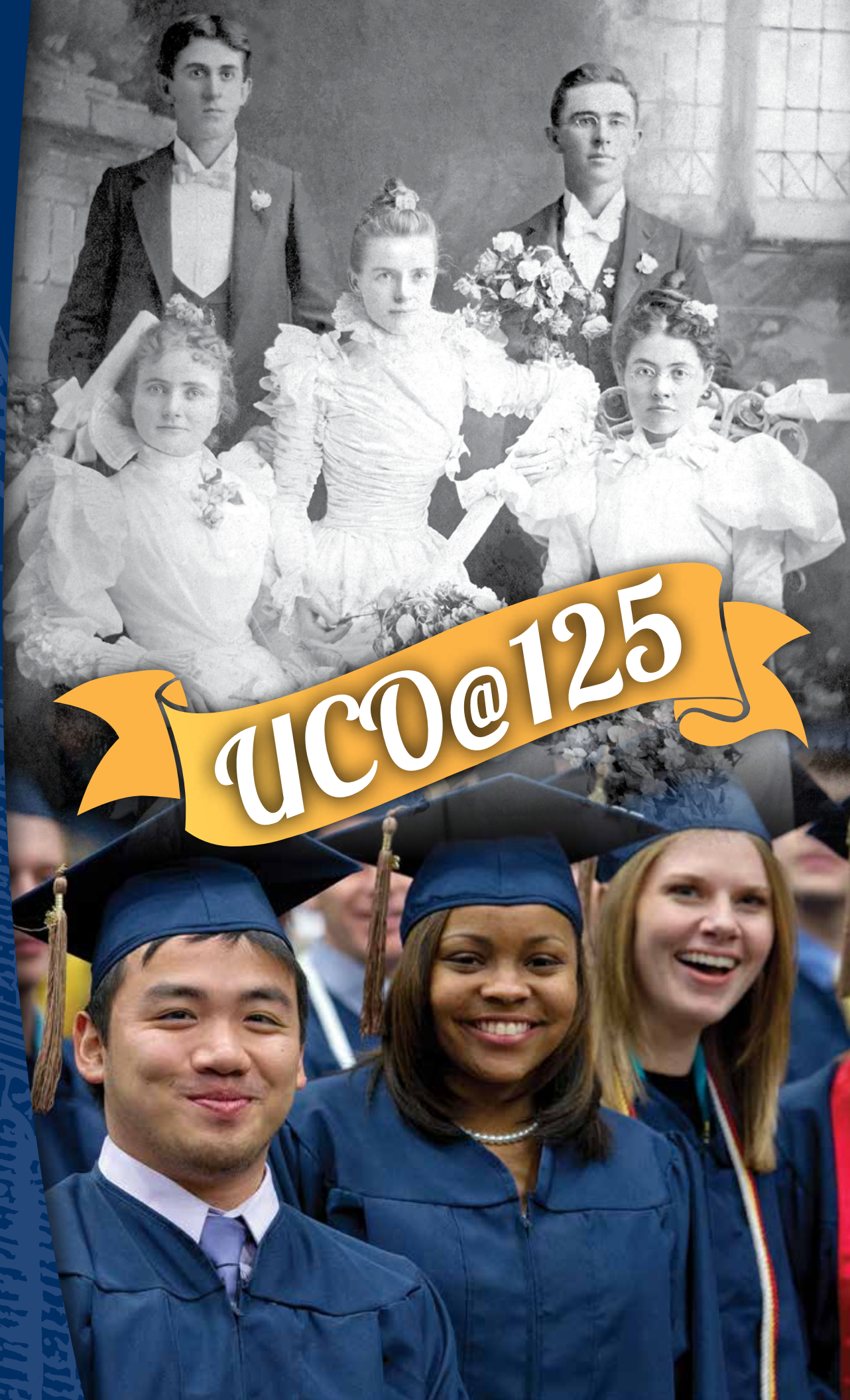


OLD NORTH

MAGAZINE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA

SPRING 2015 • VOL. LII, NO. 1



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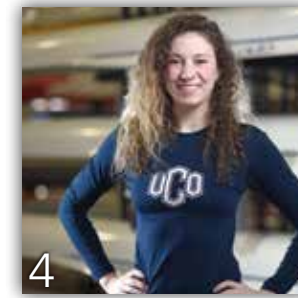


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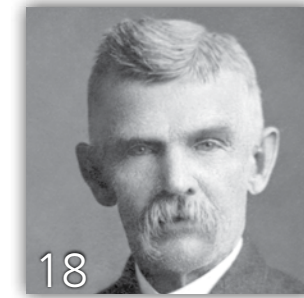
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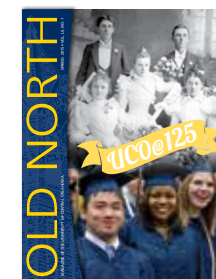
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...a magazine published by the University of Central Oklahoma for its alumni and friends.

On the Cover



ON THE COVER: UCO@125 remembers where we've been, where we are and where we're going as we celebrate 125 years since our founding in 1890. Shown at top are the first graduates, Class of 1897. Seated, from left, are Rose M. Jackson, Ida W. Belt and Phronia S. Eckes; standing, from left, are R. Mayburn Howard and John Adams. Below are some of UCO's more recent graduates, totaling more than 1,600 at the spring 2015 commencement.

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UCO@125, THE Celebration Has Begun

Dear Friends,

Spring 2015 has arrived, and UCO's redbud and cherry trees have contended for the most vibrant honors on the campus landscape. Within days, the cherry blossoms were followed by other seasonal plantings moving into full bloom, making a campus walk a delight to the senses.

The year 2015 is an institutional historic marker as we celebrate UCO@125, our yearlong commemoration of Central's distinguished legacy of service to the people of the Oklahoma Territory and the State of Oklahoma. The year began with a banner across page one of *The Oklahoman* on Jan. 1, declaring it the 125th year since the Territorial Normal School was established to meet the growing need for teachers and education across Oklahoma.

In each decade since 1890, Central grew and changed with the place and people it served. And while it has welcomed students from across the world, most of our graduates have lived, worked, raised families, started businesses and served as engaged citizens within a 150 mile radius of our Edmond campus. Central, UCO, is in and of this place, and has been since our beginning. For us at UCO, this place matters.

UCO@125 will continue throughout the year with special guests, distinctive programming and a continuing series of events showcasing the multiple talents and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni. The breadth and depth of our faculty and staff expertise is a continuing testimony to their dedication to their disciplines and to the quality of our learning community. Their connection to the curiosity and passion of our students creates a vitality and a sense of institutional culture that has been noted by many who visit UCO. This energy and focus are a direct reflection of the vision and values of those women and men who brought the Territorial Normal School to life in the cathedral of learning on the plains that we now affectionately call Old North. That spirit of learning, leading and serving animates our planning and our continuing commitment to the quality of our students and community experience.

In April, UCO's Boathouse on the Oklahoma River in downtown OKC opened to link arts and music to the river in our unique UCO style. So many hands, hearts and energies collaborated to produce yet another lasting link between UCO and the future of



President Betz visits with a student after a campus forum.

the OKC Metro. It is a dramatic fusion of architectural design and athletic and artistic functions. It is one of a series of initiatives linking UCO to the region's future as we honor the past, embrace the present and imagine our future intertwined with the OKC metro and our state.

Much more is to come in 2015. Please join us.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don Betz".

Don Betz
President

CLASSICAL RADIO

KUCO 90.1
KBCW 91.9 McAlester
KCSC 95.9 Woodward



Central Athlete To Row World Games

By Mike Kirk
Director of Athletic Media Relations

Central Oklahoma rower Hannah Anderson has been selected to represent the United States in the World University Games in South Korea this summer.

The junior from McLoud, Oklahoma, earned one of just seven berths available for the team during a tryout camp in Oklahoma City in early January. Rowers from around the country competed, with the team selected after four days of intense competition.

“My success was really a team effort,” Anderson said. “The support of my teammates, friends and coaches at UCO made a world of difference in my ability to perform and make the team.”

“Knowing I had a large community of support behind me definitely helped through the selection process. I’ll be proud to go to the starting line in July representing UCO on a worldwide stage.”

Anderson will be racing in the women’s coxless four event, which is four rowers with no coxswain. The World University Games, a competition between student-athletes from across the globe, will be July 3-14 in Gwangju, South Korea.

Anderson will be the first Central rower to compete in an international event.



Central rower Hannah Anderson will travel to South Korea this summer to compete in the World University Games.

She started rowing with the Oklahoma juniors program before coming to UCO three years ago. Since, she has helped the Bronchos become one of the top NCAA Division II teams in the country.

“We are very proud of Hannah and her accomplishments,” head coach Andrew Derrick said.

“Hannah’s success shows that UCO rowing is becoming competitive on a large stage, and we hope she’s the first of many student-athletes from our program who go on to represent our school and country in international competition.”

“My hat’s off to Hannah for her hard work and perseverance in pursuing this goal,” assistant coach Montia Rice said. “As we recruit student-athletes for the class of 2019 and beyond, it’s great for them to see that UCO rowing can be a springboard for them to accomplish their athletic dreams of competing at the highest level.”

UCO Unveils CHK|Central Boathouse; New Home For Women’s Rowing, Plus Art, Entertainment

By Reagan Hamlin
Assistant Vice President for Development

Nearly seven years in the making, UCO’s CHK|Central Boathouse made its public debut at the Community Grand Opening April 18 on the Oklahoma River.

Event co-chairs Ed (BBA ’69) and Kathy Martin and David (BBA ’74) and Jane Thompson worked to make the event one to remember.

“As alumni, we were honored to lead the celebration efforts for what was certainly an historic moment for the university,” said Ed Martin. “We wanted this event to reflect the energy and excitement that is generated each day on UCO’s campus. What better way than to bring a piece of that culture to the Oklahoma River?”

The festivities included an official dedication ceremony, a chance to meet the UCO Women’s Rowing team and its head coach Andy Derrick, live music and art demonstrations, tours of the inside of the new building, food trucks and discounted adventure activities on the river.

The event was free and open to all UCO faculty, staff, students, alumni and members of the community.

The opening came after a successful \$6 million fundraising campaign with support from partners such as Chesapeake Energy, MidFirst Bank, Martha Burger (BS ’83), C. Hubert Gragg, Ted Honea and the Dobson Family Foundation.

The CHK|Central Boathouse now serves as home to the Central Women’s Rowing team and includes the MidFirst Bank Performance Hall, the Martha Burger Art Gallery, and the C. Hubert Gragg Shell Gallery. The river’s newest boathouse is already known for its unique presence — where art meets the river — in the growing Boathouse District.

The CHK|Central Boathouse is located at 725 S. Lincoln, next to the Devon Boathouse on the Oklahoma River.

Fishing Orion From the Sea

*By Milt Heflin (BS '66)
Retired NASA Engineer/Flight Director
1984 UCO Distinguished Alumnus*

Because NASA's Orion spacecraft was recovered by a U.S. Navy vessel, neither the media nor public got much insight into the process. However, Milt Heflin, a former NASA engineer and flight director, was there. He had a unique vantage point because not only did he participate in Orion's recovery, he did so for eight Apollo splashdowns. Here is his account.

— Eric Berger

Science Editor, *Houston Chronicle*, whose blog first printed the following account

Standing there on the deck of the USS Anchorage, my mind couldn't help but drift back nearly 40 years.

The date was July 24, 1975, and I was a NASA recovery engineer aboard the USS New Orleans west of the Hawaiian Islands. We were all set for the return of the crew from the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project (ASTP), a joint mission with what was then known as the Soviet Union. From 1968-75, I had been on the scene for eight Apollo splashdowns — Apollo 8, 10, 16, 17 and all three Skylab flights, as well as ASTP.


Thirty-nine years after that last Apollo landing, I saw the ninth splashdown of my career. I am the only person who was present at the final landings of both the Apollo and Space Shuttle programs, but this was something else, something better. This was very hopefully the beginning of a brand-new era in the history of human spaceflight. And I was there. As Yogi Berra once said, it was like *deja vu* all over again.

In the early morning of Dec. 5, the Orion capsule announced its arrival with twin sonic booms. Not long afterward came the eerily familiar sight — to me, at least — of a capsule returning from space, suspended underneath the beautiful plume of three billowing parachutes. Finally, Orion scored a bull's-eye landing about 600 miles west of the Baja Peninsula. Its four-and-a-half-hour mission, an early test of its heat shield, structure and guidance systems for eventual return from deep space, was over ... or was it?

Then came the most hazardous, tricky maneuvers with humans in close proximity since

NASA's Orion spacecraft is lowered gently to the Pacific Ocean under its three massive main parachutes at 11:29 a.m. EST on Dec. 5. Over the course of two orbits in 4.5 hours, it traveled 3,600 miles above Earth to test systems critical to human deep space exploration.

