Sol Schwartz, BBA 1960, is chairman of the board for Sol Schwartz & Associates PC, an accounting firm, he founded in 1980 that specializes in tax planning and compliance. Schwartz has participated in altering tax laws on a national level, serving on the federal tax division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In 2009, Texas Monthly Magazine named him one of the 10 Most Dependable Accounting Professionals in the state. At 70, Schwartz is still in the office every day. He and his wife, Joanie, have one son and three grandchildren.

Randy Furr, BBA 1976, has been appointed to serve as executive vice president and chief financial officer of Spansion, a leading Flash memory solutions provider. Furr has 30 years of experience in the financial and operational areas of the technology industry. Prior to joining Spansion, Furr held various executive and management positions at Magellan, Aliph, Adobe Systems, Sanmina–SCI, General Signal and Arrow Engineering.

Don Esch, MBA 1977, has been selected as the president and chief operating officer at Betcher Industries Inc., after eight years with the company. During his career, Esch has held executive leadership positions at ImagePoint, APV Baker and Leggett & Platt.

Doug McClain, BBA 1979, is a rear admiral in the U.S. Navy and director of global operations at the U.S. Strategic Command. After graduation, he attended flight school to fulfill his childhood dream of flying military jets. McClain logged more than 6,500 hours in carrier jet aircraft and recently came to campus to speak with the active military students at OU during Navy Week.


Brad Lawson, BBA 1986, has started an investment firm, Point Defiance Capital Management LLC, in Tacoma, Wash. Point Defiance will specialize in microcap equities, which are smaller publicly traded companies whose market capitalizations range from $50 million to $500 million. Previously, he was a partner of another investment firm, Kettle Creek Partners, and co-head of hedge fund research at Russell Investment Group.

Bob Mareburger, MBA 1986, is president of Natural Gas, ONEOK Partners. He joined ONEOK in 2007 as vice president and chief information officer. Mareburger also spent several years at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture) and CITGO Petroleum.

Kevin Thompson, BBA 1987, is president, chief financial officer, and director of SolarWinds, a software company that specializes in network management. Thompson joined the company in 2006 as chief financial officer, after serving in the same position at Surgient, SAS Institute and Red Hat. He also sits on the board of NetSuite.

Steven Rodriguez, BBA 1989, has been named executive vice president of sales and marketing for the national online payroll company, Perquert. Rodriguez has more than 20 years of experience in sales, working at Human Capital Success, Ceridian Employer Services Inc., Epicor Software Corp. and Automatic Data Processing.

Jerry Hedrick, Jr., CFE, BBA 1991, joined Vectren, Inc. in September 2008 as the new director of the corporate audit staff. He was previously employed by Dell, Inc. in Round Rock, Texas, and was their chief fraud investigator. He now lives in Newburgh, Ind., with his wife, Jennifer.

Brian Amend, BBA 1992, is the managing principal at South Central United States AC Lordi Consulting in Dallas. Within one year of graduating from OU, Amend earned his CPA license. He was selected as an Academic All-American Scholar during his time as an MBA student at Oklahoma City University. Amend serves on the board of the homeless shelter Samaritan Inn, where he holds the positions of executive director and assistant treasurer. He and his wife, Johanna, have two children and live in the Dallas area.

Topan Bhattacharya, PhD 1992, was the recipient of this year’s Oklahoma Medal for Excellence in Teaching at a Regional University/Community College. He is a professor of finance at Cameron University and formerly a business executive who, at the age of 40, decided to give up his career as a marketing manager to begin the “best years of his life” as a teacher. Known for his highly demanding course work, he combines theory with hands-on experiences to make learning exciting and improve student retention levels. He is consistently ranked among the top professors at the university by his students.

Jess Scarbrough, MBA 1993, was promoted to the grade of brigadier general in the U.S. Army. Scarbrough currently is the joint program executive officer for the Department of Defense Chemical and Biological Defense Research, Development and Acquisition programs, valued at $1.5 billion per year. Scarbrough’s organization is responsible for equipping all soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen with medical countermeasures, such as vaccines, lotions and drugs; and non-medical chemical and biological defense detection systems; nuclear, biological and chemical decontamination systems; collective and individual protective shelters; and clothing.

M. Sidney Donice, BBA 1994, was promoted to membership in the real estate practice group of Brach Eichler L.L.C. in Roseland, N.J. Donice is involved with The Appraisal Institute and focuses his legal practice in real estate tax appeals, finance and development, low-income housing and
Douglas Sandridge, BBA 1982, was promoted to land manager – Kansas/Colorado Asset for Ellora Energy. He also is enrolled at the University of Colorado, where he is working on his master of science degree in global energy management. Sandridge has three children – Chelsea, 16, Brionna, 14, and Alex, 11 – all of whom plan on attending OU.

