2012 Scholarship Program Script
April 21, 2012

<A POWERPOINT OF RECIPIENT PHOTOS WILL PLAY WHILE PEOPLE ARE BEING SEATED>

<AFTER EVERYONE IS SEATED, CUE VIDEO “FROM THIS HALL”>

<J JOE STANDS AT PODIUM – INTRODUCTION>

JOE:
Welcome students, parents, guests and donors to the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication for our annual scholarship & awards ceremony.

Acknowledgements
  • Students, parents & relatives

I would like to thank the faculty members who served on the scholarship committee, who committed their time to reviewing each student’s resumes and essays. At this time I would ask that any of our faculty members present today to please stand and be recognized.

And, I would like to thank the staff members who worked hard in putting together this program: Jana Foster, Kristen Lazalier, Kathy Adams, and Celia Perkins for their work on this event. I want to also recognize Buddy Wiedemann, Hannah Lofgren and the Stream Team who are providing a live feed of this event on our website for those guests unable to attend. Other staff members are also present throughout the room that I hope you had an opportunity to meet this morning.

I want to take a special moment to welcome and thank all of our generous donors that joined us today. Without your generous support many of these students would not be able to achieve the degree of success that we see from them on a daily basis.
JOE:
I hope that today you have been able to meet and talk with the students that have directly benefitted from the scholarships you have provided. This is the whole reason we plan a gathering such as this. To provide an opportunity, not only to recognize the students for their accomplishments, but to give all of us an opportunity to say ‘thank you’ and for you in turn to hear first-hand from the students what your generosity has meant to them. We hope that someday, they will remember this day and pay it forward to a whole new generation of students.

So from all of us ‘thank you.’

<APPLAUSE>

Now, I will share with you just a few highlights of excellence from this year and share a video that showcases key projects before we hear a few words from one of our students and from a donor/alumna.

I want to start off by noting that Gaylord College has recently been recognized on several top schools lists:
- Top 10 Advertising programs by best of colleges.com
- Top 20 Journalism and Mass Communication programs by college media matters.com
- Top universities for Native Americans to study journalism by Diverse Issues in Higher Education magazine.

Our student media continue to win awards. Our student media and Gaylord College students received more than a dozen awards from the SPJ Region 8 Mark of Excellence competition.

The student-run newspaper, The Oklahoma Daily and The Yearbook, received 3 silver crown awards and 2 Pacemaker awards.
JOE:
Students from the broadcasting and electronic media and broadcast journalism programs have also brought home dozens of awards this year from state, regional and national competitions including 17 awards from the Oklahoma Broadcast Education Association, 8 National Broadcast Education Association awards and many others.

Our student-run Advertising and Public Relations agency, Lindsey & Asp has recently achieved national affiliation with PRSSA and two of our students were named the American Advertising Federation’s (AAF) most promising minority students. And our magazine writing students received Platinum in the professional MarCom awards.

Just yesterday Apple recognized Gaylord College with the Apple Distinguished Program for our comprehensive integration of Apple-inspired technology throughout Gaylord Hall and our curriculum. The Apple Distinguished Program designation is reserved for academic units that are recognized centers of educational excellence and leadership. Gaylord College is the first collegiate journalism program in the United States to receive such a designation.

Professional Writing students have been active, compiling an anthology of 16 stories that is now available on Amazon Kindle, as are more than a dozen individual short-stories and novels published by students over the past year. What an impressive accomplishment.

And finally, a new initiative this spring has students collecting citizen reports of severe storm damage and aggregating them into a social media platform called StormCrowd. The data is made available to first responders and media to know where to direct attention in the wake of the severe weather. Much like what we experienced just a week ago right here in Norman and in the state of Oklahoma.
JOE:
These various awards and accolades I have mentioned are EXTERNAL marks of excellence, but students really start to shine when they apply what they have learned in the classroom to various projects across the majors. Experiential or hands-on learning is a vital part of the Gaylord College in the form of internships, video productions, novels or ad campaigns. But the students tell the story best, so let’s watch this brief video showcasing a variety of projects in Gaylord College.

<ROLL THIS IS OUR CLASSROOM VIDEO>

<APPLAUSE>

<JOE RETURNS TO PODIUM TO INTRODUCE COLLIN SIMS>

I share this with you all because I want you to realize the environment that exists in the Gaylord College: an environment of EXCELLENCE.