Photo credit: NASA/James Blair



The United Launch Alliance Delta IV Heavy rocket, with NASA's Orion spacecraft mounted atop, lifted off from Florida's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station's Space Launch Complex 37 at 7:05 a.m. EST on Dec. 5. No one was aboard Orion for the flight test, but the spacecraft is designed to allow humans to journey to destinations never before visited by humans, including an asteroid and Mars.

Photo Credit: NASA/Bill Ingalls





UCO alumna Milt Heflin (beige jacket in center) stood on deck of the aircraft carrier and watched the Orion recovery efforts in the water below as crew members pulled cables and negotiated choppy waters to steer the massive unit into the hull of the ship.

launch. Wrestling a 20,000-pound spacecraft into the well deck of an amphibious transport dock like the USS Anchorage is no small feat in general, and particularly when it's bobbing on top of the water like a cork and surrounded by a herd of boats and swimmers. Gone are the days when we hoisted a capsule onto the deck of a big aircraft carrier using a simple crane. Gone are the days when swimmers dropped from helicopters to begin corralling the spacecraft for retrieval. Swimmers now dive in from several small and rugged boats — very much like the ones you'd imagine a team of Navy SEALs using — that are deployed from the Anchorage. These differences are by design. The Orion spacecraft does not have the beefed-up structure of the Apollo Command Module, with all the extra weight of a lifting loop and so forth.

One thing hasn't changed, however, and it never will. Mother Nature is still in charge in the open ocean. There was a tremendous amount of energy that needed to be contained while coaxing Orion into its initial parking spot just inside the opened stern gate, a flooded well-deck a few feet above submerged "speed bumps." Even then, the drama did not stop. Boatswains and boatswain's mates were communicating at full volume as they pulled and tugged on the lines affixed to the capsule to get it into its temporary cradle.

Heave.

Heave!

This way, that way.

It truly was something to watch. Orion was an untamed stallion bucking all over the place in its corral, with several cowboys surrounding it and trying to calm it down. With two lines on one side of the spacecraft and another two on the other, not to mention the rolling waves, the shipmates couldn't work against each other. They had to achieve their goal as one unit, working together.

It was that kind of magnificent teamwork that made all of this happen in the first place. If there was one striking similarity that spanned the four decades between programs, it was in how representatives of NASA, the Department of Defense, Lockheed Martin and various contractors all threw their badges on the table in an effort to make things work. There were no turf wars. There were plenty of meetings in which folks with some pretty strong personalities seemed close to coming to blows over this issue or that, but the fact was, it was a diverse team and they were solving problems.

The bottom line is this: There are incredibly talented and capable people who can accomplish the task of getting us out of low-Earth orbit. They can do this, and do it very well, if only others



Long before the December Orion launch and recovery, a test version of Orion arrived in April 2012, above. The test model was used for ground operations practice in advance of the 2014 launch.

Photo credits: NASA

will get the hell out of the way and allow them to do their work unhindered. If we really want to continue out into the stars, capable people have to be allowed to come together and do the job. We've got the people to do it. Just get out of their way, and the world will watch in awe and wonder just as it did during Apollo.

After it was secured and brought on board for good, I had the opportunity to spend some time with Orion. I noticed an American flag painted on the side of the spacecraft, up near the top. I marveled at the fact that it was still in such good shape, despite the ordeal of re-entry that it had just been through. Then, it struck me. As Americans, we don't have our own vehicle right now to get our own astronauts into lower Earth orbit. Orion could be an important piece of the puzzle to getting into deep space.

As I parted ways with my new recovery teammates, I told them I'm still eight splashdowns ahead of them. I hope they can catch up. Is this a new beginning? Time will tell.



Interested in more in-depth coverage of NASA and America's human spaceflight enterprises? Check out the *Houston Chronicle's* Adrift series.

Also, Milt Heflin, left, has co-authored with Rick Houston, *Go, Flight! The Unsung Heroes of Mission Control*. Being published by the University of Nebraska Press, the book will be released Dec. 1. Houston is also author of *Wheels Stop, the Tragedies and Triumphs of the Space Shuttle Program, 1986-2011*. Heflin was named a UCO Distinguished Alumnus in 1984.

Golf Coach Shares Secrets to Success

By Mike Kirk
Director of Athletic Media Relations

Finding Michael Bond isn't always easy when his Central Oklahoma women's golf team is competing in a tournament.

The seventh-year head coach easily will walk 10-plus miles a round, trudging from one hole to the next, traipsing all over whatever course the Bronchos are playing that day, keeping an eye on his players.

Bond does his walking tour all the time now, but such a feat was nearly impossible to fathom seven years ago before a life-changing — and possible life-saving — visit to the doctor's office.

In the fall of 2007, Bond was the men's and women's golf coach at Southwestern Oklahoma when a high fever led him to the doctor. Though his weight had steadily increased over the previous few years, Michael wasn't prepared for the number that appeared when he stepped on a scale.

"When I saw 398 (pounds), I said, 'A change is coming,'" Bond recalled. "That was my wake-up call. We went to our last tournament and got back on a Tuesday night, and Wednesday morning, I went an hour on the elliptical machine. Then I went another hour that night. I struggled, but I made it."

Thus began a twice-a-day workout schedule that saw the pounds melt away, rapidly at first and then slowly but steadily.

"It's more mental than physical," Bond said. "It's just like anything else — if you have a good mindset going in, you'll reap the rewards. Some days you feel fit and healthy, and other days you feel like a busted bag of biscuits."

A dramatic weight loss that started in Weatherford continued when Bond moved to Edmond to take the UCO reins in the summer of 2008. He's dropped 150 pounds

and 10 pant sizes since that eye-opening doctor's visit, with other lifestyle changes having helped the process.

"Three years ago, I quit drinking Diet Coke on my birthday," Bond said. "That was tough because there's a 7-11 on every corner with 79-cent Big Gulps. Two years ago, I quit ice cream, and now when we go to Texas, all I notice are those DQ (Dairy Queen) signs everywhere.

"But it's been a good change, and it's trickled down to the program. We make healthier choices on the road. I don't eat fast food, so my team doesn't. The budget may suffer, but we're all eating better."

And what a team Bond has constructed since coming to Central.

He's built the program into an NCAA Division II power, having led the Bronchos to top-four finishes in 54 of 74 tournaments with 16 titles. UCO won all five tournaments during the fall campaign and is a bonafide contender for the 2015 national championship.

"It starts and ends with recruiting," Bond said of his program's success. "You've got to get strong character kids, and I try to recruit the total package. I look at their work ethic, their academics, everything."

All this is from a guy who took an unusual path to the coaching profession, though golf is a longtime passion.

"Dad (Charles) would drop me off at the golf course when I was a kid, and I'd play all day before he would come back and practice with me," said Bond, who was born in Kansas and grew up in Broken Bow. "I'd spend time around all the older guys out there, and the lessons I learned were priceless."

Bond became a four-time state quali-



UCO women's golf coach Michael Bond has made big changes in his own life, as well as in the lives of his players. The benefits have been big for all, including the team becoming a top Division II contender. Bond, however, says his biggest reward is watching his players graduate — 'why they're here.'

fier at Broken Bow High School, earning All-State honors as a senior. He played four years of college golf, the first one at East Central and the final three at Southwestern Oklahoma State University (SWOSU).

After graduating in 2000 with a marketing degree, Bond went to work in the restaurant business in Fort Smith, Ark. He married. Then in the summer of 2002, he was coaxed into returning to SWOSU as the sports information director by legendary athletic director Cecil Perkins.

Two years later, Perkins persuaded Bond to take over as coach of both the men's and women's teams at the school.

"When I was young, I never dreamed of being a coach," said the easygoing 37-year-old. "It's shown and taught me a lot. In looking back at my first year of coaching, man, I was so green. I didn't know what was going on and learned a lot from other coaches."

He and his wife, Amy, have two daughters, Maddilyn and Analise. Bond and his wife teach two elementary-age programs at Henderson Hills Baptist Church.

Bond has gained plenty of knowledge — and enjoyed loads of success — in his 11 years of coaching, all with a simple philosophy.

"We don't set a lot of goals. We just try to get better," Bond said. "We go to a tournament and try to play our best, then pack up and go to the next one. We try to stay in the present and get better each day.

"I just want to be fair to my players and treat them with kindness. We go to tournaments, and you always see that coach who

browbeats his players. Treat your players with respect," he said.

That simple strategy has paid off handsomely for the Bronchos, both on and off the course. In addition to the many tournament victories, every player who has stayed four years with Bond has graduated from Central, and his team's combined grade point average has ranked in the top 25 nationally each of the last six years.

"Watching my players graduate is my biggest reward, because that's why they came to college in the first place," Bond said. "Our players get the big picture of why they're here, which is to get an education and play golf on the side.

"When you have a shy freshman come in who hardly says anything, and over four years you see them grow and mature as a person and player, that's what it's all about."

UCO Rides New Wave In Classical Music

By Angela Morris
Staff Writer, College of Fine Arts and Design
Marketing and Communications

The concise rhythms, melodic arches and trills of Mozart's many famous compositions used to coat the red walls, ornate gold trim and patterned wooden floors of the Emperor of Austria Franz Joseph II's parlor in the Hofburg Palace. The crystals dangling from the arm of the chandelier often danced to the music performed.

Mozart premiered many of his works in this small intimate setting, a dozen or so seats reserved for close family and friends of the emperor.

"All famous compositions of this era and the era's predecessors were performed in the distinctive quarters of either the church, theater or the courts of royalty, all of which were smaller," said Ted Honea, Ph.D., Central Musicology professor and academic coordinator of The Brisch Center for Historical Performance.

Instrument ingenuity focused on producing a quick responding, bright sound capable of filling a small performance area. It was not until the 19th century that music moved out of these intimate settings and into the large public performance halls known today: the Boston Symphony Hall, Vienna's Musikverein, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam.

"With the inception of large concert halls, instruments began to evolve, designed now to produce a large sound, capable of reaching not merely an audience of dozens but an audience of hundreds and in some cases thousands," Honea continued.

This required different performing techniques, and as a result, the interpretation of the music changed to fit the big sound filling newly built performance halls.

While a big sound and modern instruments are what one can expect during a typical evening at the philharmonic, opera or performance hall, the last few decades have birthed a new wave in the study and enjoyment of classical music: historical performance practice.

"It is the growth industry of classical music," Honea informed.

The historical approach is intended to study and perform the music as close to the composer's initial intent. With the use of historical instruments, historical performance practice has been on the cutting edge throughout Europe and in classical music hubs in the United States.

Now, one can enjoy this reimagined genre in classical music here at UCO, thanks to the School of Music's new Brisch Center for Historical Performance.

"We're only one of 27 programs in the United States that focuses on historical performance practice," said Tess Remy-Schumacher, D.M.A., Baroque cellist and general



Sallie Pollack, D.M.A., plays a harpsichord that was custom made for The Brisch Center for Historical Performance. The instrument replicates the sound of a 17th century keyboard used in solo and ensemble performances.

coordinator for the center. "And we are definitely the forerunners in this region with the movement, providing the community with a new sound, a new experience."

Benefiting both Central students and the community at large, the center offers a minor in Historical Performance, outreach opportunities and concerts.

For the Historical Performance minor, the center offers applied lessons and a history of performance class.

"Students of the center have the opportunity to utilize historical instruments, or modern replicas, as well as performance traditions," said Honea.

The center currently owns a handful of historical brass and woodwind instruments, including a Baroque-era natural horn, a soprano bugle and even an 11-keyed bass ophicleide. The center also owns a full string quartet, including a violin, viola, cello and bass. A modern replica of a harpsichord, the precursor to the piano, was donated to the center in its inaugural year.

"The use of the harpsichord triples the center's accessibility to historical repertoire and also creates a new experience with different sounds, different textures, different articulations," said Remy-Schumacher.

The use of historical instruments do more than add to the educational experience of students.

"These instruments also enhance the quality of performance when representing this era," Remy-Schumacher said.

Since its inception, the center has afforded the community biannual concerts and arts outreach opportunities. This past February, the center hosted a Historical Performance Outreach Weekend, supported in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council. The weekend

included educational classes in the history and translation methods of historical performance practice; master classes on the harpsichord by the harpsichord's maker, Brad Bennight; and performances by Central faculty members and guest artists Bennight and Boston-based Baroque cellist Sarah Freiberg.

"We invite all to attend a historical performance concert or outreach event as it promotes a whole new artistic experience and connects attendees not only to a different era, but to an entire historical culture," Remy-Schumacher said.

To learn more about The Brisch Center for Historical Performance at the University of Central Oklahoma visit www.uco.edu/cfad/historical-performance/index.asp.



In April, the center presented a special concert to celebrate being named The Brisch Center for Historical Performance, in honor of the center's beloved patron, friend and donor Margaret Brisch. The concert featured works by Antonio Vivaldi, Johann Sebastian Bach, Georg Philipp Telemann and others.



