

The University of Oklahoma
Michael F. Price College of Business

PRICE

magazine

Summer 2017



○ New OKC Facility **Expands Graduate Opportunities**

○ Online Program Enhances **Access to CPA Preparation**

○ Introducing the **Real Energy Leaders Campaign**

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DEAN'S LETTER

As we look back on another successful academic year at the Michael F. Price College of Business, we also look forward with great optimism to the future. I am fortunate to experience first-hand each day the talent, perseverance, ingenuity and leadership our students and recent alumni possess. For the first time in the two-decade-long history of *Price Magazine*, we are dedicating an issue to our recent alumni and their incredible successes in business and life. Sourcing nominations from alumni and friends the world over, we curated a list of 40 alumni under the age of 40 who embody the college's purpose to ensure the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation.

For so long we have been proud of our rigorous undergraduate business program, which rivals any school in the country. To this end, it was satisfying to see this year's *U.S. News & World Report* rankings include our undergraduate program in the nation's Top 50, as we made an important jump from last year's ranking of No. 61. This jump signifies the growing recognition of the impact our faculty, staff, alumni and friends make every day. Today, the college is home to academic programs featured in 25 different rankings.

Elsewhere in these pages, you will learn about the Online Master of Accountancy program, an innovative new offering that leverages the power of technology to reach new categories of learners. This program assures our excellence in preparing accounting students no longer has to be confined within the doors of Price and Adams halls. Working professionals can now earn the master's degree required to sit for the CPA exam without sacrificing their full-time job or relocating from their current community. Through the expert design of our faculty, we have designed a top-notch program that will build on our already impressive first-time CPA exam passage rate of 75 percent (versus the national average of 55 percent).

Likewise, acquiring a quality graduate business education will become even more convenient for students in our MBA program. We have expanded our reach and strengthened our bonds with the Oklahoma City business community by launching a new graduate and executive education facility in the heart of OKC in fall 2017. This 27,000-square-foot learning center will house the college's MBA and Executive Education programs and is located in the University Research Park on the OU Health Sciences Center campus. With this move, we are uniting many of Oklahoma's brightest students, faculty and executives across the state's most comprehensive collection of advanced business programs, all inside our capital's bustling energy, health care and innovation corridors.

At Price College, we prepare leaders daily. We tackle the biggest business issues of our time from a position of strength and knowledge. No matter the stage of your career, we view our



Dean Pullin and marketing and finance student Brandon Terrell present the 2017 Recent Alumni Award of Distinction to Keith Melker, who is featured in this 40 under 40 issue.

students, alumni and friends as the lifelong learners we have the chance to serve.

Please enjoy our summer issue of *Price Magazine* – and stay tuned for an exciting year ahead.

Best,

Daniel W. Pullin
Dean
Fred E. Brown Chair in Business
'98

NEW OKC FACILITY EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES

FOR LIFELONG LEARNING AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

By Daniel W. Pullin, Dean, Fred E. Brown Chair



Students, alumni, faculty and staff celebrate the facility's groundbreaking Oct. 28.

The million (or multi-billion) dollar question for many of Oklahoma's business leaders is how to create a stronger and more diverse economy for our state. At Price College, finding ways to connect our collective talent of students and faculty with the state's workforce, and keeping that talent here in Oklahoma after graduation, can mean a great deal to our future vitality and quality of life.

Price College continuously seeks new opportunities to increase its role as an economic engine for Oklahoma. Today, Price College offers 25 nationally ranked academic programs for learners at all stages of their careers, including our thriving undergraduate program, which was just named a top 50 program by *U.S. News & World Report* in fall 2016.

Yet, to do all we can to ensure the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation, Price College's efforts must go beyond the undergraduate level. We must find ways to provide compelling educational offerings to learners at all stages of their careers to keep Oklahoma's workforce sharp, relevant and aspirational so the state can move forward in new and important ways.

To this end, Price College is proud to announce our expanded efforts to prepare and sharpen the state's workforce in the heart of the state's capital. In fall 2017, we will open our flagship center for graduate and executive education in the heart of Oklahoma City's Innovation District at OU's University Research Park on the Health Sciences Center campus. The facility will be strategically anchored between the

downtown energy and financial sectors to the west and the growing healthcare and aerospace sectors to the east.

The facility will occupy 27,000 square feet filled with next-generation classrooms, student study lounges and collaboration spaces where students and executives can work together to create Oklahoma's future economy and the workforce to steward it. Most prominently, the center will serve as the home of the Price College MBA and Executive Education Programs, which will catalyze the engagement between our amazing graduate students, world-class faculty and local business leaders.

This expansion is right for our students and Oklahoma's leading companies, as our full-time MBA curriculum requires students to conduct a consulting project and complete an internship with an Oklahoma



The new facility floor plan



Renderings of the tiered classroom, global interactive lounge and lobby

company. In this way, our students can take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it to their work with industry in real time. Likewise, we see tremendous opportunity to work with companies to encourage their rising employees to enroll in our Professional MBA Program, which will further their careers and contributions. Finally, enhanced engagement with our OKC programs allows companies more opportunity to work arm-in-arm with students, as they mentor and motivate them to pursue a career and life in Oklahoma, while securing a low-risk mechanism for talent evaluation before hiring.

Beyond the MBA programs, the new facility will house our growing executive education programs, which allow Oklahoma's business professionals to return

to our classrooms as lifelong learners. In this way, Oklahoma's workforce can keep its skill-set sharp and regularly updated. Oklahoma's great companies should not be forced to send their executive workforce out of state for enhanced training. Oklahoma deserves a great executive education offering, and Price College is committed to developing one in partnership with industry.

This facility will also house the OKC locations of OU's Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth and the Office of Technology Development, which are a part of Price College's Entrepreneurship & Economic Development Academic Division. Consolidating these entrepreneurial efforts in the new facility allows for around-the-clock, business-building activity among students, faculty

and citizens who now have a place to meet and work together on technologies and start-up ideas, many of which are founded upon the world-class medical research at OU's Health Sciences Center.

With the opening of our new flagship facility, our campus is growing to meet the needs of Oklahoma's students, companies and citizens. To learn more about how you can engage with Price College, please contact Kristen Lazalier, executive director of Price College External Relations, at (405) 325-7670 or klazalier@ou.edu.

Or to find more information about our Full-Time, Professional and Executive MBA offerings, visit price.ou.edu/masters.

Online Master of Accountancy Program Enhances **ACCESS TO CPA PREPARATION**

By Taylor Riggs

Accounting students and professionals alike know all too well the critical importance of the Uniform CPA Examination. It is the only licensed certification in the accounting industry, and only those who pass the exam can become Certified Public Accountants. Aspiring CPAs often have to take this rigorous and thorough test multiple times before successfully earning their certification – unless, of course, you're a graduate of the Price College Steed School of Accounting. If you happen to be a Sooner sitting for the exam, your odds of passing on the first attempt are far better than most.

In 2016, Price College's accounting students had the best average CPA first time passage rate among Big XII public universities at 75 percent, which exceeds the already impressive 74 percent average pass rate of Price College students over the past 10 years. To put that in perspective, the national CPA average pass rate is only 55 percent. With that kind of success, it is indisputable that Price College exceeds at preparing future accounting leaders. Today, the college is ready to expand the accessibility of such a premium education with the launch of the Online Master of Accountancy program.

With classes beginning August 2017, the Online Master of Accountancy degree offers a digitally-delivered graduate curriculum that provides students the additional credit hours required to qualify for the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) examination in Oklahoma, Texas and many other states.

"For those in the accounting field, obtaining a Master of Accountancy and passing the CPA exam dramatically increases opportunities for their entire career," said Dean Daniel Pullin. "Yet, today's demanding business climate requires that these professionals balance existing work and life priorities if they are to successfully pursue graduate education. OU's launch of the Online Master of Accountancy gives these aspirational students the flexibility to achieve this degree while working full time, and allows them to put this knowledge to work immediately, which benefits employer and employee alike."

The Online Master of Accountancy program is designed entirely by the faculty at Price College's Steed School of Accounting. Recognized as one of the select accounting schools in the nation to be separately accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the online option builds on OU's success with its longstanding residually delivered Master of Accounting degree by making it accessible to future Sooners anywhere in the world. Classes begin Fall 2017, with degree completion expected within two years.

Students also have the option to add a global experience to their studies, which will broaden their view of international accounting and accelerate the time to degree completion. This unique two-week, three-credit-hour *International Financial Statement Analysis* module exposes students to international business and accounting professionals in London, Paris and



Steed School of Accounting Director Ery Black with Price College graduate students

Brussels. In addition to course credit, the student will earn an International Financial Reporting Certificate through the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, which confirms student learning of international financial reporting standards.

To learn more and apply, visit price.ou.edu/online-macc.

FACULTY IN MEDIA

**Mark Bolino,
Michael F.
Price Chair in
International Business**



"Resignations: Take this job and..."
- *Harvard Business Review*

"What we learned about
management in 2016 in 19 charts"
- *Harvard Business Review*

"7 Ways People Quit Their Jobs"
- *Stone Hearth*

**Bret Bradley,
Associate Professor
of Management**



"Personality and
leadership composition in top
management teams: Implications for
organizational effectiveness."
- *Personnel Psychology*

**Robert Dauffenbach,
Senior Associate
Dean for Economic
Development and
Impact**



"Economists see improvements in
Oklahoma for coming year"
- *The Oklahoman*

"Oklahoma's education will impact its
future economy, economists say"
- *The Oklahoman*

"Mobile Shopping Searches Continue
to Surge During Black Friday"
- *Senegal-Actu*

"Cyber Monday sees boost in online
shoppers over last year" - *GVTC*

**Dipankar Ghosh,
David Ross Boyd
and David C.
Steed Professor of
Accounting**



"Why does 30 under 40 matter?"
- *Oil & Gas Investor*

**Lubomir Litov,
Michael F. Price
Professor in Finance**



"Accounting rule change
may lead Time Warner to bring
billions more to AT&T deal"
- *MarketWatch*

**Laura Palk,
Instructor of Legal
Studies**



"Gone But Not Forgotten:
Does (Or Should) the Use of
Self-Destructing Messaging
Applications Trigger Corporate
Governance Duties?"
- *Harvard Business Law Review*

"Ignorance Is Bliss: Should Lack
of Personal Benefit Knowledge
Immunize Insider Trading?"
- *Berkeley Business Law Journal*

