

THE UNIVERSITY
OF OKLAHOMA

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Bridges

APRIL 2002



SOWING THE SEEDS

Donation creates center to help
children with learning differences

INSIDE: GRANTS WON TO HELP YOUNG READERS, SCHOOL LEADERS

Bridges

April 2002



Emily McIlroy Photo

Canoes at a lake bridge in Southeastern Oklahoma.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

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Send us your favorite photo of a bridge or bridges. The best will be run on page 2 of each issue. Sorry, photographs cannot be returned. (Address on page 3.)

Bridges

April 2002

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The University of Oklahoma is a doctoral degree-granting research university serving the educational, cultural, economic and health care needs of the state, region and nation. Created by the Oklahoma Territorial Legislature in 1890, the university is composed of campuses in Norman and Oklahoma City as well as sites in Tulsa. The university's main campus and the offices of administration of the University are located in Norman. The OU Health Sciences Center, which is located in Oklahoma City, is the headquarters for the seven professional colleges and offers programs at the University of Oklahoma -Tulsa. OU-Tulsa is composed of the Schusterman Center, where the majority of OU programs serving Tulsa are located; the OU/OSU Research and Graduate Education Center, a collaborative effort to provide graduate education and research programs to the Tulsa metropolitan area; and several clinics and hospitals. OU enrolls almost 28,000 students, has approximately 1,900 full-time faculty members, and has 19 colleges offering 143 majors at the baccalaureate level, 135 majors at the master's level, 79 majors at the doctoral level, nine majors at the first professional level, and five graduate certificates. The university's annual operating budget is more than \$1 billion. The University of Oklahoma is an equal opportunity institution.
12-00

This publication was prepared by the College of Education at an approximate cost of \$8,000 to the taxpayers of Oklahoma. Eighteen thousand copies were printed by the Transcript Press.

from the Dean's Desk

"No child left behind" is the new rallying cry for education reform in our country, with President George Bush signing House Resolution 1 shortly after the new year.

While reform proposals may still be news, the College of Education has already been working for many years on several of the key components of the re-authorized Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

A major plank of the program is improving literacy through the Reading First initiative, which will reward states that establish reading programs for preschool through second grade.

Our faculty and graduate students in early childhood and literacy education have long been leaders in emphasizing the importance of reading preparation and readiness.

You have read before in the pages of *Bridges* about our model Institute for Child Development, about important research in preschool and child care and about a major reading symposium for the state's top educators, elected officials and concerned parents.

In this issue, you will learn about our latest achievement in this area. Two of our professors are part of an Oklahoma consortium that recently won a \$1.5 million federal grant to improve preschool literacy. Only eight such grants were given nationwide under this program. See the story on page 6.

HR 1 will also consolidate and streamline federal technology grant programs as a way to help schools improve their educational technology. Our professors are participating in many state and national programs that assist school districts in keeping pace with cutting-edge technology. Many of those programs have been featured in *Bridges*, now read about another on page 5. Achievement Through Collaboration and Technology Support (OK-ACTS) will provide laptop computers to Oklahoma school administrators. A College professor heads that effort.

Detailing the many ways the College is at the forefront of education reform would take many issues of *Bridges*. Let me instead just mention a few:

Greater Title I assistance: This federal program targets assistance to schools with large numbers of children receiving free or reduced-price lunches. Our College encourages placement of pre-service teachers in these schools for their required field experiences, as well as their student teaching internship. Many of our students also participate in Americorps programs that earn them education credits by volunteering in these schools. Our students' mentorship and tutoring in these schools give youngsters the extra help they need to achieve.

Improving Teacher Quality: This effort has long been a hallmark of our program as we prepare our students to be professional educators with a strong foundation built on professionalism, leadership, understanding and scholarship. A team of college faculty members is revamping our assessment system to ensure our students are receiving the utmost benefit from their years with us.

Strengthening Math and Science Education: Several of our professors are working on programs to assist local schoolteachers in teaching mathematics and science. One professor recently led a mathematics fair at a Norman elementary school, while another is spending part of his sabbatical teaching science in a public school. Still others are working with faculty in interdisciplinary programs to improve teaching in these related fields.

There remains one final key component in these efforts that I must mention - faithful alumni and friends, such as yourselves, who support our programs with their time and talents. Your interest in and commitment to the College also help ensure that no child is left behind. Thank you,



Joan K. Smith



Center to aid children with learning differences

Like many parents, Ruth Gilliland Hardman has known the frustration of trying to find the best educational opportunities for her children.

Decades ago, she searched for a school for her middle son, Philip Kistler, who had a severe reading problem.

Today Kistler is considered one of Massachusetts' top neurologists, teaching at Harvard University and directing the stroke unit at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Now Hardman has made a gift to help other children with learning differences by pledging \$1 million to create the Oklahoma Center for Children with Learning Differences in the University of Oklahoma College of Education.

"The center will be a statewide resource to serve children and schools in Oklahoma," Education Dean Joan K. Smith said. "Parents, teachers and schools can turn to the center for guidance in helping children who have difficulty succeeding in the classroom because of learning differences."

The gift will also endow a faculty position, the Ruth G. Hardman Endowed Chair in Education, to direct the center. A search committee is being formed to select the chair.

The center and its staff will work hand in hand with the College's Zarrow Center for Learning Enrichment and its director, James Martin, who holds the Zarrow Chair. The Zarrow center and endowed chair were established with gifts from the Anne and Henry Zarrow and Maxine and Jack Zarrow foundations.

Like the Zarrows, Hardman is a long-time Tulsa resident known for her philanthropy and interest in literacy and education.

Hardman has been inducted into the Oklahoma Women's Hall of Fame, the Tulsa Historical Society Hall of Fame and OU's Seed Sower Society, which honors donors at the million-dollar level.