Sandridge’s father, mother and uncle are all OU graduates and he always has been a big Sooner fan. He played soccer for OU from 1977 to 1980 and played some of the games at the old men’s soccer field located behind the OU Murray Case Sells Swim Complex and some games at the Gaylord Family – Oklahoma Memorial Stadium. One of his favorite memories is of his grandfather, who had driven down from Oklahoma City to watch practice. As they were leaving the stadium, Coach Switzer walked by. His grandfather grabbed the coach and asked him to pose for an instant Polaroid picture (see above), then made him stand by while the picture developed so that he could sign it.
Leadership Counsel. In addition, Geist is chairman of Valir Health Foundation, president of the Oklahoma Business Ethics Consortium and treasurer of Good Shepherd Ministries. He was recently selected as an “Achiever under 40” by The Journal Record. He and his wife, Lynn, have four children.

**Jay Smith, BBA 1999; MBA 2003, has been promoted to vice president of finance for Oseco, a Halma company located in Broken Arrow, Okla., that manufactures pressure relief products such as precision-manufactured rupture disks and rupture panels. Smith will be responsible for strategic planning, leading financial and accounting activities and managing the company’s information technology personnel. He joined the company in 2007 as controller; previously, he was with Delphi, a worldwide supplier of mobile electronics and transportation systems.**

**Kelley Grace, BBA 2000, is the senior tax manager at Eide Bailly LLP. She began her career at Deloitte & Touche and is an active member of the Oklahoma Society of Certified Accountants. She volunteers for Meals on Wheels, is a graduate of Leadership Norman and sits on the advisory board of the JCPenney Leadership Program. Grace serves on the board of the Cleveland County Family YMCA, Norman Chamber of Commerce, Exchange Club of Norman and Norman NEXT. She was selected as an “Achiever under 40” by The Journal Record, recognized as a “Forty Under 40” from OKC Business and was a 2008 nominee for the United Way and Junior League’s volunteer of the year awards.**

**Courtney Wolin, BBA 2000, joined GlassWilkin PC in Tulsa as an associate attorney. Wolin earned her law degree from OU in 2003 and specializes in business litigation, employment and labor law, real estate and banking law.**

**Dennis Atkins, MAcc 2001, is chief financial officer and a director of Western Sierra Mining. Atkins has over 15 years in public accounting and specializes in audits for publicly traded companies. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and is licensed in Oklahoma and California.**

**Traci (Carr) Dvorak, J.D., BBA 2001, resigned in January from her position as an associate in the health law litigation section of Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP to become a financial advisor with Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. She joined her husband, Richard Dvorack, CFP, CRPC, in his referral-only financial planning practice.**

**Scott Selman, BBA 2002, serves as a vice president and shareholder at Rich & Cartmill. As a property-casualty insurance agent, he is responsible for analyzing and reviewing risks for companies and selecting the best policy for his clients. Selman is a certified insurance counselor and fourth-generation insurance professional, and he is actively working to become a chartered property casualty underwriter. He and his wife, Meredith, reside in his hometown of Tulsa, Okla., where he is a member of the Rotary Club, Independent Insurance Agents of Greater Tulsa and Ducks Unlimited.**

**David Tate, BBA 2006, has left the strategy and operations practice of Deloitte Consulting after two years with the firm. He is attending the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina to receive his MBA in 2011.**

**Rebecca Britsch, BBA 2007, is manager of public relations and media for Avansics, a digital forensics firm. Before joining Avansics, Britsch served as marketing coordinator for the Tulsa and Oklahoma City division of Nabholz Construction. She and her husband, Travis, live in Tulsa, and she is an active member of the Junior League of Tulsa, Association for Women in Communications, Public Relations Society of America, the American Lung Association’s new O2 Society and Fleet Feet Tulsa’s Fall Marathon Training Program.**

**Jason Maloy, BBA 2006, was awarded the 2008-2009 Dallas Association of Petroleum Landman of the Year Award. Maloy has served on the association’s board of directors for the past three years and recently accepted another three-year term with the organization. Maloy also completed the Ford Florida Ironman Triathlon (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike and a marathon) in an effort to help fund the Sara Williams Memorial Scholarship for female Energy Management students at Price College. He accepted donations for each of the 140.6 miles he would swim, bike and run. The amount needed to endow the scholarship was $40,000, but more than $56,000 was raised. Maloy works at EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. and is married to Lezlie Maloy, MD.**

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