

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARDS

2019-2020

UNIVERSITY COLLEGEWhere OU Excellence Begins

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Where OU Excellence Begins



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WELCOME



Dr. Nicole J. Campbell, Dean of University College

Welcome to the 2019-2020 University College Awards Viewbook. We are delighted to recognize this year's award recipients! As a college that primarily focuses on the development and success of first-year students at the University of Oklahoma, we cherish the moments to celebrate outstanding contributions of our students and the students who mentor and support them! This year's recipients each stand out for their remarkable academic achievement, their engagement on campus and in the community, as well as their inspiring leadership. Through challenges, they have remained adaptable and have continued to persevere. We are so proud of each award recipient and what they have accomplished!

Students, please invite your family and friends to visit the viewbook on the University College website and like, share, and tag our social media posts announcing your recognitions. However you choose

to share, we hope that you will each take a moment to recognize this honor you have received and celebrate your outstanding accomplishments with those who are closest to you.

To the family, friends, faculty, advisors, and other supporters of these award recipients, thank you for the encouragement you provide your students. Without you, these students would not have been able to thrive in all the ways they have this year. We appreciate you and wish to celebrate your commitment as well!

Again, congratulations to each of the recipients of this years' University College awards! Thank you for your outstanding contributions to the University of Oklahoma community. We wish you much success as you continue your journey ahead.

University College Website: uc.ou.edu

Facebook: University College

Instagram: @ou_univcoll

Twitter: OU_UC



Lillian Miller, Assistant Dean of University College

PACE AWARD

During the 1995-1996 academic year, University College Assistant Dean Myrna Carney and Director of Advising Sue Shellabarger dreamed of finding a way to recognize and honor freshmen who excelled during their first semester at the University of Oklahoma. These conversations resulted in the creation of University College PACE Awards. A committee composed of University College administrators and staff reviews all applications and selects 1% of the total number of the entering freshman class as PACE recipients.

PACE awards represent outstanding accomplishments of first-year students in four areas, focusing on their performance during the fall semester.

The PACE acronym represents:

Participation in registered student organizations and campus activities
Academic achievement
Community service
Excellence in leadership

It is with great honor we announce this year's PACE Award Recipients.



2017-2018 PACE Award Recipients



Chiamaka "Lilly" Amechi

Vernon, Texas

Majoring in Anthropology/Pre-Law

"My time at the University of Oklahoma, has helped me blossom into the person I have always wanted to be. I'm thankful for the opportunities I have had to grow and further myself. I am excited about all the future has to hold."



Camilo Aponte Duque

Bogota, Colombia

Majoring in Computer Science

"My first year at OU showed me that there is always something positive to do for the community here. I feel like this happens naturally, as I didn't even have to try hard to find these opportunities."



Ishan Bhanot

Edmond, Oklahoma
Majoring in Biology/Pre-Med

"I would like to thank my family for their everlasting support. I am the person I am today only through their love and kindness."



Angelora Castellano

Atlanta, Georgia

Majoring in International Studies and Classical Studies "I am thankful for all those who supported me at my best and loved me at my worst. Your guidance and belief pushed me to become the best version of myself."



Maya Ferrell

Edmond, Oklahoma
Majoring in Biochemistry

"I am grateful to be at a university that has so many students that are dedicated to creating a sense of community. Without this support I would not have had the same experience as a freshman where I have gained so much insight on service and communication, I hope to foster this same environment for the next three years of my educational path."

Ashlyn Heritage



Jayke Flaggert
Choctaw, Oklahoma
Majoring in Economics/Pre-Law
"I am extremely thankful for the President's Leadership Class, the men of Kappa Sigma, and all of my friends and family for making this year so great. Live on University!"



Guilherme Fonseca
Belo Horizonte, Brazil
Majoring in International Business and Economics
"I would like to say that I am humbled and very honored to be awarded and recognized. I would like to thank my parents, my friends at OU and in Brazil, my Fraternity Alpha Sigma Phi and my professors for playing the key role of guiding and believing in me in this academic journey, leading me to success!"