This is the environment that our students are excelling in every day and that our new freshmen will be entering. I am confident, that as I look across the room, that the next group of students will continue this tradition.

Now, I would like to introduce you to one of these excellent students, Collin Sims.

Collin is a junior from The Woodlands, Texas majoring in Broadcasting & Electronic Media and minoring in Enterprise Studies. Collin is involved with several programs in Gaylord College and is the in-coming chair of our student leadership group, the Gaylord Ambassadors. Collin was also recently named “Mr. Gaylord” by his peers.

But now, it is time for me to sit down and let Collin share a few thoughts with you.
<COLLIN COMES TO PODIUM>

<COLLIN DELIVERS HIS SPEECH>

<JOE RETURNS TO PODIUM TO INTRODUCE LINDA JOHNSON>

JOE:
Thank you Collin.

It is my pleasure to now introduce to you one of our favorite alums – Linda Johnson. Linda is a 1967 graduate of the journalism program. As a student Linda was named Big Woman on Campus, was a member of the Model UN and Who’s Who. She served on the staff of the *Oklahoma Daily* and was editor in 1967. Linda was a member of the honor fraternity for women in journalism, Theta Sigma Phi.

As an alumna, Linda has been a long-time donor to the University of Oklahoma and primarily Gaylord College, establishing the “Hold the Johnson Land” scholarship in 1981 in memory of her parents. Her scholarship fund is one of the College’s most generous student grants. Linda was a lead donor and organizer of a recent naming campaign to honor long-time *Oklahoma Daily* adviser and personal mentor, Louise Beard Moore. As a matter of fact, we held the dedication of the Louise B. Moore Learning Center room right across the hall from this auditorium earlier this morning.

The commitment that Linda is showing to Gaylord College mirrors her successful effort to revitalize the alumni club of Atlanta and launch the OU Club of Southern Arizona. Linda is a passionate and dedicated promoter of the University of Oklahoma in everything she does. Please help me welcome Linda Johnson.

<LINDA MAKES HER COMMENTS AND THEN HANDS OFF TO JOE>
JOE:
And now, another alumnus and donor, Don Sessions, will come to the podium to make a special presentation.

<DON SESSIONS MAKES COMMENTS AND THEN HANDS OFF TO JOE>

<JOE COMES UP TO PODIUM AND DELIVERS SPECIAL PLAQUE TO DR. GRAYBILL; MOVE TO FRONT ROW ON FLOOR TO PRESENT PLAQUE TO DR. GRAYBILL>

<JOHN STEPS UP TO THE PODIUM>

JOHN:

Thank you, Dean Foote. I echo the Dean’s sentiments in saying how very thankful we are for everything Dr. Graybill and all of our donors have done for the University of Oklahoma and Gaylord College.

My name is John Hockett and I am the Assistant Dean for the Gaylord College. As such I have the opportunity to see many of these students on a daily basis as they come through our advising offices or gather in the lobby to work on a group project. I am always amazed at their enthusiasm and their unique approaches to their projects. So, it is my privilege to be the one to present them with these scholarships today.

Students, we would like this to be as seamless as possible, so please follow along in your program to know when you should make your way to the stage. I will also remind you as we go. As your name is being announced, and you make your way across the stage, please take a moment for a photo with Dean Foote and your donor, if they are present.

Would the recipients of the BYRON L. ABERNETHY SCHOLARSHIP, HAROLD R. BELKNAP JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP, WILLIAM C. “BILL” BOREN MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP, ARNEY BROWN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, and LYMAN BRYAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp of the stage to your left.

<PAUSE. LET STUDENTS GET IN PLACE>

Many of our donors were able to join us today and they are represented on stage. As Dean Foote mentioned, we are so thankful for your continued generosity and support. As your scholarship recipients are approaching, please join Dean Foote at center stage.

<DURING THE SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION JOHN WILL BE AT THE PODIUM READING THE NAMES, JOE WILL BE CENTER-STAGE SHAKING HANDS AND HAVING PHOTOS TAKEN>

<SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE PRESENTED IN THE ORDER OF THE PROGRAM>

<YOU WILL NOT BE READING ALL OF THE DESCRIPTIONS, ONLY THE ONES WITH DONORS PRESENT WHICH ARE INCLUDED BELOW>

**The Byron L. Abernethy Scholarship**

- Cailey Dougherty (Cay-lee Door-ty)
- Kelsey Hightower
- Evin Morrison (Evan)

**The Harold R. Belknap Journalism Scholarship**

- Carter Baum

**The William C. “Bill” Boren Memorial Scholarship**

- Lincoln Ferguson
Would the recipients of the LYMAN BRYAN JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP, CAROL J. BURR SCHOLARSHIP, MARY ELLEN HIPP DOYLE SCHOLARSHIP, and BRAD EDWARDS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

Next, I would like to introduce the recipients of:

The Arney Brown Memorial Scholarship
Members of the Arney Brown family have joined us today. If Arney’s parents would please step forward and greet your scholarship recipients and join them for a photo.

