A giant dust storm looms large over Hooker, Oklahoma on June 4, 1937. Photo by G. L. Risen, courtesy of the Research Division of the Oklahoma Historical Society

This is the first week of the Fall 2015 semester.

 ALERTS:
• You can still drop and add classes online in Ozone this week.
• METR 4713, “Private Sector Meteorology” has plenty of space! If you’re currently in Dynamics I (or have already taken it), consider adding this timely course to your schedule this fall.
• The location for GEOG 3890, “Managing for Changing Climate” has changed to Carson Engineering Center, Room 441.
• Calling all Veterans! You are invited to a Howdy Veterans Luncheon on Wednesday, August 26 in Couch Cafeteria. This is a come-and-go event, from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Find out about campus resources, meet fellow vets, and enjoy a delicious lunch!

• The Galileo Countdown begins!

In celebration of OU’s 125th anniversary, we invite you to join us in Galileo’s World, a series of exhibits, events, and programs at the Bizzell Memorial Library, the Sam Noble Museum, the National Weather Center, the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art, Headington Hall, the Robert M. Bird Health
Sciences Library, and the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Library. Starting August 2015 and continuing throughout the year, *Galileo’s World* illustrates connections between science, art, literature, music, religion, philosophy, politics, and culture. The NWC opening takes place just 32 days from now, on Friday, September 25 at 1:00 PM in the NWC Atrium. Go here: [https://galileo.ou.edu/](https://galileo.ou.edu/) for all the details of this incredible event!

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**Welcome Back Events**

The **School of Meteorology** welcomes new and returning majors with a picnic celebration that takes place **this** Friday, August 28, from 4:30 PM – 7:00 PM in the NWC Atrium. At 4:30, there will be meet and greet for all undergraduates to meet faculty and TAs. The picnic begins at 5:00 PM. There will be plenty of food and drink, and the band Mystery Dates ([http://mysterydatesband.com/](http://mysterydatesband.com/)) will also perform.

The **Department of Geography and Environmental**
Sustainability welcomes all students in geography, environmental sustainability, and geographic information science **next** Friday, September 4, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM in Andrews Park in Norman (201 W. Daws St.). The event will be catered by CoolGreens, and include free t-shirts and other prizes. The Splash Pad will also be open!

So mark your calendars and plan to join in some “major” merriment!

![Photo by Robert Fritchie](image)

Access to the National Weather Center (NWC)

Please note that **ALL A&GS students** are encouraged to visit the National Weather Center to take advantage of the NWC Library, quiet areas to study, the Flying Cow Café (open till 3:00 PM M-F), the AGS Multimedia Computer Laboratory, and great parking. With a new semester underway, it’s a good time review NWC policies and procedures.
The NWC follows specific security guidelines due to the housing of federal entities in the building. Therefore, **students must display approved credentials (OU student ID) at all times while in any public area of the NWC.** If you do not have approved credentials available, you must check in with NWC Security to receive a visitor badge upon arrival (note: this step may result in being late for work/class so it’s to your benefit to properly display your approved credentials). Lanyards to display approved credentials may be obtained at the following locations at no cost: School of Meteorology main office NWC 5900 and AGS Dean/NWC Director office NWC 3630.

During the first three weeks of class, access to the NWC is limited from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM; if you're in the building past 7:00 PM, you can stay, but you may not enter the building after 7:00 PM without permission. A&GS students with sophomore standing or above will receive 24-hour access to the NWC for the fall 2015 semester at the beginning of the fourth week of class.

You must have a valid OU parking permit in order to park in the NWC lot. Building tenants, faculty, staff, and students are not authorized to park in designated visitor spaces (the first two rows on the west side of the lot). Doing so may result in citations issued by OU Parking Services. If you have any questions, please ask in the Dean’s Office (NWC 3630).
The renovation of the L1 floor on Bizzell’s Neustadt Wing created a bright and beautiful place that feels nothing like a basement! This new “collaborative environment” enables students to engage in more interactive work in a technologically and physically flexible space.