**Daniel Ostas, James
G. Harlow Jr. Chair
in Business Ethics &
Community Service**



"Here's the deal with Donald Trump
and self dealing" - *National Public
Radio (All Things Considered)*

**Dean Daniel Pullin,
Fred E. Brown
Chair in Business**



"OU Business School
earns high marks" - *The Oklahoman*

"Price College Update with Dean
Pullin" - *KREF - Sports Talk Radio*

"Financial gift, project approval
boost OU College of Business"
- *The Norman Transcript*

"Stowe wins water prize"
- *The Norman Transcript*

"Innovation Hub" - *Sooner Magazine*

**Jeremy Short, Rath
Chair in Strategic
Management**



"Entrepreneurial
Optimism Linked to Business
Success" - *Entrepreneurship: Theory
and Practice*

"Entrepreneurial Optimism Linked
to Business Success" - *National
Federation of Independent
Businesses*

"Study links entrepreneurial
optimism with business success"
- *POST Online Media*

"OU Study Links Entrepreneurial
Optimism with Business Success"
- *Science Newsline*

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Marcus Wolfe,
Assistant Professor of
Entrepreneurship



"Testosterone and tendency to engage in self-employment"
- *Management Science*

Pradeep Yadav,
W. Ross Johnston
Chair in Finance



"Standard Chartered Hedge Funds Lawsuit Highlights Derivatives Risk"
- *Institutional Investor*

Price College



"For Business Schools, Being Good is No Longer Good Enough"
- *Huffington Post*

"OU Board of Regents focuses on campus construction in fall semester's meetings"
- *Oklahoma Daily*

"International students discuss OU experiences during race and diversity panel" - *EIN Newsdesk World News Report*

"OU hosts retired Japanese ambassador to speak about Japan-U.S. relations"
- *EIN Newsdesk World News Report*

"Oklahoma oilman's donation to support OU business school program" - *The Oklahoman*

"Entrepreneur Ronnie Irani's Gift Supports University of Oklahoma Economic Wealth Center"
- *India West Newspaper*

"Price College to host lecture on entrepreneurship, venture development"
- *Oklahoma Daily*

"OU Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth receives large gift from alumnus" - *Oklahoma Daily*

"Regents to consider business center" - *The Journal Record*

"What's on the agenda for the Wednesday OU Board of Regents meeting" - *Oklahoma Daily*

"OU conference to focus on uniting campus groups, discussing diversity"
- *Oklahoma Daily*

"Oklahoma millennial entrepreneurs seek to save lives, money"
- *Red Dirt Report*

"Professors try free, open textbooks to save students money, encourage learning" - *Oklahoma Daily*

"Accounting Degree Review Releases 2016 Ranking of Top 50 Graduate Accounting Programs"
- *KATC (Louisiana ABC affiliate)*

"Innovation Hub to open research campus" - *Oklahoma Daily*

"University of Oklahoma opens new Innovation Hub" - *The Norman Transcript*

Harvard
Business
Review



For the first time since *Price Magazine* was launched nearly two decades ago, Price College seeks to recognize its most influential young alumni in business today. Through a call for nominations in the fall 2016 issue and on social media, we asked our alumni, supporters, faculty and staff who they felt represented the top alumni under the age of 40.

The response was overwhelming and selecting just 40 was daunting, albeit incredibly inspiring. We gathered nominations, consulted with experts, dug up documents and interviewed key sources. It was a long and intense process to narrow the list down to only 40 Price College alumni who have accomplished so much before

ever reaching 40 by the beginning of 2017. A wide net was cast, and an array of industry leaders from across the nation and globe, combined to create a diverse collection of ideas, beliefs, motivation and vision.

The following pages profile those whose achievements, ambition and influence make them an inspiration to us all. Although it is a mere glimpse into the depth of their accomplishments, we hope you find these outlines as enjoyable and encouraging as we did while preparing them.

We look forward to seeing where these alumni will go, and which up-and-coming young professionals will find themselves on a future cover of *Price Magazine*.

We now introduce the 40 Under 40 issue of *Price Magazine*.

40 UNDER 40



Virginia (Ginny) Albert, 34

Executive MBA in Energy (2015)

Senior Vice President, Land & Business Development

Rebellion Energy, LLC

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: [Nancy Sauer](#)

"Our program had so many wonderful professors; of them all, however, Nancy Sauer, who taught our Energy Policy and Regulations course in our first module, made the greatest impression on me. With wisdom and charisma, she captivated our cohort's attention and inspired rich and insightful discussions. She exuded confidence but with a softness that was engaging, and fostered introspection and collaboration. I aspire to develop that kind of leadership."

Favorite Price College Memory: [Immersion Trip to London](#)

"The collection of wonderful memories I have from the EMBA program are many, thanks in large part to the phenomenal group of classmates who remain friends. Our study abroad in London is at the top of my list. The challenge to broaden our lens was consistent throughout our program, and our time in London was an incredible opportunity for that, all while in great company."

Business and Community Engagement:

Greater Oklahoma Chapter of the Women's Energy Network, Member and Former Executive Chair | American Association of Professional Landmen | Certified Professional Landman | Tulsa Association of Petroleum Landmen, Former Officer and Board Member

Advice for Price Students: [Recognize Unplanned Opportunities](#)

"The best things that have happened to me in my career and in life have been unplanned. Preparation is critical and a plan is guiding, but recognize the opportunity that may come from a change in course, and remain open to what may unfold."

What's Next?

"I hope to remain part of a successful entrepreneurial team that fosters growth and opportunity through respectful collaboration and creativity. I'm proud to be on a team like that now and am looking forward to what the future holds."



Amy Bodwell, 39

Bachelor of Accountancy, Master of Accountancy (2000)

Vice President of Finance

Methodist Richardson Medical Center

Dallas, Texas

Business and Community Engagement:

Price College Healthcare Advisory Board | Leadership Richardson Advisory Board | Church of the Incarnation Family Ministry and Marriage Ministry

Favorite Price Professor: [Chris Knapp](#)

"Knowing that I was going to be an auditor, I was fascinated by Dr. Knapp's class. I told Dr. Ghosh recently that I never would have believed at the time that I would be using content from his managerial accounting class on a daily basis now. I'm glad I paid attention!"

Favorite Price College Memory: [OU Foreign Policy Conferences](#)

"I will never forget the Foreign Policy Conferences that were held while I was in school. It was so impactful to me that President Boren entrusted his students to host the visiting dignitaries."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Engagement](#)

"Despite competing priorities and distractions, I try to enter all meetings, conversations and projects fully engaged. People should walk away from an interaction feeling that they were heard and that their time is valued. They trust you with a lot of valuable information and bring you to the table if they know you are interested and will take action when asked."

What's Next?

"I would like to be a healthcare system CFO in the next 10 years, but in the meantime I am on a journey to learn more about hospital operations and revenue cycle, as well as attempting to keep up with such a dynamic regulatory environment!"



Jim Brann, 35

BBA, Management and Marketing (2004)

**Senior Vice President, Director of Regulatory
Monitoring and Testing**
BOK Financial

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Favorite Price College Memory: Meeting My Wife

"My favorite college memory is meeting and dating my future wife Brooke Watkins. Just a few weeks after we starting dating in the fall of 2003, Brooke was crowned OU Homecoming Queen. Dating Brooke was, and still is, so much fun. She is my best friend and I am her biggest fan."

Hobbies and Interests: The Journey of Hope

"With four children, it's hard to have any hobbies! But I love to tell people about the Journey of Hope. The Journey of Hope is a cross-country bicycle trek solely comprised of members of Pi Kappa Phi that raises funds and awareness for people with disabilities. I was on the 2004 team that rode from San Francisco to Charleston, South Carolina. It was probably the most impactful experience of my life. The team has since been expanded into three different routes of 35 Pi Kappa Phi members and annually raises more than \$500,000. The true impact of the Journey of Hope can be felt through its programming across the nation. After riding an average of 75 miles a day, you won't find team members napping to prepare for the next day's ride - they will be dancing at a friendship visit with a local group that supports people with disabilities, participating in a game of wheelchair basketball, performing puppet shows to educate children on the abilities of people with disabilities, and learning life lessons that will impact them for the rest of their lives. This journey is service beyond self and the men of Pi Kappa Phi have been dedicated to people with disabilities since 1977."

Advice for Price Students: Build and Maintain Relationships

"Be intentional about staying in contact with friends and faculty after graduation."



Brandon Brown, 34

BBA, Marketing and Economics (2005)

Partner
McKinsey & Company
Dallas, Texas

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Inquisitiveness

"When approaching tough problems, I always look to ask more questions and dig deeper to get to the root of the issue. With relationships, I focus on asking and listening to learn about others, what challenges they're facing and how I can potentially help."

Hobbies and Interests: Cooking

"I love to cook and am quite obsessive about mastering complex dishes such as Neapolitan pizza, Thai curries and soups, smoked brisket and ribs, etc. For example, when I learned to make Neapolitan pizza, I tried 50+ dough formulas and mixing techniques, tracking every detail of each one in a spreadsheet to create the perfect recipe."

Advice for Price Students: Use Internships Strategically

"Think about your aspirations post-graduation and strategically pursue internships to build your resume and capabilities. Once you are clear about your ideal career after OU, aggressively go after it. I sent hundreds of emails and made cold calls to land my first job with a top tier CPG company after graduating from OU."

What's Next?

"I've been very successful at progressing through a demanding career while not sacrificing spending time with my wife Maegan and our four kids. I want to ensure that continues. I also want to support others on their journey. My success has been due to a number of individuals who mentored and supported me along the way and I aspire to do everything I can to mentor and create opportunities for others to help them succeed."

40 UNDER 40



Gates Colbert, MD, 34

BBA, Management (2006)

Nephrologist
Kidney and Hypertension Associates of Dallas
Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: [Wayne Thomas](#)

Business and Community Engagement:

Texas A&M College of Medicine at Dallas Core Faculty, Assistant Clinical Professor | Baylor University Medical Center Nephrology Fellowship Clinical Faculty | Dallas County Medical Society Legislative Committee and HealthPAC Committee | American College of Graduate Medical Education Resident Review Committee | American College of Physicians - Council of Student Members 2010

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Perseverance](#)

Advice for Price Students: [Network](#)

"I encourage students to continue to network, seek out leadership opportunities and commit to doing your best."

Did You Know...

"My great-grandfather married Elvis Presley's parents at the Lee County, Mississippi courthouse."

What's Next?

"In the next five to ten years, I plan to grow my Nephrology practice and be a leader in the Texas Medical Association. I also hope to witness an OU Football National Championship."



