George Robertson, BBA 1953, is the co-founder of Padgett-Thompson, a business seminar training firm based in Kansas City that reached unprecedented success in the early 1980s. Robertson’s firm created, produced, directed and marketed one-day business seminars that covered such subjects as hiring, firing, interviewing, warehousing, secretarial work and supervision. By the time the firm was sold to H&R Block in 1985, Padgett-Thompson was earning annual revenues of $30 million and training 325,000 people in 400 cities, not only in the United States, but also in Canada, Europe, Australia and Puerto Rico. Before founding Padgett-Thompson in 1978, Robertson was vice president of Riss International after working for the Ford Motor Co. from 1948 to 1970 and serving in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. He currently resides in Linn Creek, Mo., with his wife, Shirley, and owns homes at the Lake of the Ozarks, Mo., and Prairie Village, Kan.

Daniel Keating, MBA 1972, is this year’s recipient of the Chittom Challenge Award, an honor given to an individual who has shown tireless dedication to enhancing the educational environment of Tulsa students. Keating helped introduce a golf program at McLain High School by not only making it his mission to teach golf, but provided the school golf program with the resources to sustain itself and has worked diligently to mold the students into successful golfers. Because of the program’s success, McLain High School’s golf team is considered one

Lt. Luke Hodges, BBA 2005, is a U.S. Navy supply officer stationed at the NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center in Yokosuka, Japan. He serves as the director of the Yokosuka Naval Base Hazardous Materials Minimization Center, working to fully implement the Navy’s Consolidated Hazardous Materials Reutilization and Inventory Management Program. This program targets the elimination of excess stock on hand and reduction of waste, both to protect the environment and slash HAZMAT-related costs by improving efficiency.

He has lived in Japan since March 2010, while his wife and three children moved to Florida after evacuating Japan due to the March 11 earthquake and aftermath. Since the earthquake, Hodges has been working with a team that is the logistics information integrator for U.S. Navy relief efforts, known as Operation Tomodachi. In addition to the relief efforts, Hodges’ team is involved in daily efforts to conserve taxpayer dollars while efficiently supplying U.S. Navy fleet-, air- and shore-based organizations with the materials needed to carry out their missions. Hodges credits the education he received through his MIS and Supply Chain Management degree at Price College for his ability to successfully perform the day-to-day operations of his position, such as directing the movement of materials and appropriate accounting of several million dollars’ worth of supplies.

“Needless to say, my MIS/SCM background at Price has proved a perfect foundation for this and previous positions,” says Hodges.

During his time at OU, Hodges participated in the Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program, a program distinct from ROTC that pre-committed him to the Navy. After graduating from Price, he completed his supply officer courses in Athens, Ga., followed by the Submarine Officer Basic Course in Groton, Conn. He then reported as supply officer of USS Louisville in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where his tour included a very successful integrated logistics overhaul in conjunction with a two-year engineered overhaul at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.

Before serving his current duties in Japan, Hodges volunteered for a global war on terrorism support assignment in Camp Taji, Iraq. There, he served as the contracting officer’s representative for several life-support contracts supporting the joint Counterinsurgency and Stability Operations Center.
of the best in the state and has won more than 100 tournaments in California, Minnesota, Kansas, Tennessee, Alabama and Oklahoma. The team members also excel academically, maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.95, and several students have received scholarships based on their exceptional golf skills.

Richard Rivoira, MBA 1975, recently retired after a 23-year tenure as an airline captain for UPS, flying DC-8 and MD-11 aircrafts.

Steve Corley, MBA 1977, was named one of “Oklahoma’s Most Admired CEOs” by The Journal Record for 2011. He is partner-in-charge of Eide Bailly LLP’s Oklahoma practice, directly overseeing its offices in Norman, Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Corley has more than 30 years of tax and retirement planning experience, working with personal service business owners, high-net-worth individuals and closely held businesses throughout his career. While he provides tax and consulting services to general business entities, Corley specializes in assisting health care providers, architects, engineers and other professional service providers. He is on the board of directors of the Norman Economic Development Coalition, and is a member of Price College’s Board of Visitors for the Steed School of Accounting, as well as the Moore-Norman Technology Foundation Board. He also is past president and executive committee member of the Norman Chamber of Commerce and a past board member for the United Way of Norman.