Top Hat Designs

At one time in Central history, the idea of putting glitter and words on top of a commencement cap would have been strictly taboo. Not today, however. In fact, a special event leading up to commencement — Senior Cap Decoration, sponsored by Campus Activities — provides the materials and camaraderie for some graduation inspiration. Here are just a few examples of student efforts to stand out in the crowd with a special thanks, heartfelt sentiment or just clever fun.



Old North, Final Needs

By Gypsy Hogan
Publications Editor, University Relations

Much has been written about UCO's Old North, words like historic, iconic, treasured, much-loved, landmark and, more recently, still in need of \$500,000 to complete renovations.

How can that be? Especially since the university's *Always Central* campaign just closed with more than \$40 million raised?

Much like the archival photos that show the building of Old North stone by stone, Old North donors are slowly but surely rebuilding the structure gift by gift.

"Our donors to Old North are much like those first individuals who devoted their time to build something special here. From gifts of \$5 to \$10, they give with all they have. The most humbling gifts are often from those alumni who are on a fixed income in the twilight years of their retirement who donate what we know will stretch them financially, but who want to give back to a place that has meant so much to them," said Anne Holzberlein, vice president for Development.

The number of donors to the Old North campaign is much in line with those supporting any other pillar of the *Always Central* campaign. However, a quarter of the Old North gifts are under \$1,000, made by individuals vs. corporations.

"We hope others will be inspired by their lead. If every alumni gave just the price of a Starbucks coffee, we could finish Old North easily," Holzberlein said.

More recently, the fund for Old North has received two significant donations — \$500,000 from the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation and \$100,000 from the Sarkeys Foundation.

However, more is needed to put the building back together again.

The ongoing saga of Old North's construction started when work first began on the building in the summer of 1892.

"The building was built out of

whatever materials they had available to them," David G. Stapleton, UCO director of Architectural and Engineering Services, said. "So, if they needed a two-by-twelve to span 30 feet, and they didn't have that size, they would use two 20-foot boards and overlap them so they ended up with a 30-foot piece. In some instances, they overlapped three 12-foot pieces to get a 30-foot piece. Doing the overlaps is not a good thing since they will sag — and, as we discovered, we had many of these in the building."

Then there were the add-ons and the remodels that followed.

In 1893, only a year after construction on Old North started, the Territorial legislature appropriated \$15,000 to add Old North's tower and wings, work that began in January 1894.

By 1906, however, the building was already having problems.

"It was cobbled together with inadequate materials, even for that era. Floor and ceiling heights were inconsistent. Most of the workmen were likely unskilled in construction," Stapleton said.

The building had no indoor plumbing or electricity until about 1906 when fire water lines and water fountains were added, Stapleton said. Heating was from wood-burning fireplaces, one in each of the big rooms.

Then, in 1911, the electrical was upgraded, and a heating system and toilets were added. The heating ducts were initially in the chimneys as they abandoned the fireplaces, Stapleton said.

Through that period and the years that followed, "a lot of improper 'fixes' were made that ultimately caused more deterioration within the building," Stapleton said. "A lot of holes were cut through walls that were left unreinforced, or they didn't provide support for new walls or



UCO President Don Betz says this photo of Old North, left, reminds him of how Central started as a vision in the middle of a prairie, a commitment to what education would mean for those at the Territorial Normal as well as the students they would teach.

Old North, pictured with people with horses, is a favorite of Publication Editor Gypsy Hogan because it's such a great reminder of how far in time Central has come.



UCO's Director of Archives Nicole Willard says this is her favorite Old North photo, showing the wooden walkway that kept people out of the dirt, sometimes mud, street that led to Old North in earlier times. The back of the photo tells how walkway nails would work their way up and snag the hems of women's long dresses.



Photos courtesy of UCO Archives & Special Collections

for the old walls."

Altogether, the problems began to add up, and in July 2001, the building was deemed unsafe and closed.

"The floors were like trampolines. The closer you got to the center of a room, the bigger the bounce. The structure was overloaded," Stapleton said.

Since Old North's closure, the university has spent \$5.5 million on renovations. That amount includes \$4 million used for the addition to the east side of the building. The new area allowed for elevators and heating and air conditioning systems, freeing up the

historical area for classroom, meeting and office space. Because of the soft sandstone on the exterior of the original building, \$1.5 million was spent replacing all mortar joints, cleaning and replacing fragile stonework, stabilizing the exterior, removing and replacing the center roof structure and installing stabilizing steel structures in the interior of the building.

With adequate funding, Old North's renovation is scheduled for completion in 2016.

When finished, the building should be ready for another 100 years as Central's oldest building, iconic and much-beloved.

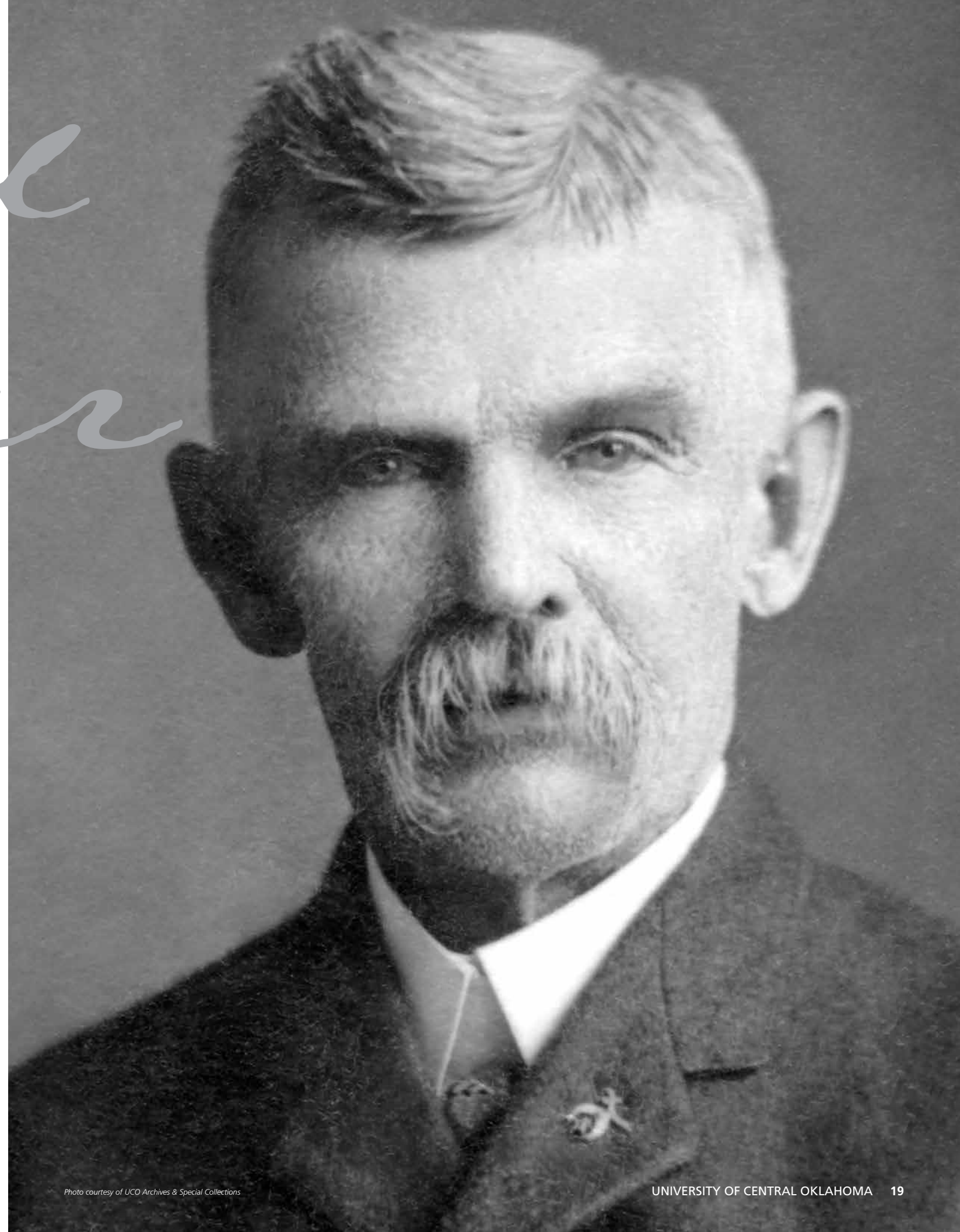
Richard Thatcher

Central's First Principal, Teacher

*By Nicole Willard
Director of UCO Archives, Chambers Library*

Central's first principal and teacher, Richard Thatcher, served Central in one capacity or another from 1891 until his death in 1909. He was a pioneer educator, Civil War veteran and a 33rd Degree Mason. His story emerges through the records and private collections held in the UCO Archives and Special Collections. In celebration of UCO@125, it seemed appropriate to honor him by sharing his story.

In 1862, as the Civil War raged, Richard Thatcher wanted to do his patriotic duty and enlist in the Union Army. Many boys two or three years older told him that although he was only 16, he still might get into the infantry. However, Richard was conflicted between doing his patriotic duty and honoring his mother's beliefs that "this was not God's way of dealing with humanity." A very religious widow, she was heard to profess, "Peace on earth and goodwill was the only way to live toward one's fellow man." This teaching became a guide for Thatcher's daily living. However, he also had been reared with a deep regard for his country. Eventually, his love



of patriotism and the impulse of youth led him to believe that he should sacrifice everything — family, his Christian upbringing, life itself — to serve his country. “If they won’t take me, at least my conscience in that direction will be easier,” Thatcher later recalled thinking.

Walking to a small town about 25 miles from his home, Thatcher enlisted on July 25, 1862. Too small to carry a musket, he became a drummer boy in the 111th Illinois Infantry Company H, serving under General William Tecumseh Sherman, who commanded the Western armies. Memories of Sherman’s March through Georgia remained with Thatcher throughout his life. In the summer of 1864, his company was captured during the Atlanta Campaign, and Thatcher was imprisoned at the notorious Andersonville Prison.

After the war, Thatcher entered McKendree College at Lebanon, Illinois, a Methodist school generously endowed by his family. Thatcher would complete a master’s, and graduated in 1878 with a doctorate of divinity. Thatcher came from a long line of educated people, many of whom were teachers and ministers. His Uncle Thomas Thatcher was head of the department of Latin at Yale University for 40 years. His father, John Wesley Thatcher, was a Methodist minister who translated and edited Latin and Greek text throughout his life. His mother, Virginia Wells-Thatcher, read her Bible in Greek until her death. Thatcher would choose the teaching profession, moving his family to Kansas to be



Photo courtesy of UCO Archives & Special Collections

In Perspective

While conditions at the Oklahoma Territorial Normal School may seem bleak by today’s standards, the teachers being trained at the Normal School often found themselves in Oklahoma’s frontier school houses like the one above.

“Through several administrations, both Democratic and Republican, he served with not a charge against him or a fault to find with his work.”

superintendent of schools.

After serving as superintendent in both Severy and Neodesha, Kansas, Thatcher left Kansas in 1890 to pursue a government appointment at the U.S. Treasury Department, Census Bureau, in Washington D.C. His wife, Melissa Thatcher, came to Edmond with their four daughters — Edna, Mae, Blanche and Ethel — to purchase and manage the Central Hotel on Broadway and West First Street. Melissa’s brother, Capt. Harvey DeFord, owned a dry goods store in Edmond, also having served as Oklahoma County’s first elected sheriff, in addition to being a lawman in Guthrie. The hotel was Edmond’s social center. Each week, *The Edmond Sun* announced plans for a social party, dinner or dance at the Central Hotel. Melissa Thatcher became a prominent business leader, affectionately called “Mother Thatcher.”

In December 1890, the first Territorial legislature voted for the Territorial Normal School to be located at Edmond. The name of Richard Thatcher was presented to a committee for consideration as head of the new school. In a dissertation on the history of Edmond, Stella B. Fordico (BA ’43) wrote, “The man who came to this job needed to be able to lay the foundation in two ways at once — one, a foundation of stone and mortar, and the other would be working out a curriculum of study which would qualify teachers as rapidly as possible to take over the schools of this new untutored territory.” Thatcher had to make a tough decision. The choice between the hardships of pioneer life in a new territory or moving his cultured wife and daughters to the social environment of the nation’s capital must have been difficult to make. His wife’s success as proprietor of the Central Hotel and his commitment to education surly were important factors. However, the deciding factor was his daughters’ pleas for “better teachers and something more to learn than spelling.”

(continued on page 43)

As part of the UCO@125 celebration, a historical re-enactment event will be staged this fall on the UCO campus.

The “Story Hour” will involve about ten “historical interpreters,” each portraying a different key figure in Central’s history. Portrayals will include Richard Thatcher, the administrator who started the first classes, as well as construction of Old North, the first building on campus.

Visit www.uco.edu/125 for more information about this and other UCO@125 events.