Maziar Daei, 29

BBA, Energy Management and Finance (2009)

Vice President
Goldman Sachs
New York, New York

Favorite Price Professor: [Steve Long](#)

"There were several faculty members who helped me grow while at OU that I will be forever grateful for. At the top of the list is Steve Long, director of the Energy Management program. I was one of the students Steve selected to attend an Oil & Gas investment conference in New York City, which opened my eyes to a career on Wall Street. For the past couple of years, I have had the opportunity to pay it forward and host Steve and the students at the Goldman Sachs office in New York."

Business and Community Engagement:

"I volunteer with Citizen Schools, a nonprofit organization that partners with middle schools across the country to expand the learning day for children in low-income communities. Through the 8th Grade Academy program, I serve as a writing coach and mentor to apprentices at a Brooklyn middle school with the dual goal of improving their writing skills and preparing them for high school. Knowing that I have played a part in educating and empowering a young student is an extremely rewarding experience."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Support Network](#)

"I am extremely fortunate to have a strong support system of family, friends, mentors and sponsors. These are people who, at various points in my life and career, have provided me with guidance and opportunities to accelerate my growth."

What's Next?

"I'm currently pursuing my MBA part-time at New York University Stern School of Business. I hope to take the skills I'm acquiring in the classroom back to my job at Goldman Sachs in order to be a more effective leader and manager."



H. Chris Fleming, IV, 34

BBA, International Business (2002); MBA (2005)

Partner
REHCO, LLC

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professors: Three-way tie between Dipankar Ghosh, Nim Razook and Pradeep Yadav

Business and Community Engagement:

YMCA of Greater Oklahoma City Board of Directors | Myriad Botanical Gardens Community Board of Directors | OKC Innovation District, Innovation Task Force | Love's Entrepreneur's Cup Business Plan Competition, Judge | ULI Oklahoma Advisory Board | Price College PMBA Advisory Board | St. Luke's United Methodist Church Board of Trustees, Past Chairman | St. Luke's United Methodist Church Foundation, Former Director | The Downtown Club of Oklahoma City

Advice for Price Students: Practice Gratitude

"Success and leadership are built on a foundation of gratitude, self-discipline, personal responsibility and a perseverance and passion for long-term goals. Be grateful for what you have and who you have. Be accountable to yourself and to others. Erase the word 'deserve' from your vocabulary and replace it with 'earn.' Obstacles will undoubtedly arise, and how you overcome those obstacles will set the trajectory of your life.

Favorite Price College Memory: The Last Final Exam

"It was the walk to my car after my last final exam in undergrad. I felt accomplished and relieved, but I felt something else, too. The crisp air of an almost-winter night embraced a clear sky brimming with bright stars. A special stillness surrounded the South Oval as silhouettes of oaks, elms and sycamores stood like saluting sentinels. I inhaled deeply and with all of my senses tried my best to memorialize the splendor of that moment – a moment that I felt Sooner Magic."

Did You Know...

"My grandparents live in New Jersey in a home that has been in our family since 1792; I am a big fan of Star Wars; I love to snow ski and have helicopter-skied in the Canadian Rockies; I wake up before 5am every day."



Sarah Flowers, 31

BBA, Accounting (2008)

Attorney
Sullivan & Cromwell, LLP

Washington, D.C.

Favorite Price College memory:

"My favorite OU memory is meeting my husband at the National Championship game when I was a member of the Pride of Oklahoma."

Business and Community Engagement:

"I am a member of and volunteer attorney for the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program, and have been involved since high school with a non-profit focused on orphans and at-risk youth in Romania called Livada Orphan Care. At the firm, I'm a member of our Women's Initiative Committee. I'm also a member of the Potomac Boat Club, a rowing club here in DC."

Advice for Price Students: Always Work on a Personal Goal

"Always be on a five-year plan to accomplish a personal goal. That plan or goal can certainly change, but I've found that even when plans change, always having the feeling that you are working to achieve personal goals keeps you energized and prevents you from falling into a rut. When I was a student at Price College, I originally thought I wanted to pursue a PhD in accounting – I think that even though I ultimately took a different path and decided my personality and talents were better suited to legal practice, the discipline, focus and academic standards I held myself to in that initial pursuit served me well in the endeavors I ultimately pursued."

What's Next?

"If the last five to 10 years have taught me anything, it's that you can never know where life will take you if you are open to new opportunities and willing to put in the time and energy required. I would say my dearest aspirations are to continue in the strong partnership I've built with my husband Heath and see what interesting opportunities life throws at us, just as we have done for the last 10 years."

40 UNDER 40

**Kelley Grace, 38**

Bachelor of Accountancy and Finance (2000)

Tax Partner

Eide Bailly LLP

Norman, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: Anne Hamilton**Business and Community Engagement:**

Norman Chamber of Commerce, Immediate Past Board Chair and Executive Committee Member | Price College Dean's Board of Advisors | Price College Steed School of Accounting Board of Advisors

Did You Know...

"I am addicted to CrossFit (and I take it pretty seriously)!"

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Relationships

"I feel to successfully serve my clients, it is important that we have a connection and trust as our foundation."

Advice for Price Students: Be Patient

"Being driven, diligent and persistent are keys to success, but remember that good things come to those who wait."

What's Next?

"I aspire to continue to enjoy life in all aspects through learning, relationships and travel!"

**Patrick Grace, 39**

MBA (2002)

CEO

Oklahoma Electric Cooperative

Norman, Oklahoma

Business and Community Engagement:

Rotary | Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) of Cleveland County | Norman Chamber of Commerce | Norman Economic Development Coalition (NEDC) | United Way of Norman

Did You Know...

"I played college basketball at Rose-Human, a small engineering school in Indiana. Another interesting fact is that my grandfather played football for OU, right before WWII. My major hobbies are to workout (CrossFit) with Kelley and to play fantasy football."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Knowing My Strengths and Weaknesses

"...and then learn to grow and improve my weaknesses and leverage my strengths."

Advice for Price Students: Be Ready to Learn More After Graduation

"Understand that the majority of what you need to know to be successful, you will learn after you leave Price. Business school prepares you to learn these things, but the real lessons start day-one in the workforce."

What's Next?

"Professionally, I want to grow and develop in my current role. I have only been in my role for a year and I have a lot to learn. Personally, I want to enjoy being a parent and every stage of our son's journey through life...and to hopefully figure out a way not to screw it up!"

**Robert A. Hefner, V, 31**

BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Management
(2008)

Founder and CEO
Hefner Energy, LLC

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: **Scott Rayburn**

"I really loved Scott Rayburn, his stories kept everyone really engaged. I also enjoyed classes with Jim Wheeler, Elby Beal and Steve Ives."

Favorite Price College Memory: **IBC**

"We created a company called Cowsters for our IBC class and had a great time. To sell our product, we pitched a Texas Longhorn logo above 'Bevo Branded,' but OU legal didn't like that (go figure). So, we ended up dressing up as cows with utters and sold them at home football games."

Did You Know...

"I'm an avid scuba diver, skier, golfer and car enthusiast."

Advice for Price Students: **Be Practical**

"Don't be the person who invents the iPhone, be the person who supplies Apple with parts. Sexy businesses rarely succeed."

What's Next?

"I want to be established enough to start advocating for better local and national energy policy."

**Sam Hinkie, 39**

BBA, Finance (2000)

Lecturer
Stanford University

Palo Alto, California

Favorite Price Professor: **Larry Michaelsen**

"He was an entrepreneur whisperer."

Favorite Price College Memory: **Dating a Fellow Price Student**

"My first date with Ali Burness. Now her name is Hinkie."

Business and Community Engagement:

Positive Coach Alliance Board, National Advisory Board | Board Member of KIPP (Knowledge is Power Program)

Did You Know...

"A friend sent me an ancient quote (Rumi, I think) that says 'Sell your cleverness and buy bewilderment.' I love that, but my focus was much narrower – I'd have sold my Wonderlic points to buy more vertical."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Perseverance**

"A dollop of perseverance in a sea of luck. So many people modeled for me what it looked like to get up, dust yourself off and try again. That's all you can control."

Advice for Price Students: **Aim Higher**

"And try to be an everyday learning machine. All the great stuff comes from compounding."

What's Next?

"To not settle."

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Kateryna Holland, 37

MBA (2001), PhD (2013)

Assistant Professor of Finance
Purdue University's Krannert School of Management
West Lafayette, Indiana

Favorite Price Professors: Finance Faculty

"Louis Ederington, Bill Megginson, Georgia Kosmopoulou, Scott Linn, Kevin Grier, and all of the OU Finance faculty!"

Favorite Price College Memory: Fellow PhD Students and Faculty

"There are many. I enjoyed the Finance seminars that we had on Fridays, I was fond of my Finance classes, especially Econometrics and Corporate Finance, but most of all I liked the interaction with my fellow PhD students and the OU faculty members. One of the best memories is the celebration dinner at Benvenuti's that my OU Finance faculty members put together for me and my family before my graduation from the PhD program. It was an honor to have a chance to take classes from them, learn from them, and to do research with them, and it was wonderful to feel their support and encouragement."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Humility

"It is all a part of the journey. In terms of qualities, I try not to take myself too seriously and always try to do my best."

Advice for Price Students: Work Hard and Be Passionate

"Be motivated and passionate about what you do – that will allow you to be good at your job, as you will enjoy it. Always remember things and people that are important to you, it will help you build a good balance in life. Work hard, then work harder, stay on top of economic and financial news, be curious, defend your opinions but be open to new information, and keep a sense of humor."

What's Next?

"Planning for the next five to 10 years is too far away – many unexpected things can happen along the way. But for this year, my aspirations are to work on a few new interesting papers, to submit and to revise a few of the papers my co-authors and I have worked on for a while, to bring in interesting materials to the classes that I teach in Corporate Finance on the undergraduate and PhD levels, and to balance it all with spending quality time with my family."



Brett Hudson, 34

BBA, Energy Management (2005)

President
Parker Investment Group, Inc.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: Nim Razook

Business and Community Engagement:

I'm a member of the American Association of Professional Landmen (AAPL), Oklahoma City Association of Professional Landmen (OCAPL) and the Price College Adams Society. I give a scholarship to the OU Energy Management Association every year, which is named the Brett Hudson Scholarship in Energy Management. I also strongly support the United Way Emerging Leaders program, the Junior League of Oklahoma City and Infant Crisis Services.

Did You Know...