David Gross, BBA 1977, has been promoted to associate vice president of Laboratory Corp. of America in Dallas. He has been employed by LabCorp for 29 years and this is his seventh promotion. He is the author of “The Most Important Thing” and an attorney and member of the State Bar of Texas and the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Lisa Steele Heise, BBA 1978, is a 2011 Institutionally Related Foundation award winner. The IRF awards are given by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and recognize individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the advancement, quality and effectiveness of their foundations and the community of institutionally related foundations as a whole. Heise earned this prestigious recognition serving as controller of the Great Basin College Foundation in Nevada. During her nine years with the foundation, she has helped move the organization into the ranks of the most successful small college foundations in the country and advocated for a biennial audit review policy with her state’s board of regents, a step that will result in considerable savings for small foundations.

Jon Graham, MBA 1983, was named vice president of the global environmental, health and safety organization for Apache Corp. Before assuming this position, he held the role of region vice president and country manager of Argentina for Apache. Graham has served Apache in various roles for a multitude of regions, including vice president of reservoir engineering in Canada, reservoir engineering manager in the Rockies Region, reservoir engineering manager for the Western and Gulf of Mexico regions, and engineering general manager for Apache Egypt Cos. Prior to joining Apache in 1994, he was associated with Hunt Oil Co., Pacific Enterprises Oil Co., Santa Fe Minerals and Amoco.

Curt Harrington, MBA 1985, serving as a tax and patent attorney, was appointed to the California Board of Legal Specialization of the State Bar of California as an at-large member for a three-year term. He just completed five years on the Tax Law Advisory Committee of the California Board of Legal Specialization, serving as chairman this past year. Harrington continues his practice of taxation, patent and trademark law as one of few attorneys in California holding a specialization in taxation law, as well as being a registered patent attorney with master’s degrees in both electrical and chemical engineering and business.

Judy McReynolds, BBA 1985, has been appointed to OGE Energy Corp.’s Board of Directors. She currently is president and CEO of Arkansas Best Corp., headquartered in Fort Smith, Ark., whose largest subsidiary is ABF Freight System Inc. Before assuming the title of president in 2010, McReynolds served as senior vice president, CFO and treasurer from 2006 to 2009, and as vice president and controller from 2000 to 2006. She is a member of the Board of the Westark Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Sparks Health System Board of Trustees, the University of Arkansas Fort Smith Foundation Board, the Dean’s Executive Advisory Board of the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas, the Arkansas Business Hall of Fame Board and Selection Committee, and the American Transportation Research Institute Board. McReynolds also serves on the American Trucking Association board of directors and the American Trucking Association executive committee and serves as chair of its audit committee.

Grant Collingsworth, BBA 1986, has been appointed general counsel for SciQuest, a leading provider of on-demand strategic procurement and supplier management solutions. He joins SciQuest after 14 years with Morris, Manning & Martin, serving as SciQuest’s primary outside counsel for many years and working in mergers and acquisitions, securities law and legal project management.

David Merkel, BBA 1986, has returned to the United States after being based in Europe for the past two years. He served as deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian affairs and director with the National Security Council in the White House, as well as deputy assistant secretary for international affairs with the U.S. Treasury Department and international counselor to the chairman of the continued on next page...
Securities and Exchange Commission. He now heads up Summit International Advisors, an international advisory firm focusing on the Caspian and Black Sea region. Merkel received the Exceptional Service Award from the U.S. Treasury Department and the NATO Star from the president of Lithuania. He served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Nazarbayev University in Astana, Kazakhstan, and the Josef Korbel School of International Studies Social Science Foundation at the University of Denver. Merkel is a visiting faculty member in the Geopolitics of Energy at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy.