Strange, But True Thatcher Connection

By Gypsy Hogan
Publications Editor, University Relations

One of the most interesting stories about Richard Thatcher began long before he came to Edmond, dating back to 1864 when the 18-year-old found himself a Union prisoner-of-war in Andersonville. That’s where he was befriended by Thomas P. “Boston” Corbett, the man who later shot John Wilkes Booth, President Lincoln’s assassin.

The Thatcher-Corbett story has many variations, but generally ends years later, in 1888, just days after Corbett stole a horse and escaped a Kansas insane asylum.

Corbett, frequently described as a religious fanatic, reportedly rode to Thatcher’s home in Neodesha, Kansas, about 115 miles away. Once there, Thatcher and his brother-in-law are largely believed to have helped the man hide for a few days before sending Corbett south. After that, his whereabouts have remained a mystery.

Scott Martelle is a *Los Angeles Times* reporter who has written the first full-length biography of Corbett — *The Madman and the Assassin: The Strange Life of Boston Corbett, the Man who Killed John Wilkes Booth* — released in April.

“Madman” is definitely one description. By the age of 26, his wife had died in childbirth, and he had become a reborn evangelical Christian, wearing his hair long to look like images of Jesus and castrating himself with a pair of scissors to avoid temptations of the flesh.

Other descriptions — including those of Richard Thatcher — tell of an honest-to-a-fault man with an active faith and devotion to

helping others, even at the expense of his own health and well-being. It’s certainly that description and personal experience that made Thatcher a lifelong friend, as attested in a 19-page handwritten letter from Thatcher that Martelle found in the Kansas State Historical Society’s files.

The letter was written in 1905, on Central State Normal School letterhead, to Kansas Judge George Huron, who was appointed guardian for Corbett when he was placed in the Kansas asylum in February 1887. Huron’s duties continued for years after Corbett’s disappearance the next year.

In the letter, Thatcher tells how he came to be captured by the Southern army on July 22 “at Atlanta with about 2,000 others of Gen. Sherman’s men.” Thatcher was then taken to Andersonville, generally considered the worst of the Civil War prisons. Much has been written about Andersonville, including that 13,000 of the some 40,000 prisoners remain buried there. One author, Robert S. Davis who wrote *Ghosts and Shadows of Andersonville*, says that by 1890, less than a thousand survivors of Andersonville remained, so many of their lives cut short by the disease and sickness that plagued so many after they left the prison. All this is from a prison that was open only from April 1864 until its capture in May 1865.

Thatcher, in his 1905 letter, estimates he was at Andersonville from July 28 to about Sept. 21, 1864.

“Corbett came to my tent (a dilapidated specimen of the ‘dog-tent’) one morning late in July and with very little ceremony, introduced himself and began a conversation,” Thatcher wrote. “Observing that I was one of the recent arrivals from Sherman’s army, and

but a boy of about 18 years of age, he took a friendly interest in my welfare from that time forward.

“He read passages from the scriptures to me, and spoke words of sound and wholesome advice, from which I began to learn that he was one who had the courage of his convictions.”

Thatcher describes Corbett as living at Andersonville in the worst of all conditions, without even a blanket to sleep upon or to use to make a tent to shelter himself from the often brutal sun. Even those with a blanket struggled to survive, Thatcher wrote.

“Scores and hundreds of these sufferers found the severity of these ordeals too great for human endurance, and became total wrecks both physically and mentally. Ever and anon some frenzied victim, driven to stark madness, would rush over the fatal ‘dead line’ to invite the sentinel’s death dealing bullet to end his sorrows,” Thatcher wrote, noting that such was not the case with Corbett. “And yet with wonderful composure and self equipoise, he passed through this fiery furnace of affliction; and instead of sitting sullenly and succumbing, as a victim to his environments by brooding over his troubles, his active and benevolent nature, like a pent-up and self-propelling force within, urged him outward and onward; and thus he was constantly moving around, like an angel of mercy, forgetful of his own sorrows, in trying to assuage the griefs and woes of his fellow mortals, especially the sick and the dying.”

Thatcher gave Corbett credit for helping many, including himself, survive a very bleak existence.

In late September 1864, Thatcher left Andersonville as part of a prisoner exchange group that did not include Corbett. The exchange failed, but Thatcher and fellow prisoner H.P. Weir escaped and made their way back to their regiment near Atlanta, Thatcher wrote. From there, they “followed Sherman through all of his campaigns till the close of the war, participating in the Grand Review at Washington, where I again met Corbett, only a few weeks after he had shot Booth.

“I spent a full day with him in his regimental quarters. But it took me only a few moments for the ‘avenger of the great Lincoln’ to satisfy my curiosity with the simple narrative of the details of the tragic

shot that ended the life of John Wilkes Booth,” Thatcher wrote.

Corbett told him that having been at Andersonville for several months before Thatcher arrived, he also remained there several months after Thatcher’s departure, at one point appearing near death.

“And yet amidst all these dire disasters, Corbett never despaired for a moment of his life. He profoundly believed he would survive,” Thatcher wrote, describing Corbett’s belief that God had promised him he would live.

“Such startling assertions are usually taken as indications of partial dementia. But in a strong personality such as Corbett possessed, where one observes so many admirable traits of character and lovable qualities, it is not hard to cast the mantle of charity over a few.”

Before and after the war, Corbett was a hatter, during a time when hatters used mercury in their trade, a chemical often credited with making many suffer mental instability. Thus, the phrase, “Mad as a hatter.”

Whether mad or eccentric or religiously fanatical, Corbett was a man who Thatcher felt he owed much.

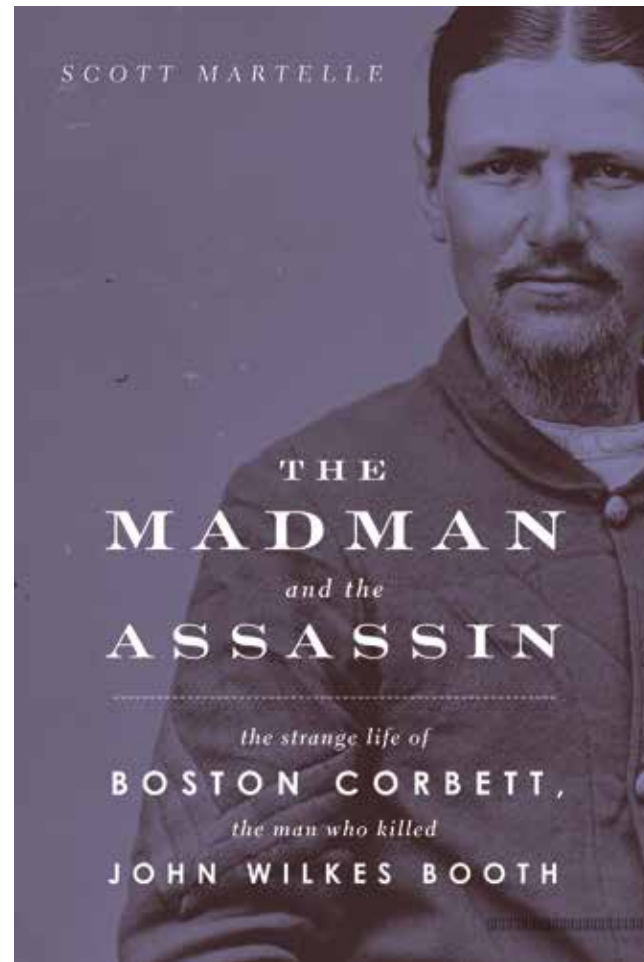
Thatcher wrote that Corbett described several assertions he had received from God, including an answer to his prayer to help avenge the death of Lincoln.

Corbett told Thatcher, “... the Lord helped to take aim with such fatal precision that I shot the man in the exact spot where he shot the president.”

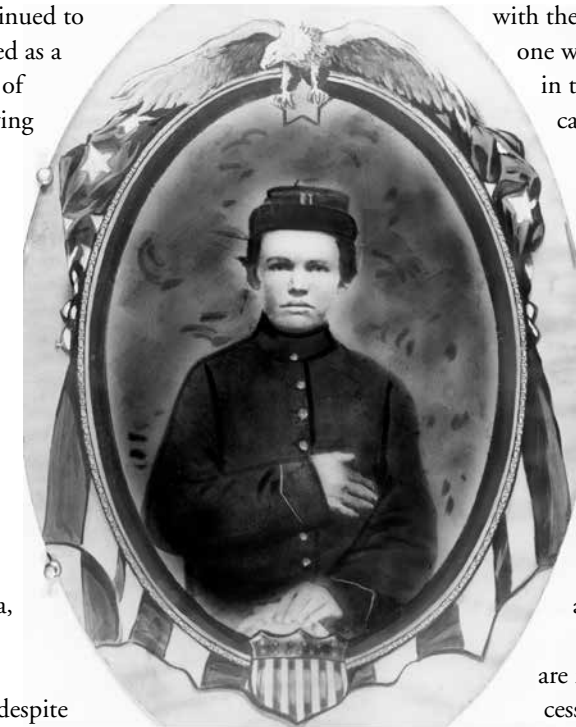
Thatcher further wrote, “... to show the sincere and religious spirit in which he really carried out his part in that tragic program, he knelt down, so he said, beside the dying form of his victim, and prayed for him and tried to point him to the Land of God that taketh away sin.”

Whether Corbett pleased God may be debatable, but he did not please his commanding officers who had ordered that Booth be taken alive. Corbett, to his surprise, was arrested for disobeying orders. Later, Secretary of War Edward M. Stanton ordered Corbett released, reportedly saying, “The rebel is dead. The patriot lives.”

After their time in Washington, Thatcher returned to Illinois to pursue an education and work as a Methodist minister and teacher.



The newest book — and research — on Boston Corbett.



Portrait of Richard Thatcher as a young Civil War soldier, located in the Laboratory of History Museum in Evans Hall.

Photo courtesy of UCO Archives & Special Collections

Corbett went to Boston where life continued to be problematic for him as he also labored as a religious leader, performing selfless acts of kindness in a fanatical fashion while trying to avoid his notoriety.

In 1878, Corbett moved to Concordia, Kansas, to live a new life as a frontier farmer, although his health was never good enough to succeed.

That same year, Thatcher received his master’s in mathematics with honors from McKendree College in Lebanon, Ill. By 1882, he, too, had moved to Kansas, as superintendent of schools in Severy, about 200 miles from Corbett.

Four years later, in August 1886, Thatcher moved his family to Neodesha, Kansas, to become superintendent of schools there.

The next year, 1887, Corbett, who despite his odd ways, was given a job as a doorkeeper in the Kansas State Legislature in Topeka. Reportedly, he obtained the job with the aid of a Kansas legislator, Capt. Harvey DeFord, another Andersonville survivor and Richard Thatcher’s brother-in-law. (Capt. DeFord later moved to Edmond where he was a successful businessman and served as an early Oklahoma County sheriff. Others in his family joined him, including Thatcher.)

Author Martelle said that his research indicates Corbett, ever generous, was coming to work early to help a couple of cleaning people working in the Kansas capitol building. Martelle’s research indicates Corbett was becoming withdrawn and paranoid. When the two cleaning people started laughing at something, Corbett thought they were laughing at him. He became indignant and pulled a gun on them. That led to Corbett being placed in the state insane asylum in Topeka.

A letter from Thatcher to Corbett is dated just a few days before Corbett’s gun-wielding disaster. In it, Thatcher starts with, “Dear Bro. Corbett, My own Dear Prison Companion,” with the last five words being double-underlined.”

Thatcher sent a newspaper article that mentioned both him and Corbett, “together

with the very best wishes of a heart full of love for one who was such a friend and helpmate to me in the darkest days of my life — my prison career.”

Thatcher visited his friend in the asylum, and at one point convinced a judge that Corbett was not insane and should be released. However, after talking to someone at the asylum, the judge rescinded his order before Corbett’s release, Martelle said.

The author discounts the many stories about where Corbett went after leaving Thatcher in Neodesha. While his book promises a fuller understanding about Corbett and the historical significance of his life, what happened to Corbett after Neodesha remains a mystery, he said.

Martelle and others note that computers are making so many historical documents accessible. Their contents sometimes cast doubts or refute family stories, while others pose new questions or give different understandings.

Here’s hoping that others will share their findings.

Visit library.uco.edu/archives/luminaries to see a link to letters and depositions relating to Richard Thatcher and Boston Corbett, including the following:

- In a deposition dated March 21, 1891, Richard Thatcher describes his health problems as a result of having been in Andersonville. He describes his self-treatment, keeping a vial of laudanum with him at all times, a treatment recommended at that time for Civil War veterans like Thatcher.
- Thatcher’s 19-page letter to Judge George Huron describes Thatcher’s time at Andersonville and his remembrances of Boston Corbett from meeting him in prison until after seeing him in Washington, D.C., a few weeks after Corbett shot John Wilkes Booth.
- In an Aug. 23, 1894, deposition, Col. James Martin, who commanded the 111th Illinois Infantry, describes his experiences with “Dickey” while he served in the 111th.
- A four-page letter from Thatcher to Corbett is dated Feb. 12, 1887, just three days before Corbett pulls a gun on two cleaning people and lands himself in a state asylum.
- In a 1972 letter from Richard Thatcher’s niece, Helen DeFord Bush, she tells her memories of family connections to Boston Corbett. She writes that in 1888, Corbett “at that time” did not leave Neodesha on a train, but on a horse. Author Martelle believes the letter a good example of family stories that cannot be documented.

