

Faculty Biographies

(In Order of Appearance on the Schedule)

Friday ~ Welcome, Introductions and Program Overview

Jean S. Warner

Jean Shumway Warner has primary responsibility for NEW Leadership Oklahoma, a five-day residential summer institute for undergraduate women designed to inform and empower Participants to consider careers in politics and public service. Warner is also developing for the Carl Albert Center other new programs that promote citizenship education and civic engagement in government and politics.

Warner holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Roosevelt University and a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Oklahoma. While earning her Doctorate, she was a Carl Albert Graduate Fellow and served one year as a Congressional Fellow on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

She wrote her dissertation on the legislative history of youth service programs in the United States. Warner's primary interests are public school reform, after-school options, the role of faith-based organizations in addressing social issues, and programs that increase the role of women in politics and government.

She previously worked as Program Director at Oklahoma State University's Policy Sciences Center. She managed a major grant from the U.S. Department of Justice involving research and training on juvenile restitution programs and victim-offender mediation. Warner is President of the League of Women Voters of Oklahoma County and serves on the Oklahoma City Public School District's Tutoring/Mentoring Advisory Committee. She also works with the Oklahoma City Community Foundation promoting after-school programs for children.

Friday ~ Political Women: An Overview

Cindy Simon Rosenthal

Cindy Simon Rosenthal is the Associate Director for the Carl Albert Center and Associate Professor of political science with a joint appointment to the women's studies faculty. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism from Northwestern University, a Masters in Urban Studies from Occidental College, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Oklahoma. From 1975 until 1991, she worked extensively with state legislatures—first with Legis 50/The Center for Legislative Improvement, later at the National Conference of State Legislatures, and then finally as a consultant with several states. At the National Conference of State Legislatures, she was part of the senior management team and oversaw the conference's legislative management program, state services and publications. In her work with state legislatures, she has provided advice on various management, personnel, and training projects.

Her research and teaching interests focus on women in politics, leadership in the public sector and state legislatures, specifically, state governments and intergovernmental relations, and public policy issues involving race and gender inequality. In 1996, the Women & Politics Section of the American Political Science Association recognized her dissertation as the best in the field of women in politics, and in the same year, she won the Sephonisba Breckinridge Award, given for the best paper on women and politics at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting. She is author of When Women Lead (New York: Oxford University Press 1998) and editor of the forthcoming book, Women Transforming Congress. She contributed chapters to The Oklahoma Almanac of Politics (1998, 1999) and Women and Elective Office. Her work also has appeared in Political Research Quarterly, Policy Studies Journal, Legislative Studies Quarterly, State Legislatures, Women & Politics, and Social Science Quarterly. She serves on the editorial board of Women & Politics.

Friday ~ “Personal Reflections on Women and Politics in Oklahoma”

Representative Debbie Blackburn

Representative Debbie Blackburn is a graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University and went on to do post graduate work at Oklahoma State University. She started her professional career as a teacher and is now a publisher of specialty books through Cottonwood Publishing Company.

A native of Woodward, Representative Blackburn hails from the High Plains of northwest Oklahoma. She has lived in inner Oklahoma City for the last two decades and represents one of the most diverse House districts in Oklahoma.

Ms. Blackburn serves as the House Chair of Appropriations and budget for Education and is a member of the House Subcommittees on Banking and Finance, Common Education, Human Services and Government Operations, Agency Oversight and Administrative Rules.

Some of the other organizations Representative Blackburn is involved with are the League of Women Voters, Leadership OKC Alumni, a Board Member of the Oklahoma City Housing Redevelopment Corporation, Automobile Alley Redevelopment Project, the Institute for Child Advocacy and the Oklahoma Academy for State Goals.

Friday ~ Women and Public Leadership: Reports from the Front-Line

Valerie Thompson

Mrs. Thompson’s professional experience covers many areas in the business and non-profit arena. She is the President and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City. She was the former director of the highly successful Oklahoma City Minority Business Development Center (MBDC) for six (6) years and has more than 18 years of experience in all facets of for profit and not-for-profit management including: program development, fund development, fiscal and personnel management. She also has corporate experience from the banking and oil/gas industry.

Mrs. Thompson received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Oklahoma. She is A.B.D. as a doctoral candidate in Political Science at the University of Oklahoma. In addition to her academic achievements, Mrs. Thompson received the 1999 Minority Advocate of the Year award from the Oklahoma City Small Business Administration district office, named “Outstanding Young Woman of America” in 1991 and selected in 1997 by Metro Journal in Oklahoma City as one of “Forty People to Watch Under Forty”. In October 2002, she was listed in the Oklahoma Gazette as one of the most powerful women in Oklahoma City. She was recently appointed by the Honorable Governor Brad Henry, as a representative to the Southern Growth Policies Board of Trustees. She has served on a host of boards and advisory committees including the following: the ½ billion dollars City of Oklahoma City MAPS Trust Board, Leadership Oklahoma City, Rotary International, OSU Black Alumni Association, OU Black Alumni Association, Oklahoma City Volunteer Center, Girl Scouts Redlands Council, Community Council of Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma Academy. She is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

She has been happily married to Warren Thompson from Dale City, VA for over 15 years and they have one daughter, Maya Thompson.

Lisa Johnson-Billy

In 1996, Lisa Johnson-Billy was the youngest elected woman to the Chickasaw Nation Legislature. Bringing aboard her passion for youth and grass roots collaboration, Lisa was instrumental in legislation which brought services into new areas. She authored legislation establishing a paid maternity leave policy for tribal employees. While serving as chairperson for the education and health committees she was instrumental in significantly increasing educational scholarships and expanding health services to citizens in the northwest region of Chickasaw Nation. She also served as a representative for the National Congress of American Indians. Lisa served six years in the tribal legislature.

Lisa received a Master’s Degree in Education from the University of Oklahoma in 1993. In 1985, she was an art scholarship recipient from Northeastern State University, Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Her outstanding collegiate accomplishments earned her an induction into the NSU Hall of Fame. She served as the President of the Native American Student Association and founded an organization dedicated to building self-esteem and leadership in youth. This organization was the product of her initiative to empower young people utilizing drama, music, dance and her gripping personal stories. She and a few of her friends took these concepts to youth in various parts of the United States and Canada. While in college Lisa also developed the first Chickasaw Nation youth council.

In 1996, Lisa was elected to the National Board of Directors for Girl Scouts of the USA. She is currently serving her fourth term as a liaison for the Girl Scout councils across the United States.

Currently, Lisa is a professional motivational speaker sharing her experiences to empower her audiences. Besides her interest in the field of education, Lisa is a performing Native American storyteller. She traveled with the Mississippi Chautauqua and performed in the character of a 19th century Chickasaw legacy, Molly Gunn. Her portrayal is on permanent video display at the Old Capitol Museum in Jackson, Mississippi. She and her family enjoy vacationing in the exotic remote regions of her backyard.

Susan Neal

A native Tulsan, Tulsa City Councilor Neal has 25 years experience working with community planning and development, legislative initiatives, and public relations for the private and public sectors. In addition to being a wife, mother and school volunteer, Neal is extremely involved in the Tulsa community.

In her previous career, Councilor Neal was Vice President of Downtown Tulsa Unlimited, and has owned her own public relations firm. She also was Executive Director of Tulsa International Mayfest. Working with Tulsa's business community, she was a key leader in a statewide coalition to pass legislation ensuring accurate, effective child abuse investigations and prosecution of the offenders.

She has also been Chief of Staff for Republican Congressman Mickey Edwards and served as House and Senate lobbyist on Capitol Hill for the largest membership association in the country, the National Federation of Independent Business. Neal was responsible for representing the interests of the small business community to 180 members of Congress and 25 Senators.