University Libraries Needs Your Help

What would you like to see in the libraries at OU? More periodicals? Better computers? Longer open hours? More comfortable furniture? Now is your chance to have your voice heard!

University Libraries is in the process of appointing the 2015-2016 Student Advisory Council, which provides feedback for planned facility renovations and new services, as well as raising issues and concerns with existing programs and services. The council meets just twice during the fall and spring semesters. Student representatives serve a one-year appointment. In the past, two students from each OU College sat on the Council, but due to the rapid transformation in OU library services, the Council is expanding to four students from each College in an effort to seek broader input and greater participation.

Two A&GS students have already volunteered to serve, so we just need two more – one undergrad and one grad. If you are
interested in making a difference, please contact mahempe@ou.edu by Monday, August 31, and I will forward your name to the Advisory Council.

**This Week’s Seminar:**
Dr. Cedrick Ansorge, from the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, in Hamburg, Germany, will present “*Conditional analyses of the very stable boundary layer*” on Wednesday, August 26 in the National Weather Center, Room 5600.

**LSAMP Meeting this Thursday**
The OK-LSAMP STEM is the Oklahoma Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, which is funded by the National Science Foundation. Eleven Oklahoma universities are in the consortium; Oklahoma State University in Stillwater
is the lead institution of the program, and the OK-LSAMP office is housed there.

OU’s Office of Undergraduate Research will host a meet-and-greet/info session about the LSAMP Program at the University of Oklahoma on Thursday, August 27 at 4:00 PM in the Bizzell Library Community Room (on the lower level, across from the coffee shop). Eligible students (i.e., those working in a STEM field, active in or planning to do research, and committed to pursuing a graduate degree) should plan to attend this mandatory meeting.

You can find details about the program here:  http://www.ok-lsamp.okstate.edu/

**Flat-Rate Tuition**

Students enrolled in 12+ hours for a semester are charged a flat tuition rate based upon OU’s current rate for 15 credit hours, or 30 hours per academic year. For example, you could enroll in 16 hours this fall and then take a 3-hour December Intersession class for a total of 19 hours, but pay tuition for only 15 hours. Part-time students (enrolled in 1-11 hours) are charged tuition on a per credit hour basis. Please go here:  http://www.ou.edu/bursar/flat-rate-
tuition.html for all the details about this policy, including information on “banked” tuition hours and how to file an appeal if you are enrolled in 12-14 hours and do not wish to pay for 15 hours (many degree candidates fall into this category).

Your Path to a Great Career starts here....

Are you looking for the perfect 1-hour class to round out your fall schedule? Let us help you navigate those choppy career waters by enrolling in AGSC 3011, Career Planning & Development for A&GS Majors. This course is taught by the College’s PR Specialist, Kari Roop, who provides students with instruction in the career planning process directly related to their major and, ultimately, the world of work. AGSC 3011 teaches appropriate skills desired by employers across AGS disciplines. Through lecture, discussion, individual projects and guest speakers, the interactive curriculum will cover topics such as behavioral interviewing techniques, self-directed job search strategies, and career opportunities in multiple job sectors.

The class meets once a week, on Tuesdays, from 4-4:50 PM in the NWC, Room 5930. **We encourage all A&GS majors to take this course.** Please contact Asst. Dean Hempe at
mahempe@ou.edu for permission to enroll.

*Also*... If you’re new to OU this fall, or transferred to OU last spring we strongly recommend that you consider enrolling in *UCOL 3001, “Transitions.”* This course is designed to smooth your transition to OU and to inform you of the many wonderful resources offered by the University to help you succeed. There are two sections offered this fall; the first (sec. 100) meets from August 24-October 16; the second (sec. 200) meets from October 19 – December 11. Both sections meet from 9:00 – 9:50 AM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Center for Student Advisement will provide permission to enroll; please contact them at 325-2574.