Professor's Work Targets Better Financial Literacy

By Sue Lynn Sasser, Ph.D.
Professor of Economics, College of Business Administration

Editor's Note: UCO Professor Sue Lynn Sasser went from a Journalism degree to a job at the Federal Reserve Bank to completing a doctorate in Consumer Economics. Along the way, she repeatedly saw the need for people to better understand their personal finances. She now enjoys knowing she has helped make that a reality for today's Oklahoma youth.

"Anyone can make a difference, so you don't have to have it be some huge, global campaign... you can start small, and that's just as important."

That's a quote from Blake Mycoskie, the founder of Tom's Shoes who was born in 1976 — the year I completed my bachelor's at Central.

Those words have taken on special meaning since returning to my alma mater as a faculty member in 2001. Presidents Webb and Betz both have created an environment where being involved in your local community is promoted as well as supported. Perhaps it was that environment, or my family's history of community service, that provided the nudge when the opportunity arose.

Shortly after returning, several people involved in promoting financial literacy for our youth asked me to join the movement. I soon found myself serving as the first president of the Oklahoma JumpStart for Financial Literacy and as the executive director of the Oklahoma Council on Economic Education (OCEE), based at UCO.

A handful of legislators also became interested in the topic. Sen. Daisy Lawler, D-Comanche, near my hometown of Lawton, spearheaded that group. It only seemed logical to contact her to offer assistance. We eventually got Sen. Clark Jolley, R-Edmond, on board for non-partisan support. Our first attempts were not successful, but with the

help of various legislators, business people and educators, we persevered.

I found myself playing a pivotal role in helping draft legislation that mandated all students graduating from Oklahoma public schools be required to complete a series of topics in personal finance.

Once passed, we worked with the Oklahoma State Department of Education to write educational standards for what to teach and to implement the standards in public schools across Oklahoma.

Currently known as Oklahoma's Passport to Financial Literacy, HB 1476 was sponsored by Rep. Ann Coody, R-Lawton, who deserves great credit. The bill set forth a seven-year window to ensure all graduating seniors in May 2014 would successfully complete the 14 areas of content. That phase-in period included writing a state curriculum that teachers and students could access free of charge, along with several rounds of teacher training to ensure educators had the background and the tools needed to help students learn the concepts. We also created numerous informational sessions with teachers and administrators to communicate the requirements. To help the process, I also recruited a special group of teachers to complete some advanced training for the designation of master teacher in personal finance.

Last summer, I was invited to work with a group of those master teachers who were continuing their leadership in personal finance education. I have renewed a working relationship with them through the ongoing efforts of Amy Lee, the current OCEE executive director.

It's with a great sense of pride and humility that I watch so many talented educators take an active role in what was once a dream. They have made it a reality in their classrooms, improving upon a simple email that basically said, "Please, let me know how I can help."



UCO Professor Sue Lynn Sasser, Ph.D., left, and Edmond teacher and UCO alumna Lori Goodbary were happy to see Oklahoma's Class of 2014 high school graduates, the first group to meet all the state's Passport to Financial Literacy requirements.

Oklahoma's Passport to Financial Literacy started with the passage of Oklahoma House Bill 1476 and the Passport to Financial Literacy Act of 2007.

The program begins when students enter the seventh grade and continues through their senior year. The curriculum progressively integrates financial education, providing a more complete set of personal finance skills by the time they graduate.

The legislation first applied to students entering the seventh grade in the 2008-09 school year. All students now must complete the curriculum to graduate from a public high school in Oklahoma.

Currently, there are 14 state-required areas of instruction, which include balancing a checkbook, saving and investing, planning for retirement, bankruptcy, and charitable giving.

High School Teacher Understands the Need

By Sarah Neese
Student Intern, University Relations

As a Family and Consumer Science teacher, Central alumna Lori Goodbary knows what it means to teach Oklahoma's Passport to Financial Literacy program.

Goodbary has taught for nearly a decade at Edmond's Cheyenne Middle School. Her personal experiences, as well as her students, have sparked her passion for financial literacy, she said.

"I always joke that I can't manage a penny of my own money, and my son can't. I mean, we are just terrible money managers," Goodbary said.

"My first paycheck as a teacher was \$900, and that was only 23 years ago. Now, I make a little over \$50,000, so I should be living pretty nicely — especially with two incomes. But, we still sometimes have to live paycheck to paycheck because of emergencies. So, a lot of personal experience has driven me this way."

Before the Passport to Literacy program passed in 2007, Goodbary used her experience in the classroom to lobby for the legislation. She worked with Oklahoma Rep. Ann Coody and Sue Lynn Sasser, Ph.D., professor of Economics at Central.

"It's just a passion now. So, any time I can do anything with it, I just grab a hold — especially with Dr. Sasser."

Goodbary and Sasser continue to improve financial literacy curriculum. Goodbary hopes to introduce changes to make Oklahoma's Passport to Financial Literacy program more student-oriented, including adapting standards to reflect the growth in digital activity.

"We need to update the objectives of the checkbook and financial services to meet the technology," Goodbary said, noting that things have changed since she was younger. "What I remember was writing

checks — writing them in my bank register and balancing my checkbook — and what a miserable event that was. Now, with all of the online stuff and technology, it's just so much easier to teach these kids how easy it is to manage your money."

Goodbary thinks curriculum should include information on the stock market and a greater emphasis on savings accounts.

"We need to integrate more of the emergency account ... like your rainy day fund and making sure you have so many months' worth of income. If you're laid off, you've got to be able to take care of yourself and your family," Goodbary said.

She also feels that current education standards on retirement planning fail to connect with students.

"At 18 ... this is not very applicable to high schoolers. ... I just can't imagine teaching a senior, 'Well you need to think about retirement.'"

Despite needed updates, Goodbary believes that current financial literacy education is beginning to shape a better future for students. "There is no doubt in my mind that we are having an impact," she said. The proof, however, will have to wait. The program's first graduating class was in 2014, the first to meet all the Passport to Financial Literacy requirements.

"If we wait until 2024, (we can) see what has changed with those twenty-some-things. ... Are they making better choices? Has our bankruptcy number gone down? Have our family structures stayed together because there's not the stress of money?" Goodbary said.

"Our goal for you guys is to graduate and go to work," Goodbary said she tells students. "As soon as you get that first paycheck, this stuff is going to come back to your mind."

Gardens, Growing a Trend

By Tim Tillman

Coordinator of Sustainability/Alternative Transportation

When asked to write this story, I promised myself that there would be no puns. After vegetating for a while, I chose not to squash my style. Here goes nothin'!

Central students are a fascinating bunch. It seems that whenever the older, wiser heads say, "The students will never use/do/participate in..." then the student body quickly proves them wrong.

Nobody will ride a bicycle to campus, "they" said. Students won't use public transit! Once again, the numbers don't lie. Then the big one, "Students have no interest in gardening. That's for old people."

In the spring of 2014, Central partnered

with the Edmond YMCA to take over management of the garden on Rankin Street.

Eric Hemphill, coordinator of UCO's Volunteer Service Learning Center, and his team leapt into action. They arranged registration for the gardening beds, drew up contracts and marketed the partnership. Within a week, all 14 raised beds were claimed by individual students, faculty and staff.

The waiting list continued to grow throughout the season as more and more individuals from the Central community and beyond wanted to be a part of the project. A workday was organized, and Bronchos turned out to clean and prepare

for planting.

By summer, the beds were overflowing with fresh tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, squash, carrots, lettuce and assorted herbs. There was even a strawberry bed that housed a couple of ambitious bunnies.

Sounds wonderful, right? It was, and it gets even better.

In 2012, campus volunteers opened the Central Pantry in a partnership with the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma to provide food and hygiene products to any campus member in need. Coordinated through the UCO Volunteer Service Learning Center, the pantry has become a model for other colleges and universities wanting to set up a similar program.

In setting up the gardening program, it seemed only natural to make it a part of the Central Pantry effort. So, as part of the responsibility of maintaining a bed, all gardeners agreed to donate 50 percent of their yield to the Central Pantry. Most of the gardeners gave much more than the 50 percent, and some donated 100 percent of their yield. Needless to say, fresh vegetables were a huge hit with Central Pantry users. The produce seemed to fly off the shelves.

Once word of the successful experiment spread, new projects started sprouting everywhere. Two students recently presented a proposal to Edmond's Boulevard Academy to introduce a gardening project to the school. The city of Edmond Parks and Recreation department is studying a garden project for Mitch Park and even the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma has expressed an interest in UCO's project. Other universi-



UCO graduate student Jennifer Swann helped surplus vegetables from last year's community garden find their way to the Central Pantry for sharing with those in need.

ties and colleges are calling and emailing to learn from UCO's model.

Now, for the lessons-learned part.

Lesson No. 1 — We have an amazing resource in the students and staff at Central's Volunteer Service Learning Center. Their ability to organize quickly and respond to new opportunities is something to see!

Lesson No. 2 — Bronchos have no problem getting dirt under their nails, and if they can give something to someone less fortunate, they don't hesitate.

Lesson No. 3 — Great ideas spread fast.



UCO's Tim Tillman finds Central students — as well as UCO's community garden — a good source for new ideas and lessons learned, as well as fresh vegetables.

After a Fragile Existence

By Sarah Neese
Student Intern, University Relations

After documenting his wife's journey with cancer, Mark Zimmerman is ready to move forward.

Zimmerman is a UCO assistant professor of Photographic Arts. When Zimmerman's wife, Meredith (BA '97), was diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer in 2010, he began photographing her journey. He used the project to cope with his fears surrounding his wife's illness.

Using a Wet Plate Collodion Process invented in 1851, Zimmerman substituted mirrors for glass plates. This allows viewers to see their reflections while viewing the photographs.

Zimmerman compiled an exhibit he titled "A Fragile Existence," in an effort to convey the impermanence of life. After showing the exhibit in Norman and San Antonio, Zimmerman in late 2014 brought it to Central's Melton Gallery.

"I was glad to bring it to the UCO community. ... It was nice to be able to share it with them because they had heard about it, maybe read about it. ... I'd never actually displayed the work here," Zimmerman said.

"It was very positive. A lot of people were emotional about just the whole series of work and very positive on me sharing such a personal story."

Though it was the third location for the exhibit, the showing at the Melton Gallery was a different experience for Zimmerman.

"It changes. Every time it's installed, it's somewhere different. It's almost a new way to see it. Because of the reflections, because of the lighting, because of the locations, all of that definitely makes it kind of new," Zimmerman said.

A few professors took their classes. A couple of groups of students wrote about their impressions.

"So, that was something new. I hadn't experienced that with a previous show. It was great that it was used in an education sense," Zimmerman said.

The exhibit's campus experience, however, was also more personal — and more difficult.



"It was a hard thing to go through," Zimmerman said, especially for his wife. "She went through a lot, even after that series was done. She was still going through surgeries. I had finished up school, and she went through reconstruction. That was life changing."

Now the couple wants to focus on the future.

"We're kind of done with that project. It was just a really small segment of our lives, and I think that it was great to share. ... She's healthy. She's got a new career. That part of her life is behind her," Zimmerman said.

Although Zimmerman is finished with the project on a local level, he may be open to other opportunities, he said. "I would like to share that and get it somewhere in another state, even internationally."



UCO's Mark Zimmerman, assistant professor of Photographic Arts, shared the two photos above from the series he shot chronicling his wife's journey after a diagnosis of triple-negative breast cancer in 2010. His wife, Meredith, now is a survivor, and the couple, pictured right, are moving forward. However, Zimmerman's powerful work became an exhibit called 'A Fragile Existence' that showed at UCO, as well as in San Antonio and Norman. The photos were processed using mirror instead of glass, allowing viewers to see their own reflections in the photos.



UCO Downtown Opens at the Carnegie Centre



UCO English lecturer Shay Rahm teaches one of the first UCO Downtown classes to some of the 160 students who enrolled in the spring semester offering. Attracted to both the location and the experience, students have welcomed the venue.

By Lindsay Thomas

Communications and Marketing Coordinator, University Relations

When UCO Downtown opened its doors at Oklahoma City's Carnegie Centre this spring semester, it welcomed 160 undergraduate and graduate students. Ranging from biology to design and music to political science, classes immediately drew students to the downtown learning space, located at 131 Dean A. McGee Ave., and they're ready for more.

Downtown isn't new territory for Central, though. The university's presence in Oklahoma City's central business district stretches back 22 years to 1993, when the UCO Small Business Development Center (SBDC), now located at One Santa Fe Plaza, moved downtown.