The Historical Society tribute described Hardman this way: "An active mind matched with boundless energy are the hallmarks of Ruth G. Hardman. As a 'hands-on' volunteer, board member or patron, these qualities have allowed Mrs. Hardman to have a dynamic influence on the development of Tulsa."

The daughter of John W. and Vera Chapman Gilliland, Mrs. Hardman was born in Holdenville and later moved



Ruth Hardman with her seed sower statue, given to OU's top supporters.

with her family to Tulsa. As a young woman, she attended Sweet Briar College and the University of Wisconsin before settling in Tulsa.

The diversity of Mrs. Hardman's activities reflects her broad interests. She has served on the boards of Planned Parenthood, Children's Medical Center, Tulsa Psychiatric Center and the Children's Day Nursery. At Holland Hall School, she founded the Kistler-Gilliland Center for the Advancement of Learning and serves as an Emeritus Board Member.

She established the Ruth G. Hardman Literacy Service at the Tulsa City/County Library and was a founder of Tulsa Town Hall. Board memberships have included the Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa Philharmonic, Tulsa Ballet Theatre and the Performing Arts Center Endowment Fund.

Hardman also endowed the curatorial chair in European and American Art at Philbrook Museum and the Hardman/Nimrod Award and Workshops at the University of Tulsa.



Professors get Gates grant for leadership development

Eight hundred Oklahoma school administrators will be provided technology and laptop computers through a \$2.5 million grant program authored by a College of Education professor.

Achievement Through Collaboration and Technology Support (OK-ACTS) was made possible by a \$1.2 million school leadership development grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The remaining funding of the OK-ACTS came through matching funds from OU (\$75,000), the National Science Foundation (NSF, \$495,600) and the Oklahoma Education Technology Trust (OETT, \$750,000).

"The OK-ACTS partnership will seek to improve student achievement in Oklahoma by educating, connecting and supporting 800 Oklahoma principals and superintendents over the next three years in integrating technology in schools in ways that provide meaningful, real-world student learning," said Mary John O'Hair, OU education professor and lead author of the grant.

Serving as co-principal investigators are Jeff Maiden, Associate Professor, and Gregg Garn, Assistant Professor, both Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS), and Mark Nanny, Assistant Professor, College of Engineering.

"Research indicates schools that use authentic teaching and learning which involves student-centered approaches, higher-order thinking skills and connecting academic subjects to the real world have it much easier when it comes to fully integrating technology in the classroom," O'Hair, who is also in ELPS.

David DuVall, OETT chair and executive director of the Oklahoma Education Association, said, "OETT supports the focus of the OK-ACTS Partnership on student success through technology integration and collaborative networking. Our support will provide laptop computers to the partner schools to allow their administrators to network and facilitate systemic 'whole school' change needed to fully integrate technology in classrooms."

The partnership has received the full support of the Oklahoma State Department of Education. State Superintendent Sandy Garrett said, "OK-ACTS represents an unprecedented collaboration among schools, universities and communities. Having school leaders who understand the potential of technology and who can support teachers in its implementation is critical if students are to be prepared for the demands of the 21st century."

The grant is housed and administered through the College's Center for Educational and Community

Renewal. Other partners include the Cooperative Council for Oklahoma School Administration (CCOSA), the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education (ODCTE), the Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) and the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

"Key to the success of Oklahoma's educational reform strategy is having strong and experienced educational administrators who can lead change in the educational system," said Randall Raburn, executive director of CCOSA. "This grant will help develop, support and sustain such leadership."

The partnership uses the IDEALS Systemic Change Framework consisting of research-based practices linked directly to student achievement, NSF's Authentic Teaching Alliance, Oklahoma's Priority Academic Student Skills (PASS) objectives and the Technology Standards for School Administrators by the International Society for Technology in Education.

"Everyone benefits when we invest in our schools," said Phil Berkenbile, associate state director for ODCTE. "OK-ACTS will be instrumental in creating technology-enriched learning environments, in which all Oklahoma's students can excel."

Tom Vander Ark, executive director of education for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, said one of the most pressing needs in education is leadership that connects schools with community needs. "Superintendents and principals play a vital role in student success, and this program will provide Oklahoma's school leaders with the training and experience to more effectively ensure that success."

"The ultimate goal of OK-ACTS will be to enhance the ability of students to learn, teachers to teach, and schools and communities to work together to foster high achieving schools," Keith Ballard, OSSBA executive director, said. "This will be accomplished by working and learning together across schools, communities and educational systems in our state."

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is dedicated to improving people's lives by sharing advances in health and learning with the global community. Led by Bill Gates' father, William H. Gates Sr., and Patty Stonesifer, the Seattle-based foundation has an asset base of \$23.5 billion.

Oklahoma superintendents and principals interested in participating in the OK-ACTS program should contact Randy Averso or Jean Cate, co-directors, at (405) 325-4420.



College helps spearhead state early literacy project

A broad consortium of agencies including early childhood educators and advocates from the University of Oklahoma is one of only eight recipients nationwide of a new U.S. Department of Education grant program to improve children's early reading and language skills.

The Early Steps to Literacy Project won a \$1.52 million award from the Early Childhood Educator Professional Development Program. Early Steps is designed to prepare early childhood educators to facilitate low-income children's language and literacy competencies in several Oklahoma counties with the highest poverty and illiteracy rates, said Project Director Ruth Ann Ball.

The demonstration project is a collaboration of the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development in the College of Continuing Education and the Department of Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum in the College of Education.

"This affords both colleges an opportunity to provide enhanced early literacy training to early childhood educators both within and outside the walls of the traditional university," said Belinda Biscoe, Interim Assistant Vice President for Outreach.

Education Dean Joan Smith praised the Early Steps collaboration for bringing together "so many important partners to work for the well-being of Oklahoma children. "This program will have a significant, far-reaching impact on our younger children," she said.

