



GALLOGLY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
**SCHOOL OF CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL  
AND MATERIALS ENGINEERING**  
*The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA*



Brian Grady, CBME Director

### Welcome From the Director

I am excited to bring you another newsletter about OU CBME with some important news. Once every six years, a thorough review of our program occurs by our accreditation organization, ABET. The review is concerned with the undergraduate portion of our educational mission, and one aspect of the review is a site visit by an evaluator which occurs October 30-31. Along with a written report, the site visit serves as a basis for evaluation. The chances of losing accreditation are extremely small, but still we consider ABET an important part of our activities. Part of our contract with our alumni and current students is that OU Chemical Engineering stay accredited, and faculty and staff are working very hard to make it so.

I think this current batch of stories is very exciting. Steven Crossley winning an NSF CAREER award is something that will be mentioned about him for the rest of his professional life, and it has been a long time since CBME has had a CAREER Awardee. Also

given to (relatively!) young professionals, the fact that two of our own alumnae were named to AIChE's 35 under 35 is awesome (I guess having me in class was not that large of a detriment!). Induction into the Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame is for someone on the opposite end of their professional arc; this year's recipient celebrates the outstanding career of Roger Harrison. Finally, we wanted to highlight some (relatively!) young alumni, so I think you will find the story about the Bymasters very engaging. As always, please feel free to drop me a line at [bpgrady@ou.edu](mailto:bpgrady@ou.edu).

P.S. I know it has been awhile since the last newsletter. We have had some personnel turnover, but I think we have a system now that should allow us to meet our goal of two electronic newsletters every year.



## **Roger G. Harrison, Jr. Inducted into Oklahoma Higher Education Hall of Fame**

The Oklahoma Higher Education Heritage Society will honor Dr. Roger Harrison, Jr. at a dinner and induction ceremony, October 30, 2017, in the Nigh Center on the University of Central Oklahoma campus in Edmond. He was selected along with 9 other leaders with distinguished careers in teaching, research, medicine, government, economic development and public service and a former state senator for its 2017 Hall of Fame honors. Dr. Harrison has demonstrated excellence in four measures of achievement in higher education: teaching, research, writing and the application of knowledge to the solution of problems for the benefit of others. During his 28 years at OU, Harrison has received national honors as author of a textbook adopted by 70 major universities in the U.S. and abroad, being a leader in biomedical engineering education, and through research which opened the door for the significant reduction in the amount of toxic substances required for chemotherapy in cancer treatment.

[Read more.](#)



## **Steven Crossley receives NSF Early CAREER Award**

OU CBME associate professor, Steven P. Crossley, Sam A Wilson Professor and Roger and Sherry Teigen Presidential Professor, is the recipient of a five-year, National Science Foundation Early CAREER Award in the amount of \$548,829 for research that can be used to understand catalysts that are important for a broad range of chemical reactions ranging from the production of renewable fuels and chemicals for natural gas processing. The research will be integrated with educational and outreach programs intended for American Indian students, emphasizing the importance of sustainable energy.

“The NSF CAREER award is partly in recognition of the important work that Steve has already done in the field of catalysis. It is one of the highest honors a young faculty member can receive. We look forward to him doing great things in the future,” said Brian P. Grady, CBME director.

[Read more.](#)

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## CBME Alumnae receive AIChE 35 Under 35 Award

Ashlee Ford Versypt and Kendall Werts, OU CBME alumnae, are among the recipients of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) 35 Under 35 Award. An initiative of AIChE's Young Professionals Committee, with support from the AIChE Foundation, the AIChE 35 Under 35 Award was created to acknowledge the early-career successes of some of AIChE's youngest members, all under the age of 35, and to promote the accomplishments of the new generation of chemical engineers. The award winners were selected based on their achievements in one of seven categories: bioengineering, chemicals, education, energy, innovation, leadership, and safety.

[Read more.](#)



## Bymasters give back with endowed scholarship

*Adam and Kristin Bymaster, 2004 CBME graduates, have established the Bymaster Endowed Scholarship taking advantage of ExxonMobil's matching gift program for employees. Recently, we had the opportunity to ask the Bymasters about their time at OU, their careers with ExxonMobil and why they chose an endowed scholarship as the vehicle for giving back to the University of Oklahoma.*

### How did you (Kristin) arrive at your current role at ExxonMobil?

My career began with three internships at ExxonMobil, which were found using OU's Career Services department and through OU's Minority Engineering Program. Upon completion of my bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering, I was hired full-time by ExxonMobil in May of 2004. I have held multiple positions, beginning as an offshore facilities engineer and progressing into various technical leadership roles for assets

across the United States. In 2013, I moved to XTO Energy (an ExxonMobil subsidiary) as a Business Development analyst. My current role is Midstream Engineering Manager for East Texas, South Texas, and Appalachia.

[Read more.](#)



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