"One of my favorite things to do is travel to new and adventurous places. I enjoy scuba diving, hiking, exploring cities, cultural sites and learning about new cultures and places. I have had the opportunity to travel to 17 countries with the most recent being Cuba where I spent New Year's 2017 in Havana. Also, in the last year, I have been taking Spanish lessons a few times a week and took up Yoga as a fun and challenging new hobby."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Maintaining Relationships

"My ability to network in the oil and gas industry has truly been an important factor to my success. Furthermore, I pride myself on maintaining respectable and honest relationships with those I do business with."

Advice for Price Students: Keep a Good Reputation

"Work hard and be mindful of your reputation. My favorite quote is from Warren Buffett: 'It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently.'"

What's Next?

"My aspirations for the next five to 10 years are to grow my business and take on new challenges, both personal and professional."



Steve Idoux, 39

BBA, Management Information Systems (2000)

Senior Vice President
Lockton Dunning Benefits, LLC
Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: [Leon Price](#)

Business and Community Engagement:

March of Dimes | Leadership Dallas | Dallas Friday Group | Dallas Breakfast Group | Friends of the Dallas Police | Southern Dallas Development Corporation | Chairman's Task Force State Fair of Texas

Did You Know...

"There's a high frequency of twins in our family. I have a twin brother and siblings who are twins. My grandfather was a twin, my wife's grandmother is a twin and we have six-year-old twins, Mack and Betty Anne."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Hard Work and Hustle](#)

Advice for Price Students: [Have a Plan and Stick To It](#)

"You have to have the patience and willingness to put in the hard work and time to be successful. Know where you want to go and what it will cost – pay the toll."

What's Next?

"I plan to continue to build our Employee Benefit Consulting Practice at Lockton Dunning. We are already the largest single consulting practice in the country with revenue over \$110 million. We would like to be over \$300 million in 10 years."



Kurt Johnson, 38

BBA, Finance (2000)

Chief Credit Officer of Financial Services and Managing Vice President
Capital One
Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professors: [Robert Lipe](#) and [Chris Knapp](#)

Business and Community Engagement:

"I helped launch the Texas chapter of Gift of Adoption to fund local families who are trying to adopt but need a little financial help to get over the line. Capital One is very committed to the communities where our associates live and work, and I'm proud to lead my team when we participate in Habitat for Humanity builds and fundraisers for Girls Inc."

Did You Know...

"I spent my summers in college as a door-to-door salesman!"

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Lifelong Learning](#)

"I've constantly changed functions and disciplines. It's been critical to be humble and hungry when starting something new – to go 'back to school' and teach myself the fundamentals of the new thing."

Advice for Price Students: [Have a Mentor](#)

"Find somebody you admire who's 10-plus years ahead of you and start a mentoring relationship. Don't make it forced or overly formal. When you find a few people you click with you'll get invaluable wisdom and coaching and they'll likely enjoy the opportunity to see the world through your eyes and help shape your career."

What's Next?

"I am looking forward to watching my one-year-old daughter Kressa grow into her personality, and helping Capital One continue transforming banking."

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Chris Kannady, 37

MBA (2004)

Representative, District 91
Oklahoma State House of Representatives
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professors: All of Them

Favorite Price College Memory: The Relationships

"My favorite part was working on all the teams I worked on, leading to priceless relationships."

Business and Community Engagement:

OK House of Representatives, Judiciary Chair and Assistant Floor Leader | Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) | Oklahoma National Guard

Did You Know...

"I love old cars and working on them. If you know who Carroll Shelby is then you like them too. By the way, my daughter's name is Shelby."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Building Relationships

Advice for Price Students: Always Work Hard and Have Integrity

What's Next?

"For the next five to 10 years, I plan to continue to build my law practice and see where my political endeavors take me."



Anthony Klotz, 37

PhD (2013)

Assistant Professor of Management
Oregon State University College of Business
Corvallis, Oregon

Favorite Price Professor: Mark Bolino

Favorite Price College Memory: First Time Teaching Principles of Management

"It was nerve-racking and fun at the same time."

Business and Community Engagement:

Academy of Management | Society for Human Resource Management | Austin Family Business Program Board and Management Club at Oregon State University

Did You Know...

"I was raised in a family business, and the symbol of that business is the world's largest coffee pot, which is actually a water tower off of Interstate 80 in Omaha, Nebraska."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Creativity

"Instead of a single quality, I'll give you two qualities that go together: creativity and hard work. Being able to develop novel ideas and then having the persistence to implement them is a pretty solid combination."

Advice for Price Students: Embrace Learning at Your First Job

"Most people do not love their first job out of college. Entry level positions are often stressful, demanding and thankless. However, if you treat it as an extension of college, where your goal should be to learn as much as possible, and you embrace the difficulties as challenges to overcome rather than career hindrances, it will set you up for a successful career."



Michael Kopelman, 39

BBA, Finance (2000)

Senior Vice President, Finance and Strategic Planning
HBO

New York, New York

Favorite Price Professor: **Bruce Emery**

Favorite Price College Memory: **Study Abroad in Madrid**

Business and Community Engagement:

CFA Institute | New York Society of Securities Analysts | Pro Mujer | One Refugee Child

Did You Know...

"I'm fluent in Spanish, and love to snowboard."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Flexibility and Persistence**

"Almost regardless of industry, the business world is experiencing an accelerated rate of change. To be successful today you need the flexibility to adapt to a rapidly changing environment and the persistence to move forward when those changes disrupt whatever carefully laid plans you may have made. That's as true for individuals as it is for companies."

Advice for Price Students: **Study Abroad**

"And learn a language while doing so."

What's Next?

"I'm mostly concerned with continuing to work with great people who challenge me so I can keep learning and growing - the rest will take care of itself."



Bradyn Littles, 24

BBA, Marketing and International Business (2015)

Certified English Teacher Volunteer
English Volunteers for Change (EVOLC)
Costa Rican Government Department of Labor

Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: **Ana Bolino**

Favorite Price College Memory: **IBC**

"Our company IBComfort sold Vintage Sooner Football sweatshirts on campus that were very popular. I made a great group of friends, but also learned how to start a business."

Did You Know...

"I enjoy traveling to exotic places. Once on a trip to Morocco, I rode a camel through the Sahara Desert and spent the night in an oasis. I stayed up all night listening to the local Moroccans, called Berbers, play music and then climbed a sand dune at sunrise."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Adaptability**

"Through college, my first career in Dallas and the Peace Corps application process, I have learned that being adaptable goes a long way and will open up new opportunities. As you adapt to the environment you are in, you become more self-aware, flexible and relatable to others. Albert Einstein once said, 'The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.'"

Advice for Price Students: **Improve Yourself Now**

"Take advantage of this time to become the most amazing version of yourself. In college you have the resources, time and opportunities to develop your character and skills. Use this time to figure out your passion and create a future career path."

What's Next?

"Due to a recent state of emergency issued in Peru, I will not depart for the Peace Corps until 2018. I am currently serving in a government funded program as an English Teacher in Costa Rica. However, after serving in the Peace Corps for two years, I plan to return to the states to study international development or social enterprise in graduate school in the Washington, D.C. area. Upon graduating, I will pursue an international career in business development."

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David Lohmann, 31

BBA, Energy Management (2007)

CEO
Apex Dental Partners
Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: [Nim Razook](#)

Did You Know...

"My entire life I wanted to be an architect. However, after the first day of my first architecture studio class at OU, I immediately realized I had no artistic ability which, as it turns out, is a key part of being an architect. The moment the class let out, I quickly walked to the business college to change my major. I think it turned out to be the right decision for me."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Luck](#)

"I've been incredibly fortunate in my life to have been given opportunities to succeed. Whether that was beginning my career at a large Wall Street investment bank or being supported by investors who believe in my ability to build a company, I've been lucky to encounter people who have taken an interest in me and my career."

Advice for Price Students: [Work Hard and Be Nice to People](#)

"It's amazing how far those two things will take you in life."

What's Next?

"I'm focused on what we are building at Apex. We set out to build a company that shapes and positively impacts the future of the dental industry, and I'm excited to see the progress we make over the coming years. I also would love if my 18 month old son would start sleeping past 6 am."



Bryan Magstadt, 39

BBA, Finance (2000)

Senior Vice President, Private Client Advisor
US Trust
Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: [Steve Scott](#)

"Steve's class on financial planning was one of the most interesting classes I took at OU. He had a great perspective on how financial theory applied to the real world and kept the subject matter interesting. He also taught us how to write-off ownership in a boat as a second mortgage. I'm still waiting to purchase my first boat, but plan to put that advice into practice once I do."

Did You Know...

"Prior to attending OU, I had lived a pretty sheltered life, evidenced by the fact that I had only traveled by airplane one time before my freshman year. It was my time at OU that opened my eyes to all that the world had to offer and instilled in me a deep desire to experience new things and places. Since those undergraduate days, I've had the unique opportunity to run with the bulls in Pamplona, Spain; drink a pint of Guinness in Dublin on St. Patrick's Day; sing German folk songs at Oktoberfest in Munich; wipe out while surfing in Costa Rica; eat until I was uncomfortably full at a churrascaria in Rio; pose for photo opportunities outside the former KGB building in Moscow; and countless other experiences. I've been able to conclude that life is just one big road trip and there are so many more miles I still want to travel."

Advice for Price Students: [Push Your Boundaries](#)

"Take advantage of as many opportunities as you can that allow you to break out of your comfort zone – whether it's studying abroad, interning in a new city, becoming proficient in a foreign language, taking a class you find interesting that has nothing to do with your major or one of countless other opportunities that your time at OU will offer. We live in an increasingly connected world where businesses thrive by finding new innovations to disrupt the status quo and truly successful managers are able to relate to unique personalities, skill sets and behaviors of a truly global workforce. The more you can do to keep pushing the boundaries of your own personal understanding, the better positioned you will be to become successful in a world that requires the ability to adapt to a constantly changing business landscape."



Julia Marguerite Gabrielle Mainini, 39

MBA (2008)

Associate to the Senior Vice President of Marketing and Sales Worldwide
Nestle Waters

Paris, France

Favorite Price Professors: Mike Dillard (Entrepreneurship), General Holmes (Leadership), Dr. Megginson (Advanced Corporate Finance) and Dr. Wallman (Marketing)

Favorite Price College Memory: International Experience

"I enjoyed experiencing the excellence of graduate level American education at OU and meeting many international students from all over the world."

Business and Community Engagement:

French and Francophone Student Association (FFSA), Founder and Former President | OU France Alumni Network, Founder and President

Did You Know...

