

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

NOVEMBER 19, '04

SERVING THE FACULTY
AND STAFF OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA



THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

One of America's
100 Best College Buys

Volume 9, No. 4

OU Reaches Historic New Milestone: \$1 Billion in Gifts and Pledges

OU has achieved a historic new milestone during 10 years of leadership by Molly and David Boren by crossing the \$1 billion mark in gifts and pledges to the University. Former Chairman of the OU Board of Regents G.T. Blankenship made the announcement last week at

an event honoring President and Mrs. Boren. Gifts and pledges during the Boren years have totaled one billion ten million dollars. The figure includes funds from the State



Regents Matching Endowment Program.

Of that number, \$848 million already has been received by the university and is making possible faculty endowments, scholarships, new buildings and new programs. The balance of \$162 million consists of pledges to be paid out over the next several years and deferred commitments made by donors who have named the university in their wills or other planned gifts.

President Boren said, "It is difficult to adequately express my gratitude for the way OU's wonderful donors continue to support this university and its students. This extraordinary generosity has truly been at the heart of what we have been able to accomplish in the last 10 years."

Boren began the drive to the \$1 billion mark in 1995, when he launched the \$200 million Reach for Excellence Campaign. That campaign goal was exceeded by 2½ times as the university raised

\$514 million by the campaign close in 2000, closing as the fourth largest public university fund-raising campaign in U.S. history, said Dave Maloney, vice president for University Development.

Maloney noted that universities typically



experience a drop in fund raising following the close of a major campaign, but OU fund raising has continued to increase each year. A special \$10 million Campaign organized in 2004 by the OU Regents

in celebration of President and Mrs. Boren's 10th year of leadership at OU also exceeded its goal by 21/2 times, raising the final \$24.1 million to move OU over the \$1 billion mark.

Among the notable statistics of fund raising in the Boren years of 1994 to present:

- Private faculty endowments increased from 100 to 370
- The University's donor base grew from 17,000 to 98,288 contributors
- The University's overall endowment has grown from \$230 million to \$641 million
- Donors at the million and multi-million level greatly increased. Before President Boren came to OU, eight individuals had contributed a gift of \$1 million or more for a total of \$10 million. During the 10 years of the Borens' leadership, 42 individuals made gifts or pledges of \$1 million or more, and these gifts totaled over \$200 million.

New Programs at OU (1994-2004)



The Peggy V. Helmerich Garden

- **Faculty-in-Residence Program** – Faculty families now live in all six residence halls in 2,500-square-foot apartments. The program builds intergenerational friendships and brings in guest faculty speakers and discussion to add intellectual stimulation to the student living environment.
- **The President's Trophy** – An annual \$5,000 prize and large trophy is now awarded to the best housing unit, best fraternity and best sorority based upon academic performance, volunteer service, campus leadership and multicultural activities.
- **The Honors College** – The Honors College provides small classes of 22 students or fewer for more than 1,400 outstanding academic performers.
- **The International Programs Center** has been established with former U.N. Ambassador Edward Perkins as director. OU has hosted several major international foreign policy conferences.
- **OU Cousins** – This innovative program links more than 1,000 American university student volunteers to be honorary cousins to international students.
- **Study Abroad Scholarships** – Study Abroad Scholarships have been established to help OU students who could not otherwise afford it to be able to participate in the university's many study abroad programs.
- **Retired Faculty Teaching Program** – Through this program, some 50 retired full professors are brought back to campus each semester to teach primarily first-year courses and to mentor freshmen.
- **Adopt a Prof Program** – Every fraternity and sorority on campus and every floor in OU's housing centers adopts a "prof" with home to share and social activities during the school year.

- **Religious Studies Program** – Housed in the College of Arts and Sciences, the 18-month-old Religious Studies Program offers cross-listed courses to over 1,500 students and almost 60 majors.
- **Harvard Freshman Writing Program** – One of the newest programs offered at OU, this program – based on Harvard's Expository Writing Program – features intensive writing and editing for new freshmen.
- **Student Union Leadership Wing** – The recently completed wing to Oklahoma Memorial Union allows student groups ranging from ethnic organizations to student government to social Greek organizations to activity-focused groups to work side-by-side.
- **Bench Program** – To encourage a spirit of community and conversation, more than 300 benches have been erected around campus through \$2,000 gifts by individual private donors.
- **Garden and Lighting Endowments** – More than \$4 million in private endowment funds have been given to pay for the lighting of main campus buildings and to pay to seasonally plant over 200,000 blooming flowers on campus. Seven new gardens, including the Canyon Garden at Bizzell Memorial Library, were created.
- **Fountains and Works of Sculpture** – About 20 new fountains and works of sculpture have been added to the campus through private gifts.
- **Historical Markers and Photographs** – Historical markers and photographs have been placed prominently inside or in front of all campus buildings to give the OU family a shared "OU family" history.
- **Restoration of Traditions** – In seeking to create a true spirit of community and family on campus, President and Mrs. Boren have placed a renewed emphasis on tradition, and in the process restored some of the university's finest early traditions.



The Wing Gardens at Jacobson Hall

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS

Those traditions include:

Class Gifts. The tradition of giving Class Gifts to the university by graduating classes was restored with the Class of 1996 after a 40-year gap. Recent gifts have included reflecting pools, fountains, statues and gardens.