Susan Neal currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Tulsa Community College Foundation, the Child Abuse Network, the Community Service Council, Habitat for Humanity and the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence. She has volunteered her public relations, planning and fund-raising expertise to the Salvation Army, Street School, Tulsa Philharmonic and numerous other community organizations. She is a member of the Leadership Oklahoma 2002 class. For her work relating to children's issues, education, and community service, Neal has been recognized by several of these organizations with distinguished service and leadership awards.

She graduated from Tulsa Central High School in 1972, and received her B.A. in political science from Oklahoma State University in 1976. Neal also had the opportunity to attend the University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France in 1973. Neal has been married to Rick Neal for 20 years. They have two sons, Joseph, 13 and Jackson 9.

Saturday Breakfast ~ Career Jump-Start: Internships

LeAnn Jenkins

LeAnn Jenkins has been the Executive Director of Oklahoma's Federal Executive Board since May 1994. She has also served as the Director of Oklahoma's Cooperative Administration Support Unit (CASU) from May 1994 until February 1999.

In her twenty-five years of federal service, Jenkins has worked in various staffing functions, two years of which were at the Office of Personnel Management (1977-1979). Special Programs include an effort to place physically restricted employees into different positions within an agency in an attempt to retain employees. Prior to that, she served as the Program Manager for Individuals with Disabilities at Tinker AFB during which time she received an AFLC "People in Action" Award, a Public Service Award from the Mayor's Committee of Disability Concerns, and the Air Force Distinguished EEO Award.

Since 1995, she has served as a keynote speaker at various federal training events regarding emergency response. She was the facilitator/coordinator for an interagency group (the Federal Executive Board), which developed an Emergency Preparedness handbook for federal agencies in 1999. This handbook has been utilized nation-wide by numerous agencies. Since September 11, 2002, the Oklahoma FEB has reconvened their group, which Ms. Jenkins is leading the guidance for government agencies on Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Operations.

Jenkins graduated Cum Laude from Southern Nazarene University with a Bachelor's in Management. She has taken some graduate courses in Public Administration at the University of Oklahoma and takes sign language courses as a hobby.

She has received the Exemplary Citizen Service Award and the Meritorious Civilian Service Award issued by the United States Air Force and three certificates from Vice President Gore's National Performance Review. She has been

named in the International Association of Public Administrators for her outstanding leadership and achievements. Recently, she received a Distinguished Public Service Award from the American Society for Public Administration, Oklahoma Chapter.

Her community involvement includes the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce, Oklahoma City Mayor's Committee of Disability Concerns, Oklahoma City Resource Coordination Committee, Water Garden Society of Oklahoma, Community Council of Central Oklahoma, American Society of Public Administrators, and many more civic and cultural organizations and volunteer services.

Saturday Morning ~ Concurrent Workshops on Building Skills for Leadership

Linda Wegener

Linda Wegener, a career consultant, is a certified Covey trainer and has helped train leaders in Oklahoma in the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. She does academic and vocational consulting with the Wegener Human Resource Group, a locally owned and operated staffing firm specializing in recruitment and placement of professional, office automation, and information technology personnel. She has degrees in Psychology and Sociology and a master level degree in Education.

As a life coach, Linda Wegener has helped individuals learn to manage time, set priorities, and stay focused so that they can achieve their goals, get ahead in life and live the life for which they were created. Linda has facilitated the placement of students in different programs and schools across the United States that has promoted the process of living the "Dream." She is an active volunteer in Oklahoma City with a special interest in organizations such as the Oklahoma City Zoo and the Harn Homestead Museum. Linda and her husband Dick have two daughters, Carly and Leigh.

Catheryn Koss

Catheryn Koss is the Communications Associate for World Neighbors and has worked with the international development organization since 1998. Prior to that, she was an Americorps volunteer working with mentoring programs in Northern California and the Volunteer Coordinator for the San Francisco Food Bank. She holds a degree in Anthropology from Smith College and is currently a law student at Oklahoma City University. Catheryn has been involved in community organizing both locally and internationally, and is the co-author of From the Roots Up: Strengthening Organizational Capacity through Guided Self-Assessment. (2000).

Valerie Thompson See above

Lisa Johnson Billy See above

Saturday Lunch ~ Career Jump-Starts: Political Campaigns

Kristal Jones

Kristal J. Jones is the Oklahoma program director for ENABLE America, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) dedicated to helping individuals with disabilities, where she is organizing a town hall meeting between elected officials, community leaders, government agencies, and people with disabilities to promote civic involvement and community participation. Prior to joining ENABLE America, Kristal was the finance director for the Oklahoma Democratic Party during the 2002 election cycle. During her tenure, the ODP spent over \$1.4 million on a coordinated campaign, a record for the party. Kristal has raised nearly \$3 million dollars for congressional candidates across the country, including Jane Harman for Congress (CA-36), Tammy Baldwin for Congress (WI-2), and Ed Crocker for Congress (OK-4).

Kristal became active in politics at 17, organizing the Students for Gore chapter at her high school in 1987-88, than later organizing Students for Dukakis. During college, Kristal worked on many campaigns and served several times as an officer of Young Democrats.

Kristal received her B.A. in Public Affairs and Administration from the University of Oklahoma. She was the Leroy Bridges Political Communication Heritage Scholar for 1999-2000.

Saturday Afternoon ~ Team Building for Effective Leadership

Donna Shirley

Donna Shirley is currently Assistant Dean of Engineering for Advanced Program Development at the University of Oklahoma where she is participating in strategic planning and the development of new educational initiatives. She is also the official spokesperson for the Mars Millennium Project, an international, K through 12 educational initiative sponsored by the White House Millennium Council, the Department of Education, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the J. Paul Getty Trust.

In addition to three honorary doctorates, Ms. Shirley has an MS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Southern California, a BS in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Oklahoma, and a BA in Journalism also from the University of Oklahoma. She has thirty years experience in aerospace and civil systems, including twenty five years in management. Her honors include the NASA Exceptional Leadership Medal; The American Society of Mechanical Engineers Holley Award; and membership in the American Academy of Achievement, the Women In Technology International Hall of Fame, and the Oklahoma Aviation and Space Hall of Fame. She retired in 1998 from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory where she was the manager of the Mars Exploration Program.

The Mars Exploration Program-which was begun in 1994 with the highly successful Mars Global Surveyor and Mars Pathfinder missions-is sending orbiters, landers, and/or rovers to Mars in every opportunity (every 26 months) through at least 2005, despite the loss of two missions in 1999. Prior to becoming manager of the program, Shirley managed the team which designed and built "Sojourner Truth," the Microrover which was landed by the Mars Pathfinder project on the surface of Mars on its expected lifetime. In her 32 year career at JPL, her positions included: Project Engineer for the Cassini mission to Saturn, Manager of Exploration Initiative Studies, Manager of Automation and Robotics, Manager of JPL's Space Station Program, Manager of the Mission Design Section, and Project Engineer for the Mariner 10 mission to Venus and Mercury in 1974.

Between 1990 and 1993, as a part-time assignment, she established and led a NASA-wide Systems Engineering Working Group, which developed and documented a standard systems engineering process for NASA projects. As an outgrowth of this, in the summer of 1991, she led another NASA-wide team of Program/Project Management which developed recommendations subsequently incorporated into the NASA Management Instruction for project management.

In addition to over 50 technical publications, she has written a book on managing creativity and has developed a class on the subject, which is now offered at and through the University of Oklahoma in a variety of formats. She continues to be a widely sought-after speaker on subjects including Mars exploration and management, and has appeared in many national television news programs and documentaries. Broadways Books published her autobiography, titled Managing Martians, in 1998 and 1999.

Raised in Wynnewood, Oklahoma, Ms. Shirley now lives in Norman, Oklahoma. She has one daughter, Laura, who is a graduate student in Psychology.

Alice Fairhurst

Alice M. Fairhurst has spent more than 30 years as a public school teacher, college instructor, counselor, corporate trainer, and administrator. She has gained a national reputation for her work on teaching techniques, personality styles, team building, career counseling, and women's issues. In 1995, she co-authored with her daughter-in-law, Lisa Fairhurst, the book *Effective Teaching, Effective Learning: Making the Personality Connection in Your Classroom*, which is being used in many colleges for teacher training.