Gary Williamson, BBA 1986, was named the new plant manager of Bridgestone Americas’ facility in Wilson, N.C. He has 31 years of experience in tire manufacturing operations, including various managerial roles in Oklahoma City, and most recently in the Aiken County, S.C., plant, where he served as group leader before assuming the position of operations manager. While in Aiken County, Williamson was active in the community. He served on the board of directors for the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce and as a member of the Aiken Career and Technology Education Board. He also actively supported the United Way, the Golden Harvest Regional Food Bank and the American Cancer Society-Relay for Life committees while living in the Aiken County area.

Todd Chandler, BBA 1987, is a partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP, where he is a member of the capital markets practice. He advises both issuers and underwriters in connection with public and private offerings of securities and other capital markets transactions. Chandler has significant experience in representing private equity firms and portfolio companies in leveraged finance transactions and in high-yield debt offerings in a variety of industries, including telecommunications, media, home building, manufacturing and healthcare. He also has experience in representing foreign issuers in cross-border securities offerings and spent a substantial amount of time in the firm’s London office.

Don Lepp, BBA 1990, has joined the Tulsa team of Drummond Law, PLLC. His practice will focus on commercial litigation and all aspects of banking law. After graduating from OU, Lepp earned his law degree from the University of Michigan School of Law in 1993.

Lt. Col. Glen Chancellor, BBA 1991, recently returned from a combat advisor mission, where he was embedded with the Iraqi Army. Subsequently, he was selected to attend the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., the Army’s senior educational institution. Students include senior military officers of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard along with foreign military officers and senior civilian managers of federal agencies.

Chase Quinn, BBA 1994, has been promoted to manager of government, education and major account sales for Toshiba Business Solutions in Los Angeles/Orange County.

D. Kyle Wilson, BBA 1994, JD/ MBA 1998, has been named a partner at BroadOak Capital Partners. Wilson comes to BroadOak, a life science-focused merchant banking firm, with more than 13 years of investment banking experience. He previously served as a principal and head of tools and diagnostics investment banking for Canaccord Genuity.

Angela Nagy, BBA 1995, was appointed as vice president and controller of AGL Resources, an Atlanta-based energy services company. Nagy recently joined AGL after serving in various roles at Mirant Corp., including vice president and controller, assistant controller, director of corporate accounting and reporting, and controller of its energy trading and marketing subsidiary. Prior to AGL, she spent several years with Arthur Andersen LLP. Nagy was named by Treasury & Risk magazine as one of corporate America’s outstanding finance executives under the age of 40 in October 2010.

Richard Fetyko, MBA 1999, was hired in June as a director in equity research for Janney Capital Markets in New York City. Before joining Janney, he served as managing director of equity research at Merriman Capital. Fetyko has more than 15 years of industry experience, ranking second in ratings performance in the Internet Software and Service space by StarMine in 2010. He also was recognized by the Wall Street Journal as a “Best on the Street Analyst” in both 2007 and 2008.

Steven Goodspeed, MBA 1999, recently joined the law firm Taylor, Burrage, Foster, Mallett, Downs, Ramsey & Russell in Claremore, Okla. He focuses his practice on civil litigation, wills, probates and property law. Previously, he held the position of general counsel for Southwestern Seminary.

Jennifer Hamer, BBA 2000, gave birth to her second son, Dane Rockwell. Hamer, on April 11, Jennifer serves as an assistant vice president for MidFirst Bank in treasury management sales and has been working in corporate banking for the past 11 years.

Danny O’Connell, BBA 2000, MBA 2006, is a partner with the Dallas-based Benefit Resource Group, a benefits consulting firm that provides creative, custom solutions for companies. Recently, O’Connell has been looking to diversify his services and include life insurance needs for owners and more individualized middle management. In a recent Agent’s Sales Journal article, he expressed the importance of assessing a client’s entire financial picture. “We don’t want to go in and just sell a policy — we want to find out what’s truly important to them and if their current policies are really meeting their objectives.”