James Pappas, Vice President for OU's University Outreach, agreed. "The award of this grant helps underscore our deep commitment to education at all levels," he said. "Certainly given the federal emphasis on early childhood education, the university is now positioned to be an important contributor to initiatives that will benefit our nation's young people."

The Oklahoma project will have three components:

- ✓ Professional development for early childhood educators. Teachers and directors will receive college-level instruction on emergent literacy, while administrators will be prepared for supporting teachers in new literacy practices, including coaching teachers and working with parents.
- ✓ A support network and peer coaching for educators with a focus on promoting children's language and

literacy development.

- ✓ Training and support for an early literacy infrastructure. This will build and support connections among the child care, Head Start and public school communities.

Lead agency for the effort will be the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development in the College of Continuing Education. Ball initiated the creation of a Literacy Consortium and partnerships to accomplish the initiative's objectives. The Early Steps to Literacy Team includes Biscoe and two College of Education associate professors, Sara Ann Beach, reading and literacy education, and Loraine Dunn, early childhood education.

The consortium will include representatives from Oklahoma Child Care Association; Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma/TEACH; Oklahoma Department of Human Services Division of Child Care; Oklahoma City and Tulsa public school districts; Parents as Partners in Education; Oklahoma Head Start Collaboration Project, which includes agencies from southern Oklahoma, Oklahoma City and Tulsa; Southeastern Oklahoma State University; American Indian Institute; Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

The First Lady Laura Bush and U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige have made improvement of early childhood literacy skills a priority. In July, Mrs. Bush hosted a two-day White House Summit on Early Childhood Cognitive Development with Paige and Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services. Research indicates children from poor families are much more likely to enter school with limited vocabularies, weak early reading skills and less motivation to learn.

"Society is finally realizing if children are to be successful first graders, that we must start rich literacy experiences at a much younger age," Beach said. "And children of poverty often don't get rich literacy experiences."

The program will work in seven Oklahoma regions that contain 75 percent of the state's low-performing schools.

"We will follow students through the end of first grade, to see if the staff training increases child learning and literacy, if the advantage is sustained and whether having knowledgeable teachers keeps children from being referred to special education classes or having problems in the classroom later on."

Targeted counties:

Adair
Atoka
Caddo
Cherokee
Choctaw
Coal
Harmon
Haskell
Hughes
Johnston
Latimer
LeFlore
Marshall
McCurtain
McIntosh
Pushmataha
Okfuskee
Oklahoma
Ottawa
Seminole
Sequoyah
Tulsa



Dean Emeritus Wood dies

Frederick Harrison Wood Jr., Dean Emeritus of the College of Education, died January 26 at Norman Regional Hospital due to complications related to congestive heart failure.

Wood, dean of the College for a decade, spent almost half a century as an educator, including as a classroom teacher, a school administrator, researcher, staff development expert, college professor and dean.

"As dean, Fred worked tirelessly to develop our TE-PLUS program. Thanks to his efforts, it is one of the best teacher education programs in the state and nationally. He cared deeply about the College, and, even after retiring from the deanship, he continued to teach and mentor students in the educational administration, curriculum and supervision graduate program. We are grateful for this valuable legacy," said Dean Joan K. Smith, who succeeded Wood in 1995.

Wood was born in LaPorte, IN, on July 2, 1936, to Frederick and Marguerite (Gross) Wood. In 1954, he graduated from LaPorte High School. Four years later he graduated from Western Michigan University with a bachelor's degree in history and minors in economics, English and political science. He also received a special certificate to teach sixth grade.

He continued his graduate studies at the University of Michigan and later received his master's in secondary education from Western Michigan in 1962.

He received his Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction from University of Missouri in 1966. Upon graduation, he joined the Ferguson-Florissant School District near St. Louis and soon became the assistant superintendent.

At the same time, he began working with I/D/E/A/ (Institute for Developing Educational Activities), a collaboration that continued well after Wood's retirement as Dean Emeritus and Professor Emeritus in 1999.

In 1970, Wood moved to the University of Nebraska as Professor of Secondary Education. Six years later, he became a Professor of Education and the Head of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction at The Pennsylvania State University in State College, PA. At Penn State, Wood and two doctoral students spent a year reading research and creating a model for school change through staff development. The result was RPTIM (Readiness, Planning, Training, Implementation and Maintenance), a model for site-based change through in-service learning.

The model describes the steps to making effective change, and many improvement efforts have used this model. Subsequent reviews of the research have supported the model, with few modifications. Wood eventually had more than 75 publications in this research area.

Wood reached the pinnacle of his educational career in 1985 when he became Dean of the College of

Education at OU. He guided the College during some of its most difficult years, coming on board after the state oil bust that shattered Oklahoma's economy. Slowly but surely the College regained its footing, and Wood credited the faculty and staff with working very hard to maintain and even build quality. During Wood's tenure, the College was departmentalized, the graduate program was rebuilt and the TE-PLUS teacher education program was initiated.

After stepping down from the dean's post in 1995, he continued on as a Professor of Education at OU and worked actively with I/D/E/A/.

Wood's professional awards include the Outstanding Research and Publication Award from the Pennsylvania Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the Research Award for the Oklahoma Association of Supervision and Curriculum and Development and the Outstanding Service Award from the National Staff Development Council.

Wood was also a long-time golfer, having first learned as a youngster in Indiana. Caddying and a golf scholarship put him through college. He made many close friends at the Trails Golf Club in Norman and for 13 years invited his many friends and family to participate in the "Fred H. Wood, VIP Invitation only, Memorial Classic Scramble."