Hunter Brothers
Emily Copeland
Danielle Dubrow (Dan-yell Do-brow)
Brooke Hankinson
Nicholas Howard
Ryan Kitchens
Thomas La (Law)

The Lyman Bryan Journalism Scholarship
Megan Gay
Zack Hedrick

The Carol J. Burr Scholarship
Brittany Barr

The Mary Ellen Hipp Doyle Scholarship
Li Lin (Lee Lynn)
Steven Thorn
Would the recipients of the WILLIAM FOSTER-HARRIS SCHOLARSHIP, GAYLORD COLLEGE GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP, and GAYLORD FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

**The Brad Edwards Memorial Scholarship**

We have the pleasure of having MaryAnn Eckstein, widow of Brad Edwards and their daughter, Ashton Edwards with us today. Ashton is a 2009 alumna of our program. We are so pleased they could join us today. The recipient of this year’s Brad Edwards Memorial Scholarship is…

Sara Groover

**The William Foster-Harris Scholarship**

Laney Ellisor

Elinore Gibbons-Bowen

**The Gaylord College General Scholarship**

Christopher Fotopoulos (Fo-top-o-lus)

Claire Mathison

Cassandra Rigsby

Shiva Stella (Shee-va Stella)

Zachary Strauss

Peyton Williams

Would the recipients of the TRIPP HALL SCHOLARSHIP IN PUBLIC RELATIONS, MIKE W. HAMMER SCHOLARSHIP, THE WILL HANCOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AND THE STEWART HARRAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP please
make your way to the ramp.

Now, for the recipients of

**The Gaylord Family Scholarship for Upperclassmen**
- Kourtney Atchley
- Kyleigh Hanes (Ky-lee Hay-ns)
- Kaitlin Phillips
- Morgan Swingle

**The Tripp Hall Scholarship in Public Relations**
We are honored to have 1986 PR alumnus, Tripp Hall, join us today. Tripp has been such a great friend to our program, serving first as the executive director of OU’s Alumni Association and now leading the fundraising effort as the Vice President of the Office of Development. This year’s recipient of the Tripp Hall Scholarship in Public Relations is…
  - Claire Mathison

**We now have the Mike W. Hammer Scholarship**
Joining us today is Clark Musser, OU alumnus and donor to the fund. The recipients are…
- Laura Hess
- Collin Sims
- Elizabeth Weese (Wee-s)

**The Will Hancock Memorial Scholarship**
- Sarah FawFaw

Next, we would like to recognize the recipients of The Stewart Harral Memorial Scholarship
As you can read in the program, Stewart Harral was director of the journalism program from 1945 to 1947 and founder of the first accredited public relations program in the United States. Gaylord College’s chapter of PRSSA is named in his honor. Harral’s son, Don, and his wife, Martha are both proud OU alums and their continued generosity to Gaylord College is greatly appreciated. This year’s recipients of the Stewart Harral Memorial Scholarship are…
   Katherine Chrisman
   Lauren Harris
   Rachel Worthen

Next, we have the Heaston/Bryson Scholarship
   Jackie Fulkerson

The “Hold the Johnson Land” Scholarship in Honor of Margaret and Sam
As you will read in your program, Linda Johnson, whom we heard from earlier, funded this scholarship in memory of her parents as a way to honor the support they gave her as a student and throughout her life. The
recipients for this year are…

Paige Anderson
Bartees Cox
Haley Hoover
Chelsey Kraft
Sandra Kunzweiler (Kunz-wee-ler)

The C. Joe Holland Scholarship

Katrina Cruz (Ka-tree-na Cruise)
Adebola Ibidapo
Kaneisha Lloyd (Kan-ee-sha Lloyd)

The Charles T. (Chuck) House “Man Bites Dog” OU Daily Honorarium

Chase Cook, who was unable to join us today.