The Academy of Contemporary Music (ACM@UCO), opened in Bricktown in 2009, brought UCO coursework downtown for the first time. And the CHKI Central Boathouse, which celebrated its grand opening in April, will provide not only a home to the university's women's rowing team, but an art gallery and a live performance space on the Oklahoma River.

This powerful quartet is part of what makes Central a truly metropolitan university. And students, for their part, love it.

"The best part about taking a class at UCO Downtown was both the location and the experience," said Shelby Wallis, an undergraduate who took funeral science during Central's 2014-15 spring intersession.

"The location is close to everything and the parking was super easy as well," Wallis added. "During our breaks we went out and explored and ate different foods — just experienced the city."

Wallis echoed the sentiments of her classmates: UCO Downtown is a shift from the traditional university environment to an urban learning space in a vibrant metropolitan area.

University Provost John Barthell, who taught a course at the Carnegie Centre this spring, says the idea of traditional coursework downtown has been a decade in the making, dating back to when Central requested the Regional University System of Oklahoma Regents to view UCO as a metropolitan university. And the ultimate vision for UCO Downtown, Barthell says, was that of President Betz.

"If we're a public metropolitan university, it's only logical that we would have a physical linkage to the downtown of that metropolitan city. And Oklahoma City is that city that defines the metropolitan area," Barthell said.

He has called Central's downtown space an "academic startup." And as with any startup, the university intends for the growth of UCO Downtown to be both thoughtful and gradual.

"The whole space is designed to be like a Lego," said Karen Youngblood, executive director of Central's Center for eLearning and Customized Education (CeCE), who oversaw the construction and design inside Central's Carnegie Centre space.

"The classrooms can become anything the instructor wants them to become; they aren't traditional classrooms — they're spaces

for all kinds of learners."

A January intersession course allowed Youngblood and her team to fine-tune the downtown location for the 2015 spring semester. She likened the current coursework at UCO Downtown to a soft opening.

"We wanted to test and see if our instincts were right. With very little marketing, which was intentional, the classes filled up. Students love it. Instructors love it, and we hope to offer more courses in the fall," Youngblood said.

Barthell notes that Central wants the metropolitan area, particularly the downtown community, to speak to the university about their needs.

"You can do all the research in the world and think you know what the needs are for learners downtown, but it's not until you begin the process of setting up an operation like we have that you actually begin to see the students come in and see what their interests are — and that's why this first semester has been so vital."

A semester in, the university now points to three emerging groups of learners who want to enroll in classes at the Carnegie Centre: people who work downtown and want to pursue graduate degrees, lifelong learners like retirees and millennials who are taking courses simply for the sake of learning, and students who live in or near downtown who find the location convenient.

"The synergy between the ACM and the Carnegie is an important one. If an ACM student wants to take a general math class, and they know that they can walk just three or four blocks away to the Carnegie to take it — that's synergy. That's the pieces working together for the better of our students," Barthell said.

As potential learners continue to emerge, the university expects to offer more classes downtown, eventually growing enrollment to at least 300.

Options at UCO Downtown are not limited solely to for-credit courses. Through Central's CeCE, the university can partner with downtown businesses and offer customized education, non-credit courses, certificates, company retreats, leadership training and conferences, all while respecting its for-credit courses.

Barthell's hope is that the strength of Central's urban core offerings will attract the attention of students, both current and potential. And while he notes that the university's main campus in Edmond is and will always be the

center of what the university does, he says the energy surrounding Central's newest metropolitan presence is exciting.

"The more time that someone wants to spend in downtown Oklahoma City, the better for the Carnegie, the better for the boathouse, the better for ACM, the better for the Small Business Development Center the better for UCO."

For more information about UCO Downtown, visit www.uco.edu/ucodowntown.



UCO Downtown classes are in the Carnegie Centre, once the downtown metropolitan library at 131 Dean A. McGee Ave.





Student Intern, Others Share Their Transformative Experiences at UCO

UCO's Office of University Relations has had the good fortune of having several great student interns, most recently one named Sarah Neese, a senior Strategic Communications major.

For this issue of *Old North* magazine, we wanted an article showing the various ways UCO students today are learning about the world and its diverse populations

through transformative learning experiences — especially ones that help students grow in ways they never dreamed possible.

Well, what better person to find those students than another student, right?

One catch.

In talking with Neese, we found that she is the perfect prototype for what we were searching. As

she described her experiences at UCO, this editor had an overwhelming desire to start college all over, to be able to do everything Neese has done.

Could she find four more like herself? No problem, she said. And she quickly did just that!

— Gypsy Hogan
Publications Editor,
University Relations

Sarah Neese

HOMETOWN:

Edmond, Oklahoma

FIELD OF STUDY:

Senior majoring in Strategic Communications, minoring in Spanish

ACTIVITIES:

Student intern, University Relations; research assistant, College of Business; team member, UCO American Advertising Federation Competition Team

“Though my years in college have been unique in their own way, there are students from every corner of the university who have experienced the enriched educational environment of UCO, just as I have. All of us have seen the true potential and capacity of transformative learning through our university.”

As a student in my last semester at Central, I've become more than familiar with the term transformative learning. On one hand, the concept serves as a foundation for academic standards across the university. However, how does transformative learning translate into tangible student experiences?

During my time at UCO, I have pursued my passions through my academic program, expanded my skill set for my career field and participated in several leadership roles.

Previously, I have had the privilege of serving as copy editor and editor-in-chief of *The Vista*, Central's student newspaper, and in two internship positions, one with the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

Currently, I am the intern for University Relations, a team member on Central's American Advertising Federation competition team and a research assistant to a marketing professor in the College of Business.

As a research assistant, I have traveled to a variety of national and international conferences in a handful of cities, presenting research on behalf of the university in Chicago; New Orleans; Washington, D.C.; Atlanta; and Cape Town, South Africa. These experiences beyond the classroom have made a lasting impact, allowing me to explore cities, meet new people and understand other cultures in a capacity that I would not have otherwise experienced.

Through my college career, I have learned that the power of earning a college degree is exponential, but gaining life experience and growing as an individual is invaluable. Though my years in college have been unique in their own way, there are students from every corner of the university who have experienced the enriched educational environment of UCO, just as I have. All of us have seen the true potential and capacity of transformative learning through our university.



Brittney Petty

HOMETOWN:

Bethany, Oklahoma

FIELD OF STUDY:

Junior majoring in International Business

ACTIVITIES:

Global Leadership Ambassador; Community Responding to International Students Program (CRISP); Broncho Buddies; Student worker, UCentral Media

"My experiences have helped me mature and learn more about who I am and what my passions are."

I am someone who loves to learn and try new things, such as art, food, culture, languages and history. So when I graduate, I hope to either live and work abroad, or live somewhere in the United States and work for an international company, interacting with businesses in other countries.

Currently, I am a global leadership ambassador for the Community Responding to International Students Program (CRISP) on campus. CRISP pairs up international students from UCO with families in the area for monthly events. I am also involved in Broncho Buddies, and I attend most activities involving international matters.

Additionally, I work on campus at UCentral Media. I help students with equipment and resources that they can use during video, media and production classes.

In the past, I have been involved in the Korean Student Association and have been a volunteer on campus for a weekly Korean cultural class.

Through all of my activities during college, I feel like I have become much more of a well-rounded individual. My experiences have helped me mature and learn more about who I am and what my passions are. I also have gained many valuable friendships, which I know will last a lifetime.



Timba Le

HOMETOWN:

Hanoi, Vietnam

FIELD OF STUDY:

Senior majoring in Graphic Design

ACTIVITIES:

International Student Council; Global Leadership Ambassadors; Photographer, Office of Global Affairs; Graphic Designer, Technology Resource Center; Orientation Leader, Broncho Orientation

"I have met a wide range of people that I can see a lot of opportunities, connections and networking with in the future."

As a UCO student, I've gained a lot of good things, like knowledge, skills and opportunities. I have met a wide range of people that I can see a lot of opportunities, connections and networking with in the future.

For example, I love being a global leadership ambassador for the Centre for Global Competency because it expands my knowledge of the world. I've had the opportunity to meet many new people and new friends and have learned about many new cultures around the world.

I am also one of the orientation leaders on campus. As an orientation leader, I serve new students, whether they are incoming freshmen, transfer or international students, who are coming to UCO. I help them get to know the university and guide them through orientation. This is a good opportunity for me to meet new students, new people and build good relationships. I love what I'm doing.

I'd like to pursue a career in advertising, and through my university jobs, I'm gaining experience and skills that could help me in the future. I work for the Office of Global Affairs as a photographer and for the Technology Resource Center as a student graphic designer.

With the leadership and academic skills that I have learned from UCO, I think that I will be equipped to have a good job after I graduate. I hope to have a bright future and a good career.



Jalea Shuff

HOMETOWN:

Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma

FIELD OF STUDY:

Second-year graduate student in Family Life Education

ACTIVITIES:

Historian, UCO Phi Upsilon Omicron; Early Childhood Association; research assistant, College of Business

“I feel like I’ve learned more, and I understand the things that I’m learning now, because I’ve had these experiences.”

Family is really important to me. One day, I’d like to have my own health and wellness center, so everything that I’m doing at this point is to accomplish that goal.

I would like to participate in hands-on work in the field for a little while to gain experience, building a larger knowledge base to better prepare me for when I start my center. I am also looking to become a licensed marital and family therapist through UCO.

I started doing some events relating to my family life education program at UCO, where I went to a couple of conferences for the Family Life Education Association and the National Council on Family Relations. I later was accepted into the McNair Scholars Program.

I also have spent time working as a research assistant, where I had the opportunity to present at a Council on Undergraduate Research conference and at multiple Oklahoma Research Days. Through these experiences, I’ve traveled to Wisconsin, Chicago, and Phoenix, Arizona.

I have enjoyed being a student, but the additional events and activities that I’ve done have really enriched my educational experience. In fact, I feel like I’ve learned more, and I understand the things that I’m learning now, because I’ve had these experiences — especially, the research. It’s been a huge help. I’ve had the benefit of having someone sit and teach me step-by-step what to do.

I believe every student should have the opportunity to participate in research and gain these experiences if at all possible. It makes a huge difference.



Jimmy Lai

HOMETOWN:

Ping-Tung City, Taiwan

FIELD OF STUDY:

Junior majoring in Marketing

ACTIVITIES:

International Student Council; Leaders of Tomorrow; Global Leadership Ambassadors; TEDxUCO Student Committee; International Care Association; Broncho Buddies

“UCO has helped me to realize that I can accomplish everything that I wholeheartedly believe in.”

As an individual, I love different languages and culture. Because of this, I can speak Japanese, German, Chinese (Mandarin), English and Taiwanese. I believe that knowledge is power and hope that one day having all of that knowledge will make me more successful.

Although I’m usually an introvert, I tend to be an extrovert while working on projects or events. My opportunities have shaped that part of me, helping me to become a better leader.

In the past, I have been part of the Tennis Club at UCO, the Economics and International Business Club, the Finance Club and the Taiwanese Student Association.

However, more recently, I have had the opportunity to have leadership roles in the International Student Council, Leaders of Tomorrow organization and the Global Leadership Ambassadors program, which coordinates various international programs across the university.

I also participate in the International Care Association, an organization that helps international students transition to life at UCO, and Broncho Buddies, a program that pairs UCO students from the United States with international students for events during the year.

As a student, I have gained the knowledge in my field of study that will help me in my career path. Through a research assistantship, I learned a lot about marketing, which resulted in me switching my major. UCO has helped me to realize that I can accomplish everything that I wholeheartedly believe in.

Immediately after graduation, I hope to be a sales manager or a project manager. That’s why I’m currently using my Saturdays to take project management professional classes. My long-term goal is to work my way up to earn more than enough money for my family and me, as well as help the community where I live.

CAMPUS GUESTS

The year has brought many great speakers, entertainers and honorees to the Central campus. Here's just a sampling of those enjoyed by students, faculty and staff. Several were part of the UCO@125 celebration series.



1. Anti-stress therapy dogs were a big hit on campus during fall finals week. The animals returned in the spring to Chambers Library for student visits for two evenings.

2. Entertainer John Legend spoke about his philanthropic efforts and beliefs. Not disappointing his music fans, Legend's talk included him performing during his presentation in Constitution Hall.

3. Stage star Sandi Patty performed as part of Broadway Tonight's 'Oklahoma Voices' series. The five-time Grammy winner also conducted a master class with UCO students, sharing with them her rise from Oklahoma roots to stardom.

4. Author Bruce Katz shared insights from his work as co-author of *The Metropolitan Revolution*. Katz's visit kicked off the UCO@125 Speaker Series.

5. Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett spoke to the UCO community as part of the President's Lessons in Leadership series.

CAMPUS GUESTS



1. Grammy-winner and Oklahoma native Jimmy Webb performed in Mitchell Hall as part of Broadway Tonight's 'Oklahoma Voices' series.

