OKLAHOMA CITY – Loretta Early, an Information Technology professional who has devoted the majority of her almost 30-year career to higher education, has been named University of Oklahoma Vice President for Information Technology and Chief Information Officer. Early has served as OU’s interim CIO since July 1, 2011.

“Loretta Early is one of the top Information Technology experts in the nation,” said OU President David L. Boren. “She will be a leader in sharing programming with other universities to save taxpayer funds while keeping OU in the top ranks of universities in the field. She was one of those who helped OU become designated as one of the Top 10 Most Wired Colleges in America.”

As Interim CIO, Early focused on uniting IT professionals at all three OU campuses through a Shared Services initiative designed to build a flexible platform for delivering a world-class technology experience through efficient sharing of technology services.

Devoted to the teaching and learning experience, Early engaged Information Technology along with other OU entities to sponsor OU’s first Academic Technology Expo, a forum for faculty to learn about emerging technologies and to collaborate on ways to utilize these technologies effectively.

Prior to assuming the position as interim CIO, Early served as associate vice president for Information Technology at OU for more than 10 years. During that time, OU Information Technology was recognized multiple times as one of Computerworld’s Best Places to Work in IT. Additionally, OU has appeared on Princeton’s “Most Wired Campus” list for consecutive years.

“I am honored and delighted to serve President Boren and the OU community as CIO and University Vice President for Information Technology,” said Early. “My focus has been and will continue to be on discovering creative collaboration opportunities across our campuses and on fostering OU community relationships.”

Early’s service to information technology and higher education extends nationally, with
appointments on numerous advisory boards, institutes, and professional organizations. She is currently serving as chair of the EDUCAUSE Annual 2013 Program Committee, member of OU's Reaccreditation Committee and grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

Before her appointment at OU, Early served at The College of William and Mary for 12 years in several leadership positions, ultimately rising to the position of CIO. Early is a graduate of the University of Virginia.

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