Would the recipients of the ROB KELLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, MICHAEL TOD LILBURN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, CHARLIE LONG/GAYLORD IN WASHINGTON SCHOLARSHIP, and THE PAUL MASSAD SCHOLARSHIP IN PUBLIC RELATIONS please make your way to the ramp.

The J. W. and Grace Muckle Kayser and Theodore A. Gilbert Memorial Scholarship

Daniella Glidewell (DAN-YELL-A GLIDE-WELL)

<PAUSE SO STUDENTS HAVE TIME TO FINISH GETTING ORGANIZED BEHIND STAGE>
Next, we would like to recognize the recipients of

The Rob Kelley Memorial Scholarship
  Whitney Ewing
  Jonathan Freeman
  Daniela McCormick
  Trauvello Stevenson
  Paige Willet

The Michael Tod Lilburn Memorial Scholarship
  Steven Hammock
  Evin Morrison (EVAN)

Charlie Long Memorial/Gaylord in Washington Scholarship
  Bartees Cox (BARTEEZ)
  Amy Slanchik (SLAN-CHICK)

Would the recipients of the WHEELER MAYO SCHOLARSHIP, GARY MCKINNEY SCHOLARSHIP, DAVIE BELLE EATON MERCER SCHOLARSHIP AND LOUISE B. MOORE AWARD FOR REPORTORIAL EXCELLENCE please make your way to the ramp.

The Paul Massad Scholarship in Public Relations
Paul Massad is a 1960 Public Relations alumnus and, well, frankly, he’s never left the University! Paul has served a multitude of presidents as well as areas on campus, including the office of prospective students, the alumni office and for the past many years has been with the Office of Development. The recipients of this year’s Paul Massad Scholarship in Public Relations are…
Anna Restuccia (ANNA REST-OO-SHE-A)
Cesaley Sparks (CESS-A-LEE SPARKS)

The Wheeler Mayo Scholarship
Racey Burden
Molly Evans
Cydnie Neal
Miranda Sanchez

The Gary McKinney Memorial Scholarship
Jackie Fulkerson
Cynthia Hines
Thomas La (Law)
Lindsey Lasater

The Davie Belle Eaton Mercer Memorial Scholarship
Jonathan Haverfield
Melodie Lettkeman (Let-keh-man)
Lauren Nevitt

Would the recipients of the ROBERT V. PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP, HOWARD F. AND JANE PRICE SCHOLARSHIP, RICHARD L. REYNOLDS AND LEE REYNOLDS SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP, WILBUR RICE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AND THE DORRANCE D. RODERICK SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

<BRIEF PAUSE. WAIT FOR PEOPLE TO GET TO STAGE>
Next, we have an award from the *OU Daily*, our student-run newspaper:

**The Louise B. Moore Award for Reportorial Excellence**
Jake Morgan

**The Robert Peterson Scholarship**
Paighten Harkins
Melodie Lettkeman

**The Howard F. and Jane Price Scholarship**
Melissa Jones

**The Richard L. Reynolds and Lee Reynolds Senior Scholarship**
We are pleased that Mr. Reynolds and his daughter, Lee, are able to be with us today for this very special scholarship which each year financially assists one Gaylord College student during their entire senior year. The recipient of this year’s Reynolds Senior Scholarship is…
Bryan Dugan

**The Wilbur Rice Memorial Scholarship**
Hunter Brothers

Would the recipients of the MINNIE AND ROBERT RUBENSTEIN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP, RALPH SEWELL SCHOLARSHIP IN POLITICAL REPORTING, THE SHERRY FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP, AND THE ROBERT E. AND ALLIE MALVINA STEPHENSON POLITICAL JOURNALISM SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.
Next, I would like to introduce the recipients of

**The Dorrance D. Roderick Scholarship**

Chelsea Scott  
Amy Slanchik (SLAN-CHICK)  
Allison Smith

**The Minnie and Robert Rubenstein Family Scholarship**

Jonathan Freeman  
Whitney Ewing

**The Ralph Sewell Scholarship in Political Reporting**

Katherine Borgerding  
Bonnie Campo  
Ta’Chelle Jones  
Lauren King  
Sydney Stavinoha

Next, we would like to recognize the recipient of

**The Sherry Family Scholarship**

We are pleased that Debbie Sherry Yount, a member of our Board of Visitors, was able to join us today and ask that she join her student for a photograph.