2. UCO's first Black Male Summit attracted more than 250 high schoolers. Speaker Fred Bonner, Ph.D., from Prairie View A&M University in Texas, focuses his research on African-American males.

3. Harvard physicist Eric Mazur shared his 'peer instruction' philosophy at UCO's Transformative Learning Conference.

4. UCO recently honored its hockey team, which won its first ACHA Division I National Championship.

5. President Betz welcomed representatives of the Film & TV College of Sichuan Normal University, China, for the signing of a student exchange agreement with UCO.



BOATHOUSE CHRISTENING



UCO's CHK|Central Boathouse officially opened April 18 with a 'christening.' Home of the UCO women's rowing team, the boathouse also includes a live music venue and an art gallery.

1. From left are head rowing coach Andy Derrick, Anne Holzberlein, C. Hubert Gragg, Peggy Kates, Martha Burger, Garland Wilkinson, Gordon Pennoyer, Mayor Mick Cornett, Rand Elliott, President Betz, Pam Washington, Mike Knopp.

2. Rowers gather.

3. Nighttime view is striking.



HOMECOMING HONOREES



Fall Homecoming included the Golden Bronchos reunion and induction of Distinguished Alumni and Family of the Year.

1. 2014 Distinguished Alumna Sharon McCollam, seated at table with her family around her, also took the opportunity to establish the McCollam/Howard Family Endowed Scholarship.

2. UCO's 2014 Golden Bronchos Reunion honored its Class of '64 — from left, front row, Nita Cadenhead, Kathy Foster, Darrell Jones, Sandra Johnson, AnnJean Sheldon and John Meyer; back row, Val Reneau, Bob Mitchell, Don Hall, Charles "Bud" Barton, George Ashford, Lawrence Rankin and Dub Raper.

3. 2014 Distinguished Alumni inductees are, from left, John Gladden (BS '14), Sharon McCollam (BS '85) and Tom Daniels (BA '77).

4. The 2014 Family of the Year honorees included Peggy (BS '72) and Ben (BSEd '73) Kates, center, surrounded by family members.

Central Reads

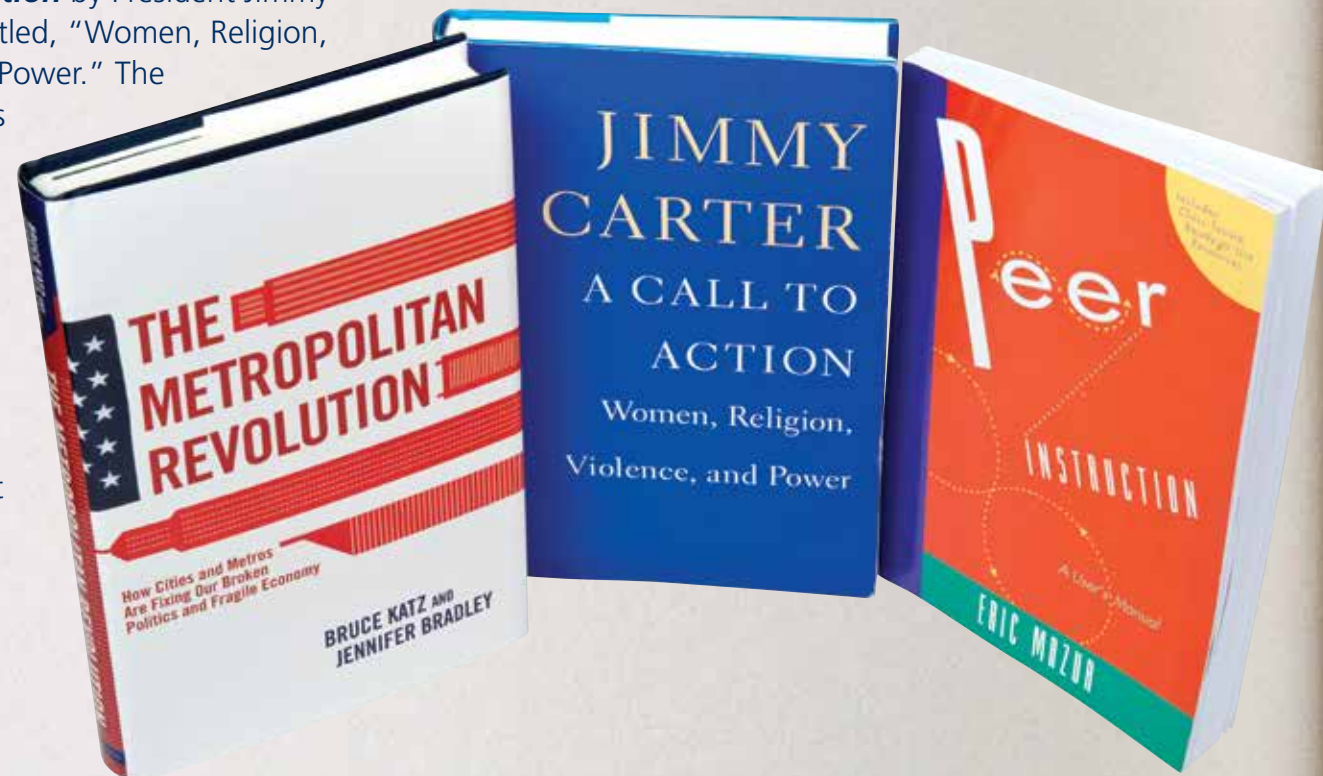
Metropolitan Revolution is co-authored by Bruce Katz, vice president for the Brookings Institute and founding director of its Metropolitan Policy Program. Katz kicked off the UCO@125 Distinguished Speakers Series with a Jan. 28 visit to campus.

Katz argues that cities and metro areas are the drivers of national economies and the front lines for economic policies. Subtitled "How Cities and Metros Are Fixing Our Broken Politics and Fragile Economy," the book is a compilation of essays by people from metropolitan areas that illustrate the point.

A Call to Action by President Jimmy Carter, is subtitled, "Women, Religion, Violence, and Power." The book served as inspiration for the campus celebration of Women's History Month in March. Student and faculty/staff Empowerment for Excellence book groups formed for a closer look at Carter's work. The book was

recommended by UCO Mass Communication lecturer Mary Carver, Ph.D., who is using the 2014 book as part of a course she teaches on campus, Leadership and Civic Engagement.

Peer Instruction: A User's Manual is by Eric Mazur, Ph.D., Harvard physicist and a leader in transformative learning who developed what he calls peer instruction. Mazur brought his work to campus in March when he was keynote speaker at UCO's Transformative Learning Conference, held in downtown Oklahoma City for 285 participants from 41 institutions in 13 states and five countries.



Book Store Seeking Top UCO Authors

In honor of Central's UCO@125 celebration, Best of Books in Edmond is seeking authors connected to the university.

Joe Hight (BA '80) is a Central Journalism major. His family bought the bookstore in late October as he left his job as editor of *The Gazette* in Colorado Springs, where he led the news operation to a Pulitzer Prize in 2014. He has been a supporter of UCO alumni efforts.

Hight mentioned authors such as the late Stanley Hoig, Ph.D., and Reba Collins, Ed.D., as being among those Central professors who brought prestige to the university in the past. Hoig was an Oklahoma Book Award winner and finalist before he died in 2009. In 2010, he won the Ralph Ellison Award, which "posthumously honor(s) individuals who have made outstanding contributions to Oklahoma's literary heritage," according to the Oklahoma Center for the Book. Collins, who died in 2005, was considered the foremost scholar and author on the great humorist Will Rogers.

Best of Books is featuring three books with current UCO connections:

— *The Frog King: A Love Story*, by UCO artist-in-residence Adam Davies;



UCO alumnus Joe Hight, second from left, with daughter, Elena, left, and wife, Nan, with Jay Asher, *The New York Times*' No. 1 best-selling author of *Thirteen Reasons Why* when he visited the Hight family's Best of Books in Edmond earlier this year.

— *Along the Watchtower*, by Constance Squires, assistant professor of Creative Writing; and,

— *Hidden Treasures of the American West: Muriel H. Wright, Angie Debo and Alice Marriott*, by Patricia Loughlin, Ph.D.,

professor of History.

Best of Books is seeking other UCO award-winning authors who it can feature or bring together for a special event later this year. Send an email with names and book titles to bestofbooks@sbcglobal.net.

Thatcher (continued from page 20)

On Nov. 9, 1891, Thatcher held the first Normal classes in the newly completed Methodist Episcopal Church. Twenty-five students — six men and nineteen girls — enrolled in the first class. Along with establishing the curriculum, Thatcher created a Literary Society that would raise funds to purchase library books and an organ for the school. He also initiated plans for construction of Old North.

Enrollment increased to 51 the following year. To accommodate this expansion, the school moved from the Methodist Episcopal Church to Central Hall. Construction of the Normal Building (Old North) began during the summer of 1892 and was complete enough to occupy by Jan. 2, 1893. The north and south wings were not completely finished and furnished until 1898.

With declining health, Thatcher stepped down from his position as principal in 1893 to become chair of the Math Department. Later, no longer able to take an active role in the classroom, he was made Emeritus Professor of Mathematics. At that time, he was the only educator in Oklahoma to hold such a position. Although retired, he walked up the hill to the school every day to attend morning assembly. Thatcher's last active appearance at Central was at spring graduation in 1909 where he presented graduates with their diplomas.

When Thatcher died, his body lay in state at the Normal School from Monday, Nov. 29, 1909, until Wednesday noon, Dec. 1. Thatcher, a 33rd Degree Mason, the highest level attainable, was the most prominent Mason in Oklahoma at that time. At midnight on the second day, a large delega-

tion of Scottish Rite Masons from Guthrie and other parts came to the Normal School and participated in a midnight Masonic funeral ceremony for Thatcher. Afterward, he was buried in Edmond's Gracelawn Cemetery beside his wife, Melissa, who died five years earlier from complications of asthma.

Upon his death, *The Daily Oklahoman* wrote, "Through several administrations, both Democratic and Republican, he served with not a charge against him or a fault to find with his work." As a citizen he ranked among the most progressive and most honored. His education and broad mind always enabled him to, "grasp the right side of the situation." For 18 years, Richard Thatcher was a cornerstone of the school and one of the greatest promoters of education in the Southwest.

ALUMNI NOTES

1970s

Mack Butler (BS '72), director of football operations at Oklahoma State University, has been selected as FootballScoop's Director of Football Operations of the Year. He is in his second tenure as OSU's director of football operations, serving from 2001-04 and again since 2009.

1980s

Rick Harper (BBA '80) has been named president and CEO of SpiritBank. He previously was president and CEO of First State Bank in Tahlequah. He also serves as commissioner for the Oklahoma Depart-

ment of Consumer Credit. **Mike McGraw** (BA '82) has been named the men's golf coach at Baylor University. He previously was an assistant coach at the University of Alabama, where he helped lead them to the 2014 national championship. He joined Oklahoma State University in 1997 as an assistant coach and became head coach in 2006, holding that position through the 2012-13 season. His team at Oklahoma State won the national title in 2006.

Richard "Vince" Howie (BBA '83) was appointed by Gov. Mary Fallin to the Oklahoma Strategic Military Planning Commission. He is the director of aerospace and defense at the Oklahoma Department of Commerce. **Annette Williams** (BSEd '85,

MEd '92, MEd '06) has been named principal of Madison Elementary by the Norman Board of Education. She previously served as principal of Oklahoma City's Coolidge Elementary. **Bryan Williams** (BBA '85) has been promoted by First Fidelity Bank to assistant vice president and market manager for the Tulsa market. He has been with First Fidelity Bank for 11 years.

1990s

Major Darren F. Keahtigh (BA '97) retired from the United States Army. After graduating from Central with a degree in Criminal Justice, he entered the Army as an infantry officer. Before his retirement, he was as observer controller and operations officer to Operations Group Charlie, Mission Command Training Program. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (3rd Award), Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Award) and the Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device (Battle of Al Najaf). He is working on a master of science in administration human resource from the University of Central Michigan, with an expected graduation date of fall 2015. Sculptor **Joel Randell** (BAEd '97) began work in May 2013 on the largest bronze women's veteran monument in America.

The monument was dedicated on Veterans Day at Patriot Park in Del City. Future projects include designing and sculpting a bronze statue to honor the late Perry Harvey Sr. for the city of Tampa, Florida. **Marla Wilson** (BS '97) has been named executive director of Honey Shine Inc., a mentoring program for girls and young women in south Florida. She previously served as senior director of the Go Red for Women campaign for the American Heart Association and as executive director for the Miami March of Dimes. **Marilyn Anderson** (BA '98) has been named chief financial officer of the Oklahoma Supreme Court.

Previous employment includes serving as a fiscal policy analyst and later as deputy fiscal director for the Oklahoma House of Representatives.