"I have a great passion for dance. I've been dancing since I was three years old, did Rhythmic Gymnastics for 15 years and competed in the France Championship twice."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Perseverance

Advice for Price Students: Commit to Excellence

"Believe in yourself always, study and work with passion and over deliver to exceed expectations."

What's Next?

"I aim to continue building my career and my personal life, being inspired and to be an inspiration to others to make the world a better place."



Ryan McAdams, 39

BBA, Marketing (2002)

Owner
Tulsa Toy Depot & Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Favorite Price College Memory: 2000 Fall Semester

"That was the semester I served as president of Sigma Chi and Red October."

Business and Community Engagement:

Bixby YMCA Advisory Board

Did You Know...

"I'm a fourth-generation OU grad going back to my great-grandmother. I attended all 13 games during the 2000 OU football season. And I enjoy studying history - it's really just a study of people, which we can use in business every day because it is still all about people."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Vision

"I value the gift to visualize a concept and still notice the details."

Advice for Price Students: Learn from Everything

"You can't control the direction of the wind, but you can adjust your sails to it. Work hard and be flexible to new opportunities that might end up being your dream career. Learn from every experience, both failure and success, and use those lessons to direct your future decisions in life."

What's Next?

"I plan to continue to work to create two stores that provide unique experiences for families and benefit the quality of life in the community, including providing the finest chocolate creations and searching the world for the highest quality in toys."

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**Keith Melker, 36**

BBA, Finance and Management Information Systems
(2002)

Partner and Managing Director
The Boston Consulting Group

Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price College Memory: [Meeting the Future Mrs. Melker](#)

"My favorite college memory actually happened two days before classes started in my freshman year - that's when I met my wife Jessica."

Business and Community Engagement:

"My travel schedule makes it difficult to serve in the ways I would like, but I am a regular volunteer on the weekend with my church in Dallas, Bent Tree Bible Fellowship."

Did You Know...

"In a two-week period during 2007, my wife and I returned to the U.S. from a month-long service trip to Guatemala, moved across the country, bought our first home, found out we were having triplets and started a new job at a new company. It was a stressful, but foundational, time as we still live in the same city, in the same house, we kept all three kids, and I'm still with the same company."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [Good Luck](#)

"...and some hard work."

Advice for Price Students: [Apply Yourself](#)

"If you take the right classes and apply yourself at OU, you will get as good a business education as is available."

What's Next?

"I would love to spend less time travelling and more time with my family!"

**Mike Mitchell, 37**

MBA (2004)

Senior Analyst / Partner
Locust Wood Capital Advisors

New York, New York

Favorite Price Professors: [Mel Penn and Louis Ederington](#)**Did You Know...**

"I'm an avid hunter/outdoorsman with family in Oklahoma, Texas and Colorado. The most interesting story in my family (outside of my son's birth last year) is my grandfather, Captain Lloyd Mitchell. He was awarded France's Legion of Honor medal for his service in WWII, which is essentially the equivalent of being made a French Knight. He's one of my heroes, and is still going strong at 98."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: [No Fear of Failure](#)

"That's the biggest thing. Number two is focus."

Advice for Price Students: [Work For Someone You Admire](#)

"When you graduate, work for someone you admire. You can't get a bad result. You'll wake up and jump out of bed in the morning excited for another day. My second piece of advice - embrace the concept of failure. It's OK to fail - failing means you tried something difficult. Get up, dust yourself off, learn from it and try something else."

What's Next?

"I'm extremely optimistic about the next 10 years. My wife Carolyn and I just started our family last fall - my biggest aspiration is for our family to continue to grow. Professionally, I would aspire to continued success, hopefully with increasing responsibility and portfolio control. In the longer term, I'd like to be closer to family - raise our son Max and (hopefully) his siblings outside of the New York City area."



Neda Navabha Hazen, 29

BBA, Energy Management (2010)

**CA Natural Gas and Biogas Originator
BP**

Newport Beach, California

Favorite Price Professor: **Nim Razook**

Business and Community Engagement:

Price College Arthur B. Adams Society | Delta Delta Delta Alumni |
BP Diversity and Inclusion Board

Did You Know...

"I've started three endowed scholarships since I graduated that benefit future generations of energy management students at Price College."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Persistence**

Advice for Price Students: **Be Bold**

"Don't wait for people to give you permission or tell you what to do next, be bold and go after it."

What's Next?

"I plan to get my MBA from a top 10 business program and develop my leadership skills."



Ranya Forgotson O'Connor, 25

BBA, Marketing (2014)

**Director
The Curbside Chronicle**
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: **Daniel T. Ostas**

Business and Community Engagement:

OKC Citizens Committee for Community Development, Ward 6
Representative | Leadership Oklahoma City, LOYAL XI Member |
Sasquatch Shaved Ice, Board Member

Did You Know...

"I actually co-founded The Curbside Chronicle while a junior at OU, so OU played a significant role in the start-up of our organization. The campus environment provided a lot of encouragement and resources that were vital in making The Curbside Chronicle a reality and not just keeping it an idea."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Passion...Or Maybe Naïveté**

"I think it takes a little bit of blissful thinking and naïveté to pursue big ideas. Some of the smartest minds are making it up as they go. Sometimes they get it right. Sometimes they get it wrong. But they are willing to try."

Advice for Price Students: **Practice Social Responsibility**

"People are just as important as profit in the world of business, if not more important. We have to ask ourselves how we can use business to change the world around us and affect long-standing societal ills like poverty and homelessness. I believe good, thoughtful business is the answer to creating positive, long-term community impact and change."

What's Next?

"I hope to continue to grow the impact of The Curbside Chronicle in Oklahoma City, helping more and more individuals transition out of homelessness and find employment. I am also interested in developing further social enterprises that meet the needs of marginalized populations in the Oklahoma City community and offer opportunity through sustainable business models."

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Elisabeth Pefanis, 24

BBA, Finance (2015)

Senior Analyst, Business Planning & Strategy
ABC News

New York, New York

Favorite Price Professor: Jeremy Short

"He always made our capstone class entertaining and taught practical skills of having a business through case studies and other creative teaching techniques. Plus, he had a popcorn machine."

Favorite Price College Memory: OU/TX

"OU/TX weekend was always fun to go to with my friends, see my family and cheer on OU. It's a great tradition and one I have kept participating in even after graduating."

Did You Know...

"I enjoy drawing, skiing and going to museums on the weekend."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Perseverance

"There are plenty of times when I've been low on confidence and the one thing that's helped the most has been to keep trying."

Advice for Price Students: Try New Things

"Don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone. Apply to everything, even if it's something you're not sure about, you'll never regret giving something new a try – but there's always regret for not trying."

What's Next?

"I want to continue to learn and take on increasing areas of responsibilities with my career at ABC News. I always want to be more well-traveled, and learn another language."



Blaine Pinard, 30

BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Management
(2009)

Owner
The Restoration Station
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: Lowell Busenitz

Favorite Price College Memory: Business Plan

"There were too many to count. But the late nights spent with my business plan team conjuring up new plans for our prospective venture was a lot of fun."

Business and Community Engagement:

"I currently assist the board for the Claims Process and Procedure Council (CPPC) in Chicago and a few other conferences focused around furniture restoration around the country. I keep in touch with my friends from ICCEW and try to volunteer some time each year to the current students in the program."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Perseverance

"I think growing an organization with so many moving parts takes patience, time, and the ability to fight through the difficult times that come from growth."

Advice for Price Students: Take Risks Early

"The longer you wait, the harder it is to step out and take risks. I've had multiple business failures since I graduated but I haven't truly regretted any of them. It's true what they say – the more times you swing the bat, the more likely you are to hit a home run."

What's Next?

"I'm excited about the position our company is currently in. We've moved to a new location and are in the middle of a renovation that is going to provide us with the space and ability to grow. I'm hoping to double our staff in the next five years and spread our services outside of the state. Exciting times ahead!"



Jeff Ragan, 31

BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Management
(2008)

Founder and CEO
KiZE Concepts Inc.

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Business and Community Engagement:

"We do our Haiti mission work through With All My Heart Foundation. Locally, we're involved in Cleats 4 Kids, City Rescue Mission and OU Children's Hospital."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Faith

"I have faith and belief in God, self, others and the dreams put in our hearts and the courage to continuously pursue."

Advice for Price Students: The Five F's

"FAITH, FOCUS, FIRE, FIGHT, FORWARD. Believe, stay focused on your dreams and what's important, live and work with passion/enthusiasm/appreciation, have strength to handle adversity and just keep going. If you don't quit, you'll get there!"

What's Next?

"We plan to continuously strive to change the world for the better through food, service and charity. I want to feed 1 million people, donate \$1 million and help 1 million people live a better life – to be encouraged, inspired and empowered through KiZE products and services. I want to build incredible relationships, spread a lot of joy and love and appreciate every second of it!"



John Raines, 34

BBA, Energy Management and Finance (2005)

Vice President, Rockies Business Unit
Devon Energy

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Business and Community Engagement:

Oklahoma City Association of Professional Landmen | American Association of Professional Landmen | Oklahoma Mineral Lawyers Society | Oklahoma Bar Association | Oklahoma City University's Meinders School of Business MBA Program, Adjunct Professor

Did You Know...

"I ended up marrying a Longhorn who grew up across the street from me. During our last year in college, we met in our home town through mutual friends and started a long-distance relationship. Tori eventually came to her senses and moved to Norman, where she earned a master's from OU. Though I am still working on a full conversion from Longhorn to Sooner, we married in 2012 and had our first child in October of 2016."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Self and Situational Awareness

"Know your strengths and use them. Know your weaknesses and develop them. Understand what's important and to whom. Recognize and reconcile conflicts between short, medium and long-term drivers. And understand, ultimately, the big picture so that everything can tie back together. While I am by no means perfect in this space, I believe my near-constant focus on the same has been a key differentiator during my career."

Advice for Price Students: Take Ownership of Your Development

"Many folks tend to rely on corporate training and assigned mentors to tell them what to do; however, those with the self-awareness to ask questions, to find the right mentors and to put themselves in position to earn valuable experience are the folks who more quickly add material value to an enterprise because they are developing their technical and leadership skillsets on a dramatically accelerated basis. Balance your drive by taking care of yourself physically and emotionally, as it becomes easy to burn out."

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Camilo Restrepo Vallejo, 36

Executive MBA in Energy (2016)

**Exploration Geoscientist, New Ventures
South East Asia**

Repsol

Singapore

Favorite Price Professors: Chitru Fernando and Arvind Garg

Business and Community Engagement:

American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) | South East Asia Petroleum Exploration Society (SEAPEX)

Did You Know...