A problem-solver by nature, she has worked with high tech communities to maximize production, personal satisfaction and creativity. She has taught courses in business management, career search skills, creativity, diversity, negotiation, psychology, and web development.

Saturday Evening Campaign Simulation ~ Team Building and Realpolitick

Trish Weedn

Trish Weedn currently serves on the Board of Regents of Southwestern Christian University in Bethany, Oklahoma; Board of Directors of the International Pentecostal Holiness Churches, Board of Directors for the Purcell Chamber of Commerce and is Secretary/Treasurer of the Purcell Pentecostal Holiness Church. He is past President of the Sooner Girl Scout Council and Board Member.

Trish graduated from Lexington High School and holds a bachelors degree in Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma. She served as McClain county Deputy Treasurer from 1971-1977 and as McClain county Assessor from 1978-1988. She served 12 years in the Oklahoma State Senate from 1988-2000. In December of 2000 she became the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Association of Regional Councils.

Trish is married to James Weedn. They have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Kristal Jones (see Career Jump-Starts: Working in Political Campaigns above)

Denise Crosswhite

Denise Crosswhite got her first paid campaign job in 1992 working as a volunteer coordinator for then State Representative Ernest Istook. Istook started with only 3% name identification but went on to defeat a 16-year incumbent Congressman.

Denise worked in his congressional staff as field representative directing projects on Internet sales tax, Oklahoma City Federal Campus issues, directed Service Academy nominations, and was a liaison to the State Legislature for nine years. In 1998, as the campaign manager, Crosswhite led U.S. Congressman Ernest Istook's campaign to 68% victory.

Most recently, Crosswhite managed a successful county commission campaign that unseated a long-time incumbent. She is active in Women Impacting Public Policy, Oklahoma Family Policy Council, and Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs. Currently she is working on her own state senate race for 2004. Crosswhite graduated from Oral Roberts University with a B.A. in Government. She is married to Marc Hader and has two daughters.

Sunday Morning Panel ~ Community Activism & Politics: Mobilizing Communities and Shaping Public Policy

Willa Johnson

Willa Johnson was elected to her first term as Ward 7 Councilwoman in April, 1993. She serves on the City's Finance, Economic Development, 5-year Capital Improvement Committees and is chairperson of the Neighborhood Conservation Committee. She maintains an active role with Metropolitan Area Projects (MAPS), MAPS for Kids, and Neighborhood Initiative Program.

She is a Trustee to the Zoo Trust, Oklahoma City Riverfront Redevelopment Authority, Oklahoma City Water Trust, Oklahoma City Museum of Art, and Oklahoma Health Foundation.

She is a Board member of Association of Central Oklahoma Governments, YMCA Achievers, Oklahoma City Leadership and chairperson for the Local Elected Officials Board of the Central Oklahoma Workforce Program. She is a member of the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce and South Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Johnson is a working member of the Oklahoma Municipal League. She has been an active member of the National League of Cities, serving as member, Vice-Chair, and Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee and was elected to a two year term on the NLC Board of Directors in 2002. Ms. Johnson is active in a number of community and professional organizations. She is a long time member of St. John's Missionary Baptist Church. Ms. Johnson was instrumental in the redevelopment of the Eastern Golf Course, now known as the James E. Stewart Golf Course, in providing for expanded public transportation in far northeast OKC, the rehabilitation of most northeast youth community centers, improvements to numerous northeast streets, drainage channels, and traffic improvements, clean up of Superfund toxic sites, the implementation of the Empowerment Zone program, the development and implementation of the Youth Council of Oklahoma City, development of The First Tee Program, and the revitalization of NE 23rd Street.

Susie Graves

A product of Oklahoma City Public Schools, Susie earned a BA in Business Education from the University of Oklahoma following coursework at Southern Methodist University and a Masters degree in Guidance and Counseling from the University of Central Oklahoma. She is employed by Frank Merrick of Foundation Management, Inc. and serves as the Executive Director of Communities Foundation of Oklahoma, a statewide community foundation with major emphasis on philanthropy and charitable endeavors in non-metropolitan areas of our state. Prior to this position she served as Executive Director of Positive Tomorrows (OKC's school for homeless children and youth) for over nine years.

Volunteer experiences include Leadership OKC (Class XVIII, Youth Leadership Exchange President, current LOKC Board Secretary, and Program Chair of the new OKC Youth City Council), Junior League of OKC (President 1986-87, Community VP, and currently Sustaining Advisor to Finance Council), Westminster Presbyterian Church Board of Deacons, and in varied capacities of annual community fundraisers.

Avocational interests include duplicate bridge, golf, and mahjongg. She and architect/ engineer husband Jack have raised five children (ages 24 to 41) and are currently celebrating the empty nest syndrome.

Beverly Rodgers

Beverly Rodgers is the City Manager for the City of Okmulgee and has served in that capacity since August, 2000. She began her municipal career as Mayor of the City of Holdenville in 1983 serving until 1987. She then entered The University of Tulsa Law School and graduated with her Juris Doctorate in 1990. She served as Acting City Attorney for the City of Sapulpa during 1991 prior to joining the City of Midwest City as Assistant City Attorney in 1992. In 1997, she returned to city management as an Assistant City Manager for the City of Sapulpa.

When not involved in government, Beverly is active in the Episcopal Church as a Layreader and in the American Legion Auxiliary as Education Director for Oklahoma Girls State.

Her undergraduate degree is from THE University – Oklahoma State – in Business Administration and she is currently completing her Masters in Public Administration in Tulsa.

Deana Franke

Deana Franke, current Executive Director of Help-In-Crisis, Inc., began her service with the agency as a volunteer in 1980. The agency was in its formative stages and consisted at that time of a few "safe homes" in the community, a word of mouth volunteer program, and a crisis line forwarded from the local fire station to the homes of a few community volunteers. These founding mothers of the organizations provided transportation for victims of domestic violence, located safe shelter, provided advocacy in court and rape response at area hospitals. Ms. Franke was one of those dedicated volunteers.

As the agency grew and was able to fund limited staff, Deana became the full time Volunteer Coordinator. As such, she was instrumental in the development of the 24 hour Volunteer Training Program that is still in use today. Over time, the volunteer base was developed, and a shelter was opened. Ms. Franke eventually became the Shelter Manager.

After a few years as Shelter Manager, Deana moved into the administrative side of the agency by becoming the Administrative Assistant to the Director. In 1992, after learning more about direction and leadership of a nonprofit, Ms. Franke moved in to the Executive Director position. Under Deana Franke's leadership the past 10 years, Help-In-Crisis has grown from 10 employees in 1996 to the current staff of 28. A successful capital campaign provided for construction of a new larger shelter, and comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault are now provided in a four county service area.

Help-In-Crisis, Inc. has been recognized by the State of Oklahoma as a leader in provision of services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Ms. Franke was recognized for her years of service to the "cause" as well. In 2000, she received the Executive Director of the Year award from OCADVSA, (Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault), a 25 member organization of domestic violence programs across the state. Deana continues to lead the agency through future oriented direction that focuses on the mission set forth by the founding mothers and by the needs of the victims served.

Sunday Luncheon ~ Lessons Learned Through Civic Involvement

Kalyn Free

Kalyn Free is a member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, the third largest Indian Tribe in the United States. She was born in Latimer County, Oklahoma. Kalyn followed her graduation in 1981 from Red Oak High School with graduation from Southeastern Oklahoma State University in 1984 earning a B.A. in History and a B.A. in Communications. She then graduated from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1987.