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MM?**
If you have any announcement you would like posted in *Monday Memo* (e.g., *Welcome-Back Events*, meetings, seminars, jobs, internships or just some great news) please send it to Asst. Dean Hempe (mahempe@ou.edu) by Friday at noon to appear in the next week’s edition.

**On this Day in History:**
In 0079, the stratovolcano Mount Vesuvius exploded in southern Italy. An estimated 20,000 people were killed and the cities of Pompeii, Stabiae and Herculaneum were buried under mountains of ash. Over time, many claimed that those lost cities were just a myth – until the 18th century, when they were rediscovered and excavated, providing thrilled archeologists with an unprecedented look at the everyday life of an ancient civilization, still perfectly preserved under all that ash.

In 1814, Washington, DC, invading British troops marched down Pennsylvania Avenue and set fire to a number of buildings, including the White House and the U.S. Capitol. In 1853, the first potato chips were prepared by Chef George Crum in Saratoga Springs, New York. A customer (reportedly Cornelius Vanderbilt) kept sending back his fries, complaining they were too thick. Finally, a frustrated Chef Crum sliced a potato with a razor, deep fried it, added salt and served up the new creation to a very satisfied customer. The global potato chip market now rakes in more than $16 billion dollars a year. In 1891, Thomas Edison filed a patent for the motion picture camera. In 1959, three days after Hawaii became the 50th state, Hiram L. Fong was sworn in as the first Chinese-American U.S. senator and Daniel K. Inouye was sworn in as the first Japanese-American U.S. representative.
In 1960, Vostok, Antarctica announced a world record-breaking low temperature of -127° F. Vostok again broke world records twenty three years later, when the tiny Russian research station hit -129.6° F on July 21, 1983. In 1968, France became the world’s fifth thermonuclear power when they exploded a hydrogen bomb over the Fangataufa Atoll in the South Pacific. Today, nine countries possess over 15,000 nuclear weapons; the US remains the only country to use them, when it bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan during WWII. In 1989, Pete Rose, former player and then-manager of the Cincinnati Reds, was banned from baseball for life after being accused of gambling on baseball. The ban also makes Rose ineligible for entry into Baseball’s Hall of Fame, despite the fact that he is still the all-time Major League leader in hits (4,256), games played (3,562), at-bats (14,053), singles (3,215), and outs (10,328). He won three World Series rings, three batting titles, one Most Valuable Player Award, two Gold Gloves, the Rookie of the Year Award, and also made 17 All-Star appearances at an unequaled five different positions (2B, LF, RF, 3B, and 1B).

In 1995, Microsoft's "Windows 95" went on sale. The system introduced several new features, including the taskbar. In 2005, the planet Pluto was reclassified as a "dwarf planet" by the International Astronomical Union (IAU). Pluto's status was changed due to the IAU's new rules for an object qualifying as a planet. Pluto met two of the three rules because it orbits the sun and is large enough to assume a nearly round shape. However, since Pluto has an oblong orbit and overlaps the orbit of Neptune it disqualified Pluto as a planet, which we think is lame – if you orbit a sun and you’re big enough you should be able to qualify as a planet.

And your parting shot:
This stunning panoramic view of China’s Guangxi region takes our breath away! Photographer Trey Ratcliff describes the moment he snapped this jaw-dropping shot:

“It was a muggy day, the sort where you feel your t-shirt sticking to you before you even realize it. We hired some local guides, who then hired some even more local guides to help show the way to the spire we wanted to ascend. Boy was it grueling! Jagged rocks, thorny bushes, all-fours most of the way. Sometimes the only thing to hold onto was a thorn bush or a glassy-evil-jaded rock. At the top, I looked down to see all kinds of grisly lacerations... but gathered my wits to get this photo! This photo is a panorama, which I don’t normally do, but the Dr. Seuss countryside there is so vast and overpowering, it was kind of the only way to bring it all together.”

Thanks, Trey!
Please remember to like us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/OU.AGS) and follow us on Twitter (@OUAGS)!

The College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
http://ags.ou.edu
ags@ou.edu

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