



*The University of Oklahoma*  
COLLEGE OF ATMOSPHERIC AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES

10 February 2022

Dear Students, Staff, and Faculty of A&GS,

***With Change there is Opportunity.***

Yesterday's letter from Provost André-Denis Wright announced that the University of Oklahoma's School of Aviation will move from its current home in the College of Professional and Continuing Studies (PACS) to the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences (A&GS).

OU's Aviation Program has a rich history dating back to 1947, and it has provided students with quality aviation instruction paired with a solid business foundation. The State of Oklahoma equally has a rich history of aeronautics and astronauts with highly visible astronauts such as **Thomas Stafford, Gordon Cooper, Owen Garriott**, and several others not to mention Oklahoma's Will Rogers, who recognized early on that aviation was the future of travel.

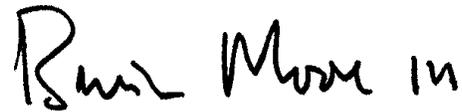
The Norman campus is guided by our Strategic Plan, *Lead On, University*. As Provost Wright has stated, the Plan provides us with a framework for all programmatic, operational, and financial decisions. The decision to move aviation to A&GS enables the university to seize strategic opportunities for the future and provides one of the answers to the direct call from the Plan to *Prepare Students for a Life of Success, Meaning, Service, and Positive Impact*. Having the School of Aviation join A&GS is also consistent with the College's Strategic Plan as well as the Strategic Plans of the two Academic Units: the School of Meteorology (SoM) and the Department of Geography and Environmental Sustainability (DGES).

We also have been listening to our students. Many of our SoM students have expressed a desire to have an Aviation Meteorology degree; this move gives us the institutional foundation for this degree. We know that our DGES students see a wide spectrum of opportunities in the third dimension of flight, which will directly link to urban mobility issues as well as address "Sustainable City" concepts. There are also exciting and important opportunities for remote sensing and deploying in-situ airborne sensors as well as collaborating on innovative developments and applications of drones. I think that aviation is "the missing piece" to the A&GS academic and research enterprise.

Professors Scott Greene, Jens Redemann, Petra Klein, and I will be working closely with PACS Dean Martha Banz and Aviation Program Director Eric Wydra to insure a smooth and transparent transition.

I firmly believe that this transition comes at the right time in the right place. We are "Cleared for Takeoff".

Boomer Sooner,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Berrien Moore III". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Berrien Moore, III

Dean, College of Atmospheric & Geographic Sciences

Chesapeake Energy Corporation Chair in Climate Studies

Director, National Weather Center

Cc: Andre Wright

Mackenzie Dilbeck

Martha Banz

Eric Wydra