Kalyn, at age 23, was the youngest attorney ever hired by the U.S. Department of Justice. In 1987 she began her career in the Attorney General's Honors Program in Washington, DC as a Trial Attorney in the Environmental Enforcement Section. Kalyn prosecuted pollution cases throughout the United States from 1987 until 1995, including several cases in Oklahoma. She was then promoted to Senior Counsel in the Indian Resources Section, where she supervised environmental litigation throughout Indian Country until 1998. While at the Justice Department, Kalyn received awards for her outstanding litigation skills, as well as recognition for her commitment to diversity issues. Kalyn was the only Department of Justice attorney nominated for the Arthur S. Flemming Award for Outstanding Service to the Federal Government.

In 1998, Kalyn returned to Oklahoma and was elected District Attorney of Pittsburg & Haskell Counties in Southeastern Oklahoma. Kalyn was the first woman elected to this office.

During her term as District Attorney Kalyn truly made a difference in the lives of people, not only in her two counties but throughout Oklahoma. Kalyn's untiring efforts in raising public awareness of and prosecuting family violence, child abuse and sexual assault cases earned her several coveted awards including the "Make A Difference Award" from the Oklahoma Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the "Friend of Children Award" from the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy, and she was named to Oklahoma's Top Fifty Women of the Year. In 2000, Kalyn received the American Bar Association's distinguished "Spirit of Excellence Award" for her commitment to American Indian and Diversity issues.

Kalyn made victims' rights a priority throughout her administration, coupling compassion with aggressive prosecution. In addition to her courtroom successes, Kalyn is most proud of creating the best Family Violence/Child Abuse Team in the state, the PEACE Unit (Prosecuting to End Adult Child Endangerment), and creating safe and private areas for victims of crime in both county courthouses (which were non-existent before). Kalyn also created the SAVE Program (Substance Alcohol Victim's Effort) to combat alcohol and drug abuse.

In January 2002, Kalyn resigned her position as District Attorney and organized and implemented a highly visible and viable campaign for United States Congress. Her efforts placed her in the lead in a highly competitive race, by raising more money than her opponents and all incumbent Oklahoma Congressmen. Kalyn's organizational efforts, national and statewide fundraising ability, and aggressive campaigning made her campaign one of the most watched races in the state and nation. She was proud to be endorsed by EMILY's List, Sierra Club, Twenty First Century Democrats, Women's Campaign Fund, and fifty-two Indian Nations.

On May 30, 2002, a state district court judge reapportioned Oklahoma's congressional districts. The new districts combined Oklahoma's Second and Third Congressional Districts, pitting Kalyn against Oklahoma's only incumbent Democratic Congressman. Thus, Kalyn withdrew her candidacy.

She continues to build her political base for her next campaign, while dedicating her career to helping abused children, battered women, and all of those less fortunate.

Sunday Afternoon/Evening Workshop ~ Feminism, Leadership, and Diversity

Jeanine Rhea

Dr. Jeanine Rhea is a Professor of Business Communications in the Department of Management at Oklahoma State University in the College of Business Administration. She is also a consultant with Greenwood Performance Systems, Inc. Dr. Rhea is a lecturer, researcher, and consultant in the areas of communications and women in business. Her most recent research interest is in diversity in the workplace. She presents programs in effective meetings, communication skills, time management, customer relations, management/supervisory, sales and performance consulting.

Jeanine developed her insight into the business world first hand by owning and operating her own company. Dr. Rhea earned her B.S.E. from the University of Nebraska, M.S. from Memphis State University, and Ed.D. from

Oklahoma State University. Under a grant from Oklahoma State University, Jeanine also did research in the area of women in management. As a result of that research, Jeanine gained national attention when she developed a college course called "Managing Diversity in the Workplace." In 1980, Jeanine received an AMOCO Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 1982, the Cimarron Chapter of Business and Professional Women honored her as Woman of the Year. IN 1997, she received the U.S. Small Business Administration Women in Business Advocate of the Year Award. The Oklahoma Journal Record recognized Jeanine as one of the Top 50 Women of the Year in Oklahoma in 1998. Dr. Rhea has served as an expert for companies in sexual harassment litigation. She has authored numerous articles in various professional journals.

Monday Breakfast ~ Career Jump-Start: Graduate School

Sarah Jo Peterson

Sarah Jo Peterson has served as the Assistant Professor, Division of Regional and City Planning in the College of Architecture at the University of Oklahoma from 2001 to the present. Ms. Peterson has the following degrees: a B.S. in Mathematics and History from the University of Wisconsin; an M.S. in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Wisconsin; and a Ph.D. in History from Yale University awarded to her in 2002. At the University of Oklahoma, Professor Peterson taught History and Theory of Urban Planning in the fall of 2001 and 2002 and Planning Management in the spring of 2002 and 2003 among other courses in the Regional and City Planning Department of the College of Architecture.

Ms. Peterson served as a Program and Planning Analyst, Urban Strategies Section in the Office of Policy and Budget from 1993 to 1996 for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Here she was responsible for policy analysis, program development, and general research on land use-related departmental activities. Sarah also has some experience with teaching politics as she has served as a teaching assistant for American Politics and Society courses at Yale University in 1998 and 1999.

Monday Morning Workshop~ Effective Conflict Resolution

Cindy Rosenthal (see above)

Monday Panel ~ A Woman's Place is in the House and the Senate

Senator Angela Monson

Senator Monson was born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and has served in both the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the State Senate. Previous to her legislative career, she received her Master of Public Administration and her Bachelors' degree in Corrections.

Her organizational affiliations include the Primary Care News Editorial Board at George Washington University, Primary Care Resource Center Board Member, and the National Academy for State Health Policy in Portland Maine.

Additionally, she is affiliated with the National Conference of State Legislators Assembly on State/Federal Issues, Health Committee for Oklahoma, Greater Oklahoma City Neighborhood Services Organization, the Mary Mahoney Community Health Center, the Lennie Marie Tolliver Alternative Care Center, and Top Ladies of Distinction.

Her other distinctions include membership in the Twentieth Century Federated Colored Women's Club, Metro Democratic Women's Club, and the Voice of Praise Baptist Church.

Ms. Monson served in the House of Representatives from 1990 to 1993, and has served as a state senator from 1993 to the present.

Representative Jari Askins

Born and reared in Duncan, OK, Jari received her BA in Journalism from the University of Oklahoma and in 1980 earned a Juris Doctorate from the OU College of Law.

Jari has been involved in public service in all three branches of government. She has served as Special District Judge for the District Court of Stephens County for eight years, from 1982-1990. In 1991, the Governor appointed Jari to

the Pardon and Parole Board as the first board member with prior judicial experience. Three weeks after her appointment, the Board elected Jari as the first woman Chairman of the Pardon and Parole Board. They re-elected her to that position in 1992. Jari later served as Executive Director of the Pardon and Parole Board. She also served as Deputy General Counsel in the Governor's Office. These experiences helped develop criminal and juvenile justice issues as her special expertise.

As a freshman legislator elected in 1994 from District 50, Stephens County, Jari was named Vice-Chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee. Upon re-election in 1996 she was moved to serve as Chairman of the newly-created Government Operations and Agency Oversight Committee. Representative Askins was chosen as the first woman Assistant Majority Floor Leader and she has also recently been named the first woman to be Speaker Designate. In 1998, after re-election without opposition to her third term, Jari was appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee for Judiciary and Law Enforcement Appropriations. Additionally, she was named to Speaker Benson's leadership team. In 2000, Jari was named to Speaker-elect Adair's leadership team and was appointed to the new position of Deputy Floor Leader. She retained chairmanship of the Subcommittee for Judiciary and Law Enforcement Appropriations. In addition to the Appropriations and Budget Committee, she serves on the Judiciary Committee, the Criminal Justice Committee, the Government Operations and Agency Oversight Committee, the Economic Development Committee, the Career and Technology Education Committee, and the Small Business Committee. In 2001, Jari was selected Chairman of the National Conference of State Legislators Criminal Justice Committee. In 2002, Jari retained appointment of Deputy Floor Leader, the speaker's leadership team and Chair of the Subcommittee for Public Safety and Judiciary appropriations. She is a member of the following committees: Judiciary, Economic Development, Rules, Career Technology Education and Energy and Utility Regulation.