"When I was 17 years old I decided to join the Colombian Army. I had been accepted in the Geology School already and it was not mandatory. However, I felt I needed to do something for my country. My life was greatly enriched by this experience. Discipline, team work and collaboration are some of the skills I learned from it, as well as the importance and value of family support."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Positive Attitude

"I think growing an organization with so many moving parts takes patience, time, and the ability to fight through the difficult times that come from growth."

Advice for Price Students: Take Risks Early

"I actually have advice for those non-business background professionals with technical careers who enter into a business program: do not lose passion on the technical career or leave it behind. Use the business tools provided by an MBA to boost your core knowledge. This will help you become a successful leader."

What's Next?

"I'm a passionate oil and gas explorer so I can't imagine doing something different. I expect to return to my home country and work on projects that will increase the hydrocarbons reserves there. I'd also like to teach oil and gas exploration in the Colombian Geology schools so I can be able to share some of the knowledge acquired overseas."



Caroline Sharp, 31

MBA (2010)

**Vice President
Stifel Nicolaus**

Dallas, Texas

Favorite Price Professor: Bill Megginson

Favorite Price College Memory: Pulling All-Nighters

"Studying all night in the graduate student lounge with everyone before Dr. Dauffenbach's midterms and finals."

Business and Community Engagement:

Price College Adams Society | North Texas Food Bank | Greater Dallas Special Olympics | Equest Women's Auxiliary - supporting equine therapeutic riding programs in Dallas

Did You Know...

"I originally wanted to be a sportscaster and my undergrad major at OU was in broadcast. However, in the midst of a tough job market in 2008-2009, I decided to return to OU for my MBA and fostered an interest in investing and wealth management through coursework and a summer internship. One of the best decisions I've made!"

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Determination

Advice for Price Students: Be Passionate About Your Discipline

"Make sure you have a passion for what you are studying. Later on, whether you are interviewing for a job or internship or speaking with clients or employees, it will show through and serve you well."

What's Next?

"I plan to continue advancing in my career by being a trusted advisor to clients, give back to my community and alma mater and be the best wife and mother I can be."



Jason Sheffield, 36

BBA, Management Information Systems (2003)

Principal and General Manager
Shangri-La Golf Club, Resort & Marina; Shangri-La
Real Estate Development

Monkey Island, Oklahoma

Business and Community Engagement:

Gibbs Christian Education Foundation, President | Integris Grove Hospital Foundation, Board Member | Three Rivers Church, Worship Leader, PCA | Youth Sports Coach

Did You Know...

"I enjoy family, community, boating and living on the lake, being outdoors and coaching my son's sports teams."

Advice for Price Students: Challenge Yourself

"Lean into the challenge before you. Stretch yourself. Take risks within reason, and you'll be amazed at what you're actually capable of. Be open to the possibility of doing something you never thought you'd be doing."

What's Next?

"In the short term, I intend to ensure that Shangri-La is the premier destination resort in the region. I'd also say that I'm still not certain what I want to do when I grow up! So I plan to zero in on exactly what I want the second half of my professional career to look like."



Andy Sherrer, 39

MBA (2002)

Senior Vice President, Private Client Services
Republic Bank & Trust

Norman, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: Dipankar Ghosh

Favorite Price College Memory: MBA Prelude Week

"It provided the first chance to meet lifelong friends."

Business and Community Engagement:

Price College Management and International Business Division Advisory Board | Norman Chamber of Commerce, Former Chairman | Moore Norman Technology Center, Elected Board Member | City of Norman Planning Commissioner | Arrow Global Capital, Board Member

Did You Know...

"I was given the nickname 'Phil' in college, which is still used by many of my former MBA classmates to this day. My classmates recognized that I rarely took my coat off in class and said that there were six more weeks of winter whenever I failed to wear a coat. Needless to say, they nicknamed me 'Punxsutawney Phil' and eventually just 'Phil.'"

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Service to Others

Advice for Price Students: Have a Good Team

"A team is greater than any one person. If you have the right people on your team, they will take you to success."

What's Next?

"I look forward to continuing to serve as a banker with Republic Bank & Trust. Over the next five to 10 years, I see great opportunity for Oklahoma City and Norman. I am eager to be a part of a growing and thriving community."

40 UNDER 40



Stephen Soroosh, 37

MBA (2014)

Founder, President and CEO
Driven Analytics, Inc.

Edmond, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professors: **My Classmates**

Favorite Price College Memory: **California Dreamin' Competition**

"We took first place in two of the three events at the California Dreamin' Business Plan Competition."

Business and Community Engagement:

"I'm very involved with my church but that is about it right now. Between family, church and launching a company, I'm lucky to find time to eat and sleep!"

Did You Know...

"I am an Eagle Scout."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Accountability**

"I hold myself accountable to others, regardless of their position. This drives me to work harder and longer than most."

Advice for Price Students: **Keep a Journal**

"Write down your thoughts, challenges, prayers, high moments and low moments. These utterances written during the moments will be priceless in the future."

What's Next?

"In the next five to 10 years, I would like to be in a roll that allows me to spend time helping to grow and/or teach STEM education for high school and middle school kids."



Rhett Stover, 37

BBA, Marketing (2002)

Regional CEO
Tandem Hospital Partners

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: **Michael Buckley**

Favorite Price College Memory: **A Long Walk to Campus**

"I don't know if this is my favorite memory, but certainly the one that I remember the most. My last final as an undergrad, 8am on Friday, and I can't get my car to start. Couldn't get anyone to get out of bed and come pick me up so I walked from the Commons to Adams Hall to take my last exam at OU."

Business and Community Engagement:

MyHealth, Board of Directors | Sooner Healthcare Executives, Board of Directors | Young Presidents Organization (YPO) | Cherokee Nation

Did You Know...

"I enjoy spending time outdoors - running, playing water sports and being at the lake with our family. I love being a dad and being involved with our kids' sports and social activities. I also love pugs, the Chicago Cubs and watching college basketball."

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: **Generosity**

"I've served under and benefited greatly from mentors and alongside team members who have been incredibly generous investing their time and talents for my own betterment - so much so that any success I find is never really mine, but a direct reflection of others who have generously poured in to me. I believe the more generous we are with our time, talents, gifts and resources, the more successful we become."

Advice for Price Students: **Servanthood**

"Fall in love with the process and pursuit of trustworthy servanthood. Sacrifice your ego, care passionately and deeply concern yourself with bringing out the best in others. This will allow you to be a positive force in the lives of those you touch. Fall in love with the process and you will love what the process creates."



Carlisha Williams, 32

BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Management
(2008)

**Executive Director/Superintendent
Tulsa Legacy Charter Schools
Founder and Executive Director
Women Empowering Nations, Inc.**
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Favorite Price Professor: Shelly Grunsted

Favorite Price College Memory: Alpha Kappa Alpha and Miss Black OU

"Some of my best experiences were spent through the service and sisterhood in being a part of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority as well as during my reign as Miss Black University of Oklahoma 2006."

Business and Community Engagement:

Teach for America, Alumna | Leadership Oklahoma City's LOYAL Class X | Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Did You Know...

"Most people assume I am an extrovert because they see me engaged in public speaking and regularly connecting with new people. However, I consider myself to be more of an outgoing introvert who can even be shy at times. While I love meeting new faces, I also like alone time to recharge."

What's Next?

"I aspire to expand operations of Women Empowering Nations (WEN) through a developing tech component for our programs, as well as partnership with additional schools worldwide. WEN currently partners with schools in Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Houston, Banjul, The Gambia and Mwanza, Tanzania to provide self-esteem and leadership development programming to cohorts of middle school girls through our leadership development programs. In addition to those programs, WEN provides 8th through 12th grade girls with the opportunity to participate in the Girl Leading Our World travel seminar and leadership conference in Africa. We have served over 2,000 girls in the United States and Africa and look forward to impacting thousands more."



Josh Woodward, 33

BBA, Economics (2006)

**Group Product Manager
Google**

Mountain View, California

Favorite Price College Memory: President Boren Retirement Hoax

"As a senior in the PE-ET honors society, we taped up several thousand fake press releases across campus after midnight. They announced President Boren's "sudden, unexpected retirement" just before graduation. To top it off, we hung up large hand-painted banners on the south oval exclaiming, "Thanks for everything. We'll miss you Papa B." For about 10 minutes the next morning, the Provost and university administrators were in a tizzy. Then it was discredited, and people went on with graduation."

Did You Know...

"I've never eaten a Rice Krispies treat!"

A Quality You Can Attribute to Success: Patience and Generosity From Others

Advice for Price Students: Solve For Learning

"Be nice to people and look for ways to help them get ahead. However much time you spend watching YouTube, watch less. Read a lot. Live abroad. Try to do at least two internships before you graduate. Ruthlessly eliminate hurry. Don't choose your first job based on its title or salary – optimize, instead, for how much you can learn and the quality of your manager."

What's Next?

"I hope to keep finding great joy in being a dad and husband. I hope my 30s are marked more by the depth of my relationships, not achievements."

**COULD YOU
BE A REAL
ENERGY
LEADER OF
TOMORROW?**



For almost 60 years, education and research in energy management has been central to the OU Price College of Business' purpose: ensuring the enduring global competitiveness of Oklahoma and the nation.

While others are pumping the brakes in the energy industry, Price College is pushing the accelerator as the Energy Institute continues to advance and invest in our students.

We aim to be the benchmark in developing the Real Energy Leaders of the future. This initiative offers the most comprehensive range of quality leadership and learning programs for ambi-

tious, forward thinking energy leaders worldwide.

Our highly acclaimed programs have been tailor-made with the industry, for the industry. They serve as a focal point to show how we are developing the Real Energy Leaders of tomorrow, today. The state and nation need Real Energy Leaders to compete and thrive on a global scale amidst an increasingly complex and uncertain environment.

It is important to understand what a Real Energy Leader is. There is more to energy than pulling hydrocarbons out of the ground. Energy powers homes, it drives research and innovation, it educates and moves us forward. As a Real Energy Leader, you move energy forward.

Become part of the future today, visit www.realenergyleaders.com



TACKLE BIG ISSUES

Energy

Female Energy Leaders Benefit from Executive Program in Abu Dhabi

The Price College Energy Institute continues to expand its global executive education offerings. The institute hosted the first-ever Executive Management Program for Women in Energy in Abu Dhabi last fall. The program took place Nov. 6-10 in conjunction with the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition & Conference. Women who participated in the program benefitted from energy-relevant courses in leadership, finance, management, accounting and beyond, including a keynote luncheon delivered by Kristy Walker, ExxonMobil Qatar controller and Abu Dhabi business services manager/controller.