Wood is survived by his wife, Betty; his mother, Eldora Wood; and his four children: Andrew and wife Christine of Midland, MI; Kristin and husband Jose Torres of Denver, CO; Chris, wife Shannon and grandson Connor of Littleton, CO; and Mark Ayers of Avon, CO. Other survivors include siblings Marguerite Dameron; Margaret Jean and husband Dave Cooley; Jim and wife Jean Wood; George and wife Marsha Wood; William and wife Susan Wood; Charles and wife Kelly Wood; and John and wife Janet Wood.

Donations to the College's Fred H. Wood Jr. Memorial Scholarship can be sent to Brooks Hull, Director of Development, University of Oklahoma, 100 Collings Hall, Norman OK 73019-2041. Checks should be made out to the University of Oklahoma Foundation.



Fred Wood in 1999

WEST ME



ETS EAST

Economic globalization is increasing opportunities for education students and graduates to have classroom experience overseas, says Professor John Chiodo, head of the College's bilingual master's degree program.

For instance, two graduate students were part of a team of American educators who visited Fuzhou, China, last year to check out exchange program possibilities.

"With the global economy, the Chinese are really wanting to improve English instruction, but there's been a shortage of people who can speak English and teach," said Chiodo, who also chairs the social studies education program in the Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum department. "So the Chinese have developed programs to bring over native speakers so that their people can learn via a native speaker."

These exchange programs range from short stints to long-term teaching assignments with pay, room and board available, Chiodo said. "And, of course, they want education majors, who have some knowledge of teaching kids."



Sherry Rowan visits with high school students.

"We visited two local high schools, which they call middle schools," Rowan said. "The classrooms were not air-conditioned, and there were about 55 students to each class. While most were spartan by U.S. standards, others contained very modern equipment."

The middle school associated with Fujian Teachers University is considered the province's top school academically, having won several awards in international competitions. The school includes a "walk of fame," with portraits of successful graduates hung in the school. "That really appealed to me," Rowan said. "One thing we don't do enough of in the United States is to applaud our academic successes."

The American visitors observed classes and talked with students, who were enthusiastic about their lessons and eager to practice their English, Martin said.

Fujian Teachers University also tended to be regimented by American standards, with memorization of information more frequent than application of that knowledge, Martin said. However, professors there indicated they are moving toward a more progressive model.

The Chinese hosts lived up to their reputation and provided impressive meals and entertainment, including a special fine arts program just for the Americans, Rowan said. The Americans were also initiated in to the popular custom of exchanging cards. The Oklahoma delegation responded with some souvenir rose rocks and "canned tornadoes."

Chiodo said the College's bilingual program will further investigate exchange programs such as these.



A school visited by the Oklahomans.

(OKAGE); Wanda Gress, executive assistant to the OU Vice President for Technology Development; Rebecca Scott, OAGE coordinator; and Cynthia Brown, Senior Coordinator for Student Preparation with the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. Pennsylvania delegates included those from Indiana Area, Ebensburg and Baldwin-Whitehall school districts; Indiana University of Pennsylvania; and St. Francis University, Loretto, PA.

The group visited Fujian Teachers University, one of the oldest and most prestigious in China, as well as area secondary schools.

Sherry Rowan and Leisa Martin, both doctoral students and bilingual program staffers, were part of a 14-member delegation from Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. Other Oklahomans on the trip were Gary Gress, Norman High School social studies teacher and representative of the Oklahoma Alliance for Geographic Education



Leisa Martin in Fuzhou.



Souvenirs and images (left and above) from the Oklahomans' trip to China.

New faculty come on board

Lisa Frey

Education
Psychology Assistant
Professor Lisa Frey comes to the College's counseling psychology program after many years of experience in the field.



Her career has included a private clinical and consulting practice; experience consulting at the local, state and national levels; and developing and implementing several community-based, inpatient and partial-care programs for youth with trauma-related and/or mental health problems.

Frey earned a B.S.N. in nursing from Clarkson College in Omaha and a master's in Human Development and the Family and a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Research interests are trauma-related issues, including post-traumatic stress disorder and sexual misconduct in youth; cross-cultural counseling; relationship development and identity development in women; and counseling process and outcome.

Her publications include empirical manuscripts as well as clinical and prevention materials related to sexual abuse.

Frey's interests are as diverse as her work experience. She enjoys writing children's books and playing the dulcimer. She has lived all over the U.S. – Ohio, Arizona, Arkansas, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan, Nebraska and now Oklahoma. She has two sons, the younger of whom is now attending OU.

Xun Ge

Multimedia use in the learning environment is one research interest of Xun Ge, another new Assistant



Professor in the Education Psychology Department.

Ge has done research in multimedia design and development for computer-supported and collaborative learning environments; scaffolding students' problem-solving processes mediated with technology; and distributed cognition in online collaborative learning environment.

She holds bachelor's and master's degrees in English from Fujian Teachers University in China; a master's in bilingual and multicultural education from Northern Arizona University; and a Ph.D. in instructional systems from The Pennsylvania State University.

Her career has included stints as an English lecturer, a teaching/research assistant at the college level and instructional designer at the college level, as well as work as an instructional design consultant in learning and education at PriceWaterhouseCoopers.

She is a member of the American Educational Research Association and Association of Educational Communications and Technology; was a presenter at WebNet: World Conference on the WWW and Internet Annual Convention; and has been published in *Educational Technology & Society* and *Tech Times*.

Ge grew up in Fuzhou, a city on the southeast coast of China. She is married and has a 12-year old son. The family enjoys travelling, especially to scenic spots such as the Grand Canyon, Niagara Falls, the Petrified Forest, the Painted Desert and Acadia National Park.

Doug Kauffman

Strategies for classroom success have been the research focus for Doug Kauffman, Assistant Professor, Educational



Psychology.

Kauffman joined the College this fall after earning his master's and Ph.D. in educational psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He received his bachelor's degree in child psychology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

"My primary research interests include self-regulated learning, technology and students at risk for academic failure," Kauffman said. "In particular, I am interested in strategies teachers and instructional designers can employ that help students--particularly at-risk students--succeed in the classroom.

