OU Adds University Meteorologist Role

NORMAN, OKLA. – Each year, the University of Oklahoma campus experiences potentially life-threatening weather events ranging from snow and ice storms to lightning and tornadoes. These weather events can directly impact sporting events, summer camps, commencement and dozens of day-to-day campus activities. There is a need to provide technical weather expertise to campus officials and to meet these needs, OU created the position of University Meteorologist.

Dr. Kevin Kloesel, director of the Oklahoma Climatological Survey, will assume the new role, effective July 1, working directly with OU’s Emergency Preparedness office and other campus officials that must plan mitigation strategies to better protect life and property.

Among other responsibilities, the University Meteorologist will provide weather-centric support in severe and winter weather situations in order to facilitate campus preparation and closure decisions, conduct severe weather policy and safety information socialization and training across the university and develop “OU Tornado Day” where drills are conducted to promote preparedness and response and also to minimize fears.

For more information on OU’s Emergency Preparedness Office, visit http://www.ou.edu/emergencypreparedness.html.

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