Jari's community involvement in the past has included the Citizens for Children Advisory Board, Crimestoppers, Women's Haven from Domestic Violence, Board of Directors for Goodwill Industries of Southwest Oklahoma, and Director of Arvest Bank in Duncan. She serves as Chairman of the board of Trustees for Cottey College, a private two-year women's college in Missouri. Jari is a member of the Duncan Noon Lions Club, the Duncan Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Oklahoma, Oklahoma Academy of State Goals, and the First Christian Church (where she sings in the choir).

Representative Susan Winchester

Representative Winchester is a native Oklahoman. She was born in Chickasha on March 24, 1950. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma in 1972 with her business degree (B.S.) and then later achieved her Masters in Human Resource Development in 1994. Before serving as a member of the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 1999, she was a trainer/consultant.

Currently, Winchester serves as President of the Oklahoma Judicial Auxiliary Conference, board member of the Grady County Economic Development Council and board member of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Foundation. Additionally, she is on the selection committee for the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence and is a member of Leadership Oklahoma, Leadership Chickasha, American Legislative Exchange and the Chickasha, Tuttle, and Mustang Chambers of Commerce.

Ms. Winchester serves on the Agriculture and Rural Development Committee, Banking and Finance Committee, Transportation Committee, Aeronautics, Railroad, and Mass Transit Sub-committee. She also serves as the Minority Whip, as well as serving as the Vice-Chairman of the Economic Development committee.

Monday ~ Why Oklahoma Needs Women in Elective Office

Lieutenant Governor Mary Fallin

Oklahomans elected Mary Fallin in 1994 to serve as the state's first woman and first Republican Lieutenant Governor. She was re-elected in 1998.

Since 1995, Fallin has made economic development and government reform a priority of her administration. Governor Frank Keating appointed her as Oklahoma's Small Business Advocate in 1998. In this Cabinet-level role, Fallin addresses the legislative and individual business issues that concern this segment of the state's economy. She formed a commission of 300 business owners that works to find solutions to the obstacles facing small businesses.

In 1997, Fallin assembled a coalition to tackle Oklahoma's skyrocketing workers' compensation costs. The Fallin Commission on Workers' Compensation Reform successfully guided sweeping legal changes through the Oklahoma Legislature. During her first term, Fallin served as Chairman of the National Conference of Lieutenant

Governors. She presided over the association's State/Federal meeting in Washington, D.C. and hosted the group's 1998 summer meeting in Oklahoma City.

The Lieutenant Governor has been honored by the University of Central Oklahoma's Alumni Association as a "Distinguished Former Student." She was the Red Lands Council of Girl Scouts of America's 1998 Woman of the Year in Government and is recognized in the Who's Who in American Politics. As a state representative, Fallin was named the American Legislative Exchange Council 1993 Legislator of the Year.

After the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, Lieutenant Governor Fallin formed a task force to rebuild the daycare center lost in the disaster. In 1998, the YMCA Heartland Child Care Center opened its doors.

As President of the Senate, the Lieutenant Governor serves on 13 boards and commissions, including the Tourism and Recreation Commission, Film Office Advisory Commission, State Board of Equalization, Bond Oversight Commission, State Insurance Fund, Oklahoma Futures, and the School Land Commission.

In April 2000, Fallin took the unprecedented step of taking over the State Senate when several Senators believed the right-to-work issue was being discussed unfairly. She issued a Senate roll call vote on the subject for the first time in 25 years.

Fallin implemented a program to combat gun violence called Project HomeSafe. This program distributed 23,000 free cable gun locks to Oklahomans. For her efforts, the National Shooting Sports Foundation presented her with its "Gold Lock Leadership Award."

Raised in Tecumseh, she is a graduate of Oklahoma State University. Public service is a family tradition; her father, Joseph "Newton" Copeland, served as Mayor of Tecumseh. Her mother, Mary Jo Copeland, served as the town's first woman mayor.

Behind the Scenes at the State Capitol

Lou Kohlman

Lou Kohlman went to public schools in Oklahoma City and graduated from Northeast High School. She received bachelor's degrees in music and philosophy from Rice University in 1983, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1986. Lou worked in Washington, D.C. with an appellate court, a private law firm, and the Congressional Research Service. She was an assistant public defender in Santa Barbara, California. Since returning to Oklahoma she has worked for Judge Charles Chapel at the Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals. She is an active member of the League of Women Voters, the Oklahoma Academy, and Leadership Oklahoma, as well as other local organizations. Lou is a member of the St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral Choir and has sung everywhere from the Kennedy Center to Redhawks games.

Suzanne Broadbent

Suzanne Broadbent is a Staff Attorney for the Oklahoma State Senate. She has worked for the Senate for 11 years, serving as legislative analyst for Senate education committee, director of committee staff, and attorney for Senate in areas of education, deregulation, and criminal justice. She has experience in all three branches of state government, having worked as a judicial assistant for the Court of Civil Appeals and as assistant general counsel for Governor Henry Bellmon. She has also worked in the federal judicial system as a law clerk for Judge Ralph Thompson. She began her career with the Department of Human Services in juvenile justice and has also been in private law practice. She holds a B.A. from Cameron University (mathematics major, economics minor) and a juris doctorate (law degree) from the University of Oklahoma. She has served as state president of the Oklahoma Association of University Women., member of the board of directors for the Oklahoma County League of Women Voters, president of her neighborhood association, and president of her church. Suzanne has worked on several task forces and participated in several seminars on leadership and citizen involvement.

Diane Hughes

Diane Hughes is Executive Director of the Oklahoma Trial Lawyers Association. She graduated with highest honors from Southwest Texas State University with a B.Sc. in Education and earned a masters degree in Human Resource Development from the University of Texas - Austin.

She has an extensive background in association management with more than 22 years of leadership experience in not-for-profit management. Hughes is a Certified Association Executive and has been recognized by her peers as a Fellow in her profession by the American Society of Association Executives.

She previously worked as executive director of the Trust Division of the Texas Bankers Association, where she worked extensively on trust banking and probate and estate law issues as well as monitored rulemaking by bank regulatory agencies. In her present position, she monitors legislation before the Oklahoma State Legislature with special emphasis on bills pertaining to tort reform and the civil justice system.

Anne Roberts

Anne Roberts has been the Executive Director for the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy since 1989. She is an honors graduate of the University of Oklahoma, and has worked in the non-profit sector for seventeen years. She has recently returned to OU for a graduate degree, and is on the adjunct faculty at St. Gregory's University in Shawnee.

Roberts has been a gubernatorial appointee to a variety of statewide advisory councils dealing with children's issues, including child welfare, substance abuse, child abuse, and teen pregnancy. Nationally, she serves on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Child Advocates and is the Oklahoma State Leader for the Child Welfare League of America.

She has received numerous honors and awards for her efforts in child advocacy, not least of which being named the National Child Advocate of 2000 by the National Association of Child Advocates. Most recently, she was named 2001 Youth Advocate of the Year by the Oklahoma Association of Youth Services. She is a graduate of Leadership Oklahoma, and a member of the Downtown Rotary Club in Oklahoma City.

As Director of OICA, she works with legislators and other policy makers to push children's issues to the top of the public policy agenda in Oklahoma. She is truly the voice for Oklahoma's children.

Monday Round Robin Networking Panels ~ Issues and Opportunities in Government

Security at Home and Abroad

Lindy Ritz

Lindy Ritz is the Director of the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center in Oklahoma City, the centralized service and support facility for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Department of Transportation (DOT). Prior to serving as Director, she was the Deputy Director of the Aeronautical Center. Ms. Ritz also served as Deputy Director of Aviation System Standards, as well as Deputy Director of the FAA Logistics Center and Manager, Human Resource management Division, at the Aeronautical Center. She served in an acting capacity as Director of Human Resource Development in FAA headquarters. She has been with the FAA since 1979.