"Recently, I have been interested in note taking, focusing on strategies students can use to take a complete set of notes. Along this line, I am interested in how various note taking formats influence achievement."

Before coming to OU, Kauffman worked for the Center for Instructional Innovation at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His primary focus was related to research and evaluation of technology in the classroom. He was responsible for designing and conducting technology-based research on feedback, affect, meta-cognition, goal orientation and motivation of at-risk high school students in Web-based courses. He also designed and conducted research on technology-based tutorial systems.

Previously he worked as a street outreach worker for Youth Services System (now Cedars Youth Services) in Lincoln. He provided street-based outreach services for run-away, homeless and high-risk teens, including crisis intervention, advocacy, referral, education and support.

Kauffman serves on the editorial board for the *Educational Psychology Review* and is a member of the American Education Research Association and the American Psychological Association.

Joining Kauffman in Norman is his wife, Tiffany, who now works on an HIV/AIDS prevention grant at the OU Health Sciences Center. The couple



enjoys music, sports, theater and home improvement.

Although a native Nebraskan and life-long Husker fan, Kauffman now says, "I am proud to call myself a Sooner!"

Priscilla L. Griffith

The new chair of the College's Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum Department is Professor Priscilla L. Griffith. Griffith, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, comes to OU after serving on the faculty at the University of South Florida in Tampa and the University of Arkansas.

Her research interests and publications have focused on literacy acquisition and phonemic awareness, teacher education and/or case method instruction. She is active in the International Reading Association as editor of one of the associations professional journals, *The Reading Teacher*, and is past president of Florida Reading Association.

She grew up and taught elementary school in Texas and has lived in South Carolina, as well as the states listed above. Joining her in Norman are her two dogs, Jack and Tony.

Kathleen B. Rager

Assistant Professor Kathleen B. Rager joins the College's Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department this fall as a specialist in training and development.



Previously, Rager served for eight years as director of the Wichita State University Downtown Center and Contract Training Services. Other previous work experience has included directing the Corporate and Professional Education program at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., and being a communications consultant.

Rager holds a bachelor's degree from the College of Mount St. Vincent, a master's from the state University of New York at New Paltz and a Ph.D. from

Kansas State University.

Her research focuses on self-directed learning. For instance, Rager's doctoral dissertation studied self-directed learning of women with breast cancer. Her study examined common themes, motivations, process elements, outcomes and participants' recommendations for self-directed learning.

She has been a member of Phi Kappa Phi National Honorary Society, including serving as Past President; American Society of Training and Development Sunflower Chapter; Board of Directors, Contract Training International; Board of Directors, Downtown Wichita Association; Rotary International; and the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education.

Born and raised in Rye, N.Y., Rager is married to Lt. Col. (ret.) Ira Rager, an OU alum and former Alaskan bush pilot and hunting guide. They have grown children and four grandchildren. Rager's hobbies include reading, sports, the outdoors, travel and theater.

Rockey Robbins

Multicultural studies in psychology is the specialty of Assistant Professor Rockey Robbins, another new faculty member in the Educational Psychology Department.

Robbins, who received his doctorate from OU in 1998, was a therapist with the Creek Nation and an assistant professor at Oklahoma State University.

Robbins has focused much of his research on American Indians and practical techniques that may be used in counseling them. One such program is Project Eagle, which is a multifamily therapy model; the use of dream catchers in therapy with Indian adolescents; the use of personal staffs and traditional stories with Indian conduct disorders; and an American Indian Constructionalist Family Therapy Model. Robbins also studies use of Indian symbols, stories and reflecting teams in counseling.

Other research has looked at:

- Marital satisfaction among Cherokees.
- The needs and effectiveness of therapists in Indian Behavioral Health settings and university settings.
- The effects of post-colonial trauma upon American Indians.

--The needs and effectiveness of school counselors with American Indian students.

--The effectiveness of long distance therapy with Indian clients in remote settings.

Elizabeth Willner

Assistant Professor Elizabeth "Liz" Willner comes to the College's Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum Department with a specialty in literacy education.



She earned a bachelor's in business administration/economics from Rocky Mountain College, Billings, Mont.; teacher certification from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; a master's in language and literacy from Purdue University; and a Ed.D. in Literacy Education/Curriculum and Instruction from Oklahoma State University.

Her research interests include reader response theory with children and preservice teachers, as well as preservice teachers' use of children's literature.

Before teaching elementary and preschool children in Wyoming, Colorado, Indiana and Illinois, Willner managed college food services. She has worked with preservice teachers at Purdue, OSU and Northwestern Oklahoma State University. While earning her doctorate at OSU, she worked on a National Science Foundation Grant that explored ways to integrate the teaching and learning of mathematics and reading.

Willner and her husband, Jonathan, an economics professor at Oklahoma City University, have a 7-year-old daughter. The Willners enjoy cooking and culinary experiments.

Although she was raised in Wyoming, her Sooner credentials are impressive. Willner's grandfather played football for OU in 1915-16.



On the bookshelf

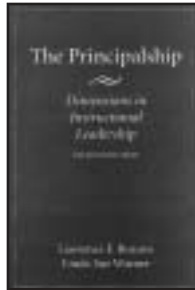
The Principalsip: Dimensions in Instructional Leadership, 2nd edition.

Lawrence F. Rossow and Linda Sue Warner, Carolina Academic Press, Durham, N.C., 2000.

The Principalsip incorporates the best of all the advances in the theories and developments in the field of study devoted to the principalsip since the first edition.

This book underscores the need to train principals to become more than building managers and assume instructional leadership.

Rossow is a Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Warner is a faculty member at the University of Missouri-Columbia.



The Legal Handbook for Oklahoma School Administrators.