Dr. Margaret Shaffer (left) with the inaugural participants of the Women in Energy program



Introducing an Executive Program for Energy Leaders in a Complex and Uncertain Environment

Next fall, the Price College Energy Institute will host a new executive program aimed at preparing energy leaders in a complex and uncertain environment. The program will take place in Oklahoma City Nov. 5-9, 2017. It is designed for high-level energy executives who are either at or above the level of vice president in their company, or are preparing for their advancement into a vice president role. For more information about the program, contact Energy Institute Operations Director Adam Clinton at aclinton@ou.edu or (405) 325-4687.

Healthcare

The Business of Healthcare Expands at Price College

In the past year, Price College has experienced several advances in addressing the business of healthcare. Last fall, the college established a Healthcare Advisory Board made up of senior executives within a variety of subsectors of the healthcare industry. The college also graduated the first class of business healthcare minors during December convocation, and partnered with OU's College of Public Health to offer MBA students a Healthcare Certification through 12 hours of healthcare coursework. In addition, the Student Healthcare Association, which is a student-run



organization, launched during the spring 2017 semester, providing members an introduction to the healthcare field and opportunities to seek future employment and network with current industry professionals.

Economic Development



Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth Thrives with Transformation Gift

OU Alumnus and Entrepreneur Ronnie K. Irani made a \$5.35 million gift in support of the newly-named Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth. Half of the gift will be used to establish an endowment to support and enhance existing I-CCEW programs and operations, while the remainder will create an endowment to fund new initiatives and innovations that will expand the center's high-impact programming and entrepreneurial consulting. Irani earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in petroleum engineering from OU and later an MBA from Oklahoma City University. Irani went on to found and grow RKI Exploration & Production into a multi-billion enterprise before he sold it to WPX Energy in 2015 in what *Oil & Gas Investor* called the "deal of the year."



12th Annual Partners Celebration Showcases Innovation Hub

The Director of Public/Private Partnerships hosted the 12th Annual Partners Celebration Nov. 16, and used the opportunity to showcase the recently-opened OU Innovation Hub at the University Research Campus in Norman. The networking reception brings together members of institutions, industries and investors who commonly partner with and directly benefit from the OU community through research and other economic development efforts, including recruitment, retention and expansion. The celebration included tours and demonstrations of the I-Hub's resources, which are open to the local community as well as students, and live entertainment from local recording artist and Price College staff member, Katie Williams.



Education

Adams Society Dinner Honors Innovation

The seventh annual Adams Society Dinner celebrated the induction of over 30 new members and 12 advancing members at the Sam Noble Museum Nov. 10. OU Provost Kyle Harper provided the university welcome and kicked off an evening that recognized the 10th anniversary of the Ronnie K. Irani Center for the Creation of Economic Wealth. Price Alumnus and OU Regent Kirk Humphreys delivered the keynote address, where he shared his insights on philanthropy and the entrepreneurial spirit as chairman of the Humphreys Company and former mayor of Oklahoma City. Adams Society Chairwoman Deborah Kitchens gave the ceremonial toast before dinner, and the evening concluded with a rousing performance from the OU Pride. Each guest was sent home with an Adams Society engraved coaster that was made by Price College student Silas Vieira at the OU Innovation Hub's Fabrication Lab.



The 2016 class of Adams Society inductees



Dean Daniel Pullin and Provost Kyle Harper (far right) with Jack Goddard and Deborah Kitchens



Regent Kirk Humphreys delivers the keynote



Inductee Mary Ellen Thoes with Price College student hosts



Price College Joins U.S. News Top 50: One of 25 Nationally Ranked Programs

During the fall semester, the Price College undergraduate program broke into the *U.S. News & World Report's* top 50 (#48) on its list of "Best Undergraduate Business Programs," adding to the list of 25 nationally ranked programs within the college. The Steed School of Accounting is consistently ranked in the top 10 at both the undergraduate and graduate level among other business schools of its size by *Public Accounting Report*. The Center for Entrepreneurship continues to be ranked second in the nation among public universities at the undergraduate level and among the top 10 by *Princeton Review* and *Entrepreneur Magazine*. The International Business program ranks in the top 30 (#24) by *U.S. News & World Report* for the 11th consecutive year. The Price College Full-Time and Professional MBA Programs are among *Bloomberg Businessweek's* Best B-Schools of 2016, and ranked as a Tier I program by *CEO Magazine* the past two years. The Executive MBA is also ranked as a Tier I program by *CEO Magazine* and among the top three in the world by Find-MBA.com the past two years.



Globalization



Meeting with U.S. Consulate in Ho Chi Minh City



Top of the World manufacturing facility



The cooking class included a trip to the wet market to gather ingredients

Students Gain Exposure and Understanding of Capitalism in Communist Southeast Asia

A group of undergraduate and graduate business students traveled to Vietnam and Cambodia during the 2016-17 winter break, where they benefitted from both corporate and cultural visits led by Margaret Shaffer, who holds the Michael F. Price Chair of International Business. The whirlwind trip included a trip on the Mekong River and a tour of the ancient temples of Angkor Wat; a culturally-immersive cooking class where they prepared a traditional Vietnamese cuisine; appointments with American multinationals like Harley Davidson, General Electric and Grant Thornton, as well as Oklahoma's own Top of the World hat manufacturer; and learned more about the business ties that are being forged between America and Vietnam at the U.S. Consulate, to name but a few of their activities. Dr. Shaffer plans to continue to expose Price students to the Asian side of business, and hopes to eventually expand the study abroad experience to destinations like China, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore and Hong Kong.



OU hats being made at Top of the World



GENERATE BUSINESS INSIGHTS



The living area of the lounge



The Hauschild family with Dean Pullin

New Hauschild Faculty and Staff Lounge Enables Intellectual Collisions in Adams Hall

On Sept. 13, Price College celebrated the grand opening of the Debe & Rick Hauschild Faculty & Staff Lounge. Strategically located on the second floor of Adams Hall across from the Burrage Family Dean's Suite, the lounge lends a more conducive atmosphere for

intellectual discourse and problem-solving among faculty and staff. The renovation was made possible through the generosity of Debe and Rick Hauschild, who helped Dean Pullin and his wife Tamara cut the ceremonial ribbon.



Debe and Rick Hauschild cut the ceremonial ribbon with Dean Daniel and Tamara Pullin



The kitchen includes all-new single-serve coffee and hot beverage maker, fridge, microwave and dishwasher

PREPARE LEADERS



MBA faculty and staff, from left: Robert Dauffenbach, Jennifer Aragon, Amber Hasbrook, Lynann Sterk-Brooks, Laku Chidambaram and Eddie Edwards



Guests and staff take in the wrap-around views of downtown Oklahoma City



The celebratory balloon drop concluded the facility tour



MBA students were encouraged to leave their mark during the beam signing



Remarks were made in the space that will soon become the global interactive lounge

Alumni and Students Get Sneak Peek of New OKC Facility for Graduate and Executive Education

Price College hosted a groundbreaking celebration Oct. 28 for the new 27,000 square foot facility opening in fall 2017 at the Oklahoma City University Research Park. Alumni and current MBA students were invited to explore the unfinished space, where they were able to visualize each room and lobby's layout with the help of guide maps and marked floors that denoted walls, furniture and labels. Novelty hard hats were given out, a support beam was signed and the celebration concluded with a balloon drop in what will be the Global Interactive Lounge.



LoveWorks students continue to raise funds and develop skills through the lemonade stand challenges



Students volunteering at Meals on Wheels

Students Organize Another Successful Price Service Day

Last fall's Price College Service Day was held Nov. 5 at 15 different locations across Norman, including several elementary schools, churches, Meals on Wheels and Second Chance Animal Shelter. One of the site visits where students, faculty and staff volunteered was LoveWorks, a nonprofit committed to developing middle-schoolers' leadership potential. The day was spent running a start-up lemonade stand to raise money toward charity. The interaction sparked a partnership between the nonprofit and the student organization Delta Sigma Pi, with LoveWorks expanding on the lemonade stand concept by creating six-week lessons where 24 groups of middle school students establish lemonade companies to sell their products around Norman.



Dean Daniel and Tamara Pullin (far right) refinishing chairs with students at Full Circle



Maggie White Named Price College Outstanding Senior

Last fall, OU President David Boren and Dean Pullin recognized Maggie White as the 2016-17 Price College Outstanding Senior. Maggie is an entrepreneurship, letters and pre-law major from McAlester, Oklahoma. She has served in numerous leadership positions at Price, including president of the IBC Sooner Fleece Company, which commemorated the university's 125th Anniversary, has earned numerous scholarships and served as a student host at the Adams Society Dinner. Following graduation, Maggie will be attending law school.

Alumni and Friends Prepare for Victory Over Baylor at Annual Tailgate

The annual Price College Alumni & Friends Tailgate kicked off early the morning of Nov. 12 with a barbecue breakfast from Rib Crib in Dodson Courtyard. Guests were able to purchase products from current student companies in the First Fidelity Bank Integrated Business Core program, where all proceeds, including sweat equity, are donated to charity. The tailgate concluded with prize drawings announced with the help of Dean Pullin's sons Parker and Halsey, with everyone filtering into the stadium to watch the Sooners defeat the Baylor Bears on Owen Field.



Sooner Surge company proceeds went toward Camp Kesem



IBC company Cool Kidz raised money for Hearts for Hearing



Dodson Courtyard



RetROU IBC company benefited the Bethesda Foundation



Limbs for Life was the nonprofit of choice for the Giving Glass company



Dean Pullin with his wife Tamara and their two sons, Halsey and Parker

Career Search, Healthcare and Entrepreneurship Addressed by Fall Speakers

The fall semester slate of guest speakers began Sep. 16 with Mark Williamson, managing director of Impact 20 Group and author of *Power Play*. He imparted his knowledge and tips on how to skip past conventional search methods to secure a successful job in a short amount of time. The Distinguished Speaker Series later hosted Dr. Len Berry Oct. 27, a senior fellow of the Institute for Healthcare Improvements at Texas A&M's Mays Business School. The event brought together those in healthcare and business to learn from his presentation regarding improving the service in cancer care. On Nov. 10, Price College hosted the OU community in the Oklahoma Memorial Union's Meacham Auditorium for a special presentation and Q&A session with Jennifer Fleiss, co-founder of the incredibly successful and widely-used apparel service, Rent the Runway.