Kenneth "Tre" Halstied III
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in History
"I could not be here without my family, my teachers and professors, and especially my best friend, Kasiah, and my mentor, Marc Julian. Thank you all so much."



Bixby, Oklahoma
Majoring in Marketing
"I am thankful for my family and friends who have supported
me throughout this year and always reminded me it takes hard
work and dedication to succeed. I am also thankful for all the
organizations I've had an opportunity to be a part of this year
that have helped me grow as a person including Tri Delta,
Soonerthon's Executive Committee, and President's Community
Scholars."



Rickey Hewitt Jr
DeSoto, Texas
Majoring in Letters
"I'm so thankful for everyone that has helped me and supported me through this year. Despite what we are all facing right now, I couldn't have imagined the beginning if my OU story to go any other way and I am deeply appreciative to everyone that has and will continue to help shape my time here!"



Jeanette Hoang Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Majoring in Public Health

"I am intensely grateful for my family and friends who have supported me thus far. My first year at OU has strengthened my interest in Public Health as well deepened my appreciation for diversity. Going forward, I hope to intersect these two interests in my education and career."



Mandy Huo

Owasso, Oklahoma

Majoring in International Security Studies and Criminology; Pre-Law "I am grateful for all my friends that have continuously pushed me to work towards my goals and become a better version of myself, my Dunham family for always having my back through this hectic Freshman year journey, and my family for supporting me in my decision to attend college. I am very appreciative of this award; thank you for helping me slowly achieve my dreams."



Blakeley Huskey

Guthrie, Oklahoma

Majoring in Entrepreneurship with a Minor in Nonprofit Organizations "My first year at OU has taught me that life's purpose is not found in being the best or having your name known, but instead it's about finding your passion and diving wholeheartedly into it."



Kayla Jenkins

Moore, Oklahoma

Majoring in Psychology and African and African American Studies "I am grateful for all the times I was uncomfortable this year because that's when I grew the most. Also, shout out my mom for being my ride or die and growing with me."



Yadin Joseph

Edmond, Oklahoma

Majoring in Biochemistry/Pre-Med

"Thank you to my family, friends, professors, and advisors for supporting me throughout my first year at OU. Another big thank you to my PCS advisors for giving me so many insightful experiences during my freshman year."



Elizabeth Joyce Allen, Texas

Majoring in Electrical Engineering

"Thank you to all the amazing opportunities that OU has granted me and that have helped me get involved on campus. Through great professors and organizations, I've had the chance to explore different engineering fields and find how I want to spend my life after graduation."



Adriana Landry

Houma, Louisiana Majoring in Chemical Engineering

"I am grateful for the love and support I've received from my family, coworkers, professors, and friends old and new who have supported me while at OU. Without help from every one of them, I would not have been able to find so much joy and success in my first year of college."



Francesca Losh

Libertyville, Illinois
Majoring in Biochemistry/PreMed

"The University of Oklahoma has provided many opportunities for me to explore my passions and interests, and the people I've met this year have shaped my freshman experience in the best way. I have met some of the most hard-working and compassionate students on this campus, and I would like to thank them for always encouraging me and providing a support system to help guide me through this year."



Zamakhosi Magagula

Piggs Peak, Eswatini

Majoring in Petroleum Engineering

"The best decision I made in my freshman year was to surround myself with community. Thank you to the UWC office, my advisors and mentors, and my Antioch College family for being constant sources of support."



Mikayla Martin

Norman, Oklahoma

Majoring in Public Relations

"I would like to thank my family and friends for instilling all the important life lessons of hard work and kindness in me and always being there for all the highs and lows life can bring."



Erica Miller Keller, Texas

Majoring in Marketing and Entrepreneurship & Venture Management "OU has given me an infinite amount of opportunities and friends that I cannot wait to continue with in the future. My biggest takeaway would be to smile at everyone you see until all of a sudden you can't walk in the south oval without seeing those familiar faces start to smile back."