Lindy is a member of Leadership Oklahoma and has served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of Leadership Oklahoma, having been a member of its inaugural class, and she received the Leadership Oklahoma Distinguished Graduate Award for 2000. She also received the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Community Leadership Association in April of 2001.

Lindy received the President's Award from the National Black Coalition of Federal Aviation Employees (NBCFAE) in August 2002. The President's Award recognized NBCFAE members or FAA employees who have provided extraordinary contributions in furthering the goals and objectives of the organization.

In February 2003, Lindy was given the Byliners Award by the Oklahoma City Professional Chapter of the association for Women in Communications. This awards program honors women who excel in their field and Lindy was recognized in the field of Aviation.

She serves on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the State Fair of Oklahoma. Lindy serves on the Board of Directors of Arvest Bank and is a member of the Board of Trustees of the Kirkpatrick Science and Air Space Museum at Omniplex. She is also a member of the International Women's Forum-Oklahoma City Chapter and serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for Mercy Health Center.

Lindy was selected as Girl Scouts\Red Lands Council woman of Distinction in October of 2000. She also serves as a mentor in the HOST program at Coolidge Elementary School in Oklahoma City.

Lindy served as Vice-Chairperson of the Campaign Cabinet of the United Way of Oklahoma City in 2002 and will continue in this position in 2003. Lindy is a member of the Oklahoma Federal Executive Board and served as the Chairperson in 2001 and 2002.

Lindy is Chairperson of the University of Oklahoma's Associates Council and is a member of the Delta Gamma Fraternity, having received its national Oxford Award for Excellence in Professional Life and Voluntary Service. She is also a member of the University of Oklahoma's Aviation Advisory Council and of Oklahoma State University's Aviation Advisory Council.

She is a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, is a graduate of the FAA's Senior Executive Candidate Development Program, and has completed graduate programs at the University of Michigan and the Kellogg School at Northwestern University. She received a master's degree in aviation and space from Oklahoma State University in May of 1999 and was selected for the Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Fraternity in May of 1999.

Lindy received the University of Oklahoma Regents' Award in November of 2002 in recognition of her dedicated service to the University.

She and her husband, John, reside in Norman, Oklahoma.

Debra Mack

Ms. Debra K. Mack is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. She attended Dillard University in New Orleans where she received a bachelor of arts in political science with a secondary focus in Spanish. Later, Ms. Mack earned a Juris Doctorate from the Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans. Prior to entering on duty with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, she was employed by the New Orleans Indigent Defender Program as a public defender where she handled a myriad of criminal matters. She also practiced law with the Larry P. Williams Law Firm in New Orleans providing legal defense in civil matters and taught business law at Dillard University in New Orleans and Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

In January, 1983, Ms. Mack began her investigative career as a Special Agent. She has served in the FBI's Atlanta, Buffalo and Newark Field Offices. While assigned to Atlanta, Ms. Mack investigated organized crime and drug violations. During her tenure in Buffalo and Newark, she worked applicant and white collar crime cases respectively. Ms. Mack also served as a New Agent Counselor in which capacity she provided guidance to Agent trainees at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

In December 1994, Ms. Mack transferred to the FBI's Philadelphia Field Office to supervise a financial institution fraud squad. During her tenure in Philadelphia, she oversaw the investigation of a major, multi-agency and multi-divisional bank fraud and racketeering case. This resulted in the FBI's first Racketeering Influenced Corrupt Organization prosecution of a check fraud investigation in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Ms. Mack also spearheaded the creation of a task force with several law enforcement agencies and a working group with the local banking community, both of which focused primarily on check fraud violations.

In January 1999, Ms. Mack was promoted to an Assistant Inspector/Team Leader in the Inspection Division at FBI Headquarters. In that capacity, she was responsible for conducting analyses of all FBI investigative programs bureau-wide. In September 2000, Ms. Mack became the Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Oklahoma City Division of the FBI. She currently is responsible for the White Collar Crime, Violent Crime, Organized Crime/Drugs, and Civil Rights programs. From August 2, 2002, until the arrival of the new SAC, ASAC Mack was designated as the Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Oklahoma City Division, which employs more than 200 Agent and support personnel. Her responsibilities included oversight of all the FBI's investigative, operational, and administrative matters as well as all financial issues and technical operations for the entire state.

Joan Greenwood

Representative Joan Greenwood was born and raised in California. Joan is a graduate of California State University in San Jose. She taught school in San Jose before moving to Oklahoma in 1971. Joan has been married to her husband Tom for 39 years. They have three children and five grandchildren.

Representative Greenwood was and continues to remain active in community activities. She ran for the District 54 seat of the Oklahoma House of Representatives in 1988. She served as a state officer in an international organization for Christian Women. Joan is an advocate of Private Christian Schools and Home-Schoolers rights.

Joan taught in a Christian school prior to being elected. Joan and her husband Tom have had a successful home-based business for several years.

Joan serves on the Appropriations and Budget, Appropriations and Budget-Human Services Subcommittee, Common Education Committee, and is Vice-President of the Public Health Committee.

Representative Greenwood is an active member of the American Legislative Exchange Council and serves on the Health and Human Service Task Force. Joan also serves as a member of the Southern Regional Education board, and is State Chair for women in Government.

Joan is active in Republican Women's clubs in Cleveland County. She is also a member of the Helen Cole Republican Women's club in Moore. Joan was the delegate to the Republican National convention in 1996.

Joan is a member of Shekinah Fellowship Church. In her first term she began a weekly devotional time at the State Capitol, which has grown to include House and Senate Members and their staffs, as well as the Governor and Lt. Governor's Cabinet and staff.

Economic Self-Sufficiency

Kathy Taylor

Kathryn L. Taylor was appointed by Governor Brad Henry in February 2003 to serve as Secretary of Commerce & Tourism. She oversees state economic development and tourism efforts, in addition to serving as the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce.

Taylor comes to the office with an extensive business background. Most recently she was one of four investors who purchased National Car Rental from General Motors Corporation and served on its Board of Directors until selling the company to Wayne Huzienga's AutoNation. During her tenure, she was instrumental in the implementation of a \$1 billion asset securitization for National's fleet financing.

Taylor, an attorney, has significant experience in franchising and has frequently given seminars on international licensing and development. Previous to her involvement with National, she chaired the Franchising and Distribution Section as a director of Crowe & Dunlevy, one of the state's oldest and largest law firms.

Much of her franchising experience comes from the position she held with Tulsa-based Pentastar Transportation Group, now Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group and Oklahoma City-based Sonic Industries. Taylor served as vice president and general counsel, supervising more than 100 employees within the human resources, real estate, licensing, and legal departments, and serving as an active participant in expanding operations in Europe and Asia. Her affiliation with Sonic Industries involved serving on the Board of Directors, guiding them through the purchase of the company, its subsequent Initial Public Offering, and its leveraged buy-out.

Moreover, Taylor has literally been involved in hundreds of oil and gas related securities offerings, most of which were accomplished while she practiced law with the Oklahoma City law firm Hartzog, Conger and Cason. Taylor is a member of the Tulsa County Bar Association, the Oklahoma Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the International Bar Association. She is also a board member for the Oklahoma Science Technology Research and Development board (OSTRaD), Oklahoma Community Institute (OCI), Oklahoma Development Finance Authority (ODFA), Oklahoma Industrial Finance Authority (OIFA), Oklahoma Ordinance Works Authority (OOWA), the Oklahoma Quality Awards Foundation, the State Workforce Investment board and the International Trade Advisory Committee.

