA ’77, DAA ’14) died June 2, 2016, in Fort Worth, Texas. In his professional life, he made history by breaking racial barriers and succeeding in both the military and broadcast news. He became Oklahoma’s first African-American Air Force general and Oklahoma City’s first African-American anchor on Channel 9. He began his military career enlisting in the Air Force in 1965, where he became a pilot and Vietnam veteran. In 1974, while serving in the Oklahoma Air Guard, he joined Channel 9. While in the guard, he served

in numerous command positions at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., returning to Oklahoma where he was responsible for rescue and recovery efforts after the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Building. He later was diagnosed with a 100-percent service-connected disability that resulted in a double lung transplant. He became an advocate for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder. His hometown of Guthrie named its airport corridor in his honor, and the Oklahoma History Museum completed an exhibit in 2014 about his achievements. Central presented him with its Distinguished Alumni Award in 2014.



Lloyd Noel

Lloyd Noel (BA ’56, DAA ’74) died May 27, 2016. Born in Perry, Oklahoma, in 1931, he grew up in Oklahoma City before attending Central on a debate scholarship. Noel brought the Tau Kappa Epsilon national fraternity to campus, presiding over the chapter as its founding president. He served in the Air Force from 1950-54, returning to Central to resume his studies after attaining the rank of staff sergeant. An accomplished debater, he was named the national debate champion twice. He met his future wife, Wanda Stites, an administrative secretary at Central. Together, they moved to California and started UCO alumni chapters throughout the West Coast. He received UCO’s Distinguished Alumni Award in 1974 and the Broncho Award in 1990, Central’s centennial year.

Working at Lockheed Aircraft Corp. in Burbank, California, for more than 32 years, he and his wife continued to learn and travel the world. After retiring, the couple returned to Edmond, where they were active on the UCO Foundation Board. He served as chair of the scholarship committee.

Barbara Chase Putrell eulogized Noel, saying, “His legacy is that of an intelligent, educated, articulate and compassionate man ... (who) left his mark in industry and education and in the hearts of his friends.”



Lloyd Noel and wife, Wanda, in 1970.

Paul Donat, M.D.

Paul Donat, M.D. (BS '58, DAA '08) died March 30, 2016. He graduated from Central with a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry and attended medical school in Oklahoma, completing his fellowship in renal metabolic and urology. A recipient of the Bronze Star Medal after serving as chief of urology at the 8th Field Hospital and chief of professional services in Vietnam, he organized the first dialysis center at Integris Baptist Medical Center in Oklahoma City. He started a chronic dialysis program in 1963.

A tireless researcher, Donat taught at the University of Oklahoma's College of Medicine for 42 years and participated in more than 6,000 radical perineal prostatectomies. A licensed physician in the state of Oklahoma for 53 years, he was a co-founder of Urology Associates Inc. in Oklahoma City.

He was the first recipient of the Pioneer in Urology Award, given by the department of urology at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center.



Ronald Lloyd Paddack, Ed.D.



Ronald Lloyd Paddack, Ed.D., a former faculty member and founder of UCO's International Office, died March 14, 2016. Born in Alex, Oklahoma, in 1938, he received his bachelor's and master's degrees from East Central University in Ada before joining the U.S. Department of Defense Overseas School System. He taught in Korea, Germany, Turkey, Japan and at the University of Guam.

Paddack came to Central in 1976 and created UCO's International Office, recruiting students from around the world. During this time, the U.S.

Department of State appointed him to evaluate foreign education in Bulgaria and Canada. He also was considered an authority in International Education Evaluation, writing articles and speaking across the country.

Retiring from Central in 2006 after more than 30 years of service, he was a member of the Oklahoma Visitors Council, the Edmond Kiwanis Club and the Traveller's Century Club. Paddack was inducted into the UCO Luminary Society in 2015 and created the endowed Dr. Ronald Paddack Scholarship.



UCO Psychology major Asia Augustine proudly wears a T-shirt created last spring by the UCO Black Student Association. Augustine, a junior from Oklahoma City, is community service coordinator for the organization.

— Staff Photo by KT King



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