Joy Nath

New Delhi, India Majoring in Economics and Linguistics

"I would like to thank my parents, Kakulee Nath and Prabal Nath who have stood by my side all this time and helped me in my journey from India to Canada to finally here in Oklahoma. I want to thank my wonderful host parents, Debbie Craig and Eric Koob who have helped me in my transition from Canada to the US. I want to thank my wonderful professors who helped me in the first semester in college. Finally, want to thank the entire UWC community at OU for always being there for me."



Mercy Ndagire

Kira-Kasangati, Kampala, Uganda Majoring in Economics and Finance

"I am really grateful to God for having given me such an unrelentingly supportive community that nurtured and guided me throughout my first year here at the University of Oklahoma."



Aryn Neuschaefer

Edmond, Oklahoma

Majoring in International Business and Accounting

"I am thankful for the educational, extracurricular, and leadership experiences I've had as a freshman at OU. I look forward to new opportunities as I continue my journey at the University of Oklahoma."



Amanda Nork

Katy, Texas Majoring in Psychology

"Thank you to all my professors, TA's, and friends for helping me succeed in my first year at OU. Special thank you to my family for supporting me through my college journey, I am grateful to be attending such an amazing university that allows me to receive a world-class education."

Oklahoma."



Rachael Owens
Edmond, Oklahoma
Majoring in Psychology
"I am so grateful to attend a University that is committed to encouraging my growth as a person and encourages me to stay involved. I want to thank everyone who saw my potential and chose to invest in me as I endured my first year at the University of



Johnna Pavlick
Fort Worth, Texas
Majoring in Business Management, Focus: Sports Management
"This year I learned that nothing is given and everything must be
earned through hard work and dedication. If you have the right
mindset, you can achieve any dream you have just as I achieved
mine and now attend my dream school, OU."



Hamida Petrović
Cazin, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Majoring in Biomedical Engineering
"I would like to thank my mother and my sister for being my anchors in life and supporting me throughout my first year at OU. It has been hard to adjust to living 5000 miles away from home, but everything is manageable with the right people around."



Aaron Reid
Verdigris, Oklahoma
Majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering, Letters
"I am extremely grateful to my family and my new lifelong friends for making this first year at OU more wonderful than I could have hoped for, and I am so thankful for the faculty and leaders on campus, knowing I can always look up to them in the coming years."



Grace Rogers
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Majoring in Community Health and Psychology
"I am so fortunate to be able to study under caring professors, who are leaders in their field. Thank you to my family and friends for supporting this time of adjustment and transition. Thank you to the University of Oklahoma for being a wonderful institution for higher education. "Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is to try just one more time." -Edison

goals in the coming years."

Grace Shoop Lubbock, Texas



Joseph Rotondo
Sandwich, Massachusetts
Majoring in Meteorology
"It is important to look back upon the people that help you succeed. I am thankful for my family, friends, and OU faculty for their unwavering support in advancing my education; I look forward to helping others at OU achieve their



Mona Salem
Kafr El-sheikh, Kafr El-sheikh, Egypt
Majoring in International and Area Studies and Psychology
"I would love to extend my gratitude to the amazing and the vibrant international community here in OU. Without the support I got from them whether faculty or staff members who work tirelessly to advocate for us or students who feel like a family, I can confidently say that they are the reason I have made it this far."



Katherine Schoeffler
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in English and Biochemistry
"Thank you to my family, friends, sisters, and teachers for your incredibly loving, kind, and enthusiastic encouragement and support this year. I love you all endlessly."



Peyton Schow
Frisco, Texas
Majoring in Psychology
"I want to thank my family for supporting me through my first year at OU. I also want to thank my friends for making this year exciting and memorable."



Majoring in Public Relations "I am thankful to have arrived on a campus in August that welcomed me fully and made a new town and state feel like home. OU and the wonderful students and faculty here have fostered leadership skills in me that have broadened my horizons and equipped me with tools I will use for the rest of my life."