Lawrence F. Rossow, James O. Tate, Lural Logan, Educators.cc, San Antonio, TX, 2001.

The Legal Handbook is the only education law-related book strictly devoted to Oklahoma law. The book is intended to the primary legal resource for Oklahoma educators who need to know the in vital areas of the school environment.

Rossow is a Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. Tate is Associate Professor of Education at Southwestern Oklahoma State University. Lural Logan is Market Research Manager at Saxon Publishers and a doctoral candidate in Education Law at OU.



Publications

Ed Marek, Professor, Instructional Leadership and Academic Curriculum (ILAC), "Development of an informal learning assay" and "Relationships among informal learning environments, teaching procedures and scientific reasoning ability," both in *International Journal of Science Education*, 2001.

Irene Karpiak, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy Studies (ELPS), "Midlife: The 'Second Call' for Faculty Renewal," *The Department Chair*, Vol. 11, No. 4, 2001.

Myron Pope, Assistant Professor, ELPS, "Communication apprehension and work orientation of community college faculty leaders," *Michigan Community College Journal*, 2001.

Pope, "Faculty involvement in student affairs: Legitimate claim or latest fad?" and "Why financial aid is important to the orientation professional," *The Journal of College Orientation and Transition*, 2002.

Pope, review of "Retirement policy and practice in higher education" by Robert L. Clark and P. Brett Hammond, *Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 2001.

Barbara Greene, Associate Professor, Educational Psychology (EP), "A Study strategies self-efficacy instrument for use with community college students," *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 2001.

Presentations

Myron Pope, Assistant Professor, ELPS, "Post-Baccalaureate Reverse Transfer Students: Implications for community college student services" and "Research on the Community College Student: An adequate indicator of practice issues?", Transfer: the Forgotten Function of Community Colleges, Overland Park, KS, 2001.

Pope, "A National Profile of the Status of Faculty Governance Units and Their Leader," and "Feeding Doctoral Programs: The role of higher education master's degrees in preparing doctoral students," Annual Eastern Educational

Association, Hilton Head, SC, 2001.

Pope, "A National Profile of Graduate and Professional School Attrition and Retention," Annual Council of Southern Graduate Schools conference, Richmond, VA, 2001.

Greene, "Perceptions of Democracy, Motivation to Learn, and Cognitive Engagement in Academic Work: An exploration of socio-political connections to motivation to learn in Slovakia and Spain," American Educational Research Association 2001 annual meeting, Seattle.

Avi Scherman, Professor, EP, and counseling psychology graduate students Linda Alford, Monica Stedford and Momi Yamanaka, "Women in England, Israel, Japan and African American Women in the U.S.: Specific issues and services," North Central Association for Counselor Education and Supervision conference in Oakbrook, IL, October 2001.

Honors

Brooks Hull, development officer for the College, has been awarded the professional designation of Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) by the CFRE Professional Certification Board.

Earning the CFRE credential requires meeting a set of board standards that include tenure in the profession, education, professional achievements and a commitment to service to non-profit organizations. Hull also had to pass a written examination testing the knowledge, skills and abilities of a fund-raising executive.

CFREs operate under a code of ethics and uphold a Donor Bill of Rights.

The CFRE certification program is an independent credentialing program conducted in cooperation with leading philanthropic associations.

Fewer than 5,000 professionals worldwide have earned the certification.

(Editor's Note: Faculty presentations and publications are frequently done with colleagues from other departments or institutions.)



Board of Advocate member honored for alumni involvement at OU

A member of the College Board of Advocates has been honored with two major awards for alumni at the University of Oklahoma. Barbara H. Thompson of Oklahoma City was one of 10 to receive the University of Oklahoma Regents' Alumni Awards during a special ceremony Nov. 9 in the Oklahoma Memorial Union. Her name is now engraved on a permanent plaque that hangs in the student union.

She has also been named as a 2002 Distinguished Alumna of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Thompson earned a bachelor's degree in French and teaching certificates in French and history at OU in 1961. Since then, she has been a teacher, advocate for foreign language education and volunteer for several groups.

"Barbara Thompson gives generously of her time and energy to Oklahoma's children, the Oklahoma City community, the University of Oklahoma and the College of Education," Dean Joan K. Smith said.

Thompson has taught French in the Oklahoma City Public Schools via educational television, as well as written teachers' guides, conducted teacher workshops and worked in all elementary schools for that school district. She also taught foreign language in the Putnam City School District and Heritage Hall School in Oklahoma City.

She serves as Honorary Consul of France for Oklahoma. Each of the last two years, Thompson has been instrumental in bringing two French Consul Generals from Houston to OU's Norman campus for a day of activities with students, faculty and the community.

Thompson serves on both the College of Education Board of Advocates and the College of Arts and Sciences Board of Visitors. She also is a member and former president of the Bizzell Library Society and the OU Moms' Association. A member of the Corporation Board of OU's Chi Omega sorority, she has been honored with the sorority's Alumni Achievement Award and as Oklahoma City's Panhellenic Woman of the Year.

She served in the leadership of the Junior League of Oklahoma City, is in her 12th year on the board of directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society and is a past member of Kappa Delta Pi.

In 1995, Thompson was selected as Oklahoma's Mother of the Year and then honored as National Mother of the Year.

She is married to Senior U.S. District Judge Ralph G. Thompson, an OU graduate who is the grandson of OU's fifth president, William Bennett Bizzell. The Thompsons have three daughters - Lisa, Elaine and Maria, all OU graduates.



Barbara Thompson, center, with OU President David Boren and Regent Mary Jane Noble.

Thompson was a featured presenter at the recent forum for Friends of the College of Arts and Science. Her talk was on "The End Depends on the Beginning: The Importance of Foreign Languages Learned from Childhood."