Taylor's civic involvement includes being a Trustee for both the University of Oklahoma Foundation and the University of Tulsa and a member of OU-Tulsa President's Cabinet. Historically, she served on the Boards of Tulsa's Thomas Gilcrease Museum, the Resonance Support Center for Women, Tulsa Zoo Friends, Community Service Council of Greater Tulsa, The Simon Estes Education Foundation, The Tulsa Opera, The Tulsa Friends of the Fairgrounds, Domestic Violence Intervention Service, the Grand River Dam Authority, the Appleseed Foundation, and the Girl Scouts of America's Juliette Lowe Society. Most recently, she is the 2003 recipient of the Pinnacle Award for Community Service, given by the Tulsa Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women.

Maxine Horner

Senator Maxine Horner is the first African-American -- and the first woman -- to serve as chairperson of the Oklahoma Senate Democratic Caucus.

She is currently chairperson of the Senate Business and Labor Committee, and a member of several other committees including Appropriations, Judiciary, Natural Resources and Regulatory Services Subcommittee, Rules, Sunset and Tourism and Wildlife.

Senator Horner has sponsored many bills through out her legislative career. Two bills that she holds near and dear to her are Senate Bill 156 Oklahoma Higher Learning Access Program (OHLAP) which helps underprivileged students pay for their college education and Senate Joint Resolution 21 that designates every third Saturday in the month of June as the Juneteenth state holiday.

Senator Horner is the founder of the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame. She hopes that it will someday become a national attraction and learning center for all of the arts. She is a strong advocate for the arts and enjoys jazz, classical and gospel music.

A native of Tulsa, she was recognized by the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women with the city's prestigious Pinnacle Award in 1993.

Senator Horner and her husband Donald, Sr. (deceased) have one daughter, a son, and five wonderful grandchildren.

Wanda DeBruler

Wanda DeBruler has over twenty years experience in public resource funding, design and management, research and policy analysis, and, training and technical assistance. She is President of DeBruler, Inc., an Oklahoma-based minority woman owned enterprise that provides consultation to public and private organizations in the areas of partnership development, strategic planning, organizational assessment, group facilitation, and grant packaging. Clients include US Department of Health and Human Services: Office of Community Development, Oklahoma Department of Commerce: Office of Community Services, Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board, Community Action Agencies and Associations, Substate Planning Districts, units of local government, nonprofit and for profit businesses.

Prior to starting her own business in 2000, DeBruler served as the Executive Director and Housing Coordinator for the Oklahoma Association of Community Action Agencies for six years. She coordinated Oklahoma's HHS Memorandum of Understanding between federal, regional, and state entities to better serve families, received Regional and National awards for model programs, founding member of the Electric Consumers Alliance, and increased the Association's revenue base 50% to a annual budget of \$1million. Her work led to the creation of the Oklahoma Housing Trust Fund, state housing resource guide, and on-going funding from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development for affordable housing capacity development. Wanda spent thirteen years working in various accounting and federal coordinator positions at the State of Oklahoma's Department of Commerce.

Wanda is engaged with National and State boards, task forces, and committees that address issues affecting a family's ability to be self-sufficient. She currently serves on the Coalition for Increased Family Income, OK Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Housing Task Force, Oklahoma Home of Your Own, Oklahoma Self-Sufficiency Project, OK Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Housing Committee, and Electric Consumers Alliance. She has served as a member of the Oklahoma Commission on Children and Youth Planning Council, Fannie Mae Maxwell Awards of Excellence Advisory Committee, Fannie Mae Partnership Office, OK Consumer Education and Protection Electric Committee, Head Start Early Alert System Work Group, OK Employment Security Commission One Stop Career Center State Planning Team, and Oklahoma Department of Human Services Block Grant Reform Team. She was a resource person for the Governor's Task Force on Early Childhood Education and supplied data and insights for Dr. Robert Lee Maril's book, "Waltzing with the Ghost of Tom Joad".

Children, Youth and Families

Sandy Ingraham

Sandy completed undergraduate work in English Literature and Philosophy at Central State University in Edmond, Oklahoma, earning a Bachelor of Arts in both fields. She did post graduate work in Philosophy, Social Work and Law, earning Master of Social Work and Juris Doctorate Degrees from the University of Oklahoma.

Current professional activities for Sandy include practicing law as a sole practitioner and maintaining an active practice as a social policy consultant. She consults and trains in Oklahoma and throughout the nation on advocacy, lobbying, legal issues, dispute mediation, needs and asset assessment, community capacity building, planning, policy and funding.

As a consultant, Sandy actively promotes a service delivery philosophy that emphasizes early intervention and prevention, provides comprehensive services based on needs, and makes the best use of resources through effective practices like integrated funding and community decision-making. She watched and lobbied the Oklahoma legislature for nearly two decades. She has researched and documented a variety of social concerns through more than fifty publications. Sandy taught at the University of Oklahoma Graduate College Of Social Work for seventeen years.

As an attorney, Sandy maintains a general practice, while spending most of her time in the areas of adoption and estate planning. Sandy combines her legal skills with her knowledge of social policy and programs in several areas, including facilitating special needs adoptions, creating trusts to help protect and provide for people with disabilities, estate

planning for non-traditional families and protecting children being raised by their grandparents. Sandy is legal counsel for several state, national and international charitable, non-profit organizations.

Sandy is the recipient of numerous awards and honors as a result of advocacy and program development on behalf of children, older citizens, those who are mentally ill, people with disabilities, people who are homeless and those who are poor.

Sharon Neuwald

Sharon Neuwald, Coordinator, Office of Legislative Relations & Special Projects, works with the Department of Human Services on major issues facing the Department as well as policies affecting other agencies in the health & human services arena. She also serves as chair of the DHS rate setting committee and is a member of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority's Medical Advisory Committee and Medicaid rate setting committee. She joined the agency in 1985 as a Research & Development Specialist with the Division of Medical Services. During that period she worked on Medicaid reimbursement methodologies for hospitals, nursing homes and prescription drugs. She also developed new services for pregnant women and home and community-based services for persons with developmental and physical disabilities. Ms. Neuwald worked five years in the Oklahoma House of Representatives; areas of focus were human services and higher education issues.

Ms. Neuwald earned her undergraduate degree in social work from the University of Oklahoma. She received a master's in human services management from Brandeis University and a doctorate of public health from the University of Michigan.

Barbara Staggs

Representative Barbara Staggs is a ninth-year Democratic legislator from District 14, the northeastern half of Muskogee County, and the western part of Cherokee County. She serves the Muskogee, Fort Gibson, Braggs and Hulbert communities. She is a member of the following committees: Appropriations and Budget, Career and Technology Education, Public Health, Retirement Laws, and Chairman of Common Education.

Having spent twenty-five years in public education as a teacher, principal and superintendent, Representative Staggs is keenly interested in supporting legislation which will continue to aid the current economic development of the entire state and especially northeastern Oklahoma. Believing that sound public education systems are critical to economic growth, she actively supports legislation which will improve public education. Any legislation dealing with children or the elderly is also a primary concern of hers.

Staggs was born in Hulbert and moved to Muskogee while only a few weeks old. She attended public schools in Muskogee, graduated from Northeastern State University in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in education. In 1968, she received a master's degree and in 1987 a doctorate, both from the University of Tulsa. Her dissertation concerned a study of the implementation of selected legislative policies in school districts in northeastern Oklahoma.

She has been married for 43 years to Ross Staggs, a small business owner in Muskogee. They have two sons, Rick, 40, who lives in Nevada, and Mathew, 35, who lives in Muskogee. She and her husband are members of the First Baptist Church in Muskogee where she teaches a singles Sunday school class.

She is a member of Leadership Oklahoma, Breakfast Optimists, American Association of University Women, Soroptimists, Int., Lions, Five Civilized Tribes Museum, Service League of Muskogee, Inc. and Chambers of Commerce in Muskogee and Fort Gibson.