Erin Sullivan
Monument, Colorado
Majoring in Computer Science
"My first year at OU has been greatly impacted by the wonderful friends I have made; I am so grateful to them and my family for supporting me this year!"



Megan Szymanski
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Chemical Biosciences and Letters
"I am immensely grateful for my family's steadfast support and encouragement! I am also thankful for the memories made, lessons learned, and friendships forged through PLC, Pi Beta Phi, CAC College Bowl, SFC, Intramurals, and other campus involvement."



Samantha Taylor
Longview, Texas
Majoring in Environmental Engineering
"Participating in the organization of Green Week this semester
gave me the invaluable opportunity to learn about and work
with people in other environmental disciplines. These experiences
developed the skills I'll use to coordinate with other environmental
specialties and design the most environmentally friendly
technology possible."



Mackenzie Thompson
Temple, Texas
Majoring in Community Health/ Pre-Med
"From my first-year experience at OU, I have learned that the adversity we face daily is what drives us tomorrow. I am grateful for my family and varying organizations that continue to believe in me and challenge me to be the best version of myself."



Malayna Unkel
Derby, Kansas
Majoring in Biomedical Engineering
"This year has taught me to be more grateful for my family and the unceasing support they provide."



Karen Valdivia
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Human Health and Biology/Pre-Med
"My first year at OU has been fascinating and filled with many incredible opportunities for knowledge and leadership. I would especially like to thank my parents for supporting me; and my advisors, Cady Scott and Taylor Boyd, for guiding and helping me throughout this wonderful, bumpy road."



Matthew Varela
Round Rock, Texas
Majoring in Meteorology
"I would like to thank my parents, my brother, and other family and friends who have helped me and supported me throughout my first year at OU. I know that I am just getting started at OU and will continue to lean on these people for the next 3 years and beyond as I continue my undergraduate career."



Courtney Witte
Plano, Texas
Majoring in Business Management
"I would like to thank my parents for always supporting me. I'm
so grateful for the chance to go to a university filled with people
who see the best in me even when I can't and encourage me to
reach beyond my largest dreams."



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARDS

With the support of several generous donors, the University College Awards were established in 2009 to recognize the most outstanding students in University College. The top two University College students are recognized with this award each spring.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Grace RogersTulsa, Oklahoma
Majoring in Community Health and Psychology



Mackenzie Thompson
Temple, Texas
Majoring in Community Health, Pre-med



MYRNA L. CARNEY AWARD

The Myrna Carney Award is a special University College Award, established to honor Dr. Myrna Carney for her 24 years of service as assistant dean in University College. Three outstanding first-year students are recognized with this award each spring.

MYRNA L. CARNEY AWARD RECIPIENTS



Joy NathNew Delhi, India
Majoring in Economics and Linguistics



Joseph Rotondo Sandwich, Massachusetts Majoring in Meteorology



Karen ValdiviaOklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Human Health and Biology/Pre-Med



ANN BALCH AWARD

Dennis McLaughlin graduated from OU in 1992 with an economics degree. McLaughlin valued his experience in University College and helped to establish the McLaughlin Awards and the Ann Balch Awards to honor his grandmother. These awards honor several of our top students in University College.

ANN BALCH AWARD RECIPIENTS



Chiamaka "Lilly" Amechi Vernon, Texas Majoring in Anthropology/Pre-Law



Angelora Castellano Atlanta, Georgia Majoring in International Studies and Classical Studies



Jayke Flaggert Choctaw, Oklahoma Majoring in Economics/Pre-Law



Mercy Ndagire Kira-Kasangati, Kampala, Uganda Majoring in Economics and Finance



Mona Salem Kafr El-sheikh, Kafr El-sheikh, Egypt Majoring in International and Area Studies and Psychology

ANN BALCH AWARD RECIPIENTS



Katherine Schoeffler
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in English and Biochemistry



Megan Szymanski Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Majoring in Chemical Biosciences and Letters



Malayna Unkel Derby, Kansas Majoring in Biomedical Engineering



DENNIS MCLAUGHLIN AWARD

Dennis McLaughlin graduated from OU in 1992 with an economics degree. McLaughlin valued his experience in University College and helped to establish the McLaughlin Awards and the Ann Balch Awards to honor his grandmother. These awards honor several of our top students in University College.

