

## HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022

The University of Oklahoma

January 2023

OU's Class of 2026 was the largest, most diverse and most academically qualified freshman class in the school's 132-year history. The class included 4,683 students, with 39% identifying as being from an underrepresented group and more than a quarter of whom were first-generation college students. The class also boasted a higher GPA than any other incoming class, with an average high school GPA of 3.67.

At the Health Sciences Center, fall 2022 enrollment saw a 5% increase over the previous fall. OU Online programs continued to see strong enrollment for fall 2022, with 3,000 graduate students enrolled and on track to graduate.

The university announced the launch of the OU Polytechnic Institute, a new school in Tulsa with bachelor's completion and graduate degree programs focused on innovation and advanced technology. It will serve as a workforce solution to the increasing demand for credentialed workers in critical STEM fields, and the school's curriculum will be developed with input from industry partners, quickly making the region a hub for growth and new jobs.

In October, the University of Oklahoma announced the public phase of the largest philanthropic campaign in the history of Oklahoma higher education. With a historic goal of raising \$2 billion, "Lead On: The University of Oklahoma's Campaign for the Future" supports OU's core traditions of providing an unparalleled, affordable education; generating real-world impact through pathbreaking research and innovation; delivering world-class health care across the state; and creating a welcoming place for learning and belonging.

The university received a record \$317 million in gifts and pledges for fiscal year 2022, surpassing last year's record of \$237 million. The record-breaking fundraising performance, shepherded by the OU Foundation, positions the university for continued growth and success.

According to the recently published Higher Education Research and Development survey from the National Science Foundation, OU ranked in the top 7.9 percentile in total research expenditures out of 915 ranked institutions nationwide for fiscal year 2020. The HERD survey is the leading report for higher education research and development expenditures each fiscal year, providing an annual census of institutions that expended at least \$150,000 for research and development in the fiscal year. Overall research growth in FY20 for the United States increased 3.3%, the lowest annual increase since 2015. OU's total research and development expenditures for FY20 eclipsed the nationwide average, reaching \$362.2 million – a 19.7% increase from the previous fiscal year. When the HERD survey for FY20 was published in January 2022, OU ranked No. 72 in the nation in overall research expenditures and No. 76 in research expenditures from federal funding.

The University of Oklahoma was named one of the best places to work in the United States and the No. 1 employer in the state of Oklahoma, according to Forbes. OU earned a spot on the magazine's annual list of America's Best Large Employers, placing No. 48 out of 500 employers with more than 5,000 employees, and No. 4 in the education subcategory. Among companies with headquarters in Oklahoma, OU was ranked No. 1.

As the state experiences a shortage of nursing professionals, the University of Oklahoma announced its plan to dramatically increase enrollment in its Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, administered through the Fran and Earl Ziegler College of Nursing. For fall 2022, the college expanded the size of its nursing class by accepting all qualified applicants, allowing more students the opportunity to pursue a nursing career and, in turn, building up the state's nursing workforce at a time when nurses are needed more than ever.

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To address Oklahoma's critical shortage of aviation professionals, OU announced its plans for a major expansion of its top-ranked School of Aviation Studies. OU plans to more than double its enrollment in School of Aviation Studies programs. OU is also implementing a three-year, \$10 million plan to replace its current aging fleet of 19 aircraft, while also increasing its fleet to 28 aircraft.

As a testament to the university's strong aviation program and continuing effort to supply the workforce needs for Oklahoma's growing aviation and aerospace industry, the OU School of Aviation was recognized by FLYING magazine as the No. 1 program in the country out of nearly 100 colleges and universities nationwide.

The OU School of Meteorology, housed in the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences, was recognized as the No. 1 program in the nation by OutstandingColleges.com.

In its inaugural rankings of student achievements, the Broadcast Education Association recognized the Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication as the No. 2 program in the country out of more than 300 member institutions nationwide. OU also landed in the top 10 in four categories of individual media disciplines: No. 1 in film and video programs, No. 3 in news programs, No. 4 in sports programs and No. 8 in scriptwriting programs.

The University of Oklahoma received a \$15 million gift from longtime supporters Jonny and Brenda Jones to help fund the renovation and expansion of Jacobson Hall, one of the oldest buildings on the Norman campus. Home to the OU Welcome Center and Office of Admissions and Recruitment, Jacobson Hall offers prospective students and their families a first impression of the university, with guided tours of OU's nationally recognized campus beginning on its front steps. In recognition of the gift, the OU Board of Regents approved the naming of Jacobson Hall's campus visitor center to the Jones Family Welcome Center.

The university will receive an extraordinary estate gift from longtime supporters David and Judi Proctor that will ensure OU's excellence continues to be affordable, attainable and accessible for students from all backgrounds. The Proctors' gift includes a \$7 million irrevocable contribution to the Department of Mathematics in the Dodge Family College of Arts and Sciences. In appreciation of this gift and its potential to transform STEM education university-wide, the OU Board of Regents approved the naming of the department to the David and Judi Proctor Department of Mathematics.

OU approved the adoption of the Chicago Statement of Principles on Freedom of Speech, an overarching set of guiding principles that reinforce the importance of safeguarding freedom of expression on college campuses. The Chicago Statement coincides with OU's existing policies on free expression and academic freedom, and its adoption indicates the university's continued commitment to upholding these constitutional rights while nurturing an inclusive campus community.

Source: Office of Marketing and Communications