



One-time Salary Supplement Approved

President David Boren's request for a one-time salary supplement of \$500 for full-time faculty and staff on the Norman, Health Sciences Center and Tulsa campuses whose employment began prior to Oct. 1, 2002, was approved in October by the OU Board of Regents.

The supplement will be distributed in early December and will be based on the percentage of the employee's full-time employment on Nov. 1. For example, halftime employees will receive a payment of \$250.

In announcing his intent to request the salary supplement, Boren said he wanted to recognize the vital contributions of OU's faculty and staff during a period of budget cuts and no salary increases.

"The University of Oklahoma is making great strides among leading comprehensive universities in

no small part because of the dedication and commitment of its faculty and staff," he said. "Our students have demonstrated their support for excellence by accepting higher tuition and fees. OU's employees have made it

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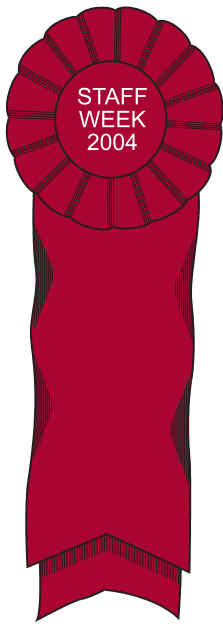
Boren added that as soon as the state's economy improves sufficiently, the university's top priority will be to provide permanent wage and salary increases.

Presidents, provosts, vice presidents, executive officers, the athletic director, coaches under contracts, and employees paid from a grant, contract or clinical income who have received a salary increase or additional compensation within the past two fiscal years are not eligible for the supplement. All self-supporting units are required to assume the costs of the supplement and related fringe benefits.

Funding for the supplement came from one-time monies — a result of improvements in state revenues — from the State Regents for Higher Education.

Looking Ahead to Staff Week 2004

By Linda McCarty
Chair, Publicity



The end of the academic year is not only a time for celebration by graduating students and their families, but also a time to celebrate the contributions of the staff at the University of Oklahoma. Each April, Staff Week celebrates with bingo sessions, an ice cream social and health, craft, art and food fairs. Prizes are given to staff members through drawings at many of the events. Many of the prizes are donated by local merchants, while T-shirt and sweatshirt sales help fund other prizes. (Please see related story, this page.)

Staff Week Committee members are hard at work planning the 2004 events, slated for April 26-30, and are in the process of selecting a Staff Week theme from the many entries submitted. Keep your eyes open for

this year's theme and submit your logo to be featured on the T-shirts and sweatshirts.

Also, start getting your crafts ready for this year's craft fair, which promises to be bigger and better than any before. Invitations to participate will be sent out soon.

On Thursday of Staff Week, staff members who have served OU for many years will be honored during the 41st annual Staff Senate Awards Ceremony. The Awards Committee soon will solicit recommendations for staff merit awards. Please plan to attend the luncheon and reception in the Oklahoma Memorial Union ballroom on April 29.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Health Sciences Center also will celebrate Staff Week April 26-30, with the staff luncheon celebration scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 28. Details are forthcoming in the first edition of the spring 2004 *Campus Connections*.)

Norman Campus Staff Week Schedule; April 26 - 30:

Monday — Bingo

Tuesday — Health fair and art show

Wednesday — Craft Fair and Ice Cream Social

Thursday — Awards Ceremony

Friday — Food Fair

Sweatshirt Sale Fund Raiser for Norman Campus Staff Week

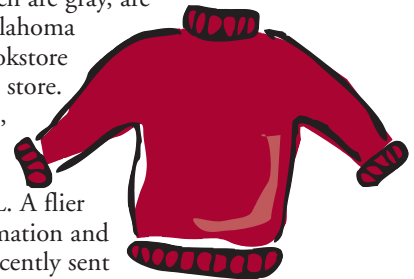
Sweatshirts featuring a drawing of Evans Hall by Charles W. Ward are on sale through Nov. 14. The profits will be used to purchase door prizes for the various Staff Week 2004 events and to help defray the cost of some activities.

The sweatshirts, which are gray, are on display in the Oklahoma Memorial Union bookstore and the CCE Forum store.

Cost is \$18 for small, medium, large and extra large, and \$20

for XXL to XXXXXL. A flier with complete information and an order form was recently sent to staff via Campus Mail. If you did not

receive one, would like more information or wish to request an order form, contact Barbara Perry in the Staff Senate office at 325-4672 or bperry@ou.edu.





OU College of Dentistry Earns \$10 Million Research Grant

A \$10 million grant awarded to the OU College of Dentistry will allow researchers to look at new ways to fight tooth decay and gum disease.

The National Institutes of Health grant is the largest ever in the College of Dentistry's 33-year history and will allow scientists to focus on biofilms – the matrix of microorganisms that form on teeth and in the mouth. Scientists will look at how biofilms form and how they are associated with diseases and the barriers they put up against antibiotic treatments.

“This research grant will provide faculty of the OU College of Dentistry with the opportunity to move forward and make important contributions in all areas of oral health,” said Joseph J. Ferretti, senior vice president and provost of the OU Health Sciences Center.