DENNIS MCLAUGHLIN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Camilo Aponte Duque Bogota, Colombia Majoring in Computer Science



Ishan Bhanot Edmond, Oklahoma Majoring in Biology/Pre-Med



Ashlyn HeritageBixby, Oklahoma
Majoring in Marketing



Mandy Huo Owasso, Oklahoma Majoring in International Security Studies and Criminology/Pre-Law



Elizabeth JoyceAllen, Texas
Majoring in Electrical Engineering

DENNIS MCLAUGHLIN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Aryn NeuschaeferEdmond, Oklahoma
Majoring in International Business and Accounting



Hamida Petrovic Cazin, Bosnia and Herzegovina Majoring in Biomedical Engineering



Erin SullivanMonument, Colorado
Majoring in Computer Science



PAUL JUDICE ENVIRONMENT AWARD

This award was established in 2012 by Nicole Judice Campbell, dean of University College, in memory of her father, Paul Judice, who was an avid environmentalist. This award is given to a freshman who demonstrates academic excellence and a dedication to the environment.

PAUL JUDICE ENVIRONMENT AWARD RECIPIENT



Samantha Taylor Longview, Texas Majoring in Environmental Engineering



SYLVIA CORWIN EDUCATION AWARD

The Sylvia Corwin Education Award was established by the Corwin family in honor of their matriarch Sylvia Corwin, who was a longtime educator. The award is given to a first-year education major.

SYLVIA CORWIN EDUCATION AWARD RECIPIENT



Kassidy Kramer

Rockwall, Texas Majoring in Music Education

"I am very grateful to have been able to experience a wonderful freshman year at OU, even if it was cut short. I am so blessed to have amazing teachers, friends, and family who supported me through this year."



PHI KAPPA PHI AWARD

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi acknowledges academic achievement and good character. It is the oldest multidisciplinary honor society in the nation that recognizes outstanding juniors and seniors by inviting them to become members. The University of Oklahoma chapter recognizes outstanding freshmen as encouragement and appreciation of exemplary academic performance during students' first semester.

PHI KAPPA PHI AWARD RECIPIENTS



Samantha Stevenson Eufaula, Oklahoma Majoring in Pre-Nursing



Ty AldridgeJones, Oklahoma
Majoring in Biology/Pre-Med



Mulan TangOklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Biomedical Engineering



DAN TANKERSLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Dan Tankersley had a strong affection for the University of Oklahoma. This love was enhanced by his work as a construction supervisor for the Gaylord Family Oklahoma Memorial Stadium and the McCasland Field House. Through his work, he left his mark on the University of Oklahoma landscape for many generations of Sooners to enjoy. His family endowed a memorial scholarship in his name to assist and reward students who have demonstrated academic perseverance to progress towards graduation.

DAN TANKERSLEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Aliya Mohamad
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Majoring in Psychology
"Don't stop trying to be better even if the task seems minuscule, it's an achievement no matter how small it may seem."



2019-2020 UC STUDENT LEADERSHIP BOARD

The University College Student Leadership Board is composed of 17 students who are selected each year to meet with University College administration and to serve as student ambassadors for the College throughout the year. As part of this experience, UC SLB members are equipped as emerging student leaders and prepared for future academic involvement at OU through interactive workshops and engagement with guest speakers. UC SLB members are selected each fall on the basis of GPA (3.0 or higher), previous involvement and service, interest in the program, and leadership potential.