Dr. Leonard Berry



Mark Williamson



Jennifer Fleiss



Alumni speaker Jack Kinnebrew



International Business student Tyler Gatewood performed the National Anthem and OU Chant

Graduates and Guests Brave Dropping Temperatures at Fall Convocation

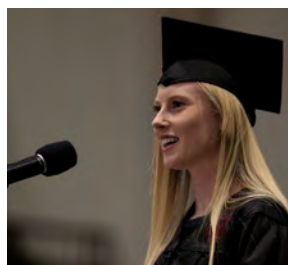
With an imminent winter storm gusting winds of increasingly-decreased temperatures, nearly 500 graduating students and their families were not deterred from attending the 2016 Price College Fall Convocation Dec. 17 in the McCasland Field House. Celebrated Dallas attorney Jack Kinnebrew delivered the alumni address, and Ann Freeman addressed to her fellow classmates as the graduate speaker.



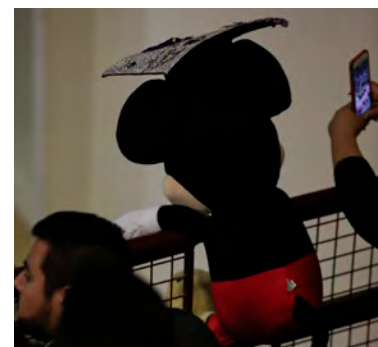
MBA Graduate Chuck Burkardt



Brandon Jentsch (left) and Megan Rowe carry in the college banners



Ann Freeman delivers the graduate address





Recent JCPenney Leadership alumni visit with current students and Director Crystal Clayton



The conference took place at the Marriott NCED Conference Center



JCPenney Leadership Director Crystal Clayton (left) with Student Conference Chair Hollie Moore

Student-Led Women in Business Leadership Conference Focuses on Legacy

JCPenney Leadership students hosted the annual Women in Business Leadership Conference Oct. 28, with the theme "Leave Your Mark: Empowering the Leader Within You." The half-day conference was led by Student Conference Chair Hollie Moore and featured two breakout sessions of four different panels, a networking lunch, 20 speakers and two keynote addresses from Jennifer Reavis, senior vice president of marketing at Bank of America, as well as Nicole Baird, vice president of Shell International Exploration and Production.



The breakout session topics ranged from knowing your vision and having the courage to ask for what you need, to the importance of authenticity and networking



CLASS NOTES

1950s

Regent Brig. Gen. Richard Hefton

(BBA, Business Management, 1957) was honored at a dinner this past September. Hefton has been a member of the Rose State College Board of Regents since 2009. He was a decorated command pilot in the USAF and is a retired commander of the Oklahoma Air National Guard. He was inducted into the Oklahoma Journalism Hall of Fame in 1986, having previously owned and operated daily and weekly newspapers in Oklahoma.



1960s

James K. Nichols

(BBA, Marketing, 1965) has spent 51 years in the financial services business. A few years ago, Nichols wrote *Roadmap to Financial Freedom*. In 2003, Nichols co-founded a nonprofit micro bank in Ghana, West Africa, which makes small loans to the working poor.

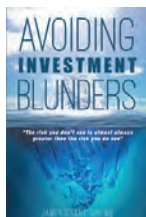


James Olson

(BBA, Management, 1966) has released a second book, *How Whole Brain Thinking Can Save the Future*. This book follows up his first release, *The Whole-Brain Path to Peace*. Olson hopes to promote holistic thinking with his works. The book dives into the "operating systems" of the left and right brain hemispheres and how they influence lifestyle.



James E. Grant (BBA, Finance, 1968) has released his latest book, *Avoiding Investment Blunders*. The book's focus is how to avoid losing money from investing. This is Grant's third book.



1970s

Timothy Martin (BBA, Finance, 1970) was named partner at Durbin, Larimore & Bialick P.C. Martin comes with over 25 years of experience as a certified mediator and trial lawyer. He practices insurance defense, including aviation, construction, employment law, oilfield and professional liability in dental and nursing.



Phillip D. Kramer (BBA, Accounting, 1978) was appointed to serve as an independent director of the Earthstone Energy Inc. board of directors, where he serves on the company's audit committee. Kramer currently serves as an executive vice president of Plains All American Pipeline, L.P. in Houston.



1980s

Marty Askins (BBA, Management, 1980) was named to head the 2016-2017 United Way fundraising campaign for Stephens County, Oklahoma. Askins has previously been the 2002 chairman of the campaign and was president of the board in 2002-2003. Askins is the president of Stephens County Abstract Co.



Steven Rodriguez (BBA, Marketing, 1989) has been announced as the new president of ShiftWise in Portland, Oregon. Previously, Rodriguez was the COO of Asure Software and has experience in operations, organization leadership, finance, Software as a Service and data analytics.



1990s

Thad Luckinbill (BBA, Finance, 1997) and **Trent Luckinbill** (BBA, Finance, 1997; OU Law 2000) took home six academy awards for their work on the hit movie *La La Land*. The brothers started Black Label Media with producer Molly Smith in 2013. The company helped finance and produce the film.



2000s

Court Jeske (BBA, Management, 2001) was announced as the chief executive officer of the Nashville Soccer Club, the city's new United Soccer League franchise that will begin play in 2018. Jeske previously was the vice president of international business for Soccer United Marketing and has 16 years of experience working in professional sports.



Joseph R. Cardenas (BBA, Management, 2003) graduated from St. Mary's University School of Law in 2016. Cardenas is practicing Social Security disability law at a private firm in Texas.



Robbie Feather (BBA, Marketing, 2003) has been announced as the consumer loan manager, SVP, for Arvest Bank Tulsa, where he will be developing and managing the consumer loan portfolio. Feather has 11 years of experience as the district manager, SVP, with Superior Finance Co., an affiliate of Arvest Bank.



Rachel Nightengale,

(BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Management, 2005) was promoted to tax manager at Dixon Hughes Goodman LLP. Nightengale is a certified public accountant and prior to her promotion was a senior tax associate.

**Christopher Papin** (BBA,

Accounting, 2004; MAcc, 2005) started his own law and CPA practice, Papin Law, PLLC & Papin CPA, PLLC. Papin previously worked for Burnett & Brown as an associate attorney.

**Raymon Forman** (BBA,

Finance, 2005) became president of UMB Bank in Tulsa in August after spending nearly 10 years in the Army. In 2009 he moved his family to Romania to serve as missionaries for a year, where he ran the business management platform of a nonprofit.



Benjamin Ikard (BBA, Entrepreneurship & Venture Marketing, 2009) was named the director of Patient Financial Services at Stephenson Cancer Center. Ikard plans, directs, manages and oversees the operations of all financial clearance and A/R activities at the center.

David Lam (BBA, Finance, 2013) is a senior strategy consultant for Concentre Group in Dallas. He is actively involved in the Young Professionals organization in Dallas and was recently named a board member of Friends of Wednesday's Child, an organization that helps foster children improve their education.



Nicole Upshaw (BBA, Accounting, 2014) is an investment banking analyst at JPMorgan in New York. During her time at Price, she was involved in the JCPenney Leadership Program and Finance Student Association and received the Price College of Business Outstanding Student Service Award.



In Memoriam

Gordena "Dena"

Mott Clary passed away July 10, 2016. Her generosity and spirit left an everlasting impression at Price College. Dena and her husband, Kenneth, were lifelong supporters of the university, where the two met in the student union while in school. They would later give back to the university and specifically Price College, where



they're magnanimous loyalty can be enjoyed in Price Hall's Clary Lounge. After graduating with a bachelor of arts degree in audiology in 1958, she worked as a speech therapist and special education teacher, and enjoyed continuing her education in religion and theology.

Clary is survived by her husband; children, Kay, Susan and John, and daughter-in-law Misti; brother and sister-in-law Joe and Sherry Mott; nieces Dena and Megan; and nine grandchildren.



Price College students frequently study in Clary Lounge, generously provided by Dena and Ken Clary

George William "Bill" England

passed away Feb. 17, 2017. England enjoyed a career at the University of Oklahoma, where he began teaching in 1980, after spending many years at the University of Minnesota, where he earned his doctorate in industrial psychology. He helped lead what is now known at Price College as the Center for Economic and Management Research and became a professor emeritus in 1990.



England was married to Bea for 58 years before her death. They had three children together and after the

children were grown, decided to move to Norman. While in Norman, they enjoyed being part of a social group named The Flamingos, with whom they enjoyed birthday parties and vacations.

England enjoyed traveling and spent time in many different places as a visiting professor, including Stanford, the University of Hawaii's East-West Center, and even India. They also spent time living in Germany, Japan and Australia.

After the death of his beloved wife, England moved to Boise and met Fran, whose frequent visits lit up his life. England was preceded in death by his two brothers. He will be missed by his family, friends and the Price College community.



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SHARE YOUR NEWS

We welcome contributions from all Price alumni of all graduating years. You can email your news and any images to Taylor Riggs, editor and director of communications and special events at theatly@ou.edu.

Price College Momentum Scholarships: A Life-Changing Impact to Students

Although you can't pick them out of a crowd, among the tens of thousands of students at OU are those receiving an exceptional education thanks to donors who support need-based scholarships. To the recipients of such generosity, the impact is great. Because for many, a scholarship may mean the difference between deferring college to work and build much-needed funds or successfully pursuing their academic passion.

The reality is our economy has experienced some dramatic changes that have impacted many students and parents who struggle to pay full tuition costs.

We need your help to ensure a Price College education is made available to those who want it and deserve it. Every gift – large or small – matters.

Below is an example of 2015-16 estimated freshman-year costs for an in-state student:

- \$1,200: Books and Supplies
- \$2,400: Laptop, Printer, and Cell Phone
- \$8,800: Room and Board
- \$9,000: Resident Tuition and Fees
- \$22,000: Non-Resident Tuition and Fees

Scholarships have helped many of our most notable alumni realize their own goals and dreams. We want students who have the talent and the determination to earn a prestigious Price College of Business degree to have that same chance.



When you invest in students, you are initiating a ripple effect that will reach far into the future as OU Price College graduates take their place in the world.

Invest in a Momentum Scholar today!

- Give online at price.ou.edu/give
- Mail a check, made out to the OU Foundation, to:

OU Price College
External Relations Office
307 W. Brooks, Suite 105
Norman, OK 73019

Or contact Kristen Lazalier, executive director of external relations, at (405) 325-7670 or klazalier@ou.edu