Seventy percent of Oklahoma third-grade children have or have had tooth decay, according to a study conducted by the OU College of Dentistry. The research into biofilms could lead to better treatments and materials to repair teeth and better preventive care such as new toothpastes, mouthwashes and vaccines.

“The University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry is known nationally for its outstanding dental, dental hygiene and residency clinical programs,” said Stephen Young, dean of the college and co-principal investigator in the study. “This grant award will allow the college to build the infrastructure necessary to also compete nationally in the research arena. The positive impact of this award on the college is immeasurable.”

The scientists participating in this project come from various health fields, including dental materials, periodontics, pathology, and microbiology and immunology. This grant will provide support for junior investigators to establish independent research programs in oral health research.



The scientists involved in the \$10 million dental grant are Keeta Gilmore (front, left) and Dragana Ajdic and (back row, from left) Sharukh Khajotia, William McShan, Joseph J. Ferretti, John Dmytryk and Stephen Young. (Photo by Terri Jennings, HSC Photographic Services)



RIBBON CUTTING – The new Dermatology Surgery Center has opened at OU Physicians Dermatology at 619 N.E. 13th St. The 2,828-square-foot addition provides space for routine patient exams as well as specialized treatments such as Moh's surgery for specific skin cancers, laser therapy and chemical peels. The addition also includes clinical lab space. The dermatologists cutting the ribbon on the new space are Antonio Reis; M. Dewayne Andrews, vice president for health affair and executive dean of the College of Medicine; Carlos Garcia; Pamela Allen; Mark Naylor; and Raymond Cornelison, chair of the Department of Dermatology. (Photo by Terri Jennings, HSC Photographic Services)

Medical Students Staff Free After-hours Clinic

By Karen Mulkey

Community and Hospital Relations Officer

Julia White, a third-year medical student at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine, Tulsa, loves working at Bedlam Community Health Care Clinic because, she said, "I'm seeing patients and making a difference."

What began as a challenge by OU-Tulsa medical students to get community physicians to volunteer in helping care for the uninsured in Tulsa has become a free after-hours clinic where the medical students see patients with volunteer general practice physicians and specialists from the community overseeing them.

The clinic opened its doors Aug. 28, 2003. Ninety percent of patients are members of working families, 50 percent are children, and 20 percent have psychiatric conditions. Of its first 1,000 patients, 999 had no health insurance.

"The impact of our students has been incredible in making this work," said Dr. Gerard Clancy, dean of the OU College of Medicine, Tulsa. "They are the backbone of this clinic. They manage, schedule and staff the clinic, providing excellent care under physician supervision. They have a great sense of community, dedication to the poor,

and are thankful for what they have in life from the experience. Sometimes you need to stop talking, roll up your sleeves and do things differently."

One hundred fifty of the Tulsa community's practicing and retired primary care physicians and specialists have volunteered 3,000 hours at the clinic over the next year. "The community physicians are involved because the students are there," Clancy said. "Some physicians who don't normally work with medical students truly enjoy this avenue to get to work with students."

In partnership with the OU College of Pharmacy, five area pharmacies donate medications to the clinic so that its medical staff can treat most major diseases and conditions.

The Tulsa County Medical Society supports the clinic by recruiting physician volunteers, many of whom are medical leaders, from Tulsa area hospitals, the Tulsa County Medical Society, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma, and physician groups. Community hospitals, companies, foundations and organizations – including St. John Hospital, Saint Francis Hospital,

Hillcrest Hospital, Blue Cross Blue Shield, the Bovaird Foundation and 15 Rotary clubs – have provided \$450,000 in start-up funds. In commemoration of International Rotary's 100th anniversary in 2005, the 15 Tulsa-area Rotary clubs will make the clinic their special project by donating both funding and immunizations for the clinic.

"But key to the whole project are the students. Their energy level keeps the more senior physicians engaged in the process," said Dr. James Crutcher, associate dean for Clinical Services. "The Bedlam project is a process unfolding. But professionals in the health care industry in Tulsa have been thankful for the start of this much-needed clinic."

The OU College of Medicine has served the Tulsa community since 1972. It is charged with providing clinical education each year to approximately 75 medical students and to 160 medical residents specializing in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, psychiatry and surgery. The college-operated physician practices handle more than 200,000 patient visits annually.

BEDLAM HEALTH CARE CLINIC FACT SHEET

- The word "bedlam" stems from the word "Bethlehem," meaning "house of bread."
- The primary goals of the clinic are to provide the indigent, working poor and uninsured of Tulsa with the primary health care they need and to alleviate the stress on local emergency rooms stemming from the uninsured seeking non-emergency care.
- The clinic, located at 2815 S. Sheridan, is open from 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Patients are seen on a first-served basis.
- Some medicines will be available either at the clinic or at pharmacies that have agreed to fill a limited number of prescriptions written at the clinic.
- General practice physicians as well as specialists, including oncologists, dermatologists and cardiologists, staff the clinic. So far, 150 physicians have volunteered to work 3,000 hours.
- Students in the OU nursing, pharmacy, public health, social work and allied health programs also volunteer their time.
- Eight paid staff members provide consistency to daily operations.

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