Tuesday Breakfast Career Jump-Starts: Law School

Lynne Saunders

Lynne Saunders is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana. She graduated from the University of Maryland with a B.S. degree in Biological Sciences in 1978. After graduating, she was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. She moved from Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi to continue her career at Tinker Air Force Base in Midwest City, Oklahoma. At Tinker AFB, she was promoted to the rank of Captain and worked as a Communications-Electronics Officer in Charge in the 3D Combat Communications Group. She completed her four year tour of duty at Tinker AFB and received her honorable discharge in 1983.

Saunders earned a Masters in Business Administration from Oklahoma City University in 1982 and graduated number one in her class from OCU Law School in 1993. Before joining Crowe & Dunlevy Law Firm's Oklahoma City

office in 1999, she worked as a Consumer and Housing Attorney for Legal Aid of Western Oklahoma. In 1994, she was a law clerk for five years for the Honorable Judge Vicki Miles-LaGrange. At Crowe & Dunlevy, she specializes in corporate and securities, financial institutions and finance, business and employment litigation, and intellectual property rights. She is also a proud Oklahoma Lawyer for Children.

Lynne served on the Board of Regents for Rose Sate College in Midwest City for over ten years and completed her term as chairman of the board in June 2002. She has maintained close ties to OCU and serves on the Law School Alumni board. She is active in the local, state, and national bar associations, where she places special emphasis on matters related to women, children, access to legal services, and diversity in the legal profession. She is a member of the League of Women voters, the American Association of University Women, and the Midwest City Chamber of Commerce as well as being a 1998 graduate of Leadership Midwest City.

She and her husband, James Saunders, an electrical engineering manager for Celestica, have been married for twenty-two years. They have one son, Warren, who is a junior at Carl Albert High School in Midwest City, Oklahoma.

Tuesday Public Policy Simulation ~ Leadership in Action

Margaret Ellis

Professor Margaret Ellis received her doctorate in Political Economics from the University of Texas at Dallas and conducts her research on state courts, public policy, and minority representation. She has served as Professor in Residence and Internship Coordinator for James Madison University in Washington, D.C. and is a pre-law advisor. She has coached a national award winning Mock Trial Team and has received several teaching awards. She also is an endorsed consultant for College Board and serves as chair of the Test Development Committee for the College Board College Level Examination of Proficiency (CLEP). She is currently teaching as assistant professor in the Department of Political Science at The University of Oklahoma.

Professor Ellis was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma and is married to James Sheffield, Department Chair at Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas. The couple has four children and spend their leisure time traveling.

Christine Pappas

Christine Pappas is an assistant professor of political science at East Central University (ECU) in Ada, Oklahoma. She was educated at the University of Nebraska where she earned her BA, MA, and PhD, all in political science, as well as a law degree.

In her teaching she specializes in public law, as well as women in politics, and mass media. She has presented papers on political science pedagogy, women in politics, judicial politics, and many aspects of political behavior. IN 2002, she presented a lecture at ECU entitled "Women in American Politics: Barriers to Participation" with support from the Oklahoma Museums Association and the Oklahoma Humanities Council.

She is the founding editor of *Plains Song Review*, a literary journal sponsored by the University of Nebraska's Center for Great Plains Studies. She has also written "More Notable Nebraskans," which provides short biographies of a number of figures of historical importance, and *Fighting Statesman: Sen. George Norris*, a children's book about that Nebraska senator. Her most recent publication is an edited collection of short stories by Dorothy Thomas: *The Getaway and Other Stories*. Her reviews appear in the *Oklahoman*, *Lincoln Journal Star*, and *Great Plains Quarterly*. She has written columns for *Lincoln Journal Star* and *The Gayly Oklahoman*.

Outside of work, Pappas enjoys playing racquetball with her students, reading fiction, playing with her three terrific cats, and watching Cubs baseball.

Tuesday Afternoon Panel ~ Choices and Commitments: The Many Options of Public Service

Corporation Commissioner Denise Bode

Denise Bode is the 35th person and only the second woman to serve as a commissioner since 1907, when Oklahoma became a state. Appointed by Governor Frank Keating, Mrs. Bode took office on August 20, 1997 and was elected to serve a full six-year term on November 3, 1998.

Born in Tulsa and raised in Bartlesville, Mrs. Bode graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Oklahoma. She has a law degree from George Mason University and a master's of law in taxation from Georgetown University. Mrs. Bode's husband, John, also an Oklahoma native, is a practicing partner in the law firm of

Olsson, Frank and Weeda where he specializes in food and drug law. Mr. Bode served as assistant secretary for Food and Consumer Services of the U.S. Department of Agriculture during the Reagan and Bush administrations. The Bodes have a 17 year-old son, Sean, who attends Bishop McGuinness High School. The Bodes have a home in Oklahoma City as well as a ranching operation in western Oklahoma.

Commissioner Bode is a considered one of the leading experts on national energy policy. She has testified before Congress on numerous occasions as well as lectured at the Heritage Foundation. Before joining the commission, Mrs. Bode served for seven years as president of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA) in Washington, D.C., a national trade group representing America's 8,000 oil and natural gas producers. Mrs. Bode preceded her service at IPAA as a founding partner of a Washington D.C. firm, where she represented a broad range of businesses.

Secretary of State Susan Savage

Susan Savage was elected Mayor of her native city, Tulsa, in 1992 and re-elected in 1994 and again in 1998. The Tulsa City Charter gave the Mayor broad administrative and financial responsibilities. As the Chief Executive Officer of Tulsa's third largest employer, Mayor Savage oversaw a myriad of services and capital projects made possible by a \$400 million annual budget. She either served on or appointed citizens to boards and authorities that managed libraries, airports, jails, ambulance services, economic development efforts, public housing developments, museums, water and wastewater management systems, inland waterway port and transit operations.

Since her election, Savage implemented numerous operating efficiencies in key departments, expanded and improved police, telecommunication and fire services, promoted neighborhood and citizen participation in planning for the community's future, worked to develop older neighborhoods and the central business district, stressed the need for quality education and environmental protection, and directed an economic development strategy that has resulted in record job creation throughout the region.

In addition, Savage has served on the President's Council on the Sustainable Development and has chaired the Energy and Environmental Committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. She was also a member of the National Recreational Lakes Study Commission.

Prior to her work at City Hall, Savage has served for 10 years as Executive Director of the Metropolitan Tulsa Citizens Crime Commission, starting such programs as Crime Stoppers and Alert Neighbors. Her Bachelors degree is in Criminal Justice and Economics, and she has studied and worked with courts and prison systems in the United States and England.

After leaving office as mayor, Susan Savage served on the faculty of the University Of Oklahoma College Of Architecture. Earlier this year, Savage was named Oklahoma's Secretary of State by Governor Brad Henry. Secretary Savage is the granddaughter of the late U.S. District Judge Royce Savage, appointed by President Franklin Roosevelt.

Scavenger Hunt "Experts"

Renee de Nevers

Renée de Nevers is an Assistant Professor in the departments of Political Science and the School of International and Area Studies at the University of Oklahoma, teaching courses in international relations, international security, and international political economy. During 1998-2001 she worked at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in Chicago as program officer for Arms Reduction and Security Policy in the Program on Global Security and Sustainability. Dr. de Nevers earned her bachelor's degree at Stanford University and her master's and doctoral degrees in political science at Columbia University. Her current research interests focus on international regimes and international security, and the US-Russian relationship. Among her publications are *Comrades No More: The Seeds of Change in Eastern Europe* (Cambridge: MIT Press, 2002), *Regimes as Mechanisms for Global Governance* (New York: Rockefeller Brothers Fund, 1999), and *Nationalism, Ethnic Identity and Conflict Management in Russia Today* (Stanford: CISAC, 1995), which she co-edited with Dr. Gail W. Lapidus. She has been a research fellow at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, the Center for International Security and Cooperation and the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, and the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Peggy Ellis (see Tuesday Policy Simulation)

Christine Pappas (see Tuesday Policy Simulation)

Lisa Johnson Billy (see Friday FIR panel)

Valerie Thompson (see Friday FIR panel)