Other Regents' Alumni Awards winners last fall were Darrell Bull, Tulsa, mechanical engineering alum and business development manager for Williams Energy Services; Josephine Freede, Oklahoma City volunteer and philanthropist; Charles Robert Goins, Norman, professor emeritus of regional and city planning; Clifford Hudson, Oklahoma City, history alum and CEO of Sonic Corp.; James Dudley Hyde, Oklahoma City, history alum and attorney; Glen McLaughlin, Saratoga, Calif., accounting alum and CEO of Venture Leasing Associates; Shane Merz, Houston, mechanical engineering alum and vice president of MRE Consulting; Polly Puckett Nichols, Oklahoma City, political science and library science alum, co-chair of fund-raising for the Oklahoma City National Memorial Foundation; J.D. Sandefer III, Houston, business alum and president of Sandefer Oil and Gas Inc.

College alum named Georgia's top principal

James Richard Kahrs, a 1970 graduate of the College of Education, has been named the Georgia High School Principal of the Year by the Georgia Association of Secondary School Principals.

Kahrs received the award based on his willingness to take risks to help students, ability to anticipate and solve problems and success in improving the school's learning environment, according to the National Association of Secondary School Principals.

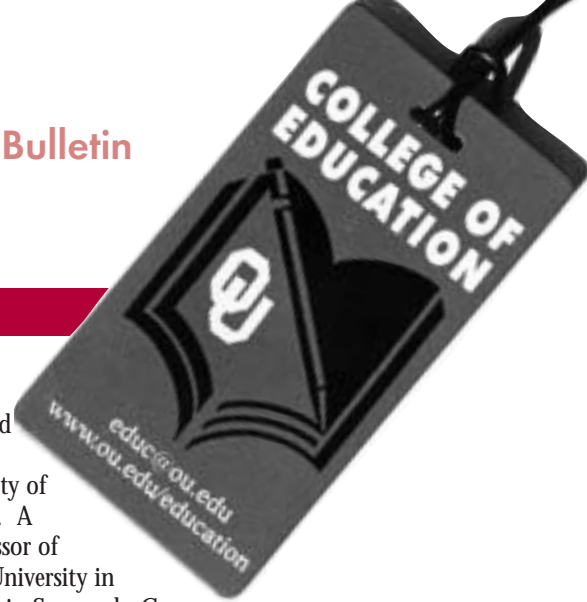
"Kahrs exemplifies what today's instructional school leader must be," NASSP executive director Gerald Tirozzi said. "There is no doubt that high-quality schools are led and guided by high-quality principals such as this fine leader."

Kahrs is principal at Shiloh High School in Snellville, Ga. In addition to his degree from OU, he holds a master's in educational leadership from Keene State College and an Ed.D. in supervision and curriculum from

the University of Georgia.

Sponsors of the award program are NASSP and MetLife. Kahrs was among 53 principals from the 50 states, New York City, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Schools honored in November at the state Principal of the Year Principals Institute in Washington, D.C. He will now be a candidate for the National High School Principal of the Year contest in 2002.





1950s

Faye L. Donalson (B.S., 1950; M.S., 1967) was recently honored by the Board of Directors of Self Help for Hard of Hearing for her commitment to assisting hard-of-hearing individuals. Highlighting the award ceremony was renaming the Hearing Helpers Demonstration Room in honor of Donalson at the Third Age Life Center in Oklahoma City. Gov. Frank Keating also declared through proclamation that day Faye Donalson Day. Donalson led the fund-raising drive to establish the room, which allows hard-of-hearing clients the opportunity to test assistive devices before purchasing them. She is a former educator of the deaf and worked 22 years training teachers of deaf children and adults. She founded the Oklahoma Chapter of SHHH and served as state coordinator for 10 years. She regularly volunteers in the Hearing Helpers Room.

1960s

Ruth Carolyn Arbuckle Swaim (B.S., 1965) has been honored as Teacher of the Year for Taft High School by the Los Angeles City Teachers Mathematics Association. She is in her 15th year of teaching at Taft and is mathematics department chair of the Woodland Hills, Calif., school. She has also been honored with the Tandy Tech Award and listed in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers since 1992.

1970s

Tijuana King Cochnauer (M.Ed., 1971) has been named the assistance manager and public affairs officer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service at Savannah River near Aiken, S.C. Her responsibilities include the education program.

William H. Cossaboon (B.S., 1972; M.Ed., 1986) is currently an elementary principal at Maple Avenue Elementary in Claremont, N.H.

Sandra Lea (Farmer) McClendon Emerson (M.Ed., 1970) is now chief counsel for the Oklahoma Department of Human Services Child Support Enforcement Division in Oklahoma City. She completed her law degree in 1977 at Oklahoma City University. She moved to Idabel, where she was in private practice, was a special judge for eight years and finally an assistant district attorney.

William Clifton Rigg Jr. (Ed.D., 1979) is now dean of students at Louis D. Brandeis High School in New York City Public Schools. He is a member of the school's social studies department.

Dr. Charles "Chip" Weiner (B.S., 1974; M.Ed., 1978; Ed.D., 1989) has been promoted to the rank of professor at Southeastern Oklahoma State University. Last year, he was also selected as the North Central Association Self-Study Coordinator and assumed the position of Director of Assessment at the Durant University.



1980s

Dr. Cherry Harmond-Early (M.Ed., 1984) received a Ph.D. in English from Indiana University of Pennsylvania last May. A former assistant professor of English at Cameron University in Lawton, she now lives in Savannah, Ga., where she is employed by the public schools.

1990s

Dr. Khalid Hamza (M.Ed., 1994), along with his colleague Dr. Bassem Alhalabi, has developed Remote Laboratories at Florida Atlantic University as part of its Center for the Advancement of Distance Education Technologies (CADET). These labs give students the ability to manipulate and experiment with real labs over the Internet. He invites visitors to its web site at www.fau.edu/cadet.