Joey Stipek (ST-EYE-PECK)

Would the recipients of the RENZI STONE SCHOLARSHIP IN PUBLIC RELATIONS, SURVIVORS AND FIGHTERS INSPIRATION AWARD, JOYCE M. TAYLOR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, THE ELMER AND JUANITA THROWER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, THE SUE RAINBOLT VAN
NATTA SCHOLARSHIP, W.C. VANDERWERTH SCHOLARSHIP, STANLEY VESTAL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP, and THE LARRY WADE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

Next, we would like to introduce the recipients of

The Robert E. and Allie Malvina Stephenson Political Journalism Scholarship
   Chase Cook
   Carmen Forman
   Sarah Martin
   Aji nur Setiwaldi

<Pause. Give students time to line-up>

The C. Renzi Stone Scholarship in Public Relations
   Katherine Chrisman

The Survivors and Fighters Inspiration Award
   Eleonore Agasse

The Joyce M. Taylor Memorial Scholarship
   Marleine Calderon

The Elmer J. and Juanita S. Thrower Memorial Scholarship
   Page Grossman
   Joseph Truesdell

The Sue Rainbolt Van Natta Scholarship
   Cynthia Hines
Would the recipients of the JIM DOLAN INTERNATIONAL STUDY SCHOLARSHIP, THE JOE AND JODY FOOTE INTERNATIONAL STUDY SCHOLARSHIP, AND THE ROGER FRIZZELL INTERNATIONAL STUDY SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

The W.C. Vanderwerth Scholarship
   Katelyn Burks
   Alex Ewald

The Stanley Vestal Memorial Scholarship
   Jen Herrmann

The Larry Wade Memorial Scholarship
   Ta’Chelle Jones
   Ethan Koch (COOK)

<Pause. Give students time to line-up>

The Jim Dolan International Study Scholarship
   Dorion Billups
   Molly Brown
   Hailey Thompson

The Joe and Jody Foote International Study Scholarship
   We are grateful for the continued support and leadership of Dean and Mrs. Foote. The recipients of their scholarship are…
      Rachael Cervenka
      Courtney Goforth
Olanrewaju Suleiman

Would the recipients of the JOURNALISM MERIT SCHOLARSHIP, GAYLORD FAMILY FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIP, and MILDRED NICHOLS HAMILTON SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.

Next, I would like to announce the recipient of

The Roger Frizzell International Study Scholarship
   Lincoln Ferguson

The Journalism Merit Scholarship
We are pleased that loyal supporters, Barbara and Don Sessions of Burneyville, Oklahoma, were able to be here for today’s ceremony. The recipients of their scholarship are:
   Sarah Ramundt
   Andrew Varvel

I would now like to announce the recipients of

The Gaylord Family Freshman Scholarships
   Frances Baird
   Thomas Castell
   Cameron Colan
   Molly Hiller
   Ryan Khol (RYAN COLE)
   Hannah Watson

Would the recipients of all four years of the MCMAHON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP please make your way to the ramp.
The Mildred Nichols Hamilton Memorial Scholars
We are honored to have Lindi Press, the step-daughter and executor of the Mildred Nichols Hamilton estate with us today. I believe Dean Foote would like to make some additional comments about this landmark gift that will benefit female Gaylord College students in perpetuity.

Kayli Bollinger (BOWL-ING-JER)
Nicole Forte
Jessica Freeman
Tahira Taqi
Kaitlyn Underwood

The McMahon Memorial Scholars
Many representatives of the McMahon Foundation have joined us today. Dr. Charles Graybill and his wife, Betty. The new chairman of the board of directors, Mr. Kenneth Bridges, is also present and we ask that Mr. Bridges step forward to congratulate the McMahon Memorial Scholars.

Representing the Class of 2013
Zack Hedrick
Chelsey Kraft

Representing the Class of 2014
Tegan Burkhard
Kate McPherson

Representing the Class of 2015
Paigten Harkins
Ethan Koch (COOK)
Rachel Lea
Rebecca Peacock
And congratulations to our new McMahon Memorial Scholars, representing the Class of 2016

Katelyn Clark
Christina Devincenzo
Ryan Fees
Rachael Stuhr
Kathryn Wingfield

Congratulations to all of our scholarship recipients for the 2012-2013 academic year.

<APPLAUSE>

<AFTER THE LAST RECIPIENT LEAVES THE STAGE, JOHN WILL STEP BACK AND JOE WILL RETURN TO THE PODIUM TO MAKE CLOSING REMARKS AND START THE CHANT>