Sooner yearbook. The *Sooner* was returned to publication after a 25-year gap in publication and has won numerous national awards.

Arbor Day. The Arbor Day tradition has been restored, with students assisting landscape staff in planting trees. More than 4,000 new trees have been planted on the Norman and Oklahoma City campuses in the past seven years. Under the Adopt an Area Program, individual student organizations keep a specific area clean and compete for a championship that is awarded on Arbor Day.

The **Class Reunion program**, which brings alumni back to campus every five years.

Homecoming Parade and Ceremonies.

Restoration of Oklahoma Memorial Union. A \$24 million renovation to the Union has restored it as a “center of the community” and increased the daily flow of students into it from 700 daily in 1995 to over 7,000 per day. A leadership wing was recently completed, allowing student organizations to work side by side under the same roof.

New Construction Completed or in Progress

- **Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History**, one of the two largest university-based natural history museums in the world
- **Catlett Music Center**
- **The Reynolds Performing Arts Center**, which includes a new dance facility and the restoration of historic **Holmberg Hall**



The Pitman Gardens and Mum Gardens



The Harold G. Powell Garden on the North Oval

- **Oklahoma Memorial Union** restoration and expansion project
- **Gaylord Hall** for the Gaylord Family College of Journalism and Mass Communication
- **Michael F. Price Hall** for the Price College of Business
- **Coats Hall** for the College of Law
- **Jacobson Hall** restoration (home of OU's Visitor Center)
- **National Weather Center**
- **Stephenson Research and Technology Center**
- **The Mary and Howard Lester wing** for the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art
- **The Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium** restoration and expansion
- **Lloyd Noble Center** expansion and restoration
- **New tennis, soccer and rugby facilities, and new softball stadium and field house renovations**
- **Evans Hall, Carnegie Building and Ellison Hall** renovations
- **Huston Huffman Student Health Club and Sports Center** – \$11 million expansion
- **Lissa and Cy Wagner Student Academic Services Center**
- **Devon Energy Hall**
- **At OU-Tulsa:**
 - The purchase, renovation and classroom and laboratories expansion of OU-Tulsa's campus and the purchase of the Amoco Research Center to create the **Schusterman Center**, which now houses all OU programs in Tulsa.
- **At the OU Health Sciences Center:**
 - the **Student Union**
 - **Student Housing** (University Village Apartments, which opened in July 2003 on the east side of the campus, is the first student housing facility at the Health Sciences Center)
 - **Family Medicine Building**
 - **Stanton L. Young Research Building**
 - **Physicians Clinic Building**
 - **College of Allied Health Building**
 - **Genetics and Cancer Research Center, Phase I**
 - **Central Campus Park**

Areas Named in Borens' Honor

During the celebration of 10 years of excellence at OU under the leadership of the Borens, which featured a speech by National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize-winner author David McCullough on "The University's Role in Our Society and the Legacy of Leadership at OU," several areas on OU's three campuses were named in the president and first lady's name as part of the Regents' Anniversary Campaign (see lead story in this issue of Campus Connections).

Named in Mrs. Boren's honor were:

- a new courtyard and shade garden north of the Robert M. Bird Health - Library at the OU Health Sciences Center (Molly Shi Boren Courtyard). Mrs. Boren was instrumental in efforts to turn a busy



divided highway and sterile urban streetscape into the Stanton L. Young Walk, featuring several peaceful gardens and spaces designed to refresh the spirit and build a sense of community at the Health Sciences Center.

- the ballroom in Oklahoma Memorial Union (Molly Shi Boren Ballroom)
- and a third space, to be announced in a few months.

Named in President Boren's honor were:

- the Honors College building, located in the Student Housing area on the Norman campus (David L. Boren Hall)
- the student center at the Health Sciences Center (David L. Boren Student Union)
- and a street at the Schusterman Center in Tulsa (David L. Boren Boulevard).

Also during the celebration, it was announced that private gifts by Michael and Jenny Price and Curtis and Joanne Mewbourne had made it possible to commission famed portrait artist Everett Raymond Kinstler to paint portraits of



National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough speaks on "The University's Role in Our Society and the Legacy of Leadership at OU" during the "10 Years of Excellence at OU Under the Borens Celebration" last week.

each of the Borens. When completed, President Boren's portrait will join portraits of OU's first 12 presidents in the foyer leading to the Peggy V. Helmerich Great Reading Room in Bizzell Memorial Library and Mrs. Boren's portrait will hang in the ballroom that now bears her name.



Theta Dempsey, director of Parking and Transit Services, representing staff, and Tom Boyd, David Ross Boyd Professor, representing faculty, joined OU Regents, an OU alumnus, and OU students in recognizing the accomplishments of the Borens over the past 10 years.

CAMPUS CONNECTION

November 19, 2004

Vol. 9, No. 4

Campus Connections is coordinated by the OU Division of Public Affairs and published twice in the spring and twice in the fall for faculty and staff of the University of Oklahoma. Items should be submitted to editor Jerri Culpepper, Public Affairs, 337 Whitehand Hall, Norman campus, 325-1701, or e-mail jculpepper@ou.edu.

Graphic design: James Dibble
OU Public Affairs

Printing by: OU Printing Services

The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution.

Visit us at www.ou.edu/connect