2000s



Emily S. Anderson, J.D., (BS '01) has joined the tax staff at the Edmond accounting firm of Arledge and Associates PC. She earned her juris doctor from

Oklahoma City University School of Law. **Jessica Mitchell** (BS '03) has joined Mercy Clinic Primary Care, 9100 N. May Ave., Oklahoma City, as a nurse practitioner.

Christy Gordon (BFA '04), a registered interior designer, is a project captain for ADG Inc., an architecture and engineering company. She has nine years experience managing and reviewing Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design projects for the U.S.



Army Corps of Engineers. **James Gripka** (BS '06) has been promoted to senior manager for BKD LLP, a CPA and advisory firm. **Brian**

Downs (BA '05) is the owner of Edmond-based Counterclock Custom T-Shirts LLC. His company offers its own apparel line through an e-store

Beth Buesing (BBA '01, MEd '06) writes Alumni Notes and In Memory. She is executive office assistant in UCO's Office of University Relations. If you have information to be included in this section, please send to the UCO Alumni Association, 100 North University Drive, Box 125, Edmond, OK 73034, or email alumni@uco.edu with "Alumni Note" in the subject line.



Preserving Alaska

Aleta Walther (BA '91) has spent the last two spring-summer seasons in Juneau, Alaska, as a naturalist and interpretative guide for Gastineau Guiding Co. Describing herself as "passionate about conservation and preservation," she said her work in Alaska has allowed her to use her writing, marketing and research skills while enjoying some of the world's most beautiful scenery. In winter months, Walther spends her time in sunny southern California, where her San Clemente company, PRwriterPro, provides business communications services and strategies, while also allowing her to write about and work with outdoor advocacy groups and issues. To read her blog about her Alaska experiences, visit prwriterpro.com, where she'll again chronicle her stay this summer.



'60s Sigma Kappas Reunite

Sigma Kappa alumnae from the 1960s gathered in September on campus, then had dinner at Interurban and later fellowship at the home of board president Gaylon Owsley. Those who attended include, from left on back row, Billye Deming Palmer, Judy Crosby Griffith, JoJo Manning Pelphry, Kathy Slayter Collins, Patsy Pearson Shelley, Mary Ann Smith Puckett, Joan Galey Marburger, Sharon Alford DePriest, Susan Ault Babbitt, Wanda Austin Shirley, Jo Beauchamp and Donna Hall Wilkinson. Middle row from left are Julie Grafa Hockensmith, Marilyn Manning Pennington, Carolyn Pate Shry, Sharon Clinkenbeard Roberts, Ruth Ann Martindale Gunter, Jan Macy and Patty Miller. Front row, from left, are Rosalind Kerbow Elder, Kathy Henry, Edie Wallace Votaw, Linda Stansberry Bobo, Gaylon Braden Owsley and Bobetta Looper Witten-Roberson.

launched in August. **Kurtis Reitz, DDS** (BS '08) has opened his dental practice, Cross Timbers Family Dental, in Edmond. He received his doctorate of dental surgery from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. **Kristy Schaefer** (BS '08) has joined Mercy Clinic Primary Care on Memorial Road in Edmond as a nurse practitioner. She previously worked as a registered nurse in an intensive care unit and a coronary care unit.

2010s

Jamila Crawford (MEd '11) has been named principal of Edmond's Cross Timbers Elementary, effective Aug. 1. She currently serves as an assistant principal at

Cross Timbers. **Travis Bellard** (BS '12) has joined Jordan Advertising as an accountant. He previously worked in the drilling and exploration industry. A graduate of Central's Athletic Training program, **Megan Bolin** (MS '14), along with two others, competed in the National Athletic Trainers' Association Quiz Bowl in June 2014. They placed second runner-up. **Jessica Martinez** (BFA '14) has joined Jordan Advertising as a production artist. She previously was a graphic designer at Legacy Bank. **Emily Todd** (BS '14) has joined Retirement Investment Advisors as a client services assistant. She has more than 10 years experience in the client services industry.

Illinois National Guard Names UCO Alumna Brigadier General

Alicia Tate-Nadeau (BS '87) has been promoted to brigadier general of the Illinois National Guard. Sworn in March 7, she's the first female in Illinois National Guard history to achieve that position as a general officer, according to a military news release.

Throughout her career, Tate-Nadeau said it was never about being the best and brightest, but rather surrounding herself with the best and brightest. She also said it was never about ultimately wearing a star on her chest. It was about being her true self for her soldiers.

"There is no cookie cutter way to leadership," she said. "You can only be who you are in your heart, because soldiers know that."

Most recently, she has served as the Illinois Army National Guard assistant adjutant general in charge of domestic operations, overseeing Illinois National Guard homeland security response and programs such as the State Partnership Program with Poland. Prior to that position, she served a three-year tour as the National Guard bureau liaison officer to the Israeli Home Front Command in Ramla, Israel.

Maj. Eric Davis of Mt. Pulaski, Illinois, with 2nd Battalion, 122nd Field Artillery Regiment in Chicago, worked with Tate-Nadeau from 2008 to 2009 when she was the Illinois Army National Guard's director of plans, operations and training. He said she often pushed him to his limits, but said he never felt set up for failure.

"She's one of those people you don't want to let down because she's a good leader who will always have your back," Davis said. "You always knew where you stood."



Alicia Tate-Nadeau is sworn in March 7 as brigadier general of the Illinois National Guard, the first female to hold that post.

Tate-Nadeau began her military journey in 1984 at the encouragement of the dean of women at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. She soon transferred to UCO, where she graduated as a second lieutenant through Central's ROTC program. In 1997, she transitioned from a traditional, one-weekend a month Guardsman to a full-time Active Guard Reserve soldier.

Helping *Old North* get information about UCO graduate Brig. Gen. Alicia Tate-Nadeau was another UCO graduate, Adriana Schroeder (BA '02, MA '06).

Schroeder has been command historian for the Illinois National Guard at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois, since August 2009. She has bachelor's in History and Museum Studies from Central, along with a master's in the same majors with an emphasis on military history.



Surprise Central Park Proposal Means 2016 Wedding for UCO Couple

For a Christmas present, Garrett Mouse (BS '08) gave a trip to New York City to Christina Drinkwater (BS '13), then did a surprise marriage proposal to her in Central Park. The surprise included both sets of parents who were waiting and watching from a terrace near the park's Bethesda Fountain where he staged the proposal. The couple now plans a spring 2016 wedding in Oklahoma.

They both live in Midland, Texas, where Mouse is a formation evaluation business development manager for Baker Hughes and Drinkwater is a registered nurse for Midland Memorial Hospital. The two met while students at Central.



Journalism Hall of Fame Names UCO Graduate New Member

Robby Trammell (BA '79), news director for *The Oklahoman* and NewsOK.com, has been named to the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame, located on the UCO campus.

Trammell has spent the majority of his 41-year journalism career at *The Oklahoman*

where he is news director for both the newspaper and NewsOK.com. He began his career in high school, serving as editor of the Seminole High School newspaper, followed by editor of the Seminole Junior College newspaper before getting his bachelor's degree at UCO. His career has included being a reporter and managing editor of the *Seminole Producer* for 15 years.

Trammell has a master's degree from the University of Oklahoma and serves on the board of the Oklahoma Press Association. He is an ordained deacon in The Episcopal Church.



Helping Oklahoma City Start-Ups

Two Central graduates are among the 10 Oklahoma City entrepreneurs who are now giving away \$1,000 every month to someone with a business, plan or project to improve Oklahoma City.

Travis Stephens (BFA '13), above left, and Micky Clagg (BS '76) are micro-trustees of the OKC Awesome Foundation, that acts as mentors as well as a channel to a crowd-funding platform.

Clagg is a real estate developer who has worked in downtown and Midtown Oklahoma City. He applauds the innovative approach OKC Awesome has taken, saying it is the "best way to bring together people with very different backgrounds to focus on amplifying the impact of the money."

The 10 OKC members meet once a month over lunch, each putting up \$100, then picking a monthly winner to receive the \$1,000.

To read more about the group, visit its Facebook page named OKC Awesome.

Grad Recognized for Civic Engagement, Community Service Efforts

North Carolina Campus Compact recently awarded its 2015 Civic Engagement Emerging Leader Professional of the Year award to Lane Perry (BBA '05, MEd '06), Ph.D.

Perry is the director of Western Carolina University's Center for Service Learning.

The compact is a coalition of 33 public and private colleges and universities. Its Emerging Leader award annually recognizes one staff person in the state for that person's efforts to institutionalize a campuswide vision of service,

support the engagement of faculty and students, and form innovative campus and community partnerships.

Perry joined Western Carolina in 2012. He is married to April Atkinson Perry (BA '05, MEd '07), Ph.D., who is an assistant professor at Western Carolina.

Lane Perry, right, works with Julie Johnson-Busbin and other volunteers to paint and transform a closed North Carolina prison into a shelter, halfway house and soup kitchen.



IN MEMORY

1940s

Kenneth Wayne Bogue (BA '41) died July 17, 2014.

1960s

Dona Lee Stroup Denton (BSEd '60) died July 31, 2014, of cancer. She was an educator for more than 34 years, including 17 years as an elementary school psychologist. **Gary L. Webb** (BAEd '63) died Sept. 27, 2014. He was the first football coach and later was named principal at Putnam City West High School. He retired from education in 1991 and later opened two furniture stores in Wyoming. **Phyllis J. (Luman) Hilmer** (BSEd '65, MEd '77) died July 3, 2014. An educator, she retired in 1993. **Elizabeth Lawley Little** (BSEd '65, MEd '90) died Dec. 17, 2014. She was an elementary school teacher for 30 years. **Barbara S. Mills** (BSEd '66) died Oct. 5, 2014. She served as testing director at Central. **Patricia W. McGrew** (MEd '69) died Dec. 28, 2014. She taught school for Oklahoma City Public Schools for more than 25 years.



1970s

Brenda Kay Corder (BA '72) died Nov. 6, 2014, of lung disease. She taught humanities and history at Northeast High School in the early 70s and later was a receptionist at Edmond's Oklahoma Christian Home and at Haupt Brooks Vandruff Clor PLLC in Oklahoma City. **Ronald David Snow** (BS '75) died Sept. 13, 2014, of cancer. He received his degree in Funeral Science from Central and worked in the funeral business in Tulsa.

1980s

Martin Ray Strain (BS '83) died Sept. 29, 2014. He earned his degree in Computer Science from Central. **Darrell Wayne Marshall** (BS '86) died Sept. 11, 2014. He served in the United States Army, receiving an honorable discharge in 1976. He retired in 2012 from Enogex in Oklahoma City. **Bradley Watson Allen** (BS '88) died Aug. 29, 2014. In addition to acting in on-camera projects and in theater, he was a successful voiceover talent. He was a technician and performer at the Oklahoma Children's Theatre and at other venues in Oklahoma City and Dallas. **J. T. Dooley** (BS '89) died Aug. 27, 2014. He served in the United States Air Force from 1952-55. A research meteorologist, he worked on the research team at the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, retiring in 1988. He became ordained as a minister by World Ministry Fellowship in 1982. **Rosalind Gail "Abby" Wintermute** (BS '89) died June 28, 2014. She was a nurse. Her accomplishments included serving as a mentor for new nurses and being included in Who's Who in American Nursing and the Sigma Theta Tau honor society of nursing.

1990s

Jordan Hollingsworth (MEd '90) died Dec. 10, 2014. He served in the United States Air Force, retiring as a master sergeant after 22 years of service. He was known for his work as a basketball referee and coach at Star Spencer, Northeast Classen and Noble high

schools. **Margaret Jo (Dinwiddie) Gentry** (BS '91) died Nov. 7, 2014. After raising her sons, she completed her bachelor's degree at Central. She worked many years at Bootens Nursery and volunteered at Horseshoe Canyon Camp. **Jane Herskowitz Milsten** (BS '94) died Nov. 4, 2014. She was awarded the Outstanding Interior Design Student award while at Central. A member of the American Society of Interior Designers, her clients included Black Entertainment Television in Washington, D.C., and Stillwater Medical Center. **William "Bill" Dudley White** (BS '94) died Aug. 10, 2014. He was a safety specialist at Raytheon/E-Systems in Greenville, Texas; a safety representative for Accord Human Resources in Oklahoma City; and, most recently, worked as a caregiver.

2000s

Danny Leslie Blott (BS '05) died Oct. 19, 2014. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War and later served in the Air National Guard. He retired in 2011 from the Defense Logistics Agency after 23 years of service. **Jonathan Keith Anderson** (BBA '09) died Oct. 28, 2014. He worked for the State of Oklahoma's Office of Management and Enterprise Services.

Faculty/Staff

Judith Anne Foley died Feb. 6, 2015. She was an administrative assistant in the Alumni office from 1970 until her retirement in 1999.

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With no vehicles allowed on campus, some students find a different kind of wheels for a quick trip to class. A beautiful spring day makes travel all the better.

Staff Photo by KT King



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