Births

Taylor Cabbiness (B.S., 1989) and her husband, Carl, have a new addition at their home, son Cale Morgan, born July 20. Cale weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 21 inches. He joins big sister Callie and big brother Trey at their home in Norman. Taylor is a former clinical instructor in the College's elementary education program.

In memoriam

Rossie Jewel Wampler Oliphant Primrose, Norman, died July 20 in Austin, Texas. Mrs. Primrose was born Jan. 10, 1906, at Weatherford, Texas, and moved in 1916 to Norman, where she graduated from high school. She earned a bachelor's degree in music pedagogy and a master's degree in music education. She taught music in the Norman school system until retirement and was awarded Teacher of the Year by the school district in 1962. She was a member of the First Baptist Church, was an organist at that church and McFarlin Memorial United Methodist Church in Norman and was a member of the Norman Fine Arts Club.

Mrs. Primrose was preceded in death by her first husband, Howard Z. Oliphant Sr., and her second husband, Odies L. Primrose. She is survived by a son, three daughters and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ronald L. Stafford, professor emeritus of higher education and retired associate provost at OU, died July 18. Stafford, 79, lived in Wichita.

He was preceded in death by a son. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou; a son, Michael, of Tuttle; a daughter, Tracey Tarverdi, Wichita; and several other relatives.

Memorials have been established with Hospice Incorporated and Formoso Community Church in Formoso, Kan.

Help celebrate education in Oklahoma

The second annual Celebration of Education in Oklahoma is scheduled for April 18, and the College is soliciting your help by asking you to submit nominations for any of the five awards. Your input will be used in selecting nominees for both this year and 2003.

To nominate an individual, please select from the categories below and complete the nomination form. The form should be returned to Barbi DeLong, Special Events Coordinator, University of Oklahoma, College of Education, 820 Van Vleet Oval, #100, Norman OK 73019-2041. Providing the same information via e-mail is also acceptable and can be sent to educ@ou.edu.

The award categories, along with a brief description of each, follow:

Award of Distinction – is presented to alumni, friends or advocates of education who have achieved state, national or international distinction in their fields of endeavor. The honoree must be available to attend the awards ceremony and make comments or remarks at the awards ceremony.

Career Achievement Award – honors an educator who has demonstrated consistent commitment and continued service in educational roles in community education, post-secondary education, or in non-classroom careers in elementary and secondary schools. Nominees should have a record of quality programs and effective interactions with colleagues and the public served.

Career Teacher Award – honors alumni of the College of Education who have demonstrated commitment to quality classroom instruction through consistent programming and teaching strategies that embrace high expectations for student learning, which both excite and challenge students to perform to their highest potential.

Young Educator Award – honors practicing educators who have demonstrated distinctive achievements in elementary, secondary or community education careers. Nominees must be alumni of the College of Education who have not passed their 35th birthday.

Meritorious Service Award – presented to an advocate of education – an individual, corporation or foundation – that has demonstrated meritorious service to education. Nominees must have supported the College, its units, or its functions through considerable commitment in terms of time, effort or service; creative, innovative input; and/or significant financial contributions.

Self-nominations are accepted in the Career Achievement, Career Teacher and Young Educator categories.

A Celebration of Education in Oklahoma Nomination Form

Nominee: _____ Nominee's title: _____

Nomination category: _____

Nominee contact information: _____

Name and contact information of person making nomination: _____

Supporting information for nomination (if necessary, attach additional sheet): _____

Please mail to Barbi DeLong, University of Oklahoma College of Education, 820 Van Vleet Oval, #100, Norman OK 73019-2041

We also want to know what's happening in your life! Awards? A new job? An addition to your family? Please share your news with the readers of BRIDGES. Submissions can be mailed to BRIDGES, College of Education, University of Oklahoma, 138 Collings Hall, Norman OK 73019-2041, or be e-mailed to educ@ou.edu.

Please include your name, daytime contact information, your degree(s), the year(s) graduated and information about your news. Thanks for letting us know!



Moms first, college students second



Kelly McBride relaxes at home with her greatest supporters, her children Kelsey and Mark.

2001 runner-up was another education student, Marilyn Goll, a social studies education major.

McBride grew up in the university community of Norman but never pictured herself as capable of being college material. "The campus intimidated me," she said, laughing. "It was such a looming presence."

Long after high school graduation, work and motherhood,

The University of Oklahoma not only lists Kelly McBride as an honor student but it also thinks she's a pretty good mom, too.

The special education senior was named the 2001 Outstanding Student Mother by the university's Parents Association, which presents the annual award.

She is the second College of Education student to earn the award, following elementary education major Sherry Cox. The

McBride first thought about college when her younger child began school.

Her son, who has cerebral palsy, was placed in the classroom of Joyce Brandes, then a Norman special education teacher and now a doctoral student in the College of Education.

"I saw in her something I knew I wanted to do," McBride said. "So I took that and asked, how can I translate that into a career?"

She first stepped on the OU campus at age 34. "I thought 'I'm never going to find anything!'"

But, of course, she did and has felt at home ever since meeting with college advisers the first time. "They were very nice and spelled everything out for me. As long as I had a plan, I knew I would make it. Give me a hoop, and I'll jump through it."

In fact, McBride says, just about everyone she has met at OU has been friendly and helpful. "I never dreamed the younger students would embrace me as they have. They have not been in the least bit condescending.

"I've met a lot of people who will be good friends for a long time and who will be good to work with."

Besides housework and homework, McBride spends a lot of time on special requirements for her major. Special education students must complete three practica, each requiring several hours each week in special education classrooms.

She is active in the Student Council for Exceptional Children, volunteers at Jefferson Elementary in Norman and teaches Sunday school at Bethel Baptist Church in Norman.

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We very much appreciate the strong support of the board, which helps with development activities.



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