UC STUDENT LEADERSHIP BOARD



Chiamaka "Lilly" Amechi Mandana Arabpur Breanna Biggs Chakari Chambers Paige Chandler Kurtas Edmonds

Max Hamblin Kelsie Johnson Enrique Meza Soto Joy Nath Mercy Ndagire Piper Petree Citlalli Ramireq-Arteaga Samara Rogers Katelyn Soard Fatima Waheed Julia Weatherford



ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

Alpha Lambda Delta is a national honor society for students who have maintained a 3.5 or higher GPA and are in the top 20 percent of the class during their first term or first year of higher education. Alpha Lambda Delta recognizes and honors its top members' high academic achievement and service to the chapter, campus and community through local and national scholarships.



2018-2019 Alpha Lambda Delta Award Recipients

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA ALICE M. LANNING SOPHOMORE SCHOLARSHIP



Elizabeth Bradshaw
Norman, Oklahoma
Majoring in Biomedical Engineering
"ALD has given me the opportunity to grow as a person and as a leader. It has also opened me up to an amazing community of academically minded students."



Raquel Dominguez
Plano, Texas
Majoring in Finance
"ALD has allowed me to work hands-on with the community of
Norman and see the impact that the organization has had on
those in Norman and at OU. The encouragement for success from
all those in ALD has shaped my college career."



Ethan Ho
Del City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Computer Science
"Through leadership, ALD has helped me build meaningful
connections with OU and our community. Through service, ALD
has expanded my worldview."



Shwanda Palmer
Montego Bay, Jamaica/Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Accounting and Social Work
"I joined Alpha Lambda Delta filled with excitement as I met like-minded people and engaged in a community that fostered academic excellence, service, and leadership. This community has gifted me invaluable friendships and unsurmountable joy."

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA JUNIOR AWARD



Zoe DouglasTerre Haute, Indiana
Majoring in Meteorology



Madison Jarboe

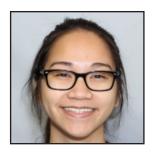
Allen, Texas
Majoring in Planned Program Neuroscience/Pre-PA
"My involvement in ALD over the past two years has allowed me
to participate in meaningful service and to surround myself with a
cohort of individuals who consistently inspire me to better myself.
ALD has helped me to find a balance between maintaining strong
academics and dedicating time to the service of those around
me, and it has been an integral part of my OU experience for
which I am very thankful."

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA CHAPTER SERVICE AWARD



Shauna Griffith

Allen, Texas
Majoring in Biology/Pre-Med
"I will forever be grateful I joined ALD as a freshman, the
leadership skills I have gained as well as the friendships I have
taken from it will always be one of my favorite things about my
time at OU."



Phuong Phi Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Majoring in Biology/Pre-Med



UCOL OUTSTANDING PEER TEACHING ASSISTANTS

The UCOL Outstanding Peer Teaching Assistants have been selected for this honor based on their commitment to modeling behaviors in the classroom and guiding students to the resources they need to be successful at the University of Oklahoma. These students have formed valuable relationships with students and instructors, making a positive impact on the OU community and helping us achieve our mission at University College.

UCOL NEW OUTSTANDING PEER TEACHING ASSISTANT



Gracie Pearcy
Arvada, Colorado
Majoring in Community Health and Pre-Nursing
"My favorite part about being a PTA is the opportunity to
form unique relationships with students and faculty. But most
importantly, having the chance to join students in their journey
navigating their freshman experience has been a meaningful
part of my time in college and has helped me gain a broader
perspective."

UCOL OUTSTANDING PEER TEACHING ASSISTANTS



Gabrielle Bittner
Andover, Minnesota
Majoring in Environmental Sustainability
"My favorite part of being a PTA is participating in a class that made a powerful impact on me during my first semester at OU. I have loved witnessing the transformation of first year students and seeing them begin their OU story."



Dez Marshall
Del City, Oklahoma
Majoring in Studio Art
"My favorite part of being a PTA is watching the students grow throughout the semester, and how much they continue to learn and grow even after they finish the class. It is awesome being able to play a part in that and truly help